

# What Panama Canal Will Do for Ecuador

**Copyrighted, 1914, by Frank G. Carpenter.**  
**GUAYAQUIL, Ecuador.**—The Guayas river is to South America what the Columbia and the Yukon are to our continent. It is the biggest stream which flows into the Pacific; and in the rainy season it turns the lowlands from here to the Andes into a great swamp or lake. Where the ships come in from the ocean the river is sixty miles wide, and as you sail up a Guayaquil you seem to be passing through a great inland sea. The water is as thick as pea soup and of much the same color. The Andean flocks being low patches of green, and great trees may be seen floating out to sea. In coming in you pass the Island of Puna, where Pizarro first landed; and about sixty miles farther up you find yourself in front of this port.

The river is now a mile wide and twenty-six feet in depth; and it gives a good and safe harbor for steamers. Just now it has but little shipping on account of the plague, but there are hundreds of dug-outs, canoes, rafts and cargo boats in which the Indians bring their wares from the interior to sell. The ocean vessels anchor far out in the stream, and are unloaded by lighters. The only wharves of the city are those for small craft. Nevertheless they are used for a mile or two up and down the west bank of the river, and are backed with great warehouses and stores which are open at the front so that you can see everything in them as you go along the street.

**Guayaquil a Modern City.**  
 From the ship's deck Guayaquil is imposing. It is a town of about 100,000 people, and as the most of its houses are of only one or two stories it covers a great deal of ground. It has wide streets and buildings that at first sight seem to be of stone or of brick covered with stucco. They are really of wood, plastered over and painted, and most of them have walls of bamboo cane upon which mud has been spread and smoothed down with a trowel. The city has some public improvements. It has an electric street car line and electric lights. It has public squares which are beautifully kept, and its hospitals are as good as can be found in South America. It has a half dozen newspapers, several high-priced hotels and it does an export and import business amounting to \$18,000,000 or \$20,000,000 a year. It is, in fact, the New York of Ecuador, and if it could be made as healthy as Panama it might be a great resort for tourists and trade.

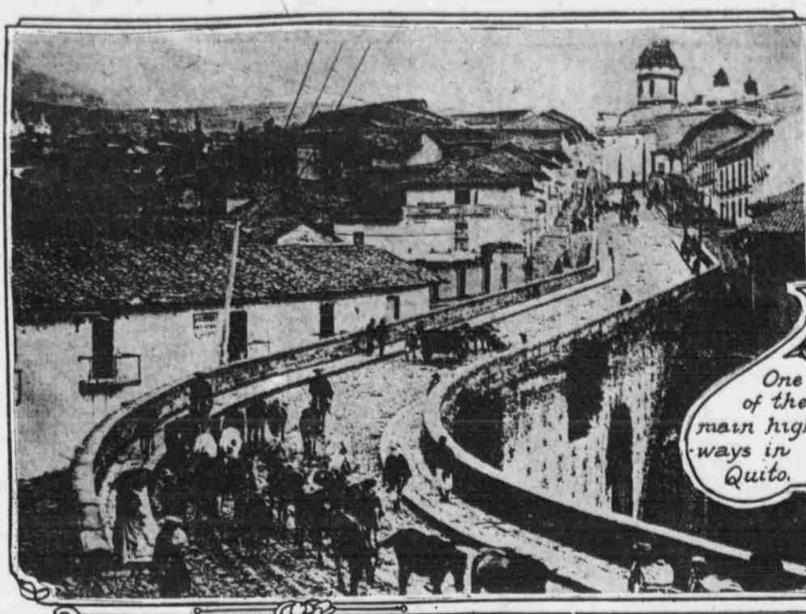
Before I go further, let me tell you something of the South American republic, which is to be brought to our doors by the Panama canal. Heretofore the steamships from our Atlantic coast have had to go more than 10,000 miles around by the Strait of Magellan to reach it. When the canal is open New York will be nearer by ship to this port than it is now to Great Britain. Boston will be only a little over a week from any part of Ecuador, and our port will be still nearer. As it is now, Guayaquil is less than 800 miles from Balboa, and the railroad that is building from the Bay of Caraquez to Quito will bring the capital of Ecuador to within three days of Panama. The contract for that road has been let to a French company. The trains were in operation last year over about forty miles of track, and the road should be completed by the time of the opening of the great ditch at Panama.

**The Land of the Equator.**  
 The word Ecuador means equator, and Ecuador is a land on the equator. The hot line that the globe passes through it and the whole of it lies in the tropics. The country is a triangle, surrounded by Colombia, Brazil and Peru. It lies on the west coast of South America, in the shape of a fan whose handle is in northern Brazil and whose scalloped rim is washed by the Pacific ocean.

Next to Colombia, Ecuador is the nearest republic to us, and still is one of the least known. Parts of it have never been surveyed and today the estimates of its size range from the bigness of California to that of Texas. The most authentic figures now place it at 116,000 square miles, an area equal to that of Ohio, Virginia and Indiana combined.

The most of the country is taken up by the Andes. The coast line is low and a tropical vegetation extends from the ocean back to the foothills. The Andes divide the country from north to south in two great ranges, upholding between them a series of beautiful valleys, in which about nine-tenths of the natives now live. These valleys are higher above the sea than Mexico City and they have a climate more like that of New York or Ohio than of the equator. Quito, the capital, is situated in one of the highest of these Andean valleys. It is 8,500 feet above the sea, or almost two miles above the altitude of Washington city. In that city the weather is like October or our Indian summer all the year round.

**New Railroad Constructed.**  
 On the eastern side of the Andes the land slopes from the temperate zone to a tropical wilderness. It reaches the



One of the main high ways in Quito.

tributaries of the Amazon, and some of the streams of Ecuador flow into that great river. Indeed, it is said that Quito is only four days by mule from streams that flow into the Amazon system. The government is now building a railroad system from the plateau to one of the Amazon tributaries and this road will open up a rich mining region with lands suited for sugar cane, cacao and coffee.

Ecuador has some of the greatest volcanoes on earth. The great series of the valleys of which I have written is walled up by twenty-one peaks, ranging in height from three to four miles, and there are seventeen other peaks which are more than two miles in height. When I last visited Guayaquil the air was filled with ashes that came from one of Ecuador's ten active volcanoes. For this reason the houses have to be small. They are built to withstand the earthquakes, the wooden timbers being so joined that they can sway with the trembling of the earth and not break.

**Will Be Great Tourist Route.**  
 One of the great tourist routes of the future will I believe be to Quito. The ships will come via Panama to the Bay of Caraquez and the tourists will go over the French railroad, a distance of 186 miles up to the capital, or they will come to Guayaquil and take the American-built road from there over the Andes. The Guayaquil-Quito road is now in operation. The fare is \$17.50 each way, and the trains require two days for the journey. You cross the Guayas river early in the morning and by 8 o'clock are moving from the railroad station at Duran, through seventy miles of tropical lowlands. There are pastures containing herds of fat cattle, cacao groves, loaded with their squash-like fruit, which hang close to the trunks and branches, and many little villages with houses on piles so that the first floors have to be reached by a ladder. The houses are thatched with broad white leaves tied to a framework of bamboo cane. The floors are of cane, and the cracks are so many that the women do not need to sweep, for the dirt of the household falls through to the ground or the water. You pass little banana plantations, and through forests loaded with orchids, and finally stop at Burey, which is fifty-seven miles away. The speed of the train so far has been not quite twelve miles an hour, and you have risen to an altitude of less than 1,000 feet. In the next three hours you rise 3,000 feet, to Huigra, and from there go on up, up until at last you reach Urbana, which is 11,841 feet above the sea. This is the highest station on the line. You stop over night during this journey, and it takes you about the whole of two days to come to Quito, the Ecuadorian capital.

**Quito Equals Boston.**  
 I am told that Quito is preparing for a boom when the canal is completed. It hopes to become a tourist resort for both winter and summer. It is one of the healthiest cities on earth, and if J. G. White & Co. can make a healthy gate to it, it will no doubt have visitors and excursions from all over the world. The city has now 100,000 population. It has several hotels. It has electric lights and telephones, and there is talk of putting in a street car line to be run by electricity generated from the rivers nearby.

The town lies on the slope of a volcano, and there are a dozen other volcanoes in sight, among which are Cotopaxi and Chimborazo, each of which rises about two miles above the plateau. I am told that you can take an automobile in Quito and ride to the crater of the volcano behind it.

Quito has fine government buildings and enormous churches and convents. It has colleges, a cathedral and a theater subsidized by the government, with troupes that come from up and down the coast. One of the odd features of the theater is the boxes for people in mourning. These have shutters which fit down over them in such a way that the inmates can see out over the slats or by moving the shutter a little can look down upon the audience without themselves being seen. When in deep mourning it is customary for the afflicted to use the slats only, but later on the whole shutter is gradually opened.

As a tourist resort Quito has many interesting features. It is one of the historic cities of the new world. It was founded almost a hundred years before the Boston crows began to outline the first streets of that city. The Indians had a capital there when Pizarro came; and Atahualpa, the Inca monarch, who was killed by Pizarro, had a home there whose roof was plated with gold. The city then contained vast treasures, which were buried by the Indians in order that they might not fall into the hands of the Spaniards. The city of today has a considerable Indian population, although most of its people are whites. The Indians come in from miles around to trade, and the crowds in the market are of a dozen different tribes and of many picturesque costumes. The most of them are very religious, and they go from church to church saying their prayers. Only a few of them can read



The great Cathedral at Quito.

and write, but they are superstitious and are largely controlled by the priests.

**Religious Liberty Secured.**  
 Until recently Ecuador was altogether Catholic, and until about eighteen years ago its constitution prohibited any other worship. Since then laws have been passed giving full religious liberty, and the Protestants have sent in missionaries and tons of Bibles have been carried over the mountains and scattered throughout the land. The principal religion is still Catholic, and it will probably always be so, although the introduction of the purer and better Catholicism of North America will change the church from what it now is.

The people of Ecuador are now in the throes of a revolution. The cuts are trying to depose the ins, and the president, General Leonidas Plaza, may or not be deposed. When I was here last the president was captured by the administration back from Panama and lost his life in trying to recapture the office. Alfaro was a born revolutionist, and he had many narrow escapes. At one time he was captured by the rival party while on one of the little Ecuadorian men-of-war and escaped by swimming to the shore on a barrel. At another time he lived for weeks in the wilds of Ecuador and Colombia, being hunted by the state troops.

The president gets a salary of \$1,900 a year. He rules his country through a cabinet, which, with seven other ministers, forms a council of state. There is a congress elected by the people. The president has the power of veto, but congress can pass laws over his veto. Just now one of the chief public questions is the improvement of the ports, and another is the building of railroads. Both of these involve the expenditure of considerable sums of money and the holding of influence and power. It may be that this is one of the causes of the revolution.

**Canal to Increase Trade.**  
 The opening of the canal and the cleansing up of Guayaquil will greatly increase the traffic of the country, and it ought to materially improve its business with the United States. The foreign commerce already amounts to \$22,000,000 or \$23,000,000 a year; and at present, Great Britain leads all countries in sales. In 1900 the imports from that country amounted to more than \$2,000,000, being something like \$900,000 more than those of the United States. In 1910 they were more than \$300,000 more than ours, and that notwithstanding the American imports were more than double those of Great Britain.

About all of the British goods came by way of the Strait of Magellan, and this has been so of most of the goods from Europe, which constitute by far the greater part of the trade. With the opening of the canal we shall have much the shorter haul, and the trade should come to us.

As it is now Ecuador is getting most of its cotton goods from the United Kingdom. More than three-fifths of its woolen goods come from there, and of its shoe

leather, about one-third comes from Germany, and a little more from the United States. In boots and shoes the United States leads, as it does also in lard and wheat flour, as well as in coal, although considerable is imported from Australia. As to machinery, it is now coming from the United States, the United Kingdom and Germany.

**Large Export Trade.**  
 The exports of Ecuador amounted last year to a little less than \$41,000,000, and about \$10,000,000 worth of them went to France, Germany and the United States. The principal commodity was cacao and ivory nuts, the former selling for over \$10,000,000, and the latter for something like \$2,000,000. In addition there was rubber to the amount of \$1,000,000. The cacao and ivory nuts come almost altogether from the tropical lowlands along the Pacific, and the chief port for them is Guayaquil. A great part of the land about here is given up to cacao; and I am told that there are few plantations

## PIMPLES ON CHEEKS BACK AND ARMS

Also Chest, Grew Larger, Festered and Came to Head, Itched Badly, Ashamed to Go Anywhere, Cuticura Soap and Ointment Cured.

7115 Madison Ave., Chicago, Ill.—"The trouble began by having little pimples on my head and then on one cheek. It spread over my face and neck, my chest, back, arms and chest. The pimples looked like little red spots at first and then they grew larger and festered and came to a head. They itched so badly that I would scratch and pick them and make them worse. My clothing irritated the breaking out on my body. I was ashamed to go anywhere."

"I procured a — Soap, Salve, ointment, cream, and — but none of them helped me. I was just about discouraged as to what to do when I tried Cuticura Soap and Ointment and I was overjoyed at the results. I gently smeared the Cuticura Ointment on the affected part, let it remain for a while and washed it off with hot water and Cuticura Soap. I used three cakes of Cuticura Soap and two boxes of Cuticura Ointment and they cured me entirely in a little less than a month and a half." (Signed) Miss Doris Witzeman, Sept. 30, 1913.

A single hot bath with Cuticura Soap and a gentle anointing with Cuticura Ointment are often sufficient to afford immediate relief in the most distressing cases of skin and scalp diseases when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Liberal sample of each mailed free, with 32-p. Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston."

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which do not net as much as 12 per cent per annum, and that some are bringing four and five times that amount. The cacao bean is that from which chocolate is made. The fruit grows on a tree, which is much like an immense lilac bush. It is shaped like a squash, grows on the stem or close to the branches. When ripe it is of a lemon color and the seeds within are of reddish brown. They are about as big as a lima bean and of much the same shape. There are from twenty-eight to thirty of them in each fruit. They are washed out of the pulp that surrounds them, and then dried and packed up for shipment to all parts of the world.

**Vegetable Ivory One Product.**  
 The ivory nuts which form the second great export come from a low palm tree, known as the tagua. The fruit of this tree consists of burs, which look for all the world like chestnut burs, except they are as big as your head or bigger. Each bur contains from sixty to ninety of these vegetable ivory nuts, as big as the fist of a two-year-old baby. The nuts are as hard as iron when ripe, but when green they are filled with a soft jelly-like substance which tastes like cocoanut milk.

The ivory palms grow wild in the forest, and the natives travel through woods gathering the nuts, which they bring down to Guayaquil. Of late years the business has greatly increased, and there are now organized bands of tagueros or ivory nut gatherers, who camp out in the forest and bring boatloads of this crop down to Guayaquil. I am told that the United States annually buys 20,000,000 pounds of these nuts and turns them into buttons, paper knives and the many other things which are made from vegetable ivory. We have twenty-three vegetable ivory factories, and more than \$2,000,000 is invested in the business. The chief centers of manufacture are Rochester and Brooklyn, in New York; Newark in New Jersey, and Springfield, Mass. The greater part of the buttons we use are made of the fruit of these palms, so that it may be truly said that this little land of Ecuador upholds Uncle Sam's pantaloons.

**FRANK G. CARPENTER.**  
**The Cause of Rheumatism** is stomach trouble, lazy liver and deranged kidneys. Try Electric Bitters. Regulates liver and helps kidneys to work. 50c and \$1. All druggists—Advertisement.

## The Home Beauty Parlor

**By Betty Dean**  
 Betty: I made my faded "string" hair take on its natural color again and become soft, fluffy and brilliant by shampooing with cantinon, a teaspoonful of which I dissolved in a cup hot water. It gently, yet thoroughly, dissolved dirt, dirt and excess oil and when I rinsed it out, left the scalp healthy and plump. Since my first trial I have used nothing but this.

Antiseptic. Yes, you can be sure of hair beauty if you give it proper care. Rid your head of itching dandruff by use of this economical, home-made tonic, which will make your scalp so healthy that the hair naturally grows long and heavy. Get an ounce of quinine at your druggist, dissolve it in one half pint of alcohol, add one half pint cold water and rub into hair roots daily.

Miss O.: The "face cream without grease" which you ask about is easily prepared at home by this recipe: Get from your druggist one ounce of almond oil, one ounce of glycerine, one ounce of water. Add two teaspoonfuls glycerine, stir well and let stand over night. Apply frequently and prevent wrinkles and aging and healing and there is nothing better to relieve enlarged pores, pimples and all roughness or redness of skin.

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**"BELIEVE IT AND ALL SHALL WEAR BY IT."**  
 So Says a St. Louis Woman Writing About the Pure Essence Mentho-Laxene.

**CURES COUGHS AND COLDS QUICKLY**  
 This woman writes that she had read scores of advertisements about Essence Mentho-Laxene but doubted if it was a good, pure remedy. She bought a bottle of her druggist and ends her letter to the proprietors with the words, "I believe in it and swear by it." Thousands

Christine: Face your sallow, simply take on its natural color again and become soft, fluffy and brilliant by shampooing with cantinon, a teaspoonful of which I dissolved in a cup hot water. It gently, yet thoroughly, dissolved dirt, dirt and excess oil and when I rinsed it out, left the scalp healthy and plump. Since my first trial I have used nothing but this.

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**ACT NOW! REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED BY MAIL. THE FOLLOWING ARE ELIGIBLE AND CAN REGISTER.**  
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Name..... City.....  
 State..... Street or R. F. D. No.....  
 Age..... Married or Single..... Widowed or Orphan.....  
 Occupation..... Nationally.....  
 Do you own over 40 Acres of Land?..... (WRITE PLAINLY)  
 Have you, to the best of your knowledge, truthfully answered all the above questions?  
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 Note:—This Registration Coupon will not be RECOGNIZED unless all the above questions are properly filled in. Every person who is Eligible can Register ONCE, but ONLY ONCE AND NO MORE.

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It is a most wonderful external help to the muscles and tendons. It penetrates the tissues, makes them pliant to readily yield to nature's expansion, and there is no longer a period of pain, discomfort, straining, nausea or other symptoms so often distressing during the anxious days of expectancy.

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