

TAFT THE BUILDER

His Directing Hand Has Insured Success of the Mammoth Project.

Raised Wages of Isthmian Laborers by Longevity Order While War Secretary.

The Panama Canal is one of the greatest achievements of any Republican administration.

As Secretary of War, Hon. William H. Taft personally assumed the responsibility of inaugurating the work and systematically shaping up the practical operations until a degree of efficiency has been reached that may well astonish the nations of the earth.

Mr. Taft has applied to this world project and history making enterprise those same qualities of careful, thoughtful investigation, penetrating judgment and absolutely fair dealing, which have made him so signally successful in the performance of all those duties of state which have brought him to the high eminence he now occupies as one of our greatest living Americans.

Must Know Personally.

Like the Philippine project and other great work laid upon him, he has studied the situation at Panama at close range and trusted to no second hand information with which to insure his success. There has been about ninety million dollars expended on the work to date and Mr. Taft has had to approve every dollar of this expenditure. He has not been satisfied with a single visit to the Isthmus, but has made the long journey every year so that he might direct the work more economically. The result is that he has changed the situation there from an inhospitable region to a locality where Americans can live in healthful security without the fear of plagues or dread of contagious diseases. The rate of mortality on the Isthmus is about the same as it is in our American cities.

Stages of the Work.

Work on the canal has passed through two stages, those of planning and preparation. It is now in the third and final stage, that of construction. Both of the earlier stages required the presence of a large working force, necessarily quartered in temporary and make shift accommodations. Because of these conditions, inevitable at the outset, early critics of the enterprise mistook the initial and temporary outfit for permanent equipment.

Thoughtful About Labor.

Mr. Taft's chief concern has been the proper care of the laboring man on the Isthmus. Under his patient and approved methods the terrible scourge of yellow fever, against which the French struggled in vain, the filthy and pest breeding state of the principal Panamanian towns, the rough labor camps, and other pioneer hardships of the two first eras, have been eliminated. He has accomplished these things through the activity of the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Municipal Engineering and the Building Department. To-day we find yellow fever driven from the Isthmus, the deadly stegomyia mosquito thus rendered innocuous, malaria and pneumonia greatly reduced and a high average of health prevailing.

Mammoth Construction Project.

President Roosevelt appointed a special commission to examine the Isthmian situation last spring, and it reported Aug. 6, 1908. According to this special report there were at work at the Isthmus April 30, 1908, 26,118 men for the Isthmian Canal Commission and 7,075 at work for the Panama railroad,

a total of 33,193 men all told. Housing this industrial army in quick time, with due attention to sanitation and hygiene, was a problem which would have been beyond most men. But Mr. Taft did it successfully.

To keep the machinery and tools in condition, three large machine and repair shops, two shipyards and numerous warehouses are maintained. When we recall that this enormous plant is operated at a distance of 1,382 miles from its nearest base of supply, New Orleans, and 1,975 miles from its main base of supply, New York, we can estimate with more justice and accuracy the magnitude and complications of the undertaking Mr. Taft has conducted so well.

Workmen Appreciate Taft.

He has succeeded in impressing labor on the Isthmus with his kindly interest in its behalf. On this point the special commission's report says: "From the outset we were strongly impressed by the spirit of good will and loyalty of the employes. . . . The general sentiment of the workers was expressed in the words of a mechanic, in one of the conferences which we held with representatives of different trades. Said he: 'We want it understood that we are American citizens and that we are proud to have a share in this great work. We believe the government is treating us right, and we are as much interested to see this thing a success as anyone.' This spirit of loyalty and interest in the work was evidenced on many occasions and should be accounted as an asset of the highest value to the government in the accomplishment of its colossal task."

Taft Raises Wages.

On May 1, 1907, as Secretary of War, Mr. Taft issued a longevity order making liberal and appreciate increase in the wages of various classes of workmen, as follows:

"All employes not native to the tropics who occupy the positions herein designated shall be granted the following increases in pay for length of continuous service on the Isthmus: Five per cent of the basic or class rate for the second year, with accumulative addition of three per cent of the basic rate for each subsequent year; provided, however, that such cumulative increase shall not exceed a total of 25c of the basic rate."

In other words, Mr. Taft made it possible for every American laborer on the Isthmus, by remaining there and working, to increase his wages 25 per cent and at the same time have a permanent position. These men also get four weeks' vacation with pay, every year and Mr. Taft favors making the vacation six weeks with pay.

Change Would Be Disastrous.

In the performance of this work the United States is under the scrutiny of the entire world, especially of our neighbors in Central and South America, before whom we must make good our profession of high social and industrial ideals. It would be a national calamity to jeopardize the present liberal progressive policy that is so successfully constructing the Panama Canal. Mr. Taft is the one man to continue this great work to the end.

It will not do Mr. Bryan any good to claim to be the heir to the Roosevelt policies. No one has ever succeeded in breaking Mr. Roosevelt's will.

Mr. Bryan insists that the Republican party has adopted or adapted all of his policies. In that case why should he be trying to defeat the Republican party?

Mr. Bryan will not discuss the question of negro disfranchisement in the south, but he hopes the northern negroes will vote for him without letting the south know anything about it.

Montana has a new town named Taft. It will be very much on the map after Nov. 3.

Read the Times' Want Ads.

NOTICE OF SALE OF IMPROVEMENT BONDS.

Sealed proposals will be received by the Finance Committee of the Common Council of the City of Marshfield, Coos County, Oregon, at the office of the Recorder of said city, in the City Hall of said city, until 4 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, October 31st, 1908, for \$16,023.87 street improvement bonds of the City of Marshfield in denominations not exceeding \$500, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually; each bond to be dated November 2d, 1908, payable ten years from the date thereof; provided that the right is reserved to take up and cancel any of such bonds, upon the payment of the face value thereof, within accrued interest to the date of payment at any semi-annual interest payment period at or after one year from the date of such bond or bonds, by giving thirty days published notice.

Bonds authorized by act of Legislature of State of Oregon.

Assessed valuation of City \$1,791,549.00.

No bonded indebtedness.

Population estimated at 5,000.

Certified check for 5 per cent of amount of bids must accompany each bid, to be forfeited in case bid is accepted and bidder fails to accept bonds within ten days.

Bids received for any amount of said bonds, small bidders being given preference. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. Dated this 7th day of October, 1908.

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JAS H. FLANAGAN,
CLAUDE NASBURG,
Finance Committee of the Common Council.

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FINANCIAL

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Business Directory

Doctors.

D. R. E. GOLDEN
Physician and Surgeon
202-3 Coos building.
Office hours: 10 to 12 m.
2 to 5 and 7 to 8 p. m.
Phones:
Office 1051—Residence 2351.

D. R. A. C. BURROUGHS
Homeopathic Physician
Chronic Diseases a Specialty.
Residence and office, corner 'C' and Second Streets, Marshfield.

D. R. GEORGE W. LESLIE
Osteopathic Physician
Graduate of American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo.
Office Hours—9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Other Hours by Appointment. Office over First National Bank Phone 1611. Marshfield, Ore.

D. R. GEO. E. DIX
Physician and Surgeon.
New Flanagan & Bennett Bank Bldg.
Phone 1681.

D. R. J. W. INGRAM
Physician and Surgeon.
Office 208-209 Coos Building
Phones—Office 1621; Residence 781.

D. R. A. L. HOUSEWORTH
Physician and Surgeon.
Offices second floor of Flanagan & Bennett Bank Building.
Residence, two blocks north of Crystal Theater. Office Phone 1431. Residence Phone 656.

M. RS. NETTIE HOVEL
Midwife
Obstetrical Nursing

With E. W. Kammerer Phone 1444

Lawyers.

Francis H. Clark Jacob M. Blake
Lawrence A. Liljequist

C. CLARKE, BLAKE & LILJEQUIST,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
United States Commissioner's Office
Trust Building. Marshfield, Ore.

J. W. BENNETT,
Office over Flanagan & Bennett Bank
Marshfield, Oregon

C. COKE & COKE,
Attorneys at Law.
Marshfield, Oregon.

Miscellaneous

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