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JAPS ARE WORRIED WASHINGTON LETTER

Threatened Change in Railway Routing Affects Them

ARE GIVEN ASSURANCES

Already Their Protests Have Met With Some Measure of Success, and Nippon Cities Hope That Suitable Arrangements Will be Made.

TOKIO, July 16.—Via San Francisco, Aug. 4.—It appears that the strenuous exertion made by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Steamship Co., and others to induce the American railway companies to reconsider the proposed schedule of rates have been attended with some measure of success. The railway companies are now said to have cabled the directors of the Nippon company in the sense that rates will be kept down to the San Francisco level.

The Japanese Boyeki Kyokai also has received from the railway control bureau at Chicago an assurance that as this question of rates closely concerns the trade between the two countries every effort will be made to arrange a mutually satisfactory schedule. Nagoya and Seto have also enabled to the same bureau in Chicago and have urged that the projected increase of rates would be fatal. These two places are the great centers of Japan porcelain manufacture. They export five million yen worth of ceramic ware annually to America and they have hitherto paid 20 yen a ton for transportation. Under the new schedule however they will have to pay 30 yen and this would mean that the Suez route must be chosen in preference to the American.

PROTECT THE PEOPLE.

Oklahoma's Code Not Altogether A Folly and Failure.

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Guthrie Okla., says: Maintaining that under Oklahoma's anti-trust law authority is given the state to regulate the price of coal, Attorney General West is completing the petition he will file with the State Corporation Commission. The section of the law was written by West himself for the purpose of controlling coal prices. He aims to have Oklahoma mine coal sold to the consumer at \$5 to \$5.50 per ton instead of \$6.50 to \$8 as at present. In case coal companies resist the claims he has power under the law, to have receivers named for the property.

ARMY OFFICERS HIKE.

Fifty Mile Walk to Demonstrate Physical Fitness.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4.—Eight officers of the United States army will start on a 50-mile "hike" today the object of the march being to demonstrate their physical fitness to continue in the active service of the government. Original plans for the line of march have been changed and the walk to San Jose abandoned in favor of three days' tramping about the city, the distance covered in that time aggregating the 50 miles required.

On August 11 the riding test will be carried out, the officers starting on that day to cover 90 miles on horseback. On August 13 seven more officers will start on their riding test.

The officers to start on the walking trip today are Colonels H. G. Tomey, J. L. Clem, Adam Slaker, J. Walter Benet, J. L. Anderson, Major W. A. Bethel and J. M. Kennedy.

Those to take the riding test are Colonels Lundeen, Marsh, Simpson, G. R. Smith, Appel and Bellinger. Majors Pickett, Ruckman, Williamson, Stevens, Schrener, Turner, Krauthoff, McKinsley and Biddle.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 5.—A clause in the Agricultural Appropriation Bill affecting the Forest Service has been the subject of a recent opinion by the Attorney General. The clause provided that no part of the appropriation for the Forest Service shall be paid or used for the purpose of paying for in whole or in part the preparation or publication of any newspaper or magazine article, but this shall not prevent the giving out to all persons without discrimination, including newspaper and magazine writers and publishers, of any facts or official information of value to the public.

The question was submitted to the Attorney General by the Secretary of Agriculture, whether this provision of the law prohibited the sending to newspapers, writers, and others of such statements as it has been distributing in the past. To this inquiry the attorney-general replied: "You express the view that in distributing such information as is compiled and sent out by the Forest Service, especially to persons engaged in the practice or study of forestry, and generally to the public at large through the newspapers and magazines, you are fulfilling the primary and fundamental duty imposed upon the Department of Agriculture by section 520 of the Revised Statutes. Information thus given out will be accompanied by a notice that it is sent in accordance with the proviso to the appropriation act of 1908. There will therefore be no discrimination; and you say, further, that no money will be paid on this account to any newspaper or magazine or to any newspaper or magazine writer or publisher, or to any person not regularly employed in the Forest Service. Obviously such information as has been collated and distributed heretofore and will continue to be sent out is of value to the public, and certainly your determination that it is so, as head of the Department of Agriculture, is conclusive. Under this state of facts I can see no reason to doubt that your conception of your official duty in this respect is legally correct, and that the Forester may lawfully distribute information as proposed; and I am also of opinion that information requested by a newspaper or magazine writer or publisher may lawfully be sent in the form of a letter."

MANY VISIT BRYAN.

Says he Thinks the Phonograph Will Help Much in Political Questions.

FAIRVIEW, Aug. 4.—In the striking contrast to yesterday, the torrid weather today did not seem to arrest the string of visitors who visited W. J. Bryan today. They came in great numbers, some on business and some merely to pay their respects. Bryan did not seem to be affected by the heat and greeted all comers cordially. He today gave out a statement in regard to the report that Judge Taft is talking into a phonograph, in which he took occasion to say he believed hereafter the use of the phonograph for the dissemination of political speeches would be regarded as a dignified method of discussing the public questions.

DEMOCRATS AT WORK.

Open Up National Headquarters In Chicago Today.

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—Democratic national headquarters will be opened for the season at the Auditorium annex tomorrow. Chairman Norman E. Mack of the national committee accompanied by Roger C. Sullivan of Illinois will arrive in Chicago today. Secretary Urey Woodson and several members of the executive committee are scheduled to come in at about the same time.

Chairman Mack is expected to announce the membership of the finance committee and the various committees not yet appointed on his arrival.

MONTEAGLE WON OUT SCIENCE VS. TRADE

Wins Race Across Atlantic With Shipment of Silk

BEAT THE JAPANESE TOSU

The Silk Will be Forwarded to New York by Express Train in Passenger Coaches—Other Interesting Matters From the Far East.

VICTORIA, B. C., Aug. 4.—With a shipment of silk valued at nearly a million dollars, part of a large shipment made by three steamers which left Yokohama to race across the Pacific, the steamer Monteagle arrived tonight after a passage of 12 days, 16 hours, landing her silk in advance of the Japanese steamer Tosa Maru, which left Yokohama an hour ahead of her and is not yet reported by wireless, and the Pacific Mail steamer Siberia, which left the Japanese port four days before.

The silk will be sent forward from Vancouver to New York by express train in passenger coaches. It was shipped by a German firm in Japan which makes regular shipments, and it is understood to have arranged that preference will be given in future shipments to the line landing the silk in New York first. The Monteagle also brought 4500 tons of tea, silk, rice and general freight, 97 saloon and 101 steerage passengers, mostly Chinese.

J. S. Clark, for 12 years naval architect with the Mitsu Bishi dock yards company of Nagasaki and family were among the passengers. He has designed many Japanese warships and the new turbine steamer Tenyo Maru of the Toyo Kishken Kaisha, was built under his supervision.

The Monteagle also brought news that an ingenious attempt to smuggle arms for the rebels in South China on the steamer Minnesota by Japanese was discovered at Hong Kong. Firearms were found secreted in trunks with false bottoms.

Japan is about to despatch a representative to St. Petersburg, according to advices received by the steamer Monteagle, to take up sealing claims brought by owners of Japanese sealing schoolers seized by Russian patrol cruisers for alleged raiding at Coper Islands. The sealing schooner Miye Maru, one of the schooners caught off the Pribyloff islands last year was seized early in July. The claims are brought for the seizure of this vessel and for the capture of the Raifuku Maru, Taiyo Maru and Kompira Maru last year, these vessels still being held at Vladivostok.

News was brought of the death of Captain J. W. Wale, who was master of the Japanese steamer Kanagawa Maru, which ran to Seattle during the war with Russia.

OFFICERS WALKING CONTEST.

Complete the First Days Test Covering 19 Miles.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4.—Seven army officers stationed at the Presidio and at Benicia, nearly all past fifty years old and several nearly the three score mark, today completed the first day's walk of the 50-mile walking contest ordered by President Roosevelt, covering 19 miles in 64 hours. In the party were Colonel J. L. Clem, Col. George H. Torney, Colonel J. Walter Benet, Colonel Adams Slaker, Colonel L. C. Anderson, Mayor W. A. Bethel and Major M. J. Kennedy. The officers camp into the camp walking briskly and looking fresh. They declared the test was an easy one and it would demonstrated they are still physically fit for a severe campaign duty.

GEN. T. C. DUPONT APPOINTED

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—General T. Coleman Dupont of Delaware was appointed today to be director of the Speaker's Bureau of the Republican national committee. The New York political situation was canvassed thoroughly today by Fitzpatrick and Chairman Wilcox of the public service commission of the Metropolitan District which has already been mentioned for the Governorship. It is understood that Wilcox will not go into the convention as an opponent of Governor Hughes.

Subscribe to the Morning Astorian.

Thomas A. Edison Again Reported as Retiring

WILL GO TO FLORIDA HOME

Great Inventor Weary of Business and Will Seek Relief in Realms of Scientific Pursuit For the Time That is Left Him.

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—Thomas A. Edison, has begun to gratify an ambition he has cherished many years, and the laboratory at Llewellyn N. J. will see comparatively little of him henceforth.

Mr. Edison's ambition has been to give himself a roving commission into pure science and to steer clear of commercialism.

He does not want to increase his fortune. He has got \$25,000,000 which he thinks is more than enough. All of his life he has been turning out money making inventions. He devotes his remaining years to investigating anything that strikes his fancy, without regard to its financial productiveness. It is learned that the man who has achieved so many marvels in electricity has a greater love for chemistry than electricity.

Chemistry was the first science to captivate his wonderful intellect, but he has never had a chance to dip as deep into its mysteries as he wanted to. Now he proposes to give himself the chance.

He has bought himself a place in Florida where he will spend a couple of months in the late winter and early spring next year. Toward the end of this month he is going with his wife on a month's trip to the Pacific Coast.

TWENTY STILL MISSING

Eighteen Victims of the Fernie Fire Have Been Found.

VANCOUVER, Aug. 4.—Up to this evening 18 bodies had been found in the ruins caused by the Fernie fire. There still are 20 members of the logging crew of Elk River Lumber Company missing. These men were working north of Hosmer and nothing yet has been heard from them. They may have escaped by crossing the mountain range. If they succeeded it will be several days before they could possibly reach Fernie. No great damage has been done to Michael yet. The town is surrounded and seriously threatened from the west. If the wind remains favorable there may be no loss.

PRESIDENTIAL PROXY.

Socialist Candidate Has a Man in the Field While he Remains in Prison

SEATTLE, Aug. 4.—In the course of a speaking tour over the state August Gillhaus of New York, proxy for Martin Preston, socialist labor candidate for president, is in Seattle. Preston, as has been published, is in jail in Nevada serving a 25 year sentence for murder. Gillhaus was named as his proxy in case it should be impossible to secure the liberation of Preston. Preston's offense was the killing of a restaurant keeper named Silvar at Goldfield, whose place he was helping to picket for the union. Gillhaus says Preston shot in self-defense, using his weapon only when Silvar rushed out at him with drawn revolver. Preston's liberation will be the prime air of Gillhaus' speaking campaign.

The proxy is 41 years old and was formerly a stationary engineer in New York.

LIKE CHAINED DOGS.

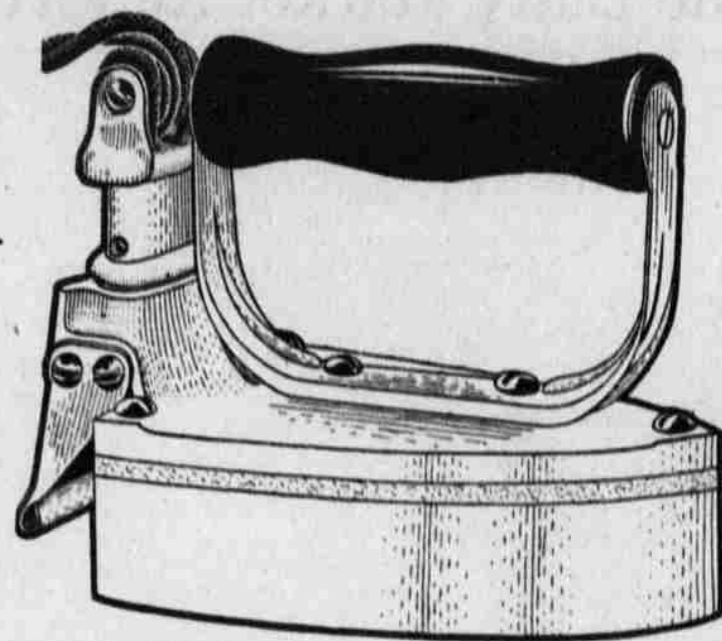
South American Republics Are on the Verge of War.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 4.—According to passengers who came from Central American ports yesterday on the Pacific Mail liner San Jose out of Panama, relations between the various republics are strained almost to breaking point and Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, are near an open rupture though it is declared that it would be hard to make a reasonably certain guess as to where the trouble will start, if it does come.

At Corinto, it is stated, the gunboat Momotombo and the army transport Nicaragua are held ready for im-

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mediate service by the Nicaraguan authorities. In Salvador the cruiser empire is also kept ready for action and the President, another cruiser is being refitted for service.

BILLIK CASE AGAIN.

Priests Mix in Famous Murder Trial In Chicago.

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—An examination of the stomach of Henry Niemann, whose body was exhumed a week ago at the instigation of the Rev. Father P. J. O'Callaghan and other friends of Herman Billik, convicted of the murder of five members of the Vzral family, has revealed the presence of arsenic.

The theory of Father O'Callaghan is that Billik is innocent of poisoning the Vzral family. Previous to the examination of the Niemann body he said that in the event the poison was discovered he would insist on the indictment of Emma Vzral Niemann. This story is opposed by the members of the state's attorney's office and before the coroners assistants. It is said that the undertaker who prepared Niemann's body for burial admitted several days ago that he used arsenic in embalming the remains. More recently he said that arsenic was not used by him at that time.

CUMMINGS FOR CONGRESS.

Announces Himself as Candidate to Succeed Senator Allison.

LAKE FOREST, Ill., Aug. 4.—Governor Albert R. Cummings of Iowa tonight announced himself as a candidate to succeed the late Senator Allison in Congress. The governor paid a glowing tribute to his late political adversary's services to Iowa and the country at large, then frankly declared his ambition to be elected to the upper house by the legislature of his state. He also announced "Someone will be appointed at once to occupy



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Senator Allison's seat for the coming months of his unexpired term."

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