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CANAL'S PROGRESS

Great Waterway Will Be Open For Shipping in 1912

MOVING FASTER THAN HOPED

Of All Work on the Panama Canal, the Great Cut Through the Mountain Backbone at Culebra is "the Most Unkindest Cut of All." Now Figured That This Can Be Completed in Three and a Half Years, and With it the Rest of the Work on the Canal.

Washington, Special.—In the digging of the Panama canal it has always been considered that, outside of the construction of the big lock and dam works, the chief difficulty to be encountered is the great cut through the backbone of the American continent at Culebra. The problem was there presented of removing a mountain, and by the aid of modern steam shovels, drills and dynamite the solution is being rapidly worked out. In fact, according to information which has reached the offices of the Isthmian Canal Commission here, over one-half of this great work has now been completed.

This cut through the hills and mountains extends a distance of nine and one-half miles. At the highest point the original surface of the ground was 200 feet and a hole from 430 feet to 1,000 feet wide and 160 feet deep is being dug there. This work involved the excavation of 80,698,248 cubic yards of earth and stone. The old French company took out 12,600,000 cubic yards from 1895 to 1904 and since the Americans have taken charge of the work they have excavated 18,445,426 cubic yards. This leaves only 39,652,822 cubic yards yet to be removed, less than half of the total. In view of the fact that 11,191,488 yards were taken out last year after the Americans had got their machinery in operation and their organization perfected, the indications are that, at the same rate of progress, the Culebra Cut will be completed in three years and a half. In the opinion of engineers here that will fix the date for the completion of the entire canal—in other words they think that the work on the other sections will be so timed as to be finished at the moment when the excavation is done. If they are correct in this the Panama canal should be open for business in January, 1912.

The Dutchmen Are Indignant.

Amsterdam, By Cable.—In retaliation for the summary expulsion of the Dutch minister to Venezuela, it was officially announced that all Dutch warships in American waters be ordered to make a demonstration against unless President Castro makes immediate apology. It is probable that the Dutch will bombard La Guayra and Porto Cabelle.

Interest in Washington.

Washington, Special.—The official announcement from Amsterdam that the Netherlands government has decided to make a hostile demonstration against Venezuela is received with the greatest interest by officialdom. It is possible that the Dutch government will consult other nations who are smarting under President Castro's attitude before deciding upon a definite course of action and may invite their co-operation.

Burglars and Bank Cashier.

Ada, Ohio, Special.—Six masked men forced Clyde Sharp, cashier of the First National Bank, to leave his bed and go to the bank and open the vault. Opening the inner door he managed to set off the fire alarm and the burglars fled with six dollars taken from the cash drawer. A posse is pursuing.

Chinese Drowned by Typhoon.

Hong Kong, By Cable.—A typhoon struck Hong Kong shortly before 12 o'clock Monday night, causing unusually high seas to run. A number of Chinese were drowned. Members of the crew of the British cruiser Astraea with a searchlight started out in a cutter to rescue 43 men who were fighting for life against the angry waves. They succeeded in rescuing six of them, the others being drowned. The property loss on shore is very heavy.

COMMISSION HAS POWER

Inter-State Commerce Commission Will Consider Reasonableness of Freight Rates After They Have Become Effective and Believes the Increase is Effective After Notice Has Been Given by Carriers and Before the Rate Actually Goes Into Effect.

Washington, Special.—The announcement by the inter-State commerce commission that it would consider the reasonableness of rates after notice of increases by the shippers and prior to their filing of protests is regarded as of wide-spread importance. Following closely upon the action of Cincinnati shippers appealing to the President to induce the commission to take this course, it is generally believed here that the suggestion calling forth the statement came from President Roosevelt. Chairman Knapp said last Saturday that the law contemplated investigation of the reasonableness of rates by the commission after they have become effective, but he thought the commission might decide that the increase is effective after notice has been given by a carrier and before the new rate actually goes into effect. The commission's statement takes that view of its powers.

There is much interest in the action by Judge Speer, of the Southern judicial district of Georgia, granting a preliminary injunction restraining the Atlantic Coast Line, the Louisville & Nashville, the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis, the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific and the Southern Railway Companies from putting into effect on August 1st the increased rates on shipments of staple products from Western to Southern points.

Norman E. Mack Chairman.

Chicago, Special.—Chairman Norman E. Mack, Buffalo, N. Y., vice chairman, L. P. Hall, of Nebraska; treasurer, Governor C. N. Haskell, Oklahoma, sergeant-at-arms, John I. Martin, Missouri, secretary, Urey Woodson, Kentucky. After a seven-hour conference with William J. Bryan and John W. Kern, respectively Democratic nominees for President and Vice President, the subcommittee of the national Democratic committee made its selections of the officers of the committee. It was the first time in many years that a national chairman had been selected by the Democratic party only after a bitter contest had been waged. The choice of Mr. Mack was made possible only after the New York leaders, Charles F. Murphy, of Tammany, and W. J. Conners, chairman of the State Democratic committee, had yielded to the personal desires of Mr. Bryan.

New Party's First Meeting.

Chicago, Special.—Amid loud and enthusiastic cheering and with its members showing every sign of loyalty to their new standard of political faith, the first national convention of the Independence party was opened at 8 o'clock Monday night in Orchestra Hall. The main floor of the hall was filled by delegates. There are no alternates. The galleries were overcrowded with a throng which entered heartily into the spirit of the proceedings and throughout the session applauded vigorously whatever met their approval. The arrival of W. R. Hearst was the signal for prolonged applause. Mr. Hearst made a brief but forceful speech on taking the temporary chairmanship, in which he arraigned the Republican and Democratic parties vigorously and claimed that the time for instituting a new order of things political has arrived.

Famous Banks' Birthday.

London, By Cable.—Fifteen hundred employees of the Bank of England are Monday enjoying a holiday at the institution's expense, in accordance with the annual custom of observing the birthday of "the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street." The bank was founded 214 years ago Monday and is the greatest financial institution in the world.

Fine of \$29,240,000 Excessive.

Chicago, Special.—Following the unanimous decision of Judges Grosscup, Seaman and Baker, composing the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, reversing and remanding the case of the government against the Standard Oil Company, of Indiana, in which case Judge Landis, in the District Court had imposed a fine of \$29,240,000 the Federal attorneys announced that the government had thirty days within which to file a petition for a re-hearing and that it would be filed within the allotted period.

NEED STRONG NAVY

President Roosevelt Expresses His Views

SHOULD HAVE AMPLE DEFENSES

To a Notable Conference of Naval Officers at Newport the Chief Executive of the United States Sets Forth His Ideas in Regard to That Branch of Uncle Sam's Fighting Equipment.

Newport, R. I., Special.—Pleading for popular support for a "first-class fighting navy," a navy capable of seeking out the enemy and "hammering him into the quits," President Roosevelt was the central figure here in the most notable conference of American naval officers ever called together to consult and discuss, in a broad, general way, the future of United States battleships. The President spoke publicly for more than half an hour, and then the conference went into executive session for one hour. During this session the President took a leading part in the discussion. He argued as a layman, he explained, and did not attempt to give advice to professional men.

The President said in part: "Admiral, Mr. Secretary, Gentlemen: I could not speak to you technically. I can speak to my fellow-countrymen, who are deeply interested in the American navy, but who sometimes tend to be misled as to the kind of navy we should have and as to what the navy can and ought to do.

"For instance, there are always certain numbers of well-meaning, amiable individuals, coupled with others not quite so well meaning, who advocate merely a coast defense navy. Such advocacy illustrates a habit of mind as old as human nature itself—the desire at the same time to do something, and not to do it.

"No fighting was ever won yet except by hitting, and the one unforgeable offense in any man is to hit soft. That applies to the individual and it applies to the nation, and to those who advocating a coast defense navy, are advocating that we shall adopt as a national principle the principle of hitting soft. I hope with all my heart that never will this nation of ours hit unless it cannot possibly be helped. But when this nation does have to go to war, such war will only be excusable if the nation intends to hammer its opponent until the opponent quits fighting.

"For the protection of our coast we need fortifications, not merely to protect the salient points of our possessions, but so that the navy can be foot-loose. A year ago, at the time it was announced that the fleet was to go abroad, there was a certain number of newspapers, especially in my own city of New York, that raised a clamorous protest against it. It took at one time the form of a mistaken prophecy to the effect that the fleet would not be allowed to go around the world, and one of the reasons alleged was that to let it go around the world would leave New York defenseless in the event of war.

"We have taken the Philippines, but if we had not taken them not a particle of difference would be made as regards the needs of our naval policies. There has been a division of this people as to taking the Philippines.

"There has been no division on the Monroe doctrine, no division on building, maintaining, policing and defending the Panama canal; no division about Hawaii and Porto Rico; no division about keeping Alaska; no division about asserting our superior right to defend and protect Cuba. Not one of the courses of action thus outlined can be followed out excepting with a first-class navy. The Monroe doctrine was in danger of falling not merely into disuse, but into contempt, until we began to build up our navy. The Monroe doctrine unbacked by a navy is an empty boast.

"If we have a coast defense navy only, we had better at once turn over the Panama canal to some stronger and braver nation, and give up Hawaii, Porto Rico and Alaska, and say that we had no more interest in Cuba than the smallest outside powers.

"We do not want any navy at all if it is not a first-class one, and such a navy will be necessary for us just so long as we demand the right to administer our national affairs as we think best.

"It is very possible that we shall have to exercise a continually greater supervision, a continually greater exercise of the right of rejection among immigrants that come hither, and shall, it may be, take an attitude that will tend at first to provoke friction.

BOLD MAIL ROBBERY

Car Entered and Route Agent Bound and Gagged

MUCH MAIL MATTER RIFLED

Two Desperate Men Board Ulster Express at Edge of Catskill Mountains, and After Disposing of Mail Clerk Peck in an Original Manner, Loot the Mail Car—Posses are in Pursuit, Seeking the Robbers in the Mountains, Where They are Believed to Have a Hiding Place.

Albany, N. Y., Special.—A report from Grand Gorge, a country station on the edge of the Catskill mountain region says two desperate mail robbers held up the Ulster Express between there and Stamford, and after binding and gagging Mail Clerk Peck and throwing him into the mail box, the cover of which they secured, went through the mail and took everything of value. They also took a watch, chain and \$25 from the coat of the clerk, which was hanging in the car. After rifling all the pouches they made their way back to the day coach and got off at Stamford, taking a road that leads to the mountains, where the sheriff and railroad detectives believe them to have a hiding place. At Stamford, Peck was missed, and a search by the conductor and brakeman resulted in the clerk's extrication from his tight quarters in the mail box. An alarm was sent out all along the line from this city to Montreal, and posses are looking for the robbers.

LIGHTNING KILLS SIX.

Terrific Storm Strikes Encampment of Pennsylvania National Guard at Gettysburg—The Dead Members of the Militia—A Score or More Injured.

Gettysburg, Pa., Special.—As the result of a terrific electric storm which passed over the Pennsylvania national guard encampment here it is reported that at least six troopers were killed, and two score injured, some of them seriously, by being struck by lightning. The known dead are:

Private Morrison.

Private Barbe.

Unknown Man, Tenth Regiment.

The tent occupied by Governor Stuart was blown down as were a number of others. Several friends were sitting with Governor Stuart when his tent collapsed, but the party managed to hold the canvas and all escaped injury. The camp is flooded and telegraphic service is practically at a standstill. The entire camp is panic stricken. The darkness is impenetrable and men are wildly running about through rivers of water, seeking the injured.

Every tent of Battery B was blown down, but no one in the battery was hurt. The regimental guard tent of the Tenth regiment was struck by the lightning, and forty men of Company C were badly injured.

The field hospital is full and men are lying about the camp waiting for aid.

The Young Men's Christian Association tent, which was filled with men and women who had taken refuge from the storm, was razed to the ground, but so far as known no one was seriously injured.

Assistant U. S. Treasurer Dead.

Washington, Special.—Major James F. Meline, for sixteen years past the Assistant Treasurer of the United States, died at his home in this city late Friday afternoon, after a long illness. He was 67 years old and a native of Ohio. He will be buried in the National Cemetery at Arlington.

Richard Croker to Come Back.

New York, Special.—Richard Croker, one-time boss of Tammany, is to return to New York this fall, according to a New York World special. While denying that he would take an active part in the campaign for Bryan, Croker said he hoped the Nebraskan would win and thought his chances good.

Montana Is In Commission.

Norfolk, Special.—The new armored cruiser Montana was commissioned at the Norfolk Navy Yard last week. Capt. Alfred Reynolds is in command. The Montana will begin taking on stores at once for her shakedown to Guantanamo, Cuba, which will occur within the next two or three weeks. It is expected that the Montana and her sister ship, the North Carolina, will form the nucleus for a new armored cruiser division of the Atlantic fleet, and that they will shortly be joined by the Tennessee and Washington, now on the Pacific.

HEADS PEACE LEAGUE

In a Letter to Mr. Hayne Davis the President of the United States Signifies His Willingness to Accept the Position of First Honorary President of the Peace and Arbitration League.

New York, Special.—President Roosevelt has accepted the honorary presidency of the Peace and Arbitration League, which is the outgrowth of the North Carolina congress, and which has as its object adequate armament and effective arbitration. President Roosevelt's letter accepting the honorary presidency was made public by Hayne Davis, former president of the league. It follows: "My Dear Mr. Davis:

"I am in receipt of your letter enclosing notice of my election as first honorary president of the peace league, and gladly accept; for I most emphatically believe that the whole American people should subscribe to what you call your 'practical programme for peace'; that is to the doctrine that we should provide adequate armament to protect us all against aggression, and at the same time strive for the effectual arbitration of any and all disputes that may arise between us and foreign powers where it is possible to submit to arbitration. In other words, I cordially sympathize with your announced purpose to secure present protection for the nation and at the same time, make as rapid progress as possible toward permanent world peace. As you well say we should have an unquestionably superior power in our own possessions and in the waters adjacent thereto in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; and we should also do everything possible to secure agreements with all governments to respect each other's territory and sovereignty and to arbitrate all other questions.

"I should be delighted to see Senator McCreary president of the league if you do not feel you can continue in that office.

"Sincerely yours,
"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."
Senator James B. McCreary, of Kentucky, is the active president of the league.

PLAN FOR CAMPAIGN.

Prominent Republicans From Every Section Confer With National Chairman Hitchcock in Regard to the Coming Campaign.

Chicago, Special.—As the result of the Republican conference here Saturday, which was called by Frank H. Hitchcock, chairman of the national committee, headquarters will be established immediately in eight States and active campaigning for Taft and Sherman began long before these States had expected to take up work. The States taking part in the conference were Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. They were represented by the following: National Committeeman E. E. Hart, Iowa; A. T. Rogers, Wisconsin, and A. R. Burnham, Kentucky; State Chairman Roy O. West, Illinois; J. P. Goodrich, Indiana; C. F. Franke, Iowa; R. H. Winn, Kentucky; G. J. Diekema, Michigan; A. D. Brown, Minnesota; W. D. Diekey, Missouri, and W. D. Connor, Wisconsin, State Secretaries Edward St. Clair, Illinois; Carl Riddick, Indiana; A. P. Adier, Iowa; A. S. Bennett, Kentucky; D. E. Alyward, Michigan; D. H. Salmon, J. A. Martin, Minnesota, and J. E. Thomas, Wisconsin.

Leaders Enthusiastic.

The meeting was one of the most enthusiastic yet had by Mr. Hitchcock, although at the outset the men were less receptive than were the representatives of the States in the far West who met in early part of the week at Colorado Springs. This was due, it is said, to the fact that some of the men came from States which they regarded as debatable and they had little data on which to base political estimates. It was agreed that polls should be taken at once in order to gather necessary information concerning the voters and William Hayward, State chairman for Nebraska, and Victor Rosewater, national committeeman from that State, explained the system they have used there for a number of years.

To Urge Radical Reforms.

Chicago, Special.—The platform of the Independence party, which is to meet in national convention this week will, if present plans are carried out, contain a much more radical declaration on the question of injunction than was embodied in the platform of either the Democratic or Republican party.

From present indications the temper of the convention will be in favor of a declaration doing away entirely with preliminary injunctions in cases of labor disputes.

PRINCE AT QUEBEC

Heir to British Throne Visits Canadian City

RECEIVED WITH GREAT HONOR

A Multitude of People, Thousands of Soldiers and a Fleet of International Warships Assemble to Do Honor to the Heir of the English Throne.

Quebec, Que., Special.—The Prince of Wales landed from the British battleship Indomitable amid the deafening roar of guns from the international fleet of British, French and American warships, and the tumultuous demonstrations of 50,000 people massed upon the wharves and the terraced heights of the city. It was a spectacle of truly royal splendor, for the latest type of British Dreadnought, with the royal standard flying, came to anchor among the double column of foreign warships, and the Prince was welcomed ashore by Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada; Premier Laurier and the assembled dignitaries, flanked by thousands of soldiers and a multitude of people.

It was 2:45 in the afternoon when the crowds assembled on the cliffs saw the Prince of Wales' fleet emerge from the mist far down the river. Immediately the guns of the warships began to thunder, the British, French and American ships firing their royal salutes together, while every ship hoisted the royal standard and broke out a mass of color from stem to stern. The Indomitable advanced majestically, with sailors and marines ranged along the gun deck. As she swung along side the New Hampshire the colossal magnitude and power of the British ship stood in bold relief against the American battleship, which looked like a delicate white yacht beside this truly monstrous engine of destruction. Back of her came the Monitaur, another naval colossus.

At 4 o'clock the battleships again roared a salute as the Prince disembarked from his ship and came ashore. He wore the uniform of an admiral, with waving white plume and dark coat faced with gold embroidery.

Premier Laurier delivered to the Prince an address of welcome, in which he assured him of the unswerving loyalty and devotion of Canada to the King and its united resolution to promote the interests of the Empire. The Prince responded in happy vein, speaking both English and French, extending the good wishes of his royal father to Canada, and making pleasant allusion to the loyalty of English and French Canadians alike. The ceremonies concluded, the Prince was driven in an open carriage, through the streets, lined with soldiers and packed with people to the Citadelle, where the royal quarters are established during his week's stay.

Naval experts are much interested in the Indomitable, known in England as "The Mystery Ship," owing to the secrecy with which her recent construction has been surrounded. In appearance she is a complete departure from the old battleship and is little more than a huge gun platform, with all top hamper cleared away so as to give open speed to her eight 12-inch guns, capable of firing fore or aft or broadside with a concentrated fire of 13,600 pounds of steel projectiles every minute. The old time masts and fighting tops, are eliminated and in their place is seen for the first time the steel tripod masts, fore and aft, any part of which can be shot away and the rest stand.

Headquarters Removed to Atlanta.

Macon, Ga., Special.—President J. F. Hanson, of the Central of Georgia, will move his headquarters to Atlanta August 1st, having leased a suite of rooms in the Candler building. Major Hanson has been a resident of Macon for 40 years and has been identified with many public interests here. His large office force will go with him to Atlanta.

Fleeing Convict Shot.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Special.—Ed Scott, colored, was shot and mortally wounded about sun-up Tuesday morning in an attempt to escape from the county convict camp, near Walkertown, where he was serving a two-years' term for forgery, being tried and sentenced at the May term of Superior court. The guards were just starting to work the convicts when Scott bolted off. Four guards opened fire on him, and two shots took effect, one going through the left lung and the other entering the lower part of his back.