

The Tillamook Headlight.

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Which Route Shall It Be?

The bill providing for the construction of the Nicaragua canal will probably be taken up in the senate for consideration early in the coming session, it having passed the house at the last session. This measure provides that the president shall acquire from Costa Rica and Nicaragua for the United States control of such portion of territory now belonging to those countries as may be desirable and necessary on which to construct and defend a canal of such depth and capacity as will be sufficient for the movement of ships of the greatest tonnage and draft now in use from a point near Greytown, on the Caribbean sea, via Lake Nicaragua, to Brito, on the Pacific ocean. It further provides that when such territory shall have been secured the secretary of war shall be directed to excavate and construct a canal between the designated points, for which the bill appropriates the sum of \$140,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to complete the waterway.

Both the republican and democratic platforms call for the construction of an isthmian canal—the former not naming a route and the latter favoring the one designated in the bill before congress. There are many who think that it would be good policy, from a practical or financial standpoint, for the United States to enter into an arrangement with the Panama Canal company, which already has two-fifths of its project completed and is making steady though slow progress. Mr. Walter Schlecht, a member of the Isthmian Canal commission, has just returned from Central America and though he would say but little in regard to his investigations he conveyed the idea that the Panama route is not unworthy of consideration. He expressed the opinion that the Panama company will not finish its canal within a measurable period of time, because it is spending only a million a year on a one hundred million dollar enterprise, still he appears inclined to credit the company's estimate of the cost of completion, which is \$110,000,000, or \$30,000,000 less than the Hepburn bill appropriates. Besides this considerable saving in expenditure, Mr. Schlecht said that two years' time would be saved if the government should undertake the completion of the Panama project.

These are certainly important considerations, but how much influence, if any, they will have upon congress is altogether problematic. Much will depend upon the nature of the report which the canal commission will make and there is reason to expect that this will be favorable to the Nicaragua route. In his letter of acceptance President McKinley said: "A subject of immediate importance to our country is the completion of a great waterway of commerce between the Atlantic and the Pacific. The construction of a maritime canal is now more than ever indispensable to that intimate and ready communication between our eastern and western seaports demanded by the annexation of the Hawaiian islands and the expansion of our influence and trade in the Pacific. Our national policy more imperatively than ever calls for its completion and control by this government."

There probably would be no difficulty in acquiring from Costa Rica and Nicaragua the necessary territory, though it is possible those countries would require some modification of the proposition as to fortifications.

Congressman Tongue's letter shows the interest he is taking in Tillamook, and it also shows some difficulties which will have to be surmounted before the work of improving Tillamook bar is commenced. Captain Fisk's report, no doubt, has been instrumental in retarding the improvement of the bar, but when the actual conditions are intelligently placed before the river and harbor committee by Congressman Tongue we confidently believe that the objections raised by this report will be overcome. The improvement of Tillamook bar is asked for on the grounds that commerce and manufacturing industries are crippled on account of a dangerous bar. Let the government improve the bar and it will not take long to demonstrate that the commerce of the port justified the expenditure, as all will admit who have any idea of the immense quantity of timber there is to be manufactured and shipped from Tillamook to the markets of the world.

Some of the criticism of our policy in China, even in some of the papers that support the government in other respects, seem hardly fair. It is to the effect that we missed our opportunity. That when Secretary Hay sent out his open door note, he got in reply nothing that is binding on anybody. That then was the time when we ought to have proposed—and the proposition, the critics say, would have been accepted—an Anglo-American alliance, the moral effect of which, they further claim, would have been strong enough to have prevented

the subsequent Boxer troubles. This is a strange doctrine for an American and a republican. The critics must know that President McKinley alone could not form any such alliance. That it would require a two-thirds vote of the senate. And they seem to forget that the president's experience with the treaty of peace with Spain was not calculated to encourage him to try any more treaties affecting our relations in the Far East.

The admission of Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, that now the watchwords must be conservatism and moderation, is judicious. While the re-election of President McKinley is an unmistakable endorsement of the republican policies, both domestic and foreign, it must not be assumed to imply a popular desire for radical and aggressive measures not made necessary by existing conditions. While it gives authority to congress and the administration to go on in the performance of the duties and in fulfillment of the responsibilities assumed by the nation in its relations with the rest of the world, it invites nothing beyond this.

The clergyman in the little country town who has brought suit for damage against the gossips in his parish is decidedly business-like in his methods of getting square with those who seek to defame his character. Without saying that defendant or plaintiff in this specific case has the right of it, everyone feels an inclination to back up anybody who refuses to be a victim of heresy gossip or the sewing circle—or, to put it more forcibly, the school for scandal in some of our churches—that seems trivial and inoffensive, but which works often dire results. If this minister makes a good precedent in defensive tactics there will probably be others to follow his course.

General Barry, who has been with General Chaffee's army in China, pays the Japanese a high tribute in saying of their military development: "The Japanese army is as near perfection in administration, instruction and general efficiency as anything I have seen." And that army is to play a very important part during the next fifty years, if the oriental game is to call for armies. By the way, Japan was left to develop herself.

There is an impressive moral in the remark of the defaulting New York bank teller, caught in Boston, that a great load had been lifted from his mind by his arrest. A game such as he played is hardly worth the candle when it brings, after a very brief enjoyment of the loot, such mental suffering that lifelong disgrace and prison stripes are looked forward to with relief.

Hermann, with his senatorial bee in his bonnet, may be an attractive personage in Washington, but out in the woolly west there appears to be other welfect with senatorial bees in their bonnets, notably H. W. Corbett. We don't want to bet on the size of their respective bees, but if a man's pile is one of the necessary things to get into the senate than Hermann is not in it.

Speculators on Wall street estimate the profits of Rockefeller from the rise in stocks since the re-election of McKinley at 15,000,000. Mr. Rockefeller can afford to buy a Thanksgiving turkey for every man, woman and child employed by the Standard Oil company and still have a few dollars left for Christmas gifts.

The governor of North Carolina hasn't made any long-time observations to the governor of South Carolina of late. The wife of the present governor is a staunch prohibitionist and has turned the ball room of the executive mansion into headquarters of the W.C.T.U.

The number of sudden deaths occurring lately among ministers is worthy of passing note. Certainly none of the penalties pertaining to dissipation and high living that directly invite physical decay apply in their case. It is true most of them have hard work and comparatively poor pay, with the attendant overstrain and tire of the life struggle, but there seems to be no good reason why their orderly lives should not in a great measure counterbalance the mental and bodily stress. Notwithstanding all this the clergymen wear out comparatively early. For some reason not equally explainable with other brain workers there appears with them to be a marked proclivity toward apoplexy. Perhaps this is in part due to continuous and exacting mental drudgery along necessarily limited lines. But this was hardly the case with the Brooklyn pastor, who added to his other qualifications that of a well merited reputation for outside scientific research. Death in his case, as is common in some forms of apoplexy, came to him with startling suddenness. While preparing to make a call and standing in his doorway, he merely "straightened up and then slowly sank to the floor." Evidently a blood vessel of large size in the substance of the brain gave way and killed him as instantly as the bullet from a rifle. The preliminary spasm thus explained itself. There was no warning. In fact, as is often noted in similar instances, the man had previously said that he felt unusually well.

THE BAR NEEDS IMPROVEMENT.

It Ought to be Improved and it is Absolutely Essential for the Proper Development of Tillamook County that it Should be Improved, says Mr. Tongue.

In answer to a communication addressed to Congressman T. H. Tongue in regard to the contemplated improvement to Tillamook bar, we have received the following reply:

FRED C. BAKER, Esq. Hillsboro, Or., Nov. 15, 1900.
MY DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 12th instant in reference to the improvements upon Tillamook bar has just been received. After returning from Tillamook I had some conversation with an Oregonian reporter in which I stated the conditions existing at the bar, and also gave some description of the timber and dairy resources of the county. I am not sure whether this was published or not, but if so, it seems to have escaped your attention.

One of the difficulties in the way of the improvement is the report made by Captain Fisk some years ago, and a copy of which I think you have. You will remember that he reported in substance that the bar was perfectly safe for the entrance and departure of all vessels that could navigate inside of the bay, and that therefore it would be a useless expenditure of money to improve the bar. With this report standing it would be difficult to get any appropriation for its improvement. The first step, as I understand it, will be to obtain another survey. This will require a bill to be passed by Congress, directing and authorizing it. Either those who made the examination for Captain Fisk were mistaken, or conditions have very materially changed. There seems to be no question whatever that at present vessels could navigate the bay with safety much larger than those that cross the Bar. The Bar needs improvement. It ought to be improved. It is absolutely essential for the proper development of Tillamook county that it should be improved. My present plans are to endeavor first to attempt to secure a re-survey, and then attempt to secure the necessary appropriation, providing the survey and recommendation of the Engineering Department should be favorable. But upon reaching Washington City I shall confer with the Chief Engineers, with the Chairman and leading members of the River and Harbor Committee, and will adopt such steps as seem to be in harmony with their ideas and views, and that will excite the least opposition. The object is success. I can tell better what means to adopt, when upon full examination and consultation with those through whom it will be necessary to deal, I can ascertain what difficulties are likely to be met.

I certainly shall do everything in my power to secure at the earliest possible moment the necessary appropriation for the improvement. In the meantime I apprehend no difficulty in securing the necessary appropriation to complete the present project for the improvement inside the bay.

Truly and sincerely yours,
THOS. H. TONGUE.

Political Snapshots.

Senator Pittgrew of South Dakota also ran.

The result is an embarrassment of electoral votes.

Nature kindly tempered the wind for the unfortunate.

As a vote of confidence the returns are quite emphatic.

The full dinner pail is booked to stay four years more.

Senator Wellington of Maryland is a notable example of the man without a party.

Notwithstanding enthusiastic predictions, Missouri resolutely refused to get into the band wagon.

Democratic forecasters have ample time to repent their folly and get on speaking terms with truth.

Mr. Bryan may extract some consolation from the fact that his letter mail will be substantially reduced.

The Canadian administration, following the example of its neighbor, made a clean sweep in the election.

St. Louis is said to have reformed by taking its medicine straight. The republican triumph is not the only wonder of the election.

Kansas City republicans did not pay much attention to the presidential ticket, but hustled for the spoils and wiped every local office but two.

Chicago papers are hilariously happy They succeeded in defeating two machine candidates for office and crow lustily over their growing influence.

Mr. Bryan's "Second Battle" is the severest drubbing received by any presidential candidate since Horace Greeley was waylaid in the democratic camp.

Senator Carter appears to have his whiskers clipped in Montana. His pile could not approach that of Clark, consequently he lagged superfluous in the race.

Webster Davis is now at liberty to flock by himself and shed gobs of tears for the oppressed. His dramatic entry on the campaign stage is fittingly followed by a cheerless exit.

When the late William L. Strong was mayor of New York he was kicked and cuffed by politicians and organs. Now that he is dead they say he was the best mayor the city ever had. We do not know now what they will say of him since his firm is busted.

If all the sycophantic newspapers and bookheaded "leaders" who are now saying that "free silver did it" had plainly told Mr. Bryan and the national committee, as the World did, that free silver would do it, free silver would not have done it.—N.Y. World.

If Mr. Pettigrew, as seems likely, has come in sight of the end of his tether as a United States senator, it is not flattering to him that so many hundreds of thousands of Americans who never saw South Dakota regard his defeat as one of the blesseddest blessings the elections have vouchsafed.

Philosopher Dooley's remarks on the election are good reading, even after the

result is known: "Th' mornin' after illection, 't is Hinmissy to th' slag pile an' Dooley to th' beer pump an' Jawn D. Rockefeller to the il-can, an' th' ol' flag floatin' over all iv us if th' wind is good an' th' man in charge has got up in time to hist it. Foolish man, th' fun-rais don't stop fr' illection, or th' christenin' or th' weddin's. Be hivins, I think th' likes iv ye imagines this counthry is somethin' besides a hunk iv land occyiped by human bein's. Ye think it sort of an antimobill that'll run down unless ye charge it with ye'er partie'lar kind iv gas. Don't ye expect Hinmissy, that anny throop iv angels will dhrop fr'm hiven to chop ye'er wood on th' mornin' iv th' siventh iv November if Bryan is illected, an' don't ye lave Jawnny McKenna think that if Mack gets in he'll have to put a shtrip iv oil cloth on th' dure sill to keep pluthyerats fr'm shovin' threasury notes undher th' dure. No, sir; I used to think that was so—wanst, in th' days whin I pthronized a lothry. Now I know dif'rent."

Elasts From Ram's Horn.

A Bible is of little value till it is the worse for wear.

The power of a tear drop is in that it rises in the heart.

If you have religion by proxy you may have heaven in the same way.

The hypocrite says, "Leave my sins alone and chase those heretics."

There are some things you must both be and live before you can believe.

The artillery of skepticism often opens up new mines in the mountains of God.

When there is sunshine in the soul there will be flowers and fruit in the life.

A man is not a champion of truth because he howls at all who differ from him.

Only the man who can say, "All my springs are in Thee," can go through the dry and thirsty land.

It is a good deal easier to demonstrate that men may become monkeys than that monkeys have become men.

A Milwaukee brewer is planning to make Japan famous by establishing a beer factory in that country.

There has been some yellow pulpism this year as well as yellow journalism. But the compensation is in a tendency to prevent a yellow election.

The state legislature meets in January, and it is reasonable to suppose that for the next few months numerous bills will be prepared—good and bad—but very few to relieve the burdens of the taxpayers.

A Pennsylvania clergyman who has been criticized for attending the opening of a new brewery excuses himself by saying: "I did visit the brewery, because my wife wanted me to go." Adam, it will be remembered, said in somewhat similar circumstances: "She tempted me and I did eat." Evidently man has not yet got beyond the stage of shifting the blame whenever opportunity offers.

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