

## TAFT OFFERS PLAN IN TREATY BATTLE

### Ex-President Suggests Six 'Interpretation' Points.

### SAYS LEAGUE IS NECESSARY

### Ratification Urged at Early Day to Gain Benefits.

### LETTERS EXPLAIN VIEWS

### Right of Withdrawal, Domestic Affairs, Monroe Doctrine and Termination Date Treated.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(By the Associated Press.)—A plan for "interpretations" in senate acceptance of the league of nations has been suggested by former President Taft in the hope of uniting on a middle ground enough democratic and republican senators to defeat any radical amendment of the covenant and in the end to obtain its ratification.

The suggestion has been received with earnest consideration by the group of republicans who favor the league idea and who already are at work on a definite program of interpretative reservations, which they declare they have reason to believe will be accepted by the administration. The administration leaders, however, unwilling to concede that any reservations will be necessary, still insist they will have the votes when the time comes to ratify the covenant as it is.

### Wilson Approval Expected.

So confident are league republicans of the success of their plan that some of them believe President Wilson will publicly accept it to smooth the way to acceptance of the league. Some republican senators who have seen the president in the last few days have come away from the White House with the impression that Mr. Wilson, while not encouraging reservations if they can be avoided, might not be adverse to such "interpretations" as would leave the league fabric unimpaired.

### Taft Analysis Given.

Six specific interpretation proposals are outlined. The analysis is convinced will meet the objections of a large group of republicans who favor a league. He counts 45 democratic senators as supporting the president in the treaty fight, and says that should three republicans be committed to vote against the treaty, no such proposals could receive a senate majority.

The former president suggested to Mr. Hays that his name be withheld for the present from connection with the interpretation plan, as it might antagonize some senators of his party. Chairman Lodge of the foreign relations committee, who is named in that connection, declined today to make any comment on the Taft letter.

Mr. Taft has also written some of the republican senators, who, under the leadership of Senators McCumber, North Dakota, and McNary, Oregon, have been interested in formulating a middle course for solution of the senate situation. It is understood that Senators Kellough, Minnesota; Colt, Rhode Island, and Spencer, Missouri, also have been consulted in the interests of such a plan.

### Wilson Held at Fault.

In one of his letters to Mr. Hays, Mr. Taft severely criticized President Wilson for his "partisan" course during the war and in the peace negotiations, and in the other instances in which he has shown serious opposition is to be feared to any portion of the peace treaty, except the league covenant. The Shantung provision, he wrote, had been the subject of "deliberate exaggeration."

While the letters were being circulated among republican senators today, the first public expression on the Shantung settlement came from the White House in the form of a statement declaring "altogether false" published reports that the president had formulated the provision. The statement continued that Mr. Wilson "had exerted all the influence in his power to secure modification of the arrangement giving control of the peninsula to Japan."

### Six Points Raised.

The two letters to Mr. Hays, copies of which were received here today, do not outline definitely the six interpretations suggested by Mr. Taft, but they are referred to as having been contained in a previously unpublished communication. Those six stipulations are understood to be substantially as follows:

First—That upon two years' notice the United States may cease to be a member of the league without having the league pass upon whether she had

## SHANTUNG STATEMENT COMING FROM NIPPON

### JAPAN TO ISSUE FORMAL DECLARATION OF INTENT.

### China Expected to Sign Peace Treaty Following Pledge of Evacuation in Orient.

BY LINCOLN EYRE.

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PARIS, July 23.—(Special Cable.)—

There is every likelihood, according to opinions expressed in conference circles today, that Japan will soon issue a statement explaining her position regarding the Shantung peninsula. This statement, it is expected, will enable China to sign the German treaty. Among the allied plenipotentiaries there seems to be no disposition to force Japan into publishing this formal statement. But a certain pressure may be brought to bear, should the delegates from Nippon prove more refractory than now seems probable, to make public the agreement by which the restoration of the peninsula to Chinese sovereignty is granted.

This agreement was recorded verbally to the big four, but is preserved in shorthand reports of recent conversations. Numerous interviews have taken place between individual plenipotentiaries, American, French, British and Japanese envoys. These conferences make it clear that China is quite willing to affix her signature to the treaty once Japan specifies publicly the date upon which she will withdraw her troops from Shantung and permit the Chinese to resume political control of that province.

It is evident that the Japanese envoys have been considerably affected by the severe criticism of the Shantung settlement voiced in the United States, and more particularly by the possibility that the United States senate will refuse to ratify the instrument on that account.

Meanwhile the French and British await President Wilson's decision as to whether America will sign the Bulgarian treaty, concerning which no word has yet come from Washington. Reports of the resignation and flight of Bela Kun are discredited in American quarters. A telegram from Budapest to the Hoover commission indicates that Bela Kun is still running Hungary, although he had a good deal of trouble with the general strike that developed among his proletarian followers on July 20. The reasons for the strike are not known here.

## BEND COMPANY TO BUILD

### 1500 Horsepower Unit for Tumalo Creek Planned.

BEND, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—In preparation for the starting of immediate construction of a 1500-horsepower unit on Tumalo creek, in case the agreement already approved by the state for power rights is indorsed by eastern officials of the company, preliminary work was started by the Bend Water, Light & Power company today. A second unit of like capacity is planned to be erected as need arises. According to surveys already made, a 4000-foot line of 40-inch pipe will carry water from the Columbia Southern ditch, returning the water from the power unit to the creek. Power will be brought to Bend over an eight-mile transmission line. It is possible that another line may be built to include farmers of Tumalo and Deschutes among the electric-light users of the county.

## VICE CRUSADE IS PLANNED

### Spokane Pastors Discover Conditions That Alarm Them.

SPOKANE, July 23.—Plans for a "vice crusade" in this city are being considered by the civic righteousness committee of the Spokane ministerial association, composed of ministers of local protestant churches. It was announced today by Rev. C. R. Howard, chairman of the committee.

Revelations in police court here yesterday in connection with the trial of two women arrested in a downtown hotel, Rev. Mr. Howard said, had impelled the calling of a meeting of the committee for the purpose. He said the committee was "ready to go to the bottom of vice conditions" here.

## ADOLPH SPRECKELS ILL

### California Capitalist Suffering With Pneumonia Attack.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23.—(Special.)—Although reported slightly improved tonight, Adolph Spreckels is reported critically ill from pneumonia at his country home near Napa. The report was made over the telephone tonight by his physician.

Mr. Spreckels is vice-president of J. D. Spreckels & Bros., a brother of Rudolph Spreckels, John D. Spreckels and Claus Spreckels, and a son of the late Claus Spreckels, Hawaiian sugar magnate. He is a capitalist widely interested in shipping, sugar plantations and factories and other enterprises and one of the wealthiest men in the state.

## ELECTION PLANS HURRIED

### Clemenceau Government Arranges for Early Voting.

PARIS, July 23.—The renewal of the Clemenceau government's lease of life by the vote of confidence in the chamber of deputies yesterday has been followed quickly by tangible evidence of the government's intention to arrange for the holding of elections as early as possible.

Some of the radical leaders are starting a movement to re-establish for the elections a coalition of the left and extreme left, comprising the radicals, the radical socialists and the socialists.

## HARD FIGHT LOOMS IN RATE HEARING

### Puget Sound Closely to Contest Ground.

### DEFENSE TUGS AT TESTIMONY

### Quotation Excluded in James J. Hill Upon Objection.

### PORTRAIT PRESENTS CASE

### Charts Introduced to Show Why City's Advantages Should Be Explored by Lower Rate.

Every inch of ground is to be sharply contested by the counsel appearing for the Puget sound cities and the railroad administration in the Portland rate case, in which commercial organizations of Portland are endeavoring to have the natural advantages of the city expressed in lower rates for the haul of traffic between this port and points in the Columbia river basin. Even quotation of words that fell from the lips of the late James J. Hill, when sought to be introduced in testimony of a Portland rate expert, was cause for challenge, lest the members of the interstate commerce commission might be influenced unduly, or that witness should submit evidence not of his own knowledge.

### Quotation Is Excluded.

A brief statement made by a traffic official of the Northern Pacific railroad, quoted from the record in the first Astoria case, was excluded under the rules of evidence. It may be brought into the record in another manner. The ruling was pursuant to objections raised by railroad counsel, and made in accordance with established practice of the commission. The commissioners are endeavoring to clear up any questions of doubt as to just what is the purpose of testimony brought into the case.

### Following adjournment yesterday afternoon a conference of counsel was held with Chief Examiner Thurlert at which it was made known what attorneys will cross-examine witnesses appearing in the proceedings. On behalf of the railroad administration Attorney Hart will conduct cross-examination on behalf of the northern lines, and Attorney Spencer for the Oregon-Washington and allied interests.

### Two Storms Develop.

Attorney S. J. Watrick will cross-examine on behalf of the combined Puget sound interests, and the grouping of counsel for that section is indicated in the gathering at a single table in the courtroom. Attorney McCulloch is conducting the case on behalf of the

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## COASTAL CONFERENCE VEERS TO 'DEADLOCK'

### SHIPYARD EMPLOYERS WANT DISTRICT AGREEMENTS.

### Employes Hold Out for One Rate of Pay for All Plants, and Intimate Strike Is Likely.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23.—In negotiations between Pacific coast iron tradesmen and employers of shipyard labor for a new working agreement today, the employers expressed opposition to a coast-wide agreement and announced a preference for individual contracts with each district council, of which there are six on the coast.

When today's conference sessions ended representatives of the iron workers had not receded from their stand for a blanket agreement which would govern the pay and working conditions of every skilled shipyard employe from southern California to Puget sound, and had pointed out that the employers when the Macy awards, soon to expire, were made, had favored the general agreement as tending to prevent "pirating" of workmen by yards where high wage scales prevailed.

The general agreement, unionists declared, tended to promote stability of labor and prevented migration and rotation. If the employers maintain their stand against a blanket agreement, union representatives said, the functions of the conference here would end and choice of two courses would be open. First, to call six district conferences to formulate individual agreements with the employers, or to call a coastwide shipyard strike to enforce the demand for a general agreement.

The labor negotiators came to the Pacific coast conference armed with the power to call, in their discretion, a strike to enforce demands. This power was given by a referendum vote of the individual unions.

The labor negotiators have not been reached by the conference. The basic demand of the craftsmen is for \$1 an hour. The Macy agreement, which expires October 1, is on a basis of 80 cents an hour.

The United States shipping board will take no formal part in the conference, its representative, M. Leathery, said.

### "The shipping board is through," he announced before the conference. "It will keep hands off in the matter you are considering. We wish you luck and trust that you will speedily come to an amicable agreement."

## MEDFORD HEARING IS SET

### Mineral Claims Commission to Meet Monday.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23.—The commission appointed to adjust claims of the minerals mining concerns brought about by the failure of the government to take delivery of contracted minerals after the signing of the armistice, announced today it would open hearings in Medford, Or., Monday.

The commission is headed by former Senator John P. Shafroth of Colorado. After two weeks in Medford it will proceed to Portland, Baker, Butte, Salt Lake City, Denver and then return to Washington.

This commission is handling the appropriation of \$3,500,000 allowed by congress to compensate mining concerns.

## FRAME-UP CHARGED IN MOONEY'S CASE

### Federal Report Says Trial Unjust and Biased.

### FICKERT ALLEGED CORRUPT

### House Members Hear of Dictaphone Used by Federals.

### GRAVE CHARGES ARE MADE

### Employers in San Francisco Declared to Have Backed Plan to Discredit Labor.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Charges of labor leaders that Thomas J. Mooney was unjustly convicted for participation in the bomb outrage in San Francisco three years ago were supported in a report of John B. Denmore, special agent of the department of labor, submitted to the house today in response to a resolution demanding more information on the case.

Mr. Denmore, now director of the federal employment service, conducted a secret investigation of the case at the request of Secretary Wilson. With the aid of several immigration inspectors, he gathered his evidence, working without the knowledge of San Francisco authorities. Most of it was obtained by use of a dictaphone, placed in the office of District Attorney Fickert, prosecutor of the case.

### "Frame" Is Alleged.

From this evidence, Mr. Denmore drew the conclusion that Mooney did not receive full justice in his trial, and that he was the victim of corporate interests in San Francisco, who desired to discredit the labor unions and maintain the "open shop." The prosecution was conducted without a real investigation of the crime, Mr. Denmore declared, and with deliberate intent to "frame" the labor leader.

Mr. Denmore declared District Attorney Fickert was elected to office with the backing of "the worst elements in the public service utilities, and the chief of police."

### Grave Charges Made.

"First—That Fickert is in constant association with men and interests of such a nature as to render it incredible that he should either be impartial or honest in the conduct of a case of such a nature; that he has been for some time in the past co-operating with notorious jury and case fixers."

"Second—That Fickert and his assistants

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## LAW FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING WILL STAND

### SENATE PASSES AGRICULTURAL BILL WITHOUT RIDER.

### No Criticism of President's Veto of Former Measure Offered; House to Take Action.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The senate today passed the \$24,000,000 agricultural appropriation bill, which recently was vetoed by President Wilson because of the rider for repeal of the daylight saving law.

No effort to restore the rider was made in the senate. Senators made no criticism of the president's veto.

The bill will be returned to the house tomorrow with a single minor committee amendment approved today by the senate, providing relief for western drought sufferers by suspending their homestead residence requirements.

Because of universal desire to provide funds in the bill for the department of agriculture's many activities and salaries held up since July 1, senate discussion of the bill was brief. Western senators particularly urged all possible haste to provide funds for the forestry service in fighting forest fires.

## PECULIAR FORM UNDOING

### Stowaway From Orient Found to Be Wearing 25 Shirts.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 23.—(Special.)—He had a shirt for every year of his age, and one to spare, Customs Inspectors Samuel Sackett and S. P. Harrington today arrested Manuel Rodriguez, 24 years of age, a stowaway on the steamer Archer from the Orient, as he endeavored to climb down the Jacob's ladder from the steamer and dash down the pier to his liberty.

After capturing Rodriguez the officials slowly and deliberately peeled 25 silk shirts off Rodriguez's back, one at a time.

The stowaway smuggler attracted much attention to himself by his peculiar build. Thin, pipestem legs and with a tummy which would have been a credit to a 300-pound bartender made the inspectors ask to "be shown."

## SKULL THEORY CRACKED

### Head May Be Part of Body of F. Lewis Clark.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., July 23.—Dr. R. Manning Clark, city physician, discovered today that a skull found recently on the beach here, might be that of a long buried Indian, by declaring today that the owner had not been dead more than five years.

F. Lewis Clark, Spokane millionaire, who disappeared from a local wharf has been missing less than three years.

## HUN PRISONERS TO RETURN

### Way to Fatherland.

AMHERST, N. S., July 23.—More than 500 German prisoners, the majority of whom composed the crews of the German raider Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse and other enemy ships captured or sunk on the high seas, left here under guard yesterday for Quebec, where they will be transferred to a trans-Atlantic liner for return to Germany.

Between 300 and 400 prisoners still remain in the internment camp.

## "COPS" WOULD JOIN UNION

### Boston Policemen Propose to Demand Increase in Pay.

BOSTON, July 23.—Boston policemen today signed a petition for a charter of membership in the American Federation of Labor.

It was said the officers intended making a group demand for increased pay.

## INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 79 degrees; minimum, 60 degrees. TODAY'S—Probably showers and cooler; gentle northwesterly winds.

Foreign. Park expects Japan to issue statement on Shantung intention. Page 1. China held united in protest against Japanese plan in Shantung. Page 2. England on verge of industrial chaos. Page 2. Robbery of sailors blamed on rebels by Carranza. Page 6.

National. Secretary of navy asks radio control. Page 5. President Taft suggests compromise to bring treaty ratification. Page 1. Daylight-saving law will stand. Page 1. Packers regarded as America's menace. Page 4. Domestic. Federal report to house holds Mooney victim of "frame-up." Page 1. Coast shipyard conference nears deadlock on wage agreements. Page 1. Harry Ford assumes responsibility for son Edsel not enlisting in army. Page 2. Wire control board grants demand of telephone operators. Page 12. Pacific Northwest. Highway bids will be opened in Portland. Page 1. Sumpter valley rates are found reasonable. Page 4. Montana cities threatened by forest fires. Page 4. State engineers unpopular in disappointed towns. Page 7. Sports. Pacific coast league results: San Francisco 2, Portland 1; Sacramento 4, Los Angeles 2; Vernon 11, Seattle 2; Oakland 11, Salt Lake 4. Page 12. Play for Clemson golf trophy to start August 10. Page 13. Alvin Karpis, president of coast baseball league, resigns. Page 12. Commercial and Marine. Portland to handle cotton for export: 15,000 tons already signed up. Page 20. Portland and Vicinity. Steel bridge struck by lightning in storm. Page 10. Hard fight looms in Portland rate case. Page 1. Financial board to manage Portland symphony orchestra. Page 14. Commissioners order gasoline bill paid in spite of auditor. Page 20. Lightning starts fire in Bull Run forest. Page 1. Weather report, data and forecast. Page 21.

## FIRE THREATENING BULL RUN FOREST

### Lightning Bolt Starts Watershed Blaze.

### FIGHTERS SENT TO SCENE

### Rainfall May Prove Sufficient to Check Spread.

### CITY OFFICIALS UNEASY

### Additional Fighters Will Be Sent This Morning if Situation Is Not Improved.

## SUMMARY OF FOREST-FIRE SITUATION IN OREGON.

Portland—Lightning starts blaze in Bull Run forest. Hermann creek fire still menace to reserve. Seven fires in Cascades caused by lightning. Columbia national forest situation still serious.

Pendleton—Fire spreads from Whitman forest to Umatilla forest, burning along front of 25 miles in John Day river.

The Dalles—Fire originates in highway camp between Hood River and Mosier. Blaze beyond control.

Albany—Country around LaComb hit by fast-sweeping conflagration.

Crews of men, fully equipped to fight forest fires, were rushed from Bull Run lake yesterday afternoon to locate a fire which was reported within the Bull Run reserve. One crew was dispatched from the lake and another crew was sent from the Cascades also were reported, but none of these is within the Bull Run reserve, nor do they in any way endanger Portland's watershed.

The fire in the Bull Run reserve, according to early reports received by Mr. Sherrard, was small, and with speedy action on the part of the city employes stationed at Bull Run lake serious results are not expected.

### Recruits May Go.

City Commissioner Mann and Water Superintendent Handlett left Portland late yesterday afternoon for the cabin owned by the city on the Sandy river. From this point the city officials will be able to maintain telephone communication with the majority of stations within the reserve and can thus learn of the progress of the fire fighters.

Mr. Mann late last night telephoned to Portland from the cabin on the Sandy river. At that time no more details on the fire were available than in earlier reports. The crews that had gone to locate and fight the fire, which is thought to be eight or ten miles from Bull Run lake, had not reported in.

"We have no great fear of serious results from this fire," said Mr. Mann. "It is probable that it can be extinguished without great trouble when the fighters reach it. The only danger is that it may have started in a pitch snag and keep burning until a wind comes up and spreads it. It is raining in the reserve tonight, and that, of course, will help to prevent any spreading."

Water Superintendent Kaiser is preparing to recruit a large crew of men to send to the reserve if reports received this morning indicate that the fire has assumed serious proportions.

At 6 o'clock last night a report was received by Superintendent Kaiser that rain was falling at the head works, but this encouraging news was replaced 15 minutes later by word that the clouds had cleared and the rain stopped, lending weight to the belief that the rain fell farther back within the reserve. The later report from Mr. Mann indicates that the rainfall began again during the night.

Although the Hermann creek fire near the Bull Run reserve has been under control for several days it still is burning fiercely and precautions are being taken to protect the Bull Run watershed from this conflagration. Although confident that the fire will be kept under control, forest officials admit that a strong east wind springing up suddenly might endanger the reserve.

### Supply in Danger.

Fire of a serious nature within the Bull Run reserve would seriously endanger Portland's water supply, hence the keen apprehension felt on the part of officials connected with the water bureau. Commissioner Mann has spent the greater part of the last two weeks at the reserve watching the progress of the Hermann creek fire, through reports sent him by the fire fighters.

Two fires on the Salmon river, one on the south fork and the other on a burn on Hambone, far up on the ridge of the Cascades, are the two most serious of the seven fires caused by lightning yesterday. Crews of fire fighters from the forestry service have been sent to fight all of these, and re-

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