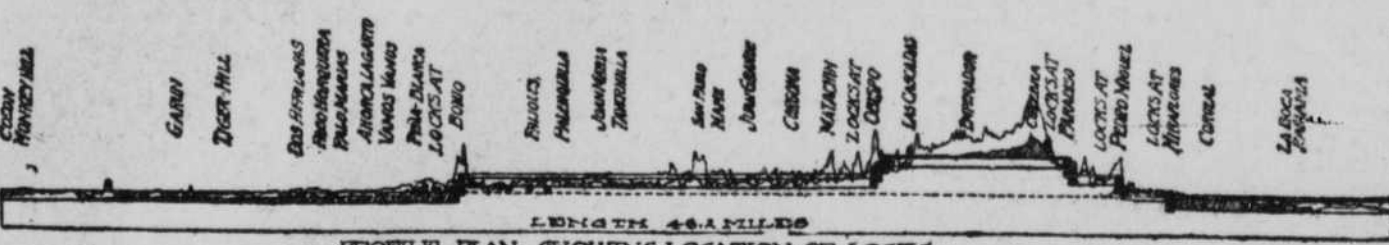


Panama Canal Should Be Ready Within Ten Years



"Climate will be the most serious obstacle in the work of constructing the Panama canal," said Mr. Alfred Noble, a member of the Panama commission, to a reporter for the Herald. "The canal commission in its summary of the difficulties estimated the climate as carefully as it did the cost of construction."

"Personally, I believe that the methods adopted at Santiago and Havana applied to Colon and Panama will transform these pest holes into comparatively healthy cities."

"You know, the dean of the medical faculty at Panama divides the seasons into the wet period from April 15 to December 15, when persons die of yellow fever in from four to five days, and the dry season from December 15 to April 15, when people die of per-

"The present company, however, cut a small strip directly through the high ridge, and, at intervals, sank shafts to the depth of the ultimate cut. They lowered us 120 feet down those shafts in a bucket, on a madlass."

"It wasn't a pleasant experience, but it gave us an opportunity to report on the actual quality of soil to be taken out of this most difficult of cuts. This was of great value to us, and, had, indirectly, not a little influence upon the negotiations in Congress."

"The other big engineering problem is the River Chagres, which rises to great heights during freshets, and discharges as much water sometimes as the whole Lake Superior basin. An artificial lake, some distance from the canal is to take the overflow."

commissioners to revive the ancient custom of ringing the curfew nightly. At Antrim, as at a great many other towns in Ulster, the curfew was in former generations rung regularly; but the practice, like that associated with the maypole, has gradually died out until now the places where it still lingers are few and far between. The action of the commissioners is based on purely sentimental grounds. They have simply revived an old custom because the people like to hear the bell and are willing to pay for the privilege, as is indicated by the fact that a sum of money to pay all expenses has been handed over to the vestry of the parish church.

Thinks All Are Too Well Paid.

Among officeholders in Washington Comptroller Tracewell of the treasury is regarded as a most extraordinary person. Mr. Tracewell's salary is \$5,500, and he thinks he is overpaid. Worse than entertaining such a heterodox opinion, however, is the fact that he has not hesitated to give expression thereto. During the recent session of congress he was giving a subcommittee some information regarding his office. The chairman complimented him by saying: "You are the first man government officer who has appeared before us who did not ask for an increase of salary." Tracewell replied bluntly: "I'm getting a blank sight too much now." In private conversation later he said: "Considering the hours of their labor and their responsibilities government employees are paid more than any other class of men in the world." All of which is regarded in bureaucratic circles as little short of revolutionary.

She's Pretty, but He's Strong.

Jenkins owns a house in a Brooklyn suburb. It is now for sale, and his tenant, or, rather, his tenant's pretty wife, has had a number of callers who wanted to look over the property, says the New York Press. The other day Jenkins received a letter of complaint from his tenant, of which this is a copy: "Dear Sir—I have a complaint to make about the man who come out here to look at your house. Most of them think it necessary to tell my wife how pretty she is while they are looking over the property. I want to warn you that some of these days I am going to take a day off from my work and then if any of those men want to tell my wife that she is pretty I will be around to show them her husband is pretty strong."

Count Cassini Will Return.

As soon as it was announced that Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, intended to sail for Europe about the middle of May, a rumor became current that he would not return. This is now said to be without foundation. The count is conceded to be the cleverest diplomat in Washington and the star member of the Russian corps.

GERMANY LEADS OFF

PREPARING TO RESIST AMERICAN TRADE DISCRIMINATION.

When the United States Shall Have Granted Special Trade Privileges to Competing Nations Germany Will Be Ready to Enforce Measures of Retaliation.

Direct and unmistakable confirmation of the prediction of trouble with European countries as the outcome of the consummation of the proposed preferential trade arrangement between the United States and Cuba is at hand in the shape of a Berlin cablegram to the New York Herald dated March 14, 1903. The danger, indeed, the certainty of arousing jealousy, resentment and retaliatory action as a consequence of entering upon the policy of reciprocity in competitive products has been pointed out by Andrew Carnegie in his terse statement that for every friend made by such a policy we shall make several enemies. The American Economist has persistently urged a similar view as to the disadvantages of such reciprocity wholly outside of the question of its sacrifice of the principle of fair and equal protection to American labor and industry. This paper has expressly indicated Germany as one of the countries certain to take umbrage at the monopolization alike of the Cuban market for American products and of the American market for Cuban sugar. It is well known that among high officials committed to the Cuban treaty this aspect of the case has been regarded with some misgivings, but that it had been decided to jam the treaty through and let ultimate developments take care of themselves. How well founded these apprehensions have been may be discovered from the Berlin cablegram.

Berlin, March 14, 1903.—Germany, as soon as the reciprocity treaty between Cuba and the United States is ratified, will ask both the Cuban and United States governments for identical privileges. It is perceived that German traders will be placed at a disadvantage and the specialists in the foreign office who manage Germany's cases in the negotiations for new commercial treaties, have talked over the Cuban treaty with

already the state department has been advised by our foreign representatives of the displeasure with which the reciprocity program as laid out up to date has been received in European cabinets. Would it not be well for the Senators to ask for information and call for correspondence along this line? It would seem that the Senate ought to be in possession of such vital information before taking final action on any reciprocity treaty whatever.—American Economist.

First Fruits.

The alleged course of the beet sugar manufacturers makes the contest a straight issue between the consolidated sugar trust on the one hand and the cane sugar producers of the South and the sugar beet producers of the North on the other hand. It may be quite as well that it should come in that way. What the deal means is, as we showed recently, a straight reduction to begin with of 50 cents a ton on sugar beets. This reduction the sugar makers are proposing in all the states in their contracts for next year. It is the first fruits of fake reciprocity. As in all similar cases the farmer is the victim. His is the one interest which does not maintain a lobby at Washington. His is the one interest which politicians extol and glorify when running for office, and which they sacrifice without mercy or delay when elected. The question is now squarely up to the President and Senate. Will they or will they not repudiate and violate the pledges of the Republican party to the American farmer? If they do, the American farmer is a fool if he ever trusts their again. But the Senators from the sugar producing states will be expected to stand together and insist that this Cuban conspiracy shall not succeed.—San Francisco Chronicle.

What Causes Prosperity.

Republican policy has not caused the rain or sunshine, but it has supplied and protected the market open to the things the rain and the sunshine have brought forth. Nature has given the land, and with all its latent possibilities, but the land would be going to waste if there were no marts for that it yields. Industry has been stimulated from the certainty that its efforts would not be for naught. A glance back at the awful times of the early nineties will recall to mind that then the acres were as fruitful, and

Chasing the Phantom of Foreign Trade



nicious fever in from twenty-six to thirty-six hours.

"The tropics and flth form a combination that only modern science and Anglo-Saxon energy can hope to conquer, and they will conquer. You must remember that the United States will have what the French never had, absolute police authority from ocean to ocean. The example of Santiago is before us."

"Do you think any engineering difficulty can upset the present plans?" was asked.

"No, the canal is perfectly feasible," answered the distinguished engineer. "It should be open to commerce in ten years with the aid of modern machinery and from 30,000 to 40,000 men."

"Where are these men to come from?" was asked.

"Principally from Jamaica. The unskilled laborers must necessarily be negroes, and the negroes of Jamaica and other British West Indian colonies are infinitely superior to those of the other islands."

"The blacks of Santo Domingo, for instance, are practically worthless. Loafing is a part of their religion. Jamaican negroes are almost immune from yellow fever, and engineers who built the Jamaica railway extension in 1896 tell me they are good workmen—that is, comparatively speaking, of course."

"Yes, forty thousand men may be more than this labor market can furnish, but in any case I do not believe American negroes should be employed. The number of men needed will depend on the amount of machinery. Owing to the climate, I imagine machine will replace hand work wherever possible, even with the cheapest labor. I should say in any event thirty thousand would be the minimum."

Mr. Noble thought the American staff in round numbers would comprise five hundred men. The machinery will undoubtedly be American.

"In handling material," continued Mr. Noble, "I think Americans are first. The Chicago drainage canal is the most perfect example of canal engineering that has been done up to the present time."

"The French have passed us all in tunnel work near the surface, as shown in the new Orleans terminal and Metropolitan underground railway in Paris. The English have developed to its highest point the art of tunneling under water."

Mr. Noble credits the French Panama company, organized in 1894, to take over the De Lesseps wreck, and, if possible, to save something out of it, with good judgment and excellent work.

"We only had twelve or thirteen millions capital, and instead of spending this in carrying on the De Lesseps plan, dug a triangular strip of the proposed excavation straight through the summit at Culebra. Not only will the actual work done be used in the final construction, but the company thereby could give the most practical answer possible to Panama critics."

"It had long been said, in fact engineers insisted upon it at the first De Lesseps congress, in 1879, that the cut through the mountain was an insurmountable obstacle. The ground was thought to be extremely hard to excavate in some places, in others of soft clay, sand and water that could not be held.

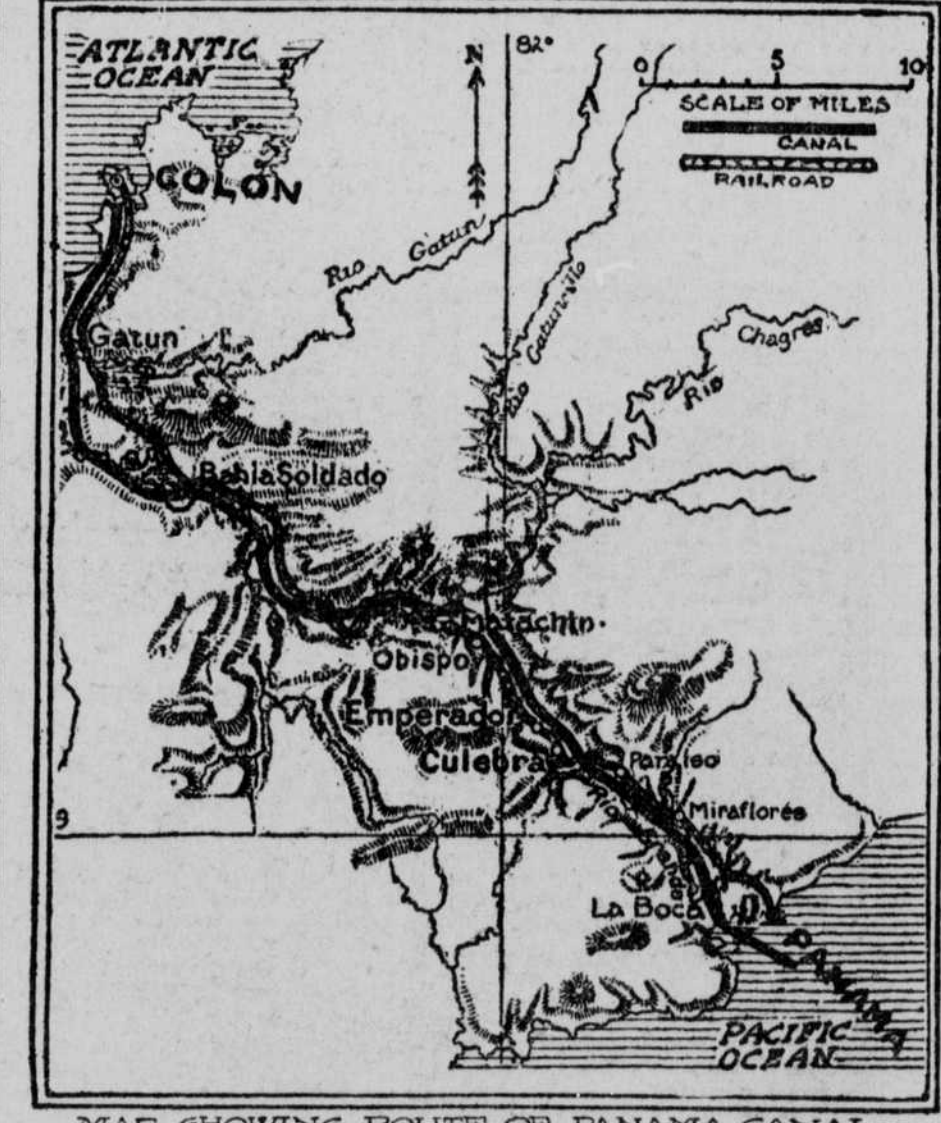
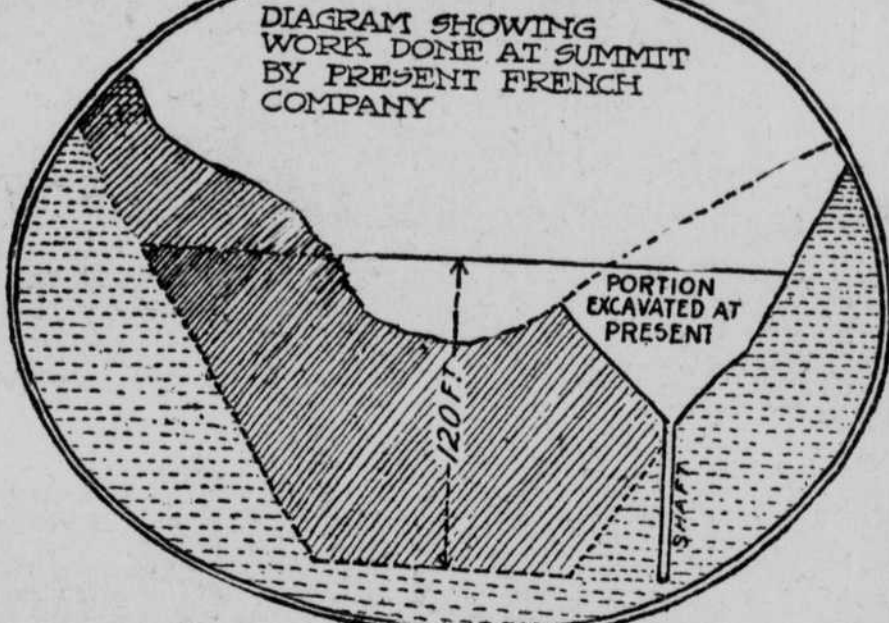
company's machinery was still serviceable. Mr. Noble replied that excellent care had been taken of it; at least, he always found fresh paint on it. At best, however, it would be of little value. American machinery twenty years old is almost worthless to-day, so radical have been the improvements.

"Does any one still cling to the idea of a canal without locks?" was asked.

"There must be locks to provide for the twenty-foot range of tide at Panama," said the commissioner, "but it is possible to construct a canal without any other locks. Such a canal would unquestionably be a great benefit to shipping, but its cost would be enormous and it would take twice as long to build."

Mr. Noble is a firm believer in the commercial future of canals. Referring to the report of the "Soo" canal for the year, which he had just received, he remarked that the United States is paid back every year in the increase of trade the amount originally invested in this canal.

"I do not agree," he said, "with the Australian postmaster-general in say-



MAP SHOWING ROUTE OF PANAMA CANAL.

ing that the Panama canal will reduce the Australian trade through the Suez. "Most of the Anglo-Australian shipping will continue by the old route, because there is little difference in the length, and there is always the short cut for passengers and mail via Brindisi. But this does not mean that the Panama canal will not have a great share of the world's shipping."—New York Herald.

Reviving the Curfew.

The people of Antrim have hailed with delight the decision of the town

As he is now dean of the diplomatic set in Washington—a position of much importance in European eyes—it is not regarded as likely that the shrewd Russians will care to relinquish the advantage which this gives them.

Sentiment from Plato.

Wisdom is the true and unalloyed coin, for which we ought to exchange all things; for this, and with this, everything is in reality bought and sold—fortune, temperance and justice; and, in a word, true virtue subsists with wisdom.—Plato.

SECURE A FREE HOME

In the Fertile Wheat Fields of Western Canada.

To the Editor: The emigration of well-to-do farmers from the United States to the Canadian Northwest has assumed such proportions that organized efforts are now being made by interested persons and corporations to stem the tide. The efforts are being initiated chiefly by railway and real estate interests in the states from which the bulk of the emigration takes place. The movement of population has taken from numerous states thousands of persons whose presence along railways in these states made business for the transportation companies. The movement has also become so widely known that it has prevented the settlement of vacant lands along these lines, parties who might have located there being attracted to the free and more fertile lands of Canada. The result of the movement has been that the railway companies not only see the vacant lands along their lines remain vacant, but they also see hundreds of substantial farmers who have helped provide business for these railways move away and so cease their contributions. The farmers have moved to Canada because they were convinced that it would be to their financial interest to do so. In moving they have been inconsiderate enough to place their own financial interests before those of the financial interests of the railway corporations.

In addition to the railway corporations, real estate dealers are working to stem the flow of emigrants. Of course every emigrant who goes to Canada means the loss of commissions on land deals by real estate dealers. Now a person has but to know what the interests are that are trying to stop the flow to know what motive is influencing their course. The emigration means financial loss to railway corporations and to real estate men. These interests therefore are not directing their opposition efforts out of any love for the departing emigrants or out of any high patriotic motives either. They are doing so purely from selfish interests. It is a matter of dollars and cents with them. They are so patriotic, they are so consumed by love for their fellow-citizens, that they want to prevent these fellow-citizens going to Canada and getting free farms of the best wheat land in the world, and instead they want to make them stay on high-priced farms in the United States, where they will continue to pour money into the pockets of these railways and real estate men.

One of the methods employed by these interests to stem the tide is the distribution of matter to newspapers, painting Canada in the darkest colors. These articles emanate chiefly from a bureau in St. Louis. They are sent out at frequent intervals for simultaneous publication. A writer is employed at a high salary to prepare the matter.

Moreover, statements absolutely at variance with the truth have lately been published broadcast. These appear chiefly in what purport to be letters from persons who are alleged to have gone to Canada and become disgusted with it. Only a few of such have been published, and they contain statements that are absurd in their falsity. Whether the parties whose names appear in connection with these letters have ever been in Canada, and, if so, their history while there, is to be thoroughly looked into. The discovery of their motive, like the discovery of the motive of the interests who are engineering the opposition, may prove illuminating. In the meantime, however, it may be pointed out that only a few of such letters have appeared, but since 1897 over 87,000 American settlers have gone to the Canadian West. Can any reasonable person suppose for a moment that if Canada was one-quarter as bad as represented in these letters the 87,000 Americans now there would remain in the country; or, if the Canadian West had not proved the truth of all that was claimed for it, the papers of every state in the American Northwest would not be filled with letters saying so? Imagine 87,000 aggressive Americans deceived and not making short shift of their deceivers. The fact is the 87,000 are well satisfied and are encouraging their friends to follow them.

Anyone who sees any of these disparaging letters should remember that it is railway and real estate interests who have from purely selfish reasons organized a campaign to stem the flow to Canada. If Canada were half as bad as represented there would be no need of such an organization. The fact that such exists is of itself a magnificent tribute to Canada. Finally it should not be forgotten that the letters published are brimful of falsehoods, and that 87,000 satisfied Americans in the Canadian West constitute a living proof that such is the case.

The Canadian Government agent whose name appears in advertisement elsewhere in this paper is authorized to give all information as to rates and available lands in Western Canada.

An ounce of dialect is worth a pound of royalties.

The practice of fencing has been revived among Japanese noblemen.

Where there's so much puff, there must be some buyer.

Storekeepers report that the extra quantity, together with the superior quality of Defiance Starch makes it next to impossible to sell any other brand.

Let your first efforts be, not for wealth, but for independence.—Lytton

FITS permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Sold for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treated. DR. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 931 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.