POLITICS DELAYS **WORK ON CANAL**

Isthmus an Asylum for Incompetents and Grafters From States.

MANY GIVEN EASY BERTHS

Disorganize Service and Demoralize Laborers Under Them-Schoolboy Engineers Experiment at Uncle Sam's Expense.

BY WOODWORTH CLUM.

TABERNILIA, Canal Zone, April 11. Special Correspondence.)-At the present chronicling there are two methods for to go by rail and look at the scenery; the other is to walk the ties and tall with every man you meet. I am walk-ing, and while the way is "streight and narrow," the rails are based on the ties that bind together all the truth that there is concerning this latest undertaking of American Government-canal digging.

The American visitors, whether on bust ness or pleasure bent, climb fooard the train at Colon, enter the first-class coach, from which the negroes are excluded, and whirled across the Isthmus of Pana-En route they see nothing of the canal, except a fleeting glimpse at a point a mile or two beyond Culebra. To the right or left of them are other Americans doing the same thing. The train stops at the stations only a moment, then hurries on its way. And these good citizens come back to the States and discuss the canal project voluminously and talk learnedly of the labor troubles on the

The Tower of Babel, with its multi-tongued artisans, could not have en more interesting. As a kaleidoscope changes its colors, so we pass from the of Paris; from Piccadilly to Broadway; from the quaint streets of Genoa to the Unter den Linden of Berlin. It's "How do you do?" in English, and "Como le in Spanish, "Wie gehts?" in German, or "Comment vous portez vous?" In French. The army of laborers along the Canal Zone has been recruited from every island in the West Indies, from New York, from Spain and from Italy.

Like a Second Babel.

Now we pass a group of negro women from Martinique, that Ill-fated isle over which Mont Pelee poured its burning Here are the Gallegos, chatting nervously in Spanish. There are the Bar badian negroes, speaking English, or the versations. Get off the train, stranger and mingle with these people. Tou can ride on the railroad when you get back home, out where can you find another such cosmopolitan army? Nowhere,

And as we talk to these people, let us work out the labor problem. It will take is longer this way than if we went direct o Mr. Stevens' headquarters, but the results are more satisfactory. Starting out from Colon, I passed a group of Jamaican egroes digging a ditch. There were about 30 laborers, under a foreman name Lynch, and they were working away as if their lives depended upon their doing a little bit more than their neighbor. shuck was severe. I had been told that the Jamaican negro was good for noth ing, would do no work, and could not be handled by any kind of foreman. I affeed the foreman if there was not something the matter with his men. I thought they might have been inmates of the dirafferes insane Asylum, out for an airing and a little exercise. But no, Mr. Lynch assured me that his men were fresh from Jamaica, and as sensible and smiable a lot of laborers as he had ever

"But the official reports say that the Jamaican cannot and will not work," I

in return. But the hands were always

"Do all the negroes work this way?" I

"Oh, no," replied the foreman, with a pipe with the same number of men in the same time as any other foreman engaged in this class of work. The secret is in the manner in which they are them, encourage them, and never swear at them. I give them the credit of being buman, and I have found that they appreciate humane treatment. Why, these oya have even worked overtime with me, just to finish up a small job at the end of the day, rather than leave it for the a contractor, most of that time in New Orleans, and I say frankly that I can get as much work out of these negroes as I ever got from the same number of American negroes in Louisiana."

Toil in a Lazy Way.

I left Mr. Lynch and continued up the tered a gang of 23 Jamaican negroes endeavoring to unload a car of pipe. Have ou ever attended a spiritualistic seance, when the mediums made tables and chairs by merely touching them with the tips of their fingers? Well, that is what these negroes reminded me of. Six or eight would gather round a pipe that any two able-bodied Irishmen would have played beanhag with; four of the negroes would actually get hold of the pipe; the others would gently stroke the pipe with their calloused hands. When this half dozen were about ready to actually move the pipe, one of the gang thought he created by would light a cigarette. Such ideas are tent ones.

contagious in the tropics, and in a twin

for a smoke.

The remaining E members of the gang were not accomplishing much more

"There he is, sir," replied the Jamaican, pointing to a broad verands surrounding a flouse about a hundred yards away. damning the "lazy niggers." I went over and talked with him. For an hour see sat there, discussing Jamaican labor, and not once did be even look at his gang of

"They aint worth a continental," said "I could get more done with four Irishmen. I tell you, they'll never get this canal dug with these niggers." Foremen Playing Seven-Up.

There you are, gentle reader. Within a mile we have found the two extremes. I went on to the reservoir site at Brazon ook, and there I found four gangs working. Three were accomplishing nothing and their foremen were playing "seven up" under a tree. One gang of Martinique negroes, under a French-speaking foreman, was cutting down trees and clearing away rubbish, presenting a scene of most ndable industry. I talked with the foreman and got the same story as that Mr. Lynch., At a dozen ether places I encountered the same conditions. pear that the fault is more with incompetent and lazy foremen than with the Jamaican negro? When the same gang will do twice as much work with one foreman tive rather than the negative of the labor

engineer in charge of the foremen dis-charge the lazy fellows? You can't prove it by me. I spent three weeks trying to ascertain several "whys" and "wherefores," and it all worked out the same way. Too much politics. For instance, as we proceed along the railroad tracks we find out that a certain officer in charge of important work is an old Washingtonian. In fact, we remember him as the "black sheep" of a prominent and influential family, When in Washington, he tried to drink all the whisky there was in town. No one had any use for him, and when the Panama Camil was cassayed by the good, kind American Government an influential relative secured an appointment for the "black sheep" on gave his name it would create somewhat of a sensation), is living with a group the canal route. He is charged with the exercise of important governmental du ties, but be spends his time drinking native liquors and carousing with his na tive comrades. The white men of the place shun him as the plague. They will not speak to him, and tuey speak of him only on rare occasions

Washington Grafter Finds Berth.

Then we go a little farther up the line We see another face that we used to see on the streets of Washington. This time it is a man who lost several positions because of incompetency, who drank more liquor than he avoided, and who was known as an all-round grafter. But, lo and behold, he is now engaged in important sovermental work on the Canal

their jobs until the end of time, or until the Government lets the canal job out by

ed to accomplish so "political appointee" either over him or under him, and the result was that the under him, and the result was that the competent man either became impotent or resigned. I do not care to convey the idea that this is universal; that the whole fabric is rotten. It is not. In many places almost ideal conditions exist but the bad spots are in the majority, so much so that it creates a doubt in the minds of the careful student waether the United States ever will complete its undertaking.

Stevens Himself Not to Blame.

Single Jamaican cannot and will not work." I suggested to Mr. Lynch.

Some Jamaicans Can Work.

"You may find ample contradiction to that by merely watching my men." he replied. Scarcely had he said this when one of his men looked up, with a puzzied expression on his face. Mr. Lynch went over to the negro, spoke to him, ascertained the trouble, and taking a pick in his hand, climbed down in the ditch. Whatever was wrong, he fixed it, slapped the negro on the back, good-naturedly, and the work was resumed. Then some pipe was to be unloaded. Mr. Lynch heiped his men with the pipe, chatting with them all the while, listening to their stories and occasionally telling them one in return. But the hands were allwars

and the picks and shovels did not all the negroes work this way." I st. h., no," replied the foreman, with a Even in the States a Government Job devotes its entire effort to "merely doing an laying just twice as much
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ame time as any other foreman enin this class of work. The secret
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have even worked overtime with me,
to finish up a small job at the end
the day, rather than leave it for the makes one or two adverse reports, kicks a few times about the loafers around him, finds that the conditions do not change, and—drops into the

same old sluggish rut.

This is one of the great obstacles that the Government will have to overcome. The other is Governmental extravagance, of which I will treat at a travagance, of which I will treat at a subsequent time. Personally, I doubt the ability of the American Government to eliminate these two thoras from its side. As long as prominent people in the States, who are in fact a part of the Government, persiat in sending their black sheep to the Canal Zone in order to get rid of them, the efficiency of the canal administration must, perforce, be impaired. The man in Washington who uses his influence to have an incompetent man appointed is as much to blame, aye, more to blame, than either the black sheep or those who receive him and retain him. There are only 1990 white employes in the Canal Zone. Surely we can find in America enough conscientious, competent and energetic men to fill the vacancies that would be created by discharging the incompetent ones.

Russia Is Now Planning an Invasion of Mongolia.

EXPEDITION IS ORGANIZED

Nominally for Geographical and Ethnographical Purposes, but Military, in Fact-Wants a Slice of China.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 28.—In spite of the defeat of her ambitions in Manchuria and Kwantung, and the obatacles met with by M. Pokotlioff, the Russian Minister to China, in his negotiations at Pekin, Russia is steadily pushing forward with the purpose of occupying another big slice of China, namely, the two eastern provinces of Mongolia, covering the route of the proposed railroad from Balkal to Pekin, which, as announced by the Associated Press February 28, has been given over to the Russo-Chinese bank. Under the guise of the innocent-sounding name of "geographic ethnographic expedition for purely scientific purposes," a pariy headed by Colonel Novitsky, one of the brilliant younger members of the of the brilliant younger members of the general staff, will leave St. Petersburg in the middle of May to survey the hith-erio unexplored region between the Man-chorian frontier and Urga.

Expedition Purely Military.

Though the expedition nominally is to be under the auspices of the Imperial Geographical Society, it is believed it will be financed and officered by the general staff, and its composition will be almost purely military. The strategic aims, in fact, are so thinly covered that it is doubtful if it will be accompanied by any representative of the geograhical society. The region to be explored covers the hazy "Mongolian Desert." in which during-the war mysterious Japanese armies were supposed to be hovering to strike the Rissian rear and into which small scouting detachments of Japanese actually penetrated long distances. Colonel ally penetrated long distances. Colonel Novitzky's expedition probably will find the work already well under way, as the Eussian force stationed at Urga cer-tainly has not been idle during its long stay there

Reports Are Contradictory.

Though there are many contradictory reports to circulation regarding the sit-untion in Manchuria, members of the general staff privately admit that the de-mobilization of the Russian army in Manchuria has paused, though it is claimed this is largely in the nature of a diplomatic bluff to aid Minister Poko-tiloff.

in the Far East is the seal with which the Japanese are investigating the defenses of Vladivostok. Dispatches report wholesale arrests of spice there.

WILL REMAIN BUREAUCRATIC

and behold, he is now engaged in important governmental work on the Canal Zone. He is one of the efficials to whom we look for successful administration of canal affairs, and yet when we report these facts to the people who are paying the bills we are "throwing muck."

Now, if we happen to meet two sucl officials, with whose past history we are unfortunately personally familiar, what is the percentage of such officials on the isthmus? And Mr. Stevens, why don't you discharge those men? I heard all about their doings by walking across the inthmus. Everybody in their respective vicinities knows about them. But they have influential relatives or friends in Washington, and they probably will hold their jobs until the end of time, or until

boys, fresh from school, who are having a grand time experimenting at the Government's expense. A large number of the engineers are able, competent and energetic men, but I found it usually the criterian with certainly pass a more revalistic with a bureaucratic majority hating the landed aristocracy, will greatly support

landed aristocracy, will greatly support and the Czar will do what he will."

Revolutionists ridicule the Gapon stories and affirm that Father Gapon received money and is now touring Europe. His trial coming simultaneously with the opening of the Douma, the government decided to pay for a trip abroad. cided to pay for a trip abroad.

KILL ODESSA POLICE CHIEF

Revolutionists Carry Out Part of Far-Reaching Plot.

ODESSA. April E.—The Chief of Police, who played such a prominent role in the October measures here, and a policeman were assassinated by revolutionists here today in broad daylight. The plot was far-reaching and contemplated also the ansassination of Assistant Chief of Police Polluvachenko and several other police-

men.

A young girl named Jerebtsova threw a bomb at Poltavachenko, who was on his way to the hospital to visit one of the wounded police. Her aim was poor, and the officer was not harmed. The girl was wounded by Poltavachenko's or

HANGED BY SECRET POLICE

London Papers' New Version of Father Gapon's Case.

LONDON, April B.—A British and new version of the alleged execution of the famous Father Gapon at St. Petersburg is printed in the London Weekly Dispatch this moraling. According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the paper, Father Gapon was hanged by members of the Russian secret police on April B. after he had outlived his uncludings as a spp for the Char.

They then according to this story, placed the blame for the murder on the revolutionists.

BOMB KILLS POLICEMAN.

Intended for His Chief at Csenstoch-

WARSAW, April 2.—At Czenetochowa, in Russian Poland, today a bomb was thrown at the carriage of the Chief of Police, when he was returning from a funeral. The missile exploded, killing a

REPORTS NUMEROUS OUTRAGES

of Cossacks in the Caucasus.

of Cossacks in the Caucasus.

TIFLIS, April S.—The committee appointed by the Viceroy and headed by Videnhaum has completed the investigation of the charges made recently by Ashot, the Armenian bishop of Shusha, Trans-Caucasis, who protested against the barburity of the troops in disarming the population of the province. The commission found that many of the horrors were committed during the orgies of Cossacks, who were "pacifying" the Caucasacks, who were "pacifying" the Caucasacks.

Be industrious, be frugal, be temperate, live within your income; lay aside a surplus for possible future need and deposit your savings with a strong growing bank-of course meaning ours. It pays to save.

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H. Moore, Leo Friede, H. A. W. Cooper Morris.

the condition was worse than at first re-ported. Everywhere there were stories of burning, robbery, the outraging of women and the beating of men. Bome in-stances were cited where women were outraged in the presence of their hus-bands and before the eyes of their chil-dren. dren.

The evidence especially condemns General Alikanhoff, the commander of the forces in the Kutania Province, and a certain colonel, Vevain. The Viceroy has not yet acted upon the report.

RADICAL TIDE IS RISING.

Peasants in Saratoff Elect Siberian

Exiles as Representatives.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 28-The elec government is rising instead of subsiding for instead of a more conservative element, the candidates elected are even more radical in their opinions than those result of the election is the increasing radical character of the representative chosen by the peasants without the pardelpation of other classes. In many cases the peasants named representatives whose views are more extreme than those held by the Constitutional Demo-

At Saratoff, the capital of the province of that name, which has been a center for 'agrarian agitators, the peasants chose some of their number who are now on their way to exile in Siberia.

Great Demand for New Bonds.

PARIS, April 28.—The Russian loan has PARIS. April 28.—The Russian loan has proved even more successful than anticipated, although the Bank of France and other participants say that several days must elapse before the definite results are known. According to the first figures the allotments will be one and a half per cent of the amounts asked for, showing the loan to have been subscribed many times over. The reason for the popularity of the loan is the large rate of interest.

New Appointment for Witte. ST PETERSBURG, April 28.—Reports

were in circulation today that Emperor Nicholas will appoint Premier Witte president of the Council of the Empire.

STRONG SIGN OF CONCILIATION

Vatican Relaxes Prohibition on Rec ognizing King's Ambassadors.

In case of the overthrow of the present deabinet he will call another meeting of bureaucrats.

"Durnovo is considered indispensable on account of the lurking fear of a revolution. The present majority will oblige the Douma to take up the land question first. The government, according to the Car's intimation, will withdraw the forced appropriation bill, but the Douma will certainly pass a more reyalistic measure which the council of the empire with a bureaucratic majority hating the Archbishop Ireland, and everybody is now asking if the pope will punish the cardinals, or if Mr. White will share the fate of Bellamy Storere in Vienna. Hitherto Ambassadors accredited to quirinal have been Ignored at the Vatican. If they are now recognized, it is a sign that the pope's system is really obanging. This, coupled with the fact that Cardinal Ferrari is to attend the opening of the Milan Exposition with the sorereigns is hopefully commented upon by the partisans of a reconciliation betweene church and state in Italy.

VOTE ON RATES NEXT WEEK

WASHINGTON, April E.—The generally expressed opinion about the Senate today is that an agreement to vote on the railroad rate bill will be secured early next week and by common consent the vote is fixed for some time during the week beginning May I. The request for the naming of a day will as repeated early next week, and it was said that those who had been opposing a vote would no longer seek delay. The final vote on the bill itself will sh proceded by debate of several days duration on the amendments.

The reason given for predicting an early vote is that the debate is perhaps exhausted and that there is strong pressure from the House of Representatives, whose members are anxious to bring the seasion to an end in order that they may have opportunity to give attention to their campaigns for re-election.

REDUCE RATES FOR MAILS

Postal Congress Decides on Sweep ing Cut All Around.

ROME. April M.—The executive committee of the International Postal Congress decided to cut down the cost of transit of mell brought from foreign countries from 30 to 55 per cent. The reduction, which is to be on a graduated scale, includes territorial and maritime transit. The only special rates maintained for transit were for the Siberian raliway.

tained for transit were for the Siberian rallway.

Russia chimed special rates for all the Manchurian rallways, but it was decided that these should go to Japan for the portion held by the Japanese and to Russia for the portion held by the Russians.

The United States and British delegations opposed special rates, dastring to make them uniform. The reduction in the cost of transit was approved by a majority of one.

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Connecticut Civil Service Reformers Allude to His Boom.

GREET HIM WITH CHEERS

ecretary Urges Early Adoption of Merit System in Nutmeg State. Begin With the Cities,

WATERBURY, Conn., April 38.-At the annual meeting of the Connecticut Civil Service Reform Association, held here tonight, Secretary of War Taft was the principal speaker. He was loudly cheered, and smiled as frequent allusions were made by the speakers to him as a possi-ble President in 1998. Speaking on the subject of civil service reform, Mr. Taft

"I was surprised to find that the State of Connecticut has been very slow in introducing the civil service or merit system. When you do once adopt the merit tem. When you do once adopt the merit aystem I know that it never will be eradicated. The advantage of the merit aystem is so plain to you that it is not necessary to adopt some extreme as an example in order to procure a forcible argument. We know the methods of conducting some South American republics, but when they have an election there the government takes charge.

privilege of voting, and when the gentle-men who are not permitted find out what has taken place, they start a revolution. So in place of a series of elections there it is a series of revolutions.

"Give this system all it deserves and in the end you will find it is one of very little pleasure.

"Now, the truth is that there is noth-ing to the spoils system that we have had ourselves in the United States. The spoils system perpetuates in nower its had ourselves in the United States. The spalls system perpetuates in power its own adherents. It is no different iron the work done in the South American republics. We do not use bayonets, but offices. The system is now on a solid and substantial basis. In the War Department there are 15,000 places—clerical postitions—controlled he the merit system, and in the two years I have been in office I have not

ant in the department," of a single servbegin the merit system was in munici-pailties. "Clean the municipalities."

- PACTS IN NATURE:

For people who are run-down and nervess, who suffer from indigestion or dyspepsis, headache, biliousness, or torpid liver, coated tongue with hitter taste in the morning and poor appetite, it becomes peecessary to turn to some tonic or strengthener which will assist Nature and help them to get on their feet and put the body into its proper condition. It is becoming more and more appurent that Nature's most valuable health giving agents are to be found in forest plants and roots.

Boy's Pitiful Plea for Work.

ibert E. Nelson, of Olds, Wortman & Albert E. Nelson, of Olds, wortman & King, has received a pathetic letter from Guntier Samberg, an II-year-old boy of San Francisco. The boy is the oldest of the three children of a widowed mother, who lost all in the San Francisco disaster. He begs to come to Portland and be given work that he may help to support his mother.

AT THE HOTELS,

The Oregon—Mrs. George F. Hardesty,
Miss A. M. Vincent, Chicago; W. P. Geler,
Falls City, Or.; L. F. Lamping, Seattle; C.
A. Dearbourns, Bl. Paul; Mrs. A. Pax, Mins
Fax, Celumbus, O.; E. W. Lewis, White Salmon; B. W. Dodson, Genera, N. Y. S. B.
Hamill, Chicago; O. Winningstad, San Franciaco; R. E. Scrouse, H. C. Marsh, Peorin,
Ill.; Mrs. A. R. Porter, Bessie Hearing,
Wasco; L. Baukońsky, Seattle; J. F. Carsy and
wife, Hernics Curey, C. Carey, Nettle Wagner,
Escanaba, Mich.; C. E. Sax, Albany, G.
Wilters, Chicago; C. P. Mattisun, P. J. McMahon and wife, W. A. Handley, Minneapolis;
W. D. Madigan, San Francisco; E. E. Ellis,
Miss D. McDoniali, Seattle; Dr. C. H. Harris,
Tacoma; S. Hartman, Chehalis; J. Anderson,
Lima, O.; C. O. Kohle, W. R. Sudhado; Seattle; T. B. Sumner, Everett; A. D. Walker,
Seattle; A. C. Bresel, San Francisco; W. S.
Rattary, Boaton; M. H. French, Los Angeles;
C. H. Porter and wife, D. E. Replock, San
Francisco.

The Imperial—W. G. Bryan, Seattle; F.

San Francisco.

The Imperial—W. G. Bryan, Seatile, F. A. Harris, Eugene, Or.; A. G. Wilmer and family, Spekane; A. J. Gleasen, U. S. S. Oregon, Frank Menetee, The Dalles, J. W. Hichards, Seattle, Harry Neer, Baker City, J. D. Sutherland, Salem, G. C. Morris, Rozeburg, Irving Snell, Little Falls, N. Y. Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Tacoma; Peri E. Carroli, Mrs. Seward, H. Hughes, Seattle, George W. Wright, Albany, Or.; J. D. Matlock; D. Cooper, Independence, W. E. Logan, Seattle, R. P. Clark, city; E. F. Dodd and wife, Pendleton; Harvey K. Brown, Baker City; W. H. Hampton, Juneau, Alaska; Mrs. Bieley, Alameda, Cai.; E. M. Pepper, San Francisco; J. H. Bush, Bay Center; P. H. Scoat, Salem; B. T. Hill, Olympia, Wash, Miss Verne Berry, Oakland, Mrs. Frank Menetee, The Dalles; Mrs. H. B. Humsson, St. Paul; W. H. Wood, Eugene, Or.

thent. We know the methods of conducting some South American republics, but when they have an election there the government takes charge.

"It gets out all the military and civit force it has, selects those who have the privilege of voting, and when the gentlement who are not permitted find out what has taken place, they start a recoverage of the start o

E. Jacob. Dublin, Ireland; C. N. Daniels and wife, Detroit, Mich.; F. E. Palmer, J. H. E. Jacob. Dublin, Ireland, C. N. Daniels and wife. Detroit, Mich., F. E. Paimer, J. H. Henley, Acapulco; Dr. L. Lane and wife. McMinnville: J. E. Bottford and wife. Kainmazoo, Mich.; R. B. Baller, Fullman, Wash.; D. Richardson, J. Richardson, Bayat, Mra. W. J. Henry, Mrs. R. Fredland, Mt. Vernon, Wash.; E. E. Fiemming, W. S. Flemming, Mra. P. Cavigan and daughters. L. C. Drummond, San Francisco; J. H. Aston, Chicaro; H. Blackman, Happener, R. A. Denby and wife. Jefferson, Or.; C. W. Clark, Redlands; H. L. Nelson, San Francisco; J. A. Carson, Salem; E. B. Shields, J. R. Cartwright, Hoquiam.

Dr. Humphreys' Seventy-Seven breaks up Grip and

A. W. Corwin, Lake City, Minn.; S. Rapson,
Duluth; J. N. Farrell, O. Spaugh, J. Spaugh,
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POURTH—Our fee is so small, being only \$12.50, that we believe any honest man will pay it after he is cured.

PIPTH—There are so many imposters and unreliable so-called specialists that we believe our methods will in time prove our superiority and hence be the more profitable.

SIXTH—Our enormous practice, built up on these lines, proves the fact of fall our statements.

SEVENYH—Should a patient pay us in advance he might quit treatment before being permanently cured, and our reputation would be thus jeopardised.

EIGHTH—Should a few dishonest patients refuse to pay after they are cured the loss would be only \$12.50 each, and we could stand it with more furtitude than if it were a big fee.

NINTH—Many honest men without ready money might otherwise neglect themselves, and thus become incurable, while our Not-a-dollar-unleas-cured motto crabbles them to take advantage of our special skill and pay at their loisure.

TENYH—Last, but not least, we desire to reach the poor as well as the rich man, and by making our fee only \$12.50, payable on such easy terms, we thereby increase our business and secure lasting gratitude from thousands who would otherwise remain afflicted if it were not for this liberal offer.

All of the above reasons we are willing to verify and practically demonstrate to the most skeptical. Our offer is to yoe, to everyone, only \$12.50 for a cure, payable at your convenience, in such sums us you can pare. Could an offer be more generous? It sayous of honesty, it is honest. No matter what your trouble is—if you suffer from neglect, for want of menser of a skilled specialist, a graduate physici

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