

PANAMA CANAL DESCRIBED BY FORMER LA GRANDER

(BY LYTTON IVANHOE.)

(Concluded from a Previous Issue.)

There are but two seasons at Panama, known as the wet and dry seasons of the year. The dry season commences during December, and it is very dry indeed from this time until about the middle of April, when the rains begin to come again, and from then on it rains almost every day for about eight months. The temperature stands at about 86 degrees Fahrenheit, throughout the year, and the humidity is very high. During the dry season, when the sky is cloudless, it would be fearfully hot were it not for the fine trade winds which come at this time of the year and keep the air in motion sufficiently to hold the temperature at 86. Once in a while a very hot day is experienced, but such an occurrence is the exception rather than the rule.

All the streets and roads throughout the Canal Zone are macadamized, which allows the rainwater to run off quickly, and it is never very wet under foot—otherwise, during the rainy season, the mud would be knee-deep, as it is on the unpaved jungle trails.

The weather is quite delightful during the dry season, and at this time of the year outdoor sports are enjoyed. The baseball season starts with the ceasing of the rains, and continues until wet weather begins. Christmas, New Year's Day and also Washington's Birthday are great baseball days on the Isthmus.

The workers on the Isthmus are in a class by themselves. Colonel Goethals says he has the most efficient working force ever gotten together on the face of the earth, and all who have investigated the matter agree

New Jersey, Texas, New York, Oklahoma and Oregon. And the upper floor was just as badly mixed.

The men who went down to that great work did not all go for the wages paid. It must be admitted the money was something of an inducement, but the hardships contended with were so numerous and of such magnitude as to make the salaries appear trivial. It was not the money that called most of them—it was the job.

It is a monotonous life at best down there, and were it not for the great work itself, not many would have remained a month. Half of the life of the men down there is the Canal. Each man has his share to do, and the lowest man in the scale feels as much a part of the works as the man on top.

The "wanderlust" took many men there, but the job itself made them stay awhile.

An article on the Canal would not be complete without a few words being said concerning the man at the head of the entire undertaking—Colonel George W. Goethals. He is the one man who carries the full responsibility of the gigantic project upon his shoulders.

Colonel Goethals is loved by all his men as no other man with half the power is loved. He has more power than any ruler in any land—far more than the Kaiser or the Czar. Someone has referred to him as a "beneficent despot," and the title fully describes him. He is a ruler with unlimited power whom all his subjects love. But his secret of success lies in the fact that he does not abuse his power, and in all things he is just. The absolute ruler of Panama, George W. Goethals, that tall, sad faced, white haired man, knows well the human heart. He knows man's weaknesses and woman's too. He looks for the good in mankind, and finds it.

If a person has a grievance against his lot in Panama, he well knows he can go direct to the Colonel, tell him the facts and get entire justice. If the person complaining is at fault, the Colonel tells him so. If someone else is in error, the Colonel will call that party, no matter how high his position, "before the throne" and tell him what is what.

This great and good man every Sunday morning is at his desk in Culebra to hear any person who wishes to see him, and the corridors of the administration building are often completely filled with all kinds of "ditch-diggers" who have grievances, fancied or otherwise, to bring before him. In the crowd there will be Americans, high and low, of both sexes, Spaniards, Italians, Frenchmen, Hindus, Panamanians West Indian negroes—in fact, all the many different kinds of people engaged in the work. At eight in the morning the first in line walks into the Colonel's office, and in his own way tells his little tale of woe to the soft-spoken, mild-mannered man who is the head of the whole works, and passes out, quickly followed by the next in turn. And there the Colonel stays, listening to other peoples' troubles until the last word is heard—eventually though he must stay until the day is gone. He does this in addition to working every day in the week—out upon the job, going from one point of work to another, keeping his eye on every phase of the construction. Justice is done in every case brought before this man. He has no favorites. He simply does what is right, no matter whom it hurts nor whom it helps.

There is nothing swell about him. He wears ordinary clothes like any other human being, smokes countless cigarettes each day—and when out on the road speaks to everyone he passes and takes off his hat to every "ditch-digger" he meets.

Do you wonder such a man is loved by all? Would his men fight for him? Would they die for him? Just ask a few and see. If Colonel Goethals should see fit to run for any National office, no matter what party's platform he chose, you would see every man who had worked under him on the Canal taking off his coat and scrapping for the "old man" until the last vote was cast.

The finishing touches are now being placed on this great undertaking, and the men who put the job through will soon have scattered to the four winds. Many will return to the States; a small number will remain on the Isthmus; some will go further south, to cast their fortunes with the develop-

ments of Latin America; others will follow the call of the "wanderlust" to the far corners of the globe—and at last the greatest, most loyal bunch of Americans ever assembled together will have been disbanded. Always will their hearts be with the "ditch". Never will they forget the friendships made in that tropic land. And, later on, they will look back upon those bygone days with sincere regrets that they cannot be lived again, but with the feeling that each did his mite toward the accomplishment of that mammoth work. Their niche in the hall of immortality is well established. Their work will echo down the corridors of time as the greatest engineering achievement of the age. And the sons of man will forever honor the spirit of loyalty to purpose and the unselfish labor which made possible the PANAMA CANAL.

MARKET QUOTATIONS

La Grande quotations today are:

BUTTER AND EGGS.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 35 cents, 1-lb roll; 70 cents, 2-lb roll.
Ranch butter—1-lb roll, 30c.; 2-lb roll 60c.
Fresh ranch eggs—30c.

VEGETABLES AND MISCELLANEOUS.
Green Onion—5c per bunch.
Onions—6c. lb., (small lots.)
Potatoes—1c.
Lettuce (hothouse)—30c lb.; head, 10c.
Cauliflower—20@25c.
Rhubarb—20c.
Spinach—3lbs, 25c.
Brussell Sprouts—20c lb.
Squashes and Pumpkins—out of the market.
Celery—10c and 2@25c.
Beans—White, 1-3c; Lima, 10c.
Cabbage—5c.
Sweet Potatoes—5 lbs for 25c.
Chili peppers—40c.
Honey—20c. 3 lbs. for 50c.
Sugar—Cane or fruit, \$5.25 a sack, cash. \$5.65 for 30 days; Beet sugar \$5.05 cash, \$5.45 for 30 days.

FRUIT.
Apples—\$1.00@1.75.
Oranges—25@45c per doz.
Bananas—40c per doz.
Dates—15c and 20c package.
Figs—5c and 10c package.
Lemons—35@40c.
Cranberries—20c per qt., 3 for 50c.
Grapefruit—15c.

FLOUR, HAY, FEED, ETC.
Blue Stem flour—\$1.40.
Patent—\$1.30.
Snowdrift—\$1.45 sack.
Sea Foam—\$1.20.
Barley—\$1.07 1/2.
Timothy—(to producer) \$12.00.
Alfalfa hay—(to producer) \$8.50@ \$9.00 f. o. b. cars, baled.
Oats—(to producer) 95c@1.00.
Bran—\$1.15 per cwt.
Rolled oats—\$1.45 per cwt.
Rolled barley—\$1.35
Wild hay—(to producer) \$8 baled.

SHEEP.
Sheep—Top wethers, \$3.25@4.85.
Ewes, best—\$2.25@3.75.
Lambs, best—\$3.75@5.75.

CATTLE.
Best steers, (grain fed.)—\$6.60 @ \$6.75.
Common to fair—\$5.50 @ \$6.00.
Cows, top—\$5.00@6.00.
Cows, medium—\$4.65@4.80.
Calves—\$7@8.
Bulls, fancy—\$3.75@5.00.

HOGS.
Best—\$6.60@7.60.
Common to good—\$6.00@6.50.

CHICKENS AND FOWL.
Turkeys—25c@28c, retail.
Spring friers—22@25c, retail dressed.
Hens—18c@20c, retail, dressed.
Meat Cuts—Retail.
Neck boils 12 1/2 to 15c; brisket loins 12 1/2c; soup bones, 8c to 8c; plates 12 1-2c; sho. pot roast 18c; arm cuts 18c; 1st cuts sho steak 15c; good cuts sho steak 18c; prime ribs 16 to 20c; wholesale 16, retail 20c; flank boil 12 1/2c; kidneys 8c; kidney stew, 12c; sirloin steak 20 to 22c; tenderloin steaks 25c; T-Bone steaks 25c; rum; roasts 18c; round steak 20c; hind quarter steers 16c; hind quarter cows 15c; front quarter steers 14c; front quarter cows 13c; hog, half dressed 13c; pork loin chops 20c; pork loin whole 16c; comb pork 14c; shoulder pork, whole 18c; link and bulk sausage 15c; hamburger 15c; steer loins 18c; cow loin 17c; mutton legs 18c; mutton rib chop 20c; mutton loin chops 20c; mutton st. sho. 15c; mutton stew 12 1-2c; whole mutton 14c; half mutton 14c; veal round steak 25c; veal loin cuts 25c

We Will Give Away a \$15.00 Lamp

It is beautiful with its handpainted shade. It will be given in the Observer Pennant Table Cover Contest. Whether you win any of the \$21 worth of prizes or not you will possess the beautiful table cover you can make out of Observer Pennants, but you can win a prize if you try hard enough. Read about it and see the picture of the lamp in this paper. You must hurry if you want the beautiful State of Oregon pennant. They are going fast.

OBSERVER PENNANT COUPON.

This Coupon, with two others of different dates and 15 cents, (to cover incidental cost) entitles the bearer to one Observer Pennant when presented at the Observer office. By mail, five cents extra to cover postage and packing.

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Address
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THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1914.

Do not order Pennants in advance. They will not be issued before the stipulated week.

Treasurer's Call for County, Scalp and Road Warrants.

Notice—The undersigned county treasurer has funds on hand with which to pay all county and scalp bounty warrants, which were endorsed prior to Feb. 1, 1914, and all road warrants which were endorsed prior to Jan. 1, 1914. Interest on the above warrants ceases on March 4th, 1914.

JOHN FRAWLEY,
County Treasurer.

Announcement

Mrs. Robt. Pattison the Gossard Corsetiere after Monday March Third will be at the Geo. A. Anderson Store.

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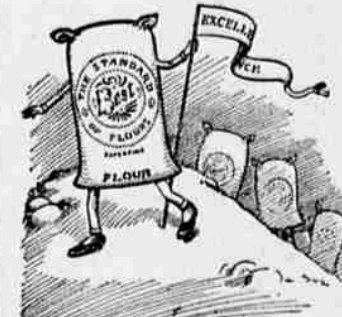
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