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A Long Railroad Route.

Washington, March 13.—Charles M. Pepper, appointed by President Roosevelt as Commissioner to carry out the recommendations of the second International American Conference, held in Mexico two years ago, with regard to the Pan-American Railway, has submitted his report to the State Department, by which it will be transmitted to Congress, the second conference creating a permanent commission with headquarters at Washington, of which H. D. Davis is chairman and Andrew Carnegie is a member. The other members are the ambassador from Mexico and the Ministers from Peru and Guatemala.

Commissioner Pepper spent a year in visiting various countries, and was aided in his work by the United States Ministers. His inquiries covered the general subject of trade opportunities that would result from railroad building.

CONNECT NEW YORK AND BUENOS AYRES
The report says that the general project of an inter-continental line, which ultimately will place New York and Buenos Ayres in communication, is receiving much encouragement. At the present time about 4800 miles are lacking, and the estimated cost of construction is placed at \$150,000,000. This is based on an average of 50 cents gold as a daily wage for labor, with an efficiency of 75 per cent as compared with similar labor in the United States.

Commissioner Pepper cites specific causes that have contributed to advance the progress at both ends, as shown in simultaneous action by Mexico on the north and Argentine Republic on the south to extend their railway lines; the settlement of disputed boundaries and other questions which heretofore have caused the countries to be indifferent to railways among themselves; the law passed by the Chilean Congress for the tunnel through the Andes, which will enable the long-deferred through railway connection between Buenos Ayres and Valparaiso to be made; legislation by several of the republics with a view of offering great inducements for foreign capital to engage in railway construction, and the definite determination of the Panama Canal question, which is expected to be beneficial both in the stability which will result from the influence of the United States on the isthmus and from the overflow of private capital into railway enterprises.

MEXICO MAKES GREAT PROGRESS.

In reviewing in detail the republics visited, Commissioner Pepper discusses the great progress in Mexico and the actual railway work that is still going on. Only 172 miles are lacking to reach the border of Guatemala. Reference also is made to the intercommerce line from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and it is stated that within two years two through trunkline systems will have been completed. President Diaz is pleased for the results which have been had from his railway policy. Regarding the Central American Republics the Commissioner says that most of them have policies for building lines to bring their Atlantic and Pacific ports into communication and these as feeders for the Pan-American route. He states that the demand for supplies which will result from the Panama Canal construction will encourage railroad enterprises throughout Central America, and he suggests the probability of further facilities for meeting the needs of international traffic.

GUATEMALA EXTENSION COMPLETED.

The completion of the Guatemala extension of the Central Railroad in November, 1903, has left only 30 miles open from the capital to the northern border, and this section it is believed will be built in the near future.

In describing the prospects of Nicaragua, Commissioner Pepper calls attention to the action of the government in reviving former projects for a rail route to the Atlantic as soon as it was definitely settled that the canal was to be built across Panama instead of through Nicaragua.

Engineers are making the survey for what is known as the Atlantic route. The government is negotiating with New York and London capitalists for the establishment of a national bank. If this is done, railway enterprises will be aided.

BOLIVIA HAS A RAILROAD FUND.

Much significance is placed by Commissioner Pepper on the payment of \$15,000,000 which Bolivia receives from Brazil as an indemnity for the Acre tract, and which is to be applied in railroad construction. The report in discussing the mineral resources of Bolivia makes special mention of the fact that Bolivia is the only country on the continent which has tin deposits.

In Peru significance is given to the railroad movement now in

progress, and the \$10,000,000 investment of a United States syndicate in the copper mines of Cerro de Pasco and in collateral railway enterprises. The working of the bituminous coal deposits is predicted.

Full accounts are given of the various railway enterprises in the different countries and the concessions in force, as well as the inducements to capital in the way of government guarantees and subsidies and exemption of railway material from customs and international taxation.

LETTER FOR UNITED STATES.

A special chapter is devoted to markets and trade. Numerous instances are given of the ability of the United States to supply South America and Central America with steel rails, as well as with rolling-stock generally. The report praises the adaptability of manufacturers in the United States in meeting the special needs of local conditions and recites the marked preference shown for locomotives and cars of American make.

An analysis is made of the unsatisfactory status of United States exports to South America, and the figures are given for the belief that these can be materially and permanently increased. Pepper says there is a reaction from German cheap goods, and the United States can compete with Germany in supplying the better grades for which demand now exists.

Has J. C. Conn Killed Himself?

A letter received from Silver Lake, Lake County, Oregon, by Major Buick, in substance says: On Friday morning, March 4, J. C. Conn, (known in Roseburg where he was born and raised and whose relatives live around Roseburg,) was seen by one of the clerks of his store and Silver Lake to leave the store and go in the direction of the Silver Creek bridge. This was early in the morning and Mr. Conn did not take with him his overcoat although it was bitterly cold at the time. As he neared the approach of the bridge he was seen to stoop down as though he was tying a shoe-string or rolling up the bottom of his pants and was seen to turn around as if to return, but a few minutes afterwards he was seen on the top of the bridge and that was the last seen of him.

The absence of Mr. Conn from the store during the day alarmed the clerk, and as evening approached he made his fears known and a searching party went to look for him, when someone said that, early that morning, he had heard the report of a gun and the sound proceeded from the neighborhood of the bridge. The creek was rather high at the time, and the ground frozen and the party returned without finding a trace of the missing man. The clerk said that at first he supposed that his employer had gone a short distance into the country on business. When it was stated that the report of a gun had been heard that morning, a search was made, when it was discovered that two guns of modern pattern were in their proper place in the drawer, but that one revolver of ancient make was missing.

As Mr. Conn had left no instructions about the store or business, his disappearance caused considerable alarm, and on Saturday morning Frank Payne, the clerk, sent out two men on horseback to seek information from the ranches around Silver Lake—but they returned without bringing any information of any kind. On Sunday and Monday Silver Creek was thoroughly searched and dragged, and dynamited to see if the supposed dead body would float, but not a trace of the missing man could be found.

It seems that while Mr. Conn's business was in a most flourishing condition that he had had quite a number of reverses lately. Early in the winter three heavy freight wagons burned up and a few weeks ago one of his best horses died and he had appeared to be melancholy over the loss and it is supposed that in a fit of despondency he went to the top of the bridge and there shot himself and the body falling into the swollen stream has been carried into Silver Lake about ten miles away. If this theory is true the body will doubtless be found. The only hope the Silver Lake people have that he is alive is the theory that he has wandered into the country and is at some ranch house for the ground is covered with snow and the cold is so intense at night that nobody lightly clad could live through a single night. If Mr. Conn is in a fit of despondency, wandered into the country and perished his body will be found just as soon as the snow melts from the range.

At the time of writing Monday noon the relatives of Mr. Conn in Roseburg have received no news

from Silver Lake except that furnished by Major Buick in a letter from his son, who lives there, and in finishing the letter it is stated the creek is swollen and a thorough search has been made of the surrounding country and mountains and not a trace of the missing man was found.—Roseburg Plaindealer.

Supreme Court Knocks out Northern Securities.

Washington, March 14.—The supreme court of the United States today rendered a decision in the famous Northern Securities case, which upholds the government's contention. The merger is emphatically declared to be in violation of the Sherman anti-trust act, and the opinion is a sweeping one, which will have great effect on the future formation of trusts or prohibitive corporations.

The decision was given in a vote of five to four, Justices Holmes, Peckham, White and Fuller dissenting. Justice Harlan read the opinion, giving the following pertinent points:

"In our opinion," says Harlan, "the evidence fully sustains the charge that the defendants were properly accused of monopolizing or attempting to monopolize trade between states. The Northern Securities company was organized as a holding corporation or custodian of more than nine-tenths of the stock of the Northern Pacific railway and three-quarters of the stock of the Great Northern railway. Both lines were held as if by one ownership. The holding company dominated the roads for the exclusive benefit of the stockholders."

"It became one great powerful corporation, so that competition between the constituent companies might close. Profits were to be distributed on a basis of stock held by the Northern Securities company. The combination is one in the shape of a trust. No scheme or device could be more thoroughly a combination in the form of a trust in the restraint of trade."

"We deem it sufficient to say," continued Harlan, "that every contract or combination or conspiracy which operates in restraint of trade is unlawful, whether it be unreasonable or reasonable restraint. There is no distinction. The law forbids such a combination, even among private manufacturers or dealers. Congress clearly has power to establish rules governing commerce between states and with foreign countries. Free competition as a rule is prescribed to extinguish combinations in restraint of commerce."

"The liberty of contracts is not impaired by an act which congress holds authority to enact. These principles have been distinctly announced in other cases. The constitution of the United States is a supreme law, and a lawful and constitutional act of congress is as binding on the states as though it were in the constitution of the United States."

"If the contentions of the Northern Securities company is sound, why could not all railroads in the United States enter into a combine, and by the device of holding corporations, control rates all over the country against the will of congress."

"Congress may protect the freedom of interstate rates by lawful means. No state corporation can stand in the way of the enforcement of the popular will when lawfully expressed. A state may create a corporation and authorize it to engage in interstate commerce. Congress has no power over it unless what it does interferes with an act of congress. A state may allow combinations in restraint of its domestic trade, if it sees fit, but it must not go beyond its own borders, for a national authority controls the instrumentalities of the interstate commerce."

"The decree of the court below enjoins the Northern Securities company from acquiring stock in the two companies and from voting what it holds; from exercising any control over either of the roads, or from permitting these things to be done. The decree of the court below is affirmed, with liberty in execution of such decree as circumstances may dictate."

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To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

Mitchell's Daughter Dead.

Portland, Ore., March 15.—Mrs. Frances Hoyt Griffin, daughter of Senator John H. Mitchell, of Oregon, died at 12 o'clock last night in New York City, following a difficult surgical operation. Details of Mrs. Griffin's sickness are not known here. The news first came in a telegram to Colonel David M. Dunne, collector of internal revenue. The telegram follows:

"After a serious surgical operation my daughter, Maggie, Mrs. Frances Hoyt Griffin, passed away here in a hospital. The funeral will be in Washington Friday. My address is Park Avenue Hotel. She was 41 years old.
(signed) "JOHN H. MITCHELL."

Colds cause Pneumonia.

One of the most remarkable cases of a cold, deep-seated on the lungs, causing pneumonia, is that of Mrs. Gertrude E. Fenner, Marion, Ind., who was entirely cured by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. She says: "The coughing and straining so weakened me that I ran down in weight from 148 to 92 pounds. I tried a number of remedies to no avail until I used One Minute Cough Cure. Four bottles of this wonderful remedy cured me entirely of the cough, strengthened my lungs and restored me to my normal weight, health and strength." Sold by R. S. Knowlton.

Political activity begins to be seen. The Democratic Convention in Missouri and the Republican Convention in Iowa were the scenes of "wild riots" and an entertaining gunplay. Ambulances and hospitals were much in requisition. The campaign is on.

Most of us are inclined to think that if our tasks were different it would be easier for us to be the sort of men and women that we ought to be. Yet every duty is an opportunity, and we need no other gymnasium for the development of our moral muscle than the work which falls to our hands today, whatever that work may be. If our present task does not help us to be more gentle, patient, kind, and faithful it is exceedingly doubtful whether any other set of circumstances would work in us the ends of character.—Ex.

Senator Beveridge says that he is greatly delighted and agreeably surprised with the cordial reception he everywhere met in Russia. No restrictions whatever was put upon his movements, his speech, or even the use of his pocket camera. He was received by the commander of Port Arthur without any red tape delay, and was permitted to examine all the fortifications at his leisure. He says "Manchuria is twice as large as Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, and is capable of sustaining a population of fifty millions. Russia has already acquired this magnificent empire."

The East River or Williamsburg suspension bridge greatly relieves congested traffic in New York. It is a larger, heavier, more plainly utilitarian structure than the "old" Brooklyn bridge, and it will carry more than twice as much. The carriage-way, including approaches, is nearly a mile and a half long; and within its generous width of 115 feet are two elevated tracks, four surface tracks, two roadways, two promenades and two bicycle paths. The total cost was nearly \$20,000,000. Two other immense bridges are already chartered. To picture the marvelous city of the future is impossible, for now comes the coordination of the vast labyrinths under the streets and the opening of two immense tunnels under the Hudson.

Do You Want Strength.

If you want to increase your strength you must add to and not take from the physical. In other words, the food that you eat must be digested, assimilated and appropriated by the nerves, blood and tissues before being expelled from the intestines. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure adds to the physical. It gives strength to and builds up strength in the human system. It is pleasant to the taste and palatable, and the only combination of digestants that will digest the food and enable the system to appropriate all of its health and strength-giving qualities. Sold by R. S. Knowlton.

Two for the Price of One.

We have made arrangements with the publishers of the AMERICAN FARMER by which we are able to offer this great farm paper and the HERALD for the price of the HERALD alone—\$1.50, for the next 30 days. Who will be the first to take advantage of this opportunity? This is a great offer for our farmers and dairymen.

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1903

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