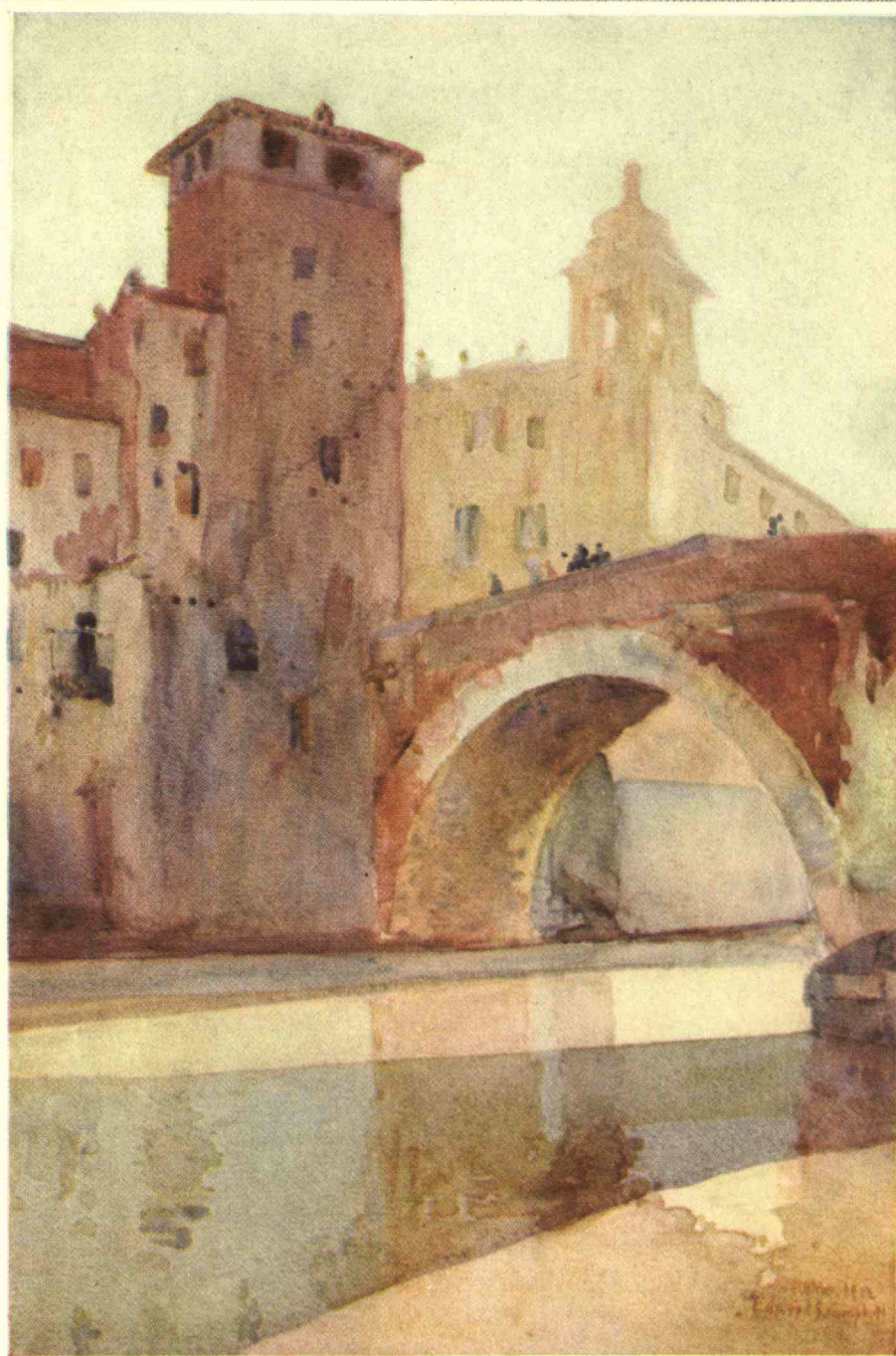


THE TECHNOLOGY REVIEW



FEBRUARY

1930

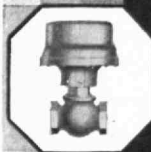


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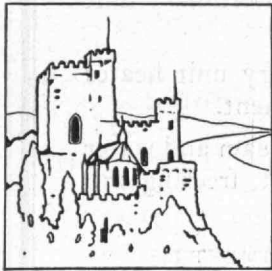
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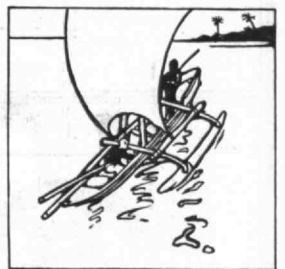
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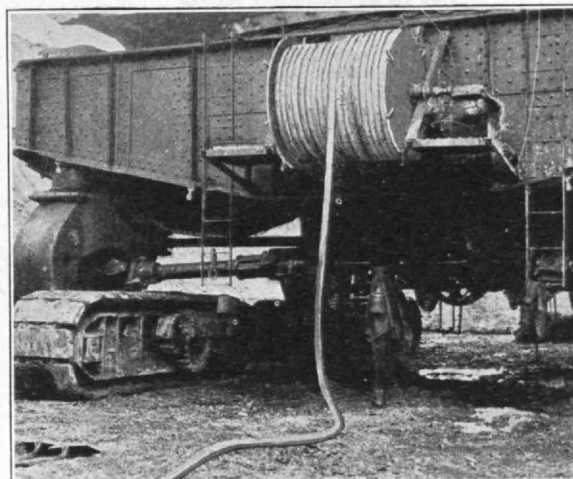
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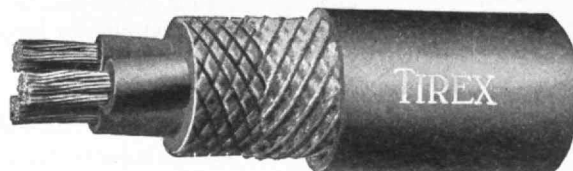
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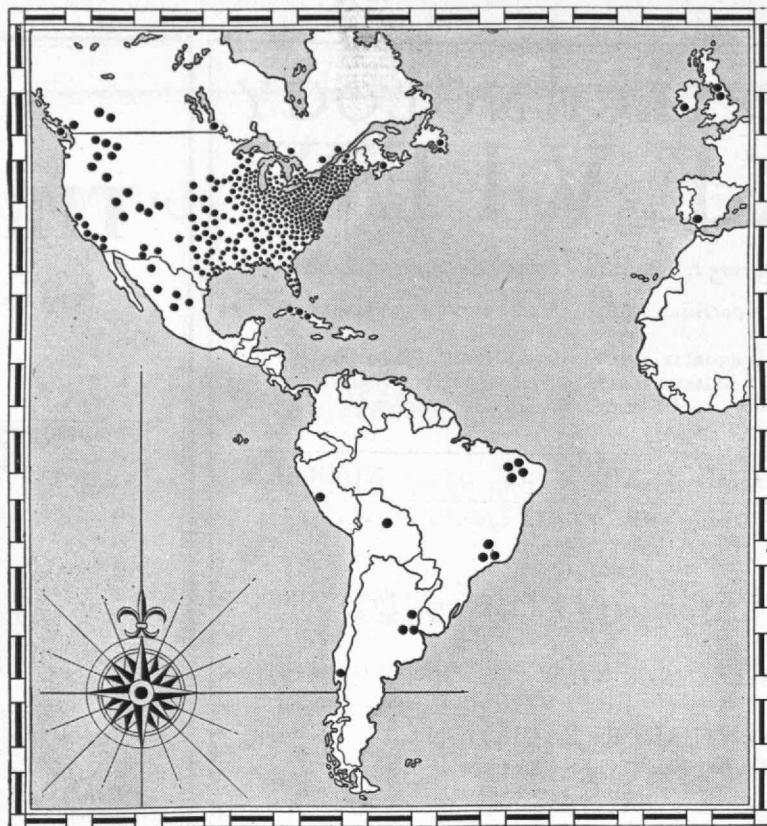
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THE TABULAR VIEW

NO ARTICLE ever published by The Review received the comment that DONALD C. STOCKBARGER's ('19) "Check the Sun Bath" received in November, 1928. It pointed out the possible abuses resulting from the indiscriminate use of ultraviolet or sun lamps and it called attention to the many lamps that give off little or no radiation. He returns again as a contributor in this issue, expounding the methods and work of the Radiation Laboratory he conducts at the Institute. It was the first one established in this country and it has contributed notably to our knowledge of the use and control of invisible rays. The work of the laboratory ranges from detecting fraudulent checks to measuring rays that cure rickets.

ONE of the great Roman engineers was SEXTUS JULIUS FRONTIUS, Water Commissioner of the City of Rome, A.D. 97. Fortunately he left a treatise on his work as water commissioner that is still preserved in Italy and has been made available to American readers by CLEMENS HERSCHEL in his book "Frontius and the Water Supply of the City of Rome" (Longmans, Green and Company). Mr. Herschel includes in his book a translation of the treatise of Frontius which makes clear that the problems which confronted this ancient water commissioner were strikingly similar to the problems confronting metropolitan commissioners today. It makes excellent parallel reading for the article on page 189 by FREDERIC H. FAY, '93, Chairman of the Boston City Planning Board and President of the American Institute of Consulting Engineers. Mr. Fay's comprehensive description of the engineering development of Metropolitan Boston, the construction of its aqueducts, bridges, reservoirs, parkways, and sewer disposal systems prompts the asking again of a question which Frontius asked in his day — "Will anybody compare the idle Pyramids, or those other useless though much renowned works of the Greeks, with these aqueducts, bridges, reservoirs, parkways, all indispensable structures?"

MR. FAY'S article is one of a series that The Review is presenting on American cities and their problems. The necessity of giving the engineer more opportunity to improve our cities is emphasized by the report of CHARLES H. CHENEY, Chairman of the Committee on City and Regional Planning of the American Institute of Architects, commented upon on page 200. Mr. Fay has been a tireless, far-seeing worker in civic engineering. The City Engineer's Office, the Public Works Department, the Massachusetts Highway Association, the Boston Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Syracuse are but a few of the organizations that have utilized his great abilities. In 1901 he wrote "The Population and Finances of Boston" and since then has contributed many articles to magazines and papers to technical societies. His present article is derived from a much longer paper presented at a meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The Review is very grateful to the Society for permitting its publication. (Continued on page 182)

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THE TABULAR VIEW

(Concluded from page 181)

THE PUBLIC MIND is much confused by the many transient movements in art and architecture. A. W. K. BILLINGS, JR., '28, in his article on page 194 presents pertinent comment on what he chooses to call "fly-by-night, modernistic architecture." There undoubtedly are many who will disagree with what he says, but there are few who can deny that the prevailing æsthetic conception of beauty is more appealing than the efficiency ideal espoused by many European architects.

SEVERAL MAGAZINES, among them *The Review*, were misled by reports that the Irving Trust Company Building at 1 Wall Street was contesting with the Chrysler Building for height. Its designer, RALPH T. WALKER, '11, disclaims this report — first published in *The New Yorker* — and states that his building is, in terms of New York, a very small building of fifty stories. In the same issue Mr. Walker's partner, STEPHEN F. VOORHEES, was confused with GARDNER T. VOORHEES, '90. Each gentleman undoubtedly was complimented — at least *The Review* hopes so.

PAUL F. JOHNSON, '98, from his home, 1600 feet above sea level in Altadena, Calif., from which he can see 105 miles away with his naked eye to Santa Barbara Island, has written in commenting on *The Review's* description of the long-distance picture of Mount Rainier taken by Captain Albert W. Stevens. "Captain Stevens chose a poor time of year for making his photographs. . . . With much weaker filters from an elevation of 17,000 feet, I feel sure that much greater distances should show on the photograph if taken at the proper season. My home is 1,600 feet above the sea level. On clear winter days Santiago Peak in the Santa Ana Mountains, forty-four miles away, shows every canyon and detail so clearly that it is hard to believe it is not within a short walking distance. Catalina Island, sixty miles away, is clear but without such detail. . . . Almost any winter morning we see peaks in the San Jacinto range that are not less than 100 miles away. . . . In the north I have seen Mount Shasta from the level of the Sacramento Valley, perhaps 300 feet elevation, 150 miles away (180 miles after I had passed it on the train). 'The Mountain' (unfortunately named Rainier after a Frenchman * who never saw it) is a wonderful sight from Seattle ninety miles away. From mountain tops, other mountains 200 miles and farther are commonly visible. I believe Mr. Stevens's camera could easily reach 300 miles from an airplane." ☞ Mr. Johnson also called attention to a patently egregious error that slipped into the January issue during the transcription of copy. In the story on the burning of the non-magnetic ship, the *Carnegie*, it was stated that she had pig *iron* for ballast when in fact it was pig *lead*.

* Mr. Johnson is mistaken. Mount Rainier was discovered by George Vancouver and named in honor of Rear Admiral Rainier of the British Navy.—The Editors.

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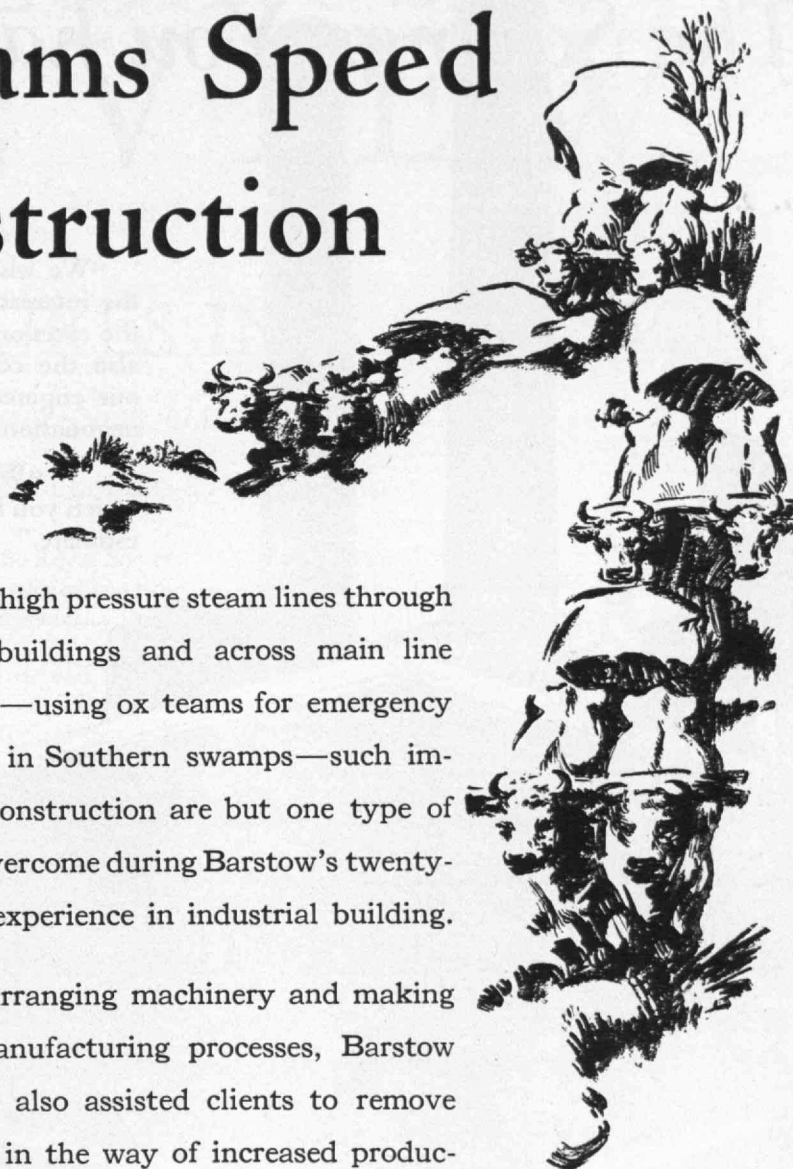
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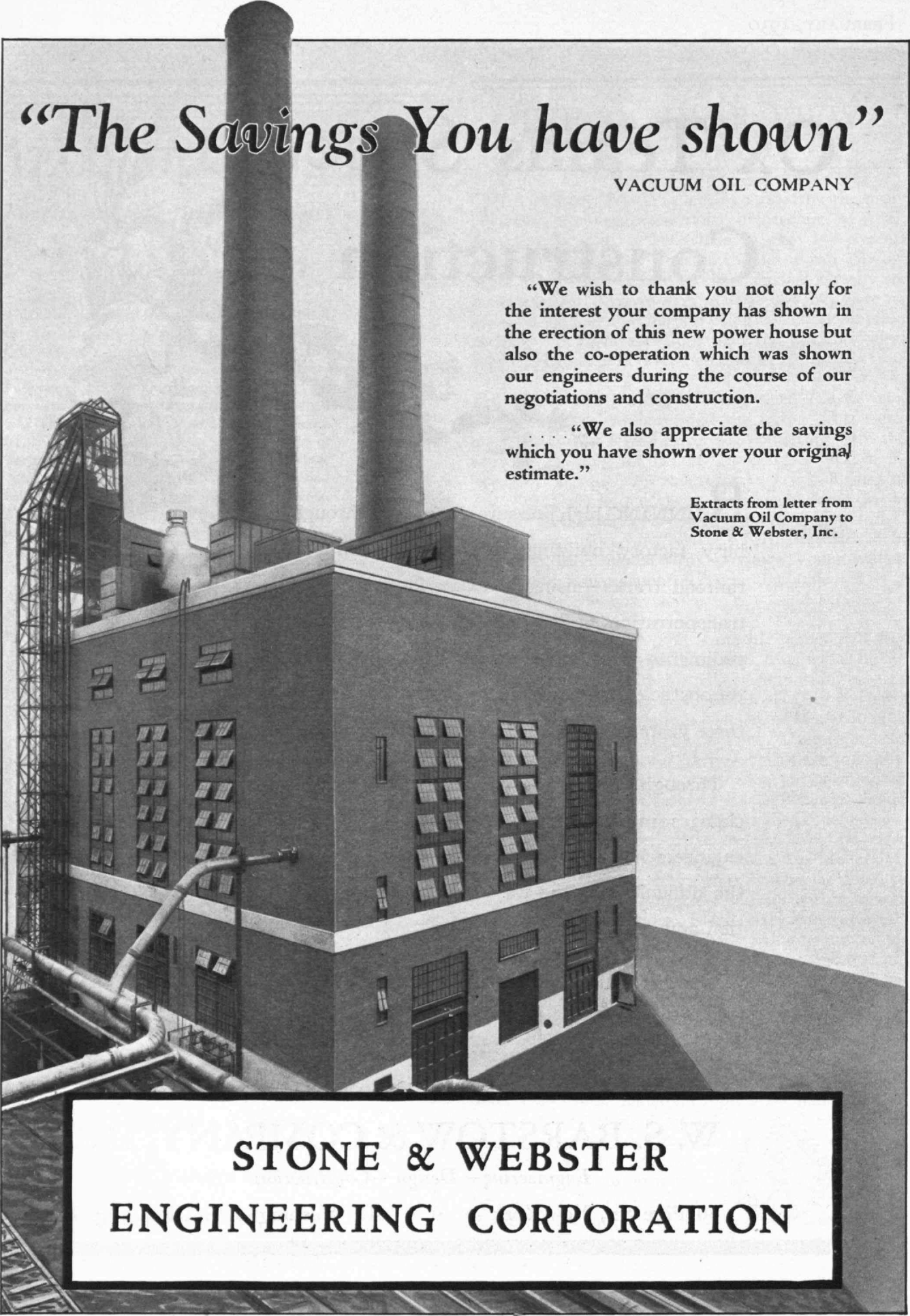


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