

SOUTH AMERICAN CITIES' WATER SYSTEMS EXPANDING, MANY IMPROVEMENTS MADE

(By Frederick J. Haskin in Boston Traveller).

Washington, D. C. —The construction of city waterwork for South American municipalities promises to be an important factor in the stimulation of American foreign trade in the near future. The reflected advantage to workers of the United States would be important, especially in the steel industry.

South American countries being chiefly pastoral and agricultural, resembling the United States of 75 to 100 years ago, industrial production there is wholly inadequate to locate requirements. This means that steel-matured articles must be imported.

While Great Britain, France, Belgium, Germany and Italy would doubtless be strong competitive bidders, beyond question American steel makers would get a considerable portion of the business.

Development Slow

Waterworks development has been slow in South American cities for a number of reasons. Primarily, the Latin races do not desire water in such quantities as the more northerly peoples. It is an addity of human nature that the inhabitants of cold climates use far more water for bathing than do those of the tropics. Southern South America, of course, is as cold as the United States but the people are largely Latin in characteristics and habits. Climate seems to have little to do with the question. The Scandinavians inhabiting a region which is icily cold for a long season, and never very warm, are the most inveterate bathers. The Englishman and his bathtub, which he can never be without, is a cousin and the traditional English bath results from the long Danish occupation of Britain.

The result is that the per capita consumption of water in an ordinary American household is from three to four times what it is in a Latin-American household. For tropical Central America, the disproportion is even greater.

Latin-Americans use water for drinking purposes only incidentally. It is scarcely regarded as a necessity. Wines and beer are the normal beverages for the older dwellers, while the sojourners drink spirits.

This is a picture of what has been the situation up to the present time. The progress of education, touch with the rest of the world, and a general surge toward improvement in living conditions have operated to create a South American desire for better water supply for the cities, and there are strong indication that the next year or two will see extensive improvements.

Growth of Cities

Town boosters in the United States have educated themselves into a creed that this is the only country where cities grow rapidly. This is something less than the truth, although probably more cities here grow more rapidly than anywhere else. Latin-American cities have not, in the past, maintained such systems as they have in a particularly high state of repair. Nor has

there been a tendency to make annual extensions as in North American cities. The idea seems to have been that a water supply system, once constructed, was a finished thing, like a cathedral.

With Latin-America having made such progressive strides in the last decade, that attitude has been altering.

To be sure the attitude of manana is inherent in the people and proposals for many improvements permit that they shall be made tomorrow. Yet this pressure of population, in relation to the sanitation doctrine which has been preached by scientists so enthusiastically, is now dictating action today.

A glance at the figures shows how nicely South American countries can match the United States in the matter of booms. Rosario, one of the great business communities of Argentina, grew from 250,000 in 1920 to 410,000 in 1930, an increase of 64 per cent. Buenos Aires, South America's largest city, increased from 1,800,000 in 1920 to 2,125,000 in 1930.

Chile's metropolis, Santiago, now has 702,000, an increase of 38 per cent. over 1920. Sao Paulo, Brazil's great coffee port has jumped to 850,000, having gained 46 per cent. in the last decade. Still more striking are the gains made in Quito, Ecuador, which doubled in a year; Barranquilla, Colombia, which gained 115 per cent; Santiago de Cuba, which gained 130 per cent., and Cali, Colombia, which gained 171 per cent.; Manizales, Colombia, gained 97 per cent and Maracaibo, Venezuela, 60 per cent.

When a waterworks is constructed for a city of 100,000, and within a decade it reaches 200,000 with few if any extensions or improvements made, an urgent need for a very general overhauling is felt.

The export trade opportunity lies in the fact that although many of these countries are immensely rich in minerals, they do not manufacture much. Piping, a prime essential of any water system, is almost wholly imported. Many miles are needed because, in perhaps a majority of cases, the cities are built at some distance from the source of water supply. Filtration plants must be installed, pumping plants, and the necessary engines and other machinery. All this must be imported.

The cost is heavy but the resources of the people are large. It is estimated that the per capita cost of bringing water to a south or Central American city is around \$12 in American money.

South Americans have curious ways of charging for their water. Buenos Aires, for example, imposes a water rate which is a fixed proportion of the amount of house rent, or, in case of an owned house, what that house normally would rent for. Some other places made a charge for each spigot in a house or premises, still others, a flat rate for water service, regardless of the amount used. Few places employ water meters.

By no means all the city water is potable. Drinking water is purchased

CLOSEST CALL HAPPENED AT OLD ORCHARD

(Philadelphia Bulletin)

In Detroit a few afternoons ago I heard "Round-the-World" Wiley Post tell the story of his closest call. This happened at Old Orchard, Me.

"The beach looked clear, although a bit narrow, as the tide was rather high," said Wiley. "So I pushed the trolley forward and the Winnie Mae began racing down the beach for the take-off. Just then a huge breaker came in and I found a foot and a half of water immediately in front of the wheels.

"It was too late to cut the gun, for the ship would certainly have turned over. I couldn't let her do that, for my only exit is through the top, and I should have drowned. So I just pulled back and kept on.

"When the plane hit the water the prop whicked up a mountainous spray and I couldn't see a thing. I just held on. In a few seconds (years to me) the ship took the air, why or how I don't know. I found her a bit tail heavy and learned why when we landed. Quick-thinking Harold Gatty, seeing our predicament, had climbed back in the tail to help hold her down when we hit that breaker. That was a closer call than any we had on our trip around the world."

COSMIC RAYS INDUCE HUNT FOR THEIR ORIGIN

Professor Arthur H. Compton, of the University of Chicago and winner of the 1927 Nobel prize in physics, says "The Pathfinder," has taken him self and a ton and a half of equipment to the top of Mount Evans (Colorado), 14,260 feet up, to study cosmic rays. He will seek to determine whether these rays are created by the disintegration of atoms, as most types of rays are, or whether they result from the building up of simple elements into more complex atoms.

Sir James Jeans, noted British astronomer and physicist, thinks these rays originated in the destruction of matter far out among the stars or that they may even be relics of days before there existed any universe as we know it today.

On the other hand Dr. Robert A. Millikan, famous California physicist, regarded as the discoverer of cosmic rays, has a different theory. He holds that they originate from the births of atoms building up the universe in unemployed space. Anyway those who have investigated the rays have found that they reach the reath continually from all directions.

According to Dr. E. E. Free only one think known to science can be called immortal—the cosmic rays. Stars, he says, grow cold and die, visible light rays are absorbed and vanish. Only the cosmic rays go on forever

HORSE'S SWEET TOOTH GETS ITS OWNER IN COURT

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Oct. 12—AA horse's craving for candy is the basis for a suit for \$2,500 damages filed on behalf of 5-year-old Brazio Carvella. The boy was crossing a street with an all-day sucker in his hand. Jeanne, the horse, saw the candy and in attempting to get it, knocked the boy down, injuring his hip and thigh, according to the complaint.

Constance Bennett, movie actress, may or may not yet \$30,000 a week, as the yarns from Hollywood keep saying, but he rpress agent is certainly earning his \$50.

If you ever hired out on a farm you know that every cent farm labor gets is earned.

In small quantities for the sick and the whimsical few who want it, in bottles. The situation is not unlike that which obtained in Ravenna, the ancient Roman capital, for many years, when wine was free but water commanded a high price.

SANG HIS HEAD OFF AND ALL FOR NOTHING

(New York Sun)

He was only a little fellow, not more than eight or ten years old, but he had a big voice. Striding into a West Broadway barber shop he spoke up boldly:

"Wanna hear some good singin'? Six songs for a nickel."

No one expressed the desire to hear any singing, good or bad, and after a moment's hesitation, he said, "I'll sing one anyway," whereupon he struck off into a gusty version of a popular air.

Silence reigned whenn he had finished until the boss barber asked, "Why don't you get a job or shine shoes or something?"

"Oh, I'm a shoe shiner, all right," the boy answered, "but there's more money in this racket."

Another painful pause ensued, but nothing daunted, the youngster launched upon a tearful ballad in which he lamented that he was only an orphan, his mother being dead and his father a drunkard. It would have melted a stone, but it couldn't melt the hearts of the Monday morning barber shop crowd. At its close the lad stood a moment, nonplussed and then, exaggerated, demanded, "Ain't anybody here got a nickel for good singin'!"

No nickel was forthcoming so the young troubadour turned and left the place, voluble in his disgust.

BECOMES HERO ON NEW LEG

Oldtown, Me., Oct. 12—Evan Currier, 15 years old, who has just received a new artificial leg, bought by a luncheon club, the other night saved a 4-year-old child who fell from the slip at the Indian island ferry. Hearing her screams Evan hobbled to the rescue and by hooking his new leg to the slip, seized the child by the hair and dragged her ashore.

Here and There

The angler at Toledo, Ohio, has secured a mammoth sturgeon captured in Lake St. Clair, Canada. The fish weighed 239 pounds and was sold to Toledo for \$160.

Feeding bees on sugar and milk at the Government Experimental Farm at Agassiz, B.C., has resulted in an average of 23 pounds more honey than on ordinary diet. This may mean a further impetus to Canadian honey production.

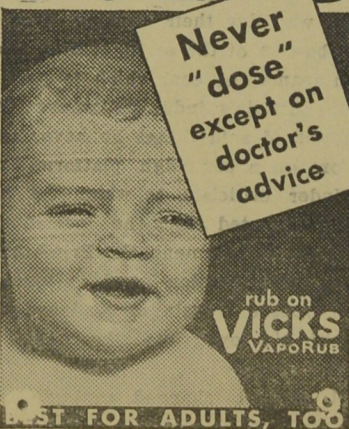
Capital amounting to \$600,000,000 is invested in the development of 13,000,000 horse power electrical energy in the province of Quebec. Throughout Canada electric power development investments total \$1,400,000,000.

East and west of Suez as also in London, Berlin, Paris and other famous centres, canned and frozen salmon from British Columbia was successfully marketed last year. Most of the shipments went from Victoria.

Monday, August 10, has been officially set as the opening date of the fourth "Buyers' Week" to be held in Montreal. The first Buyers' Week brought 251 buyers from all over the continent to Montreal; the third brought 1,100 buyers, indicating the growing success of the plan.

Individual holders of Canadian Pacific Railway common stock numbered 21,136 on September 2, 1930, and by the 1st June, 1931, there were 34,872 holders, an increase of 13,636. This shows the growing popularity of this stock since its split into four new shares for one of the old stock.

BABY'S COLDS



Never "dose" except on doctor's advice

rub on VICKS VAPORUB

NOT FOR ADULTS, TOO

WILLS UNCHANGED AFTER DIVORCE

Hollywood, Oct. 10—Kathlyn Williams, former film actress, and Charles Eytan, retired motion picture executive, have made wills in favor of each other. There was nothing unusual about that before last January, for they had been married 15 years. Now they are divorced, but the wills are not to be changed, they have agreed.

Hard, genuine thinking promotes long life, according to an English doctor. Hard genuine thinking to the effect that a lot of remedies, advertised to prolong life, are useless, is said to be especially valuable.

DRAPERIES MADE NEW

"When we resumed housekeeping a month ago I found my draperies had become creased from packing. I hung them out on the line, hoping to remove the creases. Then I forgot them. The result was they became badly faded and sun-spotted.

"I was heartsick until the happy thought struck me to dye them. I just dyed them a deeper green, and as I used Diamond Dyes they look gorgeous and new. I have never seen easier dyes to use than Diamond Dyes. They give the most beautiful colors—when used either for tinting or dyeing—and never take the life out of cloth as other dyes do."

Mrs. J. F. T., Montreal.

Philadelphia police broke up a brawl between a celebrant and a cigar store Indian. It supports the tradition that wooden Indians are still shot now and then in Philadelphia, by mistake for Sitting Bull.

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