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LIPTON'S TEA

STORY OF PANAMA CANAL

WHERE \$250,000,000 HAVE BEEN THROWN AWAY.

Bad Management by the De Lesseps Company Ruined Thousands of People.

"A Colossal Error of Judgment, America Follows De Lesseps' Lead and Wastes Millions." These headlines in large type appeared in an American journal, when it was announced recently that the estimated cost of completing the Panama Canal must be increased to \$375,000,000—nearly double the amount of the original estimate upon which the United States Congress authorized the carrying on of the work five years ago. The accusations contained in the headlines quoted are scarcely justified, however, for although American experts, like the unfortunate De Lesseps, have woefully underestimated the cost of completing this great work, little money has been wasted.

Indeed, amazing progress has been made, as may be gathered from the fact that while the French excavated 800,000,000 cubic yards between 1881 and 1904 at what is known as the Culebra Cut—that is, through the great Culebra Mountain—the Americans, from May, 1904, to June, 1909, have excavated nearly 37,000,000 cubic yards.

THE "FUMIGATING BRIGADE." As a matter of fact, the American cut was practically made in two years and six months, because for the first two and a half years the Americans did little excavation, but devoted themselves to the work of sanitation and preparation. One of the chief causes of the downfall of De Lesseps' scheme was due to the fact that he overlooked the climatic conditions at the Isthmus of Panama, which, prior to 1904, were such that they meant certain death to 80 per cent. of the white men who ventured to live and work for any length of time in the surrounding country. The dreaded mosquito, which carried the germs of malaria and yellow fever from victim to victim, was there in abundance, but the Americans have changed all that. Their "fumigating brigade" marched through the towns, destroying all larvae found in water tanks and other vessels, and poured gallons of disinfectant into all stagnant water breeding-places. And now they boast that there is not a mosquito left in the canal zone.

Altogether there are 30,000 men at work on the canal, and two years ago it was estimated by the American experts that the canal would be completed in six years at an entire cost to the States of \$200,000,000. Apparently that cost is to be doubled, at least, and it is interesting to note the different opinions as to when the canal will be finished, for while Colonel Goethals, the U. S. A. Government engineer, estimated, early in 1908, that ships would be passing through the channel on January 1st, 1915, President Taft thought that the work would be finished within four years. But whatever time it takes, and whatever money the canal swallows up, America recognizes that it will be repaid a hundredfold when the work is complete.

ITS GREAT VALUE.

One illustration of the value of the canal will, perhaps, suffice. When, some time ago the United States Navy sailed from New York to San Francisco the vessels were obliged to go round South America and travel 14,000 miles. If the Panama Canal had been cut, the fleet would have saved nearly 8,000 miles on the single journey, escaped all the hazards of the stormy voyage round South America, and have saved thousands of tons of coal.

The total length of the Panama Canal is fifty miles, and supposing that the \$375,000,000 which it is now estimated America will spend in completing the work is not exceeded, the cost per mile, including the \$400,000,000 spent by the French, will have exceeded \$15,000,000, and twenty-nine years ago De Lesseps estimated its cost at \$120,000,000!

APPALLING WASTE.

It was in 1880 that the great Frenchman floated the first company that was to cut the canal and run it as a commercial concern. It was to be opened within eight years at a cost of \$120,000,000. A prospectus was issued, and the French public rushed wildly for the shares. The capital was applied for nearly four times over. Little did those investors think in 1880 that they were never again to see a penny of their money. A painful feature of the ultimate tragedy was that 16,000 of the original applicants for shares were women.

Fresh capital was raised from time to time until nearly \$400,000,000 had been spent; and then the bubble burst. The company went into liquidation, and not one quarter of the canal had been cut. It is estimated that only one-third of those four hundred millions was spent on the actual work, the remainder being wasted; and when, ultimately, a survey was made, amazing illustrations of the waste were provided. One hundred and twenty locomotives, for instance, were found rusting in sheds. A fleet of tug-boats were found rotting at the canal mouth, while machinery and apparatus that had cost millions of dollars were left to rot in the swamps and forests.

There were hundreds of dredges brought from France and Belgium at a cost of \$15,000 each, enormous steam cranes from Birmingham worth \$5,000 each, wagons, thousands of steel rails, heaps of railway tools and steel cables—abandoned and buried in dirt and rust. Machinery which had cost \$35,000,000 was strewn along the line of the canal for a distance of about forty miles. Ten steam pumps and reservoirs, which had cost not less than \$50,000, were lying in a heap just as they had been dumped from the cars, the crating not even having been removed; while at a place near Almazilla, eleven miles from Panama, there was a pile of rusted rails, which had never been used, which could not have been bought under \$50,000.

THE FINAL ACT.

Many readers are doubtless acquainted with the final act of that great tragedy; how, in 1903, De Lesseps was sentenced to five years' imprisonment for breach of trust; his son receiving a similar sentence. Some time before the trial, however, De Lesseps sank into a state of stupor and semi-insensibility, from which he was only aroused by a visit from his son after sentence had been pronounced on the latter and he was on his way to prison.

It was impossible to carry out the sentence in regard to the elder De Lesseps, and consequently it was quashed. General feeling when the old man died on December 7th in the year of the trial was one of pity rather than anger. So sure had he been of success that he had sunk the whole of his wife's fortune and his own in the canal, which had swallowed up the millions of other people, and it was recognized that his confidence in his ability to carry out the scheme had made him blind to the means by which the capital was obtained.—London Tit-Bits.

POLICE DOGS FOR GERMANY.

Sheep Dogs and Airedale Terriers Found Best.

To equip a breeding and training establishment for police dogs the new Prussian budget makes a first appropriation of \$6,750. The German opinion is that the most easily educated and the most suitable dogs for police work are the German native sheep dog and the English Airedale terrier.

One of the largest and most powerful breeds, and a national dog of Germany the Great Dane or German boar-hound, has been tried, but without success. It is deficient in scenting abilities, and as it is excitable it is liable to get out of hand, and because of its size and strength become more dangerous than useful.

The training of police dogs is thoroughly carried out in Germany. The German police officer is supplied with a form in which to record particulars of the tracking work done by his charge.

PLAYGROUNDS OF CANADA THEY DO LIVE IN LUXURY

EIGHT GREAT PARKS HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE.

One Thousand Buffaloes and Elks, Caribou, Moose and Antelope.

The Dominion Government has set aside eight national parks or playgrounds in the west. The oldest is the famous one at Banff, where the C.P.R. has maintained a hotel for nearly 20 years. The others are the Yoho and Glacier in British Columbia, Jasper and Banff in Alberta, and Elk Island Park on the main line of the Canadian Northern line east of Edmonton, Kootenay Lakes Park in Southern Alberta, and one, 30,000 square miles in extent, in the Moose Mountain district of Saskatchewan.

Banff and Jasper Parks are the largest. The newest one is the reservation, 40 miles south of Pincher Creek in Southern Alberta. It is a park of 15 miles long and 30 miles wide. This park is continuous to the Glacier National Park, just across the international boundary in Montana. It is in the heart of a great game country. A large portion of it will be fenced in and stocked with buffalo and other large animals including elk and caribou. The animals, it is needless to say, will be protected.

This park is one of the most beautiful reservations made by the government, embracing as it does a region of lakes, foothills and rugged mountains. It is in a region off the main highway of travel, but railway facilities are likely to be provided within a few years. It attracted over 500 campers last season.

BUFFALO HERDS GROWING.

Buffalo Park on the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific, 150 miles east of Edmonton, is the home of the herd of buffalo imported by the Dominion Government from Montana several years ago. The herd in the park last year numbered 800 and the number was increased last spring by 150 calves.

Eighty buffaloes, bought by the government, still remain at liberty in the Flathead Valley of Montana. An effort will be made in April to round them up for shipment to Canada. The buffalo are all thorough bred stock without any alien strain. Their home embraces 110,000 acres which has all been fenced in, the circuit embracing 74 miles. It is also the retreat of elk, caribou, moose and antelope. Additions are constantly being made to the original herds placed there and the birth rate is also very satisfactory.

Feathered game, which are also protected, abound in great numbers within the park limits. As illustrating the intelligence of ducks and prairie chickens, Mr. Douglas, Commissioner of Dominion Parks, relates a remarkable story. He declared that these birds are very wary of hunters just outside the park confines and, when pursued, fly across the fence into the reservation.

"They seem to realize that it is a 'sanctuary' because they are quite tame once they enter the reservation. I have known of instances where these birds after flying from outside points, would show no fear and allow the hunter to approach them in the park. They seem to have learned that they are safe on the inside of that fence," said the park commissioner.

ELK ISLAND PARK.

Elk Island Park on the line of the Canadian Northern, east of Edmonton, is the home of 50 head of buffalo. It embraces 16 sections of land. When the work of fencing it had been completed the park authorities were agreeably surprised to find that they had unwittingly "rounded up" 38 elk and 32 deer. The whole region abounds in large game and birds.

Jasper Park, in the foothills of the Rockies, on the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific, promises to be a rival of Banff, as it boasts of diversified scenery and abundance of hot springs. It embraces an area of 5,400 square miles, or 3,385,000 acres. It is also on the route of the Canadian Northern line now building east of there towards Vancouver.

The Grand Trunk Pacific has already intimated its intention of erecting a large summer hotel in the park in the vicinity of one of the hot springs. The hotel will be completed in time for handling tourists before the line reaches Prince Rupert. It is expected to be a rival to Banff, and will be fully exploited by the railway.

Mr. Douglas expects to undertake the work of building roads in the park this summer. It will only be a start, as years must elapse before the reserve can be provided with modern facilities of that kind. Road building has been in progress at Banff for 20 years and much still remains to be done in that way.

WHY UNITED STATES SENATORS ENJOY EXISTENCE.

It Is a Popular Joke to Call the Senate "The Millionaires' Club."

The Senate, which corresponds in the constitution of the United States to the British House of Lords, has lately distinguished itself by voting for its own use a new set of marble baths, which are to cost well over \$50,000. When completed, they will be the most magnificent and luxurious in the world. Of recent years the senate has become notorious for its love of luxury. In that respect, indeed, it is a standing popular joke to call it "The Millionaires' Club."

Each senator has a salary of \$5,000 a year from the State. He has also, a travelling allowance of twelve cents a mile for each day of the session, to be spent in travelling between his home and the Senate at Washington, where the Senate sits. He has an allowance of \$125 with which to settle his newspaper's bill. One senator, from Georgia, by the way, has been known to save the whole of his allowance, and to draw it in cash. Every member of the senate, too, as the right—just as members of Parliament formerly had in England—of "franking" his letters, in theory, this right applies only in the case of letters on Government business. In practice, the senator interprets this phrase so generously that he spends practically nothing on postage stamps. Senators have been known to "frank" picture-postcards.

GENEROUS TREATMENT.

In fact, the Senate is treated by the State—or treats itself, for it votes its own supplies—much more generously than the House of Lords is treated in England. There are only ninety senators as against about six hundred peers. The upkeep of the House of Lords, however, costs about \$200,000 a year, while that of the Senate costs about \$125,000.

Each senator is provided with a private room in the Capitol buildings. There is a Senate restaurant, but few use it, except employees. The senator prefers to have his lunch sent into his own room.

Besides the ordinary municipal delivery of letters, the senator has three special deliveries to himself. There is a morning delivery at his own house, a midday delivery in his private room at the Capitol, and a third at his home in the evening. The Senate messengers act as the postmen.

He has the run of the magnificent barber's shop, that is one of the glories of the Capitol, and also the palatial bath-rooms—all of which he gets without paying a single cent.

A HAPPY TIME ALL ROUND.

He has, indeed, a happy time all round. The innumerable State of affairs treat him with the flattery they would pay an emperor. The common congressman, or member of the House of Representatives, does not receive this treatment at all. The secret is that Senators have innumerable Civil Service and Government posts in their gift, while Congressmen have not. Even in the case of those posts which are in the gift of the President, the recommendation of the senator for the State in which the post is to be filled has great weight in making the appointment.

One messenger of the Capitol has as easy a time as the senators themselves. They do little or no work, and have very comfortable quarters. The actual work is done mostly by negroes. When, for instance, the senator orders lunch in his private room he tells a messenger. The messenger tells a negro, and the lunch comes. Some of these messengers are men who have once held high office. Many of them never turn up at the Capitol at all, except to draw their salaries.

Everybody connected with "The Millionaires' Club," in fact, has a very good time.—London Answers.

"JOB" SEATS IN PARLIAMENT

Lord Chesterfield in 1767 lamented the increased price of seats in the British Parliament. There was a boom in trade, and prices went up. Chesterfield was ambitious for his son, and when Chatham's promise of a seat came to nothing, he went marketing. And he failed to find a single bargain. "I spoke to a borough jobber," he wrote to his son, "and offered five and twenty hundred pounds for a secure seat in Parliament; but he laughed at my offer, and said there was no such thing as a borough to be had now, for the rich East and West Indians secured them all at the rate of £20,000 at least, and many at £20,000, and two or three that he knew at £25,000. This, I confess, has vexed me a good deal."



TREASURES OF KING GEORGE

VALUE OF PLATE ALONE IS ALMOST INESTIMABLE.

Over Five Tons of It Is Used at the State Banquets at Windsor.

Both Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace are overflowing with treasures of every description—plate, pictures, jewels, statuary, books, and relics of enormous historic value. When our late King came to the throne he found valuable of all kinds locked away, undisplayed and uncatalogued, and—worse than all—absolutely unprotected from fire, says Pearson's Weekly.

During his all too brief reign King Edward effected a complete revolution. In the first place he installed electric light all through both the chief royal residences, in the second he got in every possible appliance, and after that extended the Royal library, inspected the gold pantry, and had all the various treasures of the two Palaces properly inventoried and displayed. The value of the plate alone which King George inherits is almost inestimable. The so-called gold pantry at Windsor consists of two large fireproof store-rooms in which is kept plate of an estimated value of \$3,750,000.

THE GOLD PLATE

which is used for State banquets weighs over five tons. It is not, of course, all solid gold. If the larger pieces were gold they would be too heavy to move at all. Some of the spoons take four men to lift. These are of silver-gilt. It takes one man to carry two dishes or eight plates. The latter are of pure gold.

There is not much ancient English plate in the gold pantry. Charles I. melted down all the plate of his day and coined it into money. But there are some exquisite foreign pieces, among them a great silver flagon taken from the flagship of the Spanish Armada, and the famous "Nautilus" Cup, made by that master of the art, Benvenuto Cellini. There is a shield by the same great Italian, and the wonderful gold tiger's head taken from Tipoo Sahib's throne after the storming of Seringapatam in 1799.

This tiger's head is a marvellous work of art. It is life-size, and its teeth and eyes are cut out of pure rock crystal. Another relic captured at the same time is the jewelled bird called the "Oma." In shape it is like a pigeon.

WITH A PEACOCK'S TAIL.

Its feathers blaze with precious stones, and a magnificent emerald hangs from its breast. According to an old Indian legend, whoever owns this bird will rule India.

There is also a shield formed of snuff boxes and valued at \$45,000, and a great quantity of beautiful cups and salvers, among them a rose-water fountain of silver designed by the late Prince Consort, and weighing nearly 3,000 ounces.

Detectives who reside at the Castle as ordinary officials guard these vast treasures of plate, and also the jewels which are locked in an underground safe. These jewels have, of course, nothing to do with the Crown jewels, which are kept in the Tower. They are the private property of the Royal Family. Queen Alexandra's personal jewellery is of immense value, and for protection's sake has, we believe, been all duplicated in paste. But Windsor Castle is not the place for a burglar to go to. "A-bur-ent-er-prising burglar to go," says the unrepealed, which enables the reigning Sovereign to put to death any person or persons through whose carelessness any of his gems may be lost. What would happen to a burglar one shudders to contemplate.

THE ROYAL LIBRARY

at Windsor contains over 100,000 volumes, among them many that would fetch enormous prices if put up to auction. There is a Metz Psalter for which a collector would sell his last stick, a Charles I. Shakespeare, a magnificent Caxton

on vellum, and other treasures too numerous to mention.

Below the library is a room containing one of the finest collections of prints in existence. These alone would probably fetch \$200,000 to \$250,000 if sold. In the same room are no fewer than 20,000 drawings of the old masters and a collection of over 1,000 miniatures. The late Queen Victoria collected these miniatures.

Besides all these ancient treasures, King George will inherit the great collection of valuable objects got together by his father. These include the Coronation presents, valued at over a quarter of a million; and many Italian works of art, including a wonderful embossed shield of solid gold given by a number of rajahs.

There is no reigning monarch in the world, not even the Tsar of all the Russias, who is master of such an amazing collection of beautiful and valuable objects as is George V.

SEVENTY YEARS OF EATING.

Man Consumes Ninety-Five Tons of Food and Drink.

If a man of seventy years was starving, it would probably be little comfort to him to think that he had consumed in the course of his life 95 tons of solid food and 4½ tons of liquid, or about 1,380 times his own weight in both solids and liquids, but it would be true.

Being a man of average appetite and purse, he would have eaten 14 tons of bread, which would have made a single loaf containing 1,500 cubic feet and appearing about as large as the average home, and on this bread he would have spread one ton of butter. If his bacon had been cut in a single slice, the strip would have been four miles long; and his chops, placed end to end, would have extended two miles.

Twenty ordinary-sized bullocks have supplied him with beef, 16 tons of which he has eaten, along with 5 tons of fish and 10,000 eggs and 350 lbs. of cheese. If he had elected to have all his vegetables served at once they would have come to him in a train of cars, the pot containing all his peas being three miles long.

He has had 9,000 lbs. of sugar, 1,500 lbs. of salt, 1 lb. of pepper, and 100 cans of mustard. Three pints of liquid a day would have amounted to 70,000 pints, or 4½ tons. If he had been a smoker he would have burned about half a ton of tobacco in a pipe; or, if he preferred cigarettes, would have smoked about a quarted of a million.

EVEN WITH THE LAWYER.

The lawyer for the defence looked keenly at the witness who was testifying for the prosecution. "Your name, if I understood you correctly," he said, "is Horace Hinsey. Is that right?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did you ever live in London?"

"Yes, sir."

"And in Hamilton before that?"

"Yes, sir."

"Mr. Hinsey, have you ever been arrested on a criminal charge?"

"No, sir!" indignantly answered the witness. "Never!"

"Did you ever commit an offence for which you might justly have been arrested?"

"Never, sir!"

"Mr. Hinsey, is it not a fact that you once stole from your own father?"

"Here the attorney for the prosecution interposed, but the witness chose to answer.

"No, sir!" he exclaimed. "Never in my life!"

"Now, Mr. Hinsey," said the lawyer, "suppose I should tell you that I knew of a case when you did steal from your father."

Instantly the witness's brow cleared.

"Gentlemen," he said, turning to the jury, "he's right. I remember now. When I was about eight years old I stole half-a-dozen eggs from my father's grocery store, took them down to the bank of the creek, cooked them and helped to eat them. This lawyer, who was a boy then, not only helped me to steal those eggs, but put me up to stealing them. How are you, Jim?"

The Court joined in the laugh that followed, and the rest of the examination was conducted on more friendly lines.