

# MEN LIKE THEIR JOBS

## No Time for Loafers and Drunkards in Panama Canal Zone—Workers Can Save Money—All Are Proud of Work Done.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.  
(Copyright, 1908, by Frederic J. Haskin.)  
Washington, July 15.—The impression one gets from a stay among the men who constitute the American contingent of the Isthmian canal force is that every man seems to feel himself to get the job completed as soon as possible in order that he may begin to get income from it instead of suffer a perennial outgo. Every one of the 5,000 or more Americans connected with the undertaking is deadly in earnest. He is proud of the record that is being made and seems to be imbued with the desire to have a hand in the making of this record. The time for loafers, time-serverers, drunkards and shirkers is past.

A weeding out process has been going on for a year now. The inducements which can be held out are strong enough to attract good men, and the commission no longer finds itself under the necessity of tolerating incompetence or indifference. For the men that cheer for the canal zone find themselves "canined," as they say on the Isthmus when a man loses his position. Now and then you see one of these. He has either lost his place or has been reduced in position. He is the only man on the Isthmus that has a word to say against the work. He threatens all sorts of exposures. He will tell in congress and will have an investigation that will reveal the shameful conditions. He will have a hearing in congress and will have an investigation that will reveal the shameful conditions. He will have a hearing in congress and will have an investigation that will reveal the shameful conditions.

Everybody else is satisfied. Most of the men in the construction work are all old hands at the business. They have come in from everywhere. Some of them have spent their years in construction work in tropical countries and call themselves "Tropical Tramps." But they have spent their years in construction work in tropical countries and call themselves "Tropical Tramps." But they have spent their years in construction work in tropical countries and call themselves "Tropical Tramps."

I met a foreman of one of the big dirt yards, the one at Pedro Miguel, where they make up the dirt trains for the big dump at La Boca. He told me he had been on construction work in the United States, in Peru, in Bolivia, in Ecuador and Brazil, and that nowhere had he been able to save as much money as on the Isthmus canal. He said that everything that men could reasonably ask was given them. I heard the same thing from a hundred sources, from men who have opportunity to know. At the La Boca dumps I met several men who had been on construction work in the states for years, and they, without exception, declared that conditions down here, 2,400 long miles from New York, were better than they had ever known on big construction jobs in the very heart of the states.

Best of Talent.  
From the chief engineer down, it seems that the best talent obtainable here is being made good in the execution of the work. The engineers of the construction department are all men who have made good in their respective fields. For instance, Civil Engineer Saville who has charge of the experiments at the Gatun dam, was selected for that work because of his proven ability in connection with the Wachusett dam near Boston, an engineering problem of a similar nature as the construction of the Gatun dam. These men also know how to get all hands under them to do a maximum amount of work, and are accomplishing wonders by combining the intelligent direction of those higher up with the main strength and awkwardness of the illiterate Spaniard and the ignorant West Indian negro.

Another Ambitious One.  
Another employe with a worthy ambition is Paymaster's Clerk Page. He already has the record of being the oldest employe in point of service on the canal. He has been connected with the canal project for 22 years. He was on

the pay force under the old French regime and was inherited by the new company with the other assets of the canal. He was employed by the Americans when they began operations, and wants to see the job finished. He can pay off as many men in a given time as any man on the Isthmus, and the mistakes he makes are as few and far between as four-leaved clovers.

There are nearly 3,000 white people in the canal zone, out of a total population of more than 25,000. Of these about 1,300 are women and 1,100 are alive in canal commission quarters. About 17 per cent of the white men in the zone are aliens, mostly Spaniards and Italians, but only a very small per cent of the women and children are not Americana. The working force averages about 2,500 men with the canal commission and about 6,500 with the Panama railroad. Approximately 11,000 are at work on the excavations. On dredging there are some 21,000 men, and on the construction work of all kinds on the canal.

Salaries for Women.  
There are slightly more than 300 women employed on the canal, of whom about 90 per cent are with the commission and the remainder on the Panama railroad. The highest salary paid to a woman is \$175 a month, and the lowest \$50. The average is about \$73. It is not the policy of the commission to employ many women, and those it does employ are mainly related to men living in the same quarters who furnish them a home. The commission finds that it would cost more per cent of the women and children than for men.

No one can imagine the difficulties that beset the Americans who manage the great work of digging the canal. Many is the day when it rains two or three inches in an hour or two. Of the mud of the big dumps where they deposit the excavated material, and these seas are almost without bottom. To haul mud until it is so heavy that it would be out of the question, for it would cut down the total monthly excavation to a few inches. The mud, at the dump means that many of them will literally sink into the mud. At the dump foremen, the yard masters and the others in command courageously take the responsibility and the work goes forward. Sometimes it is hours and hours before they can get a train off a sunken track, but here in the canal zone no one ever says die, and the work goes on rain or no rain.

Rain Falls in Torrents.  
No one in the states ever saw it rain much harder than it did here one day not long ago. In less than two hours three inches of rain had fallen. And yet when I asked the division superintendent how much dirt they had gotten out of Culabra that day he handed me the cheering information that it had amounted to 40,000 cubic yards of material, which is at the rate of 1,000 cubic yards a month for Culabra cut alone. Riding on a dirt train after a rain I asked the conductor how he managed to keep the orders dry while such a downpour was falling. "Orders be hanged!" he replied. "I have to carry everything in my mind when these rains fall. Even the rubber coats will not keep one dry during these Panama rains." And he went on his way singing as if he did not mind such a shower more than a duck would.

The steam shovel engineers of the canal hold the record as being about the only people in the world who have conducted a successful strike against the government for higher wages. They were getting \$185 a month, with six weeks leave with pay and quarters besides, but they thought it was not enough. They struck and their force dwindled from 65 to 13. New men were secured, but things did not go well, and the president and his advisers decided to give them their present wages, \$210 per month. This brought all the other classes of steam shovel and trainmen proportionate increases.

Longing for Home.  
The average length of time Americans stay on the Isthmus is a little more than two years. There is something about the climate in the zone, together with the lack of opportunities for rational diversion, seems to make a man, after he has been here two or three years, have longings for home which he cannot overcome. During the winter season the winds seem so laden with moisture that they pass men by unable to cool their brows. On the whole it is very depressing—though it is not unhealthful.

A construction engineer who has to be out in the hot sun all day long told me that in the 20 months he has been on the Isthmus he has had more headaches from heat. Strokes are all but unknown.

On the whole, Uncle Sam has employed on this great job as fine a force of workers as can be found anywhere. These men are terrificly in earnest. Before them the dirt is flying, barriers are being broken down, and the promise of hope is being redeemed by the assurance of success. This canal force is indeed a noble army, and there can be no doubt that it will succeed in cutting the mighty ditch that will in a week lock the waters of the two greatest oceans of the globe.

WOULD MAKE BIBLE SCHOOL PERMANENT  
Albany Citizens Plan to Make Addition to State's Educational System.  
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Albany, Or., July 15.—It is planned to make the Albany College Summer Bible school a permanent institution in Oregon's educational system. Some of Albany's most prominent citizens are actively engaged in the upbuilding and advancement of the school classes, addresses, sermons and conferences on every possible phase of religious work. Able men from Ohio, Illinois, California, North Dakota, Michigan and Oregon will be present as instructors. Moving picture machines and stereopticons for the purpose of illustrating the work are some of the innovations.

PERHAPS OXALURIA IS WHAT AILS YOU  
(Special News by Longest Leased Wire.)  
New York, July 15.—Dr. Gustave Baar of Portland, Or., was an arrival today on board the North German Lloyd liner Kaiser Wilhelm II. Dr. Baar was one of the American representatives at the international medical congress, just closed at Vienna. He said a new disease had been defined during the course of the conference. This disease is scientifically termed "oxaluria" and relates to the secretion of oxalic acid in the blood. It was the general opinion among the delegates at the conference, Dr. Baar said, that these secretions are the cause of the majority of cases of nervous breakdown.

Very small and so easy to take as sugar.  
FOR HEADACHE.  
FOR DIZZINESS.  
FOR NERVOUSNESS.  
FOR THE LIVER.  
FOR CONSTIPATION.  
FOR BILIOUSNESS.  
FOR THE COMPLEXION.  
FOR BRICK HEADACHE.

# TO THE ENEMY'S COUNTRY TO OPEN

## First Big Bryan and Kern Demonstration at New York—Bryan Dominant.

(Special News by Longest Leased Wire.)  
Lincoln, Neb., July 15.—William J. Bryan will announce his campaign director at Chicago, July 25, while the delegates to the Independence party national convention are flocking there. He is expected to be either John H. Atwood, T. B. Ryan of Wisconsin or a dark horse.

After the exchange of civilities between the candidates and the visitors, Chairman Taggart dragged a table into the center of the parlor, got hold of a gavel and called the national committee to order. Mr. Bryan and Mr. Kern took seats at his left. One of the first propositions submitted was the fixing of dates and places for the notification of candidates. Mr. Bryan, after hearing "boosts" from national committeemen from New York, the west and south and the Pacific slope, responded: "While I am in the hands of the committee I must say that I prefer to be notified at my home at Lincoln. Once I was notified in New York and the second time at Indianapolis. This day it seems to me proper that you should come to Lincoln. I shall make speeches in New York and shall be glad to go there immediately after my notification."

The date of Kern's notification is left open, owing to the demoralizing as to the date of the notification of Sherman, his Republican rival.

## FANCY PRICE FOR BENTON GARDEN LAND

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Albany, Or., July 15.—William Peacock of this city, who owns an 18-acre garden tract across the river in Benton county, has been offered \$15,000 for the land. It is said the garden lands are the best on the Pacific coast. Mr. Peacock is one of the veteran gardeners of Oregon. He is not anxious to sell. The price offered, almost \$1,000 an acre, is the highest ever offered for farm land in this vicinity.

## Camping Shoes for Everybody.

Men's and women's shoes, worth up to \$2.50 pair, now \$1 per pair. Women's and infants' \$1 and \$2.25 every-day shoes and Oxford's now \$1 per pair. Boys' shoes and Oxford's, worth up to \$2.50, all sizes, now \$1 per pair. Sample Shoe Store company, corner First and Madison. Also Morrison street, between Front and First.

## TWO TO TELL HOW COMPANION LOST LIFE

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Marysville, Cal., June 15.—Two men are held pending an investigation following the drowning yesterday of William Sisson in the Sacramento river at Varnon. Sisson was in a boat with two companions, who give their names as Cornelius and Smith. The boat capsized and Sisson was drowned, while the others, swam ashore. Cornelius had started to pack up his belongings preparatory to starting for Nevada, when the officers compelled him to remain until after the inquest, as there was some question regarding the exact manner in which Sisson was drowned.

## A GOLDEN WEDDING

Means that man and wife have lived to a good old age and are still together. Mrs. J. W. Simpson, who has kept healthy to see that your liver is in good condition, is the only way to do this. It is to keep Ballard's Peppermint Cure in the house and take it whenever your liver gets inactive. 50 cents per bottle. Sold by Skidmore Drug Co.

# GARBAGE BILL'S DEATH DESIRED

## Seattle Councilmen Allege Contractors Have Thousands to Pay for It.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Seattle, Wash., July 15.—Bribery has been attempted in an effort to kill the municipal garbage bill. An investigation is now under way which may lead to startling developments. It is known that at least two members of the city council have been approached with an offer of money, which, in one case, comprised a plain proposition to pay \$1,000 for the vote of the member in question.

In another instance the councilman received an offer of \$1,000 to be prepared incorporation papers for and attend to the legal affairs of a company that wanted to handle the garbage business. The inference was too plain to be mistaken for anything but a direct offer to "buy up" the councilman approached.

## WILL BURN UP SOCIETY FOLK

## Missouri Millionaire Will Have Company If He Must Have Misery.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Springfield, Mo., July 15.—Society leaders here are today anxiously discussing the threat of R. P. Dickerson, a millionaire, to "burn up" several social lions and lionesses, in his reply to an extremely sensational divorce complaint recently filed by his wife. Dickerson refused to discuss the allegations made by his wife to the effect that last Friday he had threatened to throw acid upon her face unless she left his house. There are many rumors in the cause of the domestic storm in the Dickerson household, as both were prominent in society and were apparently very happy until last week's row.

## TO MAKE MILK FIT FOR VIENNA BABES

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Vienna, July 15.—Nathaniel Straus, the New York millionaire, who has distributed pasteurized milk to the poor of this city for many years, has presented Vienna with a milk sterilizing plant. The plant will be used for distributing sterilized milk to the babies of the city, who suffer from impure milk, especially in the warm weather. Straus has been demonstrating his method of pasteurizing milk before the authorities for the past two weeks, and all are pleased with it. If it should be popular in Vienna, the philanthropist promises to donate similar plants to other Austrian towns.

## DEAL FOR THE N. P. DOWN THE COLUMBIA

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Astoria, Or., July 15.—Portland parties representing the Northern Pacific railroad have purchased 140 acres close to the short at Frankfort from Frank Horne for \$27,500. From appearances the Northern Pacific is preparing to build down the north bank from Kamama to connect with the road at Megler.

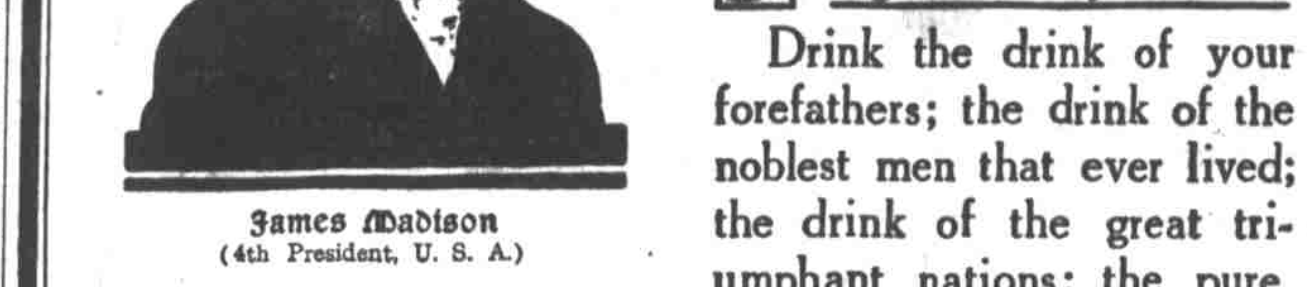
## MOTHER-IN-LAW GLAD SHE TURNED AVENGER

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
New York, July 15.—Smiling and joking with the attendants at the Roosevelt hospital, Dr. J. W. Simpson, who was shot Monday by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Bartley T. Horner, at Northport, is awaiting an operation for the extraction of the bullets. The physicians have decided to delay the operation and observe his condition, which is not critical.

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In private life he was extremely social—yet truly temperate—drinking good malt beer and wine in strict moderation. Once, when sick in bed, he caused his couch to be wheeled near the dining-room door, that he might call to his acting representative at the festive board: "Doctor, are you passing the bottle? Do your duty, doctor, or I must cashier you!"

Justly named "The Father of the Constitution," he died at eighty-five. When shall his name be forgotten?

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Mrs. Horner, who has been placed under arrest, told the magistrate today, "I am glad I shot him. The world would be better off without him. He had been warned to keep away from my house, since he killed my husband, but I did not acquit him. I shot him and I'm glad that I did."

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FOR NERVOUSNESS.  
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