

8,000,000 BUNCHES OF BANANAS RAISED EACH YEAR IN COSTA RICA

LITTLE BAND OF AMERICANS WITH AN ARMY OF 7,000 MEN
PRODUCES WEALTH IN TROPICAL LAND WHERE
HEALTH IS PRESERVED AND COMFORTS
ARE ENJOYED.

New Orleans, March 2.—By six o'clock Saturday morning all hands were awake on the Anselm, and peering through the rain in an effort to see if the banana plantations would be sufficiently visible through the mist to permit of proper inspection, writes a Port Limon correspondent of the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

By way of introduction Mr. Schweppe gave the visitors some of the larger facts connected with the industry that sends from Port Limon alone each year eight million bunches of the best commercial fruit grown in the tropical lands of Central America or elsewhere.

He told of the three great districts that are controlled by the United Fruit Company—the Banana River district, the Santa Clara district and the Zent district. In these three districts are now about forty plantations, each under a manager or an assistant manager, and each from five hundred to one hundred acres. The managers, chiefly Americans, with a sprinkling of English, German, natives, &c., all report to the district superintendents, who in turn report to Manager Schweppe, in Port Limon.

These tracts produce about one-half the bananas that are shipped from the country. The other half is purchased by the fruit company from the various estates, great or small, that border the lines of the Costa Rica Railway, the Northern Costa Rica and the smaller branch lines of road that have been put into operation since the company gained its control of the entire system on the Atlantic side of Jan Jose.

It was raining when the party started. It rained all day long. The train soon left Port Limon behind and for some time swept along under over-arching tropical trees and palms down the valley leading into the great Zent banana district. The roadbed, planned and laid with a degree of engineering skill said by experts to be second to none in the States, was in beautiful condition, and never a jar or a jolt disturbed the sightseers, even on the branch lines running through plantations. A man and a half per day, per mile, is the way the company estimates what it costs to keep up the system from end, swamp and mountain. On the Costa Rica or the Northern Railroad of Costa Rica, which was the American built road first controlled by the United Fruit Company, the maximum grade is three per cent, while a 20 foot curve is the greatest on the road. Wooden ties are used, the road being ballasted with a gravel obtained from a great pit back on the foothills.

On the main Costa Rica road that is now owned by the Northern of Costa Rica, leading up through the mountains to San Jose, there is one thirty-three foot curve and three twenty-three foot curves, and there are several places where there are long stretches of four per cent grade. So great is the haulage cost over this road that little hope is maintained that the transcontinental traffic will ever amount to much, even when the fifteen mile gap beyond San Jose shall be completed by the American Bridge Company under the contract with the government which the company has just closed.

Into the Bananas.

For some minutes almost an hour after leaving the town the train skirted through hills, where quaint palmetto thatched huts, boarded up with bamboo, or packing boxes, or tin cans, as the case might be, housed the jamaica negro laborers. Red clay

A DIMPLE MAKER.

Find a child with dimples and chubby arms and legs and you find a healthy child. Find one with drawn face and poor, thin body and you see one that needs Scott's Emulsion. Your doctor will no doubt tell you the child is fat-starved—its food is not nourishing it.

Nothing helps these thin, pale children like Scott's Emulsion. It contains the very element of fat they need. It supplies them with a perfect and quickly digested nourishment. Scott's Emulsion brings dimples and rounded limbs.

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over coral and over volcanic base, pitched and tossed into hillocks all along the route, with great trees leaning over the road, moss draped and orchid spangled. Dense growth packed the spaces next the ground, water dripped and mist hung low.

The sun was so many miles away behind the clouds that it seemed a natural impossibility for any blue sky whatever to be behind the vapor. Jamaica negroes, clad in kahki, in gunny sacks, in anything, barefooted with broad brimmed hats, carrying inevitably the machete and the umbrella, tramped up and down the track, dodged the train by plunging into the jungle, and smiled broad grins as the group on the observation car whirled on into the plantations.

Then the banana district came about the road, first the small farms, ill-kempt, ragged, then the larger private estates; then the great Zent district. For miles and miles the train went through a monotonous, close reaching jungle of bananas. The plants towered, twenty, thirty feet in the air, standing in groups of four and five in cross checked rows of fifteen feet apart, where they were planted when the undergrowth was first cleared away, and permitted to come to first fruition during the year it took the tall timber to rot after having been felled across the young plantings, sprouting from the banana eyes.

Fields were in all stages, because cutting goes on throughout the year, each plant being chopped down when its bunch is cut, and given about three months in which to grow anew and produce another bunch. Three or four times a year the ground is cleared away beneath the plants, grass and sprouting undergrowth being hacked down and allowed to rot away—each clearing done by contract labor at about \$4.50 per hectare (each hectare being 2.4 acres)—and this well done enables the land to continue yielding for years and years without replanting.

On one side of the train, steaming in the rain could be seen a squad of workmen under the negro contracting foreman hacking away with their machetes at the undergrowth, leaving great cross-alternate avenues under the towering tropical foliage.

On the other side could be seen the squads of two or three working with a single mule or pony cutting fruit, one man armed with a long pole, with a cross-knife at the end, "killing" the stalks until they should bend gradually toward him, and then cutting the bunch with his machete, his companions binding the bunches in paniers on the mule's or pony's back and carrying six or eight at a time to the platforms along the track. Each bunch removed, the cutter could be seen chopping the stalks to the ground.

For this work, all were told the negroes receive from two and three-quarters to four cents per bunch, according to the distance from the road with three and a half cents as the average. Each squad is said to be capable of cutting under contract three hundred bunches a day. The yield on a good banana plantation is five hundred bunches per hectare, per annum, with some instances where 750 bunches have been raised, this in the Banana river district.

There are seven varieties of bananas—the regular or standard commercial banana, called the patriota; the red, the gueno, the bueno chino, the mazana, the datil and the Indian. The fruit company, so it was said, allows itself on its book estimates twenty-three cents a bunch, gold, as the cost of production. It pays thirty-one cents cash down on the platform to all the producers of bananas on independent estates.

A striking feature mentioned in connection with the banana culture that the producers mentioned in connection with the declaration that the fruit grew best seven or eight miles from the coast was that the annual rainfall in the banana district had been 142 inches—just twice that of New Orleans during the last year, and that the year had not been exceptionally wet.

The Great System.

Now and then as the train went on the house of a plantation manager could be seen, as a rule standing high above the ground, with garden and outhouses about it. Sometimes rather bedraggled and weather beaten.

At Zent, the headquarters of the Zent district, Superintendent Cutler,

a young fellow not two years from Dartmouth College, boarded the train and was introduced to the party. A Down East Yankee, over six feet tall, with bronzed face, yellow hair and a boyish smile, he is now at the head of the finest district of the finest banana region in the world, and has about seven thousand acres of land under his supervision, as well as 2,700 acres of new land being brought into cultivation.

After a further trip up the Zent Valley, the party of twenty-odd returned to Zent, where breakfast was served at noon in the railway eating house, but served in a manner, and with a menu rather to be expected in the best Central American private country homes.

After breakfast the train began its return swing toward the city over another bit of road and through a new stretch of banana country on the up coast side. Through miles on miles of valley the scenery of the morning was repeated, the vista extending down the track between the bananas and the forests.

Out of the Zent district the train ran into the coast country, then along the strip of rugged coral, above the city, where is Smugglers' Bay, and Pirates' Cove, and other quaint tropic reminders of the days of the buccaners. One little point of land was passed, where old Casa Nova lives, the man who brought Minor C. Keith to Port Limon in 173, paddling him down the coast in a native canoe.

Casa Nova is an ancient citizen now, who lives in his hut beneath the coconut palms and draws his money and his rations from the "company" and gets whatever else in reason he may want.

MILTON

(Palladium Correspondence.)
Milton, Ind., March 2.—Miss Helen Coyne, south of town, entertained Misses Mildred Warren, Lora Beeson and Irene Crook in honor of her ninth birthday, Wednesday evening, with a slumber party.

Miss Carrie Walker entertained Miss Blanche Hale to supper Wednesday evening.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Christian church met with Mrs. Henry Hussey Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Ellen Callaway and Miss Emma Izor were the guests of Mrs. Will Higham Wednesday.

Rev. Mr. Beck is attracting large audiences to the M. E. church where he is assisting Rev. A. R. Jones in a revival meeting. Mr. Beck is a pleasing and forcible speaker.

Notre Dame Lady's Appeal.

To all knowing sufferers of rheumatism, whether muscular or of the joints, sciatica, lumbago, backache, pains in the kidneys or neuralgia pains, to write to her for home treatment which has already cured all of these tortures. She feels it her duty to send it to all sufferers FREE. You can cure yourself at home as thousands will testify—no change of climate being necessary. This simple discovery banishes uric acid from the blood, loosens the stiffened joints, purifies the blood, and brightens the eyes, giving elasticity and tone to the whole system. If the above interests you for proof address Mrs. M. Saunders, Box R. Notre Dame, Ind.

Galveston's Sea Wall

makes life now as safe in that city as on the higher uplands. E. W. Goodloe, who resides on Dutton St., in Waco, Tex., needs no sea wall for safety. He writes: "I have used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption the past five years and it keeps me well and safe. Before that time I had a cough which for years had been growing worse. Now it's gone." Cures chronic coughs, La Grippe, Croup, Whooping Cough and prevents Pneumonia. Pleasant to take. Every bottle guaranteed at A. G. Luken & Co.'s drug store. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of
"Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil is the best remedy for that often fatal disease—croup. Has been used with success in our family for eight years."—Mrs. L. Whiteacre, Buffalo, N. Y.

In Self Defense

Major Hamm, editor and manager of the Constitutionalist, Eminence, Ky., when he was fiercely attacked, four years ago, by Piles, bought a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve, of which he says: "It cured me in ten days and no trouble since." Quickest healer of Burns, Sores, Cuts, and Wounds. 25c at A. G. Luken's drug store.

HOW TWO BEAUTIFUL WOMEN ESCAPED PELVIC CATARRH BY AID OF PE-RU-NA.

Female Weakness Is Usually Pelvic Catarrh. Pe-ru-na Cures Catarrh Wherever Located.



MRS. MABLE BRADFORD

Mrs. Mable Bradford, 18 Church street, Burlington, Vt., Secretary Whittier Oratorio Society, writes:

"Peruna is certainly a wonderful medicine for the ills of women. I have heard it spoken of in the highest praise by many, and certainly my experience is well worthy of a good word."

"I began to have severe pains across my back about a year ago, brought on by a cold, and each subsequent month brought me pain and distress."

"Your remedy was prescribed, and the way it acted upon my system was almost too good to be true. I certainly have regained my health and strength, and I no longer suffer periodical pains and extreme lassitude."—Mable Bradford.

Thousands of Women Cured Every Year by Correspondence—This Is What Dr. Hartman Proposes to Do For You Without Charge.

Women who suffer should read the evidences presented here. We have thousands of letters from grateful friends who tell the same story.

Half the ills that are peculiarly woman's own are of a catarrhal character. Female weakness was not understood for many years.

Dr. Hartman deserves the credit of having determined its real character. He has made catarrh and catarrhal

diseases, including pelvic catarrh a life long study.

Peruna cures catarrh, whether of the pelvic organs or any other organ of the human body.

Pe-ru-na, a Natural Beautifier.

Peruna produces clean, mucous membranes, the basis of facial symmetry and a perfect complexion.

The women have not been slow to discover that a course of Peruna will do more toward restoring youthful beauty than all the devices known to science.

Many a girl has regained her faded beauty, many a matron has lengthened the days of her comely appearance by using Peruna.

In Peruna these women find a prompt and permanent cure.

Thousands of testimonials to this effect are received by Dr. Hartman every year. The good that Peruna has accomplished in this class of cases can scarcely be over-estimated.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis. Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio. All correspondence held strictly confidential.

THE CHICAGO, CINCINNATI & LOUISVILLE R. R.

(THE NEW WAY)
Effective February 25th, 1906.

EAST BOUND.			
Leave Richmond	9:05	4:00	7:55
" " Cottage Grove	9:45	4:40	8:35
Arrive Cincinnati	11:25	6:20	10:15
Arrives from the East.			
Leave Cincinnati	8:30	4:50	8:30
" " Cottage Grove	10:10	6:30	8:10
Arrive Richmond	10:45	7:10	8:40
WEST BOUND.			
Leave Richmond	10:45	7:10	8:50
" " Muncie	12:00	8:25	10:10
Arrive Marion	12:57	9:19	11:05
" " Peru	1:58	10:16	12:00
" " North Judson	A 3:55		
Arrives from the West.			
Leave Peru	5:45	12:50	4:40
Arrive Richmond	9:05	4:00	7:55

*Daily. *Daily except Sunday. *Sunday only. *Runs to North Judson daily except Sunday.
All east-bound trains make direct connections at Cottage Grove with C. H. & D. for Oxford, Hamilton, Liberty, Connersville and Rushville.
For further information regarding rates and train connections, ask

C. A. BLAIR, Pass. and Ticket Agt.
Home Phone 44.

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THOSE WHO THINK

Will Be Impressed by this Statement of a Richmond Citizen.

The reader can hardly doubt the evidence which follows. The statement given here comes from a Richmond resident, and can easily be proven. If you are skeptical, investigate.

Martin Bulac, tailor, 101 West Second street, says: "I was subject to aching pains through my loins and in my kidneys with a tendency of the muscles to tire quickly. The kidney secretions were frequent, scanty and annoying. I was advised to try Doan's Kidney Pills and got a box at A. G. Luken's drug store. I took but a few doses when I felt their beneficial effects, and in a short time my back felt all right. I can recommend Doan's Kidney Pills very highly to anyone suffering from their kidneys."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Dayton & Western Traction Co

Leave Richmond for Eaton, West Alexandria, Johnsville, New Lebanon and Dayton: 5:50, 6:45, 8:10, 9:10, 9:55, 11:10, 11:55 a. m.; 1:10, 1:55, 3:10, 3:55, 5:10, 5:55, 7:10 8:10 p. m. 10:05 and 11:00 p. m. to Eaton and West Alexandria.

New Paris Branch Through Service. Leave Richmond for New Paris: 5:50, 6:45, *8:10 9:55 11:55 a. m. 1:55, 3:55, 5:55, *7:10, *8:10, 10:05 p. m. *Transfer at New Westville.

INTERSTATE LIMITED

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Stopping only at Centerville, Cambridge City, Dublin, Dunreith, Knightstown and Greenfield

	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Leave Richmond	11:50	5:05	8:50
Arrive Eaton	11:30	4:40	8:30
West Alexandria	12:44	4:44	9:44
Dayton	12:25	4:25	9:25

	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Leave Richmond	9:25	2:25	7:25
Arrive Indianapolis	12:10	5:10	10:10

Special tickets must be purchased before boarding train.

No baggage carried. Trunks, etc., may be sent on trains preceding or following.

Direct connection at Dayton with "Lima Limited" trains for Troy, Piqua and Lima, leaving Richmond at 3:53 p. m.

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Arrangements for parties, special cars, etc., call phone or write C. O. Baker, G. F. & P. A., West Alexandria, Ohio.

LADIES I make from \$18 to \$30 per week and want you to have the same opportunity. The work is very pleasant and will pay you handsomely for even your spare time. I speak from experience, as I have often made \$10.00 in a single day. This is no deception. I want no money and will gladly send full particulars to all. Address, Mrs. W. W. Mitchell, Box 10, Portland, Maine.