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# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Country Hill

## PANAMA and its PEOPLE

By FORBES LINDSAY



The cathedral Panama

The people of the States have always maintained an exaggerated idea of the unhealthfulness of the Isthmus of Panama. Even in its worst days, it was less disease-ridden than many other parts of the South American continent. As in all tropical regions, the native of the temperate zone can only avoid illness by observing common sense precautions and maintaining a temperate habit in the matters of diet and drink. At present the Canal Zone and the cities at either end of it are perfectly sanitary and not unpleasant places of abode. The hospital statistics show that the men engaged on the canal enjoy a degree of good health that compares favorably with the experience of the populations of the large cities of North America on this point. A more hearty and vigorous lot it would be difficult to find anywhere. They live clean, well-regulated lives. Their hard work is alleviated by a wholesome amount of leisure and entertainment. They enjoy two conditions highly favorable to the maintenance of good health—interest in life and freedom from worry. The character of the work insures the former and the high salaries the latter.

During the first four months of the year, the climate of the Isthmus is not unlike that of one of the eastern states in summer. The thermometer registers about 80 degrees at midday and falls to about 60 degrees in the evening. Sleep under a blanket is comfortable at night and the mornings are delightfully cool and bracing, especially on the Atlantic side of the divide. The air from the Pacific does not seem to be as heavily charged with ozone. In the wet season, extending from about the first of May to the end of the year, rainfall is abundant and the humidity excessive. Men seem to go through it without any serious difficulty. The temperature rarely exceeds 90 degrees in the day and 70 degrees at night.

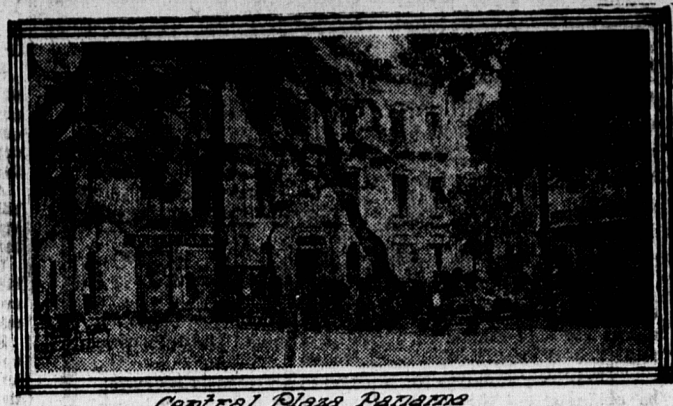
The physical aspects of the country are diversified. In the Zone hills and valleys predominate, with stretches of level savanna upon the borders. The province of Darien is for the most part mountainous wilderness and thick jungle. Some portions of it are practically unknown and rendered uninviting by the hostile attitude of the Indians that occupy it. The impression prevails that rich gold deposits exist in this region and at least one paying mine is in operation.

The provinces of Chiriqui and Veragua, and especially the former, are marvelously endowed with natural resources that are just beginning to attract the attention of the world. The hardwood timber in this territory is worth many millions of dollars and its rubber is equal to the best of the Para variety. In the hills coffee of the best quality is grown and afford ideal cattle ranges. Doubtless under development, this region will yield many valuable crops that have not as yet been thought of, but which will be cultivated under the stimulus of the extensive market that the opening of the canal must create. There are already in Chiriqui a few Americans making money and enjoying life in its salubrious climate. The Panama government is anxious to see their number increased by immigration of the right sort, believing that the resultant heaven will be advantageous to the national growth and prosperity. The influence of the United States, and its territorial interests in Panama, insure exemption from revolution of invasion and guarantee the observance of the rights of Americans. Not but what the Panama may be depended upon to do the fair thing. Their leading men are actuated by the best spirit and the people in general display a marked tendency toward improvement and progress. It is not too much to expect that within 10 years the Panamanians will have attained more nearly

to the United States standard in government and business methods than any other nation on the South American continent.

About 20 years ago Chiriqui became suddenly famous on account of the curious relics which were unearthed from the guacas, or graves, which are the only traces of their existence left by a people who lived in this region at some prehistoric period. Many years ago an Indian accidentally uncovered one of these guacas, which contained a number of gold ornaments. Immediately thousands of the natives engaged in the search for similar repositories of treasure. Several hundred thousand dollars' worth of gold ornaments are believed to have been found but they were melted and sold for their weight in coin. At length the attention of archeologists was attracted and systematic digging was instituted, but the graves had become scarce, by this time. Many articles of ancient workmanship and quaint design were, however, secured by the various museums of the world.

It is a remarkable fact that the people who constructed these sepulchres left no traces of their occupancy on the surface of the ground, although it appears to be a universal human trait to erect monuments, if they be but mounds of rough rock. The graves were made by lining the sides with slabs of stone. In this receptacle were placed stone implements, earthen cooking utensils and various vessels of pottery. In a few instances, instruments made of bone and copper articles were added. Now and again, but only in comparatively rare cases, gold ornaments formed part of the collection. These took the conventionalized forms of animals, the tortoise, scorpion, eagle and lizard being represented in castings that display an astonishing degree of expert-



Central Plaza Panama

ing will surely become one of the chief industries of the land. The country about Chiriqui Bay is already devoted largely to this business, but with improved transportation facilities the entire region along the Costa Rican border—which is as rich as any in the tropics and capable of easy development—will become one vast fruit orchard.

One does not get a correct estimate of the Panamas from travelers who make flying visits and only come in close contact with the lower classes in the capital. You cannot know any people until you have entered their homes and eaten with them. Moreover, the Panamas, while always courteous and genial, have the dignified reserve that characterizes the families of Latin extraction. The well-to-do people are educated and refined. The children are sent to the best colleges of Europe and America and usually speak English fluently and correctly. In many respects the habits and customs of the natives differ from ours, of course, and in not a few we might defer to their example with advantage to ourselves. For instance, Americans on the Isthmus would do better to adopt the practice of taking breakfast at about the middle of the day, instead of eating a heavy meal immediately after rising. Then we might take lessons from the Panamas in politeness and self-possession. A Panama gentleman maintains his equanimity under the most trying circumstances and he cannot be made to understand our word "hustle." There does not appear to be any good reason why he should. He gets through his day's business quite as expeditiously in his own calm and deliberate way as he could be following our fussy fashion.

Thanks to hard efforts, Panama is today as clean and orderly a city as one may find on the continent. Although, as to the latter condition, the people are naturally disposed to be quiet and law-abiding. Any disturbance that may occur is occasioned by foreigners. The natives are exceedingly abstemious in the matter of liquor, and, although saloons are numerous and everyone drinks to some extent, excess is extremely rare. During the two weeks of my recent visit I was on the streets of the city at all hours of the day and night, and upon the occasion of a festivity, but I failed to see a single man showing signs of being affected by strong drink.—By Forbes Lindsay, author of "Panama: The Isthmus and the Canal."

### Tempering Copper a Lost Art

The fine temper of the old Damascus sword blades is a lost art, and it is claimed that never again will swords be made to cut so keenly as those made by the ancient armors in that Old-World city. But none the less modern civilization gets along fairly well. Swords are of little moment now, a days except to adorn the petrons of military officials, and for commercial purposes the present processes of tempering steel appear to be amply sufficient.

But one ancient secret which was possessed by the Egyptians under the ancient Pharaohs and by the natives of Peru under the Aztec monarchs, whose line ended with the unfortunate Montezuma, was the hardening of copper and tempering this metal until they were able to cut the hardest of stones, such as the porphyry and hard granite. It is claimed they even carved

This tempering of copper, now that the metal is being turned out profusely, would mean a tremendous gain in modern civilization. Humboldt, that curious and brilliant scientist, once attempted to analyze the chemical constituents of a chisel made of copper found in Peru among other relics of the lost race of the Incas.

He learned that a small percentage of tin was mixed with the copper to temper the chisel. Yet despite the efforts of Humboldt and many a later scientist to find out how to produce copper chisels that will cut granite and porphyry, the secret of the vanished Aztecs has never been recovered. There may have been some other rare metal used in combining the copper and the tin in which Humboldt missed his comparatively crude analysis of the chisel found in the old silver mines of ancient Peru.

### FREE TRIP FOR THE YOUNG LADIES

(Continued From Second Section.)

Every possible convenience in connection with The Guardian's Big Free Trip to New York City and return is being arranged in detail. Each member of the party will know in advance in fact there will be published in this paper, their post office addresses for every day so that they receive mail matter from anywhere, and thus be in communication with their home and friends all the while on the trip.

In appreciation of the good work done by The Guardian in giving \$500 (Fifteen Dollars) in gold as "Special Prizes" to the candidates who poll the largest number of "special votes" from new and renewal subscriptions within the next few weeks.

These "special votes" must be received at The Guardian Office between 8 a. m. of Thursday, April 8, and 8 a. m. of Thursday, April 15, and the prizes will be given to the winners a few days later—as soon as these "special votes" are counted.

The money will be divided into two parts as follows: The first prize of \$500 in gold will be given to the candidate who polls the largest number of "special votes" within the specified time, and the second prize of \$100 in gold will be given to the candidate who polls the second largest number of "special votes" or more. In the event of two or more candidates receiving the same number of votes the money will be equally divided among them.

Big Free Trip contestants and their friends should not forget the aggregation of magnificent prizes by the Atlantic City Co., Ltd., Halifax, N. S. There are fourteen, one each according to merit to the eight ladies who win the trip, and one each to six of the seventeen who win The Guardian's Consolation prizes. The firm's announcement should be carefully read for all the conditions. Many

ladies are working hard to secure not only the trip but a valuable Britannia prize.

Some people send ballots addressed "The Guardian, Charlottetown," instead of "Tour Editor, The Guardian, Charlottetown." In consequence these go to the wrong department and are delayed being placed to the credit of the candidate for whom they are intended. In consequence when the total vote appears these ballots may have to remain over for another count.

Candidates and their workers are asked to abide by the following instructions:

- 1—Ballots must not be folded but trimmed neatly and wrapped snug in flat packages or envelopes. The name of the candidate should be written outside the package.
- 2—All ballots must be filled out. Blank ballots must be rejected.
- 3—Ballots sent in after they are void will not be accepted, and candidates are warned against sending them in.
- 4—The Tour Department will not be responsible for votes lost in transit, nor will it pay charges on packages of votes sent by messenger.

All monies paid for new and renewal subscriptions to The Guardian on and after February 1st and until the contest closes entitle the candidate for whom they are intended to thousands of votes for each subscription of \$1.00 or more as per below revised schedule:

|   |      |   |        |
|---|------|---|--------|
| Each \$1.00 for subscription 4000 votes | 1.25 | " | 5000   |
| "                                       | 1.50 | " | 6000   |
| "                                       | 1.75 | " | 7000   |
| "                                       | 2.00 | " | 8000   |
| "                                       | 2.25 | " | 9000   |
| "                                       | 2.50 | " | 10,000 |
| "                                       | 2.75 | " | 11,000 |
| "                                       | 3.00 | " | 12,000 |

and so on up to any amount, each \$1.00 new or renewal subscription to any person and to any address winning 4000 votes and each additional 35 cents for the same new or renewal subscription winning 1000 extra votes.

GUARDIAN YEARLY SUBSCRIBERS



The attractive environs of Yarmouth, N. S., through which city the eight happy ladies and their escorts will pass while travelling by the Dominion Atlantic Railway and steamship lines, on the big free trip.

Pictou to Halifax by the Intercolonial Railway.

Halifax to Yarmouth by the far famed Dominion Atlantic Railway.

Yarmouth to Boston by one of those popular D. A. R. steamships.

Boston to New York and New York to Boston by the thoroughly up-to-date Metropolitan S. S. Co.

Boston to St. John by the bustling Eastern Steamship Company.

St. John to Ft. Du Chene by the Intercolonial Railway.

Ft. Du Chene to Summerside by the up-to-date S. S. Empress.

Summerside to Charlottetown by the Prince Edward Island Railway.

Charlottetown and Royalty, will form a district and the two young ladies, resident in any school district therein, who receive the largest number of votes will be elected.

Queen's County, not including Charlottetown and Royalty, will form a district and the two young ladies, resident in any school district therein, who obtain the largest number of votes, will be elected. Any young lady can be accepted as a candidate for Queen's County providing that is her home residence and she nominated for there, even though she may be at present attending College and boarding in Charlottetown.

Kensington, Summerside and Alberton will form a district, and the young lady, resident in any school district of either town, who obtains the largest number of votes, will be elected.

Prince County not including Kensington, Summerside and Alberton will form a district, and the young lady, resident in any school district therein, who obtains the largest number of votes, will be elected.

Montague, Georgetown, Souris East will form a district, and the young lady, resident in any school district of either town, who obtains the largest number of votes, will be elected.

King's County, not including Montague, Georgetown, Souris East, will form a district, and the young lady, resident in any school district therein, who obtains the largest number of votes, will be elected.

The number of nominations from each district and the interest taken in the contest along with the vacation in the territory covered in each district distributes the entire prize list including trips and consolations in the following manner to the eligible ladies obtaining the greatest number of votes.

For the district of Prince County, there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big free trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Charlottetown Business College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Montague, Georgetown and Souris East there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Kensington, Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City

and return.

2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.

For the district of King's County there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Charlottetown Business College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Montague, Georgetown and Souris East there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
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- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Kensington, Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

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- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
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- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
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- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Kensington, Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Montague, Georgetown and Souris East there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Kensington, Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Montague, Georgetown and Souris East there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
- 4th—same as for 3rd.

For the district of Kensington, Summerside and Alberton there will be the following prizes:—

- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
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- 1st—a big trip to New York City and return.
- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
- 3rd—the choice of one of several mail scholarships from the International Correspondence Schools.
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- 2nd—a full course scholarship in the Union Commercial College.
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