

# HOW TO MAKE PANAMA PAY COST OF UPKEEP

(By Associated Press.)  
PITTSBURG, Dec. 12.—Addressing more than one thousand engineers at the annual dinner of the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, Major General George W. Goethals recommended the abrogation of the Taft agreement with the republic of Panama and the establishment of complete sovereignty over the canal zone by the United States. He also declared that the canal could be made to pay largely if it were allowed to engage in business other than that directly concerned with the transit of shipping.

"It appeals to me that we can accomplish much more than has already been done," said General Goethals, after he had detailed the profit accruing from the sale of coal and the provisioning of ships as now carried on by the canal zone government, "but we must go about it in the right way. We must first of all get rid of the Taft agreement and insist upon the complete sovereignty of the United States as long as the land is used for the purposes for which it was ceded to the United States. We must allow all materials

and supplies to enter the zone free of customs duties and encourage enterprise that will result in the building of great warehouses and show rooms for the storage and display of American goods. If these things are done and if we limit the administration to the interest of America and Americans, we will have done more to bring about better relations with the people of the Central and South American countries than anything else we might do."

General Goethals reviewed at length the question of canal tolls and declared that because of the system under which American and English vessels were rated as to their carrying capacity on which they are taxed for tolls, all the advantage was with English shipping as against American and it worked also to the disadvantage of the canal.

"Congress has failed to take action on a bill to bring about the necessary change," he continued. "And we are now losing 30 per cent and discriminating in favor of British shipping against our own. If the canal was once put on a proper tolls basis, we would soon begin to pay interest on our bonds."

# STATISTICS AS A GUIDE TO VALUES

A leading trade journal in a recent editorial commented upon the United States geological survey's "enviable reputation for accuracy and preciseness throughout all its different branches," but added that in maintaining this accuracy the survey had "in the past shown a tendency to ignore the necessity for promptness in placing its vast store of statistical data before the public."

The obvious difficulty of giving to the public statistical data that are accurate and yet not somewhat out of date has been met since 1910 by supplementing the complete detailed reports with the publication in the first week of January of preliminary estimates of mineral production for the year just ended. These new-year statements have now attained a degree of accuracy that not only meets the practical needs of most users of this information, but also robs the later complete reports of their news value.

Thus the survey's estimate of the gold output of Alaska for 1915, published January 1, 1916, was less than 1.2 per cent in excess of the final figures made public about four months later, and Alaska's exceptionally large yield of copper was estimated within 3 per cent. For the last two years the preliminary estimates of the coal output of the United States were only four-tenths of 1 per cent and 2.6 per cent in error; for the more erratic petroleum industry the estimates of marketed output published January 1 have been within one-half of 1 per cent and 5 per cent of the final figures; the preliminary estimates of cement were within three-tenths of 1 per cent and four-tenths of 1 per cent of the actual output. The survey geologist who made an estimate of the output of iron ore for 1914, in a statement issued January 1, 1915, "approximated" the final figures with an error of only 2.9 tons, and his preliminary figures for the output in 1915, published January 1, 1916, were within nine-tenths of 1 per cent of the complete final figures.

It is, of course, through the collection of detailed statistics from individual producers that the specialist is able to keep so closely in touch with his subject that his preliminary estimates have high value for approximate accuracy. Some advances have been made in the date of publication of the final statistical reports, but here the compiler encounters the difficulty of obtaining full and prompt co-operation from a very small minority of the producers, so that it is the last 1 or 2 per cent of the returns that cost the most time and effort. A gain of weeks in the date of publication of the statistics of some products might be made, but only at a sacrifice in the quality of the results. The standard of accuracy maintained by the man of scientific training shows itself in his aversion to round figures. The survey will continue to seek improvement in the promptness of issue of the final reports, but the public need for authoritative mineral statistics possessing full news value will be met by estimates published January 1 and at other times in the year. The survey's new-year and mid-year statements have already won a place in the public press because they furnish the business interests with impartial estimates of the rate of production of the raw materials and fuels that are so essential to the nation's industry and commerce.

## FRENCH CABINET WILL BE COMPLETED WEDNESDAY

(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, Dec. 12.—The premier has completed reconstruction of his cabinet and will announce the list tomorrow.

## NORWEGIAN SUNK

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, Dec. 12.—Lloyds announces that the Norwegian steamer Argder was sunk.

## SWEET CIDER ARRIVES

The Hall Liquor company has received a consignment of several barrels of choice sweet cider. It will be sold for 75 cents a gallon and delivered anywhere in the city. Orders should be placed early.

# HONORS ARE LAVISHED ON VON HINDENBURG

## EMPEROR WILLIAM SENDS COR. DIAL GREETINGS TO THE FIELD MARSHAL

(By Associated Press.)  
BERLIN (via Amsterdam and London), Dec. 12.—Emperor William has conferred upon Field Marshal von Hindenburg the grand cross of the iron cross with an autograph letter in which he said:

"My Dear Field Marshal: The Rumanian campaign, which with God's assistance, already has led to such brilliant successes, will be valued in the war history of all times as a bright example of the strategic art of genius. You have again conducted great operations with rare prudence as regards splendid arrangements, with the greatest energy in carrying them out, and you proposed to meet with far-seeing thoughtfulness measures which directed the way to separately marching columns for an united blow.

"To you and your well trained assistants of the general staff thanks from the fatherland are due. With proud joy and satisfaction it has learned the news of victory and with sure certainty, full of confidence in such leaders, looks into the future. But I desire to give especial expression of my deepest thanks by conferring upon you as the first of my generals the grand cross of the iron cross.

"Your grateful and always very affectionate king,

"WILHELM."

## PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED

The partnership existing between R. J. Meyer and C. R. Tempe, known as Meyer & Tempe Southern Hotel Bar, Rhyolite, Nev., has been dissolved since December 5, 1916. R. J. Meyer will pay all bills which were contracted by Meyer & Tempe and collect all bills which were at that time due Meyer & Tempe. D11-6t

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# ONLY ONE CHANGE IN CABINET PROBABLE AFTER MARCH FOURTH

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Every member of President Wilson's cabinet, with the possible exception of Attorney General Gregory, expects to remain in office after March 4. It was learned definitely that all of them have been asked to continue their posts.

Reports concerning possible resignations have centered chiefly around Secretaries McAdoo, Houston and Baker, and the attorney general. It has been taken for granted that Postmaster General Burleson and Secretaries Lansing, Daniels and Wilson would remain, and indefinite rumors that Secretary Redfield might wish to retire to private business were denied some time ago.

Secretary McAdoo personally denied that he had any intention of resigning. Regarding Mr. Houston, it became known that the officials of Washington university at St. Louis have extended his leave of absence as chancellor of that institution so that he can continue as head of the department of agriculture.

Although Secretary Baker has been credited with a desire to leave the cabinet, it is learned that in all likelihood he will remain. It is understood, however, that there is a possibility that he might be shifted to the department of justice if Mr. Gregory insists on resigning and that Vance McCormick, chairman of the Democratic national committee, may be placed in charge of the war department.

In the attorney general's case, the reports about his intention to resign have been very circumstantial and have been generally accepted as true by officials, although he has given no indication of his intentions. The

president has offered Mr. Gregory a seat on the supreme court once and should another vacancy occur it is likely he would renew the offer.

# HEROIN PLACED UNDER A BAN

## PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE DECLARES USE OF DRUG IS BANEFUL

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—To aid in counteracting an increasing use of heroin throughout the country, all physicians of the federal public health service have been ordered not to dispense the drug hereafter for any purpose and to return immediately to headquarters of the service here any quantities of it they may have on hand.

Experiments have shown that less dangerous agents possessed as powerful medical qualities and that the sooner physicians realize this the easier it will be to curb the constantly increasing number of habitual heroin users.

Surgeon General Blue says: "Heroin is a palliative in certain respiratory affections, serves no purpose which cannot be accomplished by other agencies fully as effectively and without the attendant possibility of grave disaster."

## PROMINENT MINING MAN IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Thomas Harney, one of the best known mining men and prospectors in Nevada, is seriously ill at his home in Reno and is not expected to live, according to reports. Mr. Harney has been suffering for some time.

James C. Harney, one of Elko's leading business men, a brother of the sick man, is at the bedside.

Thomas Harney is known to practically every mining man in the state. He traveled over Tonopah, Goldfield and other southern camps when they were in their infancy, and for some time was employed on the hill here. Mr. Harney was always held in high esteem.

Peace in Europe should not be impossible. Has not the Japanese ambassador at Washington entertained the labor delegates from California? —San Francisco Chronicle.

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Sixteen members of the grand jury have been constituted a sanitary committee for the purpose of inspecting the city and enforcing sanitary laws wherever any infraction is found. These jurors have subdivided the city so that every householder and every business man will be seen and the premises examined to compel the removal of garbage, waste material and to provide for the proper disinfecting of outhouses to remove elements of contagion from our midst. All offenders who do not clean up their premises by December 20th will be visited by these committees and, if the offense continues, the parties responsible will be summoned to appear to testify why they should not be indicted for maintaining a public nuisance.

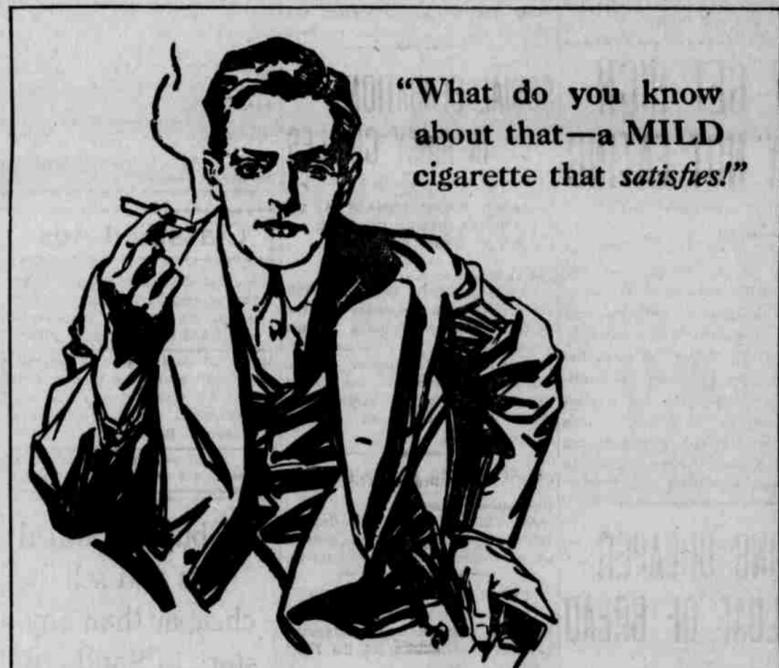
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