

necessary repairs. The Canal unites the Atlantic and the Pacific Fleets.

The Panama Canal is not as much a Canal through the Isthmus, as it is a bridge of water across and over it. The so-called Canal is a huge water bridge, the first in the world's history. It is about 50 miles in length, 85 feet high, with a channel of water through its centre varying in depth from 45 to 87 feet, in width at the bottom from 300 to 1000 feet. The bridge is divided into two sections, Gatun Lake and Culebra Cut, the latter being an arm of the former. The Panama bridge of water connects the Atlantic with the Pacific with three steps of water from both oceans.

In constructing the Panama Bridge and securing a level for its channel, it was necessary to cut a passage through a mountain range near the Pacific end and to erect a lower mountain range or ridge at the Atlantic end. The first is known as the Culebra Cut, and the second, composed in large part of the earth and rock taken from the Cut and transported about thirty miles, is known as the Gatun Dam.

A mountain had to be moved, not by faith, but by dynamite, steam shovels, and railway trains, and set up anew thirty miles away.

In a large sense the work of the Isthmus was divided into two parts, — destructive and constructive, and besides the greater quantity of material which originally had to be excavated millions of tons of material also had to be removed from the channel, now the Canal, owing to the numerous "slides".

The Panama Canal means other canals, which in coming years will occupy our engineers and give employment to thousands of laborers. They will open a vast network of waterways over the land, linking the lakes and rivers of the interior. This will give to the inland sections of the country an enlarged commerce at lower rates, thus providing for a greater industrial growth than now seems possible.

Much of that which has been said as to the benefits which will come as a result of the shortened water route between the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards of the United States applies also to Canada. Vancouver of all the ports