

PARAMA CANAL DUE FOR EXCITING BOITS

Free Tolls and Operating Waste Agitate Congress.

OPERATING COSTS GRILLED

Inefficiency in Management and Top-Heavy Personnel Cause Shock to Congressmen.

BY MARK SULLIVAN. (Copyright by the New York Evening Post, Inc. Published by Arrangement.) WASHINGTON, D. C., June 12.—(Special.)—Very shortly the Panama canal is going to come into the news in two ways. It is expected that some senators will introduce and push vigorously a bill for the exemption of American ships from paying toll at the canal. More immediately there is likely to be a good deal of commotion about the cost of operating the canal.

A commission appointed by Secretary of War Weeks, in whose jurisdiction the canal is, is now on its way to Panama to investigate waste and inefficiency in the management of the canal. The beginning of this investigation rests upon certain reports which were brought back to the United States by members of a party of representatives and senators who visited the canal last March. One of these reports, Senator McKinley of Illinois, was shocked by some things he learned. Senator McKinley is a business man who built and operated many hundreds of miles of electric railways in the middle west, and he was deeply concerned by several aspects of the paternal government operation of the canal.

Canal Personnel Top-Heavy. The broad point made by Senator McKinley is that in 1920 the canal was used by an average of 2-3 ships a day and that the force of men maintained on the government payroll to put this number of ships through the canal was 17,500. This force consists of roughly 4,000 white Americans and 14,000 colored West Indians. In addition to the excessive number of men maintained in proportion to the work done, Senator McKinley and his fellow officials were impressed by the excessive amount of pay given to the workmen.

Back in 1905, about the time the United States began the work of building the canal, health conditions were bad at Panama and it was necessary to give inducements to men to go there. But now, through the work of General Gorgas, Panama has been made completely healthy and an extremely agreeable place to live; nevertheless, now the scale of wages which were established at the beginning to induce reluctant workmen to go to Panama still is maintained. The basis of the scale of pay in Panama is to give the current rate of pay in the United States, plus 25 per cent, according to Senator McKinley's report, which incited Secretary Weeks to action.

Scale of Wages Is High. Some of the rates now being paid are as follows: Bricklayers, \$1.54 an hour. That means for an eight-hour day the bricklayers get \$12.32. Carpenters get \$1.23 an hour, electricians \$1.26 an hour, plasterers \$1.25 an hour, plumbers \$1.35 an hour and marble setters \$1.44 an hour.

In addition to these high wages workmen at the canal get the following free advantage: Two months' vacation each year, with full pay; free transportation to the United States for vacation; free house rent. Furthermore, the laws of the workmen are cared for by the government. Whenever an employment in the government supplies him with free cartage. According to Senator McKinley, the government spend \$400 a year in keeping each worker in respect, and the total sum spent by the government for the upkeep of the houses and trimming of lawns was about \$500,000 last year.

The two main points which the commission, now on the way to Panama, is to investigate are the unnecessarily excessive compensation to employes and the disproportion between the amount of work got out of the canal and the cost of maintaining it.

Chickens Farms Big Loss. Senator McKinley's report makes the point that at Panama there are 893 men on the monthly payroll for lock operation, for putting through an average of 2-3 vessels a day, whereas here, in America, in the locks of Sault Ste. Marie, an endless stream of vessels goes through by their own power. There are a number of other specifications of unnecessary expense in Senator McKinley's report, including \$45,000 alleged to have been lost in one year's operation of a government chicken farm.

In due course, Secretary Weeks' commission will return and report on this matter. Before that happens, the Panama canal is likely to get in for a separate vote. Certain western senators intend to press a bill exempting American ships from paying tolls at the canal.

It is understood that President Harding very much favors the theory that American ships should be free from the payments of tolls at the canal. But between the senate's way of accomplishing this and President Harding's way of accomplishing it there is something of the same difference that there is between the senate and President Harding in the matter of disarmament.

It is understood that President Harding very much prefers that the exemption of American ships from paying tolls should not be attempted by statute, but should be brought about by negotiations with Great Britain.

WARTIME WAGES TO STAY

(Continued From First Page.) France, the carpenters back home had advanced their wages to 5 cents a day. A century later, when Henry V fought the battle of Agincourt, the carpenter at home was getting 12 cents. He received no increase for a century. Wages Sear in England. When Mary, Queen of Scots, was beheaded the carpenter who built the stand where the execution took place received a shilling a day—a 100 per cent wage increase in 50 years. Seventy years later, when called on to erect a beheading stand for Charles I, the carpenter found his wage two shillings a day. In 1220 the average wage of the British carpenter was 23 shillings a penny, or about \$5.50, the highest ever reached. It has receded a bit since then, but in the light of history it is going back again. Copious records of the average American wage paid prior to and

OUR ARE MURDERED IN IRISH DISORDERS

King's Visit to Belfast Is Questioned as Result.

AGED PRIEST IS VICTIM

3 Business Men Also Slain in What Are Considered Reprisals for Shooting of Constables.

BELFAST, June 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—The question is being widely raised as to whether killings here this week-end will interfere with the visit of King George to participate in the state opening of the Ulster parliament June 22. The tragedies culminated in a series of vicious shootings. The victims included an aged clergyman and three business men. The Very Rev. James Finlay of Hawberry, 80 years old, and a clergyman since 1867, on answering a knock at his door last night, was confronted by masked men. They took him outside, shot him dead, then battered his head to a pulp and burned his residence. As the killings of the other three men occurred during the morning hours, they are generally believed to have been in reprisal for the shooting of a police sergeant and two constables Friday.

MURDER INQUEST IS SET

CORONER TO DELVE INTO AGEE'S DEATH TONIGHT.

Lieutenant of Detectives Expresses View St. Johns Man Might Have Been Slain by Enemy.

An inquest will be held tonight at 8:30 at room 446 in the courthouses over the body of Harry Agee, whose throat was slashed as he lay in bed at his home, 1770 Druid street, St. Johns, early Saturday morning. The police and the coroner's office are working day and night in an effort to solve the mystery. Police hold to the theory that the man was murdered. Deputy Coroner Goetsch, who made an investigation the night of Agee's death and who has been working on the case since that time, insists Agee came to his death by suicide.

'DEAD' MAN IS REVIVED

SEVERAL MASSAGES HEART AND BEATS BEGIN AGAIN.

Hospital Patient Apparently With No Pulse Lives 14 1/2 Hours After Treatment.

NEW YORK, June 12.—(Special.)—An extraordinary case of a man apparently dead ten minutes being revived and living 14 1/2 hours after skillful surgery was recorded early this morning in an operation performed on William Carrington, 59 years old, of River Road, Belleville, N. J.

Surgeons, resetting a broken hip, had placed Carrington in St. Michael's hospital, Newark. In the midst of the operation they became alarmed when they could not detect a pulse. Their fears were confirmed when they applied the stethoscope and listened for heart beats. The sensitive instruments showed no signs of heart activity, and the surgeons quickly decided upon a desperate measure. An incision of six inches was made in the abdomen and the chief surgeon inserted his hand in the opening until his fingers came in contact with the muscles enveloping the heart. Gently massaging this region with the fingers there was a response. After two or three strokes the pulse at once "picked up," the beats gradually became normal and within less than 15 minutes they were counted slightly above normal.

It was apparent, he said, that someone sneaked into the room and killed Agee while he slept. The blood on the pillow indicated that Agee lay in bed when his throat was slashed and there was no sign of a struggle. After his throat was cut Agee tumbled from the room and out onto the front porch. This, in the opinion of some of the officers, might indicate he was in pursuit of someone, and this theory is further substantiated by the fact that Mrs. Agee said she saw someone run through the front door.

The police hope to have something definite to present when the coroner's jury takes up the case tonight. Lieutenant of Detectives Goits said yesterday that he had unearthed some evidence which promised to solve the mystery. He expressed the belief that it was not a thief who had killed Agee.

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DENTISTS HOLD PICNIC

Lane County Society Chooses Delegates to Convention.

EUGENE, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—The members of the Lane County Dental society held their annual picnic at Bear Creek falls, 20 miles northwest of Eugene, yesterday, and elected delegates to the convention of Oregon, Washington and British Columbia dentists in Vancouver, B. C., this summer, besides officers of the local society.

Dr. C. B. Wiloughby and Dr. W. B. Lee were the choice for delegates and Dr. M. C. Harris and Dr. J. M. Miller are alternates. Dr. Harry Ferguson of Cottage Grove was chosen president. Dr. A. T. Atwater of Junction City vice-president and Dr. L. E. George of Eugene secretary and treasurer.

NORRIS PYRON CAPTURED

(Continued From First Page.) escape. For when the report from Nelson Stock reached Kelo, Sheriff Hoggart was notified. With a posse comprising between four and five carloads of men he started working down the Cowitz river, as the Kelo posse started working up. Sheriff Hoggart and his men were about two miles distant at the time of the capture.

The federal officers from whom Gardner and Pyron escaped, were at Castle Rock working with posse comprising about 40 or 50 men. All avenues of escape are guarded and if Gardner is in that vicinity, as was believed, in spite of what Pyron said, his capture was confidently expected. It was said his only possible chance of a getaway was to go far into the heavily wooded hills and that this would be folly because of lack of food.

Assessor Gets New Quarters.

MEDFORD, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—The fireproof one-story structure across the street from the courthouse in Jacksonville, purchased by the county last fall, has been completely altered inside and fitted up for the occupancy of the county assessor. The space vacated by the assessor will be divided between the treasurer's and sheriff's offices, leaving the north side of the present over-crowded building to the business of the county clerk's office.

Maple Sap Plentiful.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—J. P. Veitch is getting enthusiastic about this section as a possible producer of sap sugar. He found a maple tree a few days ago which bore leaves which were sticky with syrup. He thinks that when the sugar oozes its way to the outside without artificial aid, large quantities could be obtained by the usual method of tapping.

S. & H. green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co. coal and wood. Main 353; 560-51.—Adv.

declared in his annual report, made public tonight.

This report, which will be presented tomorrow to the labor press conference, reviewed the attitude of the American press toward organized labor and made recommendations designed to promote a greater labor press movement. Delegates representing the labor union newspapers and publications of the United States and Canada will consider the document.

Mr. Woll, who is also vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, urged the conference to co-operate with the federal government in establishing an information and educational bureau for the purpose of "gathering and distributing accurate, reliable, interesting and instructive labor news and information."

There is an increasing demand for accurate labor news, the report said, urging the conference to "leave no stone unturned to expose those publications and news services whose sole desire is to rule or ruin the labor movement."

Mr. Woll commended the Associated Press for "its attempt to report labor news accurately" and its "willingness to correct any misstatements or inaccuracies that creep into its report unavoidably."

HIGHWAY PICNIC IS GALA

NORTH BANK CELEBRATION IS HELD AT STEVENSON.

Beginning of Bridge Construction Marked by Programme of Athletics, Speeches, Dancing.

STEVENSON, Wash., June 12.—(Special.)—An address by Judge A. L. Miller of Vancouver, tug-of-war, baseball games and dancing were principal features of the third annual picnic today of the North Bank Highway association, celebrating the beginning of construction of a bridge in Stevenson on the highway. Two thousand persons from various points in Oregon and Washington attended.

The celebration and picnic opened in Stevenson park this morning with an address of welcome by W. G. Huff, mayor of Stevenson. Motorists began to arrive early in the day, and by late this afternoon thousands from White Salmon to Vancouver were represented. These included Dalles, Lyle, Underwood, Cooks, Chenoweth, Parsons, Skamania, Cape Horn, Washougal, Camas and Fishers. Several parties came from Portland and Hood River.

Benefits of the North Bank highway to residents of both Oregon and Washington were emphasized by Judge Miller. He characterized the drive to Portland and return by way of White Salmon as ideal.

The bridge under construction in Stevenson is to be reinforced concrete and will cost approximately \$30,000. It is to be completed by October 1.

BOARD TO FIX POLICY

(Continued From First Page.)

out that the Japanese, for instance, actually control the routing of a large percentage of the business they have with this country, both import and export. If they have this routing control, and the preferential rate on the transcontinental lines drove the business taking that course to American bottoms on the Pacific, it is only natural that the Japanese would route the traffic to eastern ports where no export rate prevailed and where there would be no differential against them. Thus, the water movement for their own bottoms. This would be true, of course, if taking the eastern route and using Japanese bottoms involved no appreciably higher transportation costs.

Japanese Control Routings.

In analyzing this last phase of the question, it is found that the Japanese do control the routing of much of their business. Such an advantage has been won by superior and more energetic support of their own merchant marine. It has taken years to build up the system, and will probably take some time to change it.

Only an American financial interests, manufacturers, exporters and importers and all others work closer together, and in the same intense and energetic support of their own merchant marine. It has taken years to build up the system, and will probably take some time to change it.

It is impossible to state what the new board will take of the section 28 issue, but it would seem from preliminary information gathered that nothing radical is likely to be done for some time.

Jerrold Owen Captain.

SALEM, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—Jerrold Owen, member of the Oregonian staff, with headquarters in Portland, has been promoted to the rank of captain and assigned to the 5th infantry, Oregon national guard, according to announcement made by the federal military department.

LABOR PRESS URGED TO FIGHT

International President Asks Support of World Peace.

DENVER, June 12.—The labor and trade union press of America must dedicate its resources to assisting the trade union movement in re-establishing world peace, in repealing restrictive wartime laws and in combating attacks of anti-union interests, Mathew Woll, president of the international labor press conference.

DANCING TAUGHT

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Victrola IX, \$75 Mahogany or oak

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George A. White, adjutant-general. The appointment has been affirmed by the war department. Andrew, W. D. Lindeman, W. F. Robinson, D. E. Towle and Eugene Chiodo.

Rupert Cannery Leased. GRESHAM, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—The Berry Growers Packing company, Inc., has leased the cannery building temporarily from the Rupert company and is using it as a shipping and receiving point. The following officers were elected: H. G. Andrew, president; W. D. Lindeman, vice-president; W. F. Robinson, secretary, and D. E. Towle, manager-treasurer. The directors are H. G.

Children's Day Observed. ST. HELENS, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—Children's day was observed in both the Methodist and Congregational churches here, the children of the latter church having their programs in the morning and the exercises at the Methodist church being held in the evening.

Teachers Not to Be Rehired. GRAYS RIVER, Wash., June 12.—(Special.)—Grays River schools will be closed. None of the present teachers will be re-employed next year.

Murderer Due at Prison. SALEM, Or., June 12.—(Special.)—Floyd Romaine, who yesterday was sentenced to a life term in the penitentiary here for the murder of Abe Givens in Douglas county, was expected to arrive at the prison some time tonight, according to word received by the officials. Warden Compton said that Romaine probably would be assigned to employment in the flax mills.

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