

# WILSON'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS SCORES DISLOYAL CITIZENS

## Announced Comprehensive Plans for Strengthening National Defence

Washington, Dec. 7.—Every recommendation and practically every paragraph in President Wilson's message to Congress today had to do with comprehensive plans for strengthening national defense, and providing against foreign interference with the security and liberty of the American nation. He said the nation would not maintain a standing army except for uses which are as necessary in times of peace as in times of war, but that the country did believe in a body of free citizens ready and sufficient to take care of themselves and of the government. He presented War Department plans for increasing the standing army to 141,483 men, and the establishment of a supplementary force of four hundred thousand disciplined citizens. He called for patriotic sacrifices on the part of the youth of the land, and their employers, in securing this supplementary force, and outlined financial proposals for providing for necessary increases in both the land and sea forces.

The President said there was reason to hope that no question in controversy between this and other governments would lead to any serious breach of amicable relations, and that he was sorry to say that the gravest threats against the national peace and safety had been uttered within the country's own borders. "There are citizens of the United States, I blush to admit," he declared, "born under other flags but welcomed under our generous naturalization laws to the full freedom and opportunity of America, who have poured the poison of disloyalty into the very arteries of our national life, who have sought to bring the authority and good name of our government into contempt, to destroy our industries wherever they thought it effective for their vindictive purposes to strike at them, and to debase our politics to the uses of foreign intrigue."

"No federal laws exist to meet this situation," said Mr. Wilson, "because such a thing would have seemed incredible in the past. Such creatures of passion, disloyalty and anarchy," he added, "must be crushed out. They are not many, but they are infinitely malignant and the hand of our power should close over them at once."