

has brought increased prosperity to these states. The city of Para, it may be added, incidentally, has among other distinctions, three that I will mention. First, it guards the mouth of the Amazon; second, it is noted as the second rubber port, and third, it has evening rains. It rains there at 7 o'clock with such regularity—some insist that it rains every evening—that engagements are made for "after the rain," instead of for a fixed hour.

Brazil exported last year merchandise to the value of three hundred and eight million dollars; coffee alone accounted for nearly one hundred and sixty-two millions of this sum—more than one-half—and the rubber exported was valued at ninety-one millions, or nearly one-third of the total export.

Hides and skins came next, and mate (a kind of tea largely used in Argentina and Uruguay) was exported to the value of eight millions. Brazil last year exported seven and a half million dollars worth of cocoa, six million dollars worth of tobacco, three million dollars worth of sugar, and nearly as much cotton. Diamonds, semi-precious stones, such as tourmalines and carbons, used for drilling, are items of some importance in the nation's commerce, and iron ore is likely to become a very important item if some of the statements made in regard to the deposits of this ore can be relied upon. A year-book of 1909 claims that Brazil has the largest deposit of pure and rich iron ore in the world, but as the ore beds have not been fully surveyed the estimates may be exaggerated.

Brazil has a great variety of woods, vines and plants. One vine which interested me especially has a heart in the shape of a Maltese Cross—it shows as plainly in a cross section as if it were inlaid.

The United States is the largest purchaser of Brazilian coffee and rubber, and a large purchaser of other Brazilian exports. In 1909 the United States bought of Brazil one hundred and twenty-three million dollars worth of merchandise, or more than one-third of all of Brazil's exports, while our country sold to Brazil only twenty-two million dollars worth of goods out of Brazil's total purchases of one hundred and seventy-nine million dollars. This is not a very satisfactory showing. Great Britain bought forty-nine million dollars worth of Brazil, and sold her merchandise to the value of forty-eight millions; Germany bought forty-eight millions worth and sold twenty-eight millions; France's purchases amounted to twenty-six millions and her sales to twenty-eight millions, while Argentina, also a large customer, bought to the amount of ten millions and sold seventeen millions.

The only consolation we have is in the fact that our percentage of increase in sales was a little larger than that of any other of the leading nations, but only one per cent more than Germany's percentage of increase. That nation is pushing her trade here as elsewhere in South America.

In speaking of the cities of Brazil it is natural to begin with the chief city, especially when that city is the capital, but it is especially appropriate to speak of Rio de Janeiro first because it overshadows all the other cities of the nation in beauty as well as in population. But how can one describe Rio? Imagine a bay twenty miles long and five to ten miles wide—one of the best harbors in the world—studded with nearly a hundred islands of different sizes and shapes, and connected with the ocean by a narrow channel; imagine mountains, some barren piles of stone, and others clad in perennial verdure, rising from a thousand to twenty-five hundred feet high and hemming the bay in on every side; and then imagine a great city occupying the space between the sea and the mountains—a city with beautiful avenues following the graceful curves of the shore, with long shaded streets lined with residences, stretching back from the water and penetrating a half dozen picturesque valleys which lose themselves in the foothills—a city with handsome gardens, numerous parks, and many stately buildings—imagine all this if you can and you will then have some idea of Rio. But you can not imagine it; the city must be seen to be appreciated. As I journeyed toward Brazil I was constantly asked, when praising other cities, "But have you seen Rio?" and when I answered in the negative I was given a glowing description of the city, but the descriptions did not do it justice—they left room for surprise.

Just back of the city is a mountain, a little more than two thousand feet high, called Corcovado which terminates in a great flat rock. This eminence is easily reached by an electric line and from this point you can look down

upon the harbor and the city—and such a view as greets the eye can be seen nowhere else. It would seem impossible for the art of man to add to the magnificence with which nature has dowered this spot, but it has. The combination of water and land, of hill and glen, is made even more beautiful by the winding boulevards and the tile-roofed houses. Paraphrasing the eulogy once pronounced on the strawberry, I might describe the location of Rio de Janeiro by saying that doubtless God might have made a better site for a city, but that doubtless he never did.

Within the last few years a large sum has been expended in improving the looks of Rio; a wide street called Central Avenue, has been cut through the city from the port of landing to a point, a little more than a mile distant, where the bay comes around on the other side, and this avenue is becoming the principal retail and office section. Large modern buildings are being erected along this avenue, and it has already won international fame as a thoroughfare. The finest office building is that owned and occupied by the "Jornal de Commercio," the oldest and most influential newspaper of Brazil. Dr. Jose Carlos Rodrigues, the managing director and editor, is one of those rare spirits who appear from time to time and leave a lasting impression upon their generation and country. When a young man he spent twelve years in the United States and several years in Europe. While in the states he drank deep of the spirit of democracy, and for a considerable portion of the time edited a paper called the "New World" which had a large circulation in Brazil. Through this paper he endeavored to bring to the attention of his countrymen the best that he found in the outside world. As an illustration of his political tendencies, as well as of his foresight, I cite the fact that fifteen years before the emperor was dethroned he published an editorial in his paper describing Washington's place in American history and advised the emperor to proclaim a republic and become the Father of his Country. He assured him that the people of Brazil would, out of gratitude, elect him the republic's first president, and give him a place in the history of Brazil similar to that which Washington occupied in the United States. Bold advice for a young man to offer to his nation's ruler, but it was wise advice. The emperor disregarded it and, later, left Brazil in the night-time at the suggestion of the authorities after a republic had succeeded the empire. Dr. Rodrigues continues the champion of high ideals, and increasing weight is given to his words. Clear-headed, conscientious, courageous, and incorruptible, he, a private citizen and refusing office, exerts more influence upon public affairs than any other man in the republic.

But to return to Rio. Her mayor, Senor Zeredello de Correa, is one of the most democratic as well as one of the most tireless officials whom I have met in South America. When I called upon him I found a crowd of men and women waiting for an audience, and learned that at stated hours he hears individual petitions, complaints and protests. Mayor Correa is actively at work widening streets, extending parks, and otherwise beautifying the city. One of the improvements in contemplation is a playground for the children—strange to say, there is not in the great city of Rio a public place which the children can call their own.

Like Washington, D. C., Rio is in a district by itself, and the federal government takes pride in the improvement of the city. The street car lines have been extended to the bathing beaches, and to the beauty spots in the surrounding mountains. New public buildings are going up constantly, the most recent being the national library. It is a magnificent structure, designed after the architect had inspected the leading libraries of the United States, and furnished with shelves, cases, etc., of American make. Rio has a new municipal theatre which cost something like four million dollars, and, close by, is the Academy of Arts, also erected recently.

One of the most useful institutions in the city is the Misericordia hospital, which is several centuries old and is supported by the income from a large endowment. It is surpassed by few hospitals in size, and by none in completeness and care. The managing board is composed of prominent spirited citizens and the patients are cared for by Catholic sisters. There are twelve hundred beds for the sick, and the report shows that as many as eleven thousand cases have been received in a year, a third of them foreigners.

Rio has an attractive suburb called Petropolis, forty miles away and some two thousand feet above the sea. The president's summer resi-

dence is there, and most of the foreign representatives live there the year around. With this summer resort so near the citizen of Rio can indulge in mountain air or sea breeze, whichever suits him best, and many alternate between the two places.

But Rio, important as it is, is not the only city of interest. San Paulo, capital of the state of San Paulo, and the second city in size in the republic, occupies a commanding place in the political, educational, and social world. The commercial center of the coffee growing district it has prospered as that industry has grown. Most of the coffee planters have homes there and go out into the country during the coffee gathering season. While in San Paulo I visited the plantation of Count Prates, one of the best equipped in Brazil. He has nearly a million trees and the latest appliances for drying, hulling and sorting the coffee.

Santos, the shipping point for the state of San Paulo, has a splendid harbor. It is twenty-five hundred feet below San Paulo and the road connecting the two cities has a monopoly of this immense coffee traffic. As every bag of San Paulo's share of this product which supplies the world with its breakfast beverage leaves its toll with the railroad as it descends to the sea, the road is a veritable mint. Twelve per cent dividends being allowed upon the amount invested there has been no stinginess in expenditure. The road is substantially built, has double tracks, and these are ballasted. The cars are carried from sea level to the highlands by a wire cable (in five sections) and the protection against landslides and washouts is as complete as possible. The stone retaining walls and the paved drains remind one of the best railroad work in our great cities.

Bahia, for two centuries the capital of Brazil, also has an excellent harbor. It is really two cities in one—a business city along the shore and a residence city two hundred and fifty feet above, with elevators and inclines connecting the two.

Pernambuco, which is situated a little further north, is the center of the sugar and cotton industry.

Bello Horizonte, the capital of Minas Geraes, is near the center of the most populous, and one of the richest of the states of the union and, having been laid out for a capital, it is fast becoming one of the most attractive of the Brazilian cities. Considering the extent of broken country and the size of the rivers, railroad development is proceeding at a satisfactory pace. Brazil now has eleven thousand miles of railroad in operation, two thousand miles more under construction and an additional thirty-five hundred surveyed. Of this mileage, completed and contemplated, the federal government owns almost half and administers a third of the remainder. The lines are being extended south toward Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay, and northeast toward Pernambuco. The government is also planning for an extension of its roads to the Bolivian border to connect with a line which the government of that country has in contemplation.

This government is styled the United States of Brazil, and our federal system has been copied as far as it could be applied to the conditions here. The Brazilian flag, like ours, has a star for each state. I have been impressed by the fact that Brazil has not only borrowed a great deal from us but that her public men speak of this fact with pride. In every speech that I have heard reference has been to points of similarity between Brazil and the United States, and emphasis has been placed upon the long-standing friendship which has existed between the two nations. Baron Rio Branco, minister of foreign affairs, and one of the ablest public men in South America and, I may add, a good friend of the United States, briefly reviewed the history of our diplomatic relations in a speech which he delivered at a dinner given by him. He pointed out that the spirit of independence manifested itself in Brazil immediately after the close of our revolutionary war; that Brazil was the first South American country to enter into commerce with the United States, and the first, also, to endorse the Monroe doctrine. The assembly hall built for the meeting of the Pan-American Congress, and now used for important public gatherings, is called the Monroe Palace in honor of the president whose name has been given to that doctrine.

President Pecanha was as frank as other officials in acknowledging Brazil's indebtedness to the United States, and the same can be said of Marshal Hermes, the newly elected president, and Senor Barbosa, the defeated candidate.

They have just concluded a presidential campaign in Brazil—the first real contest since