

## WILSON PLEADS FOR LEAGUE PACT

Interpretations Welcomed if Not in Formal Act

## SENATORS AT WHITE HOUSE

President Tells Committee He Expects Japan to Give Up Shantung.

## SOME QUESTIONS ARE PARRIED

Executive Declines, for Policy, to Give American Vote on Race Equality.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—President Wilson, interpreting the league of nations covenant today for the senate foreign relations committee, declared it imposed no legal obligations for the use of American military force in protecting the territory or independence of any other nation.

But he added that the covenant might involve, in certain circumstances "an absolutely compelling moral obligation" which might be even stronger than a legal promise.

Pressed for a more exact definition by committee members who insisted that the whole arrangement was "a rope of sand" he asserted that on the contrary he considered it as placing the nations in "an attitude of comradeship and protection," which would compel respect for the principles of justice and liberty.

The president, in a prepared statement which he read to the senators, said he had no objection to interpretations, provided they are not a part of the formal act of ratification.

Meeting the committee in a round-table discussion in the East Room of the White House in contradiction to the precedents of more than a century, and with the whole nation listening through the medium of a relay of public stenographers, the president went into many of the details of the peace negotiations and touched on all the hotly-debated questions which have divided the senate in its consideration of the peace treaty.

War Rests With Congress.

Article Ten of the covenant, guaranteeing the integrity of league members against aggression, he declared, would leave to each nation "complete freedom of choice as to the application of force."

Even if the American representatives on the council joined in a recommendation for military action, final declaration for peace or war must rest, so far as concerned the United States, with congress, he said.

Whatever advice the council gave under its authority to take such action as is "deemed appropriate" must also be deemed appropriate by the United States to be binding on this government, he argued, though in the background would be such a potential moral force that he doubted if the nation would decline to act.

The president revealed that Japan's promise to return Shantung province to China was reduced to written form in the minutes of the peace conference. He asserted he had "every confidence" that the promise would be carried out, and told the senators it was the best "that could be got" out of the negotiations, Japan having given notice she would withdraw from the conference if her demands were refused.

U. S. Troops to Stay on Rhine.

The American delegates, he said, had tried to keep the nation free from obligations in European affairs "so far as it was honorably possible to do so," but he asserted that it might be necessary to keep some American troops on the Rhine district under the treaty for the next 15 years.

He declared the nation would be its own sole judge whether its obligations had been fulfilled under the disputed withdrawal clause of the league covenant; that purely domestic questions were safe from the league's interference, and that the Monroe doctrine was clearly preserved.

The league, the president explained, was built on the plan of General Smuts of South Africa.

Mr. Wilson revealed that he had suggested the United States take no part of the German reparation but had asked that the conference reserve dis-

## 600,000 WORKERS ASK \$1 A DAY MORE

OFFICERS OF RAILROAD MEN'S UNION APPROVE.

All Lines in North and Central America Affected; Referendum is Now Being Taken.

DETROIT, Aug. 19.—General chairman of the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Shop Laborers, today approved a new wage and working agreement already submitted to the railroad administration, calling for an increase in pay of approximately \$1 a day per man, time and a half for overtime and promotion by seniority.

The demands, it was said, affect all railroads in the United States, Canada and Central America and involve about 600,000 workers. Half of that number are members of the union.

A referendum now being taken is returnable August 24. Union officials declare 99 per cent of the men favor the proposed schedule and a general strike of all maintenance of way employees is imminent if their demands are not met.

## BULLDOG RAIDS CHURCH

Worshiper Is Attacked When He Saves Child From Dog.

THE DALLAS, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Charley Simmons is nursing a badly torn hand as the result of the intrusion of a bulldog at the Free Methodist church last night.

As the congregation was passing out of the church the dog made a rush at one of the children and Simmons grabbed it by the hind leg and threw it over the fence. The dog came back; this time at Simmons was the object of the attack. Simmons was bitten in both hands and on the arm before he was able to get to a place of safety.

Dogs are strictly barred at all church meetings of the church.

## INDIAN LANDS ARE SOLD

Choice Sections Disposed of at Auction and More Follow.

PENDELTON, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Seven allotments on the Umatilla reservation went into the hands of white men as the result of the public sale here.

Thomas Thompson paid \$20,051 for 160 acres; D. C. Bowman, 40 acres for \$4,790; Harvey Horn, 40 acres, \$2,515; 40 acres, \$2,115; Ben F. Marlin, 40 acres, \$3,265; Michael F. Unberger, 40 acres, \$4,411; J. D. Owen, 40 acres, \$3,850.

Other allotments of choice Indian land are to be offered at auction this month.

## IRRIGATION WATER AMPLE

Reservoirs Discharging at Capacity in Yakima District.

YAKIMA, Wash., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—All reservoirs with the exception of Keechelus are discharging to their fullest capacity and an ample supply of water is on hand in all sections of the valley to meet the season's needs.

On the Sunnyside project 4700 acre-feet are being released daily, as against 4300 feet daily a year ago. Diversions from the Indian service at Union Gap are now running 2900 feet daily 4000 feet daily over last year at this time.

## ADMIRAL SEBREE DRIFTS

Tug Bringing in Steamer With Cargo of News Print.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 19.—The Pacific Coast Steamship company's steamer, Admiral Sebree, reported early today it had lost a propeller wheel and was drifting helplessly 115 miles west of Cape Flattery. The tug Tree immediately put out from here and took the Sebree in tow.

The Sebree was bound from Ocean Falls, B. C. to San Francisco with a cargo of news print paper. No passengers were aboard.

## SCHOOL TO FOLLOW CAMP

Portable Building Planned by Mill for Workers' Children.

EUGENE, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—That the children of the men employed in the Booth-Kelly logging camps above Wendling may not be deprived of education, arrangements have been made by the company for the erection of a portable schoolhouse.

The camps above Wendling change location occasionally and every time a move is made hereafter the schoolhouse will be taken along, so that the children may continue their studies.

## SUGAR LURES FOUR ASTRAY

Ton of Sweets Causes Arrest of Seattle Quartet.

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 19.—Charged with the theft of more than a ton of sugar from the warehouse of a wholesale grocery company here, two men and two youths, company employes, were arrested here today.

Policies, who are withholding names, allege the sugar was sold by the men to restaurant owners, in some cases, one whole cent below market prices.

## PRESIDENT IS OVERRULED

Daylight-saving Bill Repealed in House 223 to 101.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Repeal of the daylight-saving law was passed today over President Wilson's veto by the house on a vote of 223 to 101, seven more than the necessary two-thirds.

The repeal now goes to the senate, where its supporters claim victory.

## CAVALRY DASHES OVER INTO MEXICO

U. S. Troopers on Trail of Kidnapers.

## TORRENTIAL STORMS HANDICAP

Weary Horsemen Are Guided by Ransomed Fliers.

## AIRPLANE IS FIRED UPON

American Scouting Machine Back With Holes in Wing; Replies With Machine Gun.

MARFA, Texas, Aug. 19.—An American airplane returned tonight from a scouting trip into Mexico with two bullet holes through a wing of the machine. The aviator-observer said he was fired on by three Mexicans. He returned the fire with a machine gun and believes he killed one. The cavalry is pursuing the band, he said.

Four additional airplanes arrived tonight from Fort Bliss flying field at El Paso, increasing the airplanes for recent work in Mexico.

The airplanes will fly into Mexico at daybreak tomorrow to resume the search for bandits and for liaison duty between troops and field headquarters.

Later reports tend to confirm earlier reports that rain storms in the Mexican mountains today obliterated bandit trails.

MARFA, TEXAS, Aug. 19.—Rain-soaked and saddle-wary the American troops of the Eighth cavalry were pursuing the Mexican bandits who held aviators Peterson and Davis for ransom over the Mexican mountains south of the border.

Lieutenant Peterson and Lieutenant Davis, the ransomed fliers, are riding with the column to help find the place where the bandits made their prisoners and to identify the bandits if captured.

Following release of the aviators near San Antonio, Chihuahua, early today American cavalry troops crossed the border. Reports received from the troops in the field late today gave no intimation that contact had been made with the bandits or that there had been any fighting.

Storms sweeping the Mexican mountain district south of the Rio Grande-Big Bend district multiplied the difficulties of the American troops. In the Ojinaga district, torrential rains made it difficult to follow the "hot trail" on which the troops crossed.

Clouds and low visibility prevented the airplanes from rendering good scout service.

Bandits Hiding in Hill.

Despite the handicap the Americans swept forward. The bandit band led

## GIRL MINERS MAKE GOOD

Development Work Done by School Teacher and Companion.

ROSEBURG, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Miss May Murphy, a school teacher of Baker county, and Miss Lilla Sherland of Portland, were in the city today filing their report on development work done on the mining claim recently left to Miss Murphy by the death of her father.

The mine, situated in a wild country 25 miles from West Fork, has been worked by the two girls, who have cleared it, constructed flumes and sunk shafts. They also repaired a dam which had been damaged by a freshet. They left Roseburg this morning for their home.

## MELON COSTS MAN'S LIFE

Farmer Near Glenns Ferry Shoots Raider on His Patch.

BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 19.—(Special.)—A tragedy that created a sensation at Glenns Ferry, was enacted yesterday when Howard Belmore, 19, a resident of Ontario, Or., was killed by C. C. Smith, a rancher, when Belmore was in Smith's watermelon patch. Smith is said to have emptied two barrels from a shotgun into Belmore.

Belmore was in the employ of the King Hill Irrigation company. He was sent out to investigate the canals for leaks. After completing the inspection he decided to get a melon from Smith's patch and the shooting followed.

## \$16,903,361 OF ROAD WORK LET IN OREGON

370 MILES OF PAVING INCLUDED IN STATE CONTRACTS.

Macadam Is Being Laid for 193 Miles, With 528 Miles of Grading Also in Contractors' Hands.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—State highway work under contract in Oregon August 19, including all post and forest projects, totaled \$16,903,361.95, according to a report completed today by the state highway department.

There are included in the contracts approximately 370 miles of paving, 193 miles of macadam and 528 miles of grading.

Ten per cent additional allowed for contingencies amounts to \$1,408,613.42 and 10 per cent for engineering totals \$1,488,613.42.

The improvements include the Columbia River highway, at a cost of \$2,407,678.21; Pacific highway, \$4,396,775.75; west side Pacific highway, \$1,314,669.40; Salem-Dallas highway, \$320,742.50; Yamhill-Neatucca highway, \$428,982.11; Coast highway, \$601,054; Dallas-California highway, \$48,188.70; Portland-Forest Grove-McMinville highway, \$817,502.50; Ashland-Klamath Falls, \$177,957.50; Crater Lake highway, \$246,000; John Day highway, \$399,913.65; LaGrande-Enterprise highway, \$42,370; McKenzie River highway, \$138,145; Old Oregon Trail, \$475,366.97; Oregon-Washington highway, \$258,076.25; Baker-Cornucopia highway, \$178,481.75; Flora-Enterprise highway, \$23,560; Mount Hood Loop highway, \$227,567.60; Grants Pass-Crescent City highway, \$62,985.35; Burns-Lawen highway, \$197,967.

## THREE BATHERS ARE COLUMBIA VICTIMS

Velma Davidson Dies in Attempt at Rescue.

## UNIVERSITY STUDENT DROWNED

Raymond F. Koessell Goes Under While Bathing at Goble.

## LLOYD GOFF IS ALSO LOST

Efforts of Girl Prove Unavailing and Lad Is Carried Under by Strong Currents of River.

Three lives were sacrificed in the waters of the Columbia river yesterday by bathers who sought the cool comfort of the stream.

Velma Davidson of Gold Hill, Or., 19 years of age, gave her life in the attempt to rescue a companion bather, Lloyd Goff of 1246 Union avenue, Portland, at Forest Hill, near Crown Point. Raymond F. Koessell of 727 Hood street, a student of the University of Oregon, was drowned while bathing in the river near Goble.

Raymond F. Koessell, 19, a sophomore at the University of Oregon, was drowned while bathing in the Columbia river near Goble yesterday, according to a message received by his father, August E. Koessell, 727 Hood street. The boy was working for the Warren Construction company.

The boy recently returned from an officers' training school in Kentucky, and had been working for the Warren Construction company since closing of the university last June. He is survived by his parents and his grandmother.

In company with a friend by the name of Lawrence young Koessell started to take a swim in the Columbia, just opposite the Goble postoffice, after finishing work yesterday. He was wading when he suddenly stepped off into the ship channel, it was reported, sinking at once. Grapplers had failed to recover the body last night.

Miss Davidson and young Goff both were employed at Forest Hill. Yesterday afternoon they went for a swim about a half mile from the tavern in company with George Lord, who lives at Bridal Veil. Lord and Miss Davidson could both swim, but Goff was inexperienced in the water.

Lord, according to reports from Forest Hill, warned Goff to stay near the shore and close to his companion. They had left the water and were starting back to Forest Hill when Goff decided to take another plunge. Before his companions realized his danger he had got in the current of the river and beyond his depth.

Lord first attempted to rescue him.

## FLEET AT SANTA BARBARA

Vessels Ahead of Schedule; Daniels' Advance Guard at Honolulu.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Aug. 19.—The Pacific fleet anchored off Santa Barbara at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon, 15 minutes ahead of schedule time. The official reception committee boarded Admiral Rodman's flagship, the New Mexico, shortly afterwards and offered the city's hospitality.

The flagship and others of its group left Los Angeles harbor promptly at 8 o'clock this morning and had a smooth voyage.

The various other groups of the fleet which had been visiting other Los Angeles county ports joined the flagship at the appointed rendezvous, ten miles south of Point Dume. Then, with the New Mexico in the lead and followed by the Mississippi, the Wyoming, the Arkansas—all dreadnoughts—the Birmingham, flagship of the destroyers and the other vessels of that type, it steamed in squadron formation at a speed of 12 knots.

## SALEM PATROLMAN WEDS

Walter Thompson and Miss Muna Medley Married at Capital.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 19.—(Special.)—Walter Thompson, well-known patrolman of this city, and Miss Muna E. Medley were married Monday morning at the home of the former. Mr. Thompson has been a member of the Salem police force for several years and at one time was a guard at the state penitentiary. Mr. Thompson was formerly a telephone operator in the local office.

Following the ceremony Mr. Thompson was summoned to the sheriff's office ostensibly on official business. As he entered the office he was seized by a number of his fellow-officers and thrown into a cell, where he was held for several hours. About the time his predicament began to look serious he was released.

## FLIER TO TEMPT PACIFIC

Japanese Army Aviator Will Try Flight Across Ocean.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 19.—A trans-Pacific flight is to be attempted soon by D. Isobe, a Japanese army aviator, according to a cable received from Japan by the Japanese-American News of San Francisco.

This will be the first attempt at the aerial conquest of the Pacific.

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## PUBLIC MARKET IS SCORED BY WOMEN

Institution Weighed and Found Wanting.

## ANGRY PROTESTS ARE MADE

General Conviction Is That Prices Are Too High.

## FARMERS ALSO ARE HEARD

Meeting at Library Hall to Consider Cost-of-Living Problems Proves to Be Very Lively Affair.

Volley after volley of red hot invective were fired at the administration of the Yamhill-street public market yesterday when 250 women gathered in library hall to voice their views on the high cost of living.

Practically everyone present was anxious to recite her experiences, despite rules of order and lack of time. Though the stories differed, the conviction was general that the public market is not doing its work in the way originally intended and that prices are too high.

Upon motion by Mrs. F. O. Northrup a committee of five, representing each section of the city, was appointed and a meeting will be held at 10:30 o'clock today to work out some systematic plan for handling the public market problem. Later another mass meeting is to be called for adoption of a general programme.

## Consumers' Interest First.

Those on the committee are Mrs. Northrup, from the central west side; chairman; Mrs. W. L. Block, North Portland; Mrs. H. B. Johnson, South Portland; Mrs. H. A. Bickman, north east side, and Mrs. J. M. Rice, south east side.

Mrs. J. F. Chapman presided yesterday afternoon, calling first upon Acting Mayor Bigelow to present the administration's side of the question. Mr. Bigelow presented and compared some market quotations compiled from the daily papers and results of investigations he has carried on.

"The first consideration of the market is to benefit the consumer," he declared. "The man with a stall there is expected to sell at a figure somewhat between the wholesale and retail price."

## Maximum Held Necessary.

The speaker defended the maximum set by the market master, as he said it bars profiteering. "There is no truth in the statement," he went on, "that the market master forbids selling at a lower figure than he has set. When I quote some of these figures you have obtained and you see the wide variance, you will know that an arbitrary maximum must be fixed or the producer would go by the top price quoted. We have investigated and found that where men or women declared their neighborhood stores sold cheaper than the public market this was not actually true."

At this point the audience became impatient and a woman interrupted with, "Isn't it a fact that the howl the people have been making the last few days has caused prices to drop on Yamhill street?"

Mr. Bigelow replied to this, attributing the decrease in some lines to a greater supply of green vegetables. "I'm not here to argue with you," he said. "I just came to give you facts."

## Another Objector Rises.

Objection again was raised, when one of the women exclaimed, "Mr. Bigelow has told us a lot, but it was what we already knew. We want to get down to business. Is this market being carried on according to Hoyle?"

W. T. Spencer of Troutdale took the floor and presented the producers' side of the case. "Somebody has declared it strange that one doesn't see more Americans in the public market," he said. "I tell you there won't be any left at all unless you leave that maximum price alone. We farmers live without all the conveniences of the city, we have to work from daylight to dark and skip ourselves to save any money. We're not making a lot of it."

"The public market is not right, as you say, but its faults are not those that you have designated. Why not leave it alone until next winter, when things are dull and you can carry on your reorganization without hurting the producer or yourselves? The farmers today place a certain dependence on the market as an avenue by which their products can get to the people. Any time you disrupt any regular element in the handling of produce you are doing what the Bolsheviks are doing in Russia. Through those methods you won't have any public market for farm produce next year."

## Fair Profit Necessary.

"Don't go too fast. Take my own place. I've got to make a fair profit or quit. Mr. Bigelow can send anybody down to my farm and find out what your fruit and vegetables actually cost. I'm business man enough to know that if I wanted to I could dispose of them without relying on the market."

Mrs. Northrup arose at this point. "That's fine talk from the producer," she said. "Now, what about the consumer's side of it?" She told of some of her experiences in purchasing corn

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