Graphic Section

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WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

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Camera News Review

Our Neighbors of South America!

● News articles by Capt. Maxwell M. Corpening, Tribune correspondent, on political and economic situations in South America, as well as on the physical aspects of the countries of that continent, are appearing currently in the daily and Sunday editions of The Tribune. ● In the Picture Section of this issue are reproduced photographs of SouthAmerican scenes.

A Continent Rich in Natural Resources

AS THE new year begins the eyes of the world are focused on the continent of South America.

● This is not strange when one considers that the growing competition for foreign trade among the various powers is casting the vast southern continent of the western hemisphere in a highly important rôle commercially. In the world-wide hunt for cash customers the countries of South America become more significant, perhaps, than at any time in their history.

● South America has been a long time coming into its own—in being recognized as a land with a promising future. Discovered and colonized by white men as early as its sister continent to the north, it has been allowed in the main so far to whittle out its own destiny. Relatively few historians have paid a great deal of attention to it, because of the greater drama of political events transpiring in Europe and elsewhere.

● How one after another of a number of political units of South America broke away from Spain is something of which the ordinary person today knows very little. How Brazil, the largest country of the continent, became the seat of government of its mother country, Portugal, then became an independent empire and finally a republic, is an amazing though more often than not an unfamiliar story.

● South America has matured without the busy outside world knowing much about it—has become of age virtually overnight, after surviving a multitude of infantile ailments known as revolutions.

● And lo! today the United States and Europe learn with no little surprise that South America has a total population of approximately 90 million souls. All of the 90 million except a bare 600,000 are inhabitants of self-governing lands. Europe's last vestiges of colonial possessions in South America proper, not counting islands, are represented by the British, Dutch, and French Guianas, the ownership of which was established finally in the settlement following the Napoleonic wars in Europe. These three countries combined cover only 175,000 square miles of the continent's total of about 7,500,000 square miles. From this last figure it can be seen that South America is almost as large as North America, the area of which is roughly 8,000,000 square miles. In totaling North America's area, however, all of Central America, beginning with Panama at the south, is included.

● From the lofty, lengthy, and snow-crowned ridge of the Andes to the steaming jungles of the Amazon and Orinoco basins South America has virtually every type of terrain and every kind of climate that can (Continued on page two.)