

# THE CORDOVA DAILY TIMES

GREATER CORDOVA'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

H. G. STEEL, C. H. WILCOX, C. H. SCHEFFLER, Publishers

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CORDOVA, ALASKA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1914.

## PANAMA GOVERNMENT-OWNED ROAD CHARGES THE LIMIT

None of us quite realize what the Panama canal means. Even now over 10,000 tons of freight are daily passing through it. In the past three months it has hauled nearly as much freight as the Panama railroad did during the past two years.

By the way, the government while making things as uncomfortable as possible for the struggling railroads in the states and even goes so far in Alaska to levy a federal tax of \$100 a mile for each mile road operated, permits the Panama road, which it owns, to charge any fares and freights that it pleases. The result is that the charges are about 60 per cent higher on the government-owned road than are permitted, under ordinary circumstances, by the Interstate Commerce Commission. But the business of the canal is the wonderful thing. What will it be when the trade of the world assume normal conditions and the great commercial nations resume their competition.

## SANTA CLAUS' VISITED EXPECTED; MUST BE SURE TO COME

It begins to look as though old Santy would have to discard his reindeers and bring his gifts in an automobile this year. However, there still remains a couple of days time for the snow, although the indications are not very favorable for a fall of the "beautiful."

Of course he may have decided on account of the expense to send by parcel post. We only mention these things to show how conditions have changed since he first began his Christmas trips. But the youngsters have not changed; what they want are the goodie goodies, and think of their chatter. From Maine to California, "following the sun and keeping company with the hours," and filling all the air above a continent with sunrise sweeter than the love songs of the mating birds. Nothing else like it, nothing half so harmonizing and sweet, nothing else so spoken to soften care-hardened hearts.

There must be no mistake by reindeer, by auto or any other mode of delivery; there must be no mistake for in this sad year the world needs the carols, the joyous laughter, and the chatter.

## ATTEMPT TO BLOCK RAILROAD LEGISLATION WILL BE SWEEPED ASIDE

Just as we are on the eve of expecting big things from the construction of a government trunk line announcement is made that Congressman Langley, of Kentucky, will introduce a bill at this session of Congress to repeal the Alaska railroad act. As he was always opposed to Uncle Sam doing anything worth while for Alaska, and is a Republican of the old school, it is not probable that his bill will get very far. The present administration does not propose to brook any interference with its plans for Alaska, although this move of Langley's is likely but one of a series of moves which are likely to be made to delay or obstruct the building of our road. But as President Wilson and Secretary Lane have two more years in power it is a safe bet that nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of providing this territory with a system of railroads which will connect the coast with the interior, provide cheaper transportation and thus materially assist in the development of the resources of the country.

## WE HAVE GOOD OCCASION TO INDULGE A LITTLE BRAG

The United States is bound to be neutral in regard to the European war, but we think the men of the United States may well take pride in their country as they watch the sinister spectacle beyond the sea.

Great Britain affects to deplore the war and insists that she was forced into it by Germany's invasion of Belgium, which is true, for with Belgium in German hands England would not for a moment be safe.

But Germany scoffingly retorts: "How did England become possessed of India and Egypt, or what grievance caused France to seize Cochin China and Madagascar, or what has restrained Russia in her conquests, or why did Russia and England seize and partition Persia?"

When they talk all ask why the United States made war on Spain and seized Cuba and the Philippines, they are stopped at the very threshold, for the war was made in mercy to stop hideous cruelties and robberies; Cuba was surrendered back to her own people after the island had been disinfected, order restored, law established and schools inaugurated and we are impatiently waiting for the people of the Philippines to gain the wisdom to govern themselves.

Our free institutions are not yet perfect because from the first, society has been in a formation state; into our midst is annually poured a flood of foreigners many of whom have not yet learned to distinguish between liberty under the law and rude license; but these defects are being righted. Some men may be politically free but are still enslaved by the ignorance, prejudices, unfair longings and the sinister and dark passions in their own souls, and too many of these seek our shores, but the light of our flag is advancing, the hearts of our people are broader, fairer, truer than can be found anywhere else in the old world. It is a comfort to believe that after a while ours will become the arbiter among nations.

Napoleon said: "Men are nothing, a man is everything."

That was true in carrying out his imperial ideas, it is often still true in a crisis, but when under the light of free institutions all men shall advance until all shall feel a direct personal interest in the nation's welfare; then men will be everything and the brightest will be-but agents to carry out the will of the whole. Our country is growing toward that consummation faster than any other and the dawn of a new day for mankind is already sending up its first beams of light.

The disappearance of land said to have been discovered in the Arctic regions by Rear Admiral Peary will let Dr. Cook add another count to the indictment.

The hobble skirt has to go. The joy which men find in that bit of news is held in abeyance by the fear that the worst is yet to come.

### Cordova Abreast of the Times

The Paoco theatre at Skagway advertises that it is the only show shop in Alaska with raised seats, which is incorrect. The Empress theatre at Cordova has not only "raised" seats, but inverted lights and all the other accoutrements that go to make a first-class temple of amusement.

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 Augustine & Keyer Candles, special Holiday assortment, at  
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