

PRESIDENT SIGNS PANAMA CANAL BILL

Congress Urged to Declare It Does Not Consider Treaty Is Being Violated.

NEUTRALITY NOT DENIED

British Protest, Says President, Would Lead to Absurd Conclusion—Fundamental Right Is Not Surrendered.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—President Taft signed the Panama Canal bill at 7:10 o'clock tonight. Following this he sent to Congress a memorandum suggesting the advisability of the passage of a resolution which would declare that this measure was not considered by this Government a violation of the treaty provisions regarding the canal.

In discussing the British protest against the exemption of American shipping from the payment of tolls for the use of the canal, Mr. Taft says the irresistible conclusion to be drawn from it is that "although the United States owns, controls and has paid for the canal, it is restricted by treaty from aiding its own commerce in the way that all the other nations of the world may freely do."

Treaty Interpretation Only Question.

"In view of the fact," Mr. Taft continues, "that the Panama Canal is being constructed by the United States wholly at its own cost, upon territory ceded to it by the Republic of Panama for that purpose, and that unless it has restricted itself, the United States enjoys absolute rights of ownership and control, including the right to allow its own commerce the use of the canal upon such terms as it sees fit, the sole question is: Has the United States (by the terms of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty) deprived itself of the exercise of the right to pass its own commerce free, or to remit tolls collected for the use of the canal?"

The President points out that the rules specified in the articles of the treaty, which is made the basis for the British protest, were adopted by the United States as the basis of neutrality of the canal and for no other purpose.

Neutrality Sole Purpose. The article, he further says, "is a declaration of policy by the United States that the canal shall be neutral; that the attitude of this Government towards the commerce of the world is that all nations will be treated alike and no discrimination made by the United States against any one of them observing the rules adopted by the United States. In other words, it is a conditional favor-extension treatment, the measure of which, in the absence of express stipulation to that effect, is not what the country gives to its own nationals, but the treatment it extends to other nations."

"Absurd Conclusion" Results.

The President argues that if there is nothing in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty preventing Great Britain and the other nations from extending favors to their shipping using the canal, and if there is nothing that gives the United States any supervision over or right to complain of such action, of the British protest leads to the absurd conclusion that the government constructing the canal, maintaining the canal and defending the canal finds itself shorn of its right to deal with its own commerce in its own way while other nations using the canal in competition with American commerce enjoy that right and power unimpeded.

"The British protest, therefore, is a proposal to read into the treaty a surrender by the United States of its right to regulate its own commerce in its own way and by its own method, a right neither Great Britain herself, nor any other nation that may use the canal, has surrendered or proposes to surrender."

Anti-Railroad Provision Approved. In his memorandum the President dissents from the view that permission to register foreign-built vessels as vessels of the United States for foreign trade, and the admission without duty of ship materials, will interfere with the shipbuilding interests of the United States. He approves the amendment of the Interstate Commerce act, whereby railroad companies are forbidden to own or control ships operated through the canal.

He also approves the provision which prevents the owner of any steamship who is guilty of violating the anti-trust law from using the canal.

After notification to the House tonight that President Taft had signed the Panama bill, Representative Sims, of Tennessee, ranking member of the House interstate commerce committee, introduced a bill repealing the provision of the law providing for exemption of tolls for American ships engaged in the coastwise trade.

Mr. Sims explained that the bill had the endorsement of the majority of the committee and was intended to avoid threatening international complications over the toll exemption proposition. It will be acted upon among the first bills taken up when Congress reconvenes in December.

MR. CLARK GIVES HIS SIDE

Attorney Rebuked in Court Makes His Defense.

Edward J. Clark yesterday issued a statement giving his side of the controversy over his conduct toward W. M. C. Clark in the Danemann case, for which he had been severely censured in court by Judge R. G. Morrow, Thursday.

"In today's issue of The Oregonian," under the caption of Judge Scores' "Lawyer," is an article containing a reflection on me uttered by Judge Morrow from the bench, and this article states I had filed additional papers before another court without notifying the opposition and claimed default, and from this act brought down upon me the wrath of the court," said Mr. Clark. "I only desire to make a brief reply, in which the real facts shall be disclosed whether I have been unfair or unprofessional."

"Carl Danemann and Katharine Danemann are husband and wife and owned a house and lot in her name in Lovejoy Addition. This house was insured in the Pacific States Fire Insurance Company and on March 23, of

this year, together with the contents, was totally destroyed by fire. My clients are Germans, poor but worthy, with five minor children to support. Their understanding of English is imperfect and by mistake the house was described in the policy as owned by the husband, whereas the wife is the owner.

"The company refused to pay its claim of \$1075 and on July 13 a complaint was filed by me to recover same. On the last day for answer a motion was filed to strike out portions of the complaint as 'sham and frivolous.' As this motion is not authorized by statute and being a young attorney, not up on 'court etiquette,' I followed the law instead, and moved for a judgment by default, serving notice of the grounds of my motion on the attorneys for the insurance company on July 23.

"Before this, July 26, I had requested W. M. C. Clark to consent to have his alleged motion taken up and disposed of and was contemptuously told that he would not consent to have it heard during vacation, which, if I awaited his pleasure, would mean a delay until some time in September. Notwithstanding this fact no other appearance was made, and upon application to Judge McGinn, presiding judge, default was entered August 17, after a true statement of the facts to him. The authorities support the legality of Judge McGinn's order. August 21 W. M. C. Clark moved to set aside the default on the sole ground that it was an ex parte proceeding, which point was necessarily passed upon by Judge McGinn.

"Under this state of facts Judge Mor-

CLARK SAYS GREAT THINGS WERE DONE

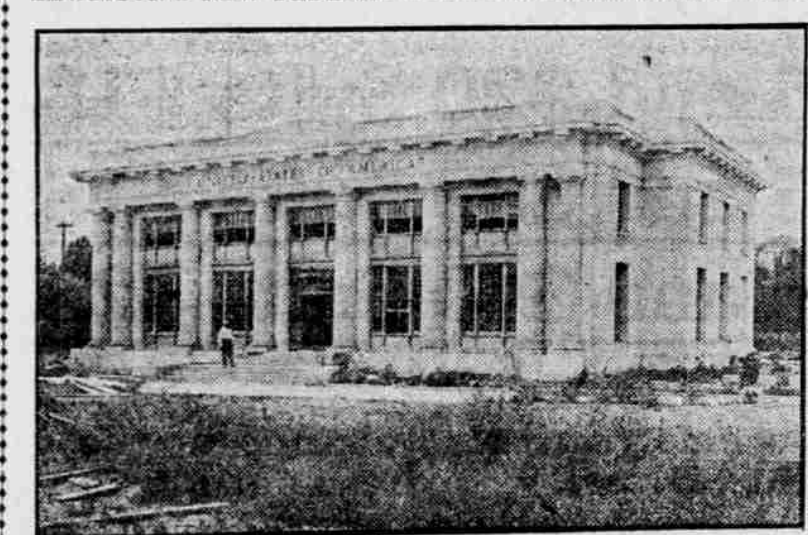
Democrats Declared to Have Lived Down Charge of Being Party of Negation.

TRIBUTE PAID TO MANN

"Victory Habit" Regarded of Far More Importance Than Simple Victories Won—Appeal on Record Made.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—Speaker Clark today, delivering the valedictory of the Democratic House of the Sixty-second Congress, asserted that

LEWISTON'S NEW FEDERAL BUILDING NEARS COMPLETION



STRUCTURE THAT WILL COST \$78,000.

LEWISTON, Idaho, Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Lewiston's new Federal building is rapidly nearing completion. The structure, when completed, will have cost \$78,000, and is the most modern building of its kind in Northern Idaho. The new structure will house the local postoffice and other Federal offices.

Taft Chiefs Gathering

REPORTS ON ILLINOIS TO BE COMPARED TODAY.

Anthony, of Kansas, Says Republicans Will Need to Make Straight Taft Fight to Win.

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Whether the Bull Moose movement has caused serious defections from the ranks of the Republican organization workers in down-state counties will be made known when the Republican chiefs from all parts of the state gather here tomorrow.

Representative Anthony, of Kansas, was a visitor at Taft headquarters today. Mr. Anthony recently survived the attacks of the Roosevelt forces in his district and won a renomination. He offered the opinion that the Penrose and Archibald statements had injured Roosevelt.

"I think the Penrose affair has hurt Roosevelt tremendously," said Mr. Anthony. "Roosevelt's letters do not carry much weight. Everyone who has had anything to do with politics knows that \$100,000 contributions are not made without the parties concerned being aware of it."

Anthony said he intended to make a straight-out Taft fight and believed that all the Republican nominees would have to go to win.

"The people are tired of half-breeds and traitors to the Republican party," he said. "I believe the voters will show that they prefer Democrats to Republican traitors."

Ex-Representative Gerrit J. Diekmann, of Holland, Mich., arrived today to take charge of the speakers' bureau at Taft headquarters. He found waiting him scores of applications for campaign work from men willing to speak for the cause of President Taft.

Harry L. West of Washington, who will have a hand in the publicity work, arrived tonight.

AIR STUNTS PROMISED

AVIATOR CHRISTOFFERSON IS OUT FOR REPUTATION.

Portland Birdman Has Arranged Great Programme at Oaks, Saturday and Sunday.

"Portland people know I can fly. Saturday I shall do more than that. I shall make a reputation."

In these words Silas G. Christofferson, the daring young Portland aviator, who will be seen at the Oaks Amusement Park today and Sunday, announced his intentions.

The runway at the park was completed last night and the big hydro-aeroplane hauled into position ready for the first flight this afternoon at 3 o'clock, to be followed by others at 5 and 7 o'clock.

historians would declare with absolute truth that the House Democrats of the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses "did great things," and "have made a sweeping Democratic victory" approximately certain, a victory that will give us the House, the Senate and the Presidency.

The Speaker, in a tribute to leaders of both parties, declared that no majority was ever more successfully led than by Representative Underwood nor any minority ever led more ably than by Representative Mann.

"I have not," he said, "always agreed with Brother Mann—God forbid—but he lives up fully to his name. He is in very truth a man."

Faith Kept, Says Speaker.

Speaker Clark said that for years the Democrats have been sneered at "as a party of negation, green hands in formulating and conducting public business, ridiculed as a mob, a rabble, without coherence or discipline, as militia lighting regulars; and even the exact date on which we would dissolve into warring factions and go to pieces was set down in type."

"But," he added, "the Democrats have fought and won like veterans and constitute as thoroughly disciplined a force as ever appeared in the House or any other parliamentary body since parliamentary bodies were instituted among men; they mustered full strength on every important proposition and passed two great tariff bills over the President's veto, the first instance of the kind in the history of the Republic."

"They had fought a good fight and kept the faith," he said.

The Speaker expressed thanks and the gratitude of the country to "the brave, wise and patriotic Republicans who co-operated with us in passing good bills."

Unity of Purpose Is Secret.

"The secret of our marvelous success," he said, "is simple—unity of thought, purpose and action, frequent counsel together, a spirit of mutual conciliation and strict adherence to principle."

"We have won many victories," he said, "but what is better we have formed the habit of victory."

What the Democratic House accomplished, so far as it could, for the amelioration of conditions, he said, "thwarted as it has been by a Republican President, is only an earnest of what we will do when we come into full possession of the three branches of government. President Taft vetoed most of our bills of a remedial character, a prerogative unwisely exercised. He made his record; what ours is, we will make."

"On these records we appeal to the country, with absolute confidence that when the polls close in November we will have elected a Democratic House and Senate. Governor Woodrow Wilson to the Presidency and Governor Marshall to the Vice-Presidency—consummations devoutly to be wished, which we believe and hope will prove an estimable and enduring benefit to the entire American people of whatever persuasion, religious or political."

SHIP HITS WHARF, STICKS

Mariposa Is Fast Aground in Mud at Valdez.

VALDEZ, Alaska, Aug. 24.—The Alaska Steamship Co.'s steamship Mariposa, returning from the westward yesterday, crashed into the wharf here, destroying the western end of the warehouse thereon and running ashore. The Mariposa itself remains stuck in the mud, apparently uninjured, but with a heavy starboard list. The accident was due to mistaking of signals in the engine-room.

The damage to the wharf and contents, most of which were spilled into the bay, is estimated at about \$3000.

FLYER GOES INTO DITCH

Missouri Pacific Express With Two Engines Jumps Tracks.

OSAWATOMIE, Kan., Aug. 24.—Running at a high speed to make up lost time, the Missouri-Pacific's Colorado express, westbound, went into a ditch near here this afternoon. Both locomotives were wrecked, the mail and baggage cars telescoped and the chairs and benches left a shambles. No one was killed. Engineer Edward Burns, who was scalded, was the only one hurt so far as known.

W. C. D. Whetnam, in an address on racial tendencies before the British Royal Institution, said that the present conditions of the birth rate the English people may be expected to become in future, darker, more emotional and less rational and self-controlled.

Fall Suit News

EVERY day for weeks the express has been bringing new goods until now our ladies' shop is filled to overflowing with the most charming collection of Fall Apparel that we have ever had the pleasure of presenting to the ladies of Portland and vicinity.

TO TELL you of all the different fabrics and models would require a page or more—we would rather you would come and see them. You'll find an unusually large collection of the newest models—tailored suits in the most beautiful fabrics from \$20 upward; charming coats for Fall from \$10 upwards; raincoats in cravenettes and tweeds from \$15 upward; the ever popular Peter Thompson dresses for girls from \$5 upward, and a great array of dainty and serviceable coats and suits for misses and girls at a wide range of prices.

WE CAN fit perfectly any lady, as we have models from the smallest to the largest. We maintain a large force of fitters and tailors in order to make quickly any alterations required.

WE SUGGEST that you will find it a convenience to shop early in the season, while there is the greatest variety from which to select. You are cordially invited to call and see this greatest array of suits and coats that we have ever shown.

There are a few Summer suits left, any one of which may be yours at one-half its regular price.

The Ladies' Shop occupies our entire Third Floor. It's a day-lighted shop, where all fabrics may be seen in their true colors. A restful, roomy and convenient shop. Please take the Elevator.

BEN SELLING LEADING CLOTHIER

Morrison Street at Fourth

RAY'S NOMINATION OPPOSED IN SENATE

Major Four Times Accused, Never Vindicated, Says Committee Report.

EXAMPLE TO ARMY FEARED

Reprimand Has Been Worst Punishment, and Investigators Say Immunity Will Have Far-reaching Influence.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The Senate committee on War Department expenditures reported today that Major Beecher B. Ray, U. S. A., whom the President yesterday nominated to be Deputy Paymaster-General of the Army, had been engaged in political activity, particularly in the interest of President Taft, had been four times charged with serious offenses, never vindicated and never been disciplined more severely than by a reprimand.

Appointment Hastens Report.

The investigation of Major Ray's case attracted wide attention because of the investigation committee's charges that the Secretary Stimson was withholding important papers bearing upon it. It is believed the committee's report was hastened by President Taft's nomination of Major Ray for promotion yesterday. Ray is in line for advancement under the law.

It was said the President and Secretary Stimson decided to send in his nomination and leave its confirmation to the Senate. That a fight will be made in the Senate has been announced.

Political Activity Charged.

The committee findings, in part, follow: "Major Ray has been engaged in political activities in the interest of the Republican party and particularly in the interest of the President. The committee believes that if one Army officer is allowed favors and immunity as a result of political services or influence it must be an example of all officers. If such practices prevail at all, it is hard to see how the Army can resist being drawn more and more into politics and becoming a political machine."

Disrespect Is Disavowed.

The committee says it states its findings without intending disrespect to the President and in the hope that he may see fit to make public such explanation of the circumstances set forth as will assure the country that the Army is not being used for political purposes.

The report declared that the Secretary of War had determined that the committee should not see certain papers bearing on the case, said to have been found in the office of General Edwards, then head of the Insular Bureau. In the charges relating to the wife of an employee of the War Department, on account of which Major Ray was severely reprimanded, the committee concluded there was ample justification for not proceeding with the court martial, as the employee who complained

became reconciled to his wife and refused to press the charge.

Court Martial Proceedings Stopped.

Papers transmitted by the War Department, the report says, showed that Major Ray had been charged with knowingly signing a false certificate resulting in the payment of a fraudulent claim against the Government and that court martial proceedings against him had been stopped.

The papers also showed that Major Ray had been charged with directing his chief clerk to alter vouchers so as to show that travel pay had been paid to five discharged Philippine scouts and with taking corresponding credit on his accounts, although "he had intentionally paid the scouts no travel pay."

The committee expressed the belief that the papers which Secretary Stimson refused to transmit would throw light on the motives of General Bell, commanding the Philippine division, in dealing with the Ray case, as he had suggested that "it seems hardly possible that there was not behind the military course in the matter some political motive on the part of someone other than General Bell."

Secretary Makes No Inquiry.

"This," the report concluded, "might also account for the failure of the Secretary of War to inquire into the matter, which he considered highly irregular."

A table prepared by General Whipple, showing all of Major Ray's stations since he was commissioned in 1898 shows the following, with respect to Presidential campaign years: He was stationed at Chicago from July 12, 1900, to April 22, 1901; at Chicago from April 26, 1904, to May 21, 1907; on a

leave of absence from January 29, 1908, to August 14, 1908, which the record shows he availed himself to go to Chicago and was on temporary duty at

Chicago from August 17, 1908, to October 21, 1908. He was assigned again to Chicago on November 17, 1911.



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