

The Scranton Tribune

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When space will permit, the Tribune is always glad to print short letters from its friends bearing on current topics, but it is its policy to accept no correspondence for publication, by the writer's real name, and the condition precedent to acceptance is that all contributions shall be subject to editorial revision.

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 11, 1900.

The experiment of lowering the arc lights in Scranton's streets so that the glare of the carbon block away will be continually in the eyes of the pedestrian is not meeting with public approval. This system, it is said, has met with protest in every city where it has been tried heretofore. For best results the arc light should be placed at an elevation that will enable one to observe the pavement a few feet ahead without having his vision impaired by the dazzling rays of the lamp upon the next corner. It is to be hoped that the electric light company will not continue the expensive alterations that will transform a public convenience into a nuisance.

Supplying an Army.

ANY PEISONS unfamiliar with war or with military operations have a very hard conception of the problem involved in conveying and supplying an army on a foreign campaign. Some facts mentioned incidentally in Secretary Root's recent report shed light upon this subject, and show that to send 10,000 men many miles by land and water into a strange country, as was done with the American part of the Pekin relief expedition, is no laughing matter. For example:

The supplies sent from this country and Manila to China, in addition to the ordinary supplies which the troops carried with them, included 4,666 horses; 2,708 mules; 622 large army wagons; 21 ambulances; 2,229 tons of oats; 4,886 tons of hay; 4,215,447 feet of lumber; 7 dishing plants, with capacity of 4,000 gallons per day; 30 sterilizers; 9,100 gallons of oil; 77 boilers for boiling water; 1,400 heating stoves with pipe; 556 ranges and ovens with utensils; 12 water wagons; 1,000 coffee and wash boilers; 83,600 pounds of horseshoes; 120,000 pounds of mule shoes; 20,500 pounds horseshoe nails, and a great variety of other articles for blacksmiths, wheelwrights, farmers, and carpenters' use; 16,000 wool blankets; 16,000 lined blankets; 14,000 warm caps; 40,000 cotton flannel drawers; 27,000 wool undershirts; 20,000 pairs of wool gloves; 18,000 overcoats; 12,000 campaign hats; 16,000 pairs of arctic over-shoes; 25,900 flannel shirts; 20,000 pairs of shoes; 20,500 pairs of trousers; 80,000 pairs of stockings; 1,363 conical wall and hospital tents in addition to the common tents, together with a great variety of other articles for clothing and camp use.

In addition to all this, the subsistence department shipped from the United States and Manila 19,894,629 pounds of subsistence stores; the medical department, in addition to the equipment of the hospital ship Relief and the regular medical attendance of the organizations, sent full equipment for a field hospital of 1,000 beds, with full medical supplies, and took the necessary steps for the establishment of an additional base hospital at Nagasaki. The signal corps provided all the material and personnel for the construction and operation of 235 miles of telegraph lines, together with the signal flags, heliograph, lanterns, telescopes, etc. For visual signaling services, engineer implements and materials were shipped from Manila, and the necessary reserve of equipment and arms, with an adequate equipment of rapid-fire guns, with ammunition, and with over 1,000,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition, were promptly provided for by the ordnance department. Then when the expedition got to Taku, the embarkment point on the Chinese coast, the gulf was so shallow that the transports had to anchor ten miles from shore and all of the men, animals, ordnance and supplies had to be carried to the landing in small boats, most of the time in a tempestuous sea.

Those were a few of the problems which had to be solved out of the hands by our war department last summer in addition to its difficulties in Porto Rico, Cuba, the United States proper, Alaska, Hawaii, and the Philippines.

The present session of congress gives promise of lowering the records in the way of rapid transaction of business.

The Eskimos.

IN THE ANNUAL report of the governor of Alaska attention is called to the necessity for legislation defining the legal status of the natives of that territory, who promise to endow the republic with a new race problem at no distant day. According to Governor Brady whole communities of Eskimos have abandoned the old way of living and have adopted the vocations of the white man. Then engage in the hardest kind of labor in the mines, logging camps and sawmills; they work upon wharves or as deck hands or coal passers on steamships, and a few even in mercantile pursuits. In no respect have they been a burden since American occupation of Alaska began. They aspire to citizenship, which will enable them to locate mining claims, take out licenses as steam engineers and pilots, and to compete with the white settlers who are crowding upon them. If they commit crime they find that they are held amenable to white man's law; they wish to enjoy the benefits also. Congressional action which will enable native Alaskans to become American citizens is strongly urged. Upon the subject of their merits the governor is enthusiastic. He says:

The Eskimos deserve our earnest solicitude and care. They stand the peers of any native stock upon the continent. Their clothing, their instruments for hunting and fishing, their kayaks

and large skin boats, and their houses all bear the stamp of a high order of intelligence. They are never given to trouble. We are never troubled by their immense dog teams, killing of the whales, the walrus, the seals, the caribou, and the fish; they digging up the sands and gravel beneath his impish harpoons on the shores of the sea. How can he get his pupus unless he is a citizen? In the name of justice, then, let them become citizens, so that they may at least have a legal opportunity to hold their own. Was ever a simple, hospitable people so threatened with extermination as these native Eskimos this summer? A deadly plague and a wild stampede of hungry and avaricious whites pouring upon their points and turned loose upon them by shipload after shipload, bringing with them the arts and accomplishments of Solomon and Gomerah.

Interesting Facts About Washington

TOMORROW 100 years will have passed since the United States government took formal possession of Washington as the national capital. A Washington correspondent cites a number of interesting facts.

Washington had a population of 3,000 in 1790, 8,208 in 1800, 13,474 in 1810; the census just completed showed it to have a population of 28,000 in 1900. In the first decade of the city's history, the government officials numbered fewer than 100. Now there are nearly 15,000, including the clerks in the various departments.

Washington is now five miles long by three miles wide. The District of Columbia contains about sixty square miles, and all of this territory is now being laid out with magnificent accuracy to comprise greater Washington. Georgetown, now a part of Washington, was laid out in 1791, its name Rock Creek from Washington proper. Georgetown university, the first educational institution of the capital, was founded by Bishop Carroll in 1795.

Canal Estimates.

THE REPORT of the latest transisthmian canal commission on the subject of the Nicaragua waterway presents some new data. Notable among these is its estimate of the cost, \$200,540,000, for a mean low-water width of 25 feet with a bottom width of 150 feet. This is the highest cost estimate yet put forward, but the commission figures that a deep and wide canal would be cheaper in the end than a smaller one which would eventually have to be enlarged. A width of 150 feet will allow all but the very largest ships to pass each other in the canal, while the locks are of a dimension to permit even the largest ships to be maneuvered.

The route advocated by the commission follows essentially the line laid down by the Nicaragua canal commission in its report of 1897-1899. It begins near Greytown on the Atlantic side, follows the San Juan river, enters Lake Nicaragua and terminates at Brito on the Pacific side. The distance from ocean to ocean is about 136 miles. Plans are given for the great harbors required at Greytown and Brito. The most difficult engineering work is the dam across the San Juan river to regulate the waters of the lake. The time required to build the canal hinges almost entirely on the time required for the construction of this dam. The commission says eight years would probably be a reasonable estimate for the time of building it. At least two years will be consumed in preparatory work and opening a harbor at Greytown, so that if work on the dam should be commenced immediately thereafter, the time required for completing the entire work will be about ten years. The cost estimate mentioned above can be reduced \$19,675,000 if a single instead of a double lock system shall be chosen; and \$16,849,000 further if the bottom shall be narrowed one-third, thus bringing the cost down to \$167,142,000.

The estimated cost of the Panama route is \$142,342,725, which is capable of reduction to \$135,841,215 by the use of single locks and a narrowed bottom. The Nicaragua route is favored because its distance is shorter, because it is more favorable to sailing vessels, because the country through which it passes is better adapted to development, because it is not complicated by grants to foreigners, and because, while a vessel could pass through the Panama canal in 12 hours while requiring 33 days to go through the Nicaragua canal, the distance from San Francisco to New York is 377 miles, to New Orleans 579 miles and to Liverpool 386 miles shorter by the Nicaragua than by the Panama route, more than making up the difference.

It has been argued that if the United States should construct the Nicaragua canal on terms not exactly satisfactory to some of the European powers they might secure control of the Panama route and construct a competitive canal. The commission naturally does not touch upon this point, but a good reply is available in the celebratory words of Secretary Richard Olney, written July 29, 1855: "Today the United States is practically sovereign on this continent, and its fiat is law upon the subjects to which it confines its interpositions." Its fiat to stop would make short work of any competitive scheme dictated by unfriendly powers.

Dr. Schaeffer advises that the million dollar state school appropriation, if restored, should be used for the "betterment of schools, and not for the reduction of local taxation or in the purchase of useless apparatus and showy appliances." The opinion as to what should not be done is proper, but Superintendent Schaeffer should be more specific as to the manner in which the fund could best be disposed of, if he desires his advice to have weight.

Estimating the cost of maintenance of a deep-water ship canal from the great lakes to tide water at \$2,000,000 a year, which is the estimate of the commission of experts that has just reported upon the subject; and allowing 4 per cent on the investment cost of \$250,000,000, we find that it would take a revenue of \$13,000,000 a year to make such a water-way self-sustaining.

ing. The whole freight traffic of the lakes, while growing rapidly, amounts to only \$10,000,000 a year. Could this proposed canal command a third of it? Not unless a new type of vessel, equally adapted to lake, canal, and ocean navigation, could be depended upon. It has yet to appear.

Announcement is made of the intention of a number of religious and humane societies to ask the legislature to sanction the submission to popular vote of another proposed prohibitory amendment. What is the use?

There seems no question as to the genuineness of the Anglo-Portuguese alliance.

Help Wanted—Female.

WANTED—FOUR SALESLADIES; MUST HAVE experience in Japanese goods; with city references. Address Shunjo Co., 124 Wyoming avenue, city.

Salesmen Wanted. SALESMEN WANTED TO SELL OUR GOODS by sample to wholesale and retail trade. We are the largest and only manufacturers in our line in the world. Liberal salary paid. Address, HANDEK Mfg. Co., Scranton, Pa.

Situations Wanted. SITUATION WANTED—MIDDLE-AGED widow as housekeeper in widower's family. Address M. J., General Delivery, city.

GENTLEMEN AND LADIES STOPPING AT hotels can have their laundry done by hand by an expert laundress, at reasonable prices, at city references. 528 Pleasant street, West Side.

SITUATION WANTED—BY A GOOD MAN, to drive grocery wagon or any kind of business; sober and industrious; 30 years old. Address, 1000 Chestnut, Scranton, Pa.

WANTED—WASHING BY THE DAY, OR TO take home, on Friday, the 25th day of December, 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m., by M. J. Kelly, E. A. Bartl, David M. Reilly, Michael Griffin and M. J. Sande, under the act of assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 29, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter of an intended corporation to be called the "Bellows Company," the character and object of which is mining coal and preparing the same for market and the buying and selling, shipping and transporting the same, and for those purposes to have, possess and control all the rights, benefits and privileges of the said act of assembly and its supplements. M. F. SANDO, Solicitor.

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The People's Exchange.

A POPULAR CLEARING HOUSE for the Benefit of All Who Have Houses to Rent, Real Estate or Other Property to Sell or Exchange, or Who Want Situations or Help—These Small Advertisements Cost One Cent a Word, Six Insertions for Five Cents. Free of Charge. Situations Wanted, Which Are Inserted Free.

Help Wanted—Female. WANTED—GOOD GIRL FOR GENERAL housework, Apply 1123 Luzerne street.

WANTED—FOUR SALESLADIES; MUST HAVE experience in Japanese goods; with city references. Address Shunjo Co., 124 Wyoming avenue, city.

Salesmen Wanted. SALESMEN WANTED TO SELL OUR GOODS by sample to wholesale and retail trade. We are the largest and only manufacturers in our line in the world. Liberal salary paid. Address, HANDEK Mfg. Co., Scranton, Pa.

Situations Wanted. SITUATION WANTED—MIDDLE-AGED widow as housekeeper in widower's family. Address M. J., General Delivery, city.

GENTLEMEN AND LADIES STOPPING AT hotels can have their laundry done by hand by an expert laundress, at reasonable prices, at city references. 528 Pleasant street, West Side.

SITUATION WANTED—BY A GOOD MAN, to drive grocery wagon or any kind of business; sober and industrious; 30 years old. Address, 1000 Chestnut, Scranton, Pa.

WANTED—WASHING BY THE DAY, OR TO take home, on Friday, the 25th day of December, 1900, at 10 o'clock a. m., by M. J. Kelly, E. A. Bartl, David M. Reilly, Michael Griffin and M. J. Sande, under the act of assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 29, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter of an intended corporation to be called the "Bellows Company," the character and object of which is mining coal and preparing the same for market and the buying and selling, shipping and transporting the same, and for those purposes to have, possess and control all the rights, benefits and privileges of the said act of assembly and its supplements. M. F. SANDO, Solicitor.

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