

REBEL DEMOCRATS FEAR WILSON IDEA

Telegram of Executive May
Be Nemesis.

13 UP FOR RE-ELECTION

All But One Senator Silent on De-
mand for Ratification Plank
in Platform.

BY CHARLES MICHELSON.
WASHINGTON, May 15.—The out-
standing feature of the reception ac-
corded President Wilson's telegram
reiterating his hostility to the Lodge
reservations to the peace treaty was
the unanimity of those democrats
who voted to accept the reservations
in declining to talk about it.

This does not go for Senator Reed,
who joined the irreconcilables in the
beginning and stuck to it.

Thomas Is Exception.
The one exception to the silence
was Senator Thomas, who said: "It
would be most unfortunate if the
democratic convention should follow
the president's advice."
Mr. Thomas, however, has not yet
announced positively that he will run
for the senate against the president.

Thirteen of the democrats who
voted with Lodge are candidates for
re-election this year, and while the
president's friends deny that the tel-
egram to the Oregon state chairman
was sent with any idea of embar-
rassing them, they have their own
opinion, and their eloquent silence
on the great issue of the democratic
convention testifies to the strength
of that opinion.

It is hard for Senator Chamberlain,
for example, to believe that such a
telegram to his bitterest political en-
emy in Oregon was simply an un-
fortunate coincidence. Chamberlain
is among those who came up for re-
election this year. He is also one of
those who incurred the president's
displeasure during the war by a
critical speech he made in New York.

White House Called.
As soon as he heard of the message
to County Chairman Hamaker, he
called up the White House and told
Secretary Tumulty that Hamaker was
one of the few democrats in Oregon
who was trying to prevent his re-
election. He was assured that this
was unknown when the president sent
the message. Chairman Chamberlain
proceeded to explain that while he
did not believe Hamaker could pre-
vent his nomination in the Oregon
primaries, the telegram furnished him
something to exhibit and gave him
an opening to tell everybody that his
president was opposed to Chamberlain
and, inferentially, would like to see
him beaten.

In the same boat with Chamberlain
are Senators Beckman, Fletcher,
Gore, Henderson, Kirby, Nusselt,
Overman, Smith of South Carolina,
Smith of Georgia, Smith of Mary-
land and Thomas.

Some of these are uneasy, for they
have not the certainty that Chamber-
lain is supposed to have. These things
are contagious and nearly all of them
have in their districts county chair-
men and such folks who may be
minded to attempt to draw the presi-
dent with the same sort of message.

Republicans Seem Doleful.
There are not lacking Job's com-
forters in the senate to assure them
that the worst is yet to come. The
republicans generally are sympathetic
and doleful in their expressions to
their embarrassed colleagues.
"The acceptance of the president's
dictum will place practically every
democrat running for re-election in an
undefeatable position," said Senator
Reed, and he added: "This puts the
ratification of the treaty as demanded
by President Wilson not only beyond
the pale of probabilities, but also be-
yond the pale of possibilities."

This is not strictly accurate. Under-
wood, who has been re-elected,
voted against the Lodge reservations
and Smith of Ohio, who was re-elected
when the treaty was rejected the sec-
ond time.

Johnson and Borah, intimating that
the president's telegram indicated he
wanted the treaty without reserva-
tions made the issue of the campaign,
even expressed admiration at his con-
sistency, and Senator Moses said,
"Once more the president has shown
himself to be our best friend."
The democratic view of this was
voiced by Senator Underwood, the
democratic leader. "I think that the
telegram removes the controversy
from the capitol, and carries the issue
to the conventions at Chicago and
San Francisco."

In making this observation, Mr.
Underwood did not mean to indicate
that the president insists on abso-
lute approval without interpretive
reservations. He believes his posi-
tion remains entirely consistent and
has not been changed. A large por-
tion of democrats in congress take
this view of the president's telegram.
They do not think it affects the party
situation as it will be when the dem-
ocratic convention assemblies in San
Francisco.

Telegram Viewed as Warning.
The general assumption is that the
president merely intended to forestall
any more declarations by state con-
ventions concerning the peace treaty
issue as New York did. If incidentally
some twinges should accrue to
those democrats who voted for the
Lodge reservations, he is not going to
feel any poignant distress, but it is
hardly likely that he will fire any
bombs in their districts—unless they
carry the thing along. In other words,
the Hamaker telegram is more a
warning than the opening of a bar-
rage.

The republican convention will
take cognizance of the telegram. The
foreboding of the convention is
assuming a Johnson line, not per-
haps as to his nomination, but there
is evidence that everything is going
to be done to placate him prior to
the destruction of his ambition.
Borah looms as the permanent chair-
man. He is Johnson's first, second
and last choice. Beveridge, who was
Borah's nominee for the job, did not
sue Johnson and so we hear no more
of Beveridge.



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SUIT PROCEEDS SLOWLY

ELEVEN DAYS ALREADY TAKEN
IN-CIRCUIT COURT.

Judge Refers to Case as "Fight Be-
tween Alleged Promoters of an
Imaginary Railroad."

Though 11 days have been consumed
already in a hearing which Circuit
Judge Morrow describes as "a fight
between alleged promoters of an
imaginary railroad," cross-examina-
tion of the first witness will open
Monday morning in the suit of H. S.
Huson against the Portland & South-
western railroad.

Promoters refer to the railroad as
a \$7,000,000 project but it still is on
paper. If it is constructed from Mount
Angel to Bend, as contemplated, the
value of present holdings is estimated
anywhere from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000.
It would tap a rich timber district.

Huson, plaintiff in the suit, was
employed as chief engineer and
promised an interest in the corpora-
tion for his services by Michael Ly-
not, railroad contractor and pro-
moter. The Myler Construction com-
pany was formed to furnish the
money and the scheme was capitalized
for \$1,000,000.

Others brought into the suit as co-
defendants are: S. C. Spencer, J.
Frank Watson, James T. Barron and
M. G. Munly.

S. C. Spencer and H. S. Fortner
were appointed joint receivers for the
property by Circuit Judge Tucker
some time ago. The suit is to deter-
mine first whether the company is
legal and second the propor-
tion of stock owned by the parties
interested.

RECEIVER GETS JUDGMENT

Argument Heard as to Liability of
Defendant for Interest.

VANCOUVER, Wash., May 15.—
(Special.)—In the case of M. B. Kies,
receiver of the Commercial Bank, de-
funct, against John Wilkinson, for
the collection of \$5500, for which
judgment was given yesterday, argu-
ment on the question of the interest
from December 19, 1910, to date,
amounting to about \$2000, was heard
today by Judge H. W. R. Hewen of
Pacific county, sitting for Judge R. H.
Back. He took the matter under ad-
visement.

The judgment was against any
separate property owned by Wilkin-
son, but cannot be collected from any
community property.

While no notice has been given of
an appeal to the supreme court, it is
thought that it will be taken there by
both sides.

COLUMBIA ABOVE NORMAL

River Rises Nine Feet Due to
Storms in Montana.

VANCOUVER, Wash., May 15.—
(Special.)—The Columbia river sev-
eral days ago took a decided rise and
is now nine feet above normal. On
Wednesday it rose more than a foot
in 24 hours, due to it is thought, to
severe storms in Montana and to warm
spring days this side of there.

The water is filling a number of
the sloughs on Hayden island and the
crops are there by the thousands.



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are mysteries whose enchant-
ment increases with associa-
tion and study.

rumors that it was obtained un-
der duress.

The story is that Senator McNary
gave his very carefully worded letter
of indorsement after he had been re-
minded that when he was a candidate
for the senate in Oregon two years
ago both Senator Johnson and Sen-
ator Borah wrote strong letters of in-
dorsement in his behalf. Senator
Borah is said to have arranged the
conference at which the McNary in-
dorsement was obtained.

Senator McNary, being busy with
official matters, has been inclined to
take no hand in the republican presi-
dential contest, holding that the re-
publicans of Oregon should be free to
make their popular choice in the pri-
mary. The Johnson indorsement,
however, saved Senator McNary from
the charge of being an ingrate, which
naturally he desired to escape. The
work of unseating other democrats in
the senate who voted, like Senator
Chamberlain, for treaty ratification
with the Lodge reservations, it is un-
derstood, will be left to the volun-
teers.

That is, the administration will not
seek to bring candidates into the
field where opposition has not al-

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