

When Miami Beach was incorporated in 1915 the territory had only 33 registered voters. Thirty of them attended the "mass meeting" at which it was decided to create a legal village ... J. N. and J. E. Lummus, who were among the earliest developers of Miami Beach, never made large fortunes. Both are still living and past 80 ... The first money they borrowed to finance their development was \$150,000 from Carl G. Fisher, for which they paid eight per cent interest and gave Fisher 105 acres of swamp land as a bonus. That land later was filled and now is worth a fortune ...

Most of the large hotels first erected at Miami Beach were on the shores of Biscayne bay. New hotel builders get as close to the ocean as possible ... When Miami Beach was attracting national attention in 1925 during the Florida land boom the major hotels could be counted on ones fingers. Now there are 375 hotels ... First of the major oceanfront hotels at Miami Beach, the Ponce de Leon was new and stylish 25 years ago. Now it is being demolished to make room for a more modern structure ... The Roney Plaza hotel was the first in the country to have cabanas. Now nearly all the new Florida seaside hotels have them.

First meeting of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce was held in 1921, fittingly, under a beach umbrella ... Miami Beach paid \$10 a front foot for Lummus park, its longest bathing beach, less than 40 years ago. Now it is worth \$4,000 a foot, or 40 times its original cost ... Miami Beach's Collins park was dedicated to the city of Miami by mistake, and it required years for Miami Beach to correct the error.

First development of Miami Beach was a Spanish mission in 1567. The next was a coconut plantation in 1870 ... Both failed, one due to backsliding Indians, the other to backsliding coconut prices.

Forty years ago when Miami Beach was founded, no utility thought it worthwhile to run electric lines to the village, so the developers paid for them out-of-pocket. Now the city uses 35 million kilowatt hours a month ... Early Miami Beach residents obtained their bath water from shallow wells pumped by windmills. Now huge mains bring five and a half billion gallons a year from the mainland.

Miami Beach has more telephones than permanent residents. Present census estimates put 58,000 population within the city, and there are 72,000 telephones ... The answer of course is the large number of hotel rooms.

Miami Beach is one of the few places in the world where a visitor can go sightseeing in winter by blimp, or charter boat and equipment for underwater fishing ...

The car parking concession is big business at Miami Beach hotels. One student worked his way through the University of Miami parking cars and is still doing it, having found nothing in the professional world that pays as well.

Leisure is still the most popular commodity at Miami Beach. Surveys show vacationers spend more time sunning at beach and cabana than anything else ... Recognizing this, Miami Beach's newest hotel consists of 550 rooms and 265 cabanas.

The Shah and Queen of Iran, when they arrive in Miami Beach next week, will be the first royal visitors entertained here since Edward of England was a familiar figure before the war ... Every president since Harding has visited Miami Beach and Hoover still goes fishing from here.