

OUR TROPICAL FRUIT GARDEN

Fen Pictures of Jamaica, an Emerald Lying in a Dazzling Blue Sea.

LAND OF GREEN CRUMPLED MOUNTAINS

Fredgial Wealth in Flower, Tree and Fruit—Its Immense Banana Crop, Its Strange People and Surfkissed Coral Reefs.

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It has been through the American appetite for fruit that the most beautiful island of the American tropics has been made habitable for the civilized.

will not under any circumstance mix with him. In the gardens on the hillsides are grapefruit, oranges, bread-fruit, which is the principal fruit of the natives...

The Women Help Load.

Falmouth lies in a bay easily seen from the sea and its clustering hills are honeycombed with here and there a church spire pointing upward, make a bright picture.



OLD CHURCH, PORT ANTONIA.

IN THE FIELD OF ELECTRICITY

Developments in Various Branches of the Subtle Science.

COURT RULING ON TELEPHONE SERVICE

New Departure in Telegraph Key—How Electricity Cuts Steel—Third Rail System in a Tunnel.

The Missouri court of appeals recently rendered a decision defining the rights of users of telephones. It is in line with previous decisions, by which telephone companies are held to be common carriers, and as such are bound to furnish service to anyone offering to comply with their reasonable requirements, whether the instru-

and typewriter in such a manner as to produce a high-speed instrument saving time and labor at the wire. Automatic senders and receivers of one kind or another are submitted to the telegraph companies at the rate of about one a week, and rejected at the same rate.

The first application of the electric motor as a means of propelling vessels. His experiments were made on the River Neva in the year 1839. The use of electric power in this manner has languished until late years, and now when it has again been taken up it is interesting to find that the chief use found for it is in the propulsion of vessels which could not possibly be operated by any other power.

Electricity to Cut Steel.

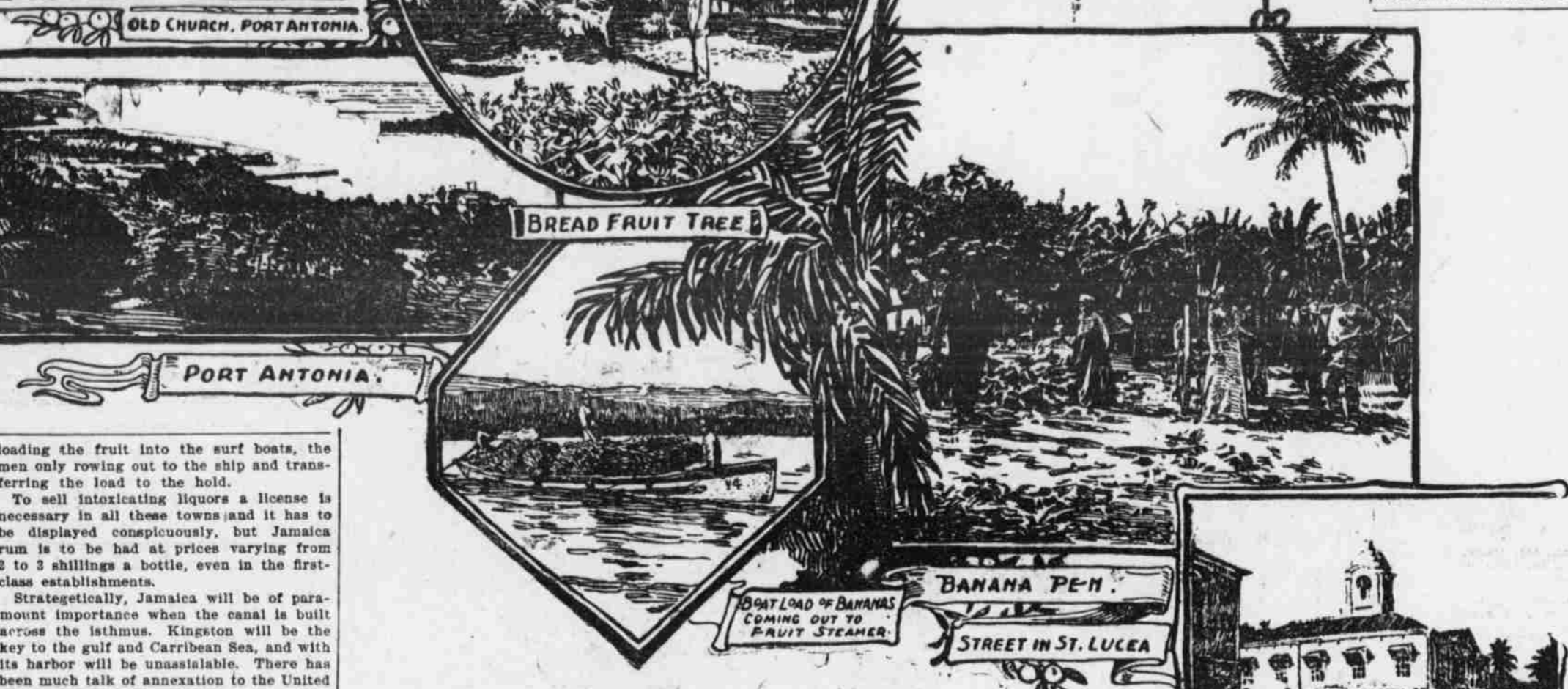
Julius E. Haschke, a Chicago electrician, in discovering a way to apply electricity to iron and steel so as to cut or burn the metal as a warm knife blade does a hard chunk of butter, has brought to bankers

QUAINT FEATURES OF LIFE.

An editorial writer of the Boston Herald relates his experiences in one of the famous restaurants in Place St. Mark, in Venice, where the Chicago men lately got into trouble.

Zack Snyder of Byron, Ill., has just won a wager made twenty years ago. In 1880 Snyder and G. A. Mix decided that the spire of the Methodist church was insecure and would soon blow over.

"Do you know why carnations have fallen about 40 per cent in price in the last year or so?" asks a florist quoted by the Philadelphia Record.



find the ship from American or English ports boarded by a man as black as sin, with the intelligence of a serpent and as harmless withal as a child.

Port Antonio, the principal fruit port on the coast, is naturally one of the first places of interest to the lover of the tropical garden.

To describe this one town would take more space than is allotted to an ordinary newspaper, but it is typical of all the other settlements along the shore as far as St. Lucia, at the western end of the island.

The banana pen are on the lowlands and the fruit is brought to the ship in cars, men transferring it to the vessel's hold, until the tally wares the stevedores that the ship is ready for further orders and may proceed to sea and down the shore into the shimmering distance.

Telephone in the Fruit Trade. The next port where the cargo is to be made up will probably be Anaco bay or St. Anns. All along the shore of the island the fruit shippers have run their telephone wires and they can keep track with accuracy of all the bunches of bananas ready for shipment.

Bananas are measured in bunches and the bunches measured in "hands." For instance, a bunch of six or ten hands of bananas will have nine or ten projections of fruit averaging a dozen or more, alternating down the opposite side of the main stem, making a total of more than 100 bananas on the stem.

All tropical towns are somewhat similar in aspect, but these fruits are especially interesting. The huts or houses with their thatched roofs and dusky inhabitants, are very picturesque, but not clean. The women are seen about the yards washing clothes or doing other chores.

With such an abundance of fruit it is strange that bananas are almost the sole exportation. Oranges sell for a shilling a barrel for good ones, yet very few are shipped in comparison with the bananas; the bread fruit is seldom, if ever, exported and grape fruit that sell for pennies for the choice and a penny for the general run.

loading the fruit into the surf boats, the men only rowing out to the ship and transferring the load to the hold.

To sell intoxicating liquors a license is necessary in all these towns and it has to be displayed conspicuously, but Jamaica rum is to be had at prices varying from 2 to 3 shillings a bottle, even in the first-class establishments.

Strategically, Jamaica will be of paramount importance when the canal is built across the isthmus. Kingston will be the key to the gulf and Caribbean Sea, and with its harbor will be unassailable.

As a winter resort, Jamaica certainly ranks high among other West Indian places for the American. It has good water, good law and good liquor, the three things a true New Yorker or Chicagoan most needs.

When the Canal is Built. With the passage of a canal bill the island of Jamaica will become of great interest.

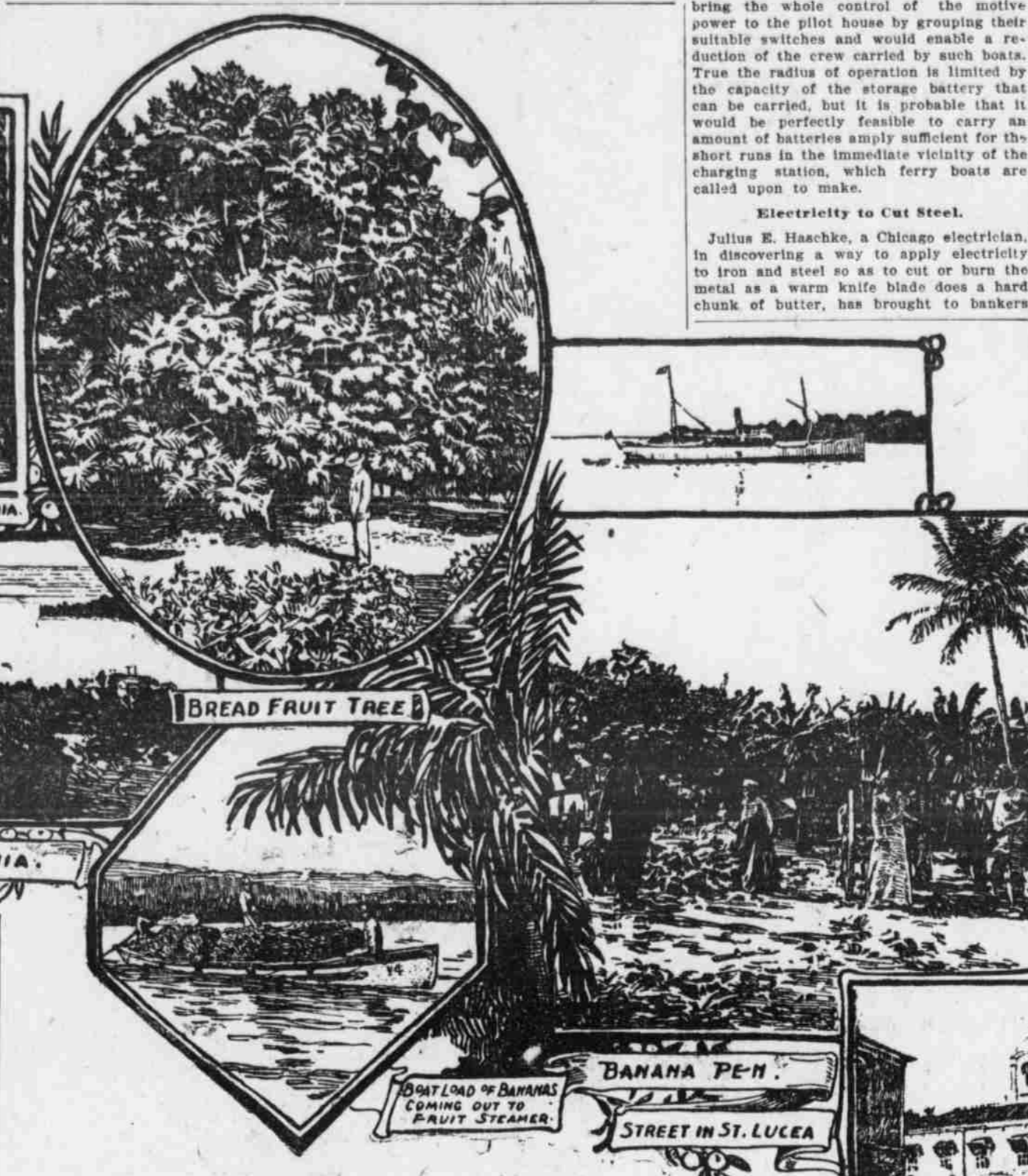
Besides its importance as a naval base, it will probably furnish most of the labor for the giant cut through the isthmus. The displaced black man of great size and exceeding strength will be looked to as a factor to enable the dream of the commerce lover to be realized.

How this drain will be met by the fruit growers of the Jamaica plantations it is hard to see. The population, however, is numerous and prolific and might supply many thousands men. The Jamaican negro is large, strong and finely built, and what is even more necessary for the purpose, is peculiarly immune to the tropical fevers of the isthmus.

I have seen a huge black giant sit for hours keeping tally on coal loaders, passing checks to the men who filed by and declining even to stoop to pick up a fallen check which had escaped his fingers.

One of the peculiarities of the fruit-growing Jamaican in his speech. It is a language of his own, made up from the English pronunciation of the broad "A," the peculiar soft intonation of his neighbor across the way in Cuba, and the rapid, nervous tongue of the Frenchman.

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ment is used in a public station or in a private residence or business place. In this case now decided, a telephone was put in the appellant's place of business, but it did not give satisfaction.

Novel Telegraph Key. Telegraph operators need suffer from paralysis of the wrist no longer if they will use the key just invented by Charles Shirley of 41 Sidney place, Brooklyn.

The rapid increase in the number of telephones in use in northwestern cities has caused the demand of patrons for connections to grow almost faster than the facilities for taking care of the increase can be provided.

The prospective plaintiff is a Whatcom business man and his object will be to recover from the telephone company for the time lost in trying to attract the attention of the central telephone office in order to secure connections with his business patrons.

The London Electrician gives an abstract of the report of C. Northman on his experiments at the Mont Blanc observatory for the purpose of finding out whether the sun emits electro-magnetic rays, or, rather, whether such rays are capable of penetrating to the surface of the earth.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company on March 25 put into active service the third-rail system installed on the belt line between Camden station and Waverly through its tunnels under Baltimore.

Automatic Telegraph Systems. Among all the problems which engage the attention of inventors, says the Boston Transcript, there seems to be none more attractive than that of combining telegraph

is limited only by the capacity of the operators, sender and receiver, and speed, even more than labor-saving, is the thing the telegraph companies are seeking.

It makes no difference to Mr. Haschke whether he is called upon to cut in a big boiler plate in Milwaukee or sever another great steel rib in the Rookery building, Chicago—he goes about his labor with full confidence that he can carry out his part of the contract.

At the rate of a foot in five minutes and cutting or burning away a wide space in the plate the carbon point with its terrible power worked along. Mr. Haschke had no trouble whatever in handling the work, and those who watched him left the place aware of the value of the discovery of the Chicagoan.

The Haschke apparatus is simple. A carbon of electrode is attached to a wood handle by means of a metal clamp; to this clamp a wire is fastened, the other being connected with the object to be operated. If a safe, the second wire is attached to a hinge or lock, as the fancy of the operator dictates.

Third Rail in Tunnel. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company on March 25 put into active service the third-rail system installed on the belt line between Camden station and Waverly through its tunnels under Baltimore.

Electricity to Cut Steel. Julius E. Haschke, a Chicago electrician, in discovering a way to apply electricity to iron and steel so as to cut or burn the metal as a warm knife blade does a hard chunk of butter, has brought to bankers

and other guardians of public treasure a feeling of insecurity. Mr. Haschke did not invent his carbon point—the name given the metal of carnations spoiled because when they became tall they fell over and the flowers rotted in the dust.

It remains upright, for there is a series of rings that take hold of it and guide it in its growth. Before the invention of this device the majority of carnations spoiled because when they became tall they fell over and the flowers rotted in the dust. Now none of them spoil, and hence their present cheapness.

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And Five Section to Follow, Equally Interesting.