

# GATUN LAKE SOON READY FOR SHIPS

## With Last Gate Shut, Should Be 85 Feet Deep by Dec. 1.

### MOVE THE RAILROAD LINE.

Creation of the Lake, Which Should Be Seventy-one Feet Deep Before Oct. 1, the Elevation of the Railroad at Gorgona, Forces Abandonment of Tracks Through the Black Swamp.

The Canal Record, the official publication of the isthmian canal commission, in a late issue contains this account of the closing of the last of the great Gatun gates, which will bring Gatun lake to the operating level:

"Anticipating the schedule, the last gate of the three 8 by 18 foot sluices through the ogee of the Gatun spillway dam was closed at 10:40 a. m. on June 27, with the surface of the lake 48.25 feet above sea level. It is not expected to open the gates again, and the lake may be considered to be on its final rise to operating level. Under conditions of normal runoff, as determined by measurements recorded over the watershed for the past twenty-three years, the lake should reach eighty-five feet about Dec. 1, 1913. It should rise to seventy-one feet, the elevation of the railroad at Gorgona, about Oct. 1. At that height it would afford a twenty-one foot channel. The top of the dike at Gamboa, protecting Culebra cut from flooding through its north end, is 78.2 feet above sea level, but it is anticipated that the water will be let into the cut before the lake has reached that elevation, which it may do about Nov. 1.

**Dredging Gamboa Channel.**  
"The channel between Gatun and Gamboa has been completed since July, 1912, with the exception of about 800,000 cubic yards of gravel, washed into it by the Chagres river, which is to be removed by dredges. From Gatun to Bohio no excavation was required, except a small quantity at Pena Blanca. The surface of the ground was less than forty feet above sea level, and the full lake will afford depth enough for the ships. The channel needed only to be cleared of vegetation and marked with lights and buoys. From Pena Blanca to Tabernilla the excavation was mostly in cutting off the tops of peninsulas formed by the tortuous course of the Chagres. "The heavy work was from San Pablo to Gamboa. Total excavations in the Chagres district to date have amounted to 12,384,655 cubic yards. Including what remains to be done, the total excavation for the channel through Gatun lake is less than the excavation accomplished in Culebra cut every year since 1907.

**Birth of Gatun Lake.**  
"Gatun lake came into existence on April 25, 1910, when the west diversion at Gatun dam was closed and the flow from the Chagres and Trinidad rivers was forced through the spillway channel. The head of the spillway was ten feet above sea level, which caused the water to rise to a normal surface of fourteen feet above the sea. In times of flood the surface rose to about eighteen feet, inundating parts of the Panama railroad through the Black swamp.

"On Feb. 15, 1912, the relocated line of the railroad, between Gatun and Gamboa, was placed in use and immediately afterward the removal of the old line was begun. About the same time the sluice gates were closed and the lake was allowed to rise. It attained a maximum elevation of 59.3 feet on Nov. 30, 1912. At this height the water poured over a gap at fifty feet above sea level, in the uncompleted ogee, and, in order to allow the completion of the dam during the dry season, the sluice gates were opened in December. On Jan. 1, 1913, the surface of the lake was 48.3 feet above sea level, around which it has been maintained since, though the completion of the ogee to its elevation of sixty-nine feet was accomplished in April."

### THE GIRL WITH A PINK AURA.

Find Her, Says Dr. Beckwith, but Avoid the Yellowish Green. Picking "the right girl" is the easiest matter in the world if you hunt around until you find one who radiates a pink aura. It's a ten to one bet that that girl will fall on your neck and say "Yes," for the pink rays show she is all of affection. Dr. Edwin B. Beckwith gave this advice gratis to a crowd of lovelorn men who gathered to hear him lecture recently in Chicago. A yellowish green aura surrounds the girl you must avoid, volunteered the doctor. She has a spiteful temper. Spotting the aura is a difficult thing, admitted Dr. Beckwith. One has to be real sensitive.

**Milk \$5 a Gallon in Mexico.**  
The high cost of living at Guaymas, Sonora, due to the present campaign to open the California gulf port, is threatening a famine among its 10,000 inhabitants, according to advices from Nogales, Ariz. Milk sells for \$5 a gallon, firewood at 20 cents a stick. Railway communication north and south of the town is cut, and few boats are landing in the bay.

## Foster's Weather Bulletin

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WASHINGTON, D. C., July 26.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent July 29 to August 2, warm wave July 28 to August 1, cool wave July 31 to Aug. 4. Cool weather will prevail during the week; rains will fall in many places and the storm forces will be more than usually intense. But the public is getting accustomed to great storms and the newspapers do not give them much space. The killing of people and the destruction of millions of dollars in property by the weather forces does not occupy as much space in our newspapers as the same amount of destruction in Mexico by the forces of war. Great and destructive storms have occurred as predicted and we only regret that we can not make such forecasts more in detail.

Next disturbance will reach Pacific coast about August 2, cross Pacific slope by close of 3, great central valleys 4 to 6, eastern section 7. Warm wave will cross Pacific slope about August 2, great central valleys 4, eastern sections 6. Cool wave will cross Pacific slope about August 5, great central valleys 7, eastern sections 9. August storms will not be so severe as those of July but this storm will be of greater than usual force, particularly August 3, 4 and 5, about and before the storm wave reaches meridian 90. Rainfall will be generally short, particularly in the southern states. Our predictions of July rains proved good and greatly benefited corn and spring wheat. We expect a dry August to damage corn and cotton. Indications are that most of the August precipitation in great central valleys will occur during the weeks centering on Aug. 1 and 13 and in eastern sections during the weeks centering on August 1 and 19. Very warm weather is expected during the weeks centering on August 8 and 25.

Farmers and planters should not sell the new crops of grain and cotton till later. We hold that prices will go higher. Many combinations have operated against good prices and those who have interests in the new crops should not part with them while the crops are growing. These financial furies have kept prices of grain and cotton down but those influences have spent their force, have failed to cause a panic. Our country is on a solid basis, its future success assured. The effects of these financial furies will soon pass and a very large demand for all products of the soil and of manufacturing will prevail through 1914.

### JUDGE RYAN HOLDS SUNDAY BASEBALL UNLAWFUL

Justice Tomlinson's Judgment Affirmed by Court.

Question came before his honor on the appeal of William Rapp, who was fined four dollars and costs for playing Sunday base ball in Persimmon Park, Bristol township, Bucks county, Pa. Judge William C. Ryan, on July 8th, 1913, handed down an opinion in the Bristol Sunday base ball case, affirming the judgment of Justice Frederick C. Tomlinson, of Langhorne, in fining the base ball player who was arrested.

The question involved in the controversy was the lawfulness of playing base ball on Sunday. Judge Ryan's opinion holds that the playing of the game on Sunday is a violation of the Act of 1794, known as the Sunday law. Section 1 of the Act of 1794 reads: "That from and after the first day of August next, if any person shall do or perform any worldly employment or business whatsoever on the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday, works of necessity and charity only excepted, or shall use or practice any unlawful game, hunting, shooting, sport or diversion whatsoever, on the same day, and be convicted thereof, every such person so offending, shall for every offense forfeit and pay four dollars, to be levied by distress," etc.

The Court said: "The question of the Justice's jurisdiction here raised involves the construction of the words, 'or shall use

or practice any unlawful game, hunting, shooting, sport or diversion whatsoever on the same day." Do they constitute a prohibition of the playing of the game of base ball on Sunday? It is contended by the learned counsel for the exceptant that the word "unlawful" qualifies the words "hunting, shooting, sport or diversion," as well as "game," and that only such game, hunting, shooting, sport or diversion, as is unlawful at any time is within the meaning of the statute.

Such a construction would render the statute superfluous. Why prohibit by this act the practice upon Sunday of those things already prohibited altogether by some other statute? The word "unlawful" may not be well chosen and applied in this connection, but we cannot accept the construction contended for, as it would narrow the operation of the law within what the legislature evidently intended. It is the apparent purpose of this act to preserve the sanctity of the Sabbath. It embodies the idea of Sabbath observance that prevailed at the time of its enactment. The interpretation of the spirit and purpose of the Act of 1794 is declared in Johnston vs. The Commonwealth, 22 Pa. 102, by Woodward J. in the following explicit language: "Our fathers, who planted in our fundamental law the assertion of those immortal truths, that all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences, that no man can be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of public worship; and that no human authority can in any case whatever control or interfere with the rights of conscience; enacted, also, the statutes of 1795, 1786 and 1794, for the suppression of worldly employments on Sunday. So far from conflicting with those invaluable rights of conscience, they regarded such statutes as indispensable to secure them. It would be a small boon to the people of Pennsylvania to declare their indefeasible right to worship God according to the dictates of their consciences, amid the din and confusion of secular employments, and with desecrations on every hand of what they conscientiously believe to be hallowed time. These statutes were not designed to compel men to go to church, or to worship God in any manner inconsistent with personal preferences; but to compel a cessation of those employments which are calculated to interfere with the rights of those who choose to assemble for public worship. The day was set apart for a purpose, and the penal exactments guard it, but they leave every man free to use it for that purpose or not. If he wishes to use it for the purpose designed, the law protects him from the annoyance of others—if he does not, it restrains him from annoying those who do so use it.

"Thus the law, without oppressing anybody, becomes auxiliary to the rights of conscience. And there are other rights, intimately associated with the rights of conscience, which are worth preserving. The right to rear a family with a becoming regard to the institutions of Christianity, and without compelling them to witness hourly infractions of one of its fundamental laws—the right to enjoy the peace and good order of society and the increased securities of life and property which result from a decent observance of Sunday—the right of the poor to rest from labor, without diminution of wages, or loss of employment—the right of beasts of burden to repose one-seventh of their time from their unrequited toil—these are real and substantial interests, which the Legislature sought to secure by this enactment; and when has legislation aimed at higher objects? If we doubt the policy of the statute, it would nevertheless be our sworn duty to administer it faithfully; but with a profound conviction of its wisdom and value, we are resolutely opposed to a course of judicial construction, that would cheapen its demand and impair its power for good."

This view of the law is confirmed and emphasized by Chief Justice, in Commonwealth vs. Nesbit, 34 Penna., 403.

As long as this law remains upon the statute book unchanged, it will be the duty of the courts to enforce

it in the light of the Supreme Court's interpretation of its spirit and purpose. "Whilst, . . . this Act of Assembly remains unaltered by the Legislature, it is not to be frittered away by judicial legislation. Johnson vs. Commonwealth supra. The power to alter, amend or repeal it, rests with the Legislature alone.

We conclude that in this case the exceptant was charged with a violation of the Act of April 23, 1794, which charge was sustained by the evidence set forth in the record that the Justice had jurisdiction in the premises and that the record discloses no reversible error.

And now, to wit: July 8, 1913, all the exceptions to this record are dismissed and the judgment of the Justice is affirmed.

By the Court:  
WILLIAM C. RYAN,  
President Judge.

### PASSING OF THE TRAMP, PRINTER.

Linotypes removed a picturesque feature of printing office life—the tramp printer. Not to have known him is to have missed something of American newspaper life, something that has gone forever, leaving only the memory of a peculiar, highly individualized type, and a wealth of tradition that seems almost legendary to the printer's devils and cub reporters of to-day.

The tramp printer was a skilled craftsman, impelled by the wanderlust to roam throughout the length and breadth of the land. Restless, curious, unattached, and possessing more than average skill in his art, he could gratify his longing for constant change of scene with the tolerable assurance of finding work at his trade in any place of considerable size. Sometimes to be sure, he was disappointed in this, but he was resourceful, adventurous, and, above all, a wanderer on the face of the earth, so it frequently happened that he found occupation that carried him to the high seas and many lands.

Working as substitutes on the case only a few days in a place, as a rule, earning to pay their board and gratify their thirst for something besides travel, then suddenly going away by train or by "the ties" according to their means, they drifted about constantly and everywhere.

They came into the Union office in the old days like the wandering minstrels of the medieval courts, bringing strange tales of many places and of the manners and customs of many people. They came fresh from whaling voyages in Hudson's Bay, from the lumber camps of the northwest, from fighting Indians on the great plains. Often in tattered clothes, always of loose habits, yet generous, entertaining raconteurs, and withal good workmen, there was always a place for them in the shop, and they worked through the night, shook em quads on the composing stone in the morning, to see who should pay when the "places" opened, and in a few days walked cheerfully out of town, to return again in a year or two, with new tales of adventure.—Manchester (N. H.) Union.

### A MOSQUITO EATER.

The accidental importation of a large grasshopper from China in a consignment of plants gave the entomologist of the Mount Airy Nursery in Philadelphia a chance to experiment with an insect that is death to mosquitoes and is otherwise harmless.

This hopper is known as the Praying Mantis, on account of the way it folds its front legs, and the way those legs gather in mosquitoes in a caution.

These hoppers grow to five or six inches in length and they require several hundred mosquitoes for each meal. They reproduce in a remarkable manner. Each nest produces 300 hoppers in a season and the entomologists have 200 nests at work.

These grasshoppers are held to be more or less sacred in China, where it is believed to be unlucky to kill one, though the people put them in bowls and bet on the result of the battle that ensues.

If the hoppers spread as other imported insects have done we should soon be rid of our mosquitoes.

—The Citizen has the news.

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