

CANAL DEFENSES DIVIDE AMERICA

Fortification Advocates Argue Lack of Guns Might Cause Building Nation Huge Damage in Case of War.

Opponents Figure Battleships Could Destroy Locks Without Being Endangered by Defense Artillery.

By JAMES A. EDGERTON.
The completion of the Panama canal at our doors is brought startlingly near by the designation of San Francisco as the city in which to hold the canal exposition and by the discussion as to fortifying the big ditch. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt says that fortification is opposed by some "worthy ladies of both sexes."

The fort guns themselves would be stationary, which would be a big point in their favor. Moreover, the fortifications could be placed at both ends of the canal for \$12,000,000, or a trifle more than the cost of one battleship. This is a point of no small importance, since defending the canal by the navy would be very much more expensive than fortifying and would tie up a whole fleet that in case of war would be needed for other service.

Land Defenses Formidable.

Naval experts make a telling point in favor of fortifications. In case of war it would be practically impossible without forts to take an American fleet through the canal in face of an enemy. That would be like marching an army through a narrow defile with a foe at the other end to pick them off as they emerged. With forts all this would be changed. The fort guns could keep the opposing fleet at least ten miles distant and give the American ships an opportunity to go through the canal unmolested and form in battle line under the protection of the forts. Of course everybody hopes that there

Natural Sites For Forts.

The natural features of the canal terminal seem almost made for forts. On the Atlantic side there are necks of land that would make an ideal site for a bunch of fourteen inch and other guns, while at the Pacific entrance there are three or four cute little islands that appear specially designed for the purpose and, heaven knows, will never serve any other. Failure to take advantage of these sites placed already at our hand would be little less than impious, say the fort supporters. It is designed to build the forts while Colonel Goethals is still on the job. In this way much time and expense can be saved. Besides, the work will be sure to get finished. Goethals has a habit of going through with anything on which he starts, even an appropriation. Landslides have no terrors to him. He simply continues shoveling out the landscape and lets it slide any blooming way it pleases. If he were put on the fortifications he could utilize his concrete gangs after they had finished with the locks.

Not long ago the colonel appeared in Washington to testify before a committee and while there was invited to deliver a stereopticon lecture in the hall of the house of representatives. The second time such an honor has been accorded an outsider in the history of the country. He was not there to talk for forts, yet everybody knew how he felt on the subject.

Big Growth on Pacific.

The Panama canal will be the gate-

rection could come in an extra session. Committee Yielded to Clamor. Senator Hale, who will retire March 4, said the committee had yielded to public clamor and the charge that the bill was to be suppressed, and had reported it against the real sentiment of a large majority of the committee. He served notice that the bill would have to go to the calendar to take its course and any effort on the part of any one of whatever authority "to drive" the senate would be an unwarranted assumption of power.

Says It Won't Help Farmer.

Declaring his opposition to it, he expressed the opinion that the best interests of the agriculturists would be served by the defeat of the bill. In pointing out some of the discriminations from his point of view, the Texas senator said that while the agreement admitted wheat and cattle free, it retained the duty on flour and beef meat.

Is Now on Calendar.

Senator Stone of Missouri, minority member of the committee, announced his intention of supporting the measure on the ground that it would be in the line of wise and progressive statesmanship.

Against Canadian Pact.

Sioux City, Ia., Feb. 25.—The Canadian reciprocity pact was denounced as a measure discriminating against the farmer in the resolution which passed the final session of the Interstate Breeders association. Asserting that the association was strongly opposed to the Canadian pact in its present form, the breeders declared that if the American farmer and stockman must submit to free trade, the manufacturers should be required to meet the same conditions. The draft of the resolutions also included a plea to confess to pass a parcels post bill.

Dummy West Wants Match.

Fred ("Dummy") West of Gregory, enroute to Green Isle, Minn., where he is scheduled for a fifteen round go with Joe Christie, middleweight champion of Canada Saturday night, passed through the city Thursday noon after being laid up for the past seventeen days with the smallpox.

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Williams' Treacherous Frame-up.

It was just a year ago that Williams framed up his scheme to steal the home office of the company he was working for, and move it to Omaha. He sent out letters to policyholders of the company, enclosing blank proxies to be executed authorizing "R. E. Williams, secretary," to cast the votes of the non-residents at the annual election of directors on March 1. He did this without authority from the board of directors and to aid his unsavory conspiracy, he issued these letters on stationery containing the printed letterhead of the company, to deceive the policyholders receiving his message. He enclosed an envelope for return of the executed proxy, addressed to his individual postoffice box instead of the postoffice box of the company. Thus he concealed his name from the directors and by his trickery secured a large number of proxies. He had 241 proxies in writing on the date of the annual meeting, of which fourteen had been revoked before March 1. Williams had kept his conspiracy to move the home office concealed from the policyholders whose proxies he solicited.

His Secret Proxy Register Book.

As a part of his game, Williams kept a private book in which to register his proxies, the articles of incorporation of the company providing that proxies must be registered by the secretary at least ten days before the annual meeting. Williams did not allow the directors to know of this personal register book and by keeping it secret defeated the object of having the proxies registered. Judge Welch finds that such registration was not made in good faith, or in compliance with the articles of incorporation, and Williams loses his proxies on this point.

Conclusions of Law.

That said provisions of the articles of incorporation of said company requiring proxy policy holders to be registered by the secretary at least ten days before the meeting at which he is to vote by said proxy, is a reasonable provision, and contemplates and requires such registration to be kept in the office of the secretary of the company, as a record of the company open for inspection by the directors, officers and policy holders, during said ten days and as notice of said proxies.

Ignoring Injunction.

A unique situation developed as a result of the Northwestern railroad taking off a passenger train each way per day between Norfolk and Long Pine. The trains were taken off by the railroad company a week ago last Sunday, permission to abandon the trains having been granted by the state railway commission. Attorney M. F. Harrington has secured a temporary injunction from the district court in Holt county, Judge J. J. Harrington, to restrain the railroad from abandoning the trains until a hearing can be had before the railroad commission. But in the meantime the railroad is disregarding the injunction and the trains have been taken off.

Music Writing Made Easy.

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Has "DE ANIMAL ELECTRIC."

Sadie de Boise Tells How Hypnotism Stunt is Worked.

And Even When They Do, Laughing Gas is Seldom Used Any More.

According to one Norfolk dentist, the time is approaching when the now seldom used "laughing gas" case will never be opened. The reason for this is that teeth are nowadays seldom extracted, and when they are, they give the patient very little pain, consequently it is better to refrain from using the "laughing gas."

Round About NEW YORK



New York, Feb. 25.—A will signed only with an X, because its author was unable to read or write, has just been probated at Minoa, L. I., and disposes of an estate valued at nearly a million dollars accumulated by the late John Lahey.

Lahey came to America in 1866 and obtained employment in Brooklyn, working as a common laborer at a dollar a day. He saved every cent possible and invested in New York real estate. Despite his illiteracy, he possessed shrewd judgment of land value and his investments rapidly increased in value. He often declared that he did business only with honest people, and that it made no difference whether he had education or not. The estate is divided among his nine children.

The trial of Joseph Robin, the indicted bank wrecker, has been set for next Monday, but it is hardly likely to proceed. Former District Attorney Jerome, who is Robin's counsel, quite evidently intends to make instantly the chief basis of the defense. Justice Searby intimated that at the time set for trial he would consider motions bearing on the defendant's mental condition. Although the bank wrecker has recently exhibited signs indicative of brainstorm, the depositors who had money in his bank believe that he is "crazy like a fox."

George J. Gould's retirement from the presidency of the Missouri Pacific next month probably means that the scheme for a Gould road from the Atlantic to the Pacific, a dream cherished by the financier for many years, will never be realized. At the same time, it is likely that the plan will be carried to completion by other interests. In the furtherance of his dream of an ocean-to-ocean line, Gould built the Western Pacific from Ogden, Utah, to San Francisco. The Denver & Rio Grande from Denver to Ogden, and the Missouri Pacific from St. Louis to Denver, were the other links in the chain. At the same time Mr. Gould attempted to move eastward by means of the Wabash and the Western Maryland, the latter designed to be the final link in the transcontinental chain. Then antagonistic interests in the Wabash balked his attempt to use that property, the Western Maryland went into the hands of a receiver, and finally, Mr. Gould is to lose supremacy in the Missouri Pacific.

Few of the fortunes acquired by the great financiers and captains of industry of the latter half of the last century are now intact. The Gould fortune has grown, but is now divided among the children and the grandchildren of Jay Gould, and nearly all of the great interests he built up have passed from the control of his descendants. The William H. Vanderbilt fortune of approximately \$200,000,000 has also suffered the "dividing up" process until the name of Vanderbilt is no longer powerful in the world of "big business." The Harriman fortune, a year after the death of the man who made it, is yet practically intact in the hands of his widow, but many millions will be given away and the remainder will go to the children. While Mr. Carnegie will not likely die poor, his heirs will be not overburdened with wealth. Marshall Field's eighty millions have been split up among his heirs. Nearly half of the \$65,000,000 accumulated by John S. Kennedy went to charity, and the remainder is now in many hands. Mrs. Russell Sage expects to distribute practically all of the eighty millions left by her husband, and no small part of it has already been disbursed.

Electric Company's Books Seized.

New York, Feb. 25.—The local office of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company received the following cablegram from Manager McCarter of the St. Petersburg branch in reference to the seizure by the Russian police of the books and documents of the company: "Our position satisfactory. All companies having large contracts with municipalities have had their books and papers taken for investigation by a special commission appointed by the government."

Another Tropical Revolution.

Buenos Ayres, Feb. 25.—Advice received here today state that another revolution has begun in Paraguay.

Nels Hanson Now Prohibition Talker.

From cigar salesman to lecturer on the prohibition platform is the record of Nels Hanson, a well known saloonist and cigar salesman who five years ago disappeared from Norfolk after "stinging" his friends and a number of business men for various sums.

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Nothing Equals Old Dutch Cleanser For Cleaning Milk Pails and Pans

Cream Separators, Kitchen and Cooking Utensils
"Wet the article, sprinkle with Old Dutch Cleanser, wash thoroughly with a cloth or brush. Rinse well in clean water and wipe or let stand to dry. This removes discoloration, corrosion, spots and grease, such as ordinary cleansers will not remove and does it quicker and easier."

Cleans, Scrubs, Scours, Polishes

It is the best all-round cleanser ever discovered and is perfectly harmless. It keeps everything about the farm house spick and span and saves a lot of labor, time, expense.



10¢ For Large Sifter Can

That hypnotist man dat was here de order day had yer animal electric and he done tot dat kid to lay down in dat bed and tink and tink of sleep. Den the magnut what's in the telephone bed something to do wid it too, and when dat guy sed sleep kid, kerkunk down, he drapped and sleep until de guy come here and tole de kid to get up. It's easy when you know how and got dat animal electric. I kin make most any kind of animal do what I want him to do with Jesa kindness. I took into his eyes and say "come here you lamb," and he comes trotting to me. Dat's the animal electric. All I got to do is to call one by his own name and de other jes stan still so easy until I say "come here you," and den he comes."

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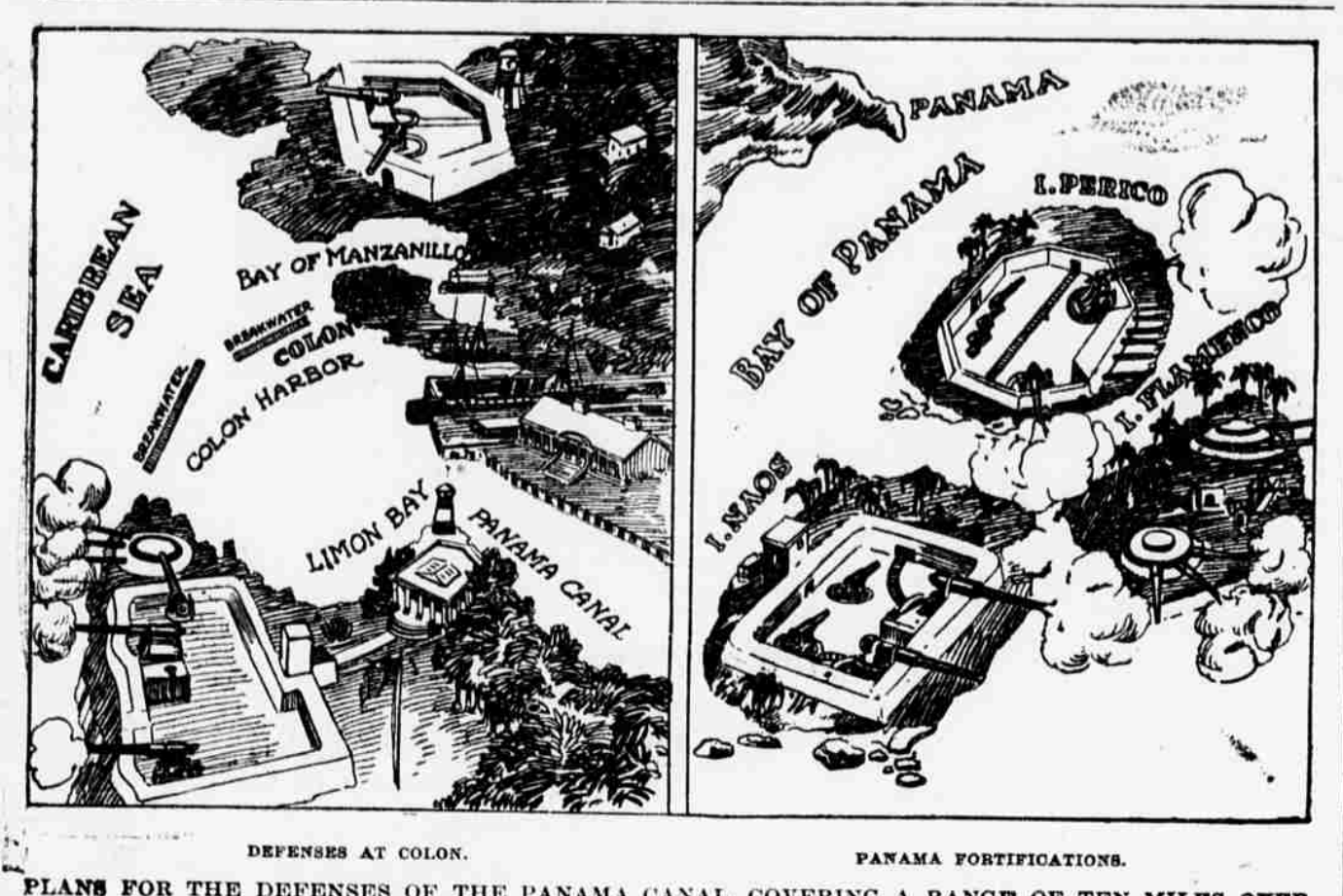
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DEFENSES AT COLON. PANAMA FORTIFICATIONS. PLANS FOR THE DEFENSES OF THE PANAMA CANAL, COVERING A RANGE OF TEN MILES OVER BOTH THE PACIFIC AND ATLANTIC ENTRANCES.

velt, W. R. Hearst and a vast army of American newspapers, public officials, members of both houses of congress and American citizens of the plain voting variety, nobody knowing just how many there are of these either. Both sides claim public sentiment, after the manner of factions in this land of the free. The division is not a partisan one, since the minority leader of the senate introduced the resolution favoring fortifications. Neither is it sectarian, as many ministers oppose building forts and others just as stoutly favor it. Nor is it a division between those who are for peace and those against it, since President Taft is something of a peace advocate, and Andrew Carnegie, who is for peace with his whole heart and \$10,000,000, is a believer in fortifying the canal.

Foreign Opinion Divided.

Foreigners are quite as much divided on the question as ourselves. Those in responsible positions have, of course, refrained from comment, but others have not been under like restraint. Of these a number hold that it is our right and duty to protect our own property. Others insist that our best method of guarding the great waterway would be through international agreement, leaving the canal itself open to the whole world. Possibly they think we should carry our magnanimity a point further and not charge tolls.

On the same principle a farmer should not put up fences, but should depend on a neighborhood agreement to keep the cattle out of his corn and if he had any crop left should give it away. The great argument against fortifying the Panama canal is that England has not fortified the Suez canal. Yet England has amply fortified Gibraltar, which guards the entrance to the Mediterranean sea and thus commands the approach to the canal.

Another argument against fortifications is that it is physically impossible to protect the Panama canal by such means. Some guns now have a range of nearly twenty miles and the canal locks are in such an exposed position that they can be shot at from far out at sea and from several points along the coast. Ships could thus keep out of sight of the forts and still do execution against the canal. Even if sighted they would be in motion, thus being difficult to hit, while the canal locks would offer a stationary target. This line of reasoning would imply that where there cannot be complete protection there should be none at all.

Advocates of fortifications insist that guns on land can shoot quite as far as those at sea, that they would be several miles nearer to any battleship than the ship itself could get to the locks and that while attacking vessels might not furnish a stationary target

will be no more war. We have been hoping the same thing for over 2,000 years. Twenty-six hundred years ago Isaiah wrote that "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." We still believe that "they" will do this, but the nations have not done it yet and give no certain indication when they will. The powers run a race in building Dreadnaughts and increasing armaments. Moreover, the advocates of fortification at Panama insist that this would be a defensive rather than an offensive measure. It would make for peace rather than war. It would discourage and not invite attack. The fortifications would be no menace to commerce. They would never be used except against an enemy of the canal or an enemy of the country owning the canal.

For Police Duty.

Another argument in favor of fortifications is that they are necessary in the proper policing of the great waterway. They are required to enforce neutrality. The duty of policing and protecting the canal and of making it neutral rests on the United States government. Who then can object if we take the necessary steps to perform our duty?

The weakness of an international agreement for assuring the neutrality of the canal is that an international agreement would necessarily consist of treaties between individual nations, and in time of war such treaties are hardly worth the paper on which they are written. Besides, what is to prevent some irresponsible nation that is not a signatory to the agreement from inflicting injury on the waterway? Even if there were an understanding somebody would still have to police the canal, and for this purpose some sort of fortification would be essential. From the American viewpoint there would be another fatal defect in the plan. In case of war, say, between the United States and Japan there would be nothing to prevent a Japanese fleet from passing through the canal and attacking the Atlantic coast. Thus the waterway we ourselves had built would be used for our own injury.

It was the military necessity that first crystallized American sentiment for the enterprise. An isthmian canal had been talked of for generations, but it was not till the spectacular trip of the battleship Oregon around the Horn that Uncle Sam definitely made up his mind to get into the game. Thus the new waterway is as much a naval as a commercial venture. How silly it would be, argue the advocates of fortification, to allow all the military benefits to slip out of our hands now that we are building the canal and have them securely in our grasp! We have constructed the waterway with our own money on our own land. Who has a better right to say how we shall

way to the Pacific. Its importance to the world no one can get measure. The outlines of the new civilization taking form around the great ocean grow more clearly defined with the passage of the years. Here is the new theater of human activity, and what a vast theater it is! Everywhere the Pacific lands are becoming keenly alive. Our own coast states show the most marvelous growth in the nation. Northwestern Canada is emerging. Eternal frost cannot wholly stifle activity even in Alaska and Siberia. Under Japanese control Korea is awakening from the sleep of thirty centuries. China is establishing a parliament and shedding its pigtails.

Under free trade with America Philippine commerce is on the upgrade. Australasia, with her advanced theories of government, seems almost a Utopia. With the opening of the great canal a new life will flow out to all these lands. Europe will have found a pathway to the east. The dream of Columbus, which led to the discovery of two continents, will have been realized and a new route to India will be open to men.