

**THE ELECTRICITY BUILDING AT THE FAIR.**

The Palace of Electricity occupies a peculiarly fortunate location between the palaces of Manufactures and Mines. The Electrical Palace is one of the most popular on the grounds and is thronged with visitors day and evening. The architects were Messrs. Van Brunt & Howe, of Kansas City, and the composition is very creditable, most of the detail being derived from the science of electricity itself, the conventional detail being relieved by repetitions of the lamp, electro-magnet, etc. The Electricity building is about the same dimensions as the Mines building, but is much more ornate. Our view represents the southern façade, which is very fine. Corinthian pilasters support the heavy cornice. The main entrance is toward the south and consists of a pylon pierced by a triumphal arch 92 feet high, which forms the frame of a hemicycle with polychromatic decorations. This hemicycle or niche affords an effective background for Carl Rohl-Smith's successful statue of Franklin, who is clothed with all the majesty of the discoverer as he holds the key with which he unlocked the great science. The sky line is broken by ten towers and four domes. The caps to the towers are gilded. The north end is more irregular, as it does not face the Court of Honor, where a certain unity in the style must be preserved. Two large apsidal or semicircular projections terminate the sides of the north end, adding to the picturesque effect. Our plans of the main floor and gallery show the location of the various exhibits. Entering the building from the south, the first exhibit is that of the American Bell Telephone Co., who have a small central station installed in a neat pavilion. Visitors pass along in front of a miniature switch-board; the complicated connections and the wires as they pass into a subway are shown through iron gratings. At the right is the exhibit of the Western Electric Company, which includes many whirling devices mounted with incandescent lamps with globes of various colors. The well known specialties of this house, such as switches, central station instruments, are well shown. The exhibits of both the General Electric and the Westinghouse companies are very complete, though of course to see the great dynamos in operation a trip must be made to Machinery Hall, where steam power can be obtained. Such power as is needed in the Electricity building is furnished by electric motors. The Brush, the Fort Wayne Company and others make attractive exhibits; but probably the

most interesting, certainly the most beautiful, exhibit in the building is the Edison Tower of Light, built by the Phoenix Glass Company. From a colonnade thirty feet in diameter rises a shaft seventy-eight feet high studded with thousands of electric lamps an inch and one-half long, with different colored globes arranged so that they will flash in various designs and colors. The column, which is a reproduction of the German Tower of Victory in the Thiergarten of Berlin, is surmounted by an enormous incandescent lamp composed of pieces of cut

**A New Port for Buenos Ayres.**  
The national government of the Argentine Republic

Buenos Ayres, the capital of the Argentine Republic. Ships drawing only 15 or 16 feet of water are obliged to anchor seven or eight miles from the city or even more and discharge their cargoes into shallow-draught lighters—an inconvenient and expensive transfer. Millions of dollars have been spent on the port works, but the rapid silting up of the channel and the irregularity and uncertainty as to the amount of water in the estuary has rendered the expenditure almost useless. At last it has become a question of cutting and keeping clear a channel of immense length or using a new port. The projected port is at San Clemente, Cape San Antonio, at the southeastern entrance to the Rio de la Plata.

Although the vessels engaged in the South American trade are not of the largest size, still the probable development of ocean navigation as regards draught must be considered when a new port is to be built. San Clemente will be provided with sufficient depth of water in the channel and harbor to admit vessels of the largest size existing and those likely to be built in the near future, for San Clemente may be used as a coaling station for men-of-war. The first section of the projected works includes an entrance channel having depth of 29.5 feet at low water and 34.4 feet at high water. The breadth at low water is to be 311 feet. A mole, 5,578 feet long, will inclose the harbor on the west. Other quays are to be built. There is no special difficulty with the

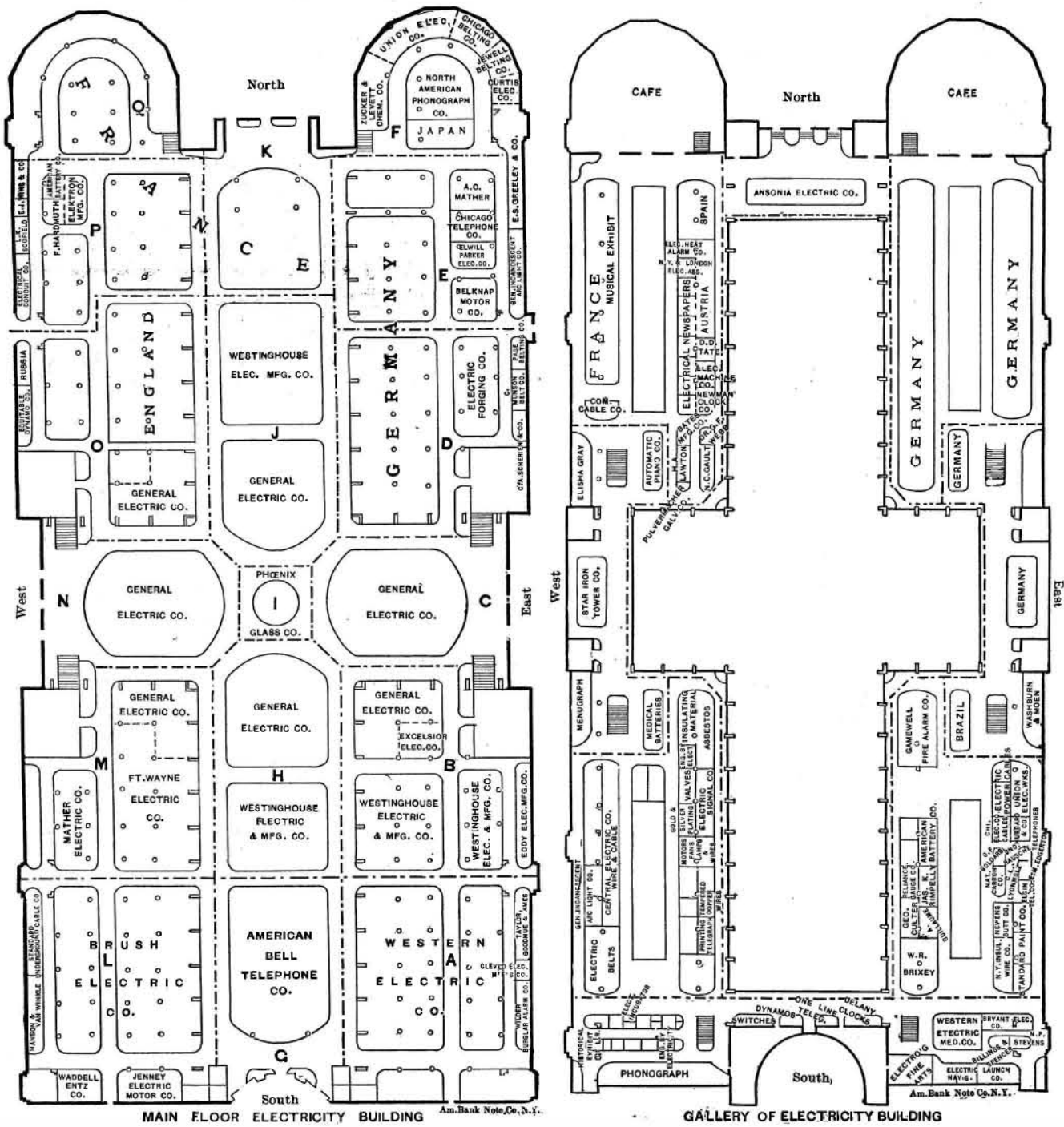
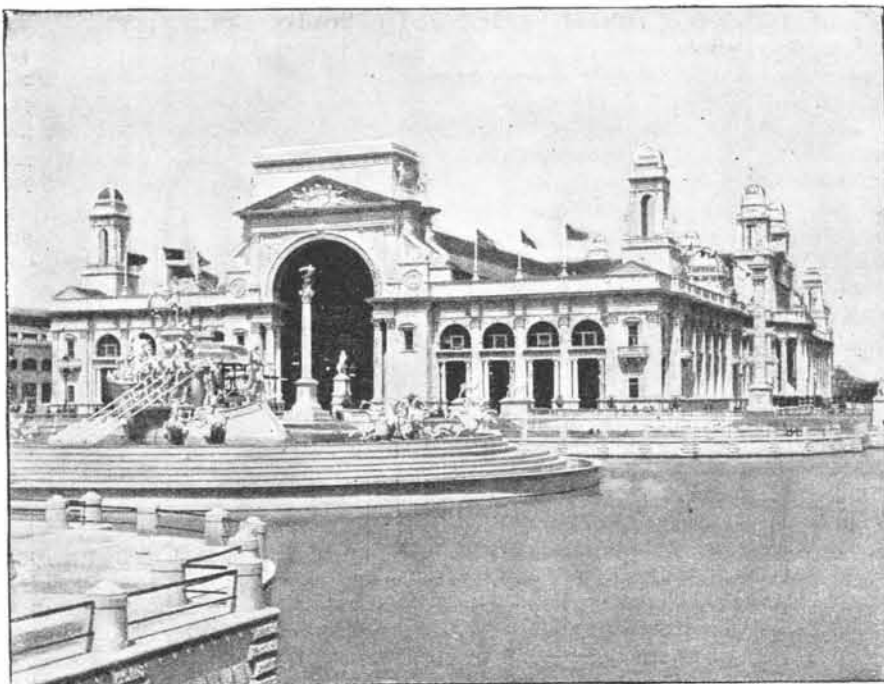
railways, which it is hoped will open up a large and fertile zone of the province. The commerce of the Argentine Republic will, without doubt, be largely increased when the scheme materializes.

**Petroleum in Peru.**

The wells are situated at Talara, about 40 miles north of Paíta, and are under the active management of Mr. Herbert Tweddle, Jr., who was formerly connected with the American Standard Oil Company. Mr. Tweddle has been interviewed recently, and has made known facts which are of general interest. He says the company's lands comprise an area of about 1,000 square miles, the oil region extending for 200 miles north of Talara, and inland for a distance of 16 miles. The first well bored by Mr. Tweddle yielded at the depth of 300 feet a flow of 180 barrels of petroleum daily. Up to the present time they have drilled twenty-six wells, finding oil in every instance. The company are now handling about 100 tons of crude oil per day, the possible output being about 100 barrels per day per well. The depth at which the oil is found is not over 500

feet, whereas in the United States the depth is from 2,000 to 3,000 feet. The distilled product is sold along the coast, while the crude oil has a large sale at Callao for use by the gas companies, for stationary engines, and for the railway locomotives, as a substitute for coal, than which it is 40 to 50 per cent cheaper.

The Union Pacific has fifteen long and a great number of short tunnels, the aggregate length being 8,600 feet.



THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION—THE ELECTRICITY BUILDING.

and the provincial government of Buenos Ayres have granted concessions to Messrs. Gibson & Co. to construct a port at San Clemente, Cape San Antonio, in the province of Buenos Ayres, and railways to connect the port with the existing railway system, which will bring the new port within 200 miles of Buenos Ayres. The estuary of the La Plata is 28 miles wide at Buenos Ayres and 65 miles wide at Monte Video; but owing to the enormous quantity of matter held in suspension by the great river, the estuary has in time become clogged up so as to seriously interfere with the commerce of