

ON THE ISTHMIUS WITH A CAMERA



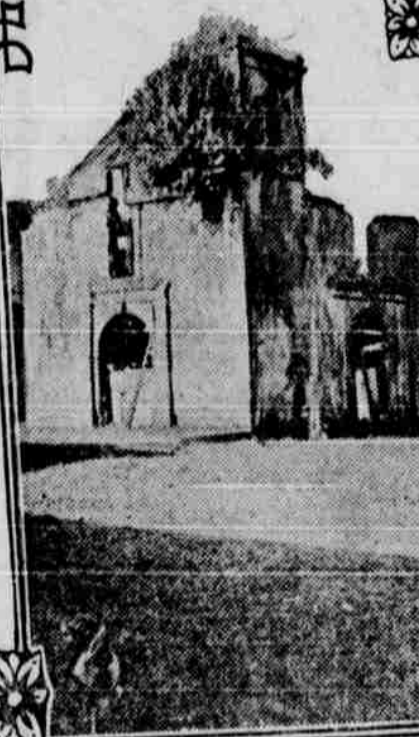
The Cathedral of Panama City, a fine specimen of Spanish-American Architecture.



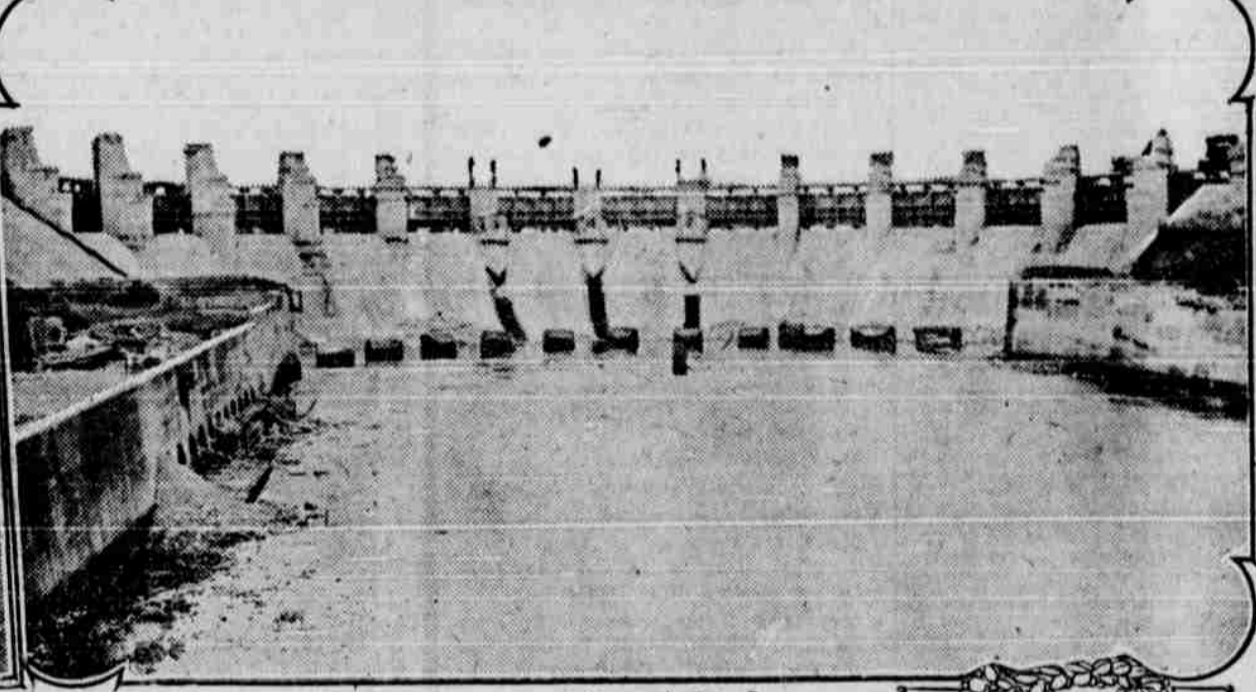
Ruins of Old Panama, showing the unusual circular windows.

E. W. PICKARD

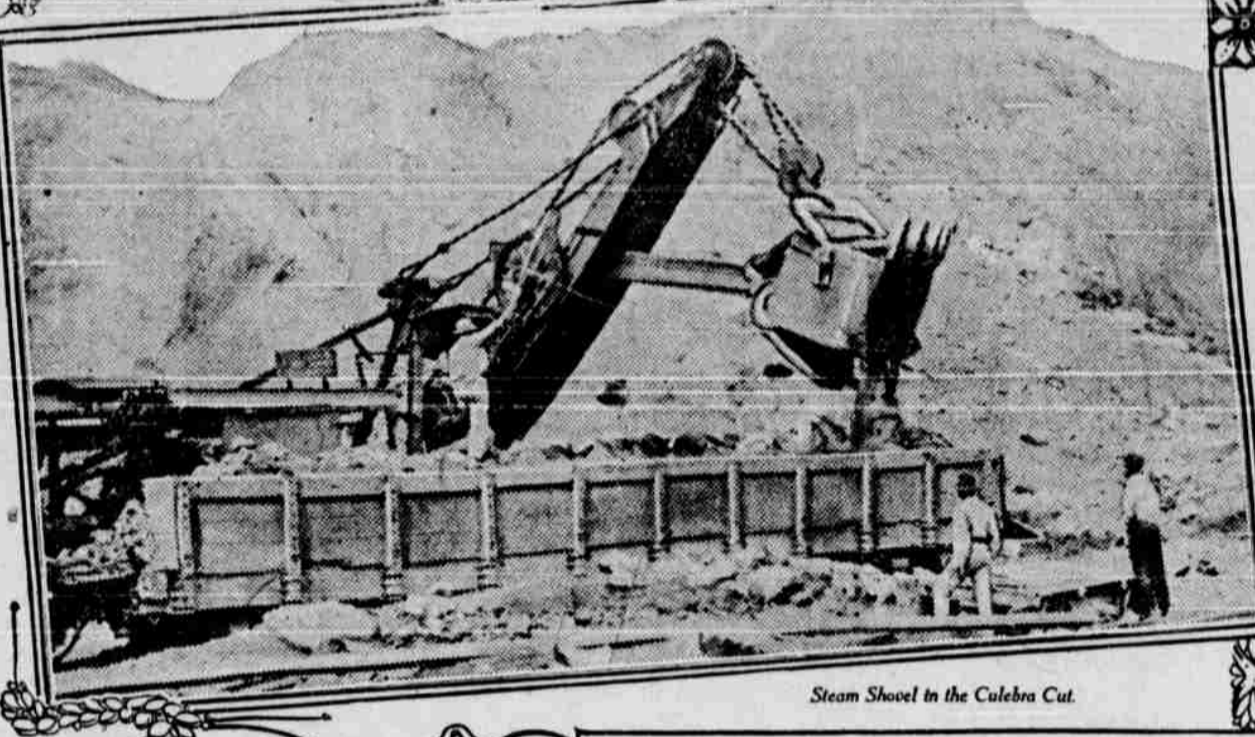
PHOTOGRAPHS BY WESTERN NEWSPAPER UNION



Remains of the Old Church at Porto Bello.



Great Spillway in the Gatun Dam.



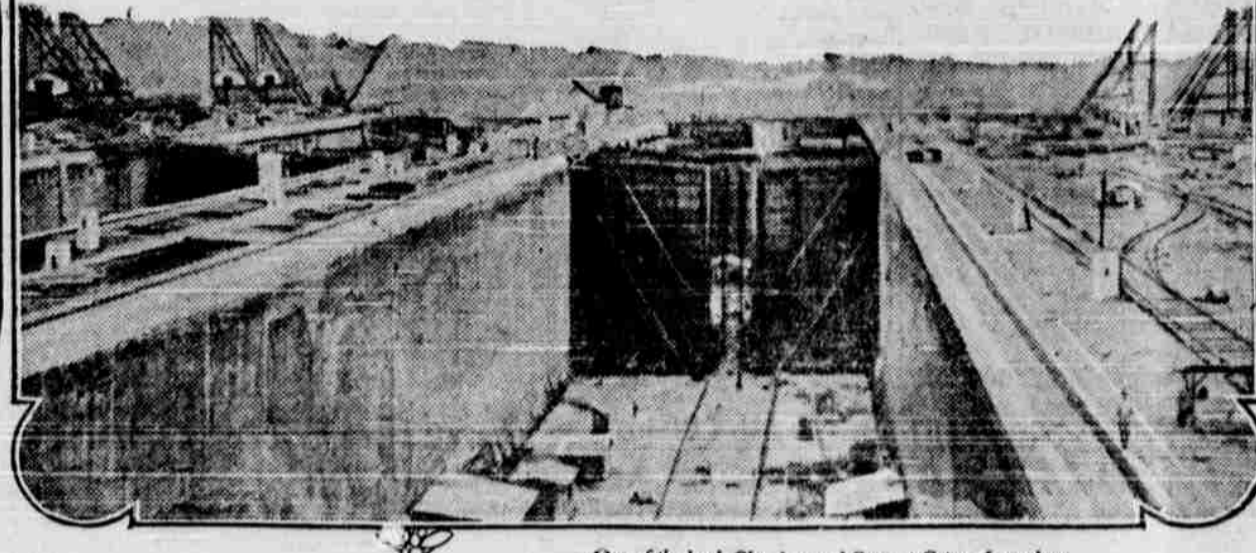
Steam Shovel in the Culebra Cut.



The Church of Santa Ana, Panama.



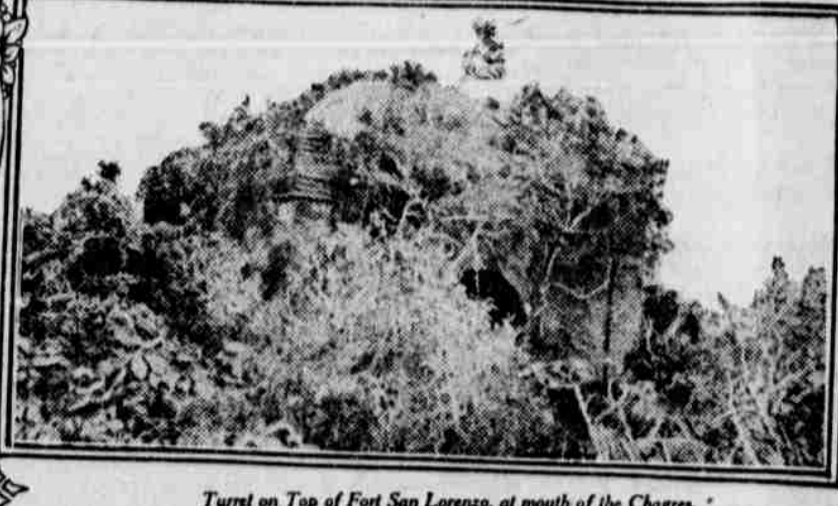
Royal Palms on the Isthmus.



One of the Lock Chambers and Gates at Gatun, from above.



Truck Shifter, which does the work of many men. This device was invented especially for use on the canal work, where frequent shifting of tracks has been necessary.



San Lorenzo castle, was captured by Henry Morgan's men in 1670 before he destroyed Panama.

REVERSE SCHEME OF NATURE

Many instances on record where Antagonistic Animals Dwelt Together in Perfect Amity.

Over in Jersey City a few days ago Onofrio Grillo, a carpenter, while making repairs, uncovered a nest of new-born rats. He tried the experiment of putting two of the young rats, estimated to be about two weeks old, with a litter of one-day-old kittens. The mother cat nourished the rats—this

the carpenter testifies. The inborn cat hatred of rats seems to have received a stout denial.

Circus managers for many years have experimented with the formation of incongruous happy families. Barnum long ago had a lion and a lamb living contentedly in a cage together. Even when raw meat was fed the lion and the fateful smell of blood was in the lion's nostrils the equanimity of the happy family was not disturbed. In the Chicago zoo two or three years ago a young lioness gave birth to

three whelps and immediately killed one. The keepers pulled the two others out of the cage and a collie dog with a litter of pups was brought to the zoo. The little lions fed at the collie's breast the same as her own. She cherished them the same as she did her own children and they played with the puppies as they got older. What would have happened when they grew as large as their foster mother was not permitted to come near for when their claws lengthened so they hurt both mother and pups

they were removed to a cage by themselves. The collie missed them badly for a day or two and searched all over for them.

Conditional Surrender.
Friendly Constable—Come, come, sir, pull yourself together; there's your wife calling you.
Festive Gent—What she call—blow calling me. Billy or William?
Constable—William, sir.
Festive Gent—Then I'm not going—blow—come—London Opinion.



GIVES CONVICTS "CHANCE" NEEDED

Head of Big New York Concern Known as "Soul-Saver of Sing Sing."

WAS ONCE IN PENITENTIARY

Unjustly Sentenced, as He Maintains, What He Saw There Led Him to Adopt His Peculiar Business Plan, and He Has Never Regretted It—Good, Efficient Workers, and All Honest—Refers to Prison as "Crime College."

MR. EMPLOYER SAW THIS IN SING SING PRISON.

Forty per cent. of the men in prison ought not to have been sent there. Nearly 50 per cent. of the inmates of Sing Sing are "dope fiends." Twenty per cent. are "dope fiends" when they go there. The remaining 30 per cent. acquire the habit in their cells.

There should be prison segregation—prisons for first offenders, places for old-timers, for degenerates and for murderers. By mixing all together, the pestilence of one is spread to the other. Thus the prison becomes a crime college.

NEW YORK.—Ex-convict and the head of one of the largest manufacturing concerns in New York! That's the record of a man who served almost a year and a half in the water-soaked cells of the state's chief prison. But here's his trait that makes every man with a heart love him—"He's the Soul-Saver of Sing Sing."

This manufacturing company is doing a reputable business in lower New York city. Its president and proprietor is a former inmate of the prison, and his office employes have served prison sentences for nearly every variety of crime.

The firm does about \$1,000,000 a year business and enjoys an enviable standing for integrity and reliability. The fatbird proprietor has an intimate acquaintance with every notorious criminal in Sing Sing prison, gained while he was doing time as a fellow prisoner. He always hires his employes direct from prison cells as they are about to be paroled.

This is what a business rival said of him: "He is far more honest than most men who have never seen a jail. I never question his word. It is as good as his bond, and I should be satisfied to transact any business, no matter how large, with him on his verbal agreement."

This is what the employer says of his thirty ex-convict office employes: "I have employed several hundred at various times, and I have never had one go back on me. These convicts have proven 100 per cent. honest."

Found Guilty of Fraud.

For obvious reasons the name of this convict-manufacturer is withheld, though he makes no secret of his own life-story. Briefly, ten years ago he was accused of taking part in a conspiracy to defraud, was tried and found guilty. For a long time the case hung on the records, but finally he was sent to Sing Sing on a fifteen months' sentence, which he served.

It was what he saw there that caused him to start his unique employment shop for ex-convicts. While living with two other men in a cell, three feet six inches by seven feet, with the water seeping and dripping down the stone walls of the century-old hell-hole, he developed some radical ideas on the present-day theory of prisons and prisoners.

He had ample opportunity to study the civilization that openly tolerates the throwing of men, who have made a single slip, into one of those three-by-seven cells, with a pair of the lowest, most hardened, degenerate crooks that can be found for companions. He formed opinions as to whether a year or two of life in these cells with the dregs of human degeneracy for company was of much practical value in reforming a young clerk of good family who took a small sum of money out of the till, or an unemployed boy

who stole to get food for his sick mother or wife.

Knows Convicts Intimately. He studied the men and their environment, and worked out the result of the combination. He got a good idea of the advantage to youthful convicts of having cocaine and morphine smuggled in to them by keepers a lot more crooked than the prisoners they guarded. He formed some impressions of whether the prerogative of a prison is to reform or create criminals, and he got to know that even a man with a jail sentence at his back is a human being.

These things were what made him determine to spend the rest of his business days—when he got out himself—helping "the boys," as he calls them, get a start despite the prison which keeps many of them crooked. He found that a man out on parole needed two things, principally—encouragement, and a chance to make an honest living. And he determined that so long as it was in his power he would provide those dual requisites.

These are some of the home made statistics he compiled during his sojourn in a Sing Sing cell:

Forty per cent. of the men in prison ought not to have been sent there. Nearly 50 per cent. of the inmates of Sing Sing are dope fiends.

Twenty per cent. are dope fiends when they go there. The remaining 30 per cent. acquire the habit in their cells.

There should be prison segregation—prisons for first offenders, places for old-timers, for murderers, for degenerates. By mixing all together, the pestilence of each is spread to the others, and the prison becomes a Crime College.

Says It Does Not Reform. "An investigation of Sing Sing's 1,600 convicts will show any fair-minded man that the penal system of today does not reform criminals or benefit society," said the president of that unique company. He is a tall, wide-shouldered, black-haired, earnest-faced man. One needs but to look at him and talk with him to discover there was a blunder somewhere.

"Yes, I have taken all my office force from Sing Sing and Elmira. I find them good, efficient, earnest workers. Do I have any fear of employing them direct from a cell? No; of course, not. I know them, and they know me. We understand each other. Some of them were up there when I was. We got to know each other, and I could pick my men. I never have employed one that has not proved himself reliable.

"I suppose I receive several hundred applications for jobs from Sing Sing yearly. I investigate them all. If I haven't a place I find other work for them. Not long ago I got a man out of his cell into a bank downtown. He's doing well and they know his story and trust him.

Giving All a "Chance."

"You see, I took up this work after seeing what sort of a chance the boys at Sing Sing had. It was pretty plain they needed help when they got out. Nobody wants to employ a convict, as a rule, and if you're going to keep a man who has committed crime from going back to it when he gets out of jail, you must show him the world hasn't lost all faith in him. If he sees it has, and can't get a job, and hears his babies crying at home because they're hungry, he's going to feed them. And if he can't do it honestly, he'll do it the other way.

"What they need is a chance—the feeling they aren't blacklisted for life just because they've fallen, and some one to encourage them. That's what I try to give them!

"I found how it was myself, first hand. Remember that! I had money and a big business when I came out, but I had that blacklist bugaboo to face and I needed some one to encourage me. If a man doesn't get that its back to the old game, or—the river, generally.

Best Way to Put Down Crime.

"If people only would realize these boys are not so bad as they're painted—I mean the first time men who've made a mistake. Just one little mistake's enough, you know. It would make a lot of difference if somebody'd help them out when they first get paroled. I know of no better way of cutting down crime than helping the criminals to quit it.

"You see, I've got faith in human beings. A man's naturally honest. But let me give you an example of how the prison system helps them to be dishonest! In one of those three-by-seven cells, when I was up there, were two men. One was an old-time safe cracker doing a long 'bit.' He was hard as nails—mean and crooked to the soul, and cruel. The other was

WHY I EMPLOY ONLY CONVICTS.

By New York Manufacturer Who Was in Prison.

I have taken my office force from Sing Sing and Elmira. I find them good, efficient, earnest workers.

I have no fear in employing them direct from the cell. I know them and they know me. We understand each other.

Some of these boys were up there when I was. We got to know each other, and I could pick my men.

I have never employed an ex-convict who has not proven himself reliable. The rule is invariable the country over.

I receive several hundred applications for jobs from Sing Sing each year. I investigate all of them. If I haven't got a place I find other work for them. Not long ago I got a man out of his cell into a downtown bank. He's doing well.

The "blacklist" is the bugaboo that confronts a man when he emerges from Sing Sing. I had money and a big business when I came out, but my social standing was gone. I've risen above the stigma, which I maintain was falsely applied, and I have a good trade.

I've got faith in human beings. A man's naturally honest. Two-thirds of the men in Sing Sing are "dope fiends." That's why I'm giving those boys a chance.

a miserable wretch who was there for moral degeneracy—a horrible, repulsive creature of the most revolting type. Into that cell, occupied by these two men, was put a young fellow who had been caught trying to steal a diamond from a jeweler. He had tried to steal it because his mother was dying of consumption and he wanted money to get delicacies for her, and he didn't have a job. For two years he was scheduled to spend fourteen hours a day in that cell with those other men. Can you imagine what he will be when he comes out?

"Dope" Their Worst Failing.

"They sell dope, too, and if a man isn't a fiend when he goes in, it is likely he will be when he comes out. Naturally, in running my business, I have to avoid the dope fiends. I cannot employ them. Their place is in a hospital, not in prison.

"I have a letter today from a boy in Sing Sing. He is in a cell with two cocaine fiends. He is a first offender, and does not even smoke or drink. He must spend three years with his drug-crazed companions.

"Sing Sing is merely a cesspool of humanity, where contamination is spread to every person that enters. And yet our civilization tolerates such conditions. Is it any wonder I am trying to give the poor fellows there a chance to get on their feet? But the prisons are turning out habitual crooks a good deal faster than a few of us can reform them."

News of Antarctic.

The editor of the Adele Blizard sends wireless greetings to his newspaper contemporaries the world over. The Blizard, which will be printed on Adelleland, the headquarters of Dr. Mawson, the Antarctic explorer, has just made its bow to the public. It will be printed once a month and will give all the news of the Antarctic continent. The editor says that the first number, which was of twenty-six pages was a great success except for the fact that the circulation was limited. Everybody except the seals and penguins had gone into winter quarters. The members of the Mawson party, the editor of the Blizard says, are almost snowed up in their huts, but are all healthy and able to attend to the scientific instruments, which are working in an efficient manner.

Diet and Caste.

The private secretary of the maharajah of Jhalawar recently gave a lecture on food in London, in the course of which he stated that the eating of onions is conducive to "darkness of spirit." He also avowed that the caste system in India is largely regulated by diet. Thus, those of the highest caste only eat vegetarian meals in order to keep their souls pure. Members of another caste are allowed to eat meat so that they may become fitted to be warriors; while the lowest caste of all eat "stale, flat foods," which suit their unspiritual natures.



Making the World Bloom.

Will S. Monroe, professor of psychology at the Montclair (N. J.) state normal school, who has gone abroad, carried with him a collection of seeds of the wild flowers and plants of the New Jersey hills, which he will scatter on his travels in sections of Europe. Mr. Monroe will make a similar collection of seeds and flora of the European countries, and these seeds he will plant in New Jersey. Mr. Monroe has carried out this program for several years, and has effected the trans-

plantation of the flowers of many countries to that state, and New Jersey flowers and plants which he transferred are nourishing in Bulgaria, Bohemia, Switzerland and Greece. This summer Mr. Monroe will place most of the Jersey seed in Greece.

Bird's Nest Within Tree Trunk. While cutting up an ash tree at a sawmill at Embleton, Cumberland, England, the sawyers observed a dark object in the center of the trunk. It was found to be a sparrow's nest con-

taining the feathers and skeleton of a dead bird and four eggs. The egg shells were exceedingly well preserved, but in the attempt to extricate them some were broken, and it was found that their contents had been entirely absorbed. It is assumed that the bird built its nest in a hollow of the tree, and died while sitting on the eggs, the whole becoming sealed up as the tree grew. The nest had probably been built a century ago, the tree being more than 100 years old.