

Buffalo's most interesting feature is its harbour, where a new four-mile breakwater is now building. Here thousands of lake craft come in and go out, loaded with freight of all kinds, with grain and lumber and ore. The banks of Buffalo Creek are lined with enormous elevators. During the season the volume of business transacted here reaches millions on millions of dollars. The facilities for transacting this business represent an investment of millions on millions more.

The Exposition is to be just what its name implies—Pan-American. A site that is all that can be desired, embracing a portion of Delaware Park, has been secured, and the plans of the original promoters have been expanded into a scheme that contemplates something bigger than has ever been attempted in this country, with the exception of the World's Fair at Chicago in 1893.

To accommodate the exhibits, there will be twenty massive buildings, besides a score of smaller ones. It was early decided by the consulting board of architects that the buildings, instead of being classic and monumental, as were the buildings at the World's Fair, should be treated in free Renaissance, with column and entablature used for decorative and not for architectural effect. Instead of the glaring white of Chicago, there will be colour everywhere at Buffalo. The flats will be coloured, and colour used on colour to gain the picturesque detail decided upon.

The plan of the grounds has been aptly described as resembling an inverted T. The plot is a mile long and somewhat more than half a mile wide. The buildings will be mostly on the acquired land. On entering from the park side, the first building will be the Albright Art Gallery, and across the North Bay of the lake the New York State Building will be situated. There will be a triumphal bridge across the lake, and a wide 'approach' to the Esplanade, which will hold 250,000 people. The Esplanade is the cross line of the T. The stem extends to the Propylæa, the massive and decorative structure built to screen the railroad and trolley stations from the Exposition proper.

Ranged along this stem of the T are the buildings of the Exposition. They are grouped artistically, and not set stiffly one after another in rows. The larger buildings are of great size. All are to have red tile roofs, and to be brilliantly decorated with the brightest of colours. The World's Fair was the White City. The Pan-American Exposition will be the Rainbow City. With the great band of red roofs will be combined a yellowish treatment of the outer walls.

There is to be much ornamental work on every building, and numerous pinnacles, towers, minarets, and other architectural opportunities for the colourist. These will be made radiant with the brightest dyes. On some of the buildings the relief work will be coloured and the background left plain. On others the process will be reversed.

Most interesting and most suggestive will be the electrical display and the electrical exhibits. Electricity has advanced with great strides since the World's Fair. The vast dynamos at Niagara Falls will give every opportunity for the demonstration of the latest discoveries and inventions, and the utilisation of the current for decorative and lighting purposes. Experts have been studying the effects of electrical fountains and electrical lighting appliances of all kinds, and every portion of the grounds will be illuminated with countless lights. The lakes and canals will be brilliant, and the outlines of every building and tower picked out with little lamps.

An electrical tower, 375 feet high, will be the chief point of display. It will carry a huge symbolical figure of Electricity dominating the Exposition and the world, and there will be an enormous lighted globe of jewelled glass, on which will be traced in fire the outlines of North and South America. The building to be devoted to Electricity will be one of the largest of the Exposition. The managers of the Exposition say that there will be the most wonderful display the world has ever seen, and their claim is plausible. Certainly Buffalo has at hand the electricity, and there seems to be every disposition to utilise it in every conceivable manner to add to the beauty as well as the utility of the undertaking.

All in all, the Pan-American Exposition promises well. It has the most substantial citizens of Buffalo as its managers. John G. Milburn, one of the leading lawyers of Western New York, is the president, and fifty of the leading men of the city are associated in the direction and management. William I. Buchanan, who had much to do with the World's Fair, is the Director-General. There has been nearly two years of constant work. The enterprise is well along. Enough exhibits have been promised to make it notable among this country's great expositions. It will not be so stupendous as the World's Fair, but it will be a remarkable display of the resources and products of the Western Hemisphere, put against an artistic background of lights and trees and flowers and water. It will be worthy of Buffalo. That means a great deal.

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