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## RAPS CANAL DEAL

### Representative Rainey Asks Investigation.

### DAVIS SCORES GAMBLING

Senator Speaks Strongly in Favor of Abolishing "Games of Chance in Relation to Fruits of the Soil"—Upper Branch Hears Address.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Charging that William Nelson Cromwell, Roger Farnham, Charles P. Taft and others are parties to the "most infamous railroad proposition ever submitted to any government," and that they "are being permitted not only to rob the republic of Panama, but indirectly the treasury of the United States," Representative Rainey of Illinois yesterday directed the searchlight of publicity upon affairs in the canal zone in a startling speech in support of his resolution providing for an investigation by congress of the Panama canal purchase. "In their efforts in this direction," he continued, "they have had so far the complete co-operation and active assistance of the present administration and of the next president of the United States.

**Traces History of Canal.**  
Mr. Rainey traced the history of the proposed canal 400 years back, and warned "that we have already started in the direction of the rocks upon which the French companies were wrecked."

Referring to the government's libel suit against the New York World, and the grand jury investigations now in progress in this city and in New York, Mr. Rainey said:

"If we are to carry this project through to a successful conclusion, we must avoid graft. It is not the part of wise statesmanship to dispose of resolutions asking for an investigation of any phase of the canal question with the sweeping and absolutely unsupported official declaration that there is nothing to investigate. It is not the part of sound statesmanship and true patriotism to attempt to revive the obsolete common law of 200 years ago, and to employ all the tremendous agencies of the government in attempting to crush newspapers which have had the courage to call attention to a questionable transaction in connection with the canal."

**Submits His Evidence.**  
He submitted for the record from the papers and documents in support of many of the allegations contained in the speech.

Mr. Rainey was particularly bitter in his denunciation of Mr. Cromwell, general counsel for the new French Panama Canal Company and counsel and a director of the Panama railroad, which is owned by the United States government. He charged that "through the manipulations of Mr. Cromwell the French Canal Company was permitted to steal from the United States government \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000," and that after he "had become an officer in fact of the United States, he became a party to an attempt to collect from the United States a fraudulent claim on the part of the canal company of \$2,200,000."

**Attacks Panama President.**  
He was also unsparing in his attack upon Don Jose Domingo de Obaldia, president of Panama, who, he said, represented "as no other Spanish-American statesman in his generation, all that is corrupt in Spanish-American politics."

"Without Obaldia," he stated, "Cromwell's career would have been impossible. Without Cromwell Obaldia would have been impossible." Against President-elect Taft, now en route to the canal zone, Mr. Rainey directed the accusation that on the occasion of his last trip to Panama in May "he did nothing on the isthmus except to openly push the candidacy of Obaldia for the presidency."

He asserted that a very thinly veiled threat to seize the republic if Obaldia was not elected was contained in a letter written by Mr. Taft to the then President Amador, and that to prevent this Arias, Obaldia's opponent, withdrew.

**Jeff Davis Decries Gambling.**  
The evils attending gambling in the products of the soil by the sale of futures on exchanges was the subject of a passionate speech delivered by Senator Jeff Davis in the United States senate yesterday. Senator Davis advocated the passage of a bill introduced by him to penalize the use of the mails, the telegraph or the telephone for the purpose of conveying gambling propositions between buyer and seller.

After advocating the passage of this measure, Senator Davis denounced what he declared to be the evils of the "money power," and incidentally touched upon the policy of maintaining a protective tariff as a part of a system which, he declared, was for the suppression of the rights of the people.

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