

# "PANAMA DITCH AND TEN SHIPS CAN BREAK THE RAILROAD GRIP ON THE PACIFIC COAST"

### Leader in Anti-Railroad Movement in First of Two Articles Written Especially for The Star Explains Details of Plan to Make People of Three States Dictators Instead of Victims of Rate Extortion.

Editor's Note.—Preliminary plans for the opening of the Panama canal. A movement has been started looking toward the opening of a "fast" freight route to pay between Pacific and Atlantic ports in competition with the transcontinental railroads. The originator of the plan and the leader of the movement is J. T. Flynn, an expert engineer who is now in the government service, who is a consulting engineer of the California Rivers and Harbors League.

BY J. T. FLYNN,  
Consulting Engineer, California Rivers and Harbors League.

The Panama canal is going to be finished pretty soon. There are a whole lot of us—a great deal too many of us—who are willing to consider that fact, or to suffer for ourselves this question: When we have spent about \$375,000,000 in digging that big ditch across the isthmus, what are we

which capacity he was recently successful in a campaign to recover the Oakland water front from railway monopoly through a bond issue for municipal docks. He is recognized on the Coast as an expert in matters of transportation.

At the request of this newspaper, Mr. Flynn has prepared two articles describing the present plan for breaking the railroad freight transportation monopoly through the opportunity offered by the opening of the Panama canal. The fact and figures which he presents are as interesting as they are startling.

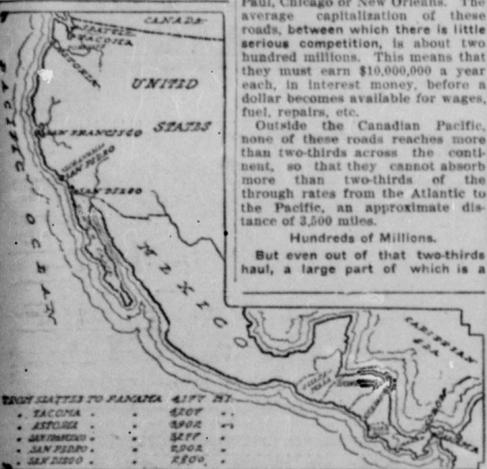


J. T. FLYNN.

hine big enough to dock the Lusitania. Out of the eight so-called transcontinental railroads, which touch the Pacific seaboard cities, there is really but one transcontinental line reaching from ocean to ocean. That is the Canadian Pacific. The others rely on connection with the Atlantic through other roads at St. Paul, Chicago or New Orleans. The average capitalization of these roads, between which there is little serious competition, is about two hundred millions. This means that they must earn \$10,000,000 a year each, in interest money, before a dollar becomes available for wages, fuel, repairs, etc.

Outside the Canadian Pacific, none of these roads reaches more than two-thirds across the continent, so that they cannot absorb more than two-thirds of the through rates from the Atlantic to the Pacific, an approximate distance of 3,500 miles.

Hundreds of Millions. But even out of that two-thirds haul, a large part of which is a



Map of Pacific Coast Line from British Columbia to Panama, Showing Location of U. S. Seaports and Distances to Panama Canal.

Common, ordinary, everyday folks going to get out of it? There is one great big answer to that question:

If we will, we can get relief from the exorbitant, unjust tribute we are yearly paying to the railroads that we may have food to eat, clothes to wear and houses to live in.

To be sure, such relief would probably cost us a million or so here and there, and through experience, we immediately ask ourselves, "What can a man with a million dollars do against a billion-dollar trust?"

The answer to that question would depend very largely upon the location of the man with the million.

If he happened to live in Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Arizona or New Mexico, and consequently away from the seaboard, and out of the Missouri or Mississippi river transportation zone, I should say he could do nothing but submit to railroad extortion, or build an air line.

Where Seattle Wins. But if he lived in any seaport city anywhere from Portland, Me., to Portland, Ore., he could take that million dollars and punch a hole in the transcontinental railroad com-

SEATTLE SUFFERS IN FIGHT OVER A BIG MAIL CONTRACT

BUSINESS MEN ARE RUSHING TELEGRAMS EAST ASKING FOR RELIEF.

The members of the Chamber of Commerce are very much wrought up over the proposition of the Great Northern to abandon the fast mail train from the East which comes from St. Paul to Seattle in two days.

Telegram after telegram has been sent to the senators and the high-ups in the postoffice service asking them to persuade the Great Northern officials to keep the train on the run.

The railroad company thinks that the government is not doing the right thing by it. In order to get a line on how much mail the train carries, the postoffice officials have started to weigh all the mail that comes through on it. By this they hope to find just what tonnage to allow the train on a four-year contract. The railroad men say that the mail is light now, and that the government men are only weighing that which is coming directly to Seattle and vicinity, and that if the tonnage for the four-year contract is taken from this average, they will only be paid for about a third of the mail carried. Rather than that they will take the train off the run, they say.

CHICAGO BLIZZARD COSTS FOUR LIVES

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The intense cold prevailing throughout the Middle West resulted in four deaths in this city last night, according to police reports today.

waste, or as yet, an unsettled territory, they manage to exact hundreds of millions of dollars annually in gross earnings, the burden falling to a great extent upon the producers and consumers of the western coast.

Coast Pays Bills. It is safe to say that the states of Washington, Oregon and California bear four-fifths of the entire cost of the operation of the Southern Pacific, the Union Pacific, the Santa Fe, the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific, and, in time, will bear that same proportion of cost of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, and the Western Pacific, which has just been completed to San Francisco.

And yet these are all seaport cities, with magnificent natural harbors, and, in most cases, with great navigable rivers reaching hundreds of miles into the interior, through which ocean freights might be delivered or collected.

The average railroad freight rate from the Atlantic to the Pacific is \$28 per ton, or three-fourths of 1 cent per ton per mile, on a basis of 3,500 miles. The average rail freight time between the two seaboard is 21 days, an average of about 175 miles per day.

The average steaming time of a modern freight ship is 230 miles per day of 24 hours, which, if figured on a basis of 6,000 miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific, through the Panama canal, would mean 18 days, or three days less than the average time of the railroad.

Now, what can a million dollars do? Out of the seven leading U. S. seaports on the Pacific, namely, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland (Astoria), San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles (San Pedro) and San Diego, three are connected with navigable rivers extending hundreds of miles into the interior through which ocean freights may be distributed, while the others have large seaboard territories tributary, which cannot be profitably touched by the great interoceanic carrier.

With these conditions beyond the power of railroad combination, there is nothing to prevent these cities from controlling the through transcontinental freight rate, except indifference.

Each Could Raise a Million. Few of these cities could raise or spare the two hundred millions it would require to build a transcontinental railroad, but the smallest of them could raise one million dollars with which a modern 10,000-ton ship could be built.

Eight of those ships, with the opening of the Panama canal, could not only exceed the speed of the freight train from the Atlantic to the Pacific, but could reduce the through rate from an average of \$25 to a maximum of \$6 per ton, including \$2 per ton tolls through the Panama canal, and still pay a dividend of 10 per cent on the investment.

DESIRABLE GIFTS FOR MEN AT EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICES

Gus Brown Always Right

Second at Yesler Where the Car Stops

# BOB HODGE HAS NOTHING TO CONCEAL

### Admits His Friendship for Romano, But Has Had Nothing to Do With Slot Machine Muddle.

"For the last time, I hope, I want to go on record as admitting my friendship for Jean Romano. Romano and I are friends in spite of the fact that I am sheriff of King county and that it appears that he has been operating slot machines in King county. If my acquaintance with Romano and my friendship for him is to be construed as a crime then I am a criminal and ready to suffer the penalty therefor."

This is the statement of Sheriff Robert T. Hodge in replying to the

latest charge of Prosecuting Attorney Vanderveer that Hodge went with Romano to Tacoma in an effort being made by Romano to secure permission to place slot machines in the saloons of small towns in Pierce county.

"I did go to Tacoma with Romano. I have been there three or four times with him. I have been to Portland with him and I took him down into California to drive his Buick Seattle automobile that he had been unlawfully taken away from Seattle. I don't know anyone in Seattle that I would sooner have for a traveling companion than Romano. Only once, however, did Romano ever accompany me to the sheriff's office in Tacoma. I had business with the sheriff and Romano had gone over with me. He went with me when I called on the sheriff and while we were there Sheriff Morris referred to an interview that George Vanderveer had had in the Post-Intelligencer regarding slot machines. We laughed about it and were discussing it when Prosecuting Attorney McMurray came in. He also took part in the conversation.

"The statement, however, that anything was said at any time in my presence regarding the operating of slot machines in Pierce county is a deliberate and malicious lie. Neither McMurray nor Sheriff Morris make any such charge. I don't believe either of these men would perjure himself for Mr.

Vanderveer or anyone else. Vanderveer is merely taking advantage of the fact that Romano and I are intimate friends. This I don't deny. If it came to a question of giving up Romano's friendship or the office of sheriff I'd give up the office. I've got a whole lot more respect for Jean Romano than I have for some of the ministers I know in this city."

Opinions and visits are more appreciated when not forced upon people.

# NATURE SHAPED SHOES



# NATURE SHAPED SHOES

The foot ailments of children will grow after they are grown up unless they are corrected by wearing the proper sort of Shoes.

We give most careful attention to the training of Children's Feet, and provide them with Shoes adapted to guide the growing foot along correct lines. Toeing in, weak ankles, falling arch, flat foot, all require special Shoes.

Our Prices Are the Lowest for the Best

We're experts at fitting these Nature Shaped Shoes.

# TURRELL'S

603 SECOND AV.

# MRS. MARY JOHNSON TO VANCOUVER, WN.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 30.—Mrs. Mary M. Johnson, alias Mrs. Hazel Peterson, called the "Queen of Fakers," will be brought from Pendleton, Ore., to Vancouver today, to stand trial on charges of obtaining money from the Northern Pacific Railway company by false pretenses.

According to officials of the Northern Pacific she was paid \$1,250 last spring by the company

for alleged injuries received while she was traveling on the Yacont branch.

# THERE WILL BE NO TELEGRAPH STRIKE

(By United Press.) CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 26.—It was announced today that the differences between the telegraphers employed on the Big Four railroad and the road's officials have been settled, and the proposed telegraphers' strike will not be called.

## Freiberg's SACRIFICE CLOSING OUT SALE

Is undoubtedly the greatest sale of the season, when this new stock must go, regardless of cost. Unfortunately I must leave on account of my health, and as soon as possible. That's the sole reason for this great reduction of Cloaks, Suits, Dresses, Capes, Skirts, Petticoats, Millinery, Furs, etc.

Only a few days left! Better come in tomorrow! Everything must go! Nothing reserved!

### EXAMINE THESE BARGAINS

<b>Millinery</b> Very Attractive Shapes and styles, and beautifully trimmed; values as high as \$12.50. Must go at ..... <b>\$1.98</b>	<b>Kid Gloves</b> Received too late for Xmas. All sizes and colors; serviceable and stylish. Values ..... <b>98c</b> \$1.75 values ..... <b>89c</b> \$1.50 values ..... <b>69c</b>
<b>Petticoats</b> Silk Petticoats, excellent qualities; former prices up to \$2.89. At ..... <b>\$2.89</b> \$2.50 Black Heather-bloom Petticoats, embroidered flounce ..... <b>69c</b>	<b>Waists</b> Fancy Net, Lace, Messaline and Taffeta Waists, very rich and tasty designs; values up to \$10.00. Must go for ..... <b>\$2.89</b>

### SACRIFICE OF HIGHEST GRADE SUITS

\$65.00 Tailored Suits, long coats; guaranteed Skinner's satin lining, newest effects ..... <b>\$21.89</b>
\$50.00 Suits, latest styles, long coats; Skinner's lining ..... <b>\$17.89</b>
\$39.00 Suits, serviceable fabrics, fashionable styles and colors ..... <b>\$14.89</b>
\$35.00 Suits in newest colors and materials. At ..... <b>\$10.89</b>
\$35.00 Cloaks in stylish fabrics. At ..... <b>\$7.89</b>

Other Attractive Values—Seeing is Believing

\$5,000.00 worth of Furs must be closed out at less than 2-3 off. Fox, Black Lynx, Jap Mink, and all fashionable Skins.

## Freiberg's Cloak & Suit House

1410 Second Ave. Between Pike and Union

# New Amberol Records by Slezak

Leo Slezak, the great tenor, now sings for you in the Edison Phonograph the same famous arias from the Grand Operas that the New York audiences pay \$5.00 a seat to hear. Just how great a singer Slezak is, is told in the following remark, quoted from the New York World the morning after a recent appearance of Slezak at the Metropolitan Opera House: "Caruso now has a rival."

Slezak has made ten records for the Edison, comprising the principal tenor songs from the more prominent roles of his repertoire—so that, while the New York opera goes for \$5.00 a seat to hear Slezak in one opera, with the Edison Phonograph and Amberol Records you get Slezak at his best in his ten best roles, including Otello, Lohengrin, Tannhauser, Rhadamès in Aida and Rodolfo in La Bohème.

Only on Amberol Records can you get a full length rendering of these great arias—and only on the Edison Phonograph do you get Amberol Records. Hear these great Slezak Records at any Edison dealer's today.

Edison Phonographs \$12.50 to \$20.00 Edison Amberol Records (play twice as long) \$1.50 Edison Standard Records . . . 35 Edison Grand Opera Records . . . 75 and 1.00

There are Edison dealers everywhere. Go to the nearest and hear the Edison Phonograph play both Edison Standard and Amberol Records. Get complete catalogue from your dealer or from us.

National Phonograph Co., 75 Lakeside Avenue, Orange, N. J.

Talking Machine. Headquarters. Killers Music Building.		Successors to D. S. Johnson Co. Third and University.
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## What GUS BROWN Says

OUR GREAT Stock-Reducing Sale 25% Off

During this exceptional sale we have exceptional values in SUITS and OVERCOATS that will interest you.

All \$12.50 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$9.35</b>
All \$15.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$11.25</b>
All \$18.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$13.50</b>
All \$20.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$15.00</b>
All \$22.50 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$16.85</b>
All \$25.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$18.75</b>
All \$27.50 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$20.60</b>
All \$30.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$22.50</b>
All \$32.50 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$24.35</b>
All \$35.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$26.25</b>
All \$40.00 Suits and Overcoats . . . . .	<b>\$30.00</b>

DESIRABLE GIFTS FOR MEN AT EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICES

## Gus Brown Always Right

Second at Yesler Where the Car Stops

## Good-Bye to 1909

With bargains for our patrons, we will wind up the old year. At the same time we wish to thank our patrons for their liberal patronage during 1909, and will endeavor to merit your good will with courteous and liberal treatment during 1910.

### Opportunities Here for New Year's Gifts

A few items mentioned for Thursday and Friday selling. Every department has reduced prices to close out the old year of 1909 with.

<b>Pictures</b> Are nice items for New Year Gifts, and you can choose from our line at Half Price.	<b>\$1.50 Kimonos</b> Long and short ones; flannelette material, rich patterns; now ..... <b>98c</b>	<b>Ladies' Collars</b> We have a very pretty line of Holiday Collars, each one in a box, and you can select a nice Gift at Just Half Price.
<b>Hosiery</b> Nice Gifts. 75c Cashmere Hose for ..... <b>50c</b>	<b>Boys' Clothing</b> All new Fall Suits, made with Blouse, Pants and Double-Breasted Coats. Prices, \$3.00 up to \$12.50. For New Year's Gifts, you can buy them at a saving of One-Fourth.	<b>Auto Scarfs</b> A splendid Gift and now you can buy at a saving of Just One-Fourth.
<b>Ladies' Gloves</b> 50c Cashmerette Gloves, black and colors, now ..... <b>25c</b>	<b>Ladies' Handkerchiefs</b> A woman always appreciates Handkerchiefs. We show a line of 15c goods now at ..... <b>10c</b>	\$2.25 Scarfs ..... <b>\$1.69</b> \$3.50 Scarfs now ..... <b>\$2.73</b>
<b>Ladies' Handkerchiefs</b> A woman always appreciates Handkerchiefs. We show a line of 15c goods now at ..... <b>10c</b>	35c value at ..... <b>25c</b> 50c value at ..... <b>35c</b>	\$1.00 White Spreads, full size for double bed, in a new line of Marseilles patterns, now ..... <b>69c</b> \$1.50 Colored Spreads, full size for double bed, with heavy knotted fringe, now ..... <b>\$1.19</b> 50c Bleached Sheets, 72x90, made from good grade soft finish muslin, now <b>39c</b> 50c Fancy Curtain Net, 50 inches wide, white and ecru, now, a yard ..... <b>35c</b> 25c Stenciled Scrim, cream and ecru grounds, now, a yard ..... <b>19c</b>
<b>Writing Paper</b> You can give a nice Gift by giving a Box of Writing Paper. We place all Holiday Box Paper on sale at Half Price.	<b>Half Price—Women's Suits</b> All our Suits are this Fall models. Coats are 42 to 50 inches long, lined with guaranteed satin. We guarantee you a perfect fit, and you can pick from them at Just Half Price.	\$1.50 Jet Necklaces, now ..... <b>\$1.00</b> \$1.50 Jet Hair Bandoaux, now ..... <b>\$1.00</b> 75c Black Elastic Belts, with jet studs, now ..... <b>50c</b> \$1.50 Belts, in black and colors, now ..... <b>\$1.00</b> \$3.00 American Lady Corsets, broken lines we are closing out; not all sizes in any one line, but all sizes in some lines, now ..... <b>\$1.58</b> 35c White Aprons, with ruffle or plain, nice for Gifts, now ..... <b>25c</b>
<b>One-Third Saved on All Wool Dress Goods</b> 75c Wool Serges, 36 inches wide, in all staple colors, now, a yard ..... <b>49c</b> \$1.00 Serges and Novelties in Wool, 46 inches wide, now, a yard ..... <b>69c</b> \$1.35 Dress Goods, in most all the new shades, now, a yard ..... <b>89c</b>	<b>One-Third Saved on All Wool Dress Goods</b> 75c Wool Serges, 36 inches wide, in all staple colors, now, a yard ..... <b>49c</b> \$1.00 Serges and Novelties in Wool, 46 inches wide, now, a yard ..... <b>69c</b> \$1.35 Dress Goods, in most all the new shades, now, a yard ..... <b>89c</b>	

### Shoe Store Reductions

\$1.00 Ladies' Crochet Slippers, all sizes ..... <b>50c</b>	\$3.50 Men's Congress Shoes, wide last; a shoe for comfort ..... <b>\$2.49</b>	\$1.50 Misses' Kid Shoes, solid leather, sizes 12 to 2 ..... <b>98c</b>
\$1.25 Child's Kid Shoes, sizes 5 and 6, to close ..... <b>79c</b>	\$1.00 Boys' Slippers, all sizes, to close ..... <b>50c</b>	\$1.75 Boys' Calf Leather Shoes, sizes 2½ to 5 ..... <b>\$1.29</b>

## MacPherson-Gray Co.

NEAR SECOND AV. 206-8-10 Pike Street NEAR SECOND AV.