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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Port Limon, Costa Rica (G. A.)

To Fortify the Panama Canal

President Taft sent to Congress a special message in which he reduced the administration's estimate for fortifying the Panama Canal from \$ 19,516,848 to \$ 12,475,323 and asked that \$ 5,000,000 be appropriated at this session to begin the work. The message was a plea for fortifications and was accompanied by a letter from Mr. Dickinson, Secretary for War, and a revised report of the Board of Army and Navy Engineers on the fortifications question.

It became known today that the many republicans who will join a majority of the democrats in opposing forts on the canal do not look upon Mr. Taft's recommendation in this matter as a party measure. They feel that they are perfectly free to take issue with the President in this particular with all their might and that it will not be held against them.

Representative Richard Barthold, of Missouri, the great universal peace advocate of the House, expressed this view today when he learned of the President's latest message. He announced his intention of voting against forts for the canal, and said:

"I do not believe the President regards this as an administration or party measure which should be supported by all the members of the party as a test of loyalty. As soon as we fortify the canal we place it upon a strength basis, and any nation that is stronger than the United States can destroy it at any time it chooses. I want to make it as safe as it is possible to do. Neutrality agreements with the great nations of the earth would make it as secure as our northern boundary, or the Suez Canal, which is surrounded by military powers".

MR. DICKINSON'S LETTER

Secretary Dickinson, in his letter, said of the proposed forts:—"They will free the fleet and permit it to follow its legitimate functions in seeking out and opposing the fleet of the enemy. They will preclude an effective bombardment of the locks and operating machinery. They will enable our fleet to be transferred from one ocean to another in the face of an opposing fleet. They will prevent the destruction or seizure of the canal by a raiding force of the enemy. They will enable the United States to carry out its guarantee of neutrality".

The Fortifications Board now recommends for defense of the canal against naval attack, eight 14-inch rifles, twelve 6-inch rifles and twenty-four 12-inch mortars. This is less than the original recommendation by two 14-inch rifles and four 12-inch mortars. The proposed emplacement at Batele Point, where these guns were to be used, has been abandoned in order to reduce the estimates at the request of the President.

The construction of permanent field works for the defense of the canal and the fortifications against land attack by raiding parties is also recommended. The Board believes that these should be completed by the time the canal is opened.

A permanent garrison is recommended for the canal zone, to be composed in time of peace of twelve companies of coast art-

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 January 15th

Current News.

... four regiments of infantry one squadron of cavalry. This is to be assigned in time of war by detachments from the United States whenever necessary.

A POST FOR ARTILLERY

A post for the coast artillery is recommended for the vicinity of Buleba on Naos Peño and Flamenco Islands, and a post for the infantry, artillery and cavalry on the high sloping ground east of the canal between Empire and Culebra.

The estimates include \$ 4,031,500 for the emplacement of the defenses, \$ 1,966,000 for guns and carriages, \$ 1,181,188 for ammunition, \$ 204,000 for searchlights, \$ 2,814,000 for the permanent post of the land forces.

"The canal when completed", said the President in his message, "will afford the only convenient route for water communication between our Atlantic and Pacific coasts and virtually will be a part of the coast line of the United States. Its assured possession and control will contribute to our peace safety and prosperity as a nation.

"In my judgment it is the right and the duty of the United States to fortify and make capable of defense the work that will bear so vital a relation to its welfare and that is being created solely by it and at an expenditure of enormous sums.

"I have authorized the submission to the Secretary of the Treasury of the revised estimate for the appropriation referred to in the accompanying letter of the Secretary of War, which estimate is less than the original estimate by approximately one-third."

PERILOUS TIMES

Perilous times in the world are at hand, people by water and perils by land. Perils in "disasters" and perils in state. Perils attending the world and the great.

Watchman, how restless times touching this hour! Fearful corruption in places of power. Ministers, princes and kings in disarray. Tragic unfoldings, the news of the day.

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 General \$ 200 Entowment Policy, Special \$ 500. It's a cure for you a sick benefit a funeral claim of not less than \$ 500 paid coupled with a death policy of \$ 500 from the National Grand Lodge in the U. S. If you die, we will pay you a Temple in each of the principal Centers. Do not fail to investigate. For further particulars address:
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 Box 200—Limon, C. R.

Undersized Geniuses

Physical peculiarities of some men of great mental ability.

There are people who contend that genius is generally situated in the persons of men of few inches. Some have gone so far as to declare that great height and genius are incompatible.

Lombroso was perhaps the chief exponent of these views. Says the *British and Hygienic Gazette*, that other men of note have been in accord with such opinions.

In support of this argument Napoleon the First, Alexander the Great, Edgar Allan Poe, Alexander Burg, Nelson and Blake have been cited. The list of men of undoubted genius who have been short of stature, some indeed almost dwarfs, is long.

It is also a noteworthy truth that many of the really great men have been not only small but deformed. For instance, Julius Caesar, who may be classed among the short men, was an epileptic. Napoleon suffered from epilepsy; Alexander the Great, and Edgar Allan Poe were dipsomaniacs. Pope was grievously misshapen.

Byron, although about of average height, was congenitally lame. Nelson was a small man of first height, and it would be possible to tabulate among men of genius of the first rank a large number who were under the average stature and afflicted with bodily defects.

The *Popular Science Monthly* Charles Kassel attempts to overthrow the popular belief that great minds and short stature are closely allied. Mr. Kassel looked through biographies and concluded as a result of his general that so far as Americans are concerned distinguished men are not but concentrated distinguished men are not but short stature, but rather the reverse. He also discovered that many European eminent men have been of considerable height.

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Of the lives of 230 distinguished men examined thus, those of 103 subjected the information sought either in exact figures or by way of general statement, and of these percentages appears that sixteen were of middle height (five feet eight above and twenty nine below).

Among the very distinguished men of this country were some of large stature, such as Grant, Sherman, Lee, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson and Andrew Jackson—naturally over 6 feet in height. Among those of 6 feet and over may be mentioned Samuel Adams, George Washington, Lincoln, Henry March, Thackeray, Charles Darwin, Henry Ward Beecher, Rufus Choate and Daniel O'Connell. The list of famous men of medium height is long, including Browning and John Adams.

An interesting and somewhat curious fact is that some of the tall men of genius have had moderate sized heads. Shelley's head was tall but had a small head and some of the small men imbued with the divine spark had large heads, apparently growing out of the brains and had little to do with the quality of the brain.

Of recent dates among men of genius Tolstoy was a tall, strongly built man with a lionine head, Meredith was a thin, delicate looking man of more than medium height, Swinburne was a very short man with a somewhat large head and Whistler was a small, thin man with a head more than the ordinary size.

ness, the popular American tailor of this city. Deceased, had been ailing for some time and despite all medical aid she expired on Saturday morning last. Deceased was a native of Jamaica and resided a long time in this republic. The funeral took place in the evening at 4 o'clock and was well attended by many friends and acquaintances. To her sister Mrs. McGuinness we tender our sincere condolences.

One Better

The town was alive with excitement on Friday afternoon last when it was rumored that Littlejohn, one of the men under arrest in connection with the Railway robbery had escaped. It transpired that Littlejohn asked permission to visit his residence which is situated near the Baptist Mission, in company with a policeman he reached his room and very obligingly gave the policeman a chair on the veranda outside, while he entered the room. After waiting a reasonable time the policeman went to the door and called the man out, receiving no reply he entered to find the bird had flown through the rear door without leaving any trace behind, as he was bound to return to the Cuartel with a prisoner he seized the servant girl, a child of about 14 years old and carried her to the lock up. She was however released later in the evening.

Bubonic plague ravaging China

The ravages of bubonic plague in China not only Manchuria where it has been raging for some time, but in and around the great city of Peking, where it has more lately broken out with extreme violence, are matters of exceeding interest in the United States, because of the constant communication between the infested countries and Japan and the Philippines, with which our Pacific Coast ports have frequent and regular steamship connection.

The Chinese hold their dead in such peculiar reverence that it is next to impossible to force them to any rules of sanitary precaution and prudence, and for that reason the spread of the disease is almost beyond control.

It should be remembered that there was a very serious outbreak of this dreaded disease in San Francisco and other Pacific Coast cities in 1906, and although the situation was placed in the hands of the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, and was treated with great activity and ability and untiring zeal, it was not prevailed several years, and there were a few cases in the country as late as 1910.

Bubonic plague is propagated by a particular flea that infests rats, and these are transported in every ship that lands. The fountain principle of a war against plague is in making a war of extermination on rats. This is a matter of the very first importance in all seaports.

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 P. O. B. 197 Port Limon

People who are canvassing in my name will be prosecuted.
 Jan 25th 1m

A misapprehension

The young man leading a dog by a string lounded up to the ticket office of a railway station and inquired: "Must I—a—take a ticket for a puppy?"
 "No; you can travel as an ordinary passenger," was the reply.

A good female cook
 with references, American trained, desires occupation. Apply to this office.

CIRCULAR FROM U. T. REID

THE MARKET STORE
 I beg through this medium to advise all my Customers whose accounts are over sixty days (60 days) old to make settlement within thirty days (30 days) from date of writing, which I shall without hesitation publish their Names and amount due, as a safeguard against their getting me of more than they pay.
 U. T. REID
 Limon 4th January 1911 1m

OBITUARY

It is with regret we record the death of Miss Julia Tomlinson, late sister-in-law of Mr. McGuinness.

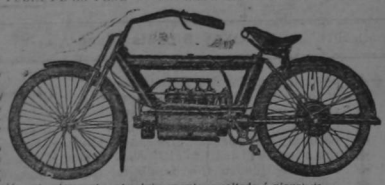


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Florida Ice & Farm Co. C. VANDER LINDO President P. O. Box 170.

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