

When sanitary measures were instituted in 1904, the campaign against mosquitoes was begun. A gang of about 900 natives was at one time engaged with ladders and paste, sealing all the crevices in the houses in Panama prior to fumigation. Streets were paved, a water system installed and a general clean-up was made.

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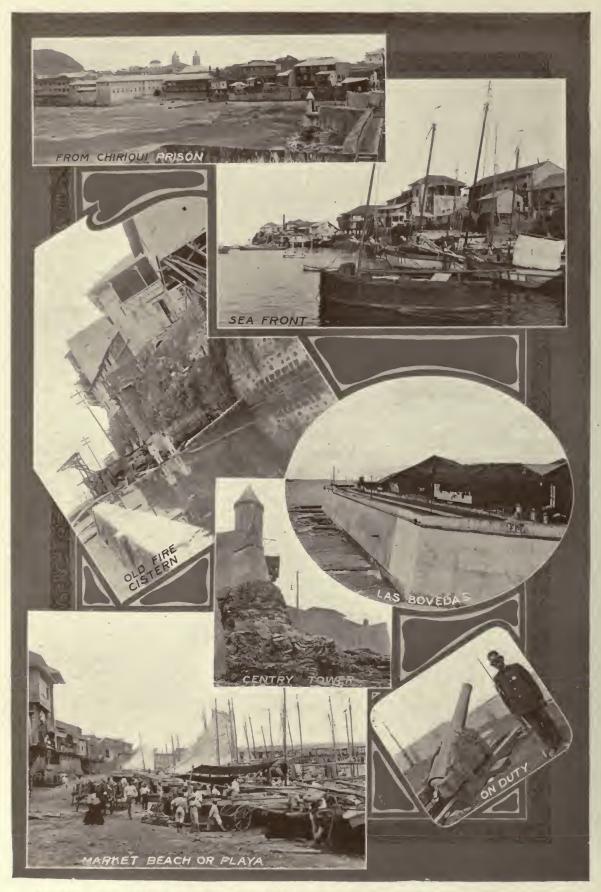




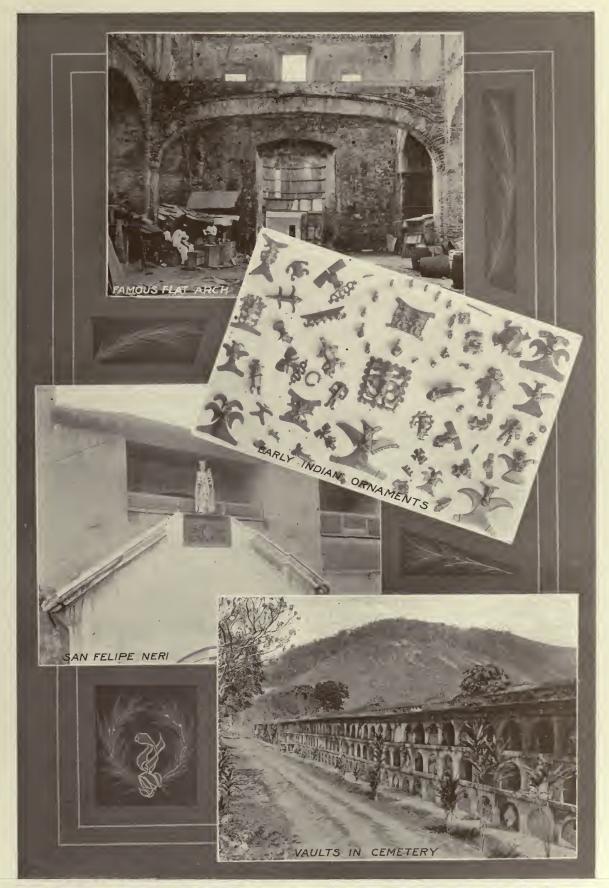
Thirteenth Street before and after the sanitary improvements. All the streets have been renovated in the same manner.



Visitors will be struck with the cleanliness of the streets, due not alone to the reforms instituted by the I. C. C., but to the efforts of the Panamanian Government. Many of the streets are quaint and pretty.

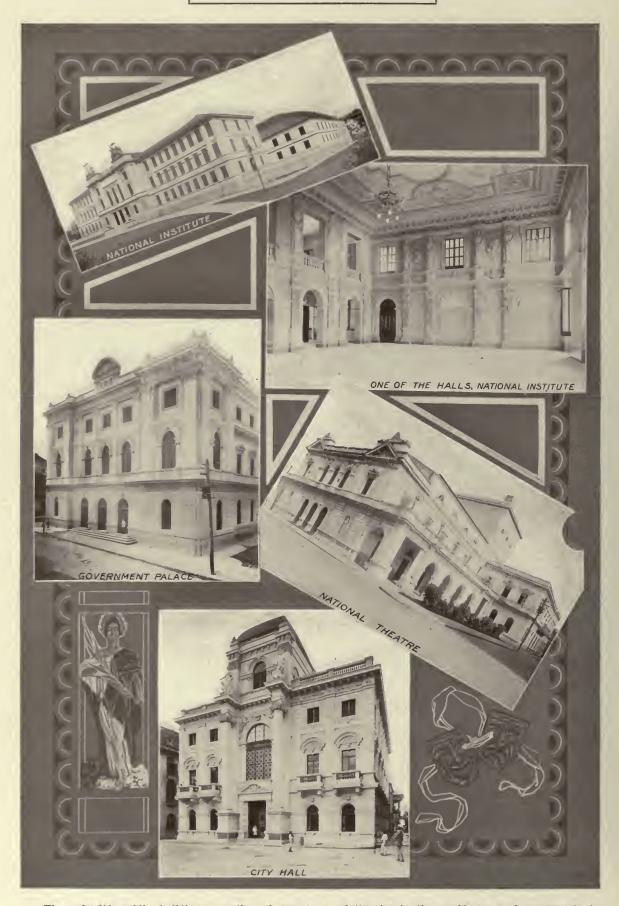


Marketing on the beach is participated in by all nationalities. Boats with supplies come from miles up and down the coast. The old town was completely walled as a protection against pirates. Part of the ancient stone wall still remains. The old fortifications on the sea wall are known as Las Bovedas.

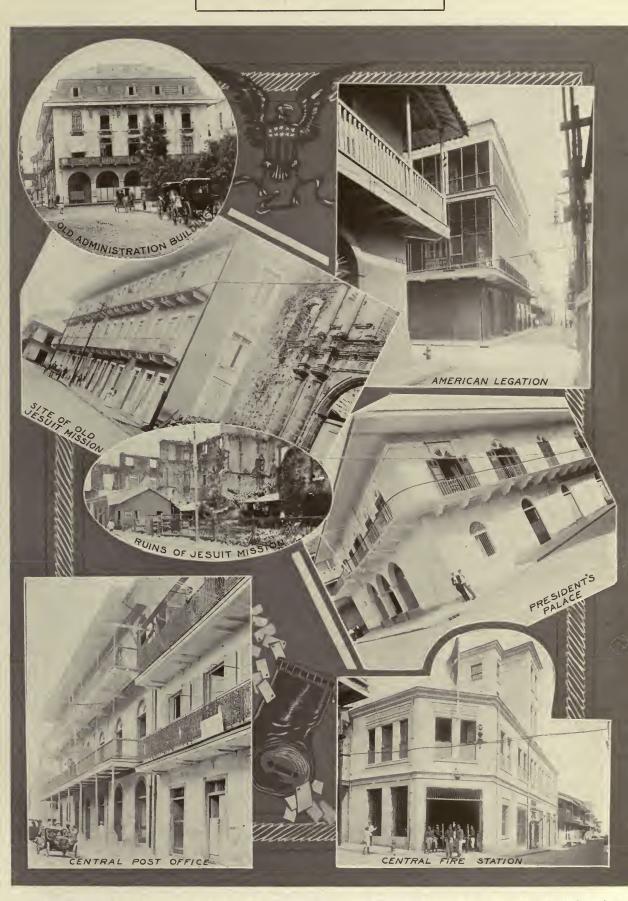


The flat arch in the ruins of Santo Domingo church is one of the best examples of its kind in the world. It is 35 inches wide and 38½ feet across, unsupported by capstones, and about 250 years old. It shows the comparative freedom of the Isthmus from earthquakes. Eich in archæological interest is Ehrman's collection of the gold Huacas (of Chiriqui). San Felipe Neri was the first parish church erected in new Panama, completed in 1688. Now used as a convent.

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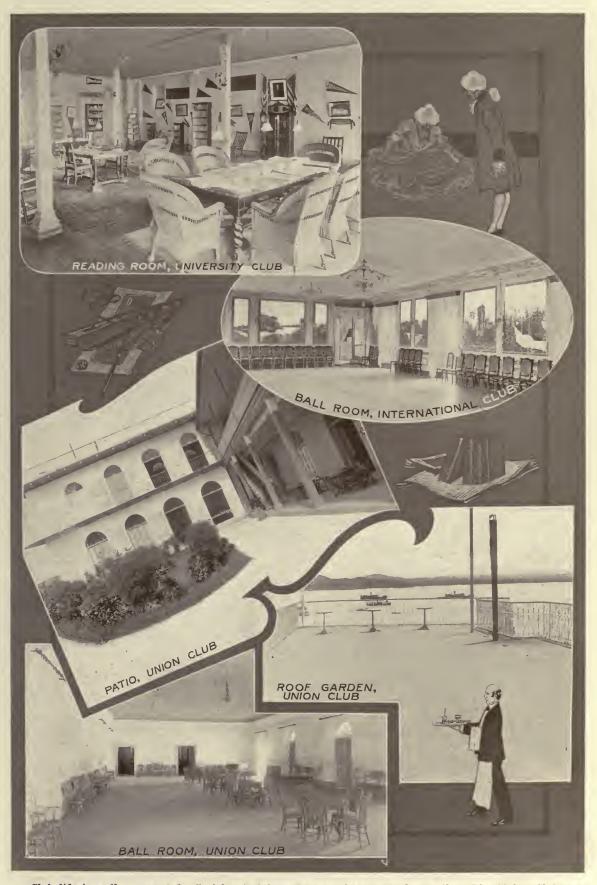
The splendid public buildings, worthy of any town of its size in the world, are real monuments to Panamanian progress. The National Institute has class room for 1000 boys. It cost about \$700,000. The National Theatre and Government Palace cost \$700,000. The City Hall cost \$140,000. G. N. Ruggieri was the Architect, and F. H. Arosemena, the Contractor, for these buildings.



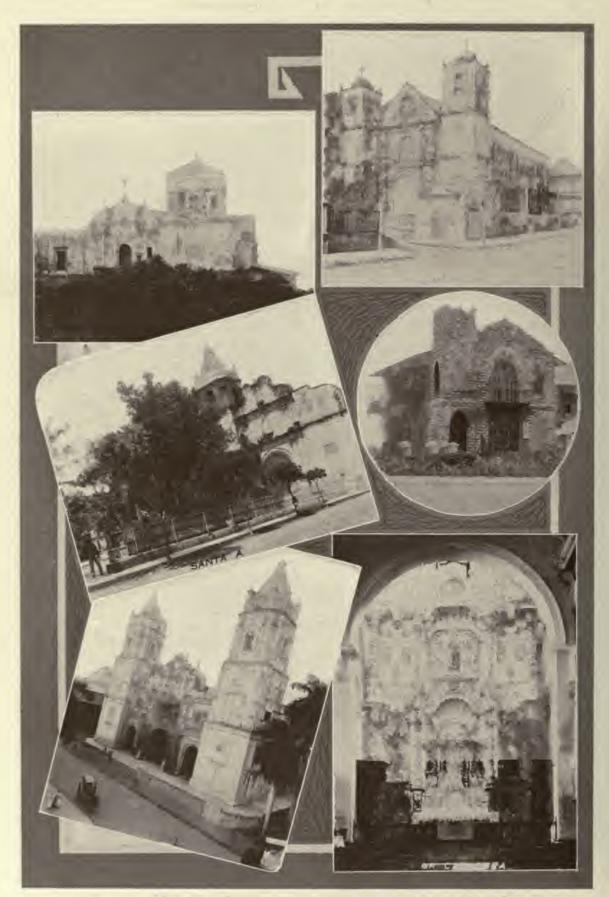
The old Canal Administration Building was built for a hotel and afterwards purchased and used as headquarters by both French Companies, also by the Americans up to 1907. The ruins of the Jesuit Mission (shown in oval) was built in 1759, and destroyed by fire April 26, 1781. On a portion of its site now stands a modern 3-story building. The American Legation was the former residence of the French Chief Engineer and directors.



The public parks are the favorite meeting places of the masses. Band concerts are held every Sunday and Thursday evening at either the Cathedral (Independencia), or Santa Ana Plazas. Assembled are natives in their gala clothes, together with a cosmopolitan mixture of races.

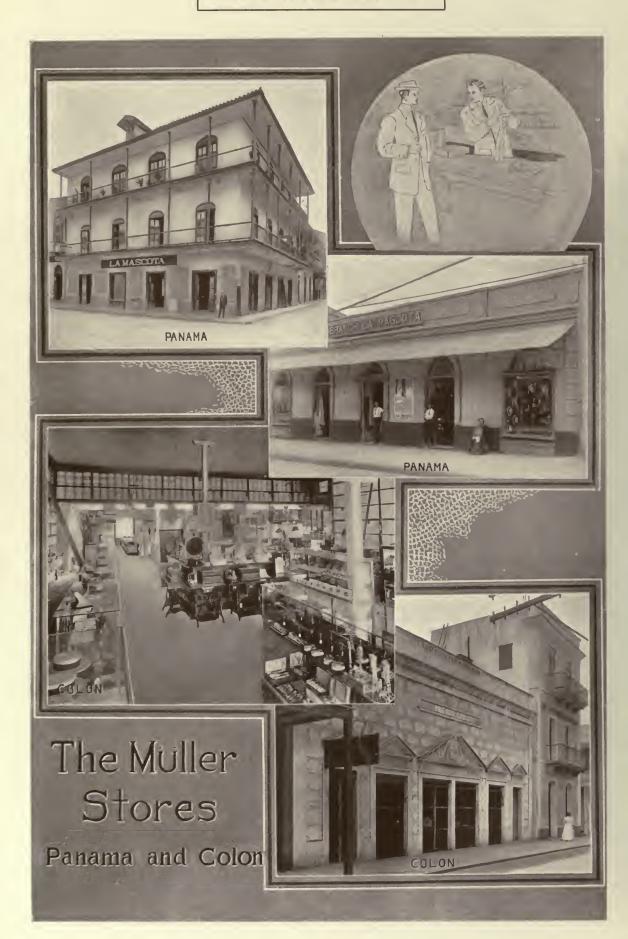


Club life is well represented. Social entertainments are given very frequently. The Union Club was established in 1907 and is the outgrowth of the old Commercial Club. The International Club has been in existence 20 years. The University Club is one well patronized by the Americans. The Centro Peruano and the Spanish Club each have a large following.



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