

## PILOTS FOR SHIPS THROUGH CANAL

Captain Rodman, U. S. N., Will Have Absolute Command.

### CAPTAINS MUST ABDICATE.

Official Pilot Will Be Deputy on Every Vessel That Passes—Engines Will Be Locked With Special Device From Entrance to Exit—To Furnish Supplies at Mouth.

Colon, Panama.—That the Panama canal will not only be ready for commercial shipping in July, but so safe as to be "fool proof" from a sailor's point of view, is the assurance by Captain Hugh Rodman, U. S. N., who will have entire charge of all the details of putting shipping through.

According to Captain Rodman, the meteorological conditions are more favorable for shipping at the entrances of the Panama canal than at almost any other port in the world of anything like the importance of Colon and Balboa. At Colon the compaction of one breakwater and the far advance of another give a still water entrance to the canal. The aids to navigation through Gatun lake have been made so clear that, as he believes, captains will find the passage through, day or night, as safe and easy as a walk down Broadway and the Culebra cut passage as safe as any large river.

All vessels entering the canal will have a canal pilot, who will take the ship to an anchorage, from which she may not move without permission of Captain Rodman or one of his port captains, conveyed officially through the pilot.

All the officials who visit ships must report to Captain Rodman as head of the department of canal operation. As soon as the quarantine officer releases a ship one of the other canal officials will go on board.

As soon as a ship moves toward the canal its wireless and all signal arrangements will be under the immedi-



CAPTAIN HUGH RODMAN.

ate control of the canal authorities, represented by the canal pilot. In addition to the wireless and the international code signal systems each pilot will have with him certain "shape" signals. At three commanding points on the line canal signal stations have been provided, so that from one of them every ship will be practically in sight during its entire passage.

The engines of a ship will be turned over to the canal authorities the moment the vessel ties up to the approach wall of the canal locks. The engines will immediately be locked by the canal officials by means of a steel chain and a sealing device. This lock will be under the constant watch of a canal guard and an engineer of the ship until after leaving the locks, when its removal is ordered by the canal pilot on board.

The pilots have been selected by Captain Rodman, and for three months he has been instructing and training them. Four of them are from the canals of the great lakes, men who have had experience taking the large ore ships through the Sault Ste. Marie canal. With these will be associated a number of picked men who are thoroughly familiar with conditions at the Panama canal.

At the Pacific entrance to the canal, Captain Rodman says, ships will find no tide interference whatever and an abundance of anchorage room.

When a vessel notifies the canal authorities in advance of its arrival as to what supplies are needed they will be put on board in the quickest possible time.

The law authorizing the furnishing of supplies to shipping at cost is interpreted here to include the making of repairs at cost, and this also will be done.

Captain Rodman graduated in 1880, and all except six years of his service since has been at sea. He has been around the world five times and has commanded ships in nearly every big port in the world. He was Rodman when Admiral Dewey sent to demand the surrender of the Spanish batteries on Corregidor island, outside of Manila bay, and later those at Subig bay.

## WELCOME GEESE.

An Unexpected and Badly Needed Feast in the Arctic.

Noah in his ark could not have been more delighted over the return of the dove than were the members of Einar Mikkelsen's party. In the desert of Greenland ice, with the sight of a flock of wild geese. In "Lost in the Arctic" Captain Mikkelsen tells of their need of food, of the fatigue of a long sledge journey and of his own illness. He had become so weak that he was obliged to ride on the sledge. Consequently their progress was very slow. We drive on between a lot of little islands or banks of glacial ice. Suddenly Iverson makes a snatch at the sledge, causing the dogs to halt in astonishment, and whispers eagerly, "Look, look! What's that?" He points to something that looks like a lot of round stones, and I can scarcely believe my eyes. It is a big flock of geese, sitting there sound asleep. They have not heard us. In a few seconds Iverson is on his way toward them. I, of course remain where I am on the sledge.

He takes aim, fires and the whole flock rises. Stop a minute! Isn't there one on the ground? I snatch up the glass. Not one, but two are left upon the field, and after following the shrieking flock a little way Iverson returns, beaming with joy, a big fat goose in either hand. We are delighted and drive off southward in the best of spirits. Iverson even stops every now and then to feel the splendid fat bodies of the birds, and we do nothing but talk of what a feast we are to have when they are cooked. The dogs are doing their best. Iverson marches at the rear of the sledge, singing at the top of his voice, and even I feel a little better.

## POLAR RESEARCH.

Arctic and Antarctic Problems That Still Remain Unsolved.

The era of pole hunting is now happily over, and the best result of Peary's and Amundsen's athletic feats in the north and south is that the really important problems of the circumpolar regions can henceforth be attacked with a single mind. From a scientific standpoint enough work remains to be done in these regions to last for several generations.

The antarctic has only been scratched, so to speak. Owing to the diverse scales used in school geographies the average man goes through life with badly warped ideas concerning the relative sizes of various parts of the earth's surface, and so probably few people realize that the antarctic continent is very much larger than Europe—in fact, about as large as Europe and Australia combined. Of this huge continent we do not know even the shape and location of the coast line, except for one long stretch south of Australia and a few widely scattered points elsewhere, while the whole interior, apart from a narrow wedge between Ross sea and the pole, is virtually blank on our maps.

In the arctic a patch of a million square miles is still absolutely untouched. So much for mere surface geography; but, of course, modern polar research includes a wide range of nongeographical problems pertaining to such diverse subjects as geology, glaciology, meteorology, terrestrial magnetism, seismology, oceanography, zoology, botany, physiology, ethnology and archaeology.—Review of Reviews.

### Sure to Return.

One morning a merchant whose goods did not very strongly substantiate his advertising claims put out a new sign. He was pleased to see that a great many people stopped to read it, but directly he was puzzled and angered to notice that they all went on laughing. There was nothing funny about the sign. It merely read:

If You Buy Here Once You Will Come Again.

The merchant went outside in a casual sort of way and glanced at his sign to see what was the matter. Some one, no doubt a former customer, had added another line. It now read:

If You Buy Here Once You Will Come Again To Bring It Back.

—Youth's Companion.

### Colored Glasses.

Wearign spectacles to protect the eyes from the glare of the sun is a very old custom. The natives of the far northern regions long ago invented spectacles of wood with a very narrow slit in the center to diminish as far as possible the continual glare of the long arctic day. It is said that the Emperor Nero, who was an albino and whose eyes were therefore very sensitive to light, used amethysts or emeralds to shield his eyes.

### His Preference.

"Good gracious," exclaimed a vicar as he met a village laborer wearily pulling a loaded wheelbarrow. "It would be much easier if you pushed it."

"Daresay," was the answer, "but I've sock of the very sight of it."—London Telegraph.

### His Weigh.

"What is the way of the transgressor?" asked the boob. "Fifteen ounces to the pound," replied the grouch.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### Well, It's Suspended.

"Pop, tell me one thing." "What is it, my son?" "Is a suspended sentence a hanging matter?"—Baltimore American.

A good-looking driver took away.—French Press.

## DIET AND COLOR.

What Man Eats Seems to Determine the Shade of His Skin.

What you eat determines your color, according to Bergfeld, a German investigator—not necessarily that you yourself could effect any change of color, but your ancestors for thousands of years have unconsciously been influenced by the food they have eaten and the drinks they have drunk.

For instance, the original men were black, says Bergfeld. Their chief diet was of vegetables and fruits, he explains, and these same foods contain nitrates that are not unlike iron. Dark browns and blacks result from this combination. It is a scientific fact that negroes who drink milk and eat meat are never as dark as those who eat only vegetables.

He goes on to add that the Indian is red because for hundreds and perhaps thousands of years he has taken into his system the haemoglobin or red material in the blood of animals which he has killed for their food.

Again, Mongols are yellow because they have descended from races that were fruit eating and who, making their way into the deepest nooks and widest plains of Asia, developed into shepherds and lived largely on milk. Of course it is known that milk contains a certain per cent of chlorine and has a decidedly bleaching effect. In the case of Caucasians they are said to have become white by adding salt to their foods, which common salt is a strong chloride and powerful in bleaching the skin.—Chicago Tribune.

## ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION.

How the Pulmotor is Used to Restore Normal Breathing.

The pulmotor is an automatic resuscitation appliance which produces a flow of inhaled and exhaled air by a single nozzle, the rhythm of respiration adjusting itself automatically to the dimensions of the lung, and thus the astonishing result is produced of a seemingly lifeless body beginning to breathe regularly as soon as the pulmotor is placed in connection with it. This pulmotor works directly on the respiratory organs and if the spark of life still exists will fan it into a flame and give the heart and lungs a chance to fight.

The pulmotor is used on persons overcome by gas, electric shock, apparently drowned or in other cases where the breathing of the patient has been seriously impaired or stopped entirely and where there still remains a slight heart action. Its motive power is an oxygen cylinder containing this gas, which will supply a 60 per cent mixture of air and oxygen to the patient for forty minutes. It has a great advantage over artificial respiration by hand in that it forces larger amounts of oxygenated air into the lungs than it is possible by ordinary methods of artificial respiration, and the work can be kept up longer.—Philadelphia Press.

### Land Tilled.

The department of agriculture estimates that there are 1,140,000,000 acres of tillable land in the United States and that only 27 per cent of this immense area is under cultivation. It might add that of the 27 per cent actually cultivated comparatively few acres are handled in such a way as to show anything like their maximum production.

Here is food for the pessimist. The man who fears that the country is nearing actual exhaustion may find cheer in the thought that little more than a quarter of the available agricultural land is being made productive. Supply inevitably meets demand, and as the demand for agricultural products increases the supply will be enlarged by the development of regions which have not been touched by the plow.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### Literal.

William Chase, the painter, is a teacher whose criticisms are awaited with some trepidation by his pupils. One "criticism day" Mr. Chase came to the canvas of a pretentious and vain young man, who was considering with obvious complacency a portrait which he had smeared thereon.

"It's coming out nicely," he told Mr. Chase.

Chase said not a word, but took turpentine bottle, paint knife and rag and worked industriously at the canvas until there was a clean surface there.

"Ah, yes," he remarked, "it's coming out nicely."—New York Post.

### Books.

God be thanked for books! They are the voices of the distant and the dead and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past ages. Books are the true levelers. They give to all who will faithfully use them the society, the spiritual presence, of the best and greatest of our race.—William Ellery Channing.

### A Monologue.

Tommy—Pop, what is the difference between a dialogue and a monologue? Tommy's Pop—When two women talk, my son, it's a dialogue; when a woman carries on a conversation with her husband it's a monologue.—Philadelphia Record.

### Do You See the Point?

Probably the man who gave circulation to the idea that there is always more room at the top had never seen a pyramid.—Woman's Home Companion.

### Ultra Modern.

"Midge Flitty is certainly an up to date girl." "Up to date! Heavens! She's up to everything!"—Boston Transcript.

A rat may find a province.—German Proverb.

## UNCLE SAM'S MEN EASY FOR SHARKS

Money Lenders Near Capitol Charge Excessive Interest.

### CLERKS ARE EXTRAVAGANT.

Aggregate Loans Estimated at \$500,000, and the Average Interest 150 Per Cent, or \$750,000—Laws of Congress Evaded by Money Lenders Moving Across Potomac to Virginia.

Washington.—Of all the shady interests which are carried on by government employees in every department the "loan shark" evil is said to be the worst. For years department heads and bureau chiefs have failed to stamp out the class of men who carry on the business among their associates of lending small sums at excessively large rates of interest.

In the office of the United States attorney for the District of Columbia are filed at the present time no less than fifty distinct charges of "loan sharking." The offenders including professional money lenders. In a preliminary statement recently given out Assistant District Attorney Given said that no less than 1,000 complaints of violation of the loan shark law have been received from persons who requested that their names be not made public.

A little over a year ago congress enacted a drastic law against "loan sharking." The interest rates which had formerly ranged from 50 per cent to 300 per cent a year, were cut to 1 per cent a month. For a time it was believed that the business in Washington was dead. Then the money lenders put their heads together and several of the professionals who maintained offices in the downtown section of the city tried the first evasion of the law.

It is about twelve city blocks from the western edge of the downtown district to the Virginia side of the Potomac river. Within fifteen feet of the high water mark on the Virginia side of the river two or three of the lenders built offices and hung out three balls. An interurban electric line gave easy access to and from the city. Signs giving notice of the change of location were displayed before their downtown Washington offices and several other shops bore signs of a change of residence to Alexandria, Va., five miles down the Potomac.

Thus by co-operation among the money lenders the entire professional "loan shark" business of Washington was moved to Virginia, with the exception of the "amateur" money lenders in the government departments. This, the police found, is the thing that the district attorney's office is determined to stamp out.

It is said that a negro messenger in the treasury department accumulated over \$50,000 during his thirty-five years of service through lending small sums at excessive rates of interest.

One of the money lenders established between his Washington office and his office on the Virginia shore a half hour automobile livery service for clients in downtown Washington, across Potomac park and the Highway bridge into Virginia. It proved too expensive, however.

Washington, filled with residents whose homes are elsewhere, has probably the most apathetic civic conscience in the world. Its population is nearly as cosmopolitan as that of Atlantic City, and there is a spirit of rivalry as to dress and "front" in the very municipal atmosphere. A man with a government position has a prestige in his home community that few other positions of employment confer. The incumbent thinks he must live up to it by aping the dress and manners of the idle rich. The messenger with a salary of \$200 or \$300 a year aims to dress like his superior, the clerk. He does not want the public to think he is a mere messenger. The clerk would be a division chief, and he aspires to dress the part. He goes the messenger one better by allowing himself to be drawn into the ultra atmosphere of petty social affairs in Washington, which rarely get him anywhere. The division chief likes to be mistaken for an assistant secretary. And thus the merry game goes on.

### HEARS LAST RITES BY PHONE.

Telephone Enables Dying Man to Attend Wife's Funeral.

Paterson, N. J. — Ex-Judge James Inglis, confined to his bed by pneumonia, heard by telephone the funeral services conducted over the body of his wife in the parlor below.

A bell-like transmitter was installed in the parlor, and wires led upstairs to the room where Judge Inglis lay. When the Rev. Davis Stewart Hamilton, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, began the service a receiver was lifted to Judge Inglis' ear and was kept there until the last word was spoken.

### Operate For Old Dog Bite.

New York.—Physicians have found it necessary to operate on Miss Ella E. Hobby for an infection of the left leg caused by a dog bite fourteen years ago. She has undergone twelve operations. It is believed the last will cure her, as two inches of the diseased bone were removed.

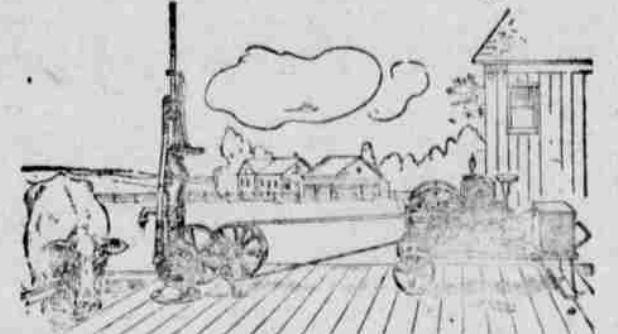
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