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# CUBA



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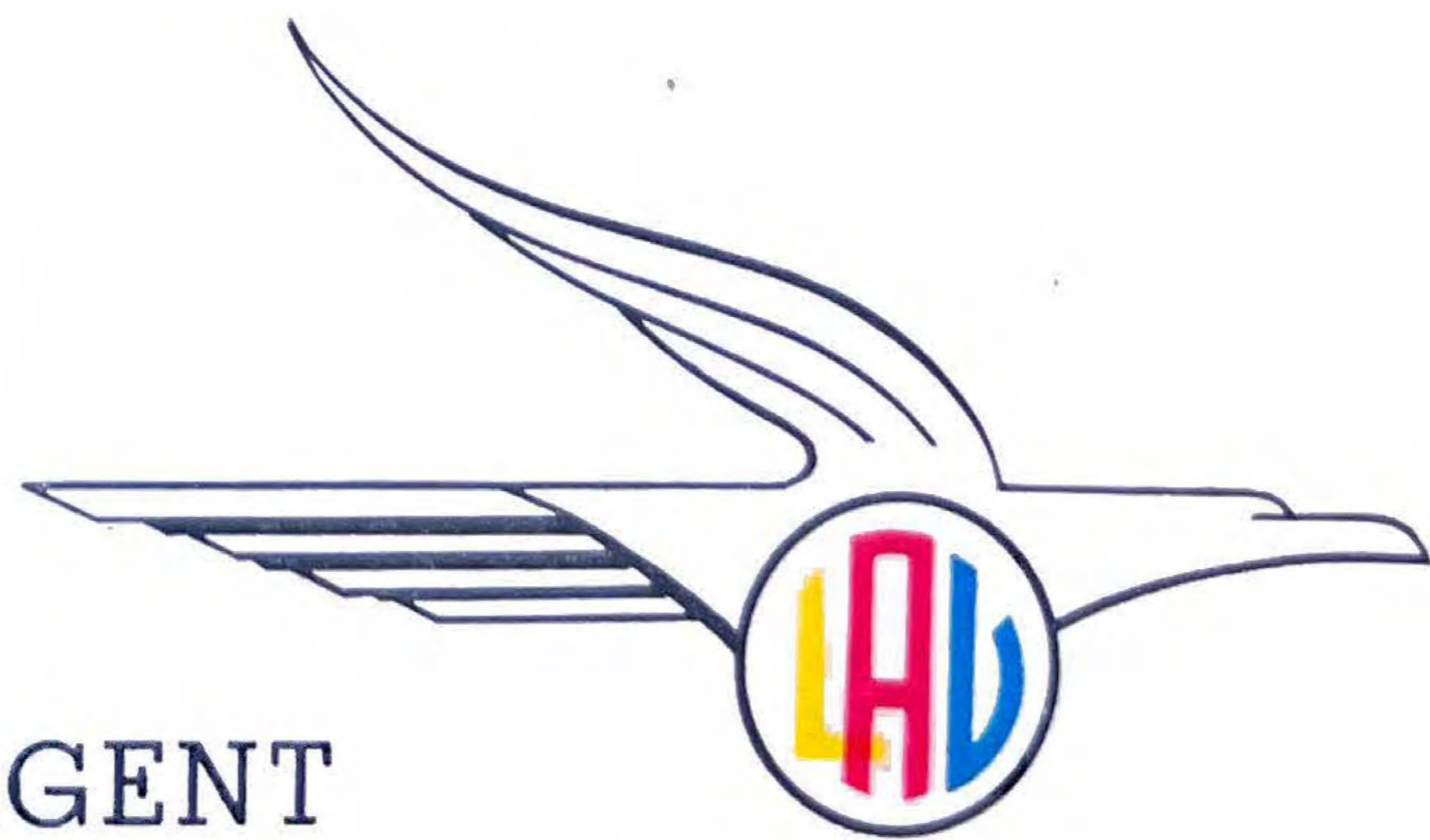
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# THE BLUE GUIDE TO CUBA

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SECCION EN ESPAÑOL AL FINAL DE LA GUIA  
(VEA PAGINA 241)

*Roger Le Febure*

Editor

408, N. Street - VEDADO  
PHONE U-4734

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BY PEDRO GUTIERREZ  
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WITH ARTICLE NUMBER 79 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE No. 599 OF 1934

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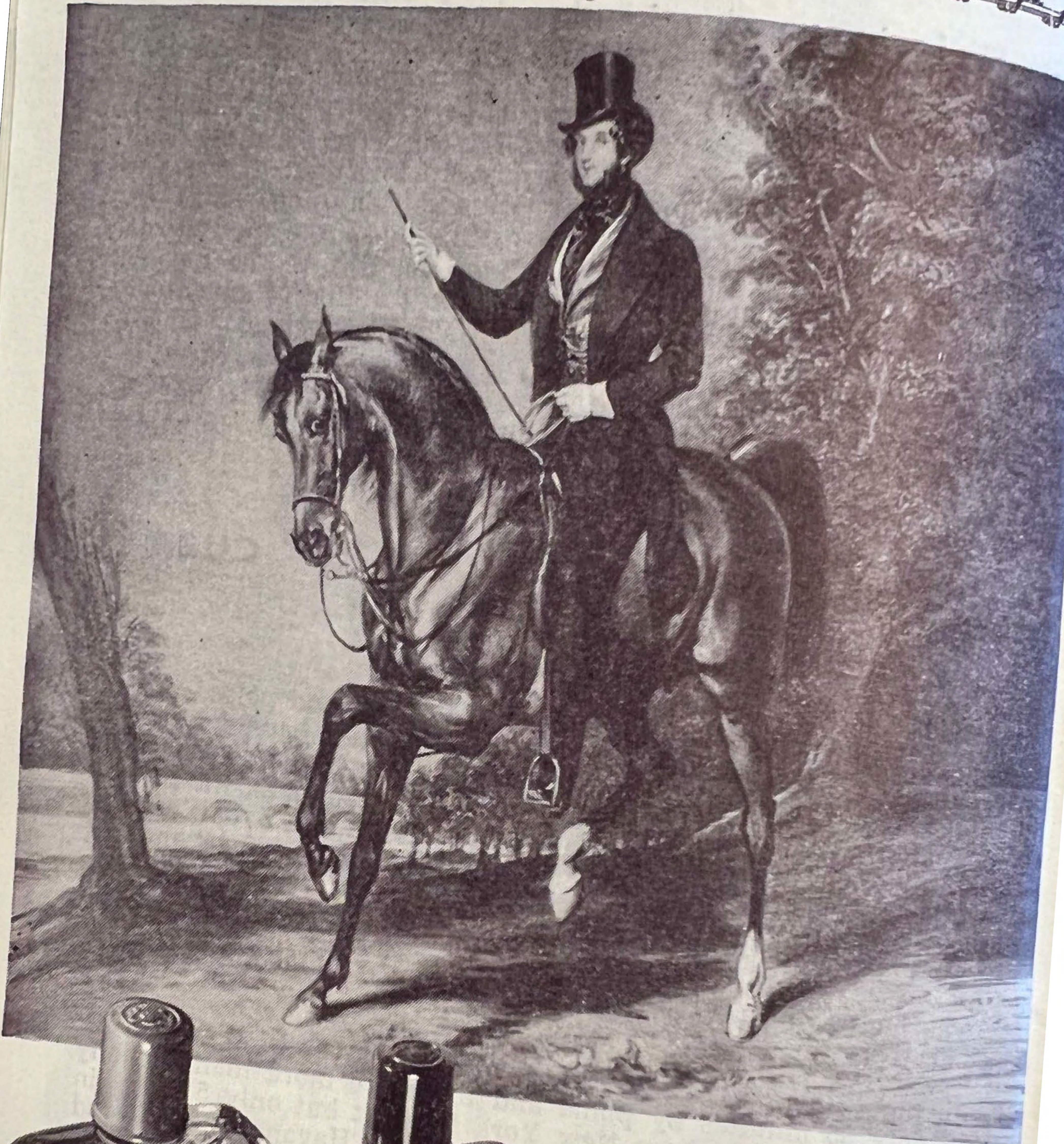


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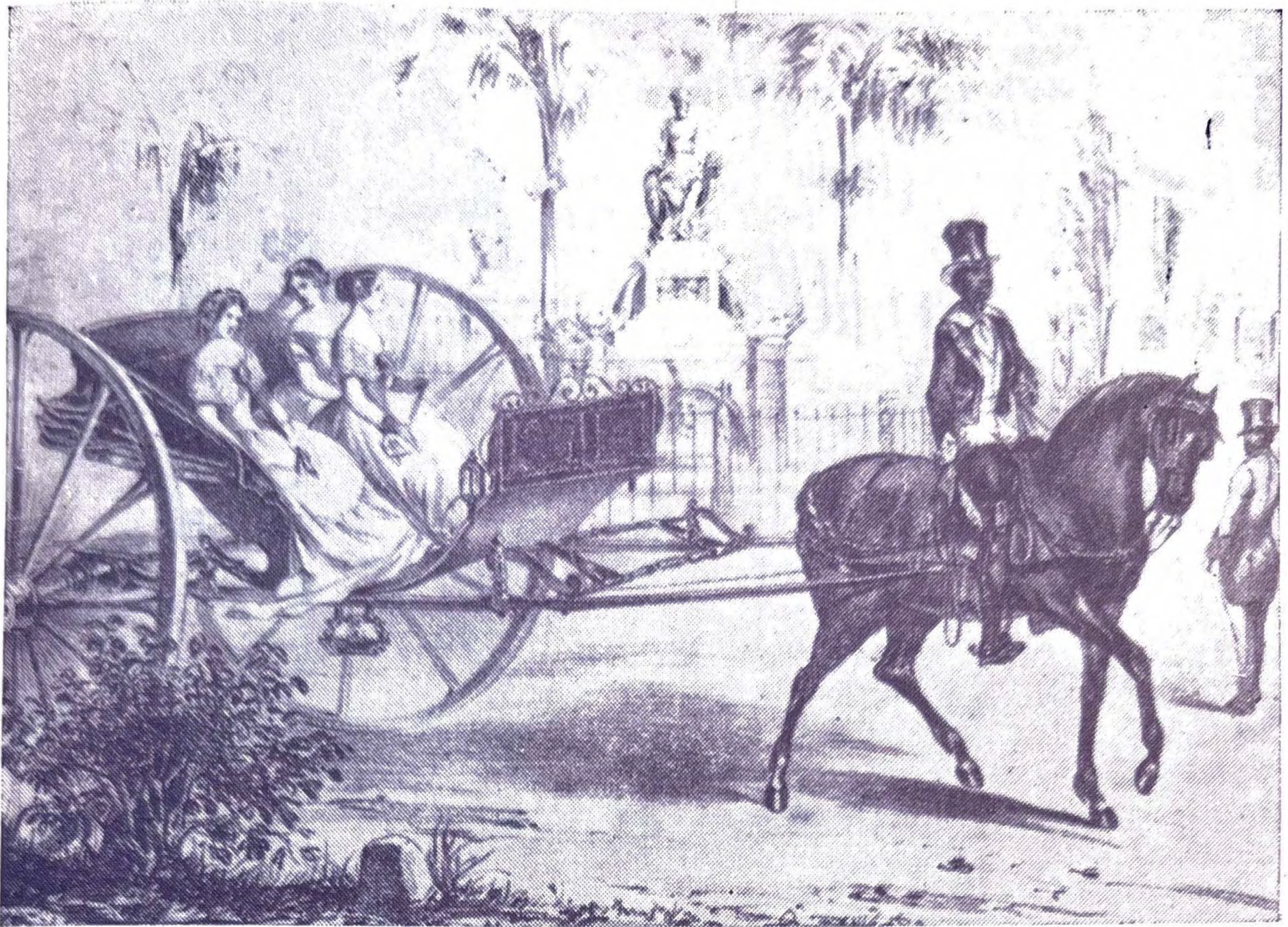
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The ambassadors returned on the 6th., of November. After penetrating twelve leagues they came to a village containing fifty houses, similar to those on the coast, but larger.

They were received courteously, but found no signs of gold. On their way back, they saw for the first time natives smoking something they called "tobacco". Columbus took several of the natives with him on his return voyage to Spain for the purpose of having Spanish taught to them, so that they might later on act as interpreters. They sailed for several days along the coast but did not stop to explore it until a head wind compelled them to take refuge in a splendid harbor which Columbus named "Puerto del Príncipe" which is today Nuevitas.

He did not see Cuba again until two years later, when he made his second voyage from Spain, this time anchoring his ships in what is now known as Guantanamo Bay. He remained there for several days trading with the natives and then sailed on to Santiago. Leaving Cuba, he next discovered Jamaica. Returning to the Cuban coast, he discovered the Isle of Pines, which he named "Evangelista". He traded with the Indians, receiving fish and fruit and meeting with a cordial reception from the natives who regarded the Spaniards and their great ships with awe.

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1812. Promulgation of Constitution in the Cortes de Cádiz, giving equal rights to Spaniards of the new world and old, in view of Cuba's armed support of the Spanish dynasty and opposition to José Bonaparte on the throne of Spain.

1823. General Dionisio Vives becomes Captain General of Cuba. Society "Soles y Rayos de Bolívar" starts movement to secure Cuban independence, but is quelled by Vives.

1825. Junta Protectora de la Libertad de Cuba active in México in cause of Cuban liberty.

1825. May 28th. Captain General invested with absolute powers. Military regimen followed.

1826. Francisco Agüero Velazco and Andrés Manuel Sánchez, first martyrs to Cuban independence, executed at Puerto Príncipe.

1851. Several movements to secure Cuban independence put down and the leaders shot, among, them Joaquín de Agüero and General Narciso López.

1868. October 10th. "El Grito de Yara" (the Call of Yara), at Yara, Province of Oriente, starting under Carlos Manuel de Céspedes of the famous Ten Years' War, marked by many acts of heroism, self-sacrifice and patriotic devotion to the Cause of Liberty.

Throughout this period many illustrious names shine forth: Máximo Gómez, Figueredo, Antonio Maceo, the American Thomas Jordan, Calixto García, the poet Juan Clemente Zenea (shot in Cabaña Fortress 1871), Tomás Estrada Palma, José Morales and Miguel Aldama, the last two, representatives of the Cuban Provisional Government in Washington. Due to the activities of José Morales, the United States recognized the Cuban forces as belligerents, but they were unsuccessful against the weight and resources of organized Spanish arms, and the war ended in 1878.

1895. February 24th. "El Grito de Baire" (the Call of Baire) beginning of the Revolution which gained Cuba's independence. The principal leaders of this revolution were the Cuban patriots José Martí, Máximo Gómez and Antonio Maceo. To Maceo remains the glory of his famous march from Oriente to Pinar del Río, carrying the campaign from one end of the island to the other. The Spanish forces were under the command of General Martínez Campos ("The Pacifier"), relieved by General Valeriano Weyler ("The Butcher"), in turn relieved by General Ramón Blanco; and the Spanish Navy under the chivalrous Admiral Cervera.

1898. February 15th. U. S. S. Maine blown up in Havana Harbor.

1898. April 21st. War declared by United States against Spain. American forces in Cuba under General Shafter, and with him the illustrious General Leonard Wood, and Colonel Theodore

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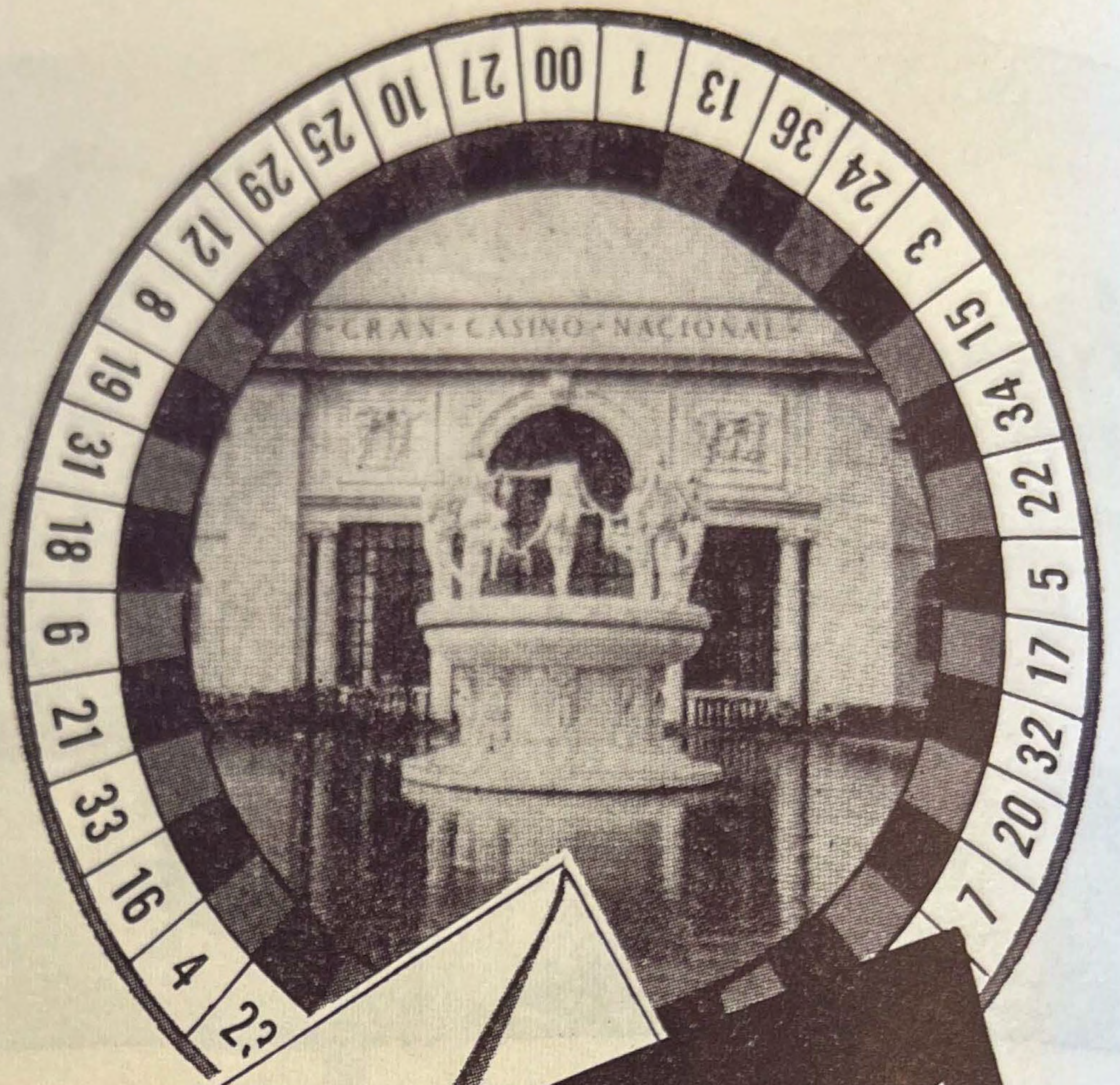


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**To the left Capitol Building - At center Magnificent Centro Gallego - To the right Hotel Inglaterra and Central Park in foreground.**

El Capitolio - Centro Gallego y Hotel Inglaterra.

ba's vast vacation possibilities for a period of 180 days which can be extended! Riding to your hotel, you feel the first flush of excitement in this exotic Latin country of the sub-tropic. You hear the clamorous staccato voice of the city—the hum of motors, the husky bark of auto horns, the deep baying of steamer whistles in the harbor, the blurred musical intonations of the newsboys and perhaps a fragment of music thumped out on guitars, tympani and rattling gourds. You catch tantalizing vistas of narrow streets with tall grilled windows and brass-studded doors—streets with curious names and messages in Spanish. If you are a student of Spanish, you will decipher these signs into intelligent meanings, such as “shoemaker”, “jewelry”, “hat store” “grocery”, “bar”, etc. If you don't know a word of Spanish, don't worry. You'll make yourself understood all right. (For instance the persistent American phrase “all right”; has become an integral part of Cuba's conversation. In print it looks something like this: oll rait!) But there will always be someone near you—a policeman, waiter, chauffeur, hotel clerk or guide—who speaks English and will translate your wishes into solid enjoyment. From the welter of commercial streets near the docks you will emerge into a broad



asphalt boulevard that makes you gasp with its luxury and beauty—shady parks and promenades, soaring facades of white marble, handsome clubs, magnificent theatres, sidewalk cafes, statues, hotels, restaurants and government buildings. Dominating the Prado in Havana, the splendid bulk of the new Capitolio—reminiscent of America's own Capitol—immediately captures your eye. The harmony and power of its lines, from the broad white steps to the great golden dome, stimulate you pleasantly and you think, "I'd like to live here". At your hotel you will feel quite relieved to hear a clerk addressing you pleasantly in English, though the lobby may be humming with liquid Spanish syllables. The bellhop will inquire. "Which are your bags, sir?". And the elevator boy will ask. "Which floor?". After you are set comfortably in your room, with toothbrush and slippers unpacked, you will perhaps make your first phone call for a pitcher of lemonade or something. Instead of the Cuban "Qué hay?", the operator will answer with the good old American "Hello". Your room will be pleasantly different from any other hotel room you've ever had—about twice the height of American rooms, with a great lofty window or two opening on a cozy grilled balcony through a set of glass doors and slatted wooden shutters. Curious to view the prospect from your window, you will probably open the wooden shutters and step out on your romantic balcony. You will gaze down on tiled roofs, mellowed by sun and rain into warm tints of orange, red, apricot. You will catch glimpses into deep patios, hidden from the street, where the domestic life of many families is carried on. The enrichment of patios and roofs with palms, shrubs and climbing vines, will particularly please your eye. From the street drifts the music of highpitched pipes! An absurd sound in a big city like this, you think, recalling the pastoral peace of a hillside in Greece or Sicily and shepherd boy piping away the sunny monotony of his day. "Toodle-oo-ee, teedle-ee-oo" the pipes call, again from the busy street below you. You look down but can distinguish only the usual torrents of automobiles rushing by. If you look attentively, however, you'll see a scissorsgrinder leisurely wheeling his grindstone over the cobbles. The pipes are his curious and effective method of advertising. Such little anachronisms in Cuban life you will meet continually, strange bits of customs, of architecture or of dress that have persisted through the years from as far back as medieval centuries.

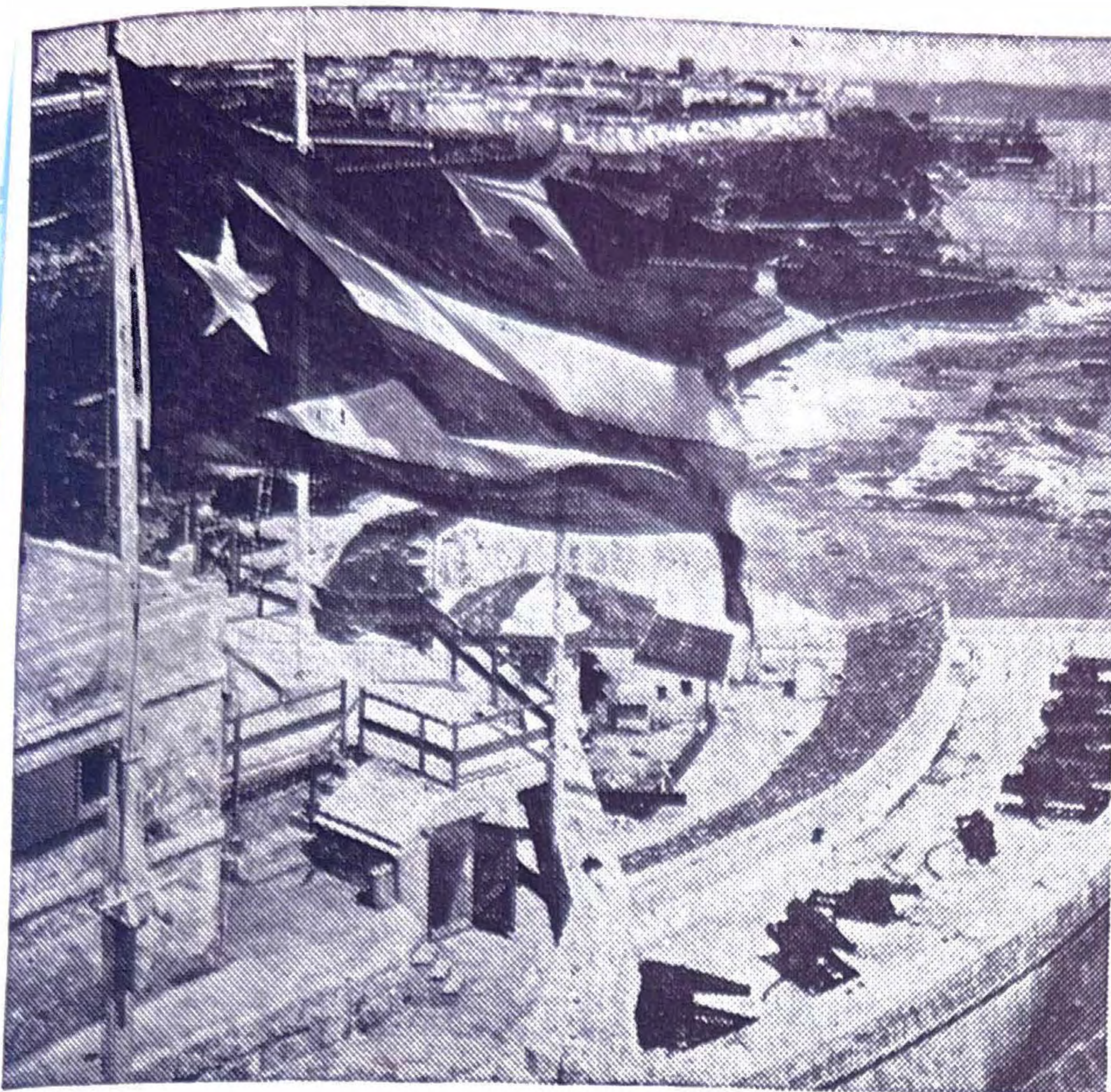
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**Cuban Flag and old cannons on the Ramparts  
of Morro Castle.**

**Entrance to Cabaña Fortress.**

Bandera cubana flotando sobre el Morro  
y entrada a la Cabaña.

## MORRO CASTLE FORTRESS

**F**OR the beginning of the Morro we must go back to the days of Francis Drake, the Englishman of the sixteenth century who was the scourge of Spain on land and on sea, in the Old World and in the New, that El Drake, "the Dragon", who was well hated by all Spaniards while he lived, and over whom, dead, López de Vega sang a poem. In 1585, returning from the sacking of Carthagená, Drake appeared before Havana, threatened the town; but there was little here to tempt him then, and after a brief blockade, the Englishman withdrew, taking no other spoils of Cuba, as one of their journals runs, than "refreshing themselves with stores of Turtles' Eggs by Day and taking 250 Turtles by night, which, being powdered and dried, did them much service".

In 1587, plans having been drawn up by Engineer Don Juan Bautista Antonelli, and a force of convicts and slaves having been provided to do the work, the coral rock was quarried out for the moats, and there was built here the fortress named Castillo de los

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Tres Reyes del Morro—Castle of the Three Kings of the Morro— which was in usage shortened to Castillo del Morro, or simply El Morro. The Spanish word morro means "headland" or "promontory", and is applied to any fortress having such a position. There is Morro at Santiago; another at San Juan in Puerto Rico. The Havana Morro, completed in 1597, was a facsimile of a Moorish fortress at Lisbon, but it has been much altered in design since then. It is an irregular fortification, from 100 to 120 feet above the level of the sea, surrounded by moats 70 feet deep, 30 feet of which are hewn out of solid rock. It stands on a bold headland jutting out into the Gulf; its most prominent feature is the light tower, the flash of which is visible eighteen miles at sea. In stormy weather the spray dashes over the ramparts. The waves are forever breaking against the base, and in the 300 years since the Morro was built the water has worn away the rock and eaten out great crevices, into which under certain conditions of wind and tide, it pours, compressing the air and forcing it out with weird and uncanny noises.

The Morro is in part built on solid rock and is a prodigious natural rock fortification. The ascent to the entrance is by an inclined road, which is shaded by royal poincianas and laurels, and hedged with impenetrable cactus, above which tower the moss-grown walls. The moat is crossed by a drawbridge to the sallyport, and the hall, between dark rooms, admits the visitor to the central

court. All about are prisonlike rooms, casemates, storerooms, kitchens, magazines, bombproofs and dungeons, with grated embrasures, vaulted roofs and dark recesses. The walls are of formidable height, the ditches of astonishing depth. It is not at all a cheerful place, and when we come to a narrow, steep, highstepped stairway descending into the interior depth, we feel no desire to explore its mysterious darkness, but turn instead to the more inviting way leading up to the ramparts. Here we have a view over the harbor, town and gulf well worth seeing. On the seaward side we stand directly over the sea, and looking down into clear depths can perhaps discern one of the monstrous sharks which have given these waters their evil notoriety. When the Morro was occupied by a garrison, the sharks gathered here for the garbage thrown to the sea; a stone chute was built in the seaward wall through which waste was thrown; and it is among the traditions of Morro that through this same passage the bodies of executed Cuban prisoners were cast down into the "nido de tiburones"—"the sharks nest".

The stone building on the harbor side of the ramparts contain a well-equipped signal service station. The semaphore with its numerous flags and signals, announces the approach of ships bound for this port, and receives and sends messages to passing vessels. The lighthouse was built in 1844 by Governor General O'Donnell, whose Irish-Spanish name is immortalized in huge letters high up on the face of the tower.

The guns are not of great age, nor yet of the most modern type of coast defense. It is believed that the wall would not stand the shock of firing heavy guns. Below the castle, on the harbor side, down by the water, are the guns of the Battery of the Twelve Apostles, each of the twelve having its apostolic name. These are the most powerful guns on the island. They command the mouth of the harbor. Five hundred yards beyond is the battery called La Pastora—The Pastor. East of the castle; commanding the sea, is the Velasco Battery, named in honor of Captain Velasco whose fame is indelibly associated with the history of Morro. A tablet set in the wall of the northeast bastion proclaims that it was placed here in honor of Cap. Luis de Velasco and Marqués de González, who fell in defense of the works.

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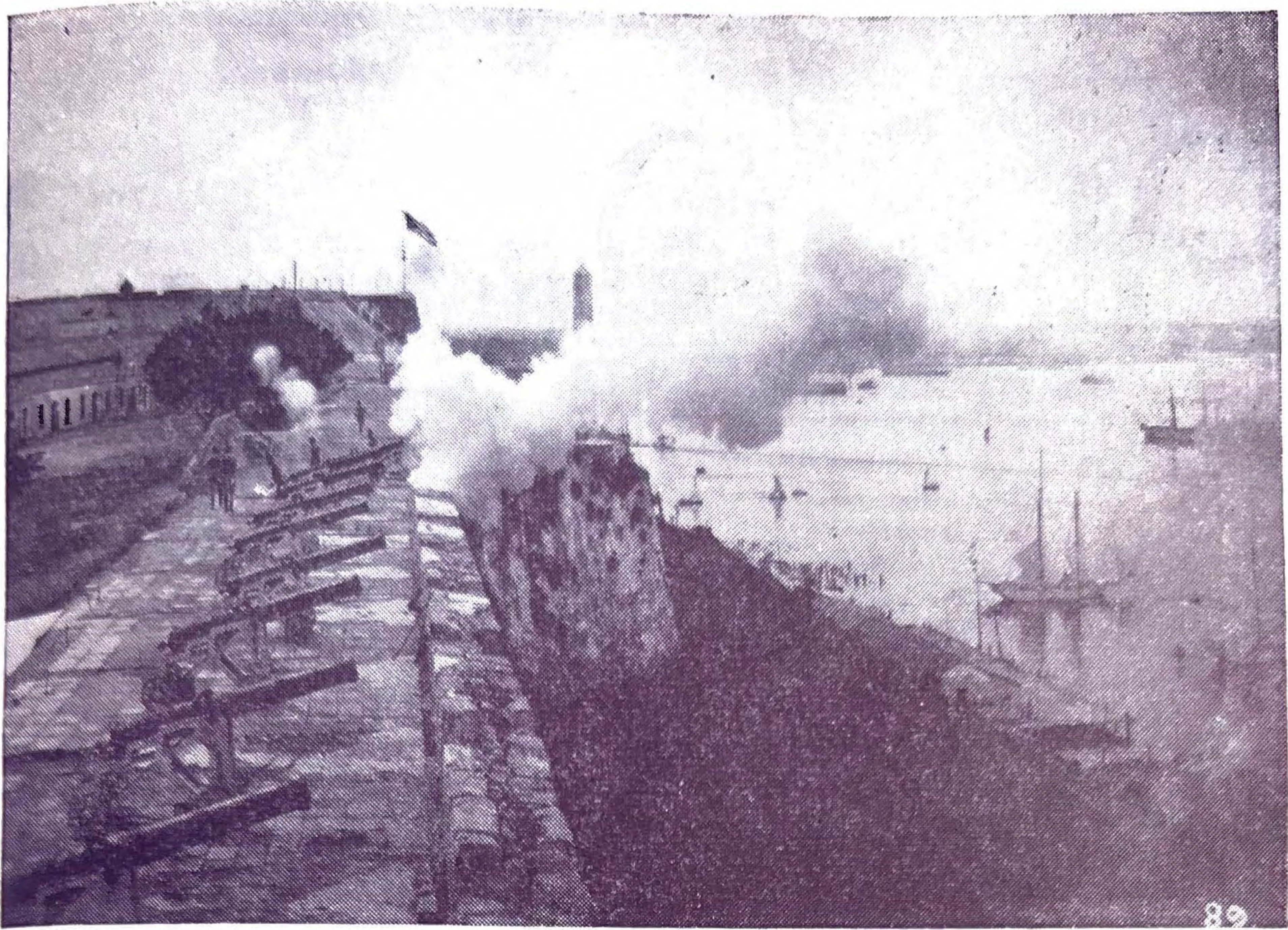
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## CABAÑA FORTRESS

The Fort of Cabaña—or, to give it the full title, Castillo de San Carlos de la Cabaña—occupies an elevated site on the hill, which rises 100 feet rather abruptly from the water's edge across the harbor from Havana. The route is by harbor boats from Cabañería, Machina wharf or the Punta landing. The fare is 10 cents each way. The steep ascent from the shore and the long walk through the fortifications are likely to be fatiguing for a lady.

The harbor frontage is practically a continuous wall extending along the crest of the hill. The landward side has three pronounced bastions, and is protected by ditches 40 feet deep. The principal entrance is on this side. A drawbridge, which may be raised by heavy chains, leads across the ditch to the sallyport. The legend above the entrance sets forth that the work was begun during the reign of Carlos III, in the year 1763, and was completed in 1774. The scutcheon displays the castles and dragons of the Arms of Spain, with crown, and necklace of the Golden Fleece. From the entablature grin two grotesque, hideous and repulsive, fit genii of the place. Entering through the vaulted hall, we come

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shortly to the Laurel Ditch—Los Fosos de los Laureles—so named from the laurel trees which grow here. This was the place of execution of insurgents and political prisoners during the Cuban revolution. In those days, persons who took part in the revolution, or who were merely suspected, whether rightly or wrongly, of sympathy with the cause, were arbitrarily arrested by order of the Captain-General, and sent to Morro or Cabaña, where they were jailed (incomunicado)—that is without communication with friends or counsel—and by like arbitrary decree were held in the dungeons or sent to Africa or sentenced to death here. Their fate, in any event would be unknown to their families and friends. Scores were killed in the Laurel Ditch.

The victim, kneeling, with face to the wall, was shot by a squad of Spanish soldiers, who came out from the interior of Cabaña for the purpose. The line marked by the bullets in the wall is traceable for 85 feet; it was known by the significant name of "the deadline". A bronze memorial, provided by popular subscription, has been set in the wall to commemorate the martyrdom of those who died here in the cause of Cuba Libre. The design represents an angelic messenger receiving the soul of a dying patriot.

The magnitude of Cabaña arouses one's curiosity to know something of its past; but there are no stirring chronicles; the story may be told in a few words. When Spain regained possession of Havana in 1763 she at once set about strengthening the harbor defenses, and began the construction of this fort on Cabañas Hill, so called from the cabañas or cabins which were here in the early days. The construction took eleven years, from 1763 to 1774, at a cost of \$14,000,000. The story is related of Cabaña, as it is of Spanish San Marcos, in Florida, that when the King was told of the sum expended in its building, he gazed intently toward the west, declaring that the walls must be high enough to be visible across the sea. It might be not altogether fanciful to charge up to Cabaña, in addition, the entire cost of the yellow fever scourge of Cuba, and through Cuba, of North America and Europe during the century and a half that followed; for the disease was introduced into Cuba by convict laborers imported from Veracruz to work on the Cabaña defenses. As events proved, the entire Cabaña enterprise was futile, and the prodigious outlay was a waste of public funds; for Cabaña has never fired a shot in defense of Havana, nor has it served any other purpose than that of barracks for Spanish troops and a prison house and execution ground for political offenders. The history of Havana is filled with references to the prisoners of Cabaña, from the 800 Frenchmen who were shut up here in 1795 to the days of Weyler and the martyrs of the Laurel Ditch. As a fortification Cabaña is worthless. Among recent projects for its utilization was a plan to convert it into a states prison for the convicts now confined in the Presidio. At present it is occupied by the Cuerpo de Artillería.



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# 48 PLACES OF INTEREST

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- 1.—**The National Capitol Building**, facing the Prado. Visiting hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. week-days and from 9 a.m. to 12 m. Sundays. 25 cents admission.
- 2.—**Peace Tree at Fraternity Park**. Planted in soil from the twenty-one American Republics which took part in the Pan-American Conference. Facing this beautiful park is the "Palacio de Aldama" most artistic construction built in the city during the XIX century.
- 3.—**Santa Clara Convent**; Luz and Sol Streets, a relic of Colonial Havana, now used by the Department of Public Works. See the patio, containing the Fisherman's Hut, the Village Pump and the Village Trough, dating back three hundred years.
- 4.—**Merced Church**: Merced and Cuba Streets. You will cherish as an interesting memory your visit to this museum of religious art.
- 5.—**San Francisco Church**, on Cuba corner of Amargura Street, One of the oldest and most interesting churches in Havana.
- 6.—**American Consulate**; Plaza de Armas, Obispo Street N<sup>o</sup> 7.
- 7.—**Municipal Building**, Plaza de Armas. The charming Colonial patio is well worth seeing.
- 8.—**Federal Supreme Court Building**, Plaza de Armas. The patio here is beautified by Spanish statuary.
- 9.—**The Templete** (1519). Erected on the spot where under the shade of a giant Ceiba tree, first mass in Cuba was celebrated and the first city council, held in 1519.
- 10.—**Columbus Cathedral** (1704). Columbus' remains rested here for a time. The interior of the Cathedral is adorned by many famous paintings.
- 11.—**Peña Pobre**. The narrowest street in Havana and El Angel Church. There are fine specimens here of the first homes built in the days when Havana was surrounded by a wall.
- 12.—**Remnants of the old City Wall**. A fragment of the town wall which surrounded Havana in the days when buccaneers threatened the city. Opposite the Presidential Palace.
- 13.—**Church of the Holy Angel** (1664) near the Palace. Note the old-world streets in the neighborhood of this church.

- 14.—**Presidential Palace.** A beautiful building erected at a cost of two million dollars. Entrance on southern side. 3
- 15.—**Clerks Club** (Centro de Dependientes) with forty thousand members, opposite the Hotel Sevilla. You may enter to see the very extensive ballroom on the upper floor. 3
- 16.—**Paseo de Martí** (Prado Avenue) Havana's principal promenade. Concerts formerly given here by the Municipal and Military Bands on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday nights. 3
- 17.—**Spanish Club**, on the Prado, corner of Animas Street. This is called the Casino Español. 3
- 18.—**The National Theatre**, facing Central Park. The former opera house now operated as a movie theatre. 3
- 19.—**The Centro Gallego Club**, with thirty-seven thousand members, facing Central Park. A Spanish regional society. 3
- 20.—**The Asturiano Club**, with forty-five thousand members also facing Central Park. A Spanish regional society. See the ballroom, the billiard room and the Spanish regional tavern. 3
- 21.—**American Club**, on the Prado, corner of Virtudes Street. Almost every American resident belongs to this club. It is also the meeting place of the American Legion. 4
- 22.—**Student's Memorial.** On this historic spot eight young medical students suffered martyrdom on November 27, 1871. The memorial tablet was erected to commemorate one of the most tragic incidents of the Ten Years War. 4
- 23.—**La Punta, Naval Fort** (1659) opposite Morro Castle. The Prado begins here.
- 24.—**Maceo Park**, with statue of General Antonio Maceo, the bronze warrior who fought so nobly for Cuban independence.
- 25.—**Beneficencia Asylum** (1794) on San Lázaro Street. See the trapdoor and turnstile used to admit unwanted infants.
- 26.—**University of Havana**, at the entrance to the Vedado, the residential district.
- 27.—**Principe Fortress and Prison.** The finest view of Havana is to be obtained from this hill.
- 28.—**The National Hotel**, on Santa Clara cliff. This hotel has a saltwater pool, in a veritable tropical paradise.
- 29.—**Maine Monument**, on the Malecon Drive opposite the National Hotel. Erected by the Cuban people. See the plaque with the names of the victims of the Maine disaster.
- 30.—**Vedado.** Exclusive residential section. Beautiful palatial homes characterize this opulent district.

- 31.—**Pro-Arte Society Auditorium**, Calzada and B Streets, Vedado. Famous concert artists are heard here.
- 32.—**The Lyceum**. A Cuban Woman's Club, Calzada 81, Vedado. The atmosphere here is charming and homelike.
- 33.—**Vedado Tennis Club**. Finest tennis club in Cuba. Davis Cup matches are held here.
- 34.—**Colon Cemetery**. Look for Legion and Masonic Mausoleums. Note the beauty of the monuments. Cubans cherish a great reverence for their departed.
- 35.—**Miramar**. Exclusive residential district. Fifth Avenue and the Clock Tower make this the most attractive suburb in Cuba.
- 36.—**Military Air Field**, where Polo matches are played in the adjoining field.
- 37.—**Miramar Yacht Club**. A number of English speaking residents belong to this club.
- 38.—**Playa de Marianao**. The attractive bathing beach at Marianao, one of the finest beaches in Cuba.
- 39.—**Havana Yacht Club**, next to the Playa of Marianao. The smartest yacht club in the island.
- 40.—**Country Club of Havana**. In Country Club Park. It has the sportiest golf course in the tropics.
- 41.—**Gran Casino Nacional**. Famous gaming palace, with the Fountain of Dancing Nymphs. You have not seen Havana unless you have visited the Casino.
- 42.—**Jaimanitas Country Club**, Jaimanitas. There is a most attractive golf course here and a beautiful beach.
- 43.—**Racetrack**, Oriental Park, in the city of Marianao. Races every day. An opportunity to make expenses.
- 44.—**Columbia Military City**. Founded by the American army during American Intervention. Now used by the Cuban army. A model military camp.
- 45.—**Tropical Gardens**. Beer, right from the vats of the Tropical Brewery. A tropical allegory of verdant beauty. Worthy of a visit.
- 46.—**Polar Gardens**. Beer fresh from the brewery is served here. Enjoy nature in this splendid park. Sport field and playgrounds.
- 47.—**Sagrado Corazón**. Church of the Sacred Heart on Reina Street near Belascoain, one of the newest and wealthiest. It has many fine objects of art.
- 48.—**San Rafael and Galiano Streets**. The shopping district of Havana, equivalent to 34th Street and Broadway, New York.



200 ROOMS  
200 BATHS

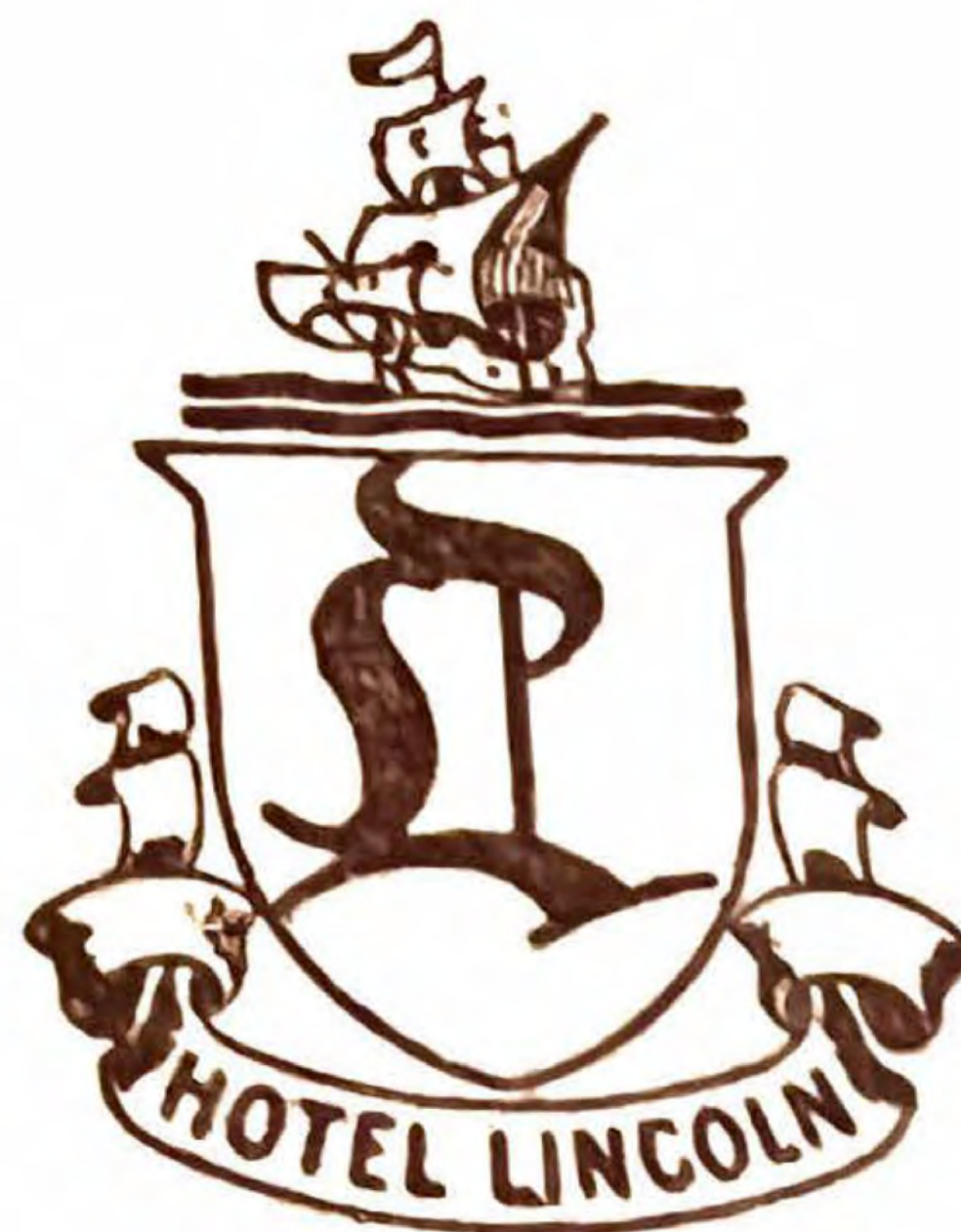
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HAVANA, CUBA

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THE PRADO BLVD. • THE GULF OF MEXICO DRIVE, THE CAPITOL  
AND THE MAIN SHOPPING DISTRICT • MOST ROOMS OVERLOOK  
THE BEAUTIFUL GULF OF MEXICO

UNDER AMERICAN  
MANAGEMENT



HABANA, CUBA

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Managing Director.

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## EL TEMPLETE

The Spaniards who explored the new world and founded colonies were accompanied by the priests and the celebration of mass had a recognized place among the formalities which were observed in the establishment of a town. When in the year 1519 Diego de Velázquez founded Havana here at the Puerto de Carenas, the priests said a mass under a ceiba tree standing near the shore. At an early period the inhabitants marked the historic spot, and in 1747 Captain-General Francisco Cagigas erected a permanent memorial in the form of an obelisk of stone. Arrete, writing in 1755, records that in that year the original ceiba tree was in full bloom at an age reckoned at 400 years. When the bones of Columbus were transferred to Havana in 1795, before being deposited in the Cathedral they were first brought to this spot, and in an ebony sarcophagus were placed in state under the venerable ceiba, where they were formally inspected by the Captain-General and pronounced to be the genuine relics of the Discoverer. As a more elaborate memorial, El Templete (the little temple or chapel) was dedicated in 1828, on March 9, the Queen's birthday. The dedication was attended with much pomp; the Governor and his staff in full uniform, the Bishop in his pontificals, 5,000 troops; and thousands of citizens took part in the procession. The images of the saints were brought from the church, and a mass was celebrated here on the scene of the first mass three hundred years before. A bronze tablet commemorates the event in these words.

"During the reign of His Majesty Don Fernando VII, under the Presidency and Governorship of Don Francisco Dionisio Vives, the most faithful, religious and pacific Havana erected this temple.

The Spaniards who explored the new world erected this, monument, consecrating the place, where, in the year 1519, the first mass and holy office was celebrated, the Bishop Don Juan José Díaz de Espada solemnizing the Divine Sacrifice of the mass on the day of March 9, 1828".

The Templete contains three paintings by Vermay. The first one pictures the installation of the first municipal Council in Cuba, at Santiago, Don Diego Velázquez presiding. The second one is of the celebration of the first mass on this spot in 1519, the Indians gathered around to look on at the mysterious ceremony, and with hands uplifted exclaiming, "Habana". The third painting commemorates the inauguration of the monument itself, with portraits of Governor Vives and his chief officers. The chapel is open every day to tourists.

The column in front of the chapel marks the site of the original ceiba, which was cut down in 1828 and converted into relics.

The tree here now is reputed to have been grown from a slip of the old tree. The bust of Columbus in the court is esteemed a good portrait. It was carefully studied by the American painter, John Vanderlyn, when he came to Havana to find a model for Columbus in his painting of the "Landing of Columbus", which hangs in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington.



Student's Memorial to eight Cuban students shot by Spanish.  
El Monumento a los Estudiantes Mártires.

## STUDENTS' MEMORIAL

Just beyond the northern end of the old city wall, where an armed guard keeps watch day and night, is the Student's Memorial. The simple panel is set in a fragment of the wall of the old Commissary Building, which stood here in the days when Havana was full of Spanish troops. When this building was demolished by the Americans, in the general rearrangement and parking of the land around the Punta, this bit was preserved as a fitting memorial of one of the tragic incidents of Havana's history. The ground in front of the wall was a place of public execution; it was here that a number of students of the University of Havana were executed for their animosity toward the Spanish Volunteers.

It was the rule in Cuba that all offices—civil, military and ecclesiastic were filled by Spaniards born in Spain. Even the Cuban born sons of Spanish parents were disqualified from holding office. The children of the first generation were counted Cubans, not Spaniards; the old saying ran. "A Spaniard can do anything in Cuba except raise a Spanish son". The natives of Spain were called Peninsulars; the natives of Cuba, Insulars, and the feeling between the two was bitter. The peninsulars organized

themselves into a militia corps of volunteers (Instituto de los Voluntarios de Cuba) commonly known as "Spanish Volunteers", comparable with the National Guard of the United States. In 1872 the Corps numbered 800,000 men. Their duties were to guard town and public property, suppress disorder, and when occasion demanded, to fight Cuban insurgents. In 1871, when the Ten Year's War (1868-78) was in progress, there was printed in Havana a paper called "La Voz de Cuba", The Voice of Cuba. Its editor, Gonzalo Castañón, a Colonel of the Volunteers, published some derogatory remarks concerning Cuban women. The calumny aroused intense indignation among the outraged Cubans. Castañón was killed, and was buried in one of the dovecote-like tombs of the Espada Cemetery. A party of students of the Medical School of the University of Havana were visiting the cemetery one day, and while near, the tomb of Castañón, one of them said something which reflected upon the dead Colonel of Volunteers. A Spanish soldier overheard the remark, and repeated it to a Spanish judge, with a further accusation that the students had defaced the glass which closed the Castañón tomb. Forty-three students were arrested and charged with the offense, and brought to trial before a court martial. They were defended by a Spanish officer Capdevila, and by his eloquence and the clear evidence of their innocence, were acquitted. The result of the trial enraged the Volunteers, and they obtained from the Captain-General an order for the assembling of a second court martial, two-thirds of the members of which should be Volunteers. The boys were arrested a second time and their lives again placed in jeopardy. After a trial which was a farce, all the accused were declared guilty. Eight of them, mere boys, the oldest sixteen, were chosen by lot to be shot. The rest were sentenced to imprisonment and hard labor. The father of one of the condemned boys, who possessed an immense fortune, in vain offered all his wealth as a ransom for his son's life. On November 27, 1871, in the presence of 15,000 Spanish Volunteers under arms, the boys were executed on this spot. The panel records the event and the names of the victims.

"On the 27th of November 1871, there were executed in front of this place, by the Spanish Volunteers of Havana, the eight young Cuban students of the First Year of Medicine:

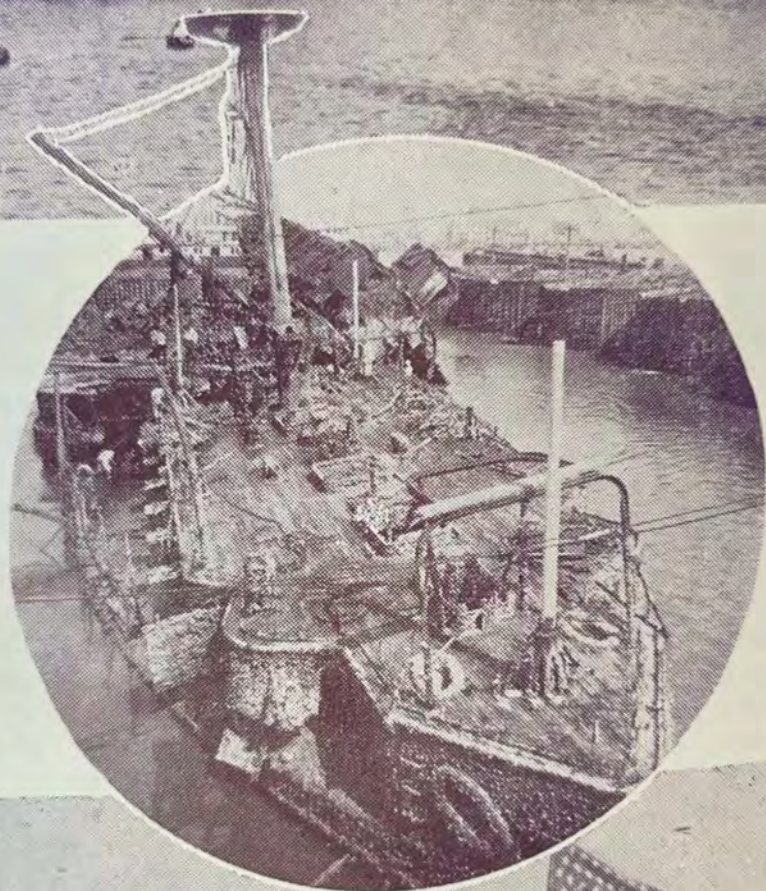
Carlos Augusto de Latorre,  
Alonso Alvarez de la Campa,  
Pascual Rodríguez Pérez,  
Anacleto Bermúdez,

Eladio González Toledo,  
José de Marcos Medina,  
Angel Laborde,  
Carlos Verdugo.

To their eternal memory, this tablet is dedicated, the 27th of November, 1899.

In the bronze wreath beneath is inscribed "Inocentes". Sus compañeros, 20 de Mayo, 1902" — "Innocents" — Their Comrades. May 20, 1902.





1.—The U. S. Maine Entering Havana-Harbor 1898.  
 2.—The Maine after it was raised in the harbor.  
 3.—The Maine being towed out to the Gulf Stream.

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## THE DESTRUCTION OF THE U. S. BATTLESHIP MAINE IN THE HARBOR OF HAVANA, CUBA, ON THE NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 15, 1898

From 1868 to 1878 war had existed in Cuba between the Cubans and their Spanish rulers. In 1895 a new revolt broke out, and the waste of life and property so near the shore of the United States led many to ask the government of the United States to intervene. The United States refused to take this step, as they were at peace with Spain, a friendly nation. It was even tried frequently and in vain to prevent armed expeditions from leaving the shore of Florida to help the insurgents. Spain in the meantime withdrew Gen. V. Weyler, the governor to whom the United States had objected, and granted a large measure of self-government to Cuba. To see that American lives and property were safe, however, the battleship Maine was sent to Havana. On the night of February 15, 1898, the Maine was destroyed at her anchorage. Two of her officers and 258 of her crew went down with the unfortunate vessel. A court of inquiry, after investigation, declared its belief that the Maine was blown up by a submarine mine. The court did not, however, lay the blame on anyone, Spain at once expressed her regret for the sad occurrence, which she believed was caused by an internal explosion in the forward magazine of the ship. She asked for arbitration, but it was refused, and President McKinley sent all the papers to Congress. The feeling against Spain in the United States, resulting from the loss of the Maine, became so intense that Congress passed resolutions which declared that: **"The people of Cuba are and of right ought to be free and independent; that it is the duty of the United States to demand that Spain should give up Cuba and withdraw its forces from the island and the President is directed and empowered to use all the forces of the United States and to call out the militia in order to carry out these resolutions; that the United States disclaims any intention of control over said island except for the Pacification thereof and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the Government and control of the island to its people"**. These resolutions caused the Spanish government to give the American Minister in Madrid his passports, and on April 25, 1898, Congress declared war to exist between the United States and Spain.

### THE MONUMENT TO THE BATTLESHIP MAINE

The cordial relationship existing between Cuba and the United States and the generous and noble aid the northern republic has given Cuba in her struggle for independence, were points of inspiration for the beautiful work of art embodied in the imposing memorial.

# COLIBRI

The magic of the tropical isles in  
the blue Caribbean distilled in a  
rare perfume.



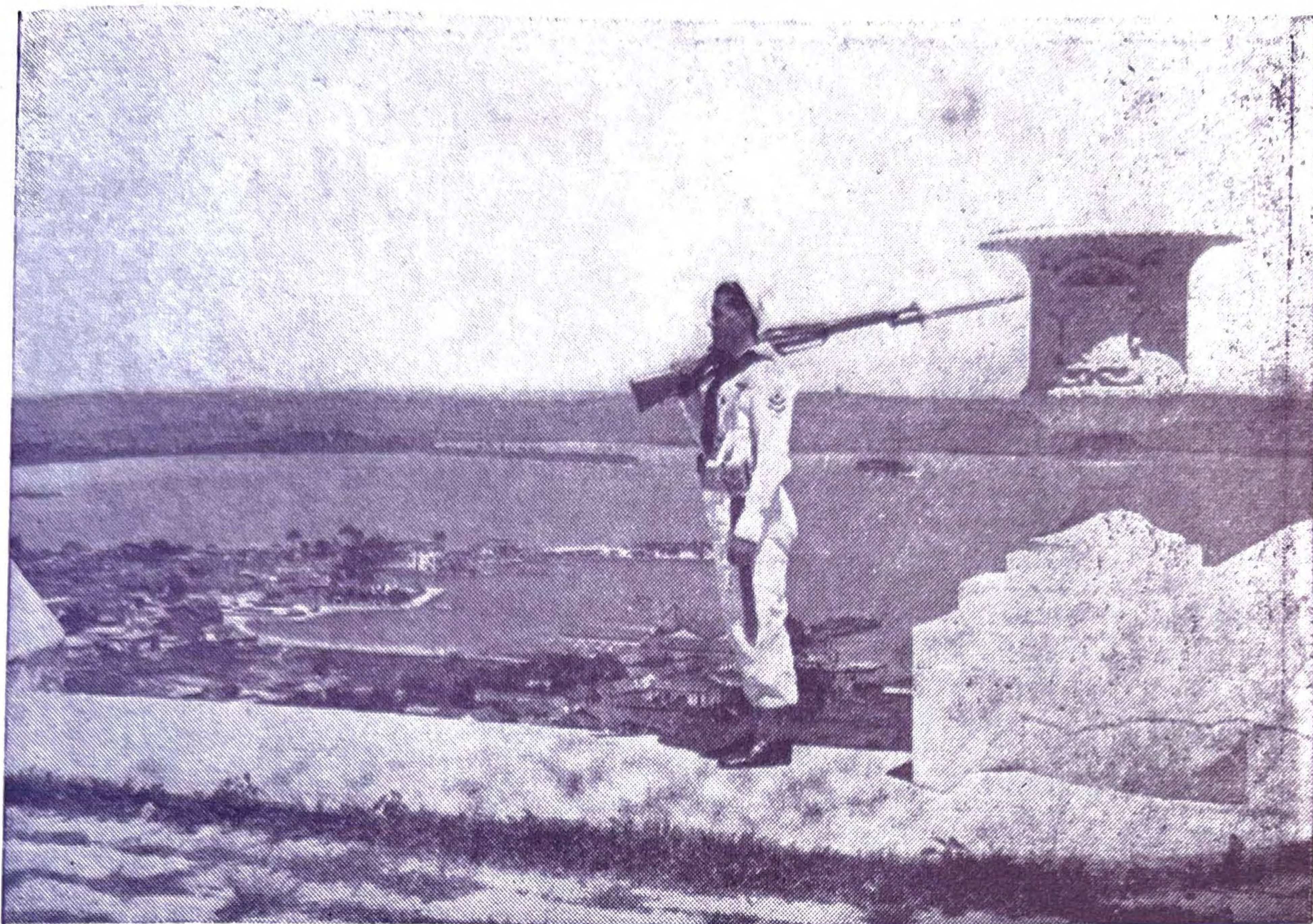
PERFUME  
\$6 00, \$10 00, \$20 00

TOILET WATER  
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\$4.50 \$6.00

TALCUM POWDER  
\$2.00

# REJANE

*Perfumes*



**View of Mariel from Naval Academy.**  
Vista del Mariel tomada de la Escuela de Cadetes.

## POINTS OF INTEREST

**CITY WALL.**—Not far from La Punta, at Monserrate and Refugio streets, are remnants of the old city wall. Another fragment has been preserved on Monserrate street, near Teniente Rey. These ancient landmarks indicate the boundary of old Havana. The wall extended from the shore of the harbor east of the Arsenal, along a line east of the Prado, to the waterfront again at a point in line with the old City Jail. The Punta, the former Jail, Prado, Tacon Theatre (National Theatre to-day) and Campo de Marte (now Fraternity Park) were outside the wall, or “extramuros”. The wall, a high and massive structure, required more than a century to build (from 1633 to 1740), at a cost of \$700,000. A moat extended around the outer side, and beyond this were earth works.

### LA PUNTA FORTRESS

The construction of La Punta was started in the year 1589, two years after Morro Castle, opposite, and was intended to intensify the defense of the port and city of Havana. Upon the outer walls, of the fortress are old cannons which have earned their honorable



**Famous Prado Boulevard.**

El Prado.

retirement, for when the British besieged Havana in 1762, they were silenced only by the batteries of Morro itself held by the enemy. Formerly La Punta was outside of the city proper. It was 250 yards from the city walls, separated by a moat and draw-bridge. La Punta is now used by the Cuban Navy.

### **PASEO DE MARTI**

The Prado, as it was formerly named, was paved and rebuilt by Gen. Leonard Wood while acting as Governor of Cuba in the year 1902.

The Prado used to be the most fashionable residential section of the city but owing to the rapid increase of population and the desirable location of the avenue for stores, the former dwellers are moved to Vedado, Miramar, and Country Club, residential district. Prado Avenue, with its shady laurel trees, leads to the Malecon (sea wall).

The Prado is to-day an avenue without a peer elsewhere in the world. Laid out and designed by Forestier in 1927, world famous French landscape artist, as the latest idea in avenue beautification, it was completed in less than three months time. The groundwork is of mosaic marble and the entire project cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000.

## **VENTO SPRINGS**

Havana draws its water supply from springs at Vento, nine miles southwest of Havana and there is a group of more than 400 enclosed by a heavy wall of masonry, 60 feet high and 250 feet wide. The water is carried under the river in an inverted siphon consisting of two heavy iron pipes in a masonry tunnel, and thence flows by gravity through an underground aqueduct six miles to the Palatino reservoir in the suburb of Cerro, and from the reservoir is distributed through the city, Víbora, Regla, Guanabacoa, harbor. The daily supply is 80,000,000 gallons of pure water, which is free from organic matter, but is somewhat hard because of the limestone in solution.

The aqueduct was built at a cost of \$5,030,000 and is named after Albear, the distinguished Cuban engineer, who planned and built it and in whose memory there is a monument at the intersection of Obispo and O'Reilly Sts. Before the construction of the Albear aqueduct the water was brought through an open ditch, from the Almendares river which succeeded another open ditch built in 1592.

## **BOTANICAL GARDENS**

This is known to visitors as General Weyler's summer residence, and is now occupied by the Botanical Garden for the use of the High School and University of Havana. Visitors are allowed.

Take Príncipe-Muelle de Luz, or Príncipe-San Juan de Dios car at Central Park.

## **TOWER OF SAN LAZARO**

Built in 1556, not as defense, but as a lookout against pirates. Watch was kept day and night at this tower to warn the City on sight of a suspicious sail, making for San Lázaro inlet with the idea of sacking Havana.

## **CHORRERA FORTRESS**

Built in 1646 on a rocky little isle, and captured by the British in 1762, after a long battle, now used by the Cuban Navy.

## **THE MALECON PROMENADE**

This fine promenade was planned by General Francisco Albear, the Cuban engineer, in 1857 and built by Major M. Black in 1902, while Gen. Leonard Wood was Governor of Cuba.

The name Malecon means embankment or wall. No one looking over this magnificent promenade, would believe that but a few years ago, the spot was a desolate and dreary waste of rock where the refuse of the city was thrown.

**PLAZA DE ARMAS:** This was the first public square laid out in Havana in 1519. For centuries it was the focus of social, political and religious life of the community and the rendez-vous of the governors and prelates who ruled over the destinies of the island. The central monument is that of Ferdinand VII, who ascended to the Spanish throne in March 1808 and was forced by Napoleon in May of the same year, to abdicate. In spite of the eulogistic Latin inscription on the base of the monument, his memory is not greatly revered by the Cubans, for upon his return to the throne in 1814, he abolished the promised liberal constitutions, restored the inquisition and complied generally with the demands of the absolutists. Many famous processions have crossed the Plaza de Armas, perhaps one of the oddest, legend tells us, was that of De Soto's men, who after experiencing terrible hardships in Florida, fulfilled a vow by crawling on their hands and knees from the wharf to the Parroquia, a site at present occupied by the City Hall. The Temple, where the first mass was celebrated in Cuba, also faces the Plaza de Armas. This square has been restored to its former splendor.

**LA FUERZA,** at one time Havana's stronghold, is a long, low, doublewalled enclosure, with a picturesque tower facing the bay. It owes its construction to a piratical attack on Santiago de Cuba in 1537. The pirates being repulsed, took their revenge by capturing and partly destroying Havana. To guard against future attacks, Governor De Soto, sent Mateo Aceituno to Havana to repair and rebuild the fort. And though De Soto was at that time planning his memorable voyage of discovery to the Mississippi River, he went in person to Havana—the seat of government at that time was in Santiago—and gave much of his time besides four thousand pesos toward the erection of the present fort of La Fuerza. A battery of Spanish cannons was placed on the ramparts and an observation tower erected at the salient angle of the bastion. When De Soto sailed away to discover the Mississippi River, he left his beautiful young wife, as governor in his place and history tells us, she mounted to the watch tower daily expecting the return of her husband's ships.

For a century or more it was in a state of disrepair, but during the American occupation it was restored to its former state. Lord Albemarle who captured the town in 1762, removed the famous statue of the Indian woman, La Habana—supposed to be a likeness of the first Indian who greeted the Spaniards upon their arrival in Cuba—and carried it off as part of the English booty. The present statue is practically a duplicate.

**THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE,** a fine, massive old structure is located on Cuba Street. It was built as an Augustinian Hermitage

in 1607, and was turned over to the Academy of Science in 1837. During the American occupation, General Leonard Wood in 1901, ordered the renovation and reconstruction of the building, carefully preserving its original lines.

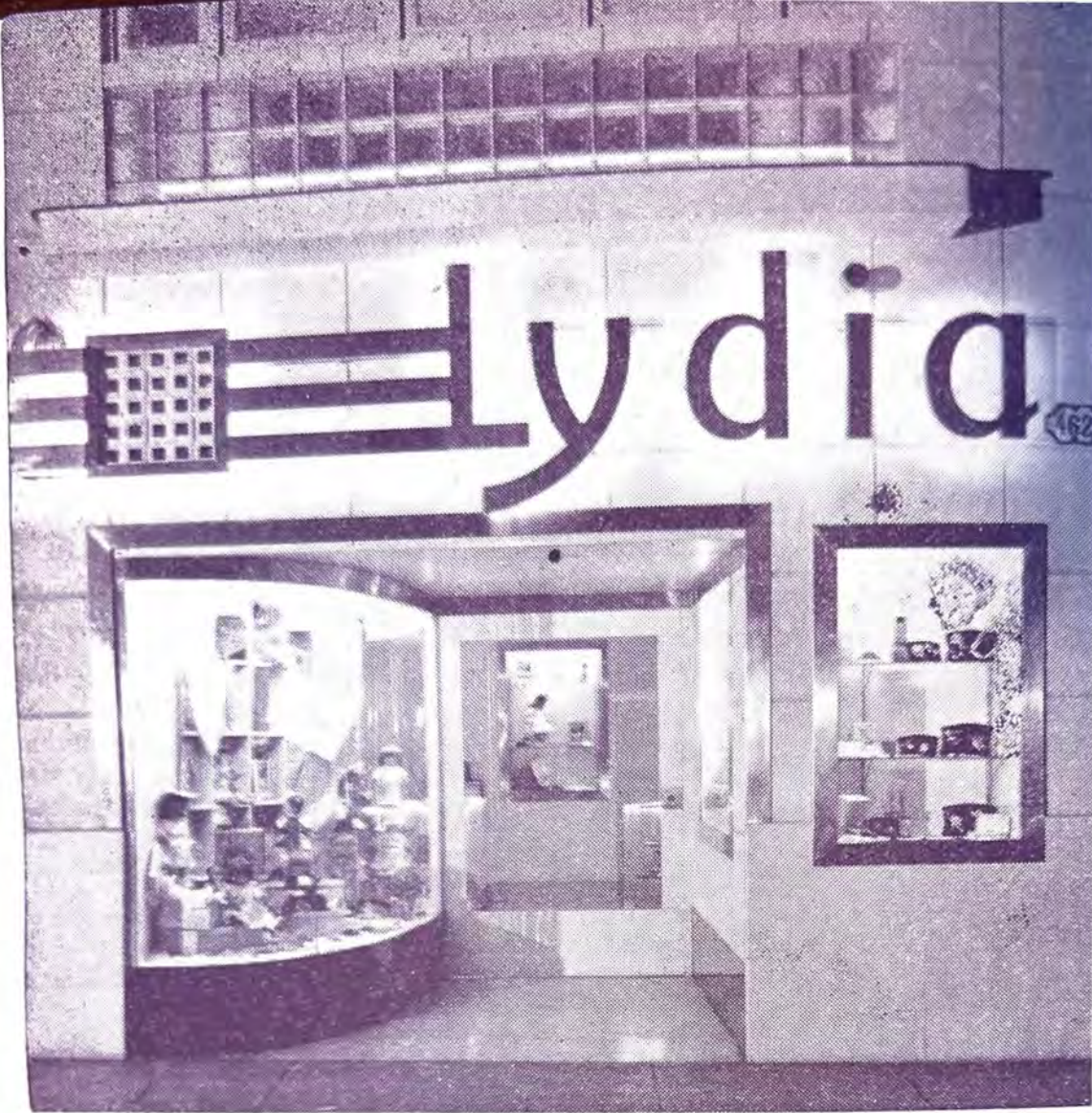
**THE FRANCISCAN CHURCH AND CONVENT**, at present housing the Cuban Post Office, and Telegraph Departments, faces the small San Franciscan Plaza near the waterfront. It dates from the latter part of the XVI century, and is one of the sturdiest examples of early ecclesiastical architecture. Certain substantial renovations were made to the original building in 1737, and so the present structure practically dates from that period. It is a good example of the massive, rather sombre edifices which were built in those times, and almost suggests a building put up for defense rather than a temple of worship. The three storied tower served a double purpose, as landmark for returning voyagers and a lookout for pirates as well as a Franciscan emblem of **memento mori**.

The sculptured figure at the right is in honor of San Francisco de Sales, a XVI century priest who founded the Order of the Visitation and the figure at the left is that of Santo Domingo, who founded the Dominican Order in the XII century. The 11 cells of the old monastery opened on the patio, and many of the monks who passed their lives in this quiet spot, lie buried beneath the flagstones.

**CASTILLO DE SAN SALVADOR DE LA PUNTA** (La Punta Fort) once built to supplement Morro Castle as a defence for Havana, and at present used by the Cuban Navy. Located at the foot of the famous Prado where it merges into the Malecon Drive, it is a vivid reminder of the past in a most modern setting. Massively built, the old moat—now filled in—and the arched portal are strongly suggestive of the end of the XVI century when it was erected.

**AVENIDA DE LA INDEPENDENCIA**: Among Havana's handsome avenues, must be mentioned the Avenue of Independence, laid out in 1835 by Captain General Miguel Tacón, governor of Cuba, and for many years it was considered the finest residential street in the capital. During Tacon's time, the city limits were known as the Calzada de la Reina, the Queen's Road, and the other end was known as the Paseo of Carlos III. Tacón removed the statue of Carlos III from the Parque de la India and placed it in the new Avenue. It is the work of the famous Italian sculptor Canova. The avenue leads to the foot of the Principe Castle (now the City Jail) on the highest hill back of the city, from the summit of which one gets a superb view of Havana. On this avenue is also the Botanical Garden, formerly the summer residence of the governors of Cuba. There is an extensive collection of native plants and flowers and the representative fruit trees of the tropics. Through the grounds a stream runs which was once a section of the old **Zanja Real**, the royal ditch which in the early days brought water into the city. There are bird houses and fish ponds in the Botanical Garden, which make it worth visiting.





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**CASTILLO DEL PRINCIPE:** The Prince's Castle which crowns the hill of the same name is an old bastioned fortification which has long been used as the city jail. Originally it was surrounded by a fifty foot moat, with scarped walls rising above it. It has been said that secret passages tunneled underneath connect the fort with different parts of the city, but this is not easy to verify.

**CASTILLO DE ATARES:** Atares fort is a triple-tiered bastioned stoned fort surmounting the hill of Atares, overlooking the southwest end of Havana harbor. It was built by the Conde de Ricla in October 1763. It served as a prison in Colonial times and it was here that Col. W. S. Crittenden of Kentucky and fifty of his associates in a premature attempt to throw off the Spanish yoke, were executed. General Narciso López, who brought the expedition to Cuba, was garroted in Havana at the same time.

### INTERESTING STREETS OF HAVANA

Havana's narrow streets, particularly those in the old part of the city, strike visitors as strange. And yet they were laid out with a good idea in view. The old Spanish law decreed that streets should be narrow in hot places so that the buildings on either side should afford shade.

Sidewalks were not thought of in early days. A curbing was put down to protect the houses from being scraped by passing carts and in many streets the curb barely allows a foot passenger room for his feet. Gradually however the sidewalks widened, and in the newer part of the city, the streets are wide and spacious.

When the present city of Havana was founded in 1519, a square, fronting the residence of the governor general, was set aside as a park. It was known—and still is—as the Plaza de Armas, and here for years, the official set and the native nobility took the air, while the military band played in the square.

The first street in Havana was Oficios, the Street of Trades, and in the latter part of the 16th century, the leading retail stores were to be found here. Two centuries later however, Mercaderes Street absorbed the popularity of Oficios as a retail mart.

Obispo Street was so named because the bishop of the diocese was accustomed to take his evening stroll up and down that avenue.

O'Reilly Street was named after General Alejandro O'Reilly, a Spaniard, in spite of his very Irish-sounding name, who entered the city by that thoroughfare, when the English who had held the town, again turned it over to the Spaniards. The Earl of Albemarle, the British commander, marched down Obispo Street as the Spaniards came marching up O'Reilly.

Inquisidor Street got its name from the fact that a commissioner of the Inquisition lived in that street.

Today most of the streets have been renamed after patriots and prominent men of later times, but the average person clings to the old names, which are shorter and simpler.

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**Beautiful Marianao Beach.**  
Vista de la Playa de Marianao.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **HINTS TO TRAVELERS**

**PASSPORTS:** American citizens and Canadian citizens coming to Cuba, do not require passports. Citizens of other countries are subject to passport regulations governing those countries.

The **TOURIST PROTECTION BUREAU** has been organized for the purpose which its name implies, the protection of tourists from annoyances of every description. An efficient body is at the service of the tourist who thinks himself the victim of extortion by hotels, cafes, taxicab chauffeurs, etc. The Bureau is established in the office of the Cuban Tourist Commission and tourists who feel that they have a grievance are urged to avail themselves of the services of the Bureau.

It is not necessary for the tourist to make a personal appearance in court. He is merely asked to write out a detailed complaint, which the member of the Tourist Protection Bureau will present before proper authorities, and the tourist may be assured that his affair will be properly and competently taken care of.

**MARKETS:** Cuban markets offer picturesque characteristics of their own. Some are in special buildings and there are also colorful open air markets.

**CATHEDRAL BELLS:** Two of the ancient bells of the Cathedral cast in the latter half of the 17th century, are said to have gold and silver mixed with the bronze which give them their peculiarly sweet tone. The present Cathedral was built by the Jesuits in 1741, on the site of an earlier church which was destroyed by a cyclone.

**HOLD FAST TO YOUR IDENTIFICATION CARD:** This will be given to you by the Purser, when you leave the ship, and besides, you may have to pay a tax on the money you have with you before going aboard the ship on leaving Cuba.

**HIRING CARS:** There are many Taxis (locally known as "fo-tingos") about town. It is a good practice to dismiss the driver at the end of every ride rather than have him wait and enter into a dispute about time. You can hire a small car for as low as \$2.50 per hour, or at the rate of \$20.00 for the entire day. Large cars are noticeably more costly. To avoid misunderstanding and overcharges you should, in every case, settle all points in question before you get into a car.

If at a Hotel, let the Hotel Information Bureau hire a car for you. This car will be more reliable than one you could pick up on the street.

**HINTS TO TRAVELERS:** One must exercise care in the use of flatirons which some travelers carry around with them, for in Cuba there are two different electric light currents, 110 volts and 220 volts. A 220 volt plug put into 110 contact will blow out the fuse while 110 volt plug put into a 220 socket will not heat. It is wiser to have one's hair washed at one of the many beauty parlors, since Cuba, being a limestone country, the water in the faucets is hard. The entry of fire-arms into Cuba is forbidden, except with a special permit from the military headquarters, and this can be obtained through the Tourist Commission.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Visitors to Cuba are permitted to bring in one camera free of duty. Photographers are accorded every courtesy, and permission to photograph churches, forts and other interesting spots is generally given. Films, plates and other photographic supplies can be obtained in all the cities of Cuba.

**TWO KINDS OF MONEY:** Cuba has its own official money, equivalent in value to United States currency, both being readily accepted as legal tender throughout the republic. Cuban coins are in denomination of \$20, \$10, \$5, \$1, gold; one dollar, forty cents, twenty cents and ten cents, silver.

**RURAL STATES:** If some friend invites you to a country estate or farm, the opportunity should not be lost to come in contact with the life of the "guajiro", or country dweller. There are also resorts in the country, providing meals, horseback riding, dancing, and glimpses of the Cuban countryside, such, as "Río Cristal", "Cacolota", "El Aljibe", "Topeka" and others.

**(PELEA DE GALLOS):** This is a feature of local sport long established in Spain and in Cuba. Special public and private "cock-pits" exist in different locations in and around Havana and throughout the island.

In Marianao city "Club Gallístico Modelo" is a well known "cock-pit".

**HEALTH:** Cuba today is one of the healthiest countries in the world.

The dread diseases of yellow fever and small-pox prevalent in Colonial days, have been entirely done away with, and exercising ordinary care such as one takes at home, life in Cuba is just as enjoyable as it is elsewhere. Cuban doctors are absolutely reliable, for the medical profession in the island is of the highest standing. The Anglo-American Hospital, with an American Physician at the head and a competent staff of English-speaking nurses, is located in the Vedado suburb, about fifteen minutes from the heart of Havana. Cubans live to a good age and in the country one frequently finds old people nearing the century mark. The temperature in winter averages 77° and in summer 82°.

**DRINKING WATER:** Throughout the island one finds good drinking water in the principal cities. Some persons however object to the slight magnesia content, which has the effect of a mild cathartic.

**DON'T** forget that Havana and Cuba generally are as pleasant to visit in spring, summer and fall as in winter and much less expensive; that all amusements, even races, take place in summer and that the average temperature does not vary much more than ten degrees the year around—summer heat (seldom above 90) being tempered by an almost continual tradewind. In other words, spend your summer vacation in Cuba too.

The Cuban Tourist Commission would be glad to receive requests from Foreign Newspapers and Magazines for photographs—scenery, events and customs. These will be supplied free for reproduction purposes.

**TRAVELING THROUGH CUBA:** To reach the various cities and resorts described in this Guide you can either go by train by omnibus and by plane. See page 71.

Trains run at frequent intervals during the day and there is always a train at night, leaving on schedule from the terminal. The trains are of the most modern construction and have every latest safety device; the road beds are good and the locomotives powerful, so that travel by this means is rapid, luxurious and comfortable. For night travel, there are comfortable Pullman coaches attached to the regular passenger trains.

The omnibus service is excellent. The buses of the various lines leave on schedule from appointed places throughout the city. They travel over the wonderful Central Highway, along picturesque routes. The large, commodious cars, built both for speed and comfort, have every device known to make motor travel, between the principal cities of Cuba, a veritable pleasure.

**CUBAN CUSTOMS AND PORTERS:** Visitors to Cuba are allowed to bring in all necessary personal belongings to be used while here and not intended for sale in the country. Cameras, photographic and cinematographic; portable radios and typewriters. Two cartons of cigarettes for personal use duty free are allowed each person. Articles of clothing should show evidence of at least nominal wear, although the customs authorities are liberal in their interpretation of the law as long as they are satisfied of the good faith of the visitor. Matches are an exception, being highly taxed. Porters may legally charge 40 cents for carrying trunks and boxes and 20 cents each for grips, suitcases and small packages between steamers, wharves and autos. Transportation to hotels should be left to hotel porters (who meet all steamers). Immigrants entering Cuba must possess \$500.

## UNITED STATES EXEMPTION FOR VISITORS TO CUBA, RETURNING TO THEIR COUNTRY

### General Ruling.

In accordance with the regulations of the American Government, each returning resident of the United States, may bring back with him (or her), free of import duty or internal revenue tax, \$100.00 worth of merchandise abroad for his personal use or consumption or as gift. **PROVIDED THAT HE HAS PASSED AT LEAST 48 HOURS AWAY FROM THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES.**

A returning resident of the United States shall not take advantage of the exemption herein mentioned within a period of thirty days from that last exemption claimed.

**Cigars:** Only 100 cigars may be included in the \$100.00 exemption granted to returning residents of the United States.

**Perfumes:** Returning residents may take back with them, free of duty and Federal internal revenue tax, their exemption of \$100.00 in perfume, but in the case of certain brands, restricted by Section 526 of the U. S. Tariff Act of 1930, they are allowed to take back with them only one bottle of each restricted trademark. The Cuban Tourist Commission will supply information in regard to these brands.

**Liquors:** Returning residents are allowed to take back within their \$100.00 exemption, only an aggregate of one gallon of liquors (a gallon is equal to 231 cubic inches), although the total of one gallon may be made up of various kinds of liquors. Despite the waiving by the Federal Government of the collection of duty and internal revenue taxes on the allowance of one gallon of liquors, some states have their own internal revenue laws, giving them the right to collect State internal revenue taxes.

### **Non-Residents.**

Non-residents of the United States are allowed to take back with them free of duty Federal internal revenue tax, one quart of alcoholic beverages and 50 cigars or 300 cigarettes, or 3 pounds of smoking tobacco.

### **Important Points.**

No person arriving in the United States from abroad may import for his personal use distilled spirits in any container having a capacity in excess of one wine gallon.

It is advisable to obtain a signed receipt whenever merchandise is purchased; the signed receipt with the names of articles and the prices paid should be made available to the Customs Inspector on return to the United States in order to establish the foreign price of the goods purchased since the exemption of \$100.00 is based on the price paid abroad.

United States laws prohibit the importation of flowers, plants, vegetables, bulbs, or any form of vegetation without special permission.

## **AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPH 1798 OF THE TARIFF ACT OF 1930 APPROVED BY U. S. CONGRESS ON MAY 19, 1948**

In addition to the exemption authorized by the fourth preceding proviso, a returning resident who has remained beyond the territorial limits of the United States for a period of not less than twelve days, shall be permitted to bring into the United States up to but not exceeding \$300 in value of articles (excluding



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distilled spirits, wines, malt liquors and cigars) acquired abroad by such residents of the United States as an incident of the foreign journey for personal or house-hold use or as souvenirs or curios, but not bought on commission or intended for sale, free of duty; Provided further, that any subsequent sale, within three years after the date of the arrival of such returning resident in the United States, of articles acquired and brought into the United States pursuant to the provisions of the immediately preceding proviso shall subject the returning resident declaring the articles to double the import duty which would have been collected had this additional exemption not been in effect: Provided further, that the additional exemption authorized by the second preceding proviso shall apply only to articles declared in accordance with regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury by such returning resident who has not taken advantage of the said exemption with the six-month period immediately preceding his return to the United States...

## POSTAGE RATES - AIR MAIL RATES

From Cuba to: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and possessions and Canada \$0.08 for first ½ ounce or fraction and \$0.08 for each additional half ounce.

To ENGLAND and OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES \$0.25 for first ½ ounce or fraction, thereof and \$0.25 for each additional half ounce or fraction.

Canada .....	\$ 0.80	Nicaragua .....	\$ 0.10
Bahamas .....	0.10	Panamá .....	0.10
Nassau .....	0.10	Costa Rica .....	0.10
<b>SOUTH AMERICA:</b>		Canal Zone .....	0.10
Colombia .....	\$ 0.15	<b>WEST INDIES:</b>	
Venezuela .....	0.15	Jamaica .....	\$ 0.10
Ecuador .....	0.15	Haití .....	0.10
Perú .....	0.15	Santo Domingo .....	0.10
Bolivia .....	0.20	Puerto Rico .....	0.10
Chile .....	0.20	<b>VIRGIN ISLANDS U. S.:</b>	
Argentine .....	0.20	St. Thomas .....	\$ 0.10
Paraguay .....	0.20	St. Cruz .....	0.10
Uruguay .....	0.20	St. John .....	0.10
Brazil .....	0.20	<b>VIRGIN ISLANDS BRITISH:</b>	
French Guiana .....	0.15	Tortola .....	\$ 0.10
<b>CENTRAL AMERICA:</b>		Virgen Gorda .....	0.10
México .....	\$ 0.08	<b>WINDWARD ISLANDS:</b>	
Guatemala .....	0.10	Barbados .....	\$ 0.10
Honduras (Rep. of) ...	0.10	Martinique .....	0.10
British Honduras .....	0.10		
El Salvador .....	0.10		

## NATIONAL AIR MAIL SERVICE

\$0.05 for first half ounce and \$0.05 for each additional half ounce or fraction thereof.

## AIR MAIL PARCEL POST

Weight of each package not exceeding 25 pounds and maximum dimension 42" × 30", \$0.25 for first pound or fraction thereof, and \$0.25 for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

## ORDINARY MAIL

To and from any town in Cuba and all America and Spain.

First class mail: \$0.20 for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Post cards: \$0.01 each.

From Cuba to other foreign countries:

First class mail: \$0.05 for first ounce and \$0.03 for each additional ounce or fraction thereof.

Post cards \$0.02 each.

Circulars, printed matter, etc. (open for inspection) \$0.05 for every 10 ounces of fraction and \$0.05 for each additional 2 ounces or fraction.

For the interior of Cuba, the Americas and Spain: Second class mail Newspapers duly registered as 2nd. class, open) when forwarded by editors \$0.01 for each pound or fraction thereof.

When forwarded by other parties: \$0.01 for every 4 ounces or fraction thereof.

BOOKS, CIRCULARS PRINTED MATTER (not registered as 2nd. class mail) \$0.01 for every 2 ounces or fractions.

PARCEL POST (for Cuba): Up to 5 pounds: \$0.10 for each pound and \$0.06 for each additional pound.

## SPECIAL DELIVERY

TO AND FROM INTERIOR POINTS IN CUBA: \$0.10 per delivery. This charge is in addition to corresponding postage.

FROM CUBA TO U. S.: \$0.20 per delivery. This charge is in addition to corresponding postage.

## TELEGRAPH SERVICE

The telegraph service all over the Island is owned and operated by the Cuban Government. Messages are subject to the following rates:

Telegrams to all points on the Island: 20 cents the first ten words and 2 cents each additional word.

Telegrams marked urgent will be charged double rate.

Telegrams addressed to any point within the limits of the town of origin will be charged half-rate.

Radio and cable services are also operated by the following companies:

Western Union Telegraph Co.

Cuba Transatlantic Radio Corp.

Messages sent from Cuba to any foreign country are subject to the following tax:

Up to 50 cents \$0.05 per message; over 50 cents \$0.10 per message.

### LEGAL HOLIDAYS

**Banks and business houses close on the following legal holidays:**

January 28th—Birthday of the patriot, José Martí.

February 24th—Anniversary of the Cuban War of Independence, Grito de Baire, (1895).

May 1st—Labor Day.

May 20th—Anniversary of the proclamation of the Cuban Republic, (1902).

August 12—(Liberty Day) 1933.

October 10th—Anniversary of the beginning of the Ten Years War, Grito de Yara, (1868).

October 12th—Día de la Raza.

December 7th—Anniversary of the death of Antonio Maceo at Punta Brava, (1896). General Memorial Day.

### DO YOU KNOW THAT?...

Horses were brought to Cuba by the Spaniards in 1514.

The first Cuban Railroad was built (with British capital) from Havana to Güines in 1837, 7 years after the first steam locomotive was operated on an American railroad (the Baltimore and Ohio).

The first 300 African slaves to enter Cuba disembarked at Santiago in 1521.

Turquino Peak (6,560 ft). 55 miles W. of Santiago, Oriente Prov. is the highest mountain peak in Cuba.

**PREHISTORIC CUBA.**—The origin of the pre-Colombian inhabitants of Cuba is an unsolved riddle.

They called themselves "Siboneyes" (rock men). In 1532 there were but 4000 of the original Siboneyes left, and 21 years later all these had perished.

Cuba was under the rule of Spain from 1511 to 1899.

The Gulf Stream, a remarkable current first brought to the attention of naturalists in 1776 by the curious observation of Benjamin Franklin (who so named it).

**The Asylum of "La Matilda".** In Artemisa, has a melancholy history. In this secluded region lived Louis Philippe of Orleans, before he became King of France. Artemisa was then called San Marcos, and it was noted for its extensive coffee plantations, and here in the beginning of the nineteenth century, the famous exile, so feared by Luis XVIII, found refuge.

## LEADING CLUBS OF HAVANA

HAVANA YACHT CLUB.

MIRAMAR YACHT CLUB.

HAVANA BILTMORE YACHT AND COUNTRY CLUB (Jaimanitas). Golf links. Tourists can obtain permission to use same.

CASINO DEPORTIVO.

COUNTRY CLUB OF HAVANA. Tourists can obtain permission to use the 18-hole golf links. Green fees \$4.00.

ROVER'S CLUB. Places golf course and clubhouse at disposal of tourists.

VEDADO TENNIS CLUB.

LYCEUM & LAWN TENNIS CLUB. (A woman's cultural center). Calzada 627, Vedado.

WOMAN'S CLUB OF HAVANA. 17th corner 13th streets, Alturas de Miramar, Marianao.

AMERICAN CLUB. Prado and Virtudes Streets, Havana.

AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF CUBA. Malecón 255.

LIONS CLUB. Manzana de Gómez, Dept. 361, Tel. A-9752.

ROTARY CLUB OF HAVANA. Hotel Nacional de Cuba. Tel. U-3688.

UNION CLUB. Malecón 17.

(Tourists can obtain permission to make use of the above clubs upon the solicitation of one or two members, according to the rules of the Club, or introduction by letter from a similar institution).

## CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF CUBA. The office: Cuba 64. Phone A-8630.

CUBAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Amargura 103.

HEBREW MERCHANT & INDUSTRIAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Muralla 474.

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Simón Bolívar 161.

SPANISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. Manzana de Gómez.

## EMBASSIES, LEGATIONS AND CONSULATES

American Embassy, Obispo 61, Havana.

American Consulate, Obispo 61, Havana.

British Legation, Línea 560, Vedado.

British Consulate, San Pedro 16, Havana.

Canadian Legation, Avenida de las Misiones 17, Havana.

French Legation, 301, 25th Street, Vedado.

Mexican Embassy, Línea 660, Vedado.

Mexican Consulate, 19th St. N<sup>o</sup> 156, Vedado.

Spanish Consulate General, Oficios 420, Havana.

## FRATERNAL SOCIETIES

Grand Lodge F. & A. M., Carlos III Boulevard N<sup>o</sup> 508, Havana.  
Supreme Council of the Republic of Cuba, Máximo Gómez 1109,  
Havana.

Havana Chapter N<sup>o</sup> 4, O. E. S., 13th St. N<sup>o</sup> 17, Reparto Miramar.

Island Lodge N<sup>o</sup> 56, F. & A. M., Prado 23, Havana.

Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.), Prado 23, Havana.

Knights of Columbus, Calzada 659, Vedado.

## ORPHAN & MATERNITY ASYLUM

The orphan asylum and maternity ward is one of Cuba's most famous charities, and is well worth a visit from tourists who are interested in seeing a splendidly run charitable organization. Children of all ages and of both sexes are admitted. They receive the most modern type of education as well as religious training. The boys and girls as they grow older are taught useful trades. There is a boys' band which is justly famous for its excellence.

The institution is under the direction of the Sisters of Charity. A curious feature is the admission of babies through a door in the side wall. By touching a knob, a door opens disclosing a basket, and when the baby is deposited therein, its weight rings a bell, advising the Sister on duty of a new arrival. Any articles by which the child may be later identified, are carefully preserved. Babies so deposited, are often taken back by their parents when in a position to care for them.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHURCHES

Baptist. Zulueta and Dragones Sts. Services at 10:30 a.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist. Services at 12 and 19 Streets,  
Alturas de Almendares, Marianao.

Methodist. Industria 82. Public worship at 10:30 a.m.

Presbyterian. Salud 40. Services at 10:30 a.m.

Roman Catholic. Cristo Church. Cristo Plaza.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Candler College. Gutiérrez and Miramar Streets, Marianao.

The Cathedral School. Paseo 313, Vedado.

The Baptist School. Zulueta and Dragones Streets, Havana.

Central Methodist School. Virtudes 152, Havana.

American Dominican School. "D" Street N<sup>o</sup> 105, Vedado.

The Phillips School. Ave. Central N<sup>o</sup> 24, Alturas de Almendares.

H. H. Ruston School. 15th Street N<sup>o</sup> 151, Vedado.

St. George's School. 15th Street N<sup>o</sup> 409, Vedado.

Merici Academy. Línea and 6th Street, Vedado.

## REGULATIONS FOR FOREIGN PLEASURE CRAFT AND AUTOMOBILES ARRIVING AT ANY CUBAN PORT

**P**LEASURE craft, in great numbers, visit our ports, especially Havana, during the winter season, and we believe it necessary to insert in this guide part of the Decree-Law, dated June 26th. 1935, sanctioned by the President of the Republic, Carlos Mendieta, and published in the Official Gazette, Special Edition, dated June 28th., 1935.

Requisites to be complied with by owners or captain of foreign pleasure craft, arriving at any port in the Republic of Cuba, and wishing to be their own consignees, according to the privileges granted pleasure craft, under Decree-Law N° 34 of June 28, 1935.

1. They must prove that they are registered at a Nautical Club, legally recognized in their respective countries. In default of this, a certificate from the Cuban Tourist Commission to the effect that the yacht is a pleasure craft will suffice. This certificate is issued upon the presentation, by owner or captain, of the registration papers of the ship.
2. They must present a clean Bill of Health from port of departure. In case the vessel should afterwards touch at some other port en-route, the Cuban Consul will note in original Bill of Health the sanitary conditions of the port visited. In the event that there should be no consular office at the port visited, it will be sufficient for the Health authorities to certify to this effect. Foreign pleasure craft complying with the above regulations and belonging to a neutral foreign nation are exempt from the payments of tonnage fees.

Documents which must be presented to the Navigation Bureau of the Cuban Customs:

- a) Consular dispatch from port of departure.
- b) Original manifest and two copies certified by the captain.
- c) List of passengers and baggage.
- d) Muster list of crew.
- e) Application in duplicate for entry of ship.
- f) Certificate of the Cuban Tourist Commission (issued always after arrival of yacht).
- g) Ship's Register.

---

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PRIVATE DINING ROOMS - COCKTAIL LOUNGE

Main Dining Room Out In The Patio  
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3. Pleasure craft can obtain special permit to navigate in Cuban waters for a period of 30 days. This permit is renewable every 30 days at the Office of any Captain of the Port where the ship may touch while in Cuban waters.

Ships of no more than 40 tons are not obliged to use the services of a pilot.

**ENTRY OF AUTOMOBILES.** Your car may circulate in Cuba free for a period of 180 days. A delegate of the Cuban Tourist Commission meets every incoming boat to attend to the entry of your car, approval of declaration etc., free of charge. Owner or chauffeur must accompany car and have certificate of ownership and driver's state license as well as customs registration to permit re-entry of car into the United States. Cars must be listed on baggage declaration and entered at port of embarkation one and one-half hours before sailing.

Automobiles with chauffeurs can be rented reasonably in Havana. Hotel guides and information bureaus can arrange for rental of cars and all sight-seeing excursions. Beware of unauthorized guides.



## TARIFF FOR AUTOMOBILES THAT RENDER TOURIST SERVICES AND ARE REGISTERED AT THE CUBAN TOURIST COMMISSION

### A—FROM THE DOCKS TO ANY POINT WITHIN THE LIMITS OF BELASCOAIN STREET, AND VICE-VERSA:

1 or 2 passengers, without baggage .....	\$	0.50
3 or 4 " " " .....	"	1.00
5 or 6 " " " .....	"	1.50

### AS FAR AS 12th STREET, VEDADO, AND VICE-VERSA:

1 or 2 passengers without baggage .....	\$	1.00
For each additional passenger .....	"	0.10

For trips outside the city limits, not specified in this tariff, the rates will be conventional, and in no case shall be less than stated in this clause.

### B—A TRIP TO AND FROM:

Rancho Boyeros Airport (including one hand bag per person) .....	1 to 4 persons	\$	5.00
Kasalta Restaurant .....	1 to 4 " "		1.50
Miramar Suburb, up to "La Copa"....	1 to 4 " "		2.00
La Concha Beach, Yacht Club and Country Club .....	1 to 4 " "		3.50
Country Club and Casino (day price)	1 to 4 " "		3.50
Jaimanitas Yacht Club .....	1 to 4 " "		5.00
Race Track .....	1 to 4 " "		4.00
Tropical Gardens .....	1 to 4 " "		3.00

### C—ROUND TRIP TO:

Río Cristal (waiting time three hours) .....	1 to 4 persons	\$	8.00
Race Track .....	1 to 4 " "		8.00
Tropical Gardens .....	1 to 4 " "		5.00
Rancho Boyeros Airport (waiting time one hour, including hand baggage)....	1 to 4 " "		8.00

The passenger is entitled to 15 minutes waiting time when a longer wait is not specified in this tariff.



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HAVANA — PHONES: A-1165 - A-1166

## D—RATES BY THE HOUR:

Shopping .....	1 to 4 persons	\$ 2.00
Trip within the city limits .....	1 to 4 „ „	3.00
Trip outside the city limits .....	1 to 4 „ „	4.00

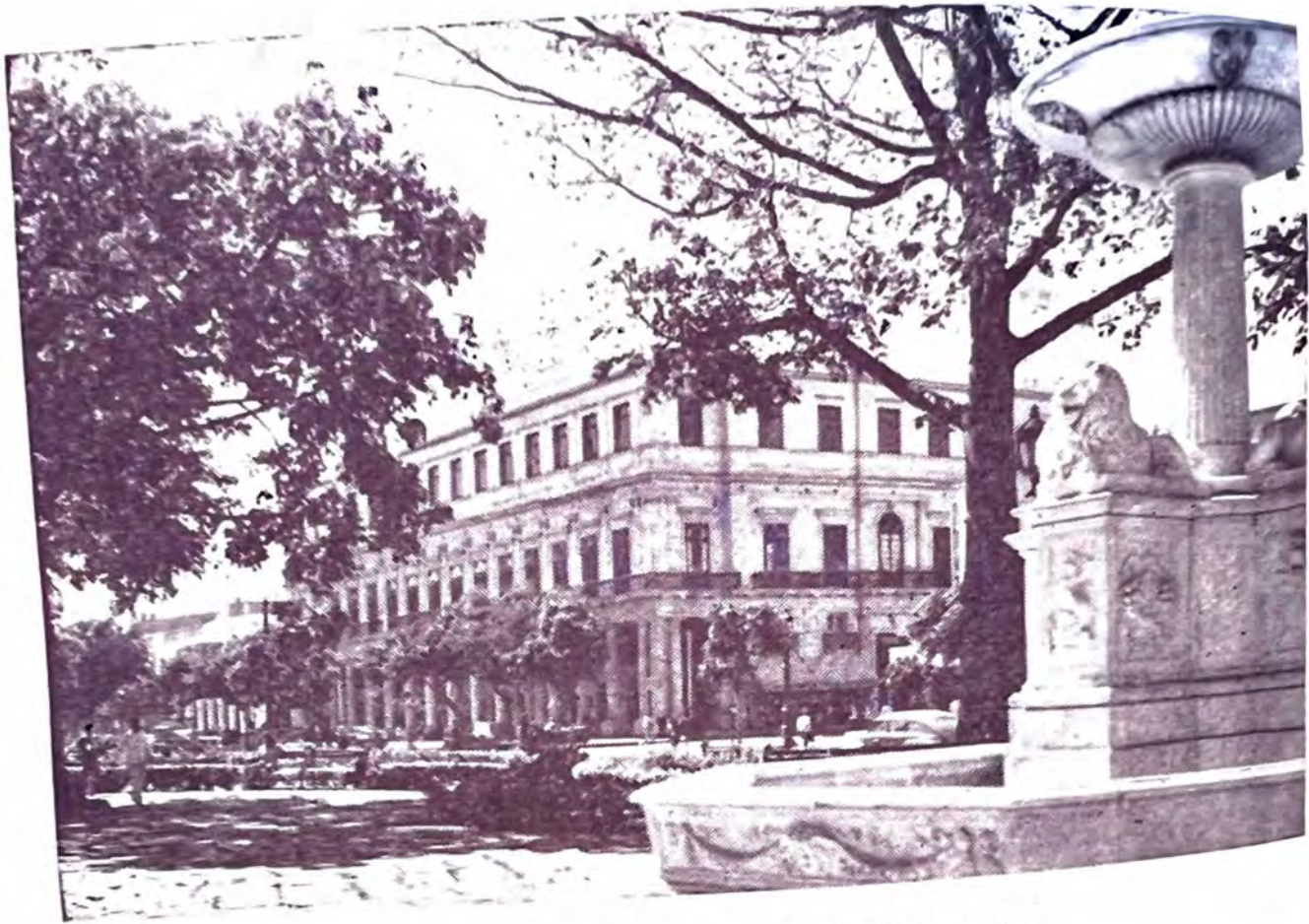
For more than 4 and up to 6 passengers (capacity of the so-called 7 passenger touring cars) and up to 5 passengers in regular cars, a charge of 20% of the tariffs stipulated in clauses b), c) and d) will be made for each additional passenger.

**E—SPECIAL NIGHT RATES:** (From 8:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.) \$ 10.00

## F—RATES BY THE DAY:

Trip through the city and suburbs, covering not more than 62 miles, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 a.m. from \$20.00 to \$25.00.

Extra time after 2:30 a.m. will be charged at \$2.00 per hour.



Aldama Palace facing Fraternity Park.

# Argonaut

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## TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES THROUGHOUT CUBA

### BY AIR

From Havana to:	One way	Round trip	Time
Varadero .....	\$ 5.14	\$ 9.25	45 m.
Varadero to Santa Clara...	5.14	9.25	40 m.
Isle of Pines .....	7.20	12.95	40 m.
Cienfuegos .....	9.25	16.64	2 h. 10 m.
Trinidad .....	12.33	22.18	1 h. 30 m.
Caibarién .....	12.33	22.18	1 h. 20 m.
San José del Lago.....	14.39	25.92	2 h. 10 m.
Camagüey .....	23.63	42.56	2 h. 10 m.
Bayamo .....	26.22	47.17	2 h. 35 m.
Holguín .....	26.72	48.09	3 h. —
Victoria de las Tunas.....	24.66	44.41	2 h. 40 m.
Manzanillo .....	25.69	46.24	3 h. 15 m.
Antilla .....	28.77	51.78	3 h. 20 m.
Preston .....	29.80	53.66	3 h. 30 m.
Cayo Mambí .....	33.91	61.05	4 h. 10 m.
Baracoa .....	37.99	68.44	5 h. 15 m.
Santiago de Cuba .....	27.74	49.95	3 h. 45 m.
Guantánamo .....	31.85	57.34	4 h. 05 m.
Moa .....	38.02	68.44	4 h. 40 m.

Air Lines rendering the above service:

**Compañía Cubana de Aviación**, Prado 252, Havana, Phone M-8371.

**Expreso Aéreo Interamericano**, Prado 204, Havana, Phone M-2405.

**Aerovías Q**, Prado & San Lázaro St. Phone A-6655.

### BY BUS

From Havana to (Province of Pinar del Río):

	One way	Round trip
Guanajay .....	\$ 0.65	\$ 1.30
Mariel (Connecting at Guanajay).	1.05	2.10
San Diego de los Baños (Direct to the Spa) .....	1.08	2.16
Pinar del Río .....	1.75	3.50
San Vicente (Direct to the Resort)	2.50	5.00

Lines rendering the above service:

**Omnibus Especiales de Pinar del Río** (Route N° 35) San José and Zulueta Sts. opposite Central Park, Phone M-4108.

**Habana-Pinar del Río** (Route N° 35) Zulueta and Gloria Sts. Phone M-6568.

## BY BUS

From Havana (Through the Eastern Provinces) to:

	One way	Round trip
Madruga .....	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.34
Matanzas .....	1.03	2.06
Coliseo .....	1.30	2.60
San Miguel de los Baños (Direct)	1.27	2.54
Cárdenas .....	1.27	2.54
Varadero .....	2.00	4.00
Cienfuegos .....	4.25	7.50
Santa Clara .....	3.74	6.75
Sancti Spíritus .....	4.83	8.72
Caibarién .....	4.30	6.75
Camagüey .....	7.11	12.81
Santiago de Cuba .....	12.09	21.79

The above rates apply to the special de luxe cars used by the following companies:

**Especiales de Cárdenas**, Ave. del Brasil 557, Havana,  
Phone M-5044.

**Unicos de Cárdenas**, Teniente Rey and Prado, Havana,  
Phone M-4845.

**Habana - Santiago**, Avenida de Bélgica 652, Havana, Phone  
M-2266.

**La Cubana**, Dragones 156, Havana, Phone A-7166.

**Flecha de Oro**, Zulueta 412, Havana, Phone M-3525.

**Cienfuegos - Habana**, Avenida de Bélgica 652, Havana, Phone  
A-6220.

By regular bus lines the rates are lower.

## BY RAIL

From Havana to (Province of Pinar del Río):

	One way	Round trip
Los Palacios (Junction that leads to San Diego de los Baños Spa)	\$ 2.58	\$ 3.80
Pinar del Río City .....	3.54	4.53
Guane .....	4.33	5.41



# Banco Continental Americano

Amargura y Mercaderes, Telf. M - 6995  
Habana

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Cienfuegos .....	5.65	7.18
Trinidad .....	6.97	9.38
Camagüey .....	8.37	11.71
Sancti Spíritus .....	6.72	8.98
Santiago de Cuba .....	11.69	17.26
San Luis .....	11.36	16.70
Guantánamo .....	14.24	—

The Railroad Companies rendering the above service are the following:

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**Ambos  
Mundos**

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*100 Rooms with Private Bath and every  
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**MANUEL ASPER**

MANAGING DIRECTOR

**153 OBISPO ST.  
H A V A N A**

**CABLE: AMBOMUNDO  
PHONE: M-9811**

# HOTEL WINTER RATES

DECEMBER 1ST. 1948 TO APRIL 30TH 1949

Name and Address	ROOMS with bath	EUROPEAN PLAN Single	Double
<b>HAVANA CITY</b>			
ALAMAC, Galiano 308 .....	50	\$ 4.00- 5.00	\$ 5.00- 7.00
<b>AMBOS MUNDOS, Obispo 153</b> .....	54	6.00- 9.00	8.00-15.00
BRISTOL, Amistad 305 .....	94	6.00- 8.00	10.00-12.00
GRAN AMERICA, Industria 502 .....	75	2.50- 6.00	4.00- 9.00
<b>INGLATERRA, Prado 416</b> .....	150	5.00- 7.00	8.00-12.00
LAFAYETTE, O'Reilly 264 .....	50	5.00- 8.00	7.00-11.00
<b>LINCOLN, Galiano 164</b> .....	130	6.00-10.00	10.00-15.00
MONTERRAT, Monserrate 401 .....	50	3.00- 9.00	5.00-15.00
NACIONAL DE CUBA, 21 & O Sts., Vedado..	549	15.00-18.00	20.00-30.00
NEW YORK, Dragones 156 .....	120	5.00- 8.00	8.00-10.00
NUEVA ISLA, Monte 259 .....	102	4.00- 6.00	7.00-10.00
OCEAN HOTEL, Malecón Ave. ....	65	5.00- 8.00	6.00-12.00
PACKARD, Prado y Cárcel .....	40	5.00- 8.00	6.00-12.00
PARKVIEW, Colón 101 .....	60	6.00- 9.00	10.00-15.00
PASAJE, Prado 515 .....	75	3.00- 5.00	5.00-.....
PERLA DE CUBA, Amistad 458 .....	55	3.00- 5.00	5.00-.....
<b>PLAZA, Zulueta 267</b> .....	300	6.00-.....	10.00-.....
<b>PRESIDENTE, Calzada &amp; G Sts., Vedado</b> .....	154	8.00-12.00	11.00-20.00
REGINA, Industria 41 <sup>n</sup> .....	98	4.00- 6.00	8.00-12.00
RITZ, Neptuno 514 .....	80	5.00-10.00	8.00-14.00
<b>ROYAL PALM, San Rafael &amp; Industria</b> .....	200	7.00-11.00	11.00-14.00
SAN CARLOS, Av. de Bélgica 507 .....	50	2.00- 3.50	4.00- 4.50
SAN LUIS, Belascoaín 73 .....	141	3.00- 5.00	4.00- 6.00
SARATOGA, Prado 603 .....	100	4.00- 7.00	7.00- 9.00
SEVILLA-BILTMORE, Prado 255 .....	333	13.00-18.00	13.00-18.00
SIBONEY, Prado 355 .....	40	3.00- 4.50	4.00- 6.50
<b>VEDADO, 19 St. 101, Vedado</b> .....	32	5.00- 8.00	6.00-12.00

## FAMILY HOTELS

APARTMENT HOTEL, 8 & 19 St., Vedado....	115	4.00- 6.00	6.00- 8.00
ARECES, Prado 106 .....	36	5.00- 6.00	6.00- 7.00
BIARRITZ, Prado 519 .....	31	3.00- 6.00	5.00- 6.50
CARABANCHEL, O'Reilly 360 .....	26	1.50- 3.00	2.00- 4.00
GRAN HOTEL, Ave. del Brasil 557 .....	80	3.00- 5.00	5.00- 6.00
PALACIO, Ave. de Bélgica 359 .....	30	3.00- 4.50	5.00- 7.00
RESIDENCIAL REGIS, Prado 163 .....	67	2.50- 7.00	3.50- 9.00
TROTCHA, Calle 7 <sup>a</sup> N <sup>o</sup> 758, Vedado .....	45	.....	.....
FLORIDA, Obispo y Cuba .....	..	6.00- 8.00	8.00-12.00



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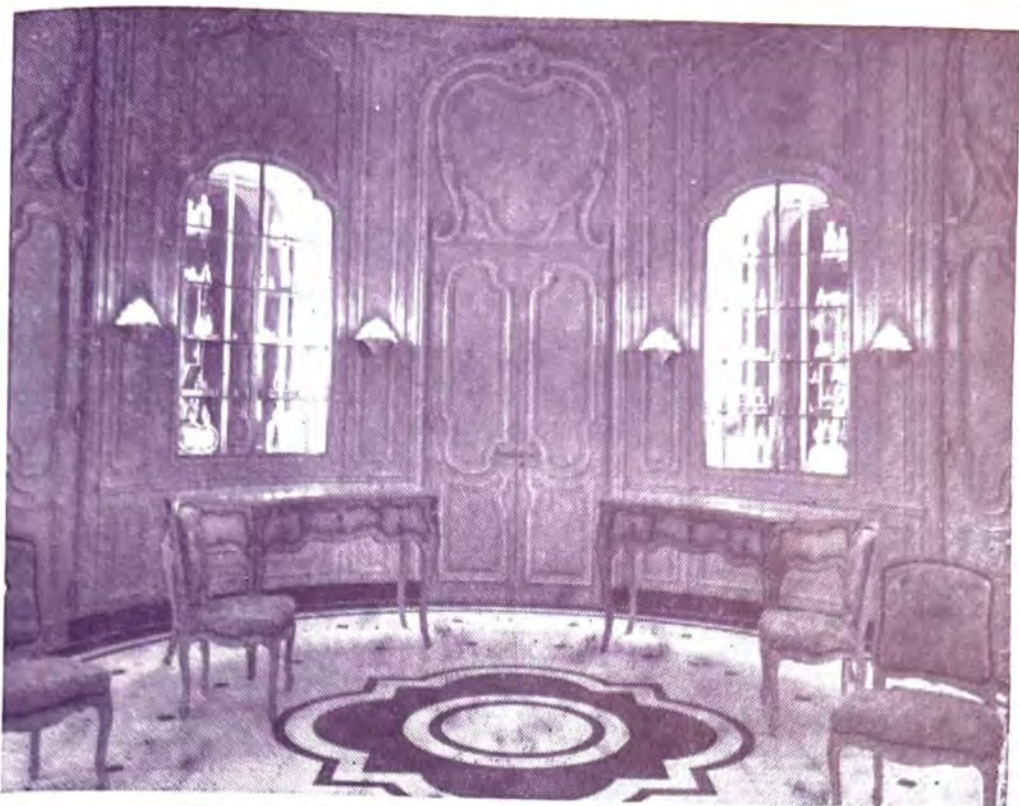
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Beautiful Guerlain Store in a refined Louis XV style.  
Prado 157.

Elegante Tienda de la Perfumería Guerlain.

## SHOPPING

(STORES CLOSE FROM 12 TO 2 P. M.)

**W**HEN my Lady Tourist goes shopping in Havana, she finds the very attractive shops have put out a most delectable supply of merchandise to intrigue her fancy.

Is she seeking a new and elusive perfume which will make her the most sought-after woman at the Country Club, the Casino, etc.? She will discover it in the finest department store in Havana or in one of the small shops which make a specialty of perfumes, powders and other aids to beauty.

Is she looking for a frock which will make her the cynosure of all eyes at the race-track? She will have no difficulty in unearthing a copy of a French model or perhaps the original model itself.

Does she prefer to buy materials and have them made up. It seems as if there never were so many lovely fabrics on sale.

Something in furniture, something in glassware, china, leather goods, jewelry, novelties and stape articles, all will be found in the greatest profusion, for the Havana stores have justly earned their worldwide reputation for selling the very latest in all lines and at prices much lower than at home.

The colorful array seen everywhere, may be a strong temptation for one to spend one's all in two or three shops. We can only warn you to desist. There are many more shops yet to be seen, so follow the old adage—"Don't spend it all in one place!"

Havana is divided into several shopping districts. San Rafael street, running from San Nicol St. to Central Park, Galiano running from Reina to Virtudes, Obispo street running from Monserrate to the American Consulate, and Monte street section starting at Fraternity Park and continuing for a long distance. The exclusive Prado continues to be the standby for those who are looking for real Parisian models, Haute Couture.

Among the leading stores of Havana and which the BLUE GUIDE TO CUBA unqualifiedly recommends are:

**Department Stores:**

SANCHEZ MOLA, 208 San Rafael St.  
EL ENCANTO, Galiano and San Rafael St.  
BERENS MODA, 307 Neptuno St.

**Specialty Shops: (Bags Perfumes-Fan, Cosmetics).**

GUERLAIN, 157 Prado Ave.  
EMMA, Next to the America Theatre.  
SANCHEZ MOLA, 208 San Rafael St.

**French Modes: (Haute Couture).**

ERIC, National Hotel.  
BERNABEU, 121 Prado Ave.  
EMILIO, 305 Prado Ave.  
MODAS LAURA, 357 San Rafael St.  
ATELIER PARISIEN, 305 Prado Ave.  
TERESA OLIVARES; N and 19th St., Vedado.

**De Luxe Bags and Belts:**

SANCHEZ MOLA, 208 San Rafael St.  
BERENS, 307 Neptuno St.  
EL ENCANTO, Galiano and San Rafael St.  
MODAS LAURA, 357 San Rafael St.

**Hats to Order: (Ladies).**

ERIC, National Hotel.  
EVA, 162 Prado Ave.

**Men's and Women Shoes: (Made to Order).**

MONTANE, Obispo St.

**Gifts and Souvenirs:**

SANCHEZ MOLA, 208 San Rafael St.  
EL ENCANTO, San Rafael St.  
GUERLAIN, 157 Prado Ave.  
SOLIS, 316 San Rafael St.

**Opticians:**

FOLCH, UBEDA & Co., O'Reilly 510.

**Photo Supplies:**

MINICAM, 305 Neptuno St.  
KODAK CUBANA LTD., 1064 Neptuno St.

**Crocodile Leather Goods: (Bags-Purses).**

Billfolds - Shoes - Slippers - Belts - Luggage.  
LA CASA DEC PERRO, 210 Neptuno St.

**Haberdashers: (Tailors of Distinction).**

EL SOL, Manzana de Gomez Bldg.

**Sports & Beach Wear:**

SANCHEZ MOLA, 208 San Rafael St.

**Lingerie, Linens, Antique Novelties, Spanish Mantillas, Laces, Etc.**

MADAME SARDI, 254 Prado Ave.  
CARMEN GARRIGA, 155 Prado Ave.

**Jewelry:**

BERENS, 307 Neptuno St.  
LE TRIANON, 408 Galiano St.  
EL GALLO, 402 Industria St.  
CUERVO Y SOBRINOS, 218 San Rafael St.

**Flowers: (Say it with flowers).**

CASA MAXENCHS, Consulado and San Miguel St.

**Perfumes:**

GUERLAIN, 157 Prado St.  
EL ENCANTO, Galiano and San Rafael St.  
BERENS MODAS, 307 Neptuno St.  
SANCHEZ MOLA, 208 San Rafael St.  
LAURA, 357 San Rafael St.

# A VACATION YOU WILL NEVER FORGET!

## SEVEN DAYS IN CUBA

### WHERE TO GO... WHAT TO SEE... WHAT TO PAY

**F**OR the tourist who comes to Cuba without a pre-arranged itinerary we have prepared the following program with the thought of guiding him to some of the most interesting places that can be visited in the course of a few days.

**1st Day:** If the arrival in Havana has taken place in the morning, the visitor can, after checking in at the hotel and taking his luncheon, take a City trip which will make him immediately acquainted with the principal points of interest, in both sections of Havana, that have special charm and historic background. In the old section of the City may be seen the forts, churches and palaces that have stood for over four centuries and to which are attached poignant memories of battles with pirates and English, religious fervor, and indications of the gracious manner of living in those far-off days. Plaza de Armas, where the City was born in 1519; Cathedral Plaza, La Fuerza Fort; the narrow streets and spacious arched porticos of nobility's mansions — all are impregnated with legend and romance that stir and thrill. This trip can include a visit to the magnificent National Capitol (admission 25 cts.), considered the most luxurious public building in Latin America. The price for this afternoon trip is \$4.00 per person.

After dinner, the Night Trip will be the most delightful way to spend a few hours, participating in the gay animation of Havana's nightlife. Riding along the Prado the haunting strains of Cuban music will be heard from every side — from the tantalizing girl orchestras of the sidewalk cafés, the night clubs and coming with the breeze from every direction. In passing Central Park, take time to visit the Centro Asturiano, one of the sumptuous clubs numbering about 48,000 members and wind up the night at any one of the Cabarets where there is excellent music, dancing and entertainment that will be typical and new. The National Casino will provide the opportunity to try your luck at the gaming tables, or dance and enjoy the excellent show with international stars that are special features. The price of this trip is \$6.00 per person.

**2nd Day:** The morning will surely be most enjoyable if spent at the beach. Admission to "La Concha" in Marianao (15 minutes from Havana) is \$0.80; there you can swim, sun-bathe, row and enjoy other water sports and have an unusually good lunch served in the open by its fine restaurant. If instead of the beach you prefer a game of golf, you can indulge the urge at the magnificent,

scenic, links of the Havana Country Club, where the green fee is \$4.00 per person. Lunch at "La Concha" beach, and return to Havana in time to go to the ball game at Havana's new Grand Stadium, at 3:00 p.m. However if you desire to see more of the Cuban countryside, the Country Trip through rural Cuba, at \$6.00 per person including admissions, will be the means of spending an unforgettable afternoon.

At night do not fail to see one of those exciting Jai-Alai games played by the notoriously swift Spanish players and perhaps make a bet on the result of the game. The Sports Palace and Tropical Stadium both opportunities for spending a pleasant evening with boxing matches and base-ball, respectively, commencing at 9:00 p.m. Finish the night happily at one of the cabarets: Tropicana, Zombie, Montmartre, etc.

**3rd Day:** If you are fond of fishing, on the south coast of Cuba, there is the small town of Batabanó, (great sponge fishing center), where you can spend a most thrilling, emotional day testing your skill to capture the tarpon fighters of the sea that abound in those waters. The round trip fare by train is \$. . . . per person. A 4 to 6 passenger automobile will charge from \$20. to \$25. for the round trip.

Another pleasant excursion can be made to Mariel, where the Cuban Naval Station is located and to which there is no admission charge. A delightful launch trip around the bay, very fine seafood, particularly shell fish will contribute toward the pleasure to be experienced by this trip.

If you are a lover of good music, go to one of the concerts offered by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Havana twice a month at the Auditorium Theatre. The cinema houses will also provide enjoyment; there you can see some of the latest releases in moving pictures.

**4th Day:** Spend another unforgettable day in the country. Go to Central Hershey and see the marvelous process of raw and refined sugar manufacture. If golf or tennis is your hobby you will be able to display your skill at the splendid courts of that mill, and later enjoy a good meal as served by the Hotel's restaurant. The price for the round trip by the Hershey Railroad, which leaves from Casa Blanca (across the bay from Havana) is \$1.00 per person.

No suggestions are made of how to spend the night as no doubt you have already become familiar with the fascinations of Havana's night life.

**5th Day:** Devote the morning to shopping. The stores in Havana are veritable temptations.

In the afternoon visit old Morro Castle and Cabaña Fortress. After a short launch trip across the bay you will go through moats,

tunnels dungeons, torture chambers and other things that will make you tingle with excitement; you will see evidences of battles and you will thrill with the mystery in which this ancient fort is steeped. You can take pictures of the outside of these fortresses, but your camera will be checked at the entrance and returned to you on your departure, because it is forbidden to take pictures of the interior.

**6th Day:** You should not fail to visit Matanzas, called the "Athens of Cuba" surrounded by incomparable landscapes, such as famous Yumurí Valley; and continue on to Varadero Beach, considered the most beautiful on the Atlantic for the marvelous combination of blues in its set and the dazzling white of its sand. There are excellent hotels and cabañas, numerous beach amusements, tennis, golf and other sports. It is only 30 minutes from Havana by air, and the round trip by plane costs \$9.25.

**7th Day:** Another interesting trip can be made to romantic and legendary Isle of Pines (Robert Louis Stevenson's inspiration for his novel "Treasure Island"). You will enjoy boating up and down its rivers in whose undiscovered nooks the pirates hid their treasures. There are mountains of marble and a beach of black sand. This worth while trip takes only 39 minutes by airplane from Havana and costs \$12.95 for the round ticket. There is a special train and boat combination costing \$12.05 for the round trip. The over-night sail from Batabanó to Nueva Gerona is most delightful, especially on moonlight nights.

Should you wish to remain in the country for several days, we would suggest San José del Lago, charming nook near Mayajigua, whose attractions are enhanced by the miraculous mineral springs that are famous for the cures these waters have effected. There is an excellent hotel and separate cabañas that have all possible comfort and conveniences. The restful beauty of this place and the very good food served at the hotel contribute toward making a stay there, something to be recalled with pleasure.

**NOTE:** If you spend more than seven days in Cuba do not fail to go to Rancho San Vicente, right on the outskirts of Viñales Valley, famous for the grandeur of its beauty. To reach San Vicente you will pass through the region in Pinar del Río Province, where the best tobacco in the world is grown.

Should you have academic inclinations we suggest a visit to the University of Havana, founded in 1728 and is considered one of the principal seats of learning in America. Special Spanish courses, to which foreigners are invited, take place every year in summer.

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The Cuban Tourist Commission, located at Prado and Carcel Street St. will give free information and answer all inquiries.

# TOURS AND ATTRACTIVE TRIPS

by

## DUSSAQ TOURS

(Founded 1870)

Main Office: Centro Gallego Bldg.  
Facing Central Park — Phone: A-6101 - A-4837

**A**FTER careful consideration and much study, the editor of "THE BLUE GUIDE TO CUBA", and **DUSSAQ TOURS**, have finally brought together in concise form the groups of TOURS obtainable.

The following TOURS are the most interesting from the standpoint of the tourist and will afford the greatest pleasure to visitors. They are highly recommended as the most comprehensive and typical.

All of these tours are directed by competent English speaking guides who know the country and its people.

DUSSAQ TOURS, insurance liability policy cover their passengers on accidents occurred while touring in their cars and yachts, on schedule trips.

Tours departure from Traffic Office, Prado 454, Centro Gallego Bldg. facing Central Park. Passengers can also be picked up at their Hotel upon request.

### TOUR No. 1. - CITY TRIP

By DUSSAQ TOURS

Leave the hotel passing the Paseo del Prado to the National Capitol where official guides will show visitors through the building and give lectures on same. Stop at Our Lady of Mercy Church (200 years old). Visit and lecture. Ride through Havana's Water Front District, Customhouse, Cathedral. Square and stop at El Templete, where first Mass was celebrated in Cuba 430 years ago, then passing through Havana's Ocean Drive and Maximo Gomez Monument to the President's Palace, proceeding afterwards to one of Cuba's foremost Cigar Factories, where trained guides will show and explain passengers the complete process of manufacturing Cigars, the history of tobacco and the Factory itself. After this visit will continue to Havana's famous Malecon Drive, to the Maine Monument (stop and lecture) then entering one of Havana's residential sections (Vedado), through same to Columbus Cemetery, visiting it where an explanation and lecture will be given. Leaving the Cemetery, will continue to an important Rum Distillery, where specialized guides will explain the process of manufacturing one of Cuba's most important products (Rum).

showing passengers the Distillery in operation. From the Distillery passengers will be taken back to the hotel ending the City Trip.

Duration of trip: 3 hours.

Daily at 10 a.m.  
and 2 p.m.

## **TOUR No. 2. - MORRO CASTLE TRIP**

**By DUSSAQ TOURS**

Motor cars will take passenger from hotel to the Caballería Docks where comfortable launches will be boarded to cross the Havana Bay and get to the Morro Castle. The Morro castle is an irregular fortification 120 feet above sea level with a moat 70 feet deep 30 of which are hewn of solid rock. The moat is crossed by a drawbridge to the sallyport and the Hall among dark rooms, gives entrance to the Central court. All about are cells, torture chambers, storerooms, dungeons, vaulted roofs and dark recesses. The walls are of formidable height and the ditches of surprising depth. Expert guides will show and explain to passengers the historic and interesting points. After conclusion launches will bring passengers back across the Bay where they will be taken back to town.

Duration of trip: 2½ hours.

Daily at 10 a.m.  
and 2.30 p.m.

## **TOUR No. 3. - COUNTRY TRIP**

**By DUSSAQ TOURS**

Leaving the hotel we drive through the world famous Malecón Drive passing by Havana's renowned University founded in 1721 to the Rancho Boyero Airport highway going through Havana's recently inaugurated Tropical Zoo to the Vedado Heights crossing the Almendares River (Havana's city limit) to the exclusive residential section Alturas de Almendares in the city of Marianao.

We continue our drive until we arrive at the incomparable Tropical Gardens owned by the Tropical Brewery Company, where all sorts of tropical plants are to be found. We continue the trip through Camp Columbia (known as the Military city) Cuba's army headquarters. As we leave the Military City we enter Havana's most exclusive residential district, namely, Country Club Park passing by its beautiful Country Club where one can admire its evergreen 18 hole golf course, passing by Laurel Avenue a natural umbrella bamboo avenue to the Coronela section.

Here we stop at the beautiful Chateau Madrid, which has been converted into a perfumery, where trained guides will give a lecture on the manufacture of perfume. From here we pass by the quaint and old country towns of Arroyo Arenas, El Cano,



and Wajay, reaching and experimental farm where specialized guides will explain to passengers the growth of fruits and plants such as tobacco, sugar cane, pineapple, etc. Here, one can also witness a cock fight exhibition.

From the experimental farm we return to the hotel passing by the splendid Avenida de las Américas (Fifth Avenue), one of the largest and most beautiful promenades of the world.

The complete ride covers about 50 miles of the Cuban country side.

Duration of the trip: 4½ hours.

Daily at 10 a.m.  
and 2.30 p.m.

### **TOUR No. 4. - NIGHT TRIP**

**By DUSSAQ TOURS**

Leave the Hotel passing through the PRADO PROMENADE, visiting CHINATOWN and continuing to the OPEN AIR CAFES. After we make a stop at the famous SLOPPY JOE'S BAR remaining there time enough to have a drink. From Sloppy Joe's Bar. we go for a five mile cool ride to out-of-town famous open air night club TROPICANA or Sans Souci recognized to-day as Havana's smartest, where we remain approximately one and one half hours. There passengers can enjoy a Native floor show, and dance to American and Cuban music. After the Floor Show, we again ride back to Havana and visit CASABLANCA a typical Native Night Club where passengers can enjoy another Floor Show, dancing etc. After the Floor Show (Approximately 2.00 A.M.) passengers board the cars again and are driven back to their respective hotels.

Duration of trip: 5 hours.  
Daily at 9.30 p.m.

### **TOUR No. 5. - SECOND NIGHT TRIP**

**By DUSSAQ TOURS**

Leave the Hotel and passing through Havana's business section at night; also OLD HAVANA and continuing to Havana's famous FRONTON JAI-ALAI, where the world's most famous Jai-Alai players can be seen playing. We remain in the Jai-Alai games for approximately 1½ hours (time sufficient to watch a full game). From there, through Havana's Malecon drive (Ocean front) it is optional to be left either at a Down town night club or the Hotel.

Duration of the trip: 2 hours.  
Daily at 9.30 p.m.

Entrance fee to the Jai-Alai Games \$1.00 (Additional).

# THE PRESS

When Capt. Luis de Casas (known for his love of literature and progress) founded (in 1782) Cuba's first newspaper (El Papel Periódico) it marked an island epoch, for on that day the intellectual life of the country, began, and Cuba emerged from the shadows of ignorance and stagnation into the sunlight of knowledge and progress. In the course of time other publications were founded: usually by high minded men willing to devote their lives to the advancement of their country. The best literature efforts of the time were printed in these newspapers and their files constitute an almost complete anthology of the productions of the most prominent writers during two centuries. The freedom of press is complete in Cuba.

## NEWSPAPERS

Heading the vernacular press is the old established (1830), well-liked, ably-edited and widely-circulated "Diario de la Marina", an all-Spanish newspaper known for its fair-minded, excellently-written editorial. Member of the Associated Press. Big Sunday edition. Rotogravure section daily.

Similar in many ways to the Diario, but all Cuban in sentiment, is the equally well-liked and written (widely read) "El Mundo" and "Information".

We recommend American merchants selling in Cuba, advertising in these three morning newspapers, which have the largest Circulation in the island.

Other good vernacular papers are "El País", "Avance", "Pueblo", "Alerta", "El Crisol", "Finanzas", "Noticiero Mercantil" and "Prensa Libre".

The "Havana Post" is the only newspaper published in English. Its large circulation is useful to tourists for its commercial relations as well for its news value.

## MAGAZINES

"Carteles", "Revista Chic", "Ellas", "Cine Gráfico", "Bohemia", "Guía Social", "Vanidades", "El Cafetal", "Grafos", "Yachting", "Bazar", "Tiempo", and "Havana Weekly", this last publication is very useful to tourists.

## MAGAZINES OF A TECHNICAL CHARACTER

"Cuba Económica y Financiera" (Spanish and English Monthly Survey of Cuba's Finance and Foreign Trade), and among the principal ones are: "Revista de Agricultura", "Vida Nueva", "Revista de la Propiedad Urbana", "Cubana de Derecho", "Seguro", "Farmacéutica Nacional", "Habano", "Tierra Libre", "El Automóvil de Cuba", "Arquitectura".

# LA CASA BELGA

O'Reilly 455

THE CENTER IN  
HAVANA FOR THE LITERARY,  
ART AND FASHION  
PUBLICATIONS OF FRANCE

BOOKS IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

---

THE BRITISH



BOOKS

RARE BOOKS  
OLD MAPS AND PRINTS

## BOOK STORES AND NEWSSTANDS

Generally considered as one of the leading cultural centers of the New World, Havana has several important book stores, and many foreign visitors have expressed amazement when they discovered that they could find the most sought for books in these veritable institutions of learning, comparable only to those available in the World's largest capitals.

Aside from the works edited in the Spanish language, and those published in the United States, the traditional "book worm" can find in these stores a most interesting assortment of French and British material.

Most of the Book shops and Newsstands in the City sell the outstanding North and South American Magazines, and in many of them, particularly in the "Casa Belga" (Belgian House), the refined reader can find whatever book or magazine in French he may wish to peruse.

The following is a list of the most important book stores of Havana:

- Casa Belga.** O'Reilly 455 (French & English).
- Swan American Book Store.** Obispo 255 (English).
- Librería Martí.** O'Reilly 413.
- Albela.** P. Varela 312 (Spanish & English).
- Bohemia.** Neptuno 69 (Spanish & English).
- Cervantes.** Ave. de Italia 304 (Spanish).
- Cervantes.** Obispo 527 (Spanish & English).
- Librería Temis.** O'Reilly 315 (Spanish & English).
- Editorial González Porto.** Obispo 409 (Technical books).
- Editorial Lex.** Obispo 465 (Spanish).
- Editorial Páginas.** O'Reilly 505 (Spanish).
- Fresneda.** Neptuno 561 (English & Spanish).
- Internacional.** Obispo 455 (English & Spanish).
- Librería Económica.** O'Reilly 466 (Spanish).
- Madiedo.** O'Reilly 407 (South American Publications).
- Minerva.** Bernaza 9 (Spanish).



Marti statue in Central Park, the Capitol and National Theatre in Background.  
Estatua de José Martí - el Capitolio y el Centro Gallego.



**Cuba's Capitol at night.**  
El Capitolio Iluminado.

## THE CAPITOL

**M**AJESTICALLY, in the midst of a garden where the tropical flora runs the gamout of color, gilded by the warm southern sun, rises one of the handsomest, most superb edifices in the Americas, the Cuban Capitol, seat of the legislative bodies of the Republic. Because of the magnitude of its proportions, elegance of its decoration, harmony of its pure and daring lines, which enchant the intelligent beholder; because of the richness of the materials employed, the profusion of different marbles, the exquisite taste of its bronzes, this monumental building, the construction of which was planned and directed by Cuban architects and engineers, is an honor to the country which erected it as a symbol in stone of the national sovereignty.

The severe sumptuousness of its regal staircases which impress the visitor; the Marti Hall with its Pompeiian paintings, the place where state banquets are given, the library destined for the use of the Members of Congress, are all, because of their superb decoration, worthy of admiration.



**Capitol Library.**

Biblioteca del Capitolio.

The conference halls, of which there are a great number, are because of their furnishings, the delicate colors used in their ornamentation, evidence of the progress our country has made in the decorative arts.

The semi-circle of the House of Representatives is impressive by reason of the art of its decoration, its admirable high-relief which represents the activities of Peace and War, and is the work of the Italian sculptor, Remuzzi.

The columns are gracefully built, and each desk is fitted with a microphone and an amplifier for the benefit of the orators so that the weakest voices can be heard with the greatest clarity.

The conference halls of the House of Representatives and Senate, the offices of the presidents of both bodies, are pleasing to the eye, but the greatest admiration is evoked by the contemplation of the Hall of Lost Steps and the rotunda, crowned by the majestic dome, third highest in the world.

The Hall of Lost Steps, is where the President of Cuba takes the oath of office, and where receptions are held on national holidays. The richness and variety of the marbles used and the magnificence of the bronze chandeliers are worthy of this sumptuous altar of the country. The monumental statue which represents



**Hall of Lost Steps, Capitol.**

Salón de los Pasos Perdidos, Capitolio.

the Republic, is the work of the noted sculptor, Angelo Zanelli of Rome and is considered one of the largest statues existing. The artistic beauty of the bronze doors and the exquisite details which are too numerous to mention make this hall comparable with the most sumptuous in any part of the world. In the center of the hall, under the dome, there is a diamond of great value, which marks the starting point, known as the zero kilometer, of the Central Highway, running from this point to Santiago de Cuba, the easternmost part of the island, a distance of 600 miles, and to Pinar del Río, in the western part, a distance of 113 miles, covering the entire length of the Central Highway.

The whole building is a faithful example of the art and science of architects and engineers and the skill of the workmen, all Cubans, who stimulated by the magnitude of the task, made it a labor of love for the honor and prestige of the country.

The usual opinion that American visitors form of this Capitol, can be summarized in the following words written by a distinguished citizen of the United States.

"I am sure few American citizens have any conception of the beauty of this Capitol. From an architectural and decorative standpoint, it is perfect. A great credit to the Republic of Cuba".





**Zayas Park, Presidential Palace in background.**  
Palacio Presidencial y Parque de Zayas.

## PARKS AND MONUMENTS

**A**MONG the alluring features of Havana are the parks and promenades leading out to Principe Hill. The central boulevard is the drive which extends from the water front on the Gulf through the Prado and the Malecon. Beyond Fraternity Park are the following drives or paseos: La Reina, Carlos III.

**FRATERNITY PARK.** One of the most beautiful landscapes in Havana with the added attraction of being the only park of its kind in the world with a Ceiba Petrandra tree in its center, growing in the soil of each of the Pan-American Republics.

During the Sixth Pan-American Conference held in Havana in 1928 the chairman of each delegation to the congress placed a quantity of the soil of his country at the base of the tree while it was being planted.

Its significance firmly welds together the nations of the Western Hemisphere and does as President Coolidge stated at the time

give "a promise of greater freedom—and lays our voyage of exploration toward complete understanding and friendship".

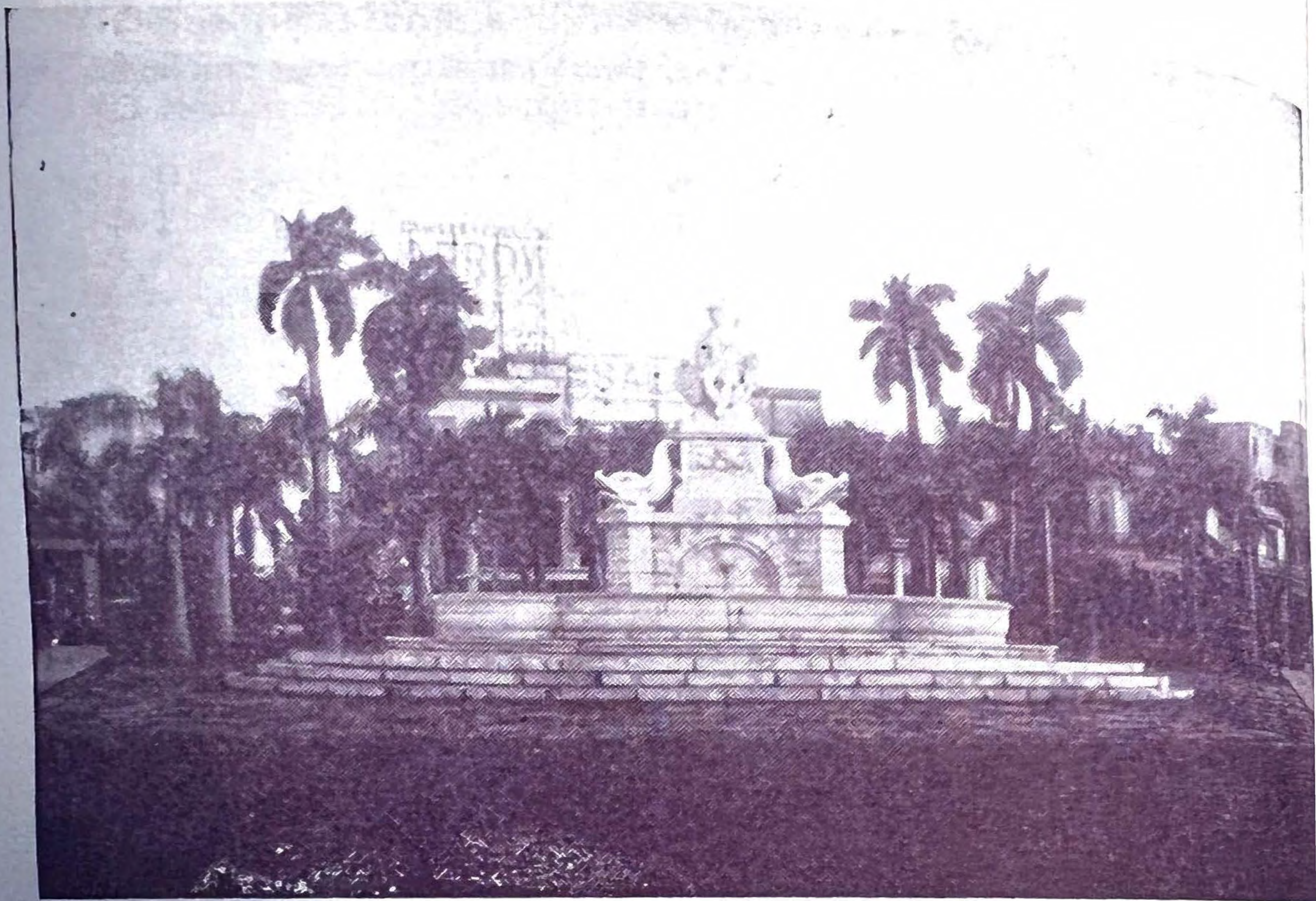
Fraternity Park is the outgrowth of the Pan-American conferences of which Cuba was chosen as the most representative nation.

IN CENTRAL PARK the features which first attract attention are the laurel trees trimmed to formal shapes. The lower part of the foliage is cut in a perfectly level and horizontal plane, square across the tree, forming a green roof above the walks, flower beds and benches. This mode of trimming is extended to the laurels of the Prado, and the effect is a unique example of formal landscape gardening. There are royal poincianas, almonds and other decorative trees, and parterres of flowers and masses of foliage plants contribute a wealth of decoration in striking colors.

CENTRAL PARK is in the midst of Havana's life. Cool and inviting as is the shade of its laurels from the glare of the sun, the park is even more attractive at night. Electric light floods the place: the surrounding clubs and hotels, restaurants and cafes are ablaze with illumination, and the scene is animated and brilliant. If the season be advanced to April or May, when the royal poincianas or flamboyant trees are in flower, they add great masses of bright crimson blooms, which glow in the electric light with a richness of color intensified by contrast with the foliage of the royal palm and the deep blue of the sky; for the sky in Havana at night is blue, not black.

IN MONSERRATE PLAZA, just off Central Park, at the head of Obispo and O'Reilly streets, and thus in the heart of city life, stands the monument of General Francisco de Albear, the distinguished Cuban engineer whom Havana holds in grateful memory as the builder of the Vento water system. Albear was born in Havana in 1811, and graduated as civil engineer in Madrid. He served in the Spanish army and was made commandant in recognition of his mastery of coast defense, but has left a more beneficent work as his crowning achievement and title to fame, the celebrated Vento aqueduct which bears his name. He died in Havana in 1889. The justly admired monument is the work of the Cuban sculptor Saavedra. The life size statue is supported upon a pedestal which is carved with dolphins, wreaths and engineering emblems, and bears the dedication, in Spanish: "The City of Havana has erected this monument to her illustrious son, D. Francisco de Albear y Lara". Havana is symbolized by a dignified female figure bearing on her breast the castles and the key of the city's escutcheon. Royal palms contribute their peculiar grace to the setting.

**MAINE MONUMENT:** One of the most interesting monuments in Havana to the visiting tourist, is the beautiful Maine Monument,



**La India Fountain facing Fraternity Park.**  
Fuente de la India.

situated in its own park and dedicated to the victims of the ill-fated battleship the Maine, which was blown up in the Havana harbor Feb. 15, 1898, a disaster which eventually brought about American intervention in Cuba. The Cubans, in order to show their gratitude and to reverence the memory of those aboard the U. S. S. Maine, erected a handsome monument at the entrance to the Vedado suburb, and here every year on the anniversary of the disaster, appropriate ceremonies are held, with all the high officials of Cuba and the American diplomatic and consular corps and members of clubs and societies taking part.

**MONUMENT TO JOSE MIGUEL GOMEZ:** This imposing monument to a general in the War of 1895-1898, who after the establishment of the Cuban Republic, became its second president, superbly located. It has been given a commanding situation, the head of the Avenue of the Presidents in the Vedado, which slopes down to where the Malecon Drive, along Gulf Avenue, gradually being extended. This avenue, with its double driveway and center promenade shaded by rows of palm trees, is patterned on the famous Prado. The monument, which because of its high

elevation can be seen from a great distance, has a colonnade of marble pillars and a great deal of ornamentation. From the rear of the hill on which the monument stands, one gets a superb view of the university section and of the city of Havana.

**MARTI MONUMENT:** The statue erected to the memory of José Martí, patriot and hero of Cuba, who embodies all the human virtues, is in Central Park. It is not a very imposing monument, but his true monument, Cubans will tell you, lies in their hearts.

**STATUE OF ESTRADA PALMA:** The statue of Tomás Estrada Palma is at the beginning of the lovely Avenue of the Presidents, in the Vedado. Estrada Palma was the first president of Cuba. He was a close friend of Martí's and when Martí was killed he succeeded to the leadership of the Cuban Junta and was named first president of the new republic, as a reward for his tireless labors in its behalf.

**MONUMENT TO MAXIMO GOMEZ:** This strikingly handsome monument, is located on the Avenue of the Missions, not far distant from the Presidential Palace. It is the work of Aldo Gamba, a noted Italian sculptor, and it is one of the finest tributes erected to a popular hero in Latin-America. General Máximo Gómez was the Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban Army during the last War of Independence, and he is presented in characteristic attitude, mounted on a spirited charger. The figure is in bronze. The base of the statue is of roseate granite, bronze and Italian marble, and it symbolizes the sacrifices of a great people who struggled for many years to throw off the yoke of Spain.

**MONUMENT TO JOSE DE LA LUZ Y CABALLERO:** Born in Havana in 1800, José de la Luz was a striking figure in the revolutionary annals of his country. He was a professor in the San Carlos Seminary and after traveling through Europe and the United States for ten years, he returned to Cuba in 1834, and attained a high position in the literary life of the capital. He occupied the Chair of Philosophy in the College of San Francisco, and founded a Chair of Chemistry in the Carraguo College and in 1848, he established the famous College of El Salvador.

His monument, which faces La Cabaña Fort on the new Malecon Drive is an imposing structure. The inscription on the base reads: "Education is not just to provide a career in life, its purpose is to temper the soul".

**STATUE OF GENERAL ANTONIO MACEO:** Located in a small plaza, called Maceo Park on the Malecon Drive, rises the handsome equestrian statue of the Titan, the bronze hero of the last struggle for liberty who gave his life for the Cause. His achievements provide some of the most colorful pages in the history of the last war. The episode of his crossing the Spanish trocha on a dark and stormy night, is one of the most thrilling in the annals of any country. His statue shows him in a characteristic pose, reining in a fiery steed.

# ART, LITERATURE, SCIENCE

**H**AVANA has always displayed a great interest in fine art. It has been a patron of music in all its variations and in all forms of dramatic art.

The most famous singers in the world have appeared before critical Havana audiences and the opera season at the National Theatre has rivalled in brilliancy that of other world capitals, not only for the sumptuousness of its productions, the fame of its artists but for the beauty of the women who filled the boxes, displaying rich toilets, especially designed for them by the great French coutourieres, and rare and beautiful jewels.

For those who prefer light opera, there have always been companies who feature throughout the year, the popular successes of other countries.

Stars of the theatrical world have always made periodic visits to Havana. This interest in musical and dramatic affairs has not waned and today as formerly in Havana and in the interior cities, the stage continues to attract large and appreciative audiences.

Symphonic music has always enjoyed the patronage of the cultured Cuban. Two organizations give concerts regularly at which the works of the great composers are played.

Musical organizations of the first rank, such as the New York Symphony Society, the Symphony Society of Cleveland, noted quartets and the most famous violin virtuosos and pianists, Jascha Heifetz, Mischa Elman, Fritz Kreisler, Paderewski, Josef Hoffman, etc., have repeatedly visited our city and have been warmly received by Havana audiences, who endorsed the praises already bestowed by Europe and America, upon these great artists.

Cubans have excelled in all intellectual activities, and many of them have ascended to great heights. In literature, science and art, Cubans have been honored by having their names inscribed in the imperishable book of the ages, names of those Cubans, who in their own country and in the highest parany of learning of the most famous cultural centers, have given proof of their original inspiration and of their vast and profound erudition.

Without boasting in a ridiculous manner it becomes us to mention briefly, the names of some of the illustrious men and women, who have excelled in art, literature and science in Cuba.

Foremost in Medicine, we have **Carlos J. Finlay**, who by his genius discovered the method by which yellow fever was transmitted and so was able to free the world from that dread disease, one of the world's greatest scourges. By doing away with the danger of yellow fever, he made the building of the Panama Canal possible.

**Joaquín Albarrán**, illustrious professor of the School of Medicine in Paris, was one of the leading authorities in Urology.

**Antonio Sánchez Bustamante**, one of the greatest authorities on International Law, is a permanent member of the Hague Tribunal.

**Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda**, one of the greatest poetesses and dramatic writers the world has ever known, was one of the brilliant ornaments of Spanish literature during the nineteenth century.

**José de la Luz y Caballero**, a man of profound knowledge and vast scholarly attainments, drew such admiration from Sir Walter Scott, that he inquired the same of the European savant with whom he was talking. Among the orators figure Montoro, Govín, Fernández de Castro, Giberga and Figueroa. They were considered great even in such a brilliant assemblage as the Spanish Congress, where there were so many orators of world renown. In fact the Spanish Congress was the acme of all that was perfection in political oratory.

**José María Heredia**, a close relative of his namesake's was one of the famous poets of France. He was awarded a seat among the Immortals of the French Academy.

Among the musicians who have enjoyed universal fame we can mention **White**, violinist of the Conservatory of Paris; **Jiménez**, pianist of the Conservatory at Hamburg; Brindis de Sala, Albertini, Echaniz and many others equally notable.

In the fields of Sport, Cuba has **Alfredo de Oro**, who was a champion pool and billiard player. **Capablanca**, once the world's champion chess player. **Luque**, pitcher for the New York Gigants. **Font**, who was champion amateur fencer.

Something paradoxical deserves to be mentioned; while many Cubans have been employed by foreign governments as experts in finance, education, engineering, aviation, music, etc., we have frequently availed ourselves of the services of foreign experts. We record this as a queer case, worthy of note.

## **SOCIEDAD ECONOMICA DE AMIGOS DEL PAIS**

On January 9, 1793, the "Real Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País" of the City of Havana, Chartered by Royal Decree of June 6, 1792, held its inaugural session at the Governor's Palace, under the Island's Governorship of Don Luis de las Casas, who was one of its most ardent enthusiasts.

Right off the start, the Organization concentrated without delay in the progress and improvements of Agriculture and Public Education, and the translation of texts dealing with the sugar Industry; the establishment of the School of Chemistry, foundation of a Public Library, etc. It exercised a fruitful guardianship over the House of Beneficence and Education, and many were the testators who enriched that noble institution with their legacies.

At present the Organization is devoted almost exclusively to free schooling, and for this purpose supports the Redención School in Cerro. The Encarnación School in Marianao. The Hoyo y Junco School in Limonar, the Santo Angel Boarding School, the Village School, the Painting, Drawing, and Carpentry Schools, etc., and the Santa Amelia Conservatory, wherein more than a thousand children receive their daily education.

## THE "SAN ALEJANDRO" NATIONAL SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

In the year 1818 the "Real Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País" took over the maintenance and defrayment of expenses of the Painting School (founded by the French painter Juan Bautista Vermay), which it named "SAN ALEJANDRO ACADEMY", in honor to the Island's Assistant Treasurer, General Don Alejandro Ramírez, benefactor of Arts and Letters. Then, in 1863 this Academy became a State institution.

## PRO - ARTE MUSICAL

This Association was founded by Mrs. María Teresa García Montes de Giberga, on December 2, 1918. Its finality was to encourage and extend musical interest.

Its magnificent building, the Auditorium Theatre, was built by the Association and is located in the Vedado, one of the most exclusive residential sections in the capital of the Republic. Its membership lists over 2000 prominent persons.

Internationally famous foreign artists as well as local talent are engaged for Seasonal and Special Concerts, thus stimulating their ambitions and heightening their artistic merits.

## LYCEUM LAWN TENNIS CLUB

This Club is the result of the merger of the Lyceum, and Lawn Tennis Clubs on February 22, 1939. The Lyceum was founded on December 1, 1928 and inaugurated on February 22, 1929. The Lawn Tennis was established on May 5, 1913.

The object of the Lyceum Lawn Tennis Club, as outlined article first of its By-laws and Regulations, is to "Promote among women the collective spirit, and encouraging and channeling all kinds of cultural, social and sports' activities".

To achieve these goals, it organizes conferences, concerts, exhibitions, classes, contests, tournaments, outdoor picnics, etc., and all other initiative and activities that may further contribute to the realization of its projects. This Club is exclusively for women.

Instituto Cultural Cubano-Norteamericano or Cuban-American Cultural Institute, at 112 Prado, a non-profit organization with a public library open without charge to visiting Americans.

# NATIONAL MUSEUM AND PICTURE GALLERY

**T**HE National Museum (Museo Nacional) is located on Aguiar Street, and is open daily except Mondays, from 1 to 5 p. m. There is no charge for admission. The building is inadequate for the housing of such extensive collections and Havana is now erecting a new home which will be called "Palacio de Bellas Artes".

There is a very fine collection of paintings, many of which were rescued when the old churches of Havana were either demolished or converted to secular purposes, and they are either originals of the early masters, Raphael, Rubens, Murillo, Titian, Ribera, Velázquez, Veronese, Guido Reni, Corregio, Van Dyke, Zubardn, Watteau, Goya, Possin, etc., or such excellent copies that it is difficult to distinguish between the work of master and pupil. Philanthropic owners of masterpieces frequently lend them for a time to the National Museum and the interest in art evidenced by the crowds who flock to see them, attests to the love of painting which characterizes the Cuban. There is also a good collection of modern paintings, including some by Sorrolla, Zuloaga, etc., as well as those by native artists.

The picture regarded as a gem in the collection of paintings is a canvas by Ribera (José or Jusepe) entitled The Martyrdom of Bartholomew. This is considered one of the most valuable paintings in Latin America. Like many Spanish painters of his day, Ribera selected intensely ecclesiastical subjects, and he was known as the painter of the Inquisition. The agonized suffering on the faces of his martyrs and the strained muscles undergoing torture, are extremely realistic.

A large canvas attributed to Murillo is Saint Isabel of Hungary, and portrays the king's daughter washing the head of a street beggar.

The Madonna and Child is another canvas reputed to be by Murillo. There are several fine copies of masterpieces by Velázquez, among them. The Maids of Honor (to the Queen), Vulcan's Forge, The Topers, and The Tapestry Weavers.

Copies of famous paintings by Titian, Veronese and Rubens portray these great masters at their best.

Appollo and Mars is attributed to Coreggio and The Virgin and Child to Guido Reni. Watteau is represented by a characteristic painting entitled A Day in the Country and Sorolla by a Child With a Watermelon. Among the Cuban artists represented are Leopoldo Romañach, with The Laurel Ditch, a tragic bit of Cuban history, The Last Pledge, and The Gypsy; M. Vega's canvas is called Picture of the Rosaries, and Rodríguez Morey is represented by Crossing the Pool and an Italian Landscape.



## CHURCHES OF HAVANA

**U**NDER Spanish rule the Roman Catholic Church was the established church of Cuba; public services of any other church were prohibited. In a circular issued by the Spanish Governor to induce immigration it was provided, "no others but Roman Catholics can be inhabitants of the Islands". The Protestant Bible was interdicted in the Custom House. The Government made repeated but futile efforts to procure for its subjects, living in Havana, permission to build a chapel for Protestant worship. As late as 1898, when the funeral of the Maine victims was held by the city authorities in the Governor's Palace, and Captain Sigsbee requested of the Bishop of Havana that the Protestant burial service might be read over the Protestant dead, the request was politely refused, the Bishop expressing regret for his inability to comply with it. All that Captain Sigsbee could do was to "read the service a part at a time as opportunity offered, chiefly in the carriage on the way to the cemetery and afterwards in my room at the hotel". The Spanish-American war changed all that. There are now in Havana various churches of Protestant denominations.

The churches and religious orders were formerly very rich, possessing sugar plantations and coffee estates which had been bequeathed to them, and drawing vast revenues from lands on which mortgages had been laid in their favor; the French Encyclopedia once reviled the churches of Cuba because they were "so revoltingly rich". In many instances the estates of the monks were long ago confiscated and appropriated to the use of the State the monasteries of San Agustín and Santo Domingo were converted into Government storehouses.

The public ceremonies of Holy Week were elaborate; religious processions filled the streets: the Holy Sepulchre was borne in state by devotees eager to perform the service; effigies of Christ and the Virgin and the images of the saints from the churches were carried through the streets.

But this has passed away, along with many other of the old customs which were picturesque and interesting, but not in keeping with the spirit of the present day. In November, 1904, there was discussed in the Cuban Congress a law forbidding religious processions in the streets.

The ecclesiastical government consists of the Archbishopric of Santiago and the Bishopric of Havana. The Cathedral has already been alluded to. Other churches are:

**SAN AGUSTIN**, at Cuba and Amargura streets, formerly a monastery built in 1608, is the oldest church in the city. Among the decorations of the walls are the Stations of the Cross in high relief.

**LA MERCED**, at Cuba and Merced streets, is the wealthiest and most aristocratic church in the city, and a fashionable congregation may be seen at its Sunday morning mass. There is a full orchestra. The church was built in 1746, and rebuilt in 1792; and the interior has been remodeled and richly decorated within recent years. There are rich marble altars, handsome chapels, and many fine paintings. Among the treasured antiques is a curious oil painting which represents a group of Indians being slaughtered by a number of Spaniards. In the center is a wooden cross, upon the transverse portion of which is seated Our Lady of Mercy holding the Infant Jesus in her arms.

**SACRED HEART CHURCH** is on the former Calzada de la Reina, a spacious avenue which is a splendid setting for this superb edifice. Its airy spire towers above the surrounding buildings and the handsome exterior is duplicated by the rich interior of this wealthy temple of worship. It is patterned after the famous Gothic Cathedral of Leon, Spain, and is the work of an architect brother of the Jesuit order, Luis Guzmán. It was finished in 1923 and Bishop Pedro González Estrada officiated at the consecration on May 2nd, of that year. The stained glass windows are particularly noticeable. They were made by a French firm at a cost of \$54,000.

The High Altar, the gift of a generous Cuban Don Narciso Gelats, was made in Madrid at a cost of \$72,000. It is a dazzling and complicated mass of gold and precious Cuban woods. Mexican onyx and white and tinted marble from Spain and Italy.

**THE NEW COLLEGE OF BELEN**, a handsome and imposing modern building is located at Buena Vista in the Marianao suburb, and its nine wings which radiate out from the central hub like spokes from a wheel, contain the finest equipment that it was possible to buy for scholastic purposes. Belen college was only completed in 1925. It has an excellent museum, library and observatory, as well as hospital and technical schools. Father Góveda of this college has the reputation of being an authority on disturbance, he is called upon to give an opinion of its possible atmospheric condition and whenever there is danger of a tropical disturbance, he is called upon to give an opinion of its possible menace to this island.

One of the interesting features of the college is the statue of Jesus of the Sacred Heart. It is of Carrara marble and stands in one of the great patios.

**CHURCH OF THE ANGEL**, as the church of the Santo Angel Custodio, is familiarly called, was founded by the Jesuits in 1672. It occupies a commanding position on a slight elevation on Peña Pobre hill—the street of that name is the narrowest street in Havana, and against a cloudless blue sky, its white lacy towers of Gothic construction, make a picture that remains long in one's memory. It was once an auxiliary of the cathedral. Among the ten chapels, the "capilla principal", back of the high altar and

dedicated to the Sacred Sacrament, is the most conspicuous. The medallions in the vaulted ceiling are the work of the Catalonian painter, Manuel Roig. A tragic scene in **Cecilia Valdés**, one of the best-known novels in the Spanish language, took place on the steps of this church of the Guardian Angel.

**THE CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO** on Cuba Street, belongs to the barefoot friars of the Order of San Francisco de Asís, and was renovated and rebuilt by them in 1924-25.

**THE CRISTO CHURCH** as the Santo Cristo del Viaje, is usually called, faces the small Cristo Plaza and has two ancient towers which rise above a curious, tiled roof and are landmarks in the neighborhood. This church has services in English and in Spanish for it has a large foreign congregation. It represents the earliest type of Spanish architecture in Cuba, and with the ceiling of the Santa Clara convent, is one of the few specimens of this period in existence.

**MONSERRATE CHURCH**, the church of Nuestra Señora de Monserrate, dedicated to the famous Virgin of that name in Cataluña, is an ornate modern structure, with little to recommend it. It originally stood as a hermitage on the site of the statue to Albear, facing the little plazoleta of Monserrate, but when the city wall was torn down, the hermitage was demolished and re-erected at its present location on Avenida de Italia (Galiano St.).

**THE SANTA CLARA CONVENT** an old-walled conventional estate in the downtown section of the city was founded by the Clarisan nuns about 1635. Some years ago it was taken over by the government and converted into the offices of the public works department. But the quaint, three hundred year-old patio was carefully preserved and here you see three original city buildings, the first slaughter house, the public fountain and public baths and the sailor's house, a small structure which a wealthy sailor built so that his daughter could retire from the world after an unfortunate love affair. The nuns' cemetery and their monastic cells are still on view.

This is one of the most interesting old structures in Cuba and visitors should not fail to see it.

The old San Francisco monastery on Oficios Street, is today used as the Post Office.

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## ‘ ‘ GUERLAIN ’ ’

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perfumes in a Paris atmosphere

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See page 6



La Catedral de la Habana.

## THE CATHEDRAL

THE CATHEDRAL is on Empedrado street at the corner of San Ignacio. It is commonly known to visitors in Havana as the Columbus Cathedral; but the name is La Catedral de la Virgen María de la Concepción—Cathedral of the Virgin Mary of the Immaculate Conception. The edifice, which is of the Hispano-American style, with two towers and a dome, is built of native limestone, which is yellowish-white when quarried, but soon darkens and grows dingy, and as the surface desintegrates it gives an appearance of great antiquity. The Cathedral was built by the Jesuits two centuries ago, in 1704. It occupies the site of an older church. Two of the bells in the tower are dated 1664. On the right of this is the ecclesiastical courtroom, on the walls of which are the portraits of the Bishops of the Island. Beyond are the cloisters and the patio of the Theological Seminary of San Carlos. The door on the left opens into the robing room, where may be seen the rich vestments of the clergy, magnificent examples of embroidery in gold and silver. On the walls are some very old paintings. From this room steps lead to the high altar and the chancel. The interior walls are finished in dark marble; the columns are of highly polished mahogany with gild-bronzed capitals; the choir stalls are of mahogany, beautifully carved. The high altar is of Carrara marble.



**Fifth Avenue in Miramar, leading to La Playa Beach.**  
Quinta Avenida, Reparto Miramar.

## **SUBURBS OF HAVANA**

THE VEDADO is the most progressive and beautiful suburb of Havana. Its streets are straight and wide with broad sidewalks alongside of which large trees are planted. It is also crossed by wonderful avenues, studded with trees and gardens containing every variety of the beautiful flowers which are grown in Cuba.

The Vedado contains square mile after square mile of the most modern and beautiful private residences, many of which seem to be the work of "Aladdin's Lamp" if one is to judge by their rich appearance, luxury and gorgeous fittings both inside and out.

The Vedado showed the way to new suburbs or subdivisions, which are in fact modern small cities, built according to the requirements and dictates of hygiene, comfort and beauty.

From the Almendares river, which is crossed by the splendid Miramar steel bridge to the East you find the Municipality of Marianao, where most of the impressive and beautiful subdivisions are located.

Next to the Vedado are the subdivisions of Miramar, Alturas de Almendares, Almendares, Ampliación de Almendares, Kohly, La Sierra, Country Club Park, La Coronela, Barandilla, and the Playa de Marianao (Marianao Beach).

All the above mentioned subdivisions compare most favorably with anything similar in the world, not excepting the most luxurious and sumptuous "Faubourgs" of the most important American and European cities.

JESUS DEL MONTE, on a hill rising 220 feet, is the highest point in Havana, many fine residences were built here in the days when large fortunes were made from sugar planting. A fine view may be had from the grounds of the church of Nuestra Señora de la Guadalupe. The route is by the Jesús del Monte cars.

MARIANAO, on an elevated ridge ten miles west, is the favorite residential section of many Havana families. It has many handsome villas, among them the stately palace which was occupied by General Fitzhugh Lee when Military Governor.

GUANABACOA, three miles east of the city, via Regla, was established in the sixteenth century as an Indian town, the poverty stricken remnants of various tribes being gathered together here. From this humble beginning it developed in 1854 into a fashionable watering place during the summer months. The mineral baths of Santa Rita are reputed to have valuable medicinal qualities and are taken daily by many people. The churches contain shrines which are visited annually by many pilgrims. Outside the city is the church of Potosi, containing the miracle-working image of Jesús Nazareno de Potosí. The scenery is fine about Guanabacoa and on the road between the city and Havana. In the hills of Guanabacoa liquid bitumen is found which was used by Sebastián de Ocampo in 1508, when he careened his vessels and gave the place the name of Puerto de Carenas.

MIRAMAR. Its beautiful Fifth Avenue (five kilometers long by 45 meters wide) leading directly to Marianao Beach considered as the "Champs Elysées" of America.

COUNTRY CLUB PARK: Its beautiful hills covered with pines, sycamores, palms, almond trees and other tropical vegetation. The charming and beautiful lake at its entrance has an illuminated fountain in the center.

## RESIDENCES, SUBURBS & SUBDIVISIONS

"Every country has a way of its own"—said Sancho Panza in accounting for coolness. We need not be here long, even in mid-winter, before we appreciate the good sense and wisdom of Havana methods of house building.

Many Havana houses are of immense size, and cost enormous fortunes. The city was the home of a large class of wealthy sugar planters, whose incomes were reckoned by the hundreds of thousands, and who, leaving their rarely visited sugar estates to the control of the manager (mayoral), built themselves palaces here

# Emilia

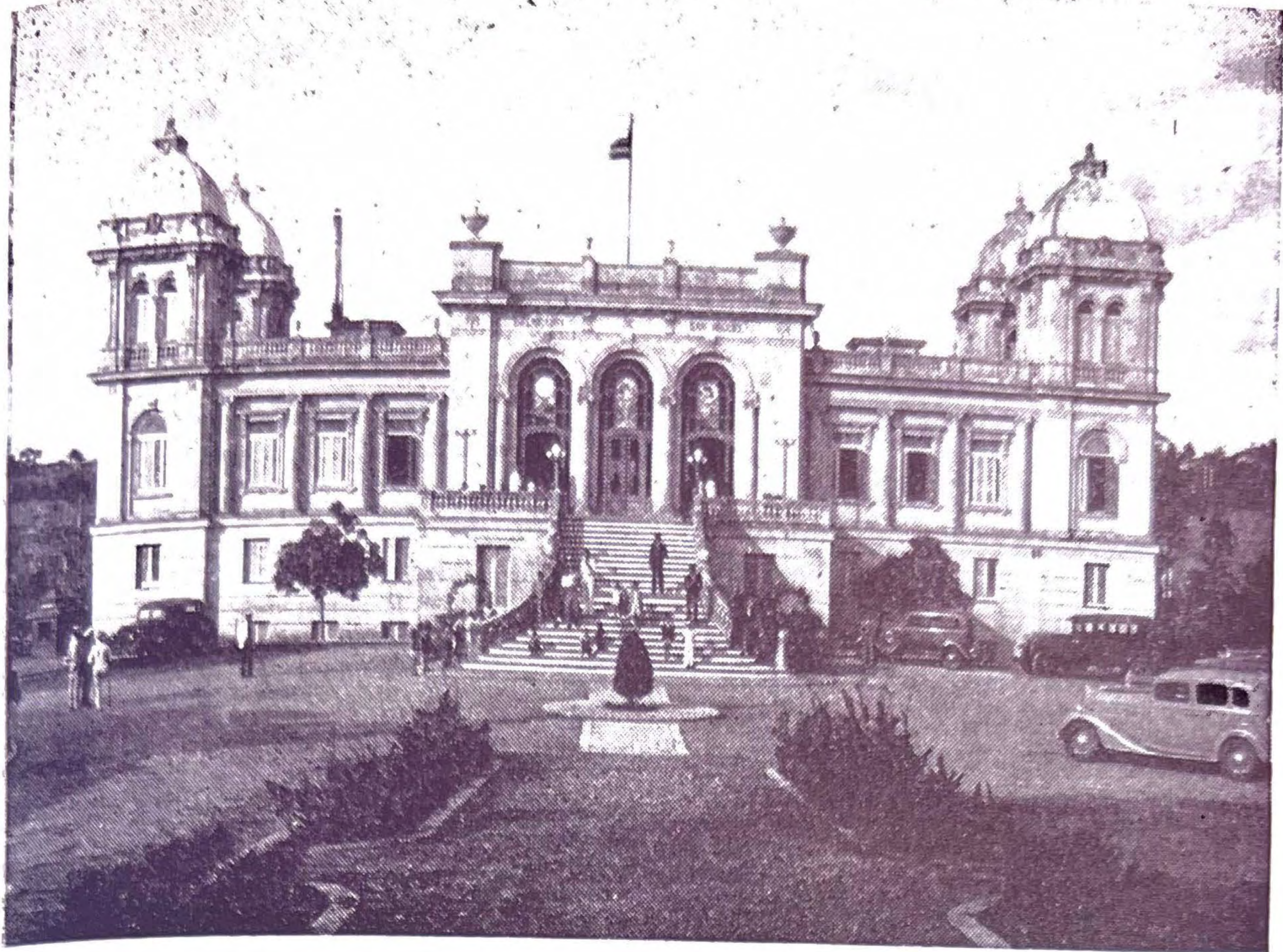
## COUTURE

305 Prado Ave.

Havana

and lived in the midst of every luxury money could buy. Such a home was that built by Miguel de Aldama, at the corner of Amistad and Reina streets, facing Fraternity Park. Aldama was Havana's richest man; his income was estimated at \$3,000,000 a year, when in 1860 he built this home, which cost \$400,000 and was considered the largest and most magnificent house in the city. Aldama was a Cuban patriot, and when at the outbreak of the rebellion of 1868 he was obliged to flee from the city, the Spanish Volunteers ransacked the house, wrecked the ornaments and destroyed the paintings and statuary; and the house was afterwards converted into a tobacco factory, in which room was found for 450 cigar-makers. Today, this beautiful palace is used for private offices and stores.

"Havana is a city of palaces, plazas, colonnades, towers, churches and monasteries. The Spaniards built as they do in Castile; with the same material, the white limestone which they found in the New World as in the Old. The palaces of the nobles in Havana, the residences, of the Governor, the convents, the cathedral, are a reproduction of Burgos or Valladolid, as if by some Aladdin's lamp a Castilian city had been taken up and set down unaltered on the shore of the Caribbean Sea. The magnitude of Havana and the fullness of life which was going on there entirely surprised me".—James Anthony Froude. 1887.



**Hotel San Miguel.**  
Hotel del Balneario de San Miguel.

## MEDICINAL SPRINGS

**C**UBA is a country to which Nature has been prodigal. It has fertile lands which produce an infinite variety of fruits, flowers, fine woods, vegetables, the best coffee, the best sugar and the best tobacco in the whole world.

It has also wonderful medicinal springs. At San Diego de los Baños and at San Miguel de los Baños, the most important hydro-therapeutic spas are located, where miraculous cures are constantly effected.

Highly esteemed as well for the valuable properties of their medicinal waters are Santa Maria del Rosario, Amaro, Madruga, Santa Rita, Soroa, Martín Mesa, Elguea... The number of patients who come here in search of health, is increasing daily. Stomach troubles, rheumatism, eczema, liver troubles, ulcers, scrofula, kidney troubles, nervous disorders, diabetes, obesity, anemia, rickets, heart and artery diseases, besides countless other ills the human flesh is heir to, are all treated effectively at these spas.

### **SAN MIGUEL DE LOS BAÑOS** **CUBA'S GREATEST SPA**

Cuba is particularly fortunate in having so many medicinal springs where human ills of various kinds may be promptly cured.



Enjoy your VACATION at

**SAN JOSE DEL LAGO**  
CUBA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL RESORT



90 Minutes from Havana By Plane

Famous Medicinal Waters known for nerve cures - rheumatic and digestive troubles.

Two swimming pools. Base-Ball. Croquet Tennis. Horse riding. Rowing. Hunting and Fishing.

Modern Hotel - Private Cabañas situated around the lake.

For Information:

**A. S. BERRAYARZA** or your Travel Agency.

314 JOVELLAR ST.  
Havana Office:  
Phone U-5354

Telegraphic Address  
BALNEAR I  
MAYAJIGU

The greatest of these spas which has grown up around the springs that gush so plentifully from the earth, is San Miguel de los Baños, known for centuries for its curative powers, but only elevated within recent years, to the dignity of a first-class watering-place, with a magnificent, up-to-date hotel, in the basement of which is a bathing establishment which compares favorably with those to be found at European resorts.

San Miguel lies in a valley, surrounded by mountains, or rather, high hills, from whose green depths flow the waters, blessed with such magic powers.

Horseback riding on the sure-footed Cuban horses, whose easy gait does not tire the rider, is one of the principal diversions at San Miguel, and a ride to the summit of the Jacan mountain, 1,200 feet above sea level, to visit the famous shrine of the Cristo of Jacan, is worth taking for the superb view one gets from the summit.

There are five different springs at San Miguel, and their waters serve for both internal and external use. Their mineral, carbonated and radio-active properties are effective in the cure of intestinal, rheumatic and other disorders.

## **SAN DIEGO DE LOS BAÑOS**

### **THE HOME OF THE SULPHUR SPRINGS OF CUBA**

The village of San Diego lies north of Paso Real, a station on the Western Railroad. It is noted for its sulphur springs, famous throughout the island for their efficacy in combatting rheumatic disorders.

It is said that their discovery was due to an old negro slave, who, developing a loathsome skin disease, was turned adrift by his master. He wandered for days among the Organo hills and finally stumbled across the warm spring that gushed out from the earth. He lived in a cave, bathed in the healing waters and in a short time was cured. Whereupon, so the story runs, he returned to his master to report the good news.

San Diego de los Baños became a fashionable watering place. It built handsome bath houses and little parks, in short, was transformed into a modern spa.

The wonderful air, resinous as it comes from the mountains, and the tranquility of the atmosphere, contribute not a little to the cure which the healing waters effect, and San Diego attracts many tourists who have heard of its beneficent springs.

Its hotels offer good accommodation to visitors.

## SAN JOSE DEL LAGO MAYAJIGUA

### Historic Background.

Even as far back as the earliest colonial days these waters were already widely known and enjoyed a well deserved reputation for their curative properties, particularly for nerve, rheumatic and digestive ailments.

The MAYAJIGUA BATHS, as they have been known since then, reached the height of their fame during the period from 1850 to 1865.

### Special Features.

The new SAN JOSE DEL LAGO BATHS, opened to the public on May 20th, 1940, have a modern fireproof hotel with a private bath in every room, and other comfortable apartments and cozy cabañas conveniently located around the lake for those who seek a certain measure of seclusion. Honeymooners are specially keen about these cabañas.

For the time being it has two private and two open air swimming pools.

The lake is nearly a full mile around and is beautifully spotted with islets and surrounded by gardens, with the magnificent Sierra de Bacuranao in the background, where numerous hunting and horseback riding parties often enjoy delightful expeditions.

It is a favorite place for a rest cure, away from noise, and free from mosquitoes and other nuisances.

### Location.

SAN JOSE DEL LAGO is situated on the North coast of the Las Villas Province, scarcely one mile from Mayajigua, at a height of 200 feet above sea level, and a short distance from the famous Caibarien fisherman's paradise.

### Communications.

By rail from Havana to Caibarién, or from Ciego de Avila to Chambas, and thence to Mayajigua by gas-car.

Also by plane, which takes only about ninety minutes.

### THE GREAT TROPICAL TRADE WINDS

So-called for their aid to navigation and help to commerce, are concomitants of the equatorial currents and the Gulf Stream, come from the vast expanse of the Atlantic, usually with a steady velocity from the N.E. to the S.E. across the West Indies, and are a priceless boon to the inhabitants thereof. Their benign influence extends to the United States, for they make the S. breezes which blow across Texas and the contiguous states, and act thereon much as the S.W. monsoon (Arabic *mausim*, or 'strong wind') does upon the parched plains of Hindustan. The meteorology of the entire West Indies is affected by the action of these atmospheric currents, the steady and beneficent trade winds of the N.E., and the sudden spasms of tempest which sometimes develop into furious and destructive hurricanes.



*You have not seen Havana until you see*

# Río Cristal

*A Fairy Land You Will Never Forget.*

•  
Picture lovers will be enchanted.

A short ride by any conveyance and a meal only an epicure  
can appreciate and so will you.

Open at night exclusively on request for  
family parties or Clubs.

JUST 15 MINUTES FROM THE CENTER OF HAVANA

•  
**For reservations: Phone 1-5923**



## WHERE TO EAT

**CHEZ SANTA CLARA**, on the terrace of the President Hotel. Splendid foods in an atmosphere of distinction. Bar and cocktail lounge. Table d'hote and a la carte.

**COSMOPOLITA PATIO**. Restaurant of traditional fame. Charming colonial atmosphere in Prado Boulevard, heart of Havana. Exquisite table. Imported wines. Bar.

**HOTEL NACIONAL**. Restaurant of international "haute cuisine". The most distinguished and beautiful place. Tea dance.

**LA REGULADORA**. One of the oldest and of best repute, now under the management of the well-known Maitre Antonio. Real specialties. 412 Amistad Street.

**LA ZARAGOZANA**. Founded in 1830. Sea food a specialty of this house. Fine cuisine of every kind. 355 Monserrate Street.

**LA CONCHA RESTAURANT**. Delicious food served in the open. Swim eat and relax. La Concha Beach. Marianao.

**PARIS RESTAURANT**. International cooking. Cathedral Plaza.

**CLUB VISTA ALEGRE**. One of Cuba's oldest restaurants. Excellent cuisine and choice specialties. Music. Malecon and Belascoain Sts. Facing the ocean.

**EL SITIO** (30 minutes from Havana), on the Wajay Road. A typical Cuban farm. Specialty rice and chicken.

**MIAMI RESTAURANT**. Well known for good food. Prado and Neptuno Streets.

**THE FLORIDA**. Specialist in cocktail and "haute cuisine".

**RIO CRISTAL**. Where food and drinks are unsurpassed. Rancho Boyero Road. 10 minutes from Havana.

**INGLATERRA**. Where dining is an art. Prado and San Rafael Streets.

**MARIO'S CLUB**. New and comfortable. Air-conditioned. Delicious food and cocktails. Industria and San Miguel Streets.

**RADIO CENTER**. 23rd. and M. St. Air-conditioned. Exclusive cocktail lounge. International cooking.

# RESTAURANTS

**H**AVANA can boast of possessing several first class restaurants, up-to-date in every sense of the culinary art, where the most fastidious epicure may enjoy a meal, be it Cuban, Spanish, French or any other style of cooking. Butter is seldom used in cooking, and unless otherwise ordered lard is used. Seafood is very much consumed, and is always fresh; also poultry, vegetables, etc. Fish, as a rule is used fried in oil instead of lard.

As the custom in Cuba is to take a small cup of black coffee after meals, the waiters, when asked for coffee, unless ordered to bring it immediately, never serve it until you have finished your meal. When ordering coffee, tell the waiter whether or not you want to have it with your meal. Always bear in mind that coffee, translated into Spanish, that is, the word coffee, means black coffee; and that café con leche, means coffee and milk. Café con leche (coffee), in Cuba and in all the Spanish speaking countries as in Spain is taken in the opposite manner, to North America—namely, a cup of hot milk, adding as much coffee as desired to suit the taste. Cream is very seldom used. The custom in Cuba is to boil the milk and put salt in it, in order to preserve it a reasonable time. When a glass of milk is ordered, a honeycomb is served with the milk to sweeten it. A honeycomb is prepared by mixing albumen (the white of eggs) and sugar.

Meals, too, are taken differently in Cuba. Breakfast consists of a cup of coffee and rolls. Lunch, which is really breakfast, is a rather hearty meal, consisting of five or more courses. Dinner or supper, which is the principal meal, consists, of even more courses. Before retiring, the majority of people take either a cup of coffee or chocolate. Much coffee is consumed, the average person taking from one to three cups between meals.

Vegetables of all kinds, usually fresh, are eaten in Cuba. Rice is the most popular, and is eaten with almost all dishes, at lunch and dinner. Eggs, fried or scrambled, are usually eaten with rice, the eggs, if fried, are cut up and mixed with rice. Black beans, which is a very popular dish among all classes, is also mixed with rice. Pork, sausages, fish, fried beans, fresh peas and may other dishes are often prepared with yellow rice, the rice being colored with saffron. Ice cream is very seldom eaten in Cuba as dessert: guava jelly or paste with cream cheese, cheese of all kinds, fruits, jellies, custards, etc., are the most popular desserts. Wine or beer, of course, is usually taken at every meal.

## SOME CUBAN AND SPANISH DISHES

The following is a list of the principal dishes, ingredients, etc. Of course there are a score or more dishes which the waiter always suggests when he is asked. As a rule the prices are written or printed on the menus, although there are some places that do not mark their prices, simply because the cost of food fluctuates daily,

and when it goes down, the patrons enjoy the benefit. For this reason the stranger should not fear that he will be overcharged when confronted with this anomaly.

### **CHICKEN AND RICE**

Arroz con Pollo, as it is called in Spanish, is the most popular dish in Cuba. The rice is cooked and made yellow by using saffron, the chicken is fried before mixing it with the rice, then peas and Spanish red peppers are added and served hot from the clay pot in which it is cooked. This dish is usually eaten for dinner. In some restaurants they have it ready-made.

### **PISTO MANCHEGO**

Spanish scrambled eggs: mixed with ham, shrimp, peas, tomato sauce and asparagus; served hot, either by itself or with rice; eaten for lunch or dinner.

### **HUEVOS A LA MALAGUEÑA**

Eggs Malagueña style contain practically the same ingredients as Spanish scrambled eggs, but are cooked with full fire in a small iron pot and served hot.

### **CANGREJOS MOROS**

A very large and peculiar type of stone crab, found on the northern coast of Cuba; its flesh is richer than that of any other known crustaceans so far known; it is served either natural or in salad, and is eaten for lunch or dinner.

### **CONGRI**

Rice with black beans—or with red navy beans, as it is cooked in Oriente Province.

### **FILET OF PARGO**

A filet of this fish—peculiar to Cuban waters—blanched with almond crumbs and accompanied by a sauce, is a positive delight.

### **PICADILLO**

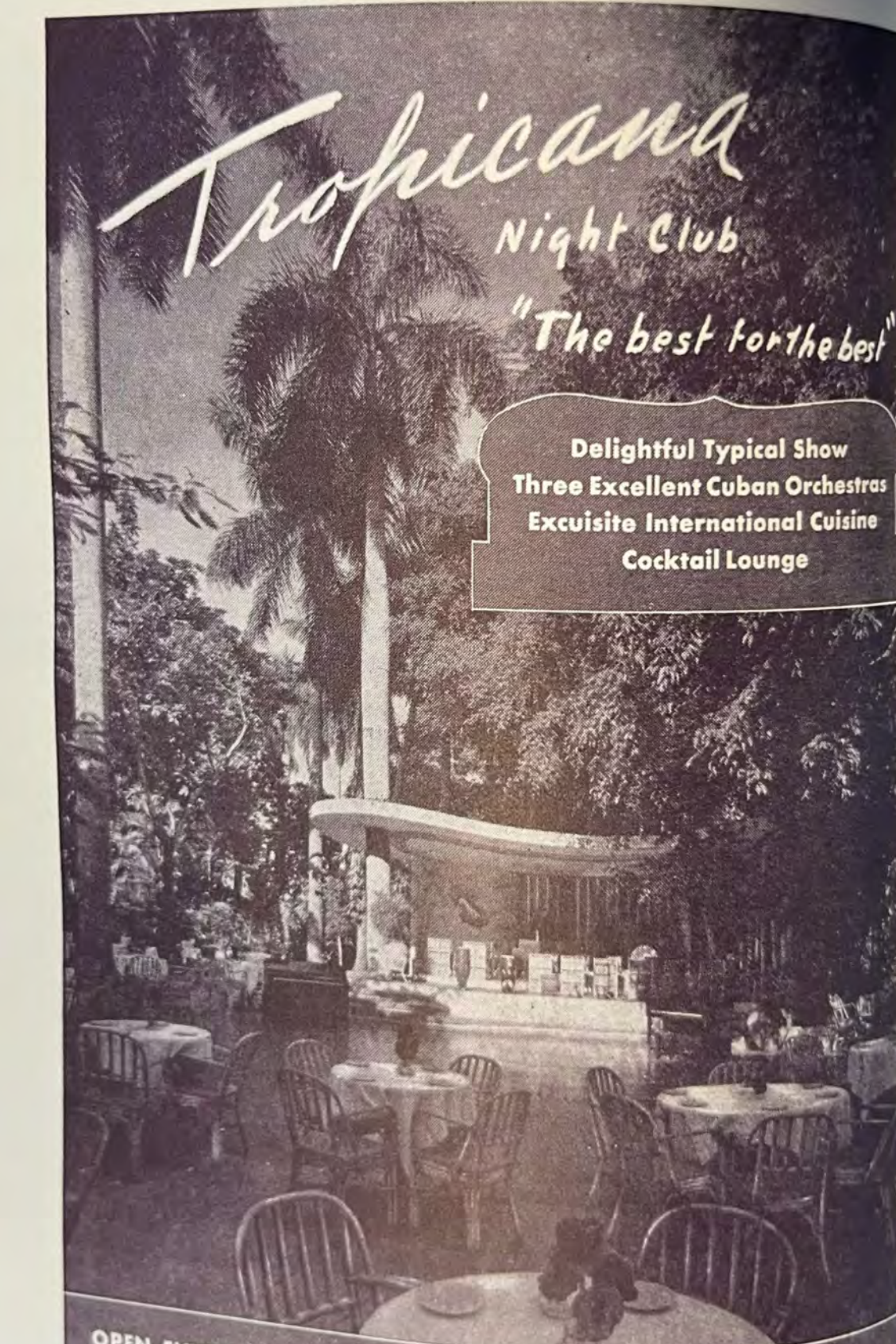
The Cuban version of beef hash, served with rice and fried eggs is a favorite typical dish.

### **POT TAMALE**

Another favorite native dish is prepared with grated fresh corn, seasoned with a delicious tomato sauce, and combined with chicken or pork.

### **DESSERT**

Guava Jelly, or grated coconut preserve, served with cream cheese are typical desserts that have won the favor of foreign gourmets.



# *Tropicana*

Night Club

*"The best for the best"*

**Delightful Typical Show  
Three Excellent Cuban Orchestras  
Excquisite International Cuisine  
Cocktail Lounge**

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Entrance To the Beautiful National Casino.  
Entrada al gran Casino Nacional.

## PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

### THE NIGHTS OF HAVANA

**O**THER capitals of the world had succeeded before the war in imitating the Parisian night, and there even was a time in the nocturnal life of Vienna when it rivaled that of Paris. But the night of the "Pearl of the Antilles", the night of Havana is something that cannot be imitated, not even with the complicity of an ardent imagination and some of the tropical elements that characterize it. In other tropical places may be found the same soft voluptuousness of Havana's climate, the same sky pierced by stars, the same whispers from a nearby sea, the same nocturnal flowers of intoxicating fragrance, but the gaiety and that indefinable charm of its nights will surely be missing. And we say "nights", because they are many and varied: the luminous nights of the streets, laden with laughter and music; those of the open-air cafés; of the popular dance-halls where the Afro-Cuban songs hold sway; the emotional nights of the Casino; the romantic ones of the Cabarets, dining and dancing under the trees; those of the hotels, on the roofs near the stars; those of the clubs, the theatres, the Jai-Alai; the nights of dream-drives in the moonlight amidst enchanting vistas; and, in fact, the thousand and one Havana nights, typical, unmistakable, inimitable...

*World famous*

*restaurant garden*

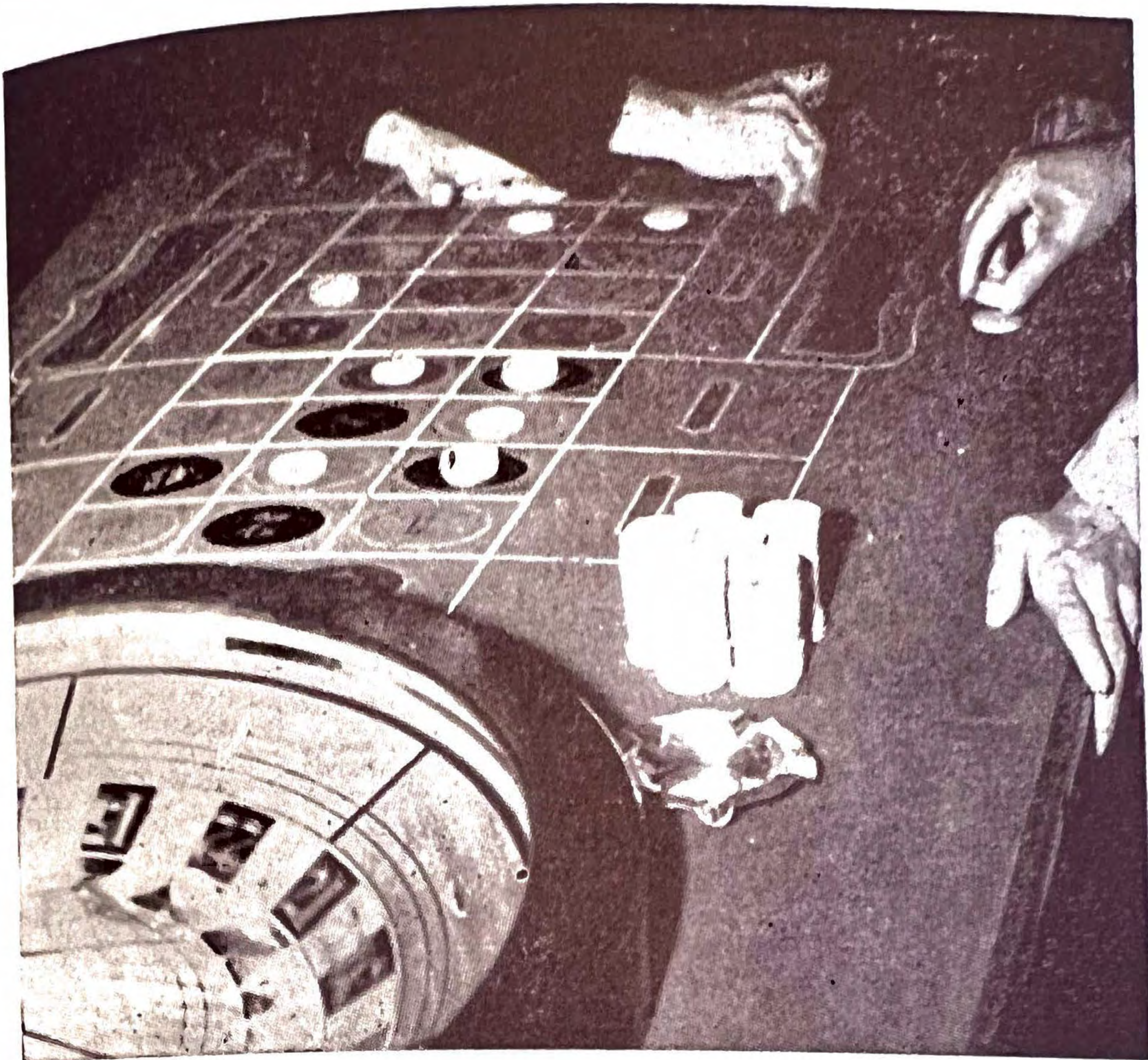
# Sans Souci

AT YOUR SERVICE AGAIN • OPEN THE YEAR-AROUND  
TWO ORCHESTRAS • INTERNATIONAL FLOOR SHOW  
TABLE D'HOTE AND SERVICE A LA CARTA

*Management*

{ M. MIRO  
M. TRIAY

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Probando la suerte. - Un momento emocionante.

## **NIGHT CLUBS**

**GRAN CASINO NACIONAL.** Gaming - rooms, ball - rooms and artistic shows. Tel. FO-7478.

**JOCKEY CLUB.** At Oriental Park. (See Daily Calendar of Events).

**HOTEL NACIONAL.** Dinner and dancing in an atmosphere of elegance and refinement. Tel. U-8981.

**MONTMARTRE.** (Will open very shortly). First class night club situated on 23rd Street, Vedado.

**TROPICANA.** Located on Truffin Avenue, Buena Vista. Excellent music and entertainment. First class shows with foreign and Cuban stars. Tel. B-4544.

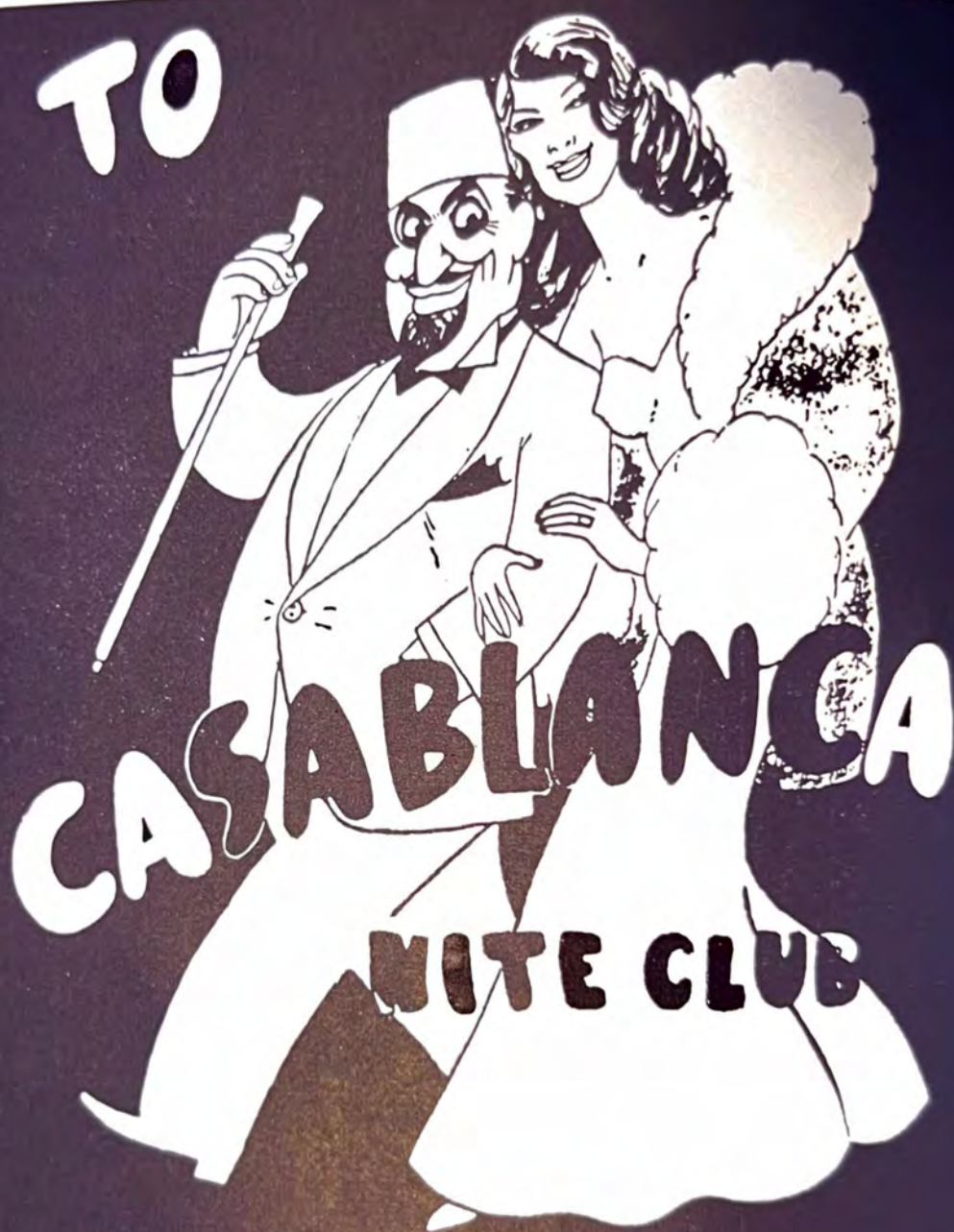
**CLUB ZOMBIE.** First class open-air cabaret on Zulueta Street 256, near Central Park. Typical music and good entertainment. Tel. M-5000.

**JAI - ALAI. THE FRONTON.** Concordia and Lucena Sts. HABANA-MADRID. 803 Belascoain Street.

**SANS SOUCI.** World famous restaurant Garden. International floor show. Dancing. Excellent food.

**CASABLANCA.** San Rafael and Prado Ave. Excellent music and shows.

TO



# CASABLANCA NITE CLUB

Two Cuban typical orchestras  
Shows at 1.15 a.m. and 3 a.m.



MANAGER: PELAEZ

PRADO & SAN RAFAEL ST.

PHONE: M-4220



Cuban dancers give a thrilling exhibition of the real rumba at "Casablanca" night Club.

## M U S I C

**L**OVE of music is a strongly developed characteristic of the Cuban people, and they have gradually evolved a harmony which is both typical and individual. Cuban music is like no other music though it has certain strains reminiscent of Spain—the joyous Spain of Andalusia—and it has the minor chords which hint of African origin, strains which sprang from the lips of slaves bending over their back-breaking toil and attempting to lighten their labors by bursting into song.

Today, every city of importance has its conservatory for the study of music, and on their scrolls are inscribed the names of such masters of harmony as Bousquet, White, Desvenine, Aristi, Espadero, Albertini, Brindis, Cervantes, Sánchez de Fuentes, Jiménez and other noted Cuban composers who flourished in the latter part of the last century. Among the most modern composers of Cuban light operas are, Ernesto Lecuona, Moisés Simon, Rodrigo Prats, Gonzalo Roig and Eliseo Grenet. The **zapateo**, is perhaps the best illustration of native Cuban dance, still seen in the country districts and sometimes upon the stage of local theatres. Its music is typical and it is danced by a couple who face each other, the man pursuing, the woman coquettishly holding back, yet luring

him on. The steps are a combination of tap dancing and sliding along the floor. In Cuba today, the **son** has displaced the **danzon** and the **danzonete** of earlier days and it requires a special orchestra of different instruments to those used for the more conventional dances. The **bongo**, the **claves**, the **maracas**, the **güiro**, the equivalent to the "bones" of minstrel fame and the guitar all figure in a **son** and **rumba** orchestra. Contrary to general belief, the **rumba** is not a typical Cuban ballroom number it is an adaptation of a dance of the lower orders just as the Argentine tango originated in the water-front taverns of Buenos Aires, and toned down becoming tremendously popular.

The tempo of Cuban music is distinctive, and has fascinated music-lovers and musicians all over the world. The Habanera in Bizert's opera Carmen is perhaps one of the most popular numbers in the operatic score.

In Cuba, music has ceased to be an activity monopolized by this or that Official or High Society circle. If we were to attempt setting the time since when the taste for goods music became widespread this would, be the second decade of the current Century. Its activity was then taking new republican tendencies and went on expanding to reach the solid impetus evidenced during the past fifteen years.

No matter how brief a Social Event's mention may be, the names of the Havana Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras, can not be omitted. The name of the renowned Cuban musician, Gonzalo Roig, is linked to the name of the Havana Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1922; and likewise the names of Pedro San Juan, and the never to be forgotten Amadeo Roldán, are attached to that of the Havana Philharmonic Orchestra.

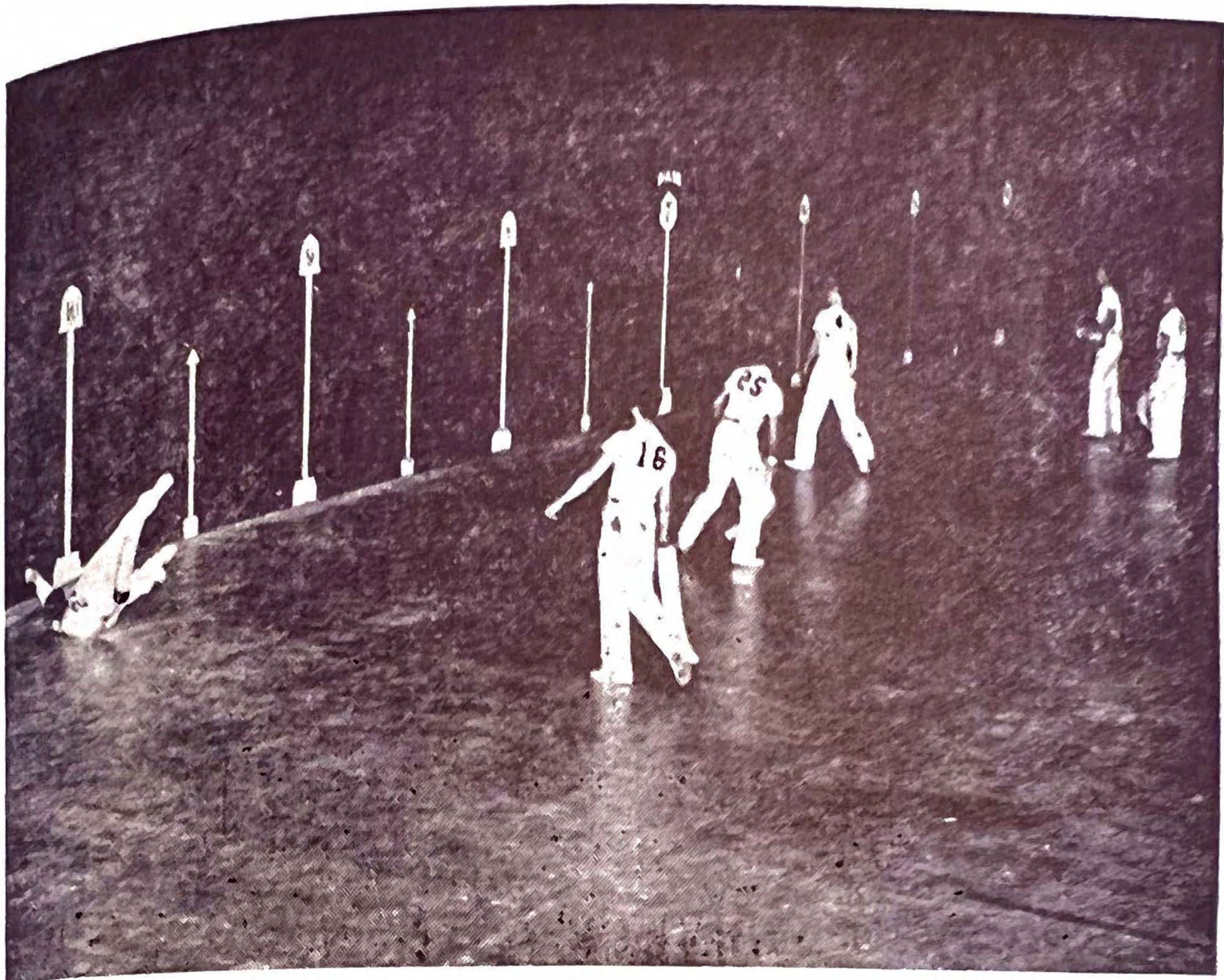
Founded in 1924, the Philharmonic Orchestra has attained a predominating level and rendered an important educational-cultural influence during its last popular concerts, under the direction of genial Erick Kleiber. Other former Directors of this Orchestra were Amadeo Roldán and Massino Freccia, besides Pedro San Juan; and as Honorary Directors; were Gonzalo Roig, Gustavo Morales, Benjamín Orbón, Emilio Puyans, Alberto Bolet and José Echaniz. Also Directors, were Ethel Leginska, Eugene Ormandy, Leopoldo Stokosky, Nicols Sloninsky, Joaquín Turina and Walter Taussig.

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## LE CHEVALIER D'ORSAY

PARIS

*Eau de Cologne.*



The game in full swing.  
El Jai-Alai en pleno movimiento.

## JAI-ALAI

**T**HE Spanish ball game known as Pelota belongs to a very ancient family of games, which, probably deriving from a very simple sport, has developed into a great variety of forms in different countries. The Italians have the peloce della palla; the French, the Jeu de paume, and the Germans the balls piel. Hand-ball, court-tennis, lawn-tennis, basket-ball and similar games are familiar to most English-speaking people.

From a simple game, closely resembling hand-ball, played with the bare hand against the blank wall of a village church, and later, in open court, with the hand gloved or armed with a sort of flat bat, known as the pala, it has gradually developed into the wonderful, all absorbing sport of today. Of all athletic sports, none calls for greater strength, endurance, skill and dexterity on the part of the player than Pelota; and none gives greater delight or arouses greater enthusiasm among the spectators.

**THE PLAYING COURT:** The court or playing ground (Cancha) is a rectangle 210 feet in length by 36 feet in width, paved with cement. The front, rear and side wall are of granite blocks, laid with the greatest care. On the front wall (Frontis) three narrow strips of thin metal are fastened, one parallel to floor,

three inches above it; the second, parallel to the first, thirty-six inches higher and the third is a vertical band connecting the outer ends of the other two. The back wall (Pared de rebote) is provided with two metal strips, laid in the same position as the second and third strips on the front wall. The side wall (Pared izquierda) has a single horizontal strip running the entire length of the court at a height of thirty nine feet three inches above the floor. These metal strips limit the space within which the ball, when in play, must strike to be considered fair. Any ball touching one of the metal strips, or striking the front wall below the lower strip, or the front or rear walls outside of the vertical strips, or any of three walls above the upper strips, is considered foul, and the side guilty of the fault loses one point, which is credited to the opponent.

The floor in the court is divided into equal spaces or blocks, 12 feet wide, indicated by vertical lines on the side wall. These lines are numbered consecutively from the front wall to the rear. At the fourth and seventh blocks, marked lines are drawn across the floor. These lines limit the spaces of floor within which the ball, when served against the wall at the beginning of play, must strike in order to be fair. Of these two lines, number 4 is called the fault line and number 7 the pass line.

**RULES CONCERNING MATCH GAMES:** As a rule match games are played between four men, two players to a side; but sometimes three men are teamed against three or two. Games of three players against two are frequent. In all cases the rules and regulations are the same.

In match games the players of the opposing teams are distinguished by the color of their shirts; Blanco y Azul (white and blue).

At the beginning of a game the toss of a coin determines which team shall first serve the ball. Thereafter, the team scoring one point wins the right of serving for the next play. The team which first scores the stipulated number of points, wins the game.

The names of the contending players, the color to be worn by each team and the number of points to be played are conspicuously posted before the game starts, and as the game progresses the score is kept by an attendant in view of the spectators.

**THE PALACE OF SPORTS.** Boxing matches ice - skating. Basket-Ball. Swimming. (See Calendar of Events).

**“HOTEL PRESIDENTE” - HAVANA**

*For Distinguished Service  
to the Tourist.*

See page 4



# FISHING

**F**OLLOWERS of Isaac Walton will find the waters of Cuba rich in members of the finny tribes, against which to pit their luck and skill. Generally speaking, the fresh waters of the rivers and lakes are not prolific in species of game fish. It is true that at certain times good sport is to be had in these waters with such gritty fighters as the tarpon, the snook and the mangrove snapper, but this is not to be counted on as a sure thing. On the other hand, the salt and the blackish waters surrounding the Island and the thousands of keys, and at the mouths of the rivers, never fail to reward the efforts of the fisherman.

Lovers of the heavier salt water fishing can find plenty of fun within sight of Havana. Here the deep-blue, warm waters of the Gulf Stream bend in as if to gaze on the beauties of the ancient city grimly guarded by old Morro Castle, and these are the waters where the sword fish are most plentiful. The lighter sport is furnished by the sail-fin weighing 50 lbs. and up, which will leap again and again, ten, twelve times high in the air, on light tackle, in its frantic efforts to escape, its wonderful purple dorsal fin dully distended while the heavier sport is had with the marlin, a dogged, tireless fighter that will thwart the best efforts of the rod and reel sportsman for hours. Swordfish weighing over 800 lbs. have been taken a scant half mile from the harbor entrance. Both varieties of these fish are present the year around and they may be taken trolling, in the American way, or still-fishing one hundred fathoms deep in the native style.

About thirty miles by automobile from Havana, across the Island, lies the fishing town of Batabano on the Caribbean Sea. Sponge fishers repair here to sell their catch and lay in provisions, and fishing schooners ride at anchor, their bellies full of live fish swimming in great tanks, awaiting their shipment to market. Right among these boats lordly tarpons may be taken if one does not wish to venture far, though finer sport is to be enjoyed with them among the keys, and at other places such as Cienfuegos bay to the east.

Splendid fishing for bonefish is to be had among the keys generally, as these sporty fish like to feed in the shallows around them at high tide. Vast stretches to the east and west of Caibarien on the north coast, between the keys and the mainland, several miles wide and many leagues long, are full of these silvery fighters, and will be for a long time to come, as the market fishermen do not bother to take them.

Readers the world over are leery of "fish stories" and lack of space also forbids, but well-nigh incredible accounts—true nevertheless—could be given of the quantities of game fish taken with hook and line, trolling, by commercial fishermen, of such splendid game fish as the kingfish, the snapper and the muttonfish, at certain favored locations, such as the Doce Leguas keys to the south

of Camagüey Province. But visitors with a little time to spare can prove the veracity of these tales to their entire and lasting satisfaction; and if they are so fortunate as to own a motor boat and go out and live in among the keys, they will indeed know thereafter what a fisherman's heaven is like, where climate and surroundings and fish galore present an unbeatable combination throughout the four seasons of the year.

### SNAGGIN' THE BIG ONES

Beneath the vast glitter of the Gulf Stream lurks the greatest challenge to sport anglers in the world. In these blue waters swim more than six hundred varieties of fish—a fish for every degree of angling skill and many that defy Man and his puny hooks and lines—ranging from the great game fish with lightning speed and locomotive power, like the wahoo, sailfish, tura, bonito, dolphin and amberjack, to the beautiful “pan” fish, such as the yellowtail, grunt, sea trout, snapper, grouper and angel fish, flashing gorgeous, colors through the shallower, crystalline waters of Cárdenas and Batabano.

Sport fishing in this area, because of its many excitements, is one of the most interesting attractions to this great empire of outdoor play. Consequently, it has been thoroughly developed in its technical details to provide the maximum fun and comfort for its devotees. The sport fisherman has available for charter at reasonable cost crack fleets of boats completely equipped for any type of fishing and skippered by experienced guides who know just where you can snag the finny fighters. The Tourist Commission will gladly give you all information.

The abundance of marlin generally commences with the first days of April and lasts until the first “Northers” begin to blow, which is usually about the end of October. The best fishing grounds for this sporty member of the finny tribe are the ports of Mariel and Boca de Júcaro, taking in part of the coast of the Province of Pinar del Río and Havana. Sailfish is abundant throughout the year but the height of the season is during the winter. The Dolphin is also found in winter, from October to January, and the principal fishing grounds are near Havana off Cojimar.

The serrucho can be fished for all the year, especially at the mouths of the rivers, at the wane of the moon.

The wahoo (Peto) is abundant in winter.

Shark fishing is a sport indulged in throughout the year. The tarpon (sabalo) is very abundant in the bays and estuaries. The yellowtail (rabirrubia) which provides great sport, is usually fished for with the trolling wire and at night with a special equipment called “vuelas”. It is to be found all the year and in great quantities during March and April. At the beginning of the first “Northers” ushering in the winter season, great shoals of fish approach our coasts, among them the Pargoes (muttonfish), Biajaibas (lane snapper), Rabirrubias (yellowtail), and other specimens.

The most important fish, for sport or commercial purposes with their names in common use in Cuba, and the names by which those fish, found in both countries, are known in the United States, are as follows:

### PRINCIPAL SPECIES OF FISH

Common name in Cuba	United States
Pargo Criollo .....	Muttonfish
Rabirrubia .....	Yellowtail
Biajaiba .....	Mangrove or gray snapper
Caballerote .....	Grunts
Ronco .....	Lane Snapper
Bajonado .....	Sheephead
Mojarra .....	Mojarro
Carvena .....	Crockers
Cabrilla .....	Red Hind
Salmonete .....	Goat fish
Picuda .....	Barracuda
Coronado .....	Amberjack
Serrucho .....	Kingfish
Aguja .....	Sailfish
Pez Sierra .....	Sawfish
Lisa .....	Mullet
Macabí .....	Bonfish
Dorado .....	Dolphin
Albacora o Bonito .....	Frigate mackerel
Atún .....	Tuna

Among the species called "deep water fish" which are fished for in from 90 to 300 fathoms of depth, existing in Cuba and which are greatly appreciated as food because of their flavor and quality are:

Sesi, Pargo de lo alto, Ojanco, Arnillo, Voraz, Cherna de lo alto.

The ichthyology of Cuba has a poor assortment of fresh water fish. Chief among the latter are: Viajaca; Anguila; Guabina.

There are twelve species of sharks which are valuable commercially because of their skins and oils, etc.

### CLOSED SEASON

For snook (robalo); March 15th., to July 15th.

For mojarra; March 15th., to July 15th.

For lane snapper; April 10th., to July 10th.

For muttonfish; May 1st., to June 30th.

For mangrove, brown snapper, etc.; July 1st., to September 20th.

For mullet; October 1st., to December 31st.

For Nassau grouper; December 1st., to February 20th.

### CLOSED SEASON FOR

Mollusks

Oysters, clams and mussels, from May 1st., to September 30th.

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**JIBACOA BEACH** located at 30 miles from Havana can be reached either by road or Hershey's Electric train.

"Jibacoa has all the natural beauty of more famous beaches, with something added, for here, in a sector close beside the sea, is an exceedingly dramatic limestone cliff three hundred feet high". Sydney Clark.

Swimming at Jibacoa will linger in your memory as the most perfect swim you ever enjoyed.

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The Hershey Cuban Railroad, completely electrified and cinderless, runs trains between Case Blanca (across the bay from Havana) and Matanzas, by way of Hershey and Jibacoa. It also passes by Tarará, Marbella, Guanabo and Jibacoa beach.

## Hershey Cuban Railway Company

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#### — Schedule —

Havana To Matanzas			Matanzas To Havana		
Leaving C. Blanca	Leaving Hershey	Arriving of Matanzas	Leaving Matanzas	Leaving Hershey	Arriving of C. Blanca
6.55 a.m.	8.05 a.m.	9.15 a.m.	6.55 a.m.	8.05 a.m.	9.15 a.m.
9.30 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	11.50 a.m.	9.30 a.m.	10.40 a.m.	11.50 a.m.
2.55 p.m.	4.05 p.m.	5.15 p.m.	2.55 p.m.	4.05 p.m.	5.15 p.m.
5.30 p.m.	6.40 p.m.	7.50 p.m.	5.30 p.m.	6.40 p.m.	7.50 p.m.

These trains are highly recommended for tourists going to Tarará, Guanabo and Jibacoa beaches, and also to Hershey Sugar Mill and Matanzas city.

# CUBAN FRUITS

**T**HE Cuban Fruits are many and delicious. Travelers usually are surprised at their variety and high quality. Some of them are internationally celebrated for their excellence. Citrus fruits are so many and so varied that in some places they form forests (in Isle of Pines). The fruits of most interest to the tourists are described below, with attractive color plates.

## FRUIT GELATINS

Cuban fruit can be successfully combined with Royal Gelatins to make a tempting variety of desserts, cocktails and salads.

Fresh mangoes molded with Orange Gelatin, "mamey" with Strawberry Gelatin and bananas, with Raspberry Gelatin, make delicious Tropical treats, you will like to try again and again.

Serve them, with whipped cream or vanilla rum sauce and be ready for the compliments of your guests.

## P U D D I N G S

For unique desserts with a Cuban touch, serve these enticing combinations. Royal Vanilla Pudding with a sauce of grated coconut in syrup. Butterscotch Pudding topped with whipped mashed bananas. Royal chocolate Pudding with chopped toasted peanuts or cashew nuts.

1.—PLATANO (**Banana**).—There are many varieties of this fruit which take the place of bread in all country families, being eaten raw or cooked in many different ways.

2.—MAMONCILLO.—This fruit grows in clusters. It is a species of plum: it is tart, and has one fibrous pit.

3.—CAIMITO.—A handsome, smooth, polished, purplish pucker fruit of the West Indies, of the several varieties one is globular, another conical with a thick green or purple tender skin and white or purplish pulp. Its taste is a blend of a papaya and persimmon.

4.—PIÑA.—(**Pineapple**).—A Royal American fruit which from this continent has spread all over the civilized world, is indigenous

to Cuba (and other American countries) where in esteem and money value it ranks next to the citrus fruits.

The piña combines unusual qualities, beautiful appearance, fragrance and exquisite flavor.

Introduced into England by the Earl of Portland in 1690.

5.—**MANGO**.—The mango is the popular tropical fruit of the native Cuban. It grows in all parts of the island, on trees by the roadside and in highly prized cultivated orchards. The kinds that have only been slightly cultivated appeal but little to the foreigner, being very fibrous and having a strong resinous flavor. Both of these objections are overcome in the well cultivated varieties, however, and very soon a taste is acquired for these. The fruit is heart-shaped, some being long and narrow, while others are broad and short, or almost round. The skin is like that of an apple, but thicker, and varies in color from green to yellow, always shading to red on one side. The pulp is not unlike that of a peach in texture and color, and is extremely juicy. The stone or seed is very large compared with the rest of the fruit, and this is especially true of the uncultivated varieties. Long fibers cover the stone and run through the pulp of the fruit. The season in Cuba lasts from May to September.

6.—**PAPAYA (Paw Paw)**.—The papaya is about 10 inches long, commonly of an oblong form, ribbed, and having a thick flesh rind. It is eaten raw, or, when green, is boiled as a vegetable; it is also pickled. The tree is about 20 feet high and has large leaves. Meat boiled with a small portion of the leaf is made tender; or meat can be made tender by simply hanging it among the leaves. The seeds are used as vermifuge.

7-12.—**COCONUT**.—This fruit grows in bunches of from 12 to 20 on a tree from 60 to 90 feet high. The nut when fresh contains nearly one quart of milk, which is very much esteemed by the natives for refreshment. The thick rind or husk surrounding the nut is used in making cordage, matting, brushes, bags, etc. The valuable oil obtained from the nut is too well known to need description.

8.—**GUANABANA (Sour-Sop)**. — The sour-sop is a green, irregular-shaped, pod-like fruit varying from 3½ to 12 inches in length, about two-thirds as broad near the top, and curving to a blunt point at the lower end to one side. The skin is rather thick and covered with numerous small, hooked briars. It has an acid flavor and is highly esteemed for making cooling summer beverages, flavoring sodawater syrups and water ices, also for preserving. The most popular beverage is made by macerating the fruit with sugar, diluting with water, and straining off the pulp. The "guanábana en almíbar" is composed of the pulp of the fruit preserved in sugar syrup for cafe and soda-water trade when the fruit is out of season.

9.—**ANON (Sweet-Sop).** — The sweet-sop is heart-shaped and deeply creased. The pulp is very much like that of the sour-sop, but, it contains more sugar and, as a rule, a smaller percentage of acids. Sweet-sops are eaten in the fresh state, and are also used in making water-ices and sodawater syrups. It is not so popular as the sour variety.

10.—**MAMEY COLORADO.**—The fruit derives its local name from a very slight outward resemblance to the mamee (*Mammea americana*). The two fruits, however, are in no way related, nor do they resemble each other internally. The mamey colorado is chocolate brown in color, oval or round in shape, and averages 700 grams (1.5 pounds) in weight. The skin is thick and coarse in texture. The pulp varies in color from yellowish red to deep scarlet, and is highly fibrous, firm but mealy and not juicy. Being sweet with very little acid the flavor is insipid. It is eaten in a fresh state and also stewed with sugar.

11.—**MARAÑON (Cashew).** — The cashew is a small, oddly-shaped, yellow and red fruit, 2 or 3 inches long and from 1½ to 2 inches across the bottom, decreasing gradually in diameter toward the top, where it is half an inch narrower. The seed is small, grayish brown, and kidney-shaped, and is found on the outside of the fruit, at its lower extremity. This seed is poisonous until roasted, when it is eaten with great relish. The meat resembles that of roasted chestnuts, but contains more oil. The pulp is of a dull yellow color, tough, and very juicy, with an acid astringent flavor and a marked disagreeable odor. The fruit is not eaten raw, but is used to some extent for preserving.

**AGUACATE (Alligator Pear).**—This is one of the most popular fruits in the Antilles; it is pear-shaped green or purple, and often weighs two pounds. On account of the pulp being firm and marrow-like, it is also known as vegetable marrow or midshipman's butter. A very good oil soap comes from its seed. The tree is an evergreen about 25 or 30 feet high.

**CHIRIMOYA (Custard Apple).** — The custard apple, known in Cuba as the chirimoya, varies from a light green to a reddish brown in color, and is shaped like a strawberry, being somewhat broader than it is long. It has a thick skin, black seed, and a pulp very similar to that of the sweet-sop in appearance and flavor. The fruit is eaten raw.

**HIGOS (Figs).**—Figs of all kinds grow luxuriantly.

**GRANADILLA.**—This fruit grows on the vine which bears the passion flower. The fruit is generally as large as a child's head. It is much liked by the natives, who use it in making refreshments and desserts. The meat is glutinous and contains many small seeds.

**TORONJA (Grapefruit).** — This is a popular fruit in Cuba. It has a mild, pleasant, flavor and is quite different from the acid, bitter fruit to which Americans are accustomed.

**GUAYABA (Guava).** — There are several varieties of guava growing wild in all parts of Cuba. The guava is not eaten raw, but the finest jellies, pastes, etc., are made from it.

**LIMA.**—The lime is somewhat like the lime with the flavor of the grape.

**LIMON (Lime).**—The lime grows wild in all parts of Cuba and completely replaces the lemon for domestic uses making beverages, etc., as it is used without the curing which the lemon undergoes, and, either in the ripe or green state, it is on sale all the year round.

**MAMEY DE SANTO DOMINGO.**—This is a large light brown fruit, ranging from 3 to 10 inches in diameter, the larger sizes weighing upward of 700 grams (1.5 pounds). It has a heavy stem and small blossom navel. The skin is thick and fibrous, the outer surface being tough and covered with small dark brown spots. The pulp is dark yellow in color. In some respects the fruit resembles a very large clingstone peach. It is eaten raw, and is also highly esteemed for preserving. The "mamey en almibar" are slices of the fruit preserved in sugar syrup. The "mermelada de mamey" is a marmalade of the fruit.

**NARANJA (Orange).**—Two varieties of orange are found, one a thin-skinned small fruit known as the "china", and the other a much larger fruit with a thick skin. The bitter orange, "naranja agria", resembles the larger, thick-skinned, sweet orange in appearance, having a somewhat thicker skin, but being about the same size. It grows in a semi-wild state in many parts of the island, but is little used except for making "dulces" (sweets). Some of the finest Cuban preserves are made from this fruit.

**ZAPOTE (Sapodilla).**—There are two varieties of this fruit in Cuba, one being round and the other oval. In the Havana market the latter incorrectly known as the nispero, this name being properly applied to the loquat (*eriobotrya japonica*). The fruit averages slightly under 2 ounces in weight, is brown to greenish brown in color, not unlike a very smooth, dark potato in appearance. The skin, however, is much thicker and of coarser texture. The pulp is yellowish brown in color, granular in texture, and very juicy. It has a characteristic odor and flavor and is very sweet. Zapotes are in season from about the 1st. of April until the end of the summer. The sap of the zapote tree and the juice of the green fruit, when boiled down, furnish what is known in commerce as chicle, from which chewing gum is made.



# Sports

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## THE CONVENTION AND SPORT'S PALACE

**T**HE magnificent Convention and Sport's Palace located at the foot of Paseo Street right on the waterfront, in Vedado, is equipped with the most modern improvements known to date for buildings of this type.

The building is octagonal, with sufficient capacity to accommodate 12,000 persons. A 25 meter's sea water pool is located in the center of this octagon for competitive Swimming events and, thanks to modern methods, it is possible to adapt it after a Swimming exhibition for a Boxing Bout, or a Basket or Volley Ball game.

Likewise it is possible to hold track meets, bicycling howling sprinters' racing, and other sports, at short intervals. The local dog Shows are held at this Sports Palace.

## BASE-BALL

**B**ASE-BALL has always been a popular sport in Cuba, and the championship games between the teams belonging to the big leagues are followed with as much interest in the small country towns, as they are in similar localities in the States. Each player is as intimately known as if he were a native and indeed some of the most famous base-ball heroes such as Adolfo Luque and Mike González, have been Cubans. The Tropical and Polar Gardens owned by the breweries of the same names, have splendidly appointed stadiums where professional base-ball is played, usually on Sunday afternoons, and the capacity of the grandstands is taxed not only during the time when the championship is being decided, but at any advertised game during the winter. A recent innovation is base-ball played at night, when huge reflectors are so placed that every corner of the diamond can be plainly seen.

There is another stadium belonging to the University of Havana. The just finished "Havana Stadium" has a capacity of 45,000 seated persons. Base-Ball is played at night here. Best games played here.

Foot-ball is also played today in Cuba and the inter-collegiate games are hotly contested and eagerly followed by a large, enthusiastic and appreciative crowd of spectators.

## TURF

**P**ERHAPS no where else in the racing world can such a course, as that at Oriental Park, be found. Rated as one of the best in the Western Hemisphere, it stands as a monument to turf enterprise in Cuba. It is located in Marianao about eight miles outside of Havana and is accessible by automobile, buses and trolley cars.

Oriental Park as the Hippodrome is called, has a one-mile track set among the hills and there is a beautiful view of the surrounding country to be gained from the Grandstand or the terrace of the ultra-smart Jockey Club. Afternoon tea is served at the club and one-night a week there is a dinner dance attended by the elite of Havana and visitors from the north who have graciously been accorded the privileges of the club.

The season opens on November 2nd.

As has been stated many times before in this book, Cuba is a very liberal country and permits betting and gambling at the open books and at the pari-mutuel machines.

Turf enthusiasts have for many years boasted of the speed of the track at Oriental Park and this season many northern thoroughbreds will be given a chance to see what records can be broken.

The Grandstand, of most modern construction, has a seating capacity of 25,000.

## TENNIS

**T**ENNIS has been played in Cuba for many years and while the country has not produced any world champions, the Davis Cup Matches have been played on the courts of the Vedado Tennis Club, one of the most exclusive organizations in the island.

As tennis is a strenuous game, it was one of the first sports to be tried at night, and night tennis today is listed among the first favorites in the sporting calendar. There are many private courts but among the most popular are besides the Vedado Tennis Club, at the end of the Vedado, bordering on the Almendares River are: the Country Club, the Rovers Club and the Club Deportivo at Miramar.

## GOLF

**T**HE ancient and honorable game of golf has taken a firm hold upon the affections of all the residents of Cuba, both native and foreign, and the links of the clubs in the neighborhood of Havana are well patronized throughout the entire year.

Havana claims to have the sportiest golf courses in the Americas, a statement which no one will contest who has played on the splendid links of the Country Club of Havana, the Jaimanitas Club, the Rovers or Hershey Clubs. The greens are velvety soft and the natural hazards call out the skill of the veteran golfers. Championship matches are played on most of the courses during the season but it is always golfing weather in Cuba, especially during the winter when it scarcely ever rains so hard that a match has to be postponed on account of the elements.

The Country Club of Havana offers one of the finest courses in the western hemisphere and its setting is particularly attractive.

Visitors to Cuba can enjoy golf course privileges by the payment of the green fees.

## YACHTING

**C**UBAN waters are ideal for yachting and when the bitter winds blow up north, the yachtsman, instead of putting up his yacht for the season, turns its nose towards the delightfully temperate waters surrounding the island of Cuba.

Famous yachtsmen, such as Irene Dupont millionaire owner of a palatial home at Varadero Beach; Ernest Hemingway, ardent angler and famous author; John Squiers, son of the first American Minister to Cuba, who recently had a yacht constructed under his supervision at Cienfuegos, are among those who spend much time cruising around the island and in and out among its keys.

There are Star Class Races held here every winter and the St. Petersburg-Havana Regatta, taking place around the end of February or the first days of March, is an important event in yachting circles.

The Havana Yacht Club, occupying a splendid building on the shores of Marianao, plays host to visiting yachtsmen who are competing in the various events for the handsome trophies put up. Other yacht clubs are the Biltmore Yacht Club and Miramar in Havana; the Cardenas and Varadero Yacht Club; the Cienfuegos Yacht Club and the Nautical and Ciudademar in Santiago.

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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF FLYING IN CUBA

by

HERMINIO PORTELL VILA, Ph. D.  
Professor of History, University of Havana

ACCORDING to Francisco Cartas, who during the last century compiled a chronicle of Cuban historical events, day after day ("Efemérides Cubanas"), flying began in Cuba on March 19, 1828, when Mr. Eugene Robertson and his wife, Mrs. Virginia Robertson, completed their first successful flight in Cuba using an air balloon filled with gas, probably hydrogen. Prior to this date there had been references to flying in local magazines, going back to the beginnings of the century, commenting upon the work of the Montgolfier brothers. It is quite possible that some people in Havana even tried to fly air balloons filled with heated air, but there is no known record that they ever made it.

After the Robertsons, completed their flight there was great interest in flying in and around Havana. M. Adolphe Theodore startled the people of Havana with an aeronautical ascension that took place on June 4, 1830. The Captain General of the Island and other leading officers of the Colonial Government made substantial gifts to start a collection to reward M. Theodore for his feat. M. Domingo Blinó followed upon the steps of M. Theodore and on January 31, 1831, won praise and money with his flights around Havana.

Years went by and in 1856, Mr. Phillip Godard, a Canadian, and his wife came to Cuba bringing with them several air balloons, the "Canada", the "America" and the "Ville de Paris", to offer exhibitions, to carry passengers and to charge admission fees to the people interested in flying and who wanted to see the aerostats. Among the passengers who dared to go up with the Godards there were Messrs. Claudio Vermay, Florencio Villuendas and Pantaleón Machado. In one of the first flights Mr. Godard climbed up to 12,000 feet and flew from the present site of the Plaza de la Fraternidad Americana (then Campo de Marte), to the town of El Cotorro, where he made an easy landing after 48 minutes in the air. Mr. Godard must have been a master showman, as the papers of the times described how he had released up to fifteen smaller balloons, with each one of his ascensions, bearing the names of well known neighbors of Havana and certain types of advertisements. The flight that took place on May 18, 1856, was quite a feat, as Mr. Godard tied up a horse under the cabin and made the flight on horseback, amidst the applause and the "bravos" of thousands of spectators..., according to the chroniclers of the times.

Mr. Godard had a competitor in the person of Mr. Boudrias Morat, but this flier had a bad time on March 22, 1856, when after



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collecting the admission fees from a number of interested spectators, anxious to see him fly with Mr. Ignacio Saldarriaga, he did not have enough gas to climb and was arrested and sent to jail as a faker.

Mr. Godard was then seated on top of the world. The good people of Havana, who had steamboats, railroads and telegraphs in Cuba long before any other Latin American country, wanted to fly, too, ahead of others. Mr. Rafael Rodríguez Palomino bought the air balloon "Canada" and made several ascensions with it, beginning March 21, 1857, until he finally mastered the technique of flying. There however was another person, Mr. Matías Pérez an enterprising merchant owning a shop where he made umbrellas, awnings and so forth. He called himself "El Rey de los Toldos" or "The King of the Awnings" and he saw in flying the air balloons an excellent chance of impressive publicity. He bought the "Villa de Paris" for twelve hundred dollars, took a few lessons from Mr. Godard and made a first successful flight on June 12, 1856, from the center of Havana to the Guzman farm at El Cerro. He was very popular and the applause of the people encouraged him to attempt to outdo the professional fliers. On June 29, 1856, he made his second solo flight while thousands looked at him in awe. In a few minutes the balloon was lost in the clouds and so was Mr. Matías Pérez, who never came back. His popularity, his showmanship and the dramatic circumstances, surrounding his last adventure all combined to make him a legendary figure in Cuba, a personage of folklore and even now, almost one century after his untimely death people use sentences reading "Voló como Matías Pérez" or "Le pasó lo que Matías Pérez" or "Volverá cuando regrese Matías Pérez" to mean that someone vanished forever.

A Mr. Ibáñez offered some exhibitions with an air balloon in other cities of the Island, but the Wars of Independence put an end to practically all flying experiments by Cubans.

Lieutenant Colonel Federico Fernández Cavada, of Cienfuegos, Cuba, serving in the U.S. Federal Army during the Civil War, was assigned to fly an air balloon as an observation post over the Confederate lines in Virginia. After a distinguished record in the struggle among the States, he came back to Cuba to fight for Cuban independence; but was captured by the Spaniards and shot without having a chance to use aerostats in his native country.

The experiments of Zeppelin, Santos Dumont and the brothers Wilbur and Orville Wright at the beginnings of the present century attracted a great deal of attention in Cuba. Papers and magazines gave a great deal of space to the flights of rigid and semi-rigid airships, as well as to heavier than air machines. The historical flight of the Wrights at Dayton, Ohio, took place in October 1905 and on January 4, 1908, the people of Havana saw the first airplane flying over Cuba, piloted by a Mr. Beachy who was one of the earliest followers of the Wrights. Mr. Bellot, who followed Mr. Beachy as a pioneer in Cuban flying, had a crash and Mr. Marcel Pennot, a French aviator, lost his life in an accident at

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San Antonio de los Baños (June 1, 1911), near the spot where the huge air base now is.

There was much activity in aviation in January, 1911, and Havana even had an "Aviation Week" that attracted a great deal of attention. Mr. James Ward, an American flier, became very popular with his flights over Havana and Mr. J. MacCurdy was just on his way to greater fame when he attempted to fly from Key West to Havana (January 31, 1911), but he went down in the sea six miles away from Havana.

Cubans became very fond of aviation almost overnight and the outstanding fliers were Domingo Rosillo, Agustín Parlá and Jaime González. Rosillo completed a flight from Key West to Havana (May 17, 1913), in two and a half hours and on April 25, 1914, flew from Havana to Pinar del Río one hour and sixteen minutes. Parlá flew from Key West to Mariel on May 19, 1913 and González made the first flight between Havana and Cienfuegos (May 20, 1914).

During the First World War airplanes became a common sight in Cuba and in 1920 the "Compañía Aérea Cubana" began to carry passengers in Cuba and between Cuba and the United States, a pioneer in the field of air transportation. By January 1921 there was air mail service between Cienfuegos and Havana and a plane named "Santa María II", flew from Key West to Havana in one hour and five minutes, a sensational feat for the times. The "Aeromarine Airways" established that year a regular air route linking Havana and Key West.

American and French planes had so far flown in Cuba but in 1922 a "Junker" flew from Havana to Santiago de Cuba in five and a half hours, carrying two passengers, mail and copies of the "Diario de la Marina" for the "santiagueros" receiving the paper in that city.

Cuban military aviation had very poor beginnings, but it soon began to grow and some of the most distinguished Cuban fliers of today are a product, of military aviation as in the cases of Torres Menier, Martull, Terry and others. As everywhere else the progress of aviation in Cuba has been marked by tragic accidents, resulting in deaths, and some first-class men, i.e., José Barrientos, military and civil pilot, gave their lives to save other people.

Pan American Airways began its operations between Key West and Havana way back in 1927 and it was from the United States and Cuba that it grew up into the present gigantic corporation circling the World. Cuban legislation in the field of aviation began almost immediately, as the first presidential decree regulating air navigation over Cuban territory bears the date of April 21, 1928. The Pan American System covered Cuba, touched the other Caribbean islands and in due course of time reached Barranquilla, Colombia, using the huge flying boats made by Sikorsky, "American Clipper", "Caribbean Clipper" and so forth. The present writer was among the guests at the inaugural flight of the "American Clipper", in Washington, D.C., on October 13, 1933,



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This old, colonial city, played an important role in Cuban history. Back in 1898, Uncle Sam's courageous Rough Riders landed here to help Cubans in fighting for their independence.



## CAMAGUEY

A visit to Camaguey is like turning back the pages of Cuba's history and returning to colonial days, when "caballeros" drank "café" and talked politics in the cool, quiet patios of their roomy residences.



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CCA-P-15

and two years later took the same flying boat for the first leg of a long trip to Montevideo, from Havana to Cienfuegos, Cuba, then to Kingston, Jamaica, and to Baranquilla, Colombia. The flying boats cutting the waves of the harbor of Havana at top speed became a familiar sight here, but they were later on discontinued when all air traffic activities were centered at the international airport of Rancho Boyeros, well inland.

Pan American Airways organized a subsidiary or branch company, the Compañía Cubana de Aviación, for the domestic routes in Cuba, and it took care of the flights between Cuba and the United States, landing in Havana, Camagüey and Antilla. The stop at Antilla has been discontinued. Almost without competition Pan American Airways carried thousands and thousands of passengers, tons of air mail and hundreds of tons of freight, into Cuba or from Cuba. Another Pan American subsidiary, the Compañía Mexicana de Aviación, linked Cuba and México. Compañía Cubana de Aviación operates in Cuba, carrying passengers, mail and freight, and flies between Havana and Miami, Fla., carrying passengers and freight. For the last six months Compañía Cubana de Aviación has been flying between Havana and Madrid, Spain, stopping at Bermuda and Azores during the summer and using the Dakar-South Atlantic route in winter. This regularly scheduled system has completed some thirty round trips linking Cuba and Spain and carrying passengers, mail and freight on DC-4's. The pilots and the rest of the crews are Cubans with thousands of flying hours to their credits.

Transportes Aéreos Centroamericanos or TACA no longer comes to Cuba after many years linking Cuba with Central América and Southern United States. TACA flies from Central América to New Orleans, La.

Little over two years ago a new Cuban aviation company was organized as Aerovías "Q", S. A., the "Q" standing for the name of its General Manager, former Col. Manuel Quevedo, who had long experience as a flier as well as managing the Compañía Cubana de Aviación. Aerovías "Q" operates from the Militar Airport at Marianao, instead of the International Airport at Rancho Boyeros, and flies to Key West, Fla., Varadero, the Isle of Pines and some of the leading cities in Cuba.

Expreso Aéreo Interamericano has had some setbacks, but still flies the international mail from Cuba to the United States, carrying passengers and freight between Havana and Miami, Havana and the Isle of Pines and Havana and Santiago de Cuba.

Chicago and Southern is giving a very fine daily service between Havana and New Orleans, operating splendid DC-4's, and the courtesy aboard the planes and the regularity of the flights have made this route a favorite of the people traveling from Cuba into the Mississippi Valley and up to Chicago. Chicago & Southern is planning to extend its services to the Dominican Republic, Haití and Puerto Rico, from Cuba.

A very popular newcomer covering the routes from Havana

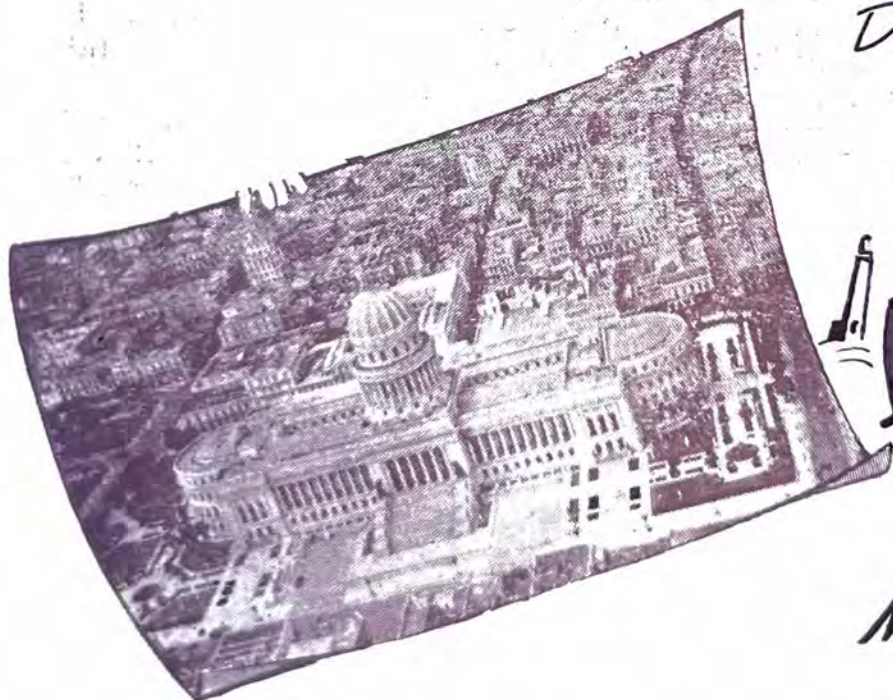
*Daily Flights to*



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SANTIAGO de CUBA**

**Charter flights to all  
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36 & 20th St. AIR PORT  
PHONES: 88 - 4209  
88 - 3341

*Havana* OFFICE:

204 PRADO St.  
PHONES: M-2405  
A-0542

*Use*  
**Expreso AIRWAYS**

to New York and to New Orleans, via Florida, has been the National Airlines.

The Línea Aeropostal Venezolana stops in Havana flying the big "Constellations" from Caracas, Venezuela, to New York, and the PIA or Peruvian International Airways, also stops in Havana for the new air route that, starting at Santiago, Chile, stops at Lima, Perú, Balboa, Panamá, Havana, Cuba, and Washington, D.C., to complete its flights in New York.

The British South American Airways flies between London and Havana, with stops at Lisbon, Azores, Bermuda and Nassau, and its management plans to get to México City, but so far the Mexican aviation policy has worked against this.

"K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines, whose crowned wings are as familiar a sight to Newfoundlanders as Javanese, Norwegians as Brazilians, decided in 1947 that Havana could no longer be missing on the K.L.M. schedules.

Havana thus became on April 21st, 1947, a major station of K.L.M.'s West Indies Division, on the routes Miami-Havana-Kings-on-Aruba-Curazao-Caracas.

Just as comfortably as New Yorkers can board the "Flying Dutchman" at Idlewild Airport, Cubans can now get one-carrier service from their capital to any major city in Europe, Africa or the Far East, via Curazao, K.L.M.'s West Indies' transatlantic terminal.

Cubans are also fond of K.L.M.'s new and beautiful city office, right on the Prado, corner of Trocadero Street, a new and stimulating tribute to Havana's growing importance in world commerce and as the "crossroads of the Americas".

For the last few months BRANIFF International Air Lines have been operating an excellent service between Houston, Tex., and Havana, four times a week, and from Havana to Lima, Perú, stopping at Balboa, Panamá, and in Ecuador. BRANIFF, blocked México by the powerful influence of Pan American Airways and subsidiaries, in using Cuba to skip México and to reach South America.

The most recent addition to the international air lines operating Cuba is that of the Brazilian aviation company, Cruzeiro do Sul, about to be authorized, that will help improving air transportation between Cuba and the Atlantic coast of South America. Air fields and aviation schools are more and more numerous every year. Most of them are in or around Havana, but they may be found all over the island. Teachers and trainers are former military and commercial pilots and technicians, as well as qualified experts who have graduated at Purdue University, Kansas City University, Spartan School of Aeronautics and many other training centers in the United States.

The legendary Matías Pérez should show up in Havana, coming from that illfated flight of his, nearly one hundred years after he was bound to get the surprise of all times learning how many Cubans have been flying after his sensational attempt

## PRINCIPAL AVIATION COMPANIES OPERATING IN CUBA

### CHICAGO AND SOUTHERN AIR LINES INC.:

Operates daily flights from Rancho Boyeros Airport to Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, Memphis and points of Midwestern and Western States via New Orleans. Also thrice weekly service to Kingston, Jamaica and Caracas, Venezuela. Main City Office. 301 Prado Blvd. Havana. Phone: M-8224.

### PERUVIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS.

301 Prado (Corner Animas St.). Telephones: M-6073 - M-6906.

Operates the following routes: Havana to Washington and New York. Havana, Panamá, Lima, Perú, Santiago, Chile and connection with Europe & Buenos Aires.

**AEROVIAS Q. Havana Office: Prado corner San Lázaro St. Phones: A-6655 - M-9916. Aerop. B-6287 - B-7070.**

Operates the following routes leaving the Airport at 84th St., Reparto Miramar.

Havana Varadero Beach - Isle of Pines \$7.00 one way - Key West \$10.00 one way.

**PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS. 252 Prado Ave.**

**Phones: M-8371 - A-7241.**

Operates the following routes: Havana to Yucatan and all Center and South America.

23 daily flights, Havana Miami and from Camagüey to all Latin American countries and West Indies.

**COMPAÑIA CUBANA DE AVIACION. 252 Prado Ave.**

**Phones: M-8371 - A-7241.**

Its national services links the following cities: Havana - Varadero Beach - Cienfuegos - Trinidad - Caibarién - San José del Lago (Mayajigua) - Camagüey - Victoria de las Tunas - Manzanillo - Bayamo - Holguín - Santiago de Cuba - Guantánamo - Antilla - Cayo Mambí - Preston - Baracoa. Santa Clara, Miami, Spain international Services.

**LINEA AEROPOSTAL VENEZOLANA. Hotel Sevilla Bldg.**

**Phones: A-1943 - M-7749 - M-7771.**

Operates the following routes: Havana-New York and Havana-Caracas both non stop. From Havana to New York in 4½ hours. Leave Havana on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m.

General Agents for Cuba: F. A. Roviroso, S. A.

**NATIONAL AIRLINES INC. Avenida de las Misiones No 17.**

**Phone: A-1904.**

Operating the following routes: Havana-New York via Tampa and Washington. Havana-Miami. Havana-New Orleans. Ha-



**K. L. M. New and Beautiful City office.**  
Nuevas oficinas de la K. L. M.

vana-Philadelphia and 26 other cities on the East Coast of the United States. Planes used are 4-engine DC-6 and DC-4.

**BRITISH SOUTH AMERICAN AIRWAYS. 114 Prado Ave.**  
Phone: M-6151.

Operates Havana-Nassau-Bermuda-Azores-Lisbon-London with through connections by British European Airways to Madrid and all European capitals.

Other services from Kingston to Buenos Aires via Barranquilla, Lima and Santiago. From London and Lisbon to Buenos Aires via Dakar, Río de Janeiro and Montevideo.

**K. L. M. ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES. 251 Prado Ave., Sevilla Biltmore City. Phone: M-7669.**

Operates the following routes: Havana-Miami. Havana-Kingston-Port au Prince-Ciudad Trujillo. Havana-Kingston-Aruba-Curazao-Caracas. Connections at Aruba or Curazao for Barranquilla, Port of Spain, Maracaibo, etc. Two weekly services from Curazao to Amsterdam to all major cities in Europe as well as Africa and the Far East. Of special interest to U. S. tourists in Cuba: Havana-Kingston-Miami on K.L.M.'s Royal Route.

# Banco Pedroso

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Havana

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CURRENT AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.  
DRAFTS AGAINST THE PRINCIPAL  
BANKS IN ALL CITIES. MODERN  
SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES FOR THE  
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## *The* **BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA**

### BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS.

Three types of services. Three flights weekly northbound to Houston, Dana, Kansas City, Denver, Chicago. Three flights weekly southbound to Balboa, Panama City, and Guayaquil. Delicious complimentary meals.

Represented by: Aerovías Internacionales, S. A. Avenida de las Misiones 17. Phone: M-5631.

### WHAT EVERY PASSENGER SHOULD KNOW!

#### MONEY EXCHANGE TABLE

BRASIL - Cruzeiro .....	20.00
COLOMBIA - Peso .....	1.75
COSTA RICA - Colón .....	5.60
CUBA - Peso .....	1.00
ECUADOR - Sucre .....	13.00
EL SALVADOR - Colón .....	2.50
GUATEMALA - Quetzal .....	1.00
HONDURAS - Lempira .....	2.00
MEXICO - Peso .....	6.85
PANAMA - BALBOA - Peso .....	1.00
NICARAGUA - Córdoba .....	5.00
VENEZUELA - Bolívar .....	3.35

This table represents the nearest approximate equivalents, to the U. S. Dollar.

Never loved a  
cruise so much!

Folks who know sail by

## P&O to HAVANA!

You'll find that folks who know — the experienced travelers go P & O every time! Just imagine! You board the luxurious S.S. Florida at 6 p.m. in Miami. A gay evening of cruise-ship fun — next morning you're in Havana. Your return trip is a romantic overnight voyage, too.

Three sailings a week during the winter, effective December 20. Two sailings a week during summer. Fine meals and comfortable berth at sea included in your fare.



Six months limit round trip ticket only **\$46** plus taxes



Special excursion Mondays  
and Wednesdays only dur-  
ing winter months, return-  
ing same **\$40** plus taxes  
voyage

Ask your travel agent or write: General Offices, Florida National Bank Bldg.,  
Jacksonville 1, Florida; Municipal Pier No. 2, Miami 8, Florida; Prado 456,  
Centro Gallego Bldg., Havana, Cuba.

# NAVIGATION & STEAMSHIP LINES

**T**HE importance of Havana as a port is well established by the number of arrival of steamers from practically all the countries in the world which make it their port of call the year around.

The port Havana has 2,716,822 square meters with a depth of about 38 feet.

Havana harbor, one of the most beautiful and well protected in the world has an area of 5,139,750 square meters.

Dock facilities comprise about 50 docks, beginning with the "Caballería" docks and extending from North to South around the bay.

The capacity of the Port of Havana for warehousing and storage is as follows.

For general Merchandise: 1,738,301 sq. feet.

For Coal: 120,000 sq. feet.

For Sugar: 10,000 sq. feet.

For Perishables: 126,000 sq. feet.

The majority of the vessels are docked and their cargoes unloaded directly into the docks from whence they are trucked to a warehouse or other destination. In some cases ships are loaded or unloaded from the pier on one side and lighters on the other to save time.

Services to practically all of the important ports of the world are operated from Havana, but of course the heaviest traffic is with the ports of the United States.

An **ocean-going** ferry service is also in operation, making daily round trips between Havana and Key West. A frequent ferry service also operates between Havana and New Orleans. The "Seatrain" has a capacity of 90 loaded freight cars.

Each ferry has a capacity of 26 loaded freight cars, therefore a large volume of merchandise is brought into Havana via the ferry on the same freight cars on which it was loaded at its point of origin in the United States. Consequently, goods may be shipped from, say, a point in Pennsylvania directly to interior cities in Cuba on a through bill of lading. These ferries also transport a tremendous quantity of fruit, vegetables and other articles of Commerce to the United States.

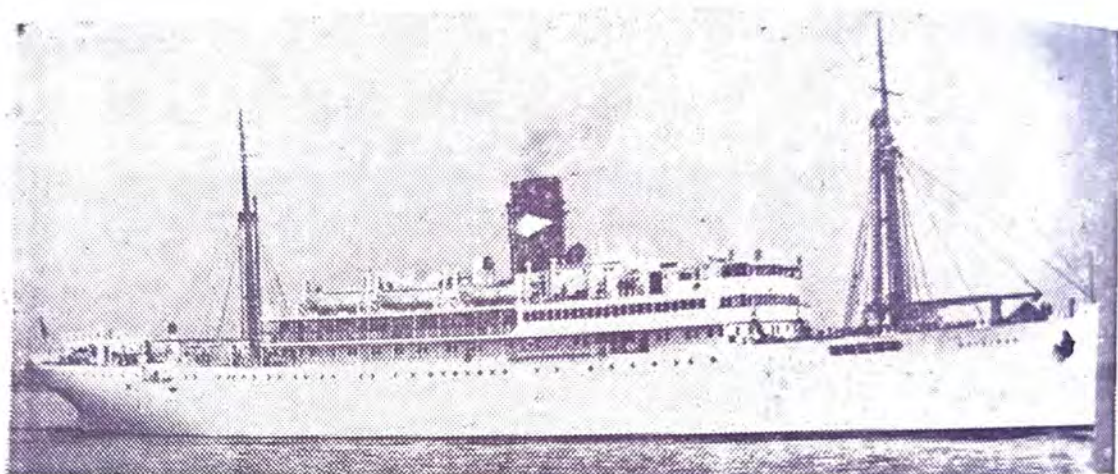
Several lines of coastwise steamers ply between the various Cuban ports carrying mail, passengers and freight. These lines operate between ports on the North and South coast and to the Isle of Pinos.

## PORT OF HAVANA DESCRIPTION

**SITUATION:** The port of the Capital of Cuba is situated on the North coast of the Island. Lat. 23° 09'N. Long. 82° 21'W.

# UNITED FRUIT COMPANY

## GREAT WHITE FLEET



Weekly freight and passenger service  
from New York and New Orleans to Havana

●  
*Regular freight service from New York and  
New Orleans to Santiago de Cuba*



GENERAL OFFICES:  
Desamparados & Damas Sts



MUELLE FLOTA BLANCA  
Havana Tel. M-6974

**HARBOR AND ENTRANCE:** Natural, landlocked, salt water harbor. Mud bottom. The entrance channel, which has an east southeast direction for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile, is 300 yards wide; the fairway is dredged to a depth of 39.4 feet.

**ANCHORAGES:** The greater part of the western section of the bay offers good anchorage since it has been dredged to a depth of 36 feet. Another good anchorage or mooring buoy which the vessel should take up is usually indicated by the Captain of the Port or the Pilot.

**LIGHTS AND SIGNALS:** Morro Castle Light, flashing white 144 feet above high water, and visible 18 miles is exhibited from a yellowish white masonry tower, 80 feet in height, and marked "O'Donnell" on Morro Castle.

**MOORING BUOYS:** There are 19 mooring buoys in different parts of the Harbor; three in the vicinity of the Customs-house and one to the north of Regla are usually assigned to naval vessels the others are used by merchant vessels.

**TIDAL VARIATION:** 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

**WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES:** The principal wharves and warehouses are:

**GENERAL DOCKS:** (Paula and Tallapiedra Piers) owned by the Government.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Machina and Santa Clara Piers,** owned by the Havana Docks Corporation.

**ARSENAL WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES,** owned by the United Railways of Havana.

**ATARES,** operated by the Vaccaro interests (Standard Fruit & Steamship Company).

**HACENDADOS, RINCON DE MELONES & REGLA,** owned and operated by the United Railways of Havana.

In addition to this, the Havana Coal Company owns and operates a wharf and coaling plant at Casa Blanca, on the Northeast port of the Bay.

Working hours: From 7 a. m. to 11 a. m. and from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m. including Saturdays.

### PORT CHARGES

Tonnage dues: Please refer to Decree Law N<sup>o</sup> 491 dated January 7th, 1936 published in the Official Gazette, Jan. 8th, 1936.

Custom House and Quarantine.

Nothing during regular hours.

**LABOR RATES** See Presidential Decree N<sup>o</sup> 1469 of July 10th, 1924.

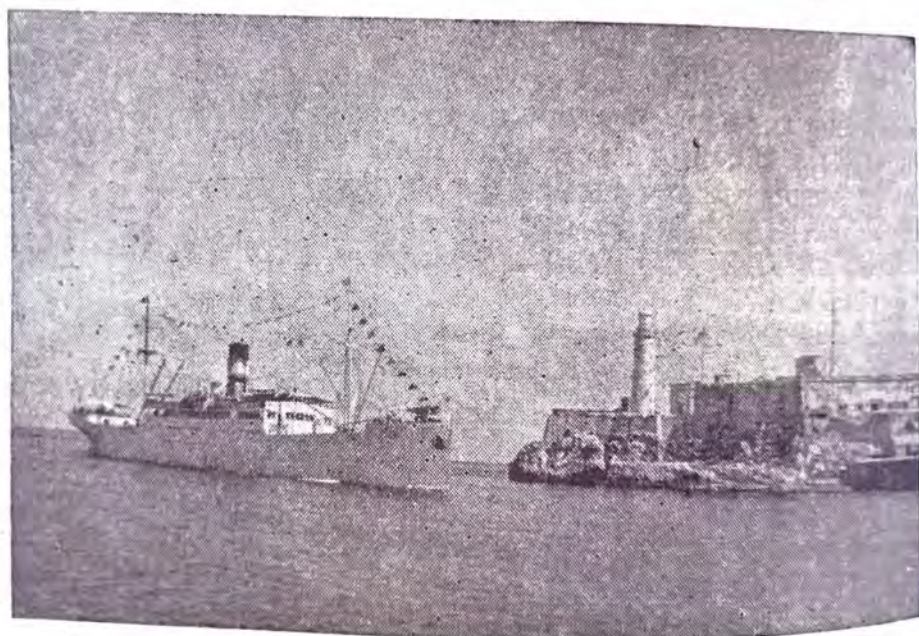
Loading of cargo is performed on piecework basis.

**BUNKERS, WATER AND PROVISIONS.**—Provisions and supplies of all kinds are plentiful and prices are reasonable. Water, as well as provisions, may be obtained in any quantity.

There is at all times a stock of over 50,000 tons of coal and coaling facilities are good. The Havana Coal Co., Cable Address: "Havaco".

The Shell Mex Petroleum Co. is prepared to supply fuel oil in all quantities. Several other companies also supply fuel oil.

# Standard Fruit and Steamship Company



PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE

New Orleans - Havana

New York - Santiago

GENERAL OFFICES:  
American Bank Bldg.  
New Orleans, LA  
F. G. Prat, V. P. & T. M.

HAVANA OFFICE:  
LA LONJA 220  
Emilio Manrara, G. A.

**CIE. GLE. TRANSATLANTIQUE. — FRENCH LINE.** — North Atlantic Service: New York to Plymouth and Havre Passenger and Cargo Service.—CUBA-Mexico Service: Vera-Cruz and Havana to Spain and France: West Indies-Central and South America Service: North Pacific Coast Service. Moroccan Service. Mediterranean Service. Round the world tours. Winter Cruises. Havana Office: 502 O'Reilly St. Corner of Villegas. Telephone: A-7970. P. O. Box 1090.

**PENINSULAR & OCCIDENTAL STEAMSHIP CO.** — Havana Office: Central Gallego Bldg., facing Central Park.

Operates the palatial steamer "FLORIDA". Trip from Miami to Havana made in 14 hours, from Havana to Miami in 14½ hours, leaving 6 p.m. in each direction. One way fare, \$28.00, plus taxes. Round trip, \$46.00, plus taxes. Automobiles carried, \$70.00 one way, \$90.00 round trip, plus wharfage and handling charges. Winter schedule of sailings: leave Miami Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays... leave Havana Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays. Summer schedule of sailings: leave Miami Mondays, Fridays... leave Havana Thursdays, Sundays. Passenger offices in Miami, Municipal Pier No 2. Havana office: Centro Gallego Bldg., 456 Prado.

**LYKES BROS STEAMSHIP CO., Inc.**—Regular and Dependable Freight and Passenger Service.—Sailings Weekly from Galveston, Houston and Lake Charles to Havana.

Lykes Brothers Havana Agency, S. A. Lonja Bldg. 404; P. O. Box 788. Phone M-6955.

**STANDARD FRUIT & STEAMSHIP CO.**—Swift Freight and Passenger Service from New Orleans To Havana, Cuba, Veracruz, Mexico, Tampico, Mexico, Panama Canal, Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti.

Also from New York To Santiago de Cuba, Kingston, Jamaica, Haitian Ports, Honduras.

New Orleans Office: American Bank Bldg.—Havana Office: 220 La Lonja Bldg.

**UNITED FRUIT COMPANY.** — "Great White Fleet", Freight and Passenger Department: Desamparados & Damas Sts., Havana. Phone: M-6974. Weekly cargo service from New York to Havana; also weekly cargo and passenger service from New York and New Orleans To Havana and Guatemala. Cargo service from New York and New Orleans to Santiago de Cuba.



Why try to **tell** your friends of the beautiful things you saw during your vacation? It's so much easier to bring your KODAK along and share with your friends the **real** beauty of the places you visited, pictured faithfully on the film you can trust - KODAK VERICHROME.



**KODAK CUBANA, Ltd.**  
Aptdo. 1349, Habana



# Varadero

BEACH



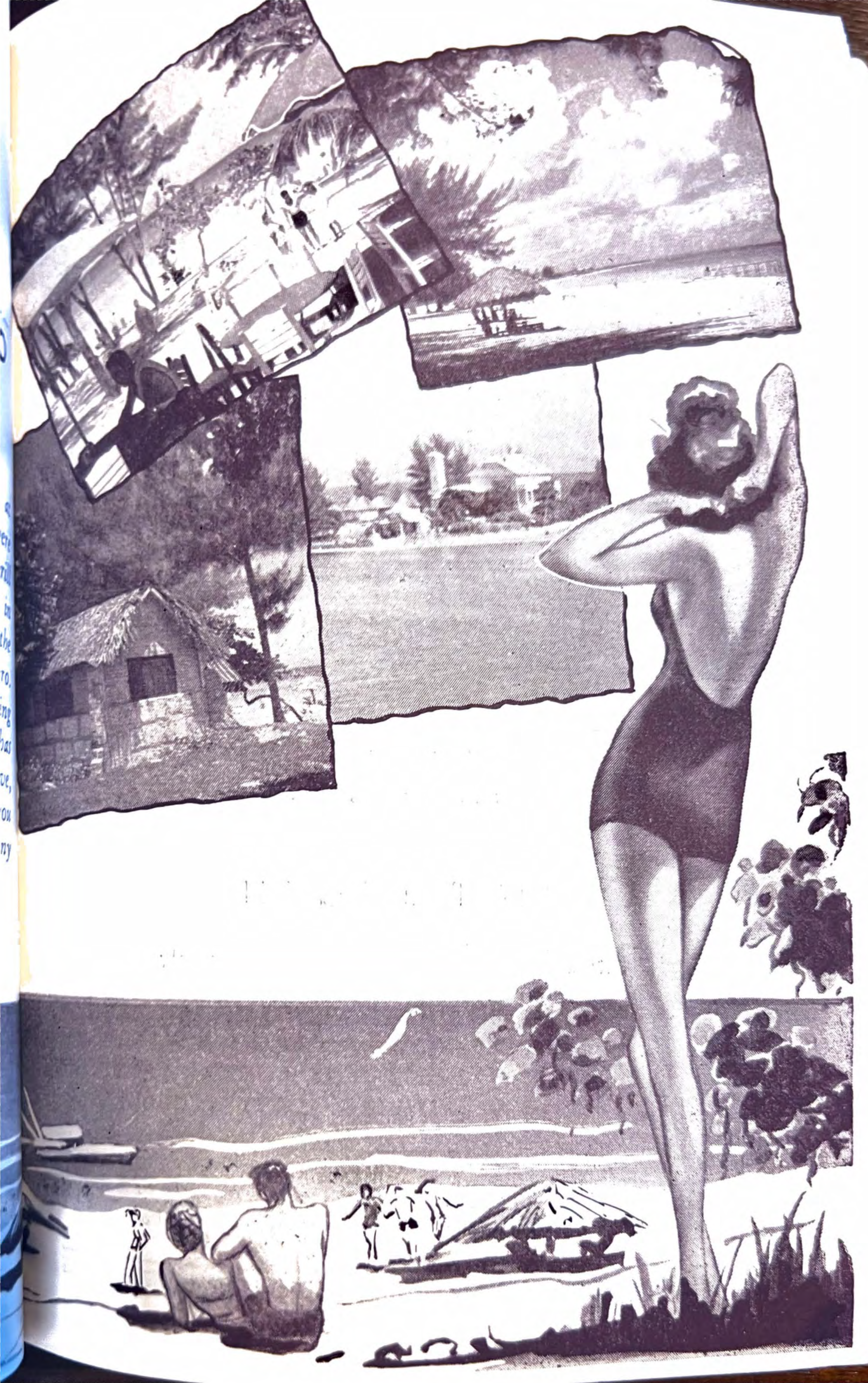
Symphony  
in  
blue

# KAWAMA KAWAMA CLUB

## VARADERO BEACH

*Enjoy your stay at CLUB KAWAMA and here indeed, you will thrill to a new adventure in luxury. Located in the fashionable and beautiful blue beach at Varadero. A large expanse of Private Beach, enchanting gardens and gay Cabañas. When the sun has tanned you shades deeper, smoothed every nerve, poured into you, tons of new energy, then you learn what real relaxation is, and why so many visit KAWAMA for better health.*







# **CLUB NAUTICO DE VARADERO**

## **Varadero Beach**



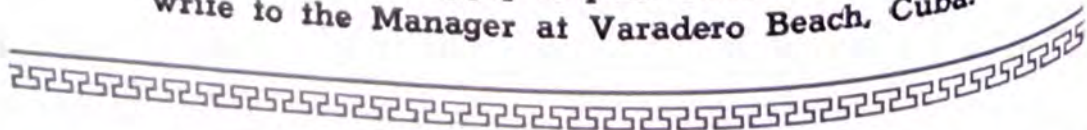
### **ON THE BEACH**

### **For Members and Guests**

- ROOMS WITH PRIVATE BATH
- COLD AND HOT WATER
- RESTAURANT - BAR - CAFETERIA
- BOWLING ALLEY & TERRAZA

---

For reservation, apply to your Tourist Agency or  
write to the Manager at Varadero Beach, Cuba.



# Varadero Beach

## CUBA'S BRIGHT JEWEL

BY: SYLVIA GODWIN

JUST close your eyes and try to recall the things you would like changed at your favorite beach. Were the mosquitos attentive? The water was too warm or too cold? Perhaps sharks had a friendly interest in bathers? Maybe it bored you to dress for dinner and get involved in the round of parties you hoped to avoid, or it could be only that the bed had a lump or your eggs were never right.

Now, with your eyes still shut, let your imagination take flight and picture a place exactly as you would have it. You have wisely chosen a hotel according to your bank account, knowing that whether it is the romantic place with individual cottages, or just a clean room with palatable food, the sun and the sea will still be yours.

You arrive, tense and jumpy from the strain of daily problems, vaguely hoping your precious vacation won't prove a dud. You're pleased with your quarters but waste no time getting into a swim suit to see the beach that brought you here. It can't be, but there it is — a twelve mile ribbon of glistening white sand that trickles through your toes like powdered sugar and even this is forgotten as you marvel at the colors in the sea. Brilliant streaks of purples, yellows and turquoise are backed by an unbelievable indigo blue and you look for the jarring note you cannot find. A few sun worshippers lie motionless in the sand and someone is floating on the water, but where are the milling throngs? You walk chin deep into the water, the sand firm under your feet, and find that you see bottom as clearly as through glass. You take a quick swim and the world seems good to be in, so you decide to explore the beach. It seems odd that there are so many pine trees and colorful flowers and you wonder again at the peace and quiet. You bargain with a shy little girl for a string of pearls and watch the skill of a brownskinned fisherman casting his net for sardines and pretty soon the sun is making you sleepy.

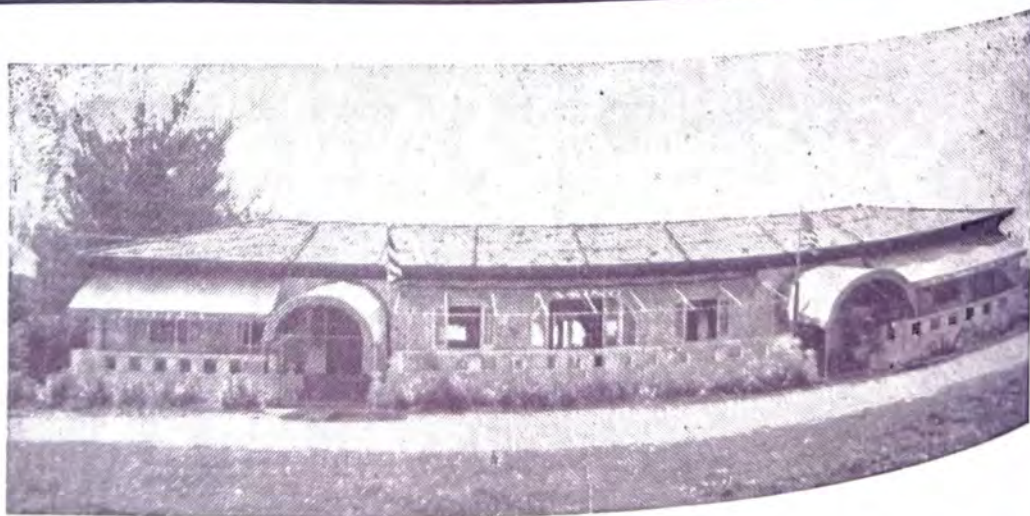
*Rum*

# HAVANA CLUB

*For a better Cocktail*

*José Arechabala, S. A.*

CARDENAS



## Hotel Casino de Varadero

VARADERO, CUBA

Facing the ocean. ● Just a few steps from your room to the ocean.  
All rooms with bath. ● Excellent Restaurant. ● American and Native  
Cuisine. ● Charming Cocktail lounge, where best brand of international  
liquors are dispensed. ● Book your reservation through your Travel  
Bureau or write direct to us.



**Varadero Beach facing "Kawama Club".**  
La Playa de Varadero vista del "Kawama Club".

Back at the hotel, guests have appeared from nowhere and you assume rightly that you missed the siesta hour, but it is not too late and what meaning has time? You re-appear before dinner, in time to see the riotous sunset, and suddenly feel a warm urge to talk with the girl in the white slacks — or the couple playing backgammon — or with just anyone who comes to a place like this.

You are told that the big frame houses were built by families in the nearby city of Cardenas, before the Central Highway which opened transportation was built, and that they braved the five mile jaunt over a rutted dirt road by horse and carriage. You hear of the magnificent homes that have since been built — of the great Dupont estate and of the vacationists who return year after year. You agree that there should never be a towering hotel and you become indignant at the mention of an All American Playground — it is exactly as you would have it.

Now open your eyes and phone your travel agent. Just say you are going to Varadero Beach, on the north coast of Cuba, thirty-five minutes from Havana by plane and you might add that you don't want a round trip ticket.

## TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES TO VARADERO BEACH

**LOCATION:** Varadero is in the Province of Matanzas, 114.6 miles from Havana.

**MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION:** This beautiful beach is reached from Havana by road (over the Central Highway up to Coliseo), and by air. (See air connection below).

**BY BUS:** It takes 4 hours to reach Varadero over the Central Highway. The trip fare is \$1.45 by either of the following bus lines:

**Bus Lines:**

**Havana Station.**

UNICOS DE CARDENAS	Dragones and Zulueta Sts.
ESPECIALES DE CARDENAS	Gran Hotel, Zulueta & Tte. Rey St.

Both of these lines have busses leaving Havana every hour for Cárdenas, where passengers change to local busses, that leave every fifteen minutes, to continue the trip to the beach.

The **Unicos de Cárdenas Line** has a direct bus to the beach that leaves Havana at 2 p.m.

The **Especiales de Cárdenas** has six busses leaving Havana **DIRECT** to Varadero Beach daily:

6.30 - 9.15 and 10.30 a.m.  
1.30 - 3.15 - 3.30 - 5.15 and 6.15 p.m. Fare \$1.45.

Tourists are advised to go by these direct busses in order to avoid the inconvenience of having to change at Cárdenas.

**BY PLANE:** Cía. Cubana de Aviación, from Rancho Boyeros Airport and Airways Q. from Airport at 84th & 5th. Ave. Miramar.

(1)	VARADERO .....			45 m.
(2)	" .....	\$5.00	\$9.20	35 m.
		5.14	9.25	

(Both of these companies furnish transportation from Havana to Rancho Boyeros and Miramar Airport Cía. Cubana de Aviación charges \$1.00 each way. Airways Q., charges \$0.50 each way.

(1) COMPAÑIA CUBANA DE AVIACION, 252 Prado Ave. Habana. Ph. A-7241.  
(2) CUBAN AIR LINE.—AEROVIAS Q, S. A., Prado corner San Lázaro. Ph. A-6655.



# Amusements and Sports

**Club Bolera Criolla, (Bowling Club)**

Music, Bowling, Bar,  
Dancing on the terrace  
facing the ocean.

**"Kastillito" Night Club.**

Varadero's most popular  
night club.

**Fishing.**—You will find the waters of Varadero (Península de Icacos) rich in members of the finny tribes, against which to pit their luck and skill.

**Golf.**—Visitors to Varadero Beach can enjoy golf course privileges in the beautiful Dupont Estate golf links. Fees \$3.00.

**Other Amusements.**—Bicycles, horses, motor scooters, and horse buggies may be rented by the hour.





VARADERO



SAN JOSE DEL LAGO



TRINIDAD

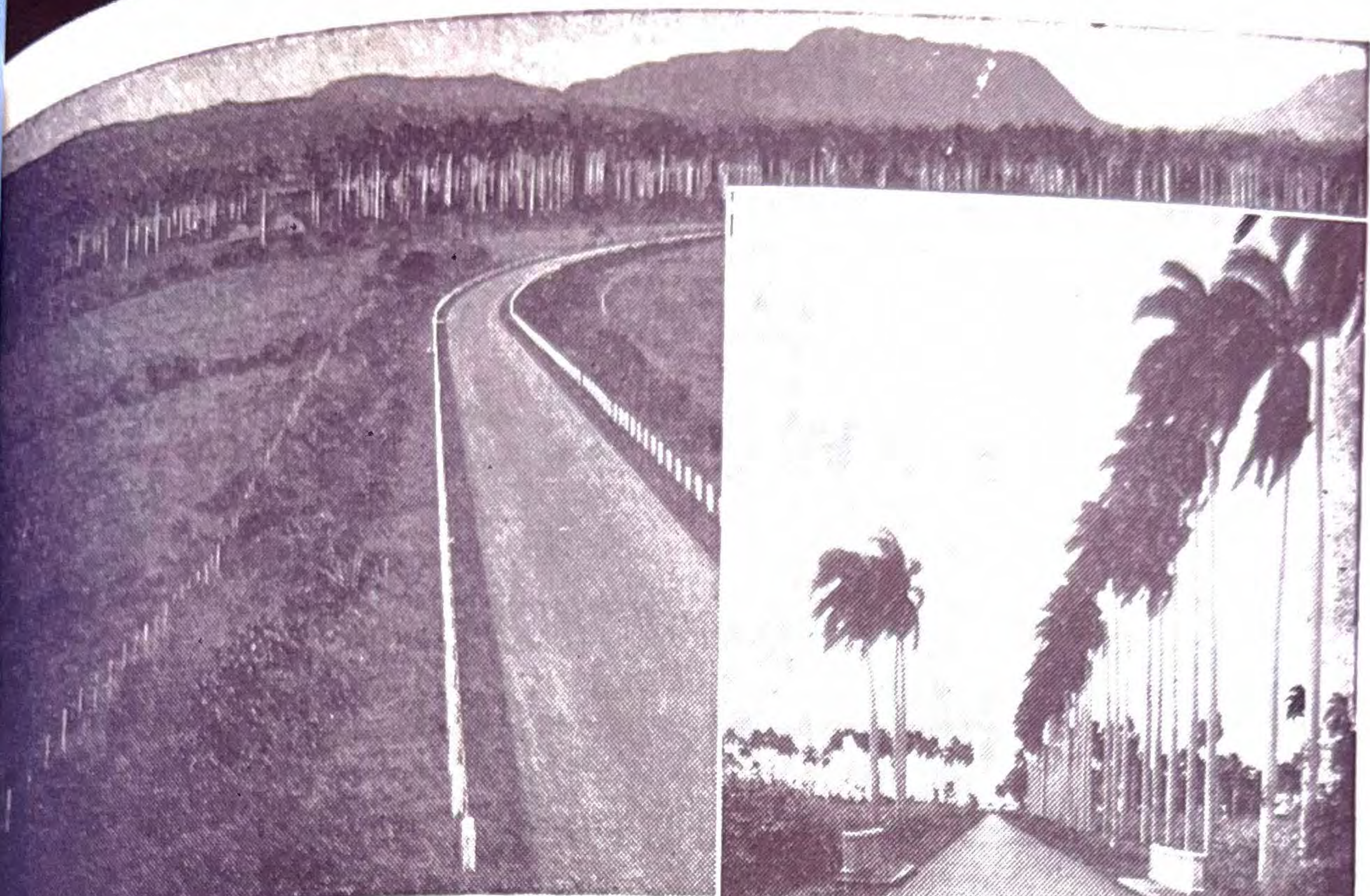
Dearest Jean  
 We've been to the most marvelous places here! The beach at Varadero is wonderful for swimming and the artificial lakes at San Jose del Lago are beautiful. When we return remind me to tell you the legend of La Torre de Jago in Trinidad.  
 So glad we brought the car over - we've been up and down the whole island in it. The roads are good, and Esso service is available everywhere.  
 Bye now  
 Pat

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Two beautiful views of Cuba's Central Highway 600 miles long.  
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## DRIVE YOUR OWN CAR IN CUBA

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Gully Across Road

Double Corner

Cross Road

Protected Level Crossing

Unprotected Level Crossing

Danger

International Signs used on the Highways.

CUBA, by car, railway, steamer, or plane, is ranked by veteran travelers as the "loveliest land" in the Americas, and we are happy to assure the prospective visitor that there is no likelihood of a return of Cuba's political troubles.

Both the motor car traveler and the sky tourist will be welcome in Cuba, but it is the motor tourist who will take first the two new special courtesies awaiting him. First, all tourists' automobiles are admitted to the republic duty free for a period of six months. Second, the Automobile Club of Cuba will accept tourist members who have credentials showing membership in an Automobile

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Club in the United States, affiliated with the International Association of Recognized Automobile Clubs. This interchange of courtesies between Cuban and American Clubs, will give visiting tourists all the privileges and advantages in Cuba which they enjoy at home.

To facilitate the entry into Cuba of tourists with their cars, the Cuban Tourist Commission sends its delegate to meet all incoming vessels and help visitors through the customs.

No bonds are required for automobiles for 180 days. A simple declaration containing a description of the car with the statement as to ownership and intention of owner to take car back to the States within 180 days is made out in advance of sailing. The owner's license papers and plates from his home state, with the declaration, will enable the tourist to use his car in the same manner he would in his home state.

The new Central Highway, built specially for auto traffic, is a stretch of modern, hard-surfaced road, 6 inch concrete base with 2 inch asphalt top, and 20 feet 6 inches wide extending from Pinar del Río city on the west, through Havana to Santiago de Cuba on the east, a distance of 711 miles. It is dotted with smaller cities and towns, each with its own unique appeal, each with splendid hotels, ancient buildings and native attractions. Winding over hill and dipping into valley, it takes the visitor westward into the richest tobacco growing district in the world—the Vuelta Abajo section—and through the breath-taking Viñales Valley in Pinar del Río.

Eastward the motorist sees the rugged beauty of the interior country side, the historic Yumurí Valley in Matanzas; the great plantations in Santa Clara; and beyond, the plains, fresh and green, of Camagüey and the mountains of Oriente, where peaks reach a mile and a half into the sky.

The highway extends southeast to Holguín, then southwest to Bayamo, and finally east to Santiago de Cuba.

What will be a surprise to most travelers along this highway are the hills and the mountains—good high ones at that—at the eastern end of Cuba.

The mountain sides and ravines with their tropical vegetation are quite a contrast to the mountains of the eastern states of the United States.

There are plenty of gas stations along the way with comfortable inns and hotels in all of the towns. With side trips north and south, one who has travelled this highway can truly say he has visited Cuba—from end to end—.

## ROAD RULES

Any one who is familiar with, and observes, the general traffic rules and regulations, in the United States, will experience no difficulty in driving his own car in Cuba. Traffic rules are very similar; for instance keep to the right hand side of the road or



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street when meeting other vehicles, pass vehicles going in the same direction, on the left. One way streets are marked with white arrows pointing the direction to be taken—Streets not so marked are for two way traffic.

At important street intersections there are green and red stop and go signals for use at night and semaphores for use at day time. The Spanish word "SIGA" means go, and "PARE" means stop.

On the open highway a curve ahead is indicated by signs, showing a compound curve. Railroad crossings are indicated by a railroad cross.

The regulations are generally uniform throughout the Island. While authorities will not permit gross negligence or flagrant abuse of traffic regulations, they are inclined to be lenient to visitors.

### **SPEED REGULATIONS**

"Art. 55.—All motor driven vehicles must reduce speed on all down grades, sharp curves, and narrow stretches of road. Fifty meters before and after passing school houses and churches, and roadcrossings, speed limit to be 20 Kms. ( $12\frac{3}{8}$  miles) per hour. Within the town limits, speeds should if possible be reduced when approaching animals drawing vehicles, or herds which may be frightened, and as may be necessary for the security of persons or objects placed along the road. Infractions of this Law may be punishable by a fine of "Ten DOLLARS".

### **SPEED REGULATIONS FOR VEHICLES WEIGHING LESS THAN 6,600 LBS.**

"Art. 56.—All automobiles weighing less than 6,600 lbs. may be driven over roads at a speed of not more than 70 Kms. ( $43\frac{1}{2}$  miles) in compliance with the preceding Articles. The driver must have complete control of the automobile at all times, for if driven carelessly a fine of from TWENTY to FIFTY DOLLARS may be incurred".

### **OUR ADVICE IS:**

If you own a car in the States, bring it to Cuba, by all means. Drive it yourself. It affords you freedom of movement and the exhilarating experience of exploring in an unknown land.

The foreign license plate marks you with a "CACHET" of distinction.

### **A DIAMOND IS THE ZERO MILESTONE**

From that diamond (24 carat) set in the floor beneath the Golden dome of the New Cuban Capitol, Cuban distances are measured; it is a glistening marker corresponding to the Zero Milestone south of the White House in Washington.

## HAVANA IS NOT ALL OF CUBA

THERE ARE MANY FINE DRIVES in the neighborhood of Havana. Smooth macadamized highways lined with rows of almonds, royal palms and feathery bamboos, extending for miles through an attractive rolling country. To have seen only Havana, is not to have seen Cuba. Some conception of the natural beauties of the island may be had from the country near the city, one need not to go far to get a glimpse of the country life and the country ways, which are so interesting because, so novel to northern eyes.

Havana leads to a country full of innumerable attractions. Everything beyond its gates has a special fascination: mystery and exuberance of Nature in the tropics, huge sugar mills, tobacco plantations, a sky, sun and sea that invite to yachting, swimming and fishing; and many picturesque little towns and interesting old cities untouched by the passing centuries, that preserve their colonial physiognomy and the atmosphere of ancient times.

**BATABANO.** (36 miles from Havana). Important sponge fishing center. Ships for the Isle of Pines sail from this port. Fishing excursions can be arranged.

**JIBACOA BEACH.** This modern tourist resort, 30 miles east of Havana, reached by road on Hershey Railroads is one of the most picturesque in the country. Great stretches of fine sand. All kinds of sports. Comfortable furnished cabañas for rent. A congenial club reached by road or Hershey Railroad.

**EXCURSIONS.** Many little towns, not far from Havana are so quaint and picturesque that they are worth visiting. **Santa María del Rosario**, for instance, is 30 minutes from the city by bus. Founded 300 years ago, it is famous for its mineral springs, its ancient church and other interesting sights. **CUEVAS DEL CURA** is another point of interest recently opened to the public. These caves are considered marvels of beauty in their stalactite and stalagmite formations.

Although the largest sugar mills are not located in Havana Province, there are several important ones that can be visited by motor, bus or train. **Central Providencia** not far from the city, **Central Toledo** in Marianao, and **Central Hershey**, under American management, all offer interesting excursions. The same Central Hershey Company owns the Hershey Railroad which has trains that leave Casa Blanca for the mill several times a day. The attractions at Central Hershey include an excellent golf course, tennis courts, etc., and a very good hotel where American meals are served at moderate prices.

**MARIEL.** (36 miles from Havana). This small port is in Pinar del Río Province, a region that possesses the most beautiful



landscapes. It is a favorite place for excursions. Good sea food...  
boating... fishing. The Naval Academy is located there.

**VINALES VALLEY.** In the Pinar del Río Province, at 125 miles west of Havana, is this marvelous valley, without equal in this Continent.

**ISLE OF PINES.** (10 hours by ship from Batabanó and 39 minutes from Havana by planes). Discovered by Columbus on his second voyage to the New World, June 3rd, 1502. Legend says that the pirates who infested the seas used it as a hiding place for their stolen treasures; this gave Robert Louis Stevenson the idea for his famous novel "Treasure Island".

For the tourist who prefers quiet surroundings, beneficial to mind and body, the Isle of Pines is ideal. Its medicinal springs enjoy wide fame, especially those of Santa Fe.

**MATANZAS.** (63 miles from Havana). Important city connected with Havana by the Central Highway and two railroad lines—all scenic routes. Its surrounding districts leave an indelible impression, especially the Yumurí Valley, incomparably beautiful, and the Bellamar Caves, considered one of the marvels of the American Continent. (Ask the Cuban Tourist Commission if these Caves are open).

**TRINIDAD.** (11 hours by train from Havana and now also by plane in 75 minutes fare round trip \$22.21). Perhaps no other city in America evokes, as this does, the ancient colonial life. This city, founded in 1514, soon became the richest in Cuba. Today it is the Bruges of the New World.

**CIENFUEGOS.** This fair city, called the "Pearl of the South", where the tourist will find casinos, clubs and recreation centers, is located 208 miles from Havana to which it is linked by railroad, highway and airplane. Its fine bay invites to yachting, swimming and fishing.

**CAMAGUEY.** (572 miles from Havana). A very interesting ancient and commercial city. Important center of national and international air routes.

**SANTIAGO DE CUBA.** (601 miles from Havana to which it is connected by railroad, highway and airplane). Founded in 1514, its superb topographical situation among the mountains, the Hispano-Moorish aspect and historical landmark that perpetuate the principal events of the Spanish-Cuban-American War, make of Santiago a center of attraction for the tourists. It also offers many sports and diversions: golf, tennis, yachting, swimming and excursions to nearby resorts such as Siboney and Aguadores beaches, Cobre Sanctuary, Boniato Summit Drive and Rancho Club.

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## PASSPORT REGULATIONS

**Entering Cuba.**—Passports are not required for citizens of the United States.

**Returning to the United States.**—Citizens of the United States are not required to hold passports. Naturalized American citizens should have in their possession their final papers. **The car must be listed on the U. S. Baggage Declarations.**

## U. S. CUSTOMS REGULATION

American tourists' automobiles, exported to Cuba for touring purposes only, should be registered with the U. S. Customs Officials before departure. The form number 4445, which will be supplied by the Customs Officer, should be executed and the triplicate copy retained to be presented upon returning to the United States in order to avoid payment of duty. **Always carry your state registration card driver's license for identification.**

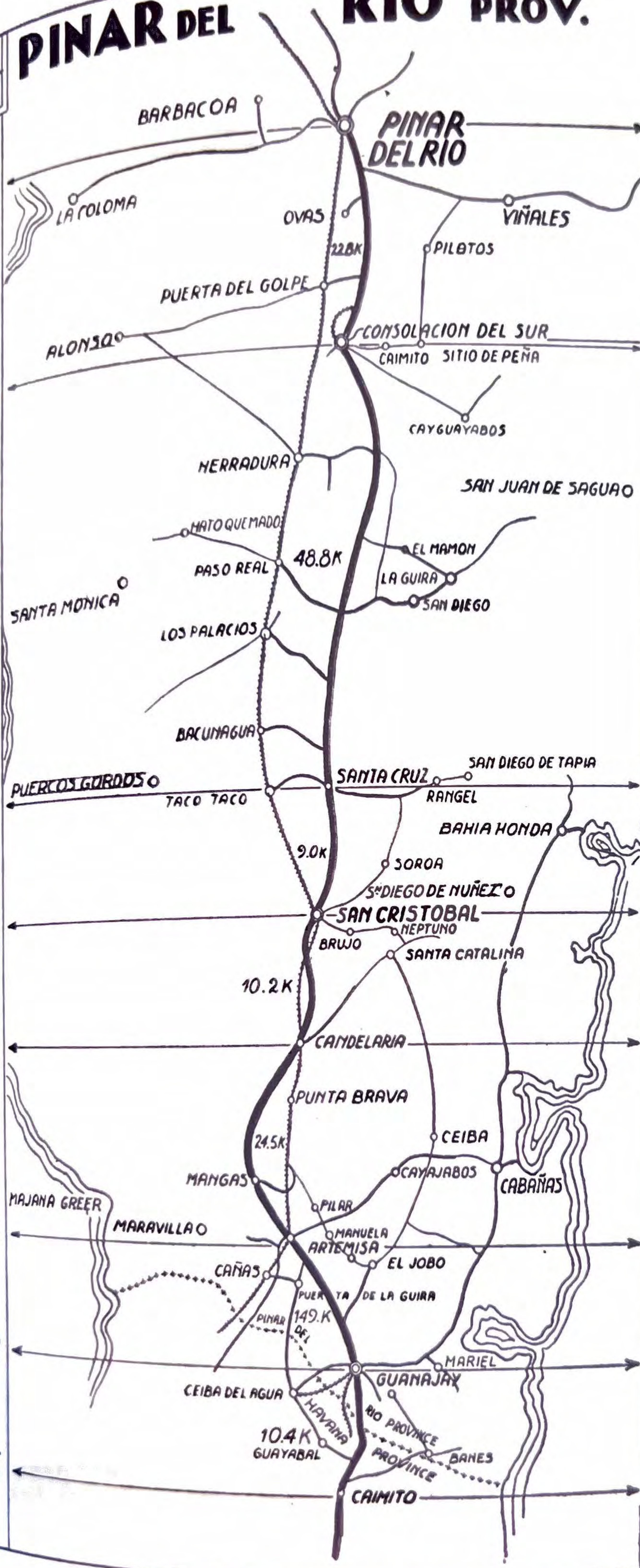
**NOTE.**—In the following pages appears a plan of the Central Highway in each province with distance in miles and kilometers and also 5 Excursions highly recommended to the Tourist.

# PINAR DEL RIO PROV.

DIST. FROM  
PINAR DEL RIO  
Kms.

0.0  
22.8  
71.6  
80.6  
90.8  
115.3  
130.2  
140.6

175.8 109.2  
152.8 94.9  
104.0 64.6  
95.0 59.0  
84.8 52.7  
50.3 37.4  
45.4 28.2  
35.0 21.7



Kms. Miles  
DISTANCES FROM  
CAPITOLIO

# HABANA PROV.

DIST. FROM PINAR DEL RIO

Kms.

140.6

147.2

153.8

159.0

164.0

0.0 0.0

12.8 7.9

16.9 10.5

19.5 12.1

23.5 14.6

29.0 18.0

31.7 19.7

51.7 32.1

66.0 41.0

84.2 52.3

35.0 21.7

28.4 17.6

21.8 13.5

16.6 10.3

11.6 7.2

0.0 0.0

957.2

953.7

950.5

946.5

941.0

938.3

918.3

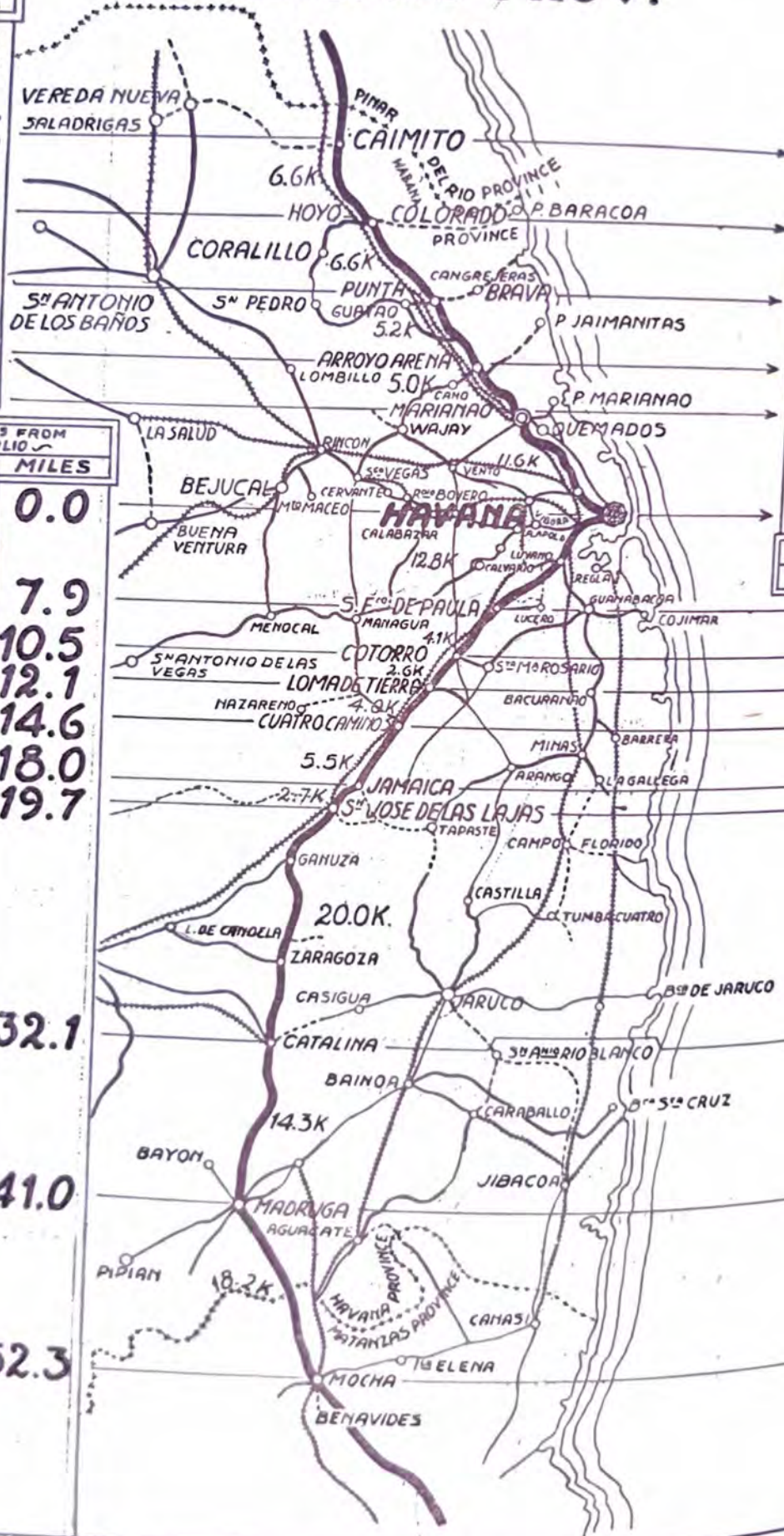
904.0

885.8

DISTANCES FROM CAPITOLIO	
KMS.	MILES
0.0	0.0
12.8	7.9
16.9	10.5
19.5	12.1
23.5	14.6
29.0	18.0
31.7	19.7

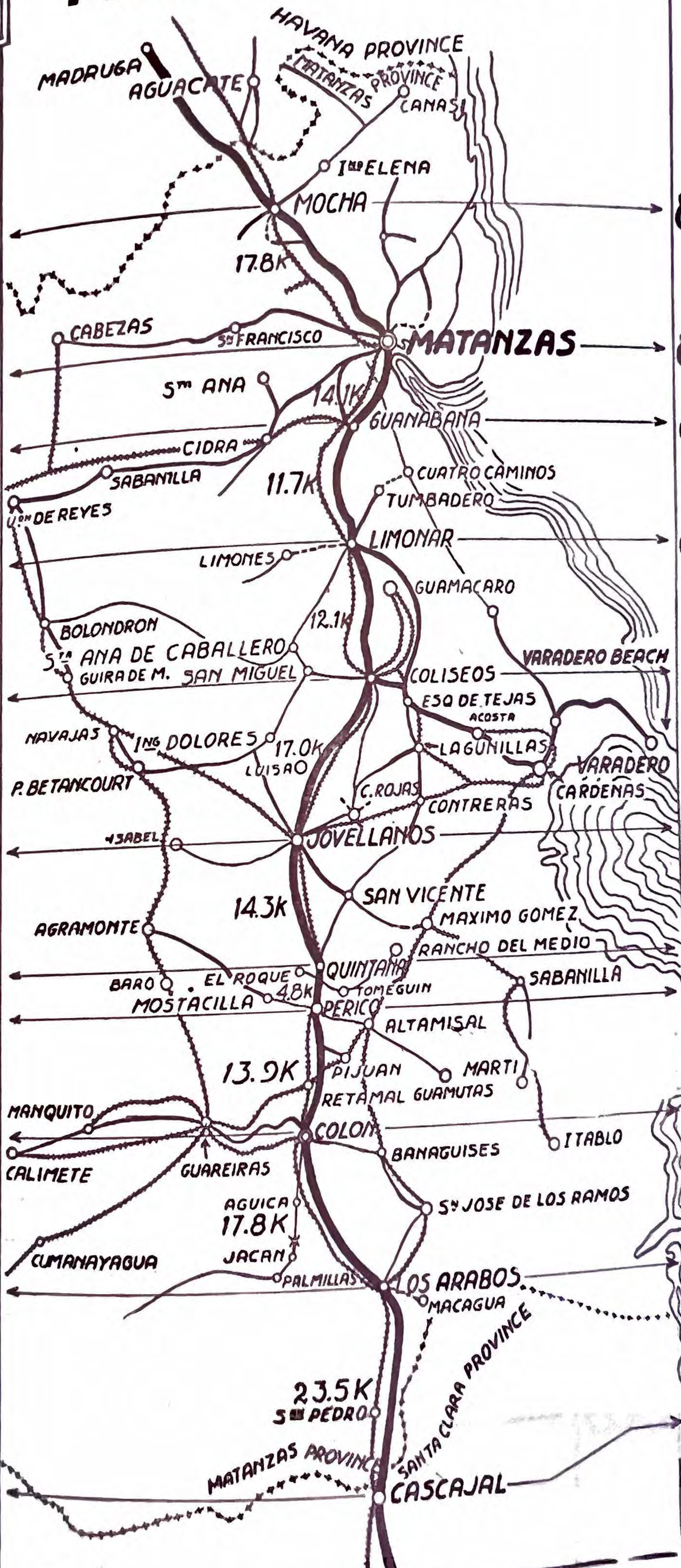
DISTANCES FROM CAPITOLIO	
KMS.	MILES
957.2	
953.7	
950.5	
946.5	
941.0	
938.3	

Kms.  
DIST. FROM ORIENTE



# MATANZAS PROV.

DISTANCES FROM  
CAPITOLIO  
KMS. MILES



84.2 52.3  
102.0 63.3  
116.1 72.1  
127.8 79.4  
139.9 86.9  
156.9 97.4  
171.2 106.3  
176.0 109.3  
189.9 117.9  
207.7 129.0  
231.2 143.6

885.8  
868.0  
853.9  
842.2  
830.1  
813.1  
798.8  
794.0  
780.2  
762.3  
738.8

KMS.  
DIST. FROM  
ORIENTE

DISTANCES FROM.  
CAPITOLIO

KMS.	MILES
------	-------

# SANTA CLARA PROV.

231.2	143.6
241.6	150.0
252.4	156.7
262.4	162.9
273.5	169.8
285.0	177.0
301.4	187.2
321.1	199.4
336.5	208.9
367.4	228.1
373.1	231.7
386.7	240.1
416.9	258.9



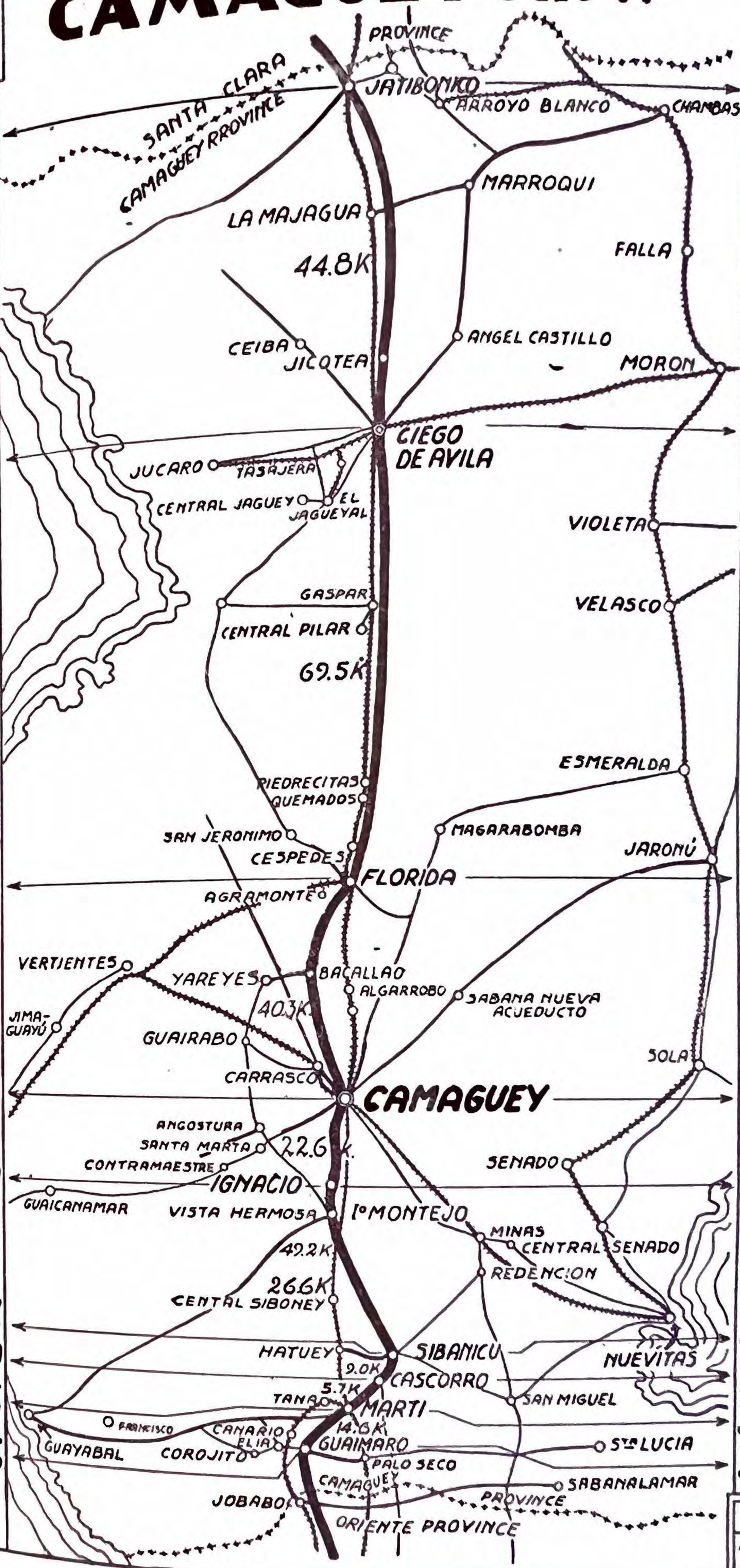
738.8
730.7
717.6
707.6
696.5
684.4
668.6
647.0
633.5
602.6
596.9
583.3
553.7

KMS.  
DISTANCIA  
ORIENTE

# CAMAGUEY PROV.

DISTANCES FROM  
CAPITULO.  
KMS. MILES

416.9 258.9  
461.7 286.7  
531.2 329.8  
571.5 354.9  
594.1 368.9  
620.7 385.4  
629.7 391.0  
635.4 394.6  
650.0 403.6



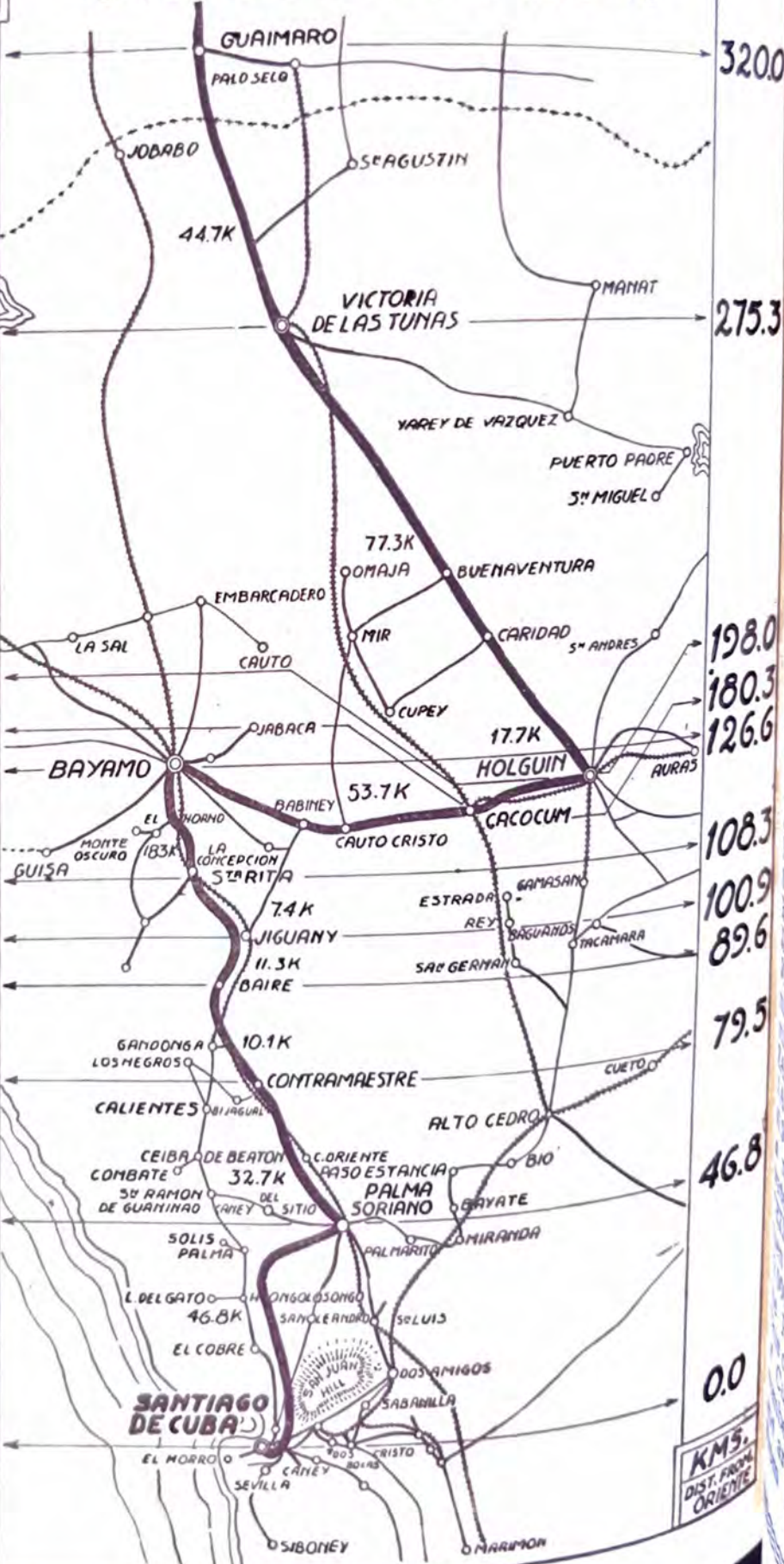
553.1  
508.3  
438.8  
398.5  
375.9  
349.3  
340.3  
334.6  
320.0

KMS.  
DIST. FROM  
ORIENTE

# ORIENTE PROV.

DISTANCES FROM CAPITOLIO  
KMS. MILES

650.0	403.6
694.7	431.4
772.0	479.4
789.7	490.4
843.4	523.7
861.7	535.1
869.1	539.7
880.3	546.7
890.5	553.0
923.2	573.3
970.0	602.4



KMS.  
DIST. FROM  
ORIENTE



# FIVE EXCURSIONS WE RECOMMEND

## EXCURSION No. 1

### HAVANA — MATANZAS — CARDENAS and VARADERO BEACH

Havana — Varadero Beach, 108 miles.

Take the following itinerary:

From the Capitol or Central Park, drive through Egido St. to Railroad Station then take new Avenue to bridge over Luyano River. Road to GUANABACOA to the left. Follow the road to the right passing JACOMINO village, SAN FRANCISCO DE PAULA, 8 miles, village of COTORRO, CUATRO CAMINOS, JAMAICA 18 miles, SAN JOSE DE LAS LAJAS 20 miles. At GANUZA 22.8 miles, turn to the left, to ZARAGOZA LA CATALINA 32 miles, MADRUGA 40.9 miles—this last place is noted for its medicinal waters and hot springs—, CEIBA MOCHA 52 miles then MATANZAS, with 73,000 inhabitants, capital of the Province of Matanzas. This city is called the Athens of Cuba due to the great number of poets, writers and artists it has produced. From the Monserrat Her-

mitage, which is easily reached by automobile, the attractive panorama of the famous Yumurí Valley can be contemplated. The Bellamar Caves, considered by many superior to the Laury (Mammoth) Caves of Virginia, contain marvelous formations of stalactites and stalagmites. Leaving MATANZAS, which is 64 miles from Havana (In 1949 the Vía Blanca or "white way" a beautiful coast road from Matanzas to Varadero Beach, will be inaugurated), proceed to GUANABANA, LIMONAR 79.9 miles on to COLISEO 86.9 miles to the left, road to CARDENAS and VARADERO BEACH; to the right, road to SAN MIGUEL DE LOS BAÑOS noted for its medicinal springs for the treatment of intestinal troubles, rheumatism and other diseases. CARDENAS is 97.09 miles from Havana and VARADERO BEACH is 11 miles from CARDENAS and 108 miles from HAVANA.

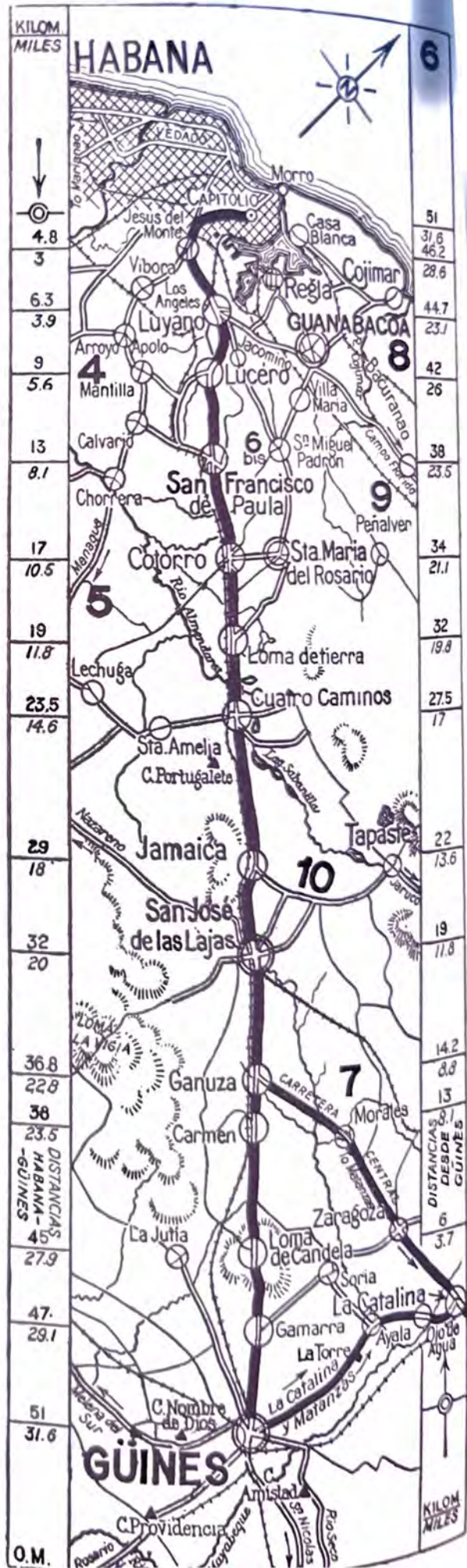
## EXCURSION NO. 2

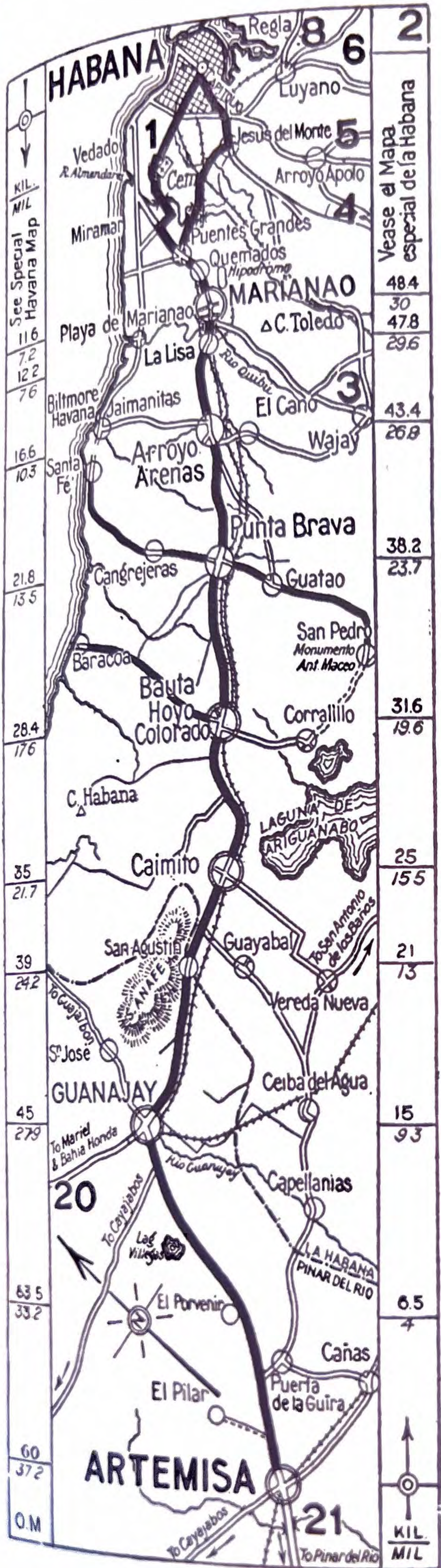
### HAVANA TO JIBACOA BEACH AND TO GUINES

HAVANA to GUINES, take the Route N<sup>o</sup> 1 same itinerary indicated in the HAVANA — MATANZAS — CARDENAS tour, shown on another page in this section, as far as GANUZA (refer to Matanzas road map). From there take road to the right to Güines, which is 8.7 miles off the Central Highway.

GUINES is prominent in the agriculture of the island on account of the great fertility of its soil. It is a center for truck farming, and produces besides large fields of pineapples, the finest quality of potatoes and vegetables for export.

**Havana to Jibacoa Beach.** Take Road N<sup>o</sup> 10 at San José de las Lajas marked on this map, to Tapaste, passing by Jaruco, San Antonio del Río Blanco, Hershey Sugar Mill, Jibacoa and Jibacoa Beach.





### EXCURSION No. 3

#### HAVANA — GUANAJAY — ARTEMISA — MARIEL

Leaving Capitol or Central Park, proceed down Prado to Malecón water front drive out through the VEDADO suburb, over the ALMENDARES RIVER BRIDGE, through the MIRAMAR suburb as far as Country Club Park, thru la Coronela Subdivision then take the Central Highway to Guanajay 28.2 miles. Proceed by this Highway to Artemisa. When at Guanajay take the road to the right, for MARIEL, where the Cuban Naval Academy is located. There is a good bathing beach here, splendid fishing and an excellent restaurant, specializing in freshly caught sea food. The Moorish columns of graceful design in the entrance hall of the Naval Academy are worth seeing. This makes a pleasant day's run through Cuba's attractive countryside.

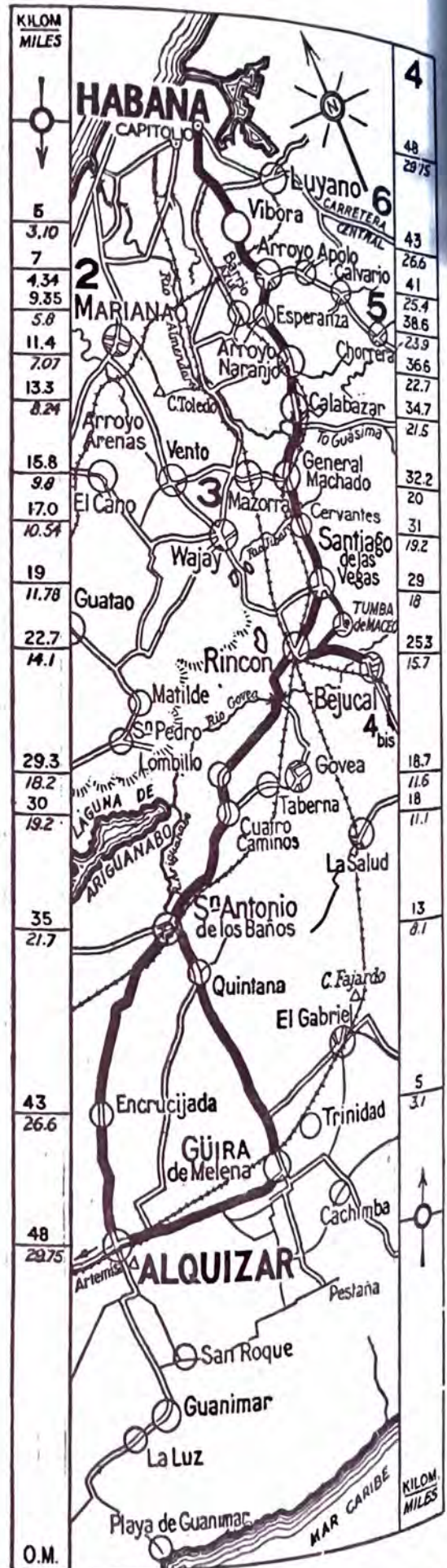
GUANAJAY to ARTEMISA is a 9.2 miles run ARTEMISA is noted for its delicious pineapples and other Cuban fruits.

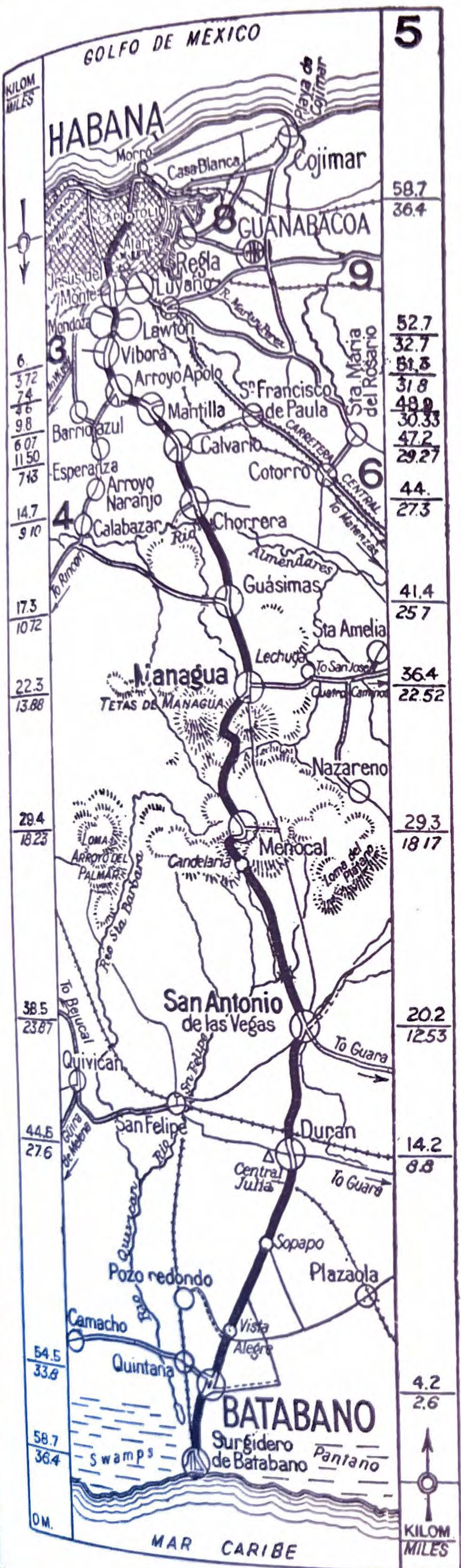
## EXCURSION No. 4

**HAVANA—SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS—ALQUIZAR**  
30 miles.

Leaving the Capitol or Central Park, down the Prado to the Malecón, Maine Monument with Hotel Nacional on left, through Vedado Suburb to G. Street (Ave. de los Presidentes). Up G. Street to Carlos III Ave. then take road to RANCHO BOYEROS, the airport of the Pan American Airways, is located here and on to SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS, RINCON, SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BAÑOS, ENCRUCIJADA and ALQUIZAR, 30 miles.

SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS, a township founded in 1745, has today 13,500 inhabitants. In this municipality there are two scientific centers, the Agronomical Experimental Station, and the Bio-pathological Laboratory of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor, all of which are models of organization. The district of RINCON has a special significance in the history of Cuban Independence, as in its sacred soil rest the remains of Antonio Maceo, hero of the last war against Spain and his adjutant, Panchito Gómez. In CACA-HUAL, a modest monument has been erected to the memory of these men, who died for Cuba, which is visited by Cubans every year on a patriotic pilgrimage.





## EXCURSION No. 5

### HAVANA TO BATABANO

36.6 miles.

(North to South Coast).

This is one of the oldest roads in Cuba, and crosses the island from the GULF OF MEXICO to the CARIBBEAN SEA. The road is of asphalt with a top surface of macadam, and is shaded with laurels, ceibas, clumps of bamboo and stretches of Royal Palms. Distance from the Capitol is 36.6 miles. Leaving the Capitol or Central Park, drive through Fraternity Park and follow Monte Avenue to Tejas Corner. Turn left into 10th of October Street, passing the Purísima Concepción Sanatorium belonging to the Clerks Club. Cross the railroad tracks and continue passing Toyo Corner and on the left Luyano Avenue, keep on your right to LA VIBORA suburb 3¾ miles; ARROYO APOLO 4.6 miles. Take the road to the right to BEJUCAL, on the right is la LIRA suburb and on the left EL GAVILAN, and following a pronounced curve on the left is MANTILLA BUS Station. Follow the road to the right and pass CHORRERA, MANAGUA, SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BAÑOS and SURGIDERO DE BATABANO.

BATABANO is a town of 15,000 inhabitants. It was selected as the first site for the new city of Havana in

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1515, and the new town was situated a short distance from the mouth of the Mayabeque River. Afterwards it was transferred to the northern coast. Its present location is the third site selected.

The Municipality is located in the SURGIDERO DE BATABANO as the coast town has a larger population than the inland city due to the fact that it is the center of the sponge fishing industry and the fishing fleets come to anchor in its broad harbor. The largest sponge markets in the world are at Batabanó. From here the steamers leave for the Isle of Pines, an overnight trip, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Returning they leave the Isle of Pines every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. The train from the Central Station connection with these steamers leaves at 7.50 p. m. Round trip tickets are \$5.00. There is a special weekend fare of \$9.15.

# “CUBA’S INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS”

BY ANTONIO RICCARDI

Former Economic Advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture.  
Technical Director of Publications of the Ministry of Commerce.

It can be stated without fear of erring, that the industrial activities of a Country faithfully mirror its progress, and are the soundest foundations of its aggrandizement and social-economic prosperity.

In spite of being one of the youngest Nations of America, Cuba is among those most advanced industrially. The hard experiences of times long past have been advantageously utilized by the Cubans to promote with their own resources and within the scope permitted by their strength, an efficient industrial organization which cover a very important proportion of its domestic requirements, and, in many cases, is also a primordial factor in the export trade.

From the foundation of the Republic to the beginning of the First World’s War, the efforts toward the Nation’s industrialization were small and hesitant, but the experiences acquired during that war, together with the social economic crisis caused by the unexpected drop in the price of sugar, —a fundamental product in the Cuban economy— were later used with wise foresight by the Cubans.

Thus it was at the end of the First World’s War that the purpose to create National industries began to be developed with prospects of success; but this initiation did not begin to materialize until the year 1927 when a broad revision of the Customs Tariff for imports was made, coordinated with important facilities in the legal and taxation order, which served as inducement to investors and favored the establishment of most of the industries existing at present in the Nation.

Up to that date (1927), the Cuban economy was substantially based on its sugar, tobacco and, to a lesser extent, on coffee and cattle raising; but the bottom price obtained for sugar, together with the repercussions of the World’s economic crisis which followed that first war, along with low wages, nevertheless served to propitiate the success of other productions, particularly cattle raising and its annexed industries and by-products, as well as to intensify the cultivation of coffee.

For these reasons, 1927 is the date that marks the development of Cuban industry; and notwithstanding the fact that this Nation does not have heavy industries, or fuel in large quantities, such as oil or coal, the domestic industries have kept a progressive pace which has been one of the factors that have gone to improve the economic and social condition of the Country.

To-day, the Cuban industries may be loosely classified in the following groups:

The Best in  
Towels



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TOALLA de CALIDAD

NO CUESTAN MAS Y SON MEJORES



**SUGAR INDUSTRY:** Principally represented by the production of raw and refined sugar, syrups, molasses, alcohol, fuel, hard candy, bagasse and other by-products.

**TOBACCO INDUSTRY:** Covering the production of leaf and twisted tobacco (pure Havana cigars) cigarettes, and cut tobacco of the highest quality in the world.

**COFFEE INDUSTRY:** The domestic production of coffee, which generally covers all the local consumption requirements, gives sustenance to other by-industries such as the shelling and roasting of the bean; dehydrating the coffee, and, in normal times, it supplies an export quota to the United States fixed by the Inter-American Coffee Agreement of which Cuba is a signatory.

**CATTLE INDUSTRY:** Cattle raising reached full development after 1927, to the extent that in 1940 Cuba had over 5,000,000 heads of cattle, which was considerably reduced in 1945 (nearly 30%) by the excessive consumption brought about by the scarcity of foodstuffs caused by World War II. This industry nevertheless covers all the local consumption needs, as well as those for slaughter-house by-products. (Extract of bitters, blood, etc.), tannage and tallow, bones, horns, hides, caseine, and sausages in general, in addition to milk, butter and cheese. The production of hides has been a particularly decisive factor in the promotion of the shoe industry, which is today extensively developed in the Country.

**MINING AND METALLURGICAL INDUSTRIES:** The Mining industry which was the first of those established in Cuba after its Discovery and Colonization, comprises, the production of copper, iron, manganese, nickel, tungsten, marble, asphalt, petroleum, naphtha and gold. At the beginning of World War II, plants to concentrate metal were established at Lengua de Pájaro and other mining zones in Cuba, by United States Government Agencies, which enabled Cuba's contribution to the war effort of the United Nations, to be more valuable. Within this industrial group are also included several important iron smelting plants, as well as manufacturing plants of metal light fixtures and glass, nails, hardware and construction materials, etc.

**AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES:** We could classify in this group (though these will be mentioned in another group), the forestal (timber) production represented by Cuban woods of wide renown since the old Colonial days when these were used for the construction of ships for the Crown of Spain's merchant and war fleets; the sisal, palm leaf and other fibres; the aviculture and wild game; the oleaginous products; potatoes, beans, bananas, coconuts, tomatoes, onions, lima beans, pimentos, yucca, cocoa: cattle fodder and many others.

**MARINE INDUSTRIES:** At present, and in addition to the production of salt and sand, the Cuban marine production is represented by fishery (more than 200 commercial varieties), and the industrialization of several varieties of fish, lobster, and

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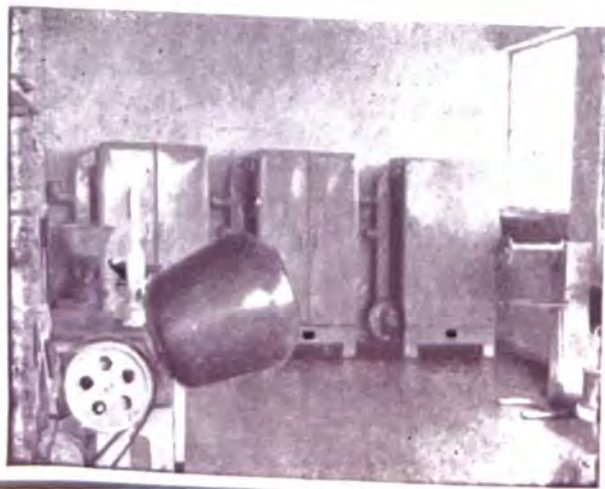
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Partial view of the machinery, electric stoves, granulators and Coating Pan.

many other crustaceans and shellfish, including the tortoise industry whose shell has a broad application in manual arts.

**FUEL INDUSTRY:** Important refinery plants for petroleum imported from the United States, Mexico and the Dutch West Indies, have been operating in Cuba for many years, to produce gasoline, gas-oil, fuel oil, kerosene, and their by-products. However, there also exists the domestic exploitation of oil fields of scarce production, even though natural naphtha is produced in the Motembo region. Besides, the production and application of National "Carburante", (a gasoline substitute mixed with gasoline using cane alcohol as a base) was intensified during the World War II years. On the other hand, the production of cheap industrial and household fuel is represented by the production of wood and charcoal.

**TEXTILE INDUSTRY:** Not only men's and ladies' dress-wear of non-plus quality are manufactured in Cuba since many years ago, but also shirts, handkerchiefs, underwear for men and women, working clothes, children's clothing; point weaves such as stockings, socks, etc., and towels, fabrics for industrial use, blankets, drills, etc. The manufacture of cloth containers for packing has lately been perfected. The considerable development achieved by the Cuban textile industry is mostly due to the "Compañía Textilera Ariguanabo", located at Cayo la Rosa, Bauta, Havana Province, for it was this enterprise who propitiated the first installations and, later, the indispensable technical and scientific investigations that were necessary for the development that this industry has achieved so far. This Company has also installed first class laboratories to perfect the coloring and dyes industry, and is testing and trying the national production of rayon, etc. On another sector the textile industries also produce rope cables, twine, and thread of unexcelled quality.

**TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY:** This industrial group is represented by the Railroad Companies (American and British); by high seas and coastal navigating companies; by freight and passenger air transportation; by overland freight and passenger air transportation; by overland freight and passenger transportation on buses and lorries; inter-urban passenger transportation by buses and street-cars in Havana, and the taxi-cab service in the cities and towns. As a complement to these, the manufacturing industry of bodies and mounting of chassis for buses, lorries, etc., is very much developed, as well as the manufacture of pneumatic tires and inner tubes, which were installed right at the end of World War II.

**GRAPHIC INDUSTRIES:** One of the most progressive industries in the Country is that covering the graphic arts, represented by large shops engaging in lithography, photoengraving, photography typography, and cinematography; factories for wooden letter types and foundries for metal letter types. This industry has permitted the editing of books, magazines and typographical and lithographical works of high quality which has cut down the

importation of these articles, and has even encouraged their exportation. In addition, there are industries for metal, carboard and paper containers, plain and printed, paper bags, etc.

**ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES:** This industrial group is represented by the electric power and light companies, the telephone companies which control a nation wide net work; the radio broadcasting stations which number close to one hundred throughout the National territory; the production of refrigerators; air conditioning plants, stoves, batteries, etc.

**INSURANCE INDUSTRY:** This industry which is one of the most modern in the Country, is represented by about a hundred British, North American, Cuban, French and Swiss companies which underwrite workers' accident insurance, maritime risks, life insurance, etc. Many of these companies also handle bonds, but as much in these as in those of workers' accident insurance, the greater part of the companies are nationalized, as well as those small companies who operate in the industrial field of insurance (popular), whose policies have a maximum value of \$500.00. This group has been a preponderant factor in the development of the domestic investment market, for some of the most important insurance companies have invested a proportional share of their reserves in Cuba.

**CHEMICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES:** In this industrial group are the enterprises producing chloride of potash, boiler compounds, acids and other chemical products, as well as a large number of laboratories, —mostly national— engaged in the production of pharmaceutical and opotherapeutic products of excellent quality which have displaced from this market many of the foreign products that had always been imported. At the present time this group is also an important export factor.

The Henri Le Bienvenu Laboratoires in Cuba, are distributors and manufacturers of Pharmaceutical Specialties. They have their own building equipped with the latest improvements, and large staff of specialized technicians.

Due to the expansion of their business they have added a fourth floor to their building, and are now also fully equipped to manufacture the world-widely known French Perfumes D'ORSAY and DANVILLE, using the ingredients, oils and extracts received from France. Skillful experts are in charge of this new line.

The products manufactured and distributed by them enjoy widespread prestige, not only among the Cuban Medical Profession, but in many Latin American Countries to which important exports have been made during the past few years.

This Laboratory does honor and credit to Cuba.

Recently the E. R. Squibb & Sons de Cuba, S. A., laboratories moved into their own building equipped with the latest improvements.

**CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY:** This industrial group has acquired a noticeable boom during the last few years, as result of the economic prosperity which has shot the construction work performed within the perimeter of the Municipality of Havana to more than twenty million dollars in 1945. Hence the national

productions of bricks, cement, lime, plaster, mason stone, as well as lumber, sand, reinforcing bars, hardware and other elements indispensable to building, are becoming insufficient.

**FOODSTUFF INDUSTRIES:** This industrial group is the most developed, profuse and important of all the Cuban manufactures. It is represented by factories producing liquors, beer, fruit wines, spice, chocolates and candies, preserved meats, fish, fruits and vegetables; bread, crackers, food pastes, sweets in general; vegetable oils, cooking fats, and yeast which is manufactured to supply fully all the national needs of bakeries, confectioners, and other minor industries, by the "Compañía de Levadura Fleishmann", located at San Antonio de los Baños, in Havana Province. The variety of foodstuff manufactures is very extensive and their production covers all domestic requirements, with only those articles such as wheat flour which is not produced in Cuba, or lard and rice which the national production can not meet, being imported as exceptions.

**MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES:** In this group we would classify the diamond cutting, jewelry, various instruments, toys, souvenirs, glass and ceramic, trunks and valises, brooms and brushes, different containers matches, shoe polish and dressings, furniture in general, bed springs, wall board or "Vazcane" (fiber board made from sugar cane bagasse); furs and leather goods, ice boxes, radio cabinets, phonograph records, etc., etc.

## II

In a brief description such as this, we can not detail minutely the industries, large and small, now operating in Cuba, but the foregoing outline is sufficient to give a slight idea of the progress heretofore achieved by National Industry.

On the other hand, it is fair to point out that the beginning of World War II favored the establishment of many new industries in Cuba, such as the following:

In the first place, the requirements of the broad United States market encouraged the extraordinary momentum given to the distillation of alcohol from sugar cane blackstrap; it favored the expansion of the hard candy industry; the beginning of industrial dehydration of coffee, produce and vegetables; the promotion of mining and specially that of copper, chromium and nickel concentrates; the promotion of new maritime transportation companies based on small tonnage vessels, the expansion of the textile industries; the promotion of the tire and inner tube industry for automobiles and lorries, canvass and rubber shoes, etc.

Likewise, subsequent to the outbreak of World War II, new industries were established such as those to preserve fish, shellfish and mollusks; the manufacture of glass containers was renewed; the "National fuel" ("carburante" processed from cane alcohol mixed with gasoline) industry was encouraged, as well as that of cutting and polishing diamonds, glass vials for the domestic pharmaceutical production, etc.

Immediately following the inauguration of the past Government of President Grau San Martín, four presidential decrees were

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promulgated to regulate the granting of Customs Tariff exemptions, to favor the duty, consular fee, and tax exempt importation of machinery and raw materials consigned as much to those already existing but in need of repairs or expansion of their plants, as to the newly installed industries.

Simultaneously with, and as a consequence of all this, a considerable development of the Banking industry has resulted, as proven by the establishment of various institutions of this nature, financed with Cuban capital, and principally devoted to financing the exploitation of agricultural or other new industries established in Cuba, followed by expanded stock market operations with newly organized stock brokerage house.

Altogether, all of this progress achieved through great efforts and sacrifice, together with the benefits obtained in foreign markets for Cuban export products, has brought about the situation of real economic-social prosperity which today is enjoyed by this Country, reaching all of the social classes and also yielding large benefits to the Government through the high revenues it derives from industrial sales, income, and other taxes.

As has already been said, this industrial progress of Cuba has been accomplished mostly thanks to the Tariff protection enacted in the year 1927; and the Cubans are all prepared to defend this advanced progress achieved through long decades of experience, sacrifice and efforts, at the International Meeting called by the United Nations, for the purpose of obtaining a more equitable distribution of the World's business and to cast these ambitions into a "World Trade and Employment Charter".

# BANKING

**C**UBAN customs governing checking and savings accounts are like those in the United States. American merchants are recommended to use drafts or acceptances for collection of their accounts. United States shippers should acquaint themselves with details of procedure under Cuban laws governing credits and collections. Any Havana Bank or any responsible merchandise Broker in Cuba can give the necessary information. All drafts should be protested for non-payment on the day following maturity. If an accepted draft is not protested at this time it loses its validity. Protest fees range from \$5.00 up.

A FOREIGN CORPORATION wishing to establish a Cuban branch must furnish a certified copy of its articles of incorporation and by-laws authenticated by a Cuban consul, who must also certify that the corporation has been duly organized. This document must be translated into Spanish protocolized before a notary public, and filed with the Mercantile Register. The fees of the latter are about \$1 for each \$20.00 of capital stock, but corporations with a large capital have the privilege of opening a Cuban branch with a small capital and paying on this only. The notary fees, including, stamp tax and certifying the Spanish translation range from \$50 up. The Cuban Courts are strict in the matter of powers of attorney (poderes) for use in law suits.

## BANK CLEARANCES

**T**HE Bank Clearances of the Havana Clearing House, of which eleven Banks are members at present, rose to the unprecedented figure of \$248,920,178 last March 1948 surpassing the clearances for any other previous month since the foundation of the House in April 1931, when these figures were first published.

The total for the first eight months of 1948 has reached \$1,787,798,277.

The previous maximum figure reached in one single month, had been achieved in June 1947, when clearances amounted to \$240,399,365. The minimum figure recorded since the foundation of the Clearing House, was on November 1932, when clearances dropped to only \$13,675,624. It should be borne in mind that in 1932 the average price for sugar at warehouse, dropped to 71 hundredths of a cent per pound, and the total value of the crop for that year was estimated at \$45,692,319; when collections affecting the national budgets were only approximately \$44,000,000, all of which, added to the political unrest which was taking hold of the country, had profound repercussions in the indexes of our economy.



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**CHASE NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.**  
310 Aguiar St.

**THE NOVA SCOTIA BANK.** 255 Cuba St.

**BANCO CONTINENTAL AMERICANO.** 53 Amargura St.

**BANCO DEL COMERCIO.** Aguiar & Obrapía St.

**BANCO NUÑEZ.** 260 Mercaderes St.

**TRUST COMPANY OF CUBA.** 257 Obispo St.

**BANCO POPULAR.** Centro Asturiano Bldg.

**MENDOZA Y COMPAÑIA.** 305 Obispo St.

**BANCO PEDROSO.** 305 Aguiar St.

**BANCO GELATS.** 456 Aguiar St.

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## CUBA'S REAL ESTATE VALUE

**T**HE value of Real Estate in Cuba has reached the sum of \$1,698 millions, and yields a net income of 101 million dollars per year.

Of that total, \$1,061, millions represent rural estates, yielding an annual net income of \$53.6 millions; \$611 millions represent urban property producing an annual net income of \$46 millions; and \$26 millions in tax exempt lands and empty lots, which yield about one and one half million dollars net per year.

The average value of land, per caballería (33 acres), in rural zones, is fixed at \$1,246, which leads to the assumption that the extent of the rural Real Estate assessed, covers 807,459 cabs. (26,646,147 acres, out of the 853,370 cabs. (28,161,210 acres), which is the area of Cuba.

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**BANKING MOVEMENT - TOTAL**

Months	1 9 4 7		1 9 4 8	
	Deposits Received	Checks Paid	Deposits Received	Checks Paid
January .....	\$ 582,268,458.35	\$ 594,315,253.36	\$ 632,264,263.29	\$ 654,337,868.31
February .....	" 617,201,150.69	" 601,208,638.92	" 715,415,389.35	" 706,339,270.85
March .....	" 802,926,109.17	" 800,676,291.58	" 861,056,158.80	" 850,459,899.21
April .....	" 824,650,851.76	" 793,661,849.12	" 900,575,617.19	" 890,786,588.14
May .....	" 801,143,405.30	" 752,233,119.16	" 859,672,800.55	" 834,810,749.98
June .....	" 902,306,235.22	" 853,135,574.25	" 780,124,727.42	" 768,902,891.07
July .....	" 745,434,895.77	" 758,150,505.10	" 825,511,069.54	" 831,099,589.47
August .....	" 614,916,939.57	" 615,663,958.27		
September .....	" 658,164,453.94	" 670,759,541.48		
October .....	" 592,678,259.17	" 607,716,905.44		
November .....	" 658,332,643.78	" 664,885,658.43		
December .....	" 670,171,584.97	" 685,166,019.03		
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$8,470,195,068.69</b>	<b>\$8,397,573,314.14</b>	<b>\$5,574,620,026.14</b>	<b>\$5,536,736,857.03(*)</b>

**HAVANA - BANK CLEARINGS**

Months	1944	1945	1947	1948
January .....	\$ 89,042,670.85	\$ 103,039,835.45	\$ 161,252,805.74	\$ 189,840,553.66
February .....	" 100,640,325.70	" 108,335,524.36	" 156,746,976.12	" 208,802,756.70
March .....	" 130,199,634.60	" 122,304,687.26	" 206,212,365.35	" 248,920,178.16
April .....	" 107,747,913.76	" 121,639,700.40	" 215,801,231.83	" 237,496,098.49
May .....	" 118,542,540.44	" 117,973,889.54	" 228,855,054.74	" 238,863,775.54
June .....	" 140,674,882.22	" 138,282,052.92	" 240,399,365.55	" 210,484,292.26
July .....	" 117,455,997.44	" 115,603,690.67	" 216,320,648.98	" 236,803,571.00
August .....	" 104,582,003.85	" 111,501,263.64	" 166,596,641.05	" 216,587,051.81
September .....	" 94,333,393.08	" 105,200,002.24	" 174,727,066.46	
October .....	" 78,893,887.56	" 107,248,959.53	" 166,604,344.99	
November .....	" 100,220,167.51	" 113,886,467.99	" 194,692,866.95	
December .....	" 98,356,213.05	" 142,723,819.10	" 193,647,285.31	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$1,280,689,630.06</b>	<b>\$1,407,739,893.10</b>	<b>\$2,321,856,652.87</b>	<b>\$1,787,798,277.62(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.



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# COMMERCE

**N**ATURE has richly endowed Cuba with wonderful resources. The most casual observer will recognize this fact. The great wealth of foliage, the extent of forests, the height of royal palms, the vast carpets of nutritious grasses, all bear testimony to the fertility of the soil that covers the surface of the Island of Cuba.

Seldom in history has any country progressed politically, socially and economically as has the Republic of Cuba since she gained her independence from the dominion of Spain in the last days of 1898.

Cuba's principal product is sugar and more than a third of the output is exported to the United States.

The output of sugar has been stimulated in certain countries where sugar is not one of the leading industries and not a natural activity as in Cuba; this activity has been brought about by high protective tariff and government subsidies to producers and refiners, while in other countries the high price of sugar has had the effect of reducing consumption. For these reasons a world surplus of sugar weighed on the market for several years and Cuba found it necessary to reduce her production. Cuba's present output is about one third of its capacity if unlimited activity were possible.

Since Cuba became a republic, in 1902, her foreign commerce has increased more than 70%.

## INDUSTRIES

The Main industries in Cuba are sugar, tobacco and coffee, but there are also many other smaller industries which are important enough to supply the local needs of the island and even export a certain amount to other countries, mainly to the United States.

## AGRICULTURE IN CUBA

Fruit ranks third in importance in Cuban agricultural exports, after sugar and tobacco. Exports in the past decade have average more than 4 million dollars in value annually. 96% was shipped to the United States. Pineapples are second in importance. Other exported fruits include avocados, grapefruit, guava products, limes and papayas. The U.S.A. is the largest consumer of bananas in the world.

## FARMING

Cattle and poultry are principally raised in Cuba for food, while game is not exploited and is pursued as a mere sport.

Cuba is in as good condition as any other country in the world to produce cattle, hogs and poultry due to its favorable climate, the fertility of its soil and the excellence of its pasture.

In Cuba hogs breed twice a year and due to the mildness of the climate need very little care. Generally they are permitted to run wild and they find their own living easily with the "palmiche" or the nut of the royal palm, an excellent food.

The hides instead of being tanned here, are exported green and horns, hoofs and bones finding little or no application industrially, are likewise shipped abroad.

## F I S H

The seas which surround Cuba abound in fish, so much so that they constitute an immense natural marine fish hatchery. The pargo, cherna, serrucho, cabrilla and biajaiba are the most commonly used.

Fishing is a very important industry, but lobster only is canned, and this industry is yet to be exploited.

Of river fish, the only one worth mentioning is the lisa, the flesh and eggs, of which are in great demand.

The tortoise shell variety of the turtle, the shell of which is very valuable has almost become extinct, as no effort has been made to protect this industry.

Sponge fishing is fairly productive, and is carried on extensively at Batabanó.

## MINERALS

The principal minerals exploited in Cuba on a large scale are iron and copper, after which manganese, chrome, gold and asphalt come in importance.

## WOODS AND TEXTILE PLANTS

Cuba is extraordinarily rich in hardwood and timber, which can be put to such uses as cabinet work, construction work, dyeing, tanning, etc.

Mahogany, cedar, ebony, granadillo (red ebony), majagua, ocuje, baria, júcaro, sabicú, jiquí (indigo tree), ácana and dagame are used for cabinet and construction work, with excellent results. They also have many other uses.

Campeche wood, fustie or yellow wood, vija, guoa, gall nut, white willow, paralejo, jobo and manajú are used with very good results for dyeing.

Mangle (mangrove tree), patabán and sauce blanco are the woods used for tanning.

Many important fiber plants seem to be indigenous to Cuba, while others, introduced from foreign countries, thrive even better here than in their original homes. Among these, a variety of the



agave or century plant known as henequén, has received up to the present the greatest attention and is yielding excellent results. Shrub or weed similar to that from which jute fiber is extracted grows wild in Cuba; this fiber of the corajo palm and that of the jarey are used for making bridles, girths, bands, etc.

A variety of the banana plant furnishes a long, fine, light brown fiber which is an excellent textile product that can be used for making twine and other light cordage. Ramie grows wild in Cuba and is used for producing vegetable or fiber silk. There are many other fibers in the Islands such as that of the Sanseveria, the guisaso, etc., which in time will find their places as commercial products.

### **WINTER VEGETABLES FOR EXPORT**

The production of winter vegetables for the U.S.A. market is an industry of considerable importance in certain sections of Cuba. Vegetables exported are: Tomatoes, Lima beans, Eggplants, Peppers, and Okra.

### **CROPS PRODUCED PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION**

Corn, Rice and a little millet are the only grains grown in Cuba. Beans and peas are an important item in the Cuban diet and are extensively grown in Cuba, but production accounts for only about two-thirds of the requirements. Cuba also produces large quantities of root crops, including sweet potatoes, yams, white potatoes, yucca and malanga. Peanuts for crushing, to replace imported vegetable oils, has also expanded rapidly.

### **DAIRY INDUSTRY**

Commercial dairying is a comparatively recent one in Cuba. The development of the industry during the past 15 years has been remarkable. Formerly imports were heavy, amounting to 50 or 60 million pounds of condensed milk, 6 million of cheese, 3 million of butter. By 1940 dairying had developed to an export basis for all of these products, and soon again it will take its place in the exporting markets.

### **POULTRY**

The Cuban poultry and egg industry is extensive again in Cuba. The importance of poultry as a source of meat is indicated by the fact that total consumption is estimated at about 45 million pounds and that it is used in Cuba's national dish, chicken and rice.

### **HIDES AND SKINS**

Cuba's most important export of livestock products amounted to from 2 to 4 million dollars annually. They consisted almost entirely of wet-salted hides.



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# STATISTICS

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## CUBA'S FOREIGN TRADE

Value of Cuba's Foreign Trade during the last twelve years.

Year	Imports	Exports	Balance
1936	\$ 103,214,450	\$ 154,846,769	\$ 51,632,319
1937	" 129,572,117	" 186,071,086	" 56,498,919
1938	" 106,007,325	" 142,677,753	" 36,670,427
1939	" 105,861,814	" 147,676,258	" 41,814,444
1940	" 103,860,139	" 127,288,307	" 23,428,168
1941	" 133,890,137	" 211,507,591	" 77,617,454
1942	" 146,737,569	" 182,375,414	" 35,637,845
1943	" 177,436,346	" 350,622,767	" 173,186,421
1944	" 208,648,454	" 427,058,296	" 218,409,842
1946	" 307,347,328	" 475,864,363	" 168,517,035
1947	" 519,890,402	" 746,502,325	" 226,701,923
1948 (5 months)	" 53,091,349	" 343,720,188	" .....

By way of complement, we offer the tonnage of incoming and outgoing cargo for Cuba, during the same years, i.e., the volume of said foreign trade in terms of metric tons, as follows:

Year	Imports	Exports
1936	1,985,743	4,947,822
1937	2,277,539	5,397,009
1938	1,841,233	4,307,989
1939	2,069,526	4,922,639
1940	1,883,597	4,419,228
1941	2,131,983	6,581,057
1942	1,907,400	3,561,475
1943	2,190,623	5,361,186
1944	2,525,972	6,611,489
1945	2,972,574	5,305,879
1946	3,326,597	5,099,915
1947	3,918,287	7,259,313

These figures furnish valuable material for study, in relation to the fluctuations that have taken place in the global value per ton; as much in the imports as in the exports, even though the lack of statistics by groups of products, prevents singling out with proper accuracy, those which show disproportionate increases for the past years, as compared to pre-war times.

## OUR COMMERCE WITH THE UNITED STATES

Progressive increase in Cuban Purchase of United States farm  
Products and Manufactured Goods as a consequence of provisions  
and stipulations of Reciprocity Treaty of 1934.

Years	Total Cuban Imports	From United States		From Other Countries	
1933	\$ 42,361,520	\$ 22,674,245	53.5%	\$ 19,687,275	47.5%
1934	„ 73,413,154	„ 21,225,012	56.2 „	„ 32,193,142	43.3 „
1935	„ 95,464,502	„ 55,686,078	58.8 „	„ 39,778,424	41.7 „
1936	„ 103,215,001	„ 66,494,245	64.4 „	„ 36,720,750	35.6 „
1937	„ 129,572,117	„ 68,846,617	68.6 „	„ 40,725,500	31.4 „
1938	„ 106,007,325	„ 75,152,388	70.8 „	„ 31,354,937	29.2 „
1939	„ 105,862,000	„ 78,381,000	74. „	„ 27,481,000	26. „
1940	„ 103,860,000	„ 81,042,000	78. „	„ 22,818,000	22. „
1941	„ 133,890,137	„ 117,111,000	87. „	„ 16,779,000	13. „
1942	„ 146,737,569	„ 123,163,000	84. „	„ 23,575,000	16. „
1943	„ 177,436,346	„ 138,565,000	78. „	„ 38,871,000	22. „
1944	„ 208,648,454	„ 168,841,000	81. „	„ 39,807,000	19. „
1945	„ 238,935,507	„ 187,963,000	79. „	„ 50,973,000	21. „
1946	„ 236,113,749	„ 320,684,262			
1947	„ 436,448,370	„ 497,705,959			

The creation, development, and beneficial consolidation of trade relations is the only enduring basis of friendship and good understanding between nations. This is unquestionably the case in respect to United States reciprocal intercourse with Latin American countries, and extraordinarily so in the case of CUBA, because of geographic proximity and because of ties binding the two countries in the most intimate type of international solidarity.

Statistics show that Cuba is one of the most important direct outlets for United States farm products drawn from nearly every State of the Union. It is also true that the products of those farms, sold throughout the United States, are to a great degree paid for with money earned by workers in the industrial and manufacturing centers who fabricate goods which, sold abroad, bring profits that keep those industries going, and the employees of those manufacturing plants thereby obtain the money with which to buy the United States farm products. These wheels within wheels, this unending circle of febrile activity, make up the complex mechanism constituting the endless chain of give and take that must always exist to make up the all too little understood flux and reflux called international trade.

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Neither nations nor individuals can buy, unless they simultaneously sell. It is axiomatically undeniable that the mere transfer of money from one country to another is but an illusion. The real basis of trade is the transfer of THINGS we need, both raw and fabricated, the producing or manufacture of which gives gainful employment to workers, on either hand. The use of the goods gives comfort and sustenance to the community, while furnishing lifegiving honorable employment to labor everywhere.

This then is the case of Cuba in respect to her relations with the United States. History, and statistical data demonstrate that, peculiarly in the case of Cuba, all that may be done by the United States in the way of stimulation of Cuban industry, reverts to the farms and factories of the United States in an easily traceable to the always evident increase in imports into Cuba of United States goods. This undeniable fact must be the answer to those who seek to diminish the outlet for Cuban goods, — surely they are but tending to cut down the outlet for American goods, in the most favorable and well disposed market for United States products.

**REVENUES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA**  
**GENERAL BUDGET REVENUES**

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January ...	\$ 7.705,620	\$ 9.754,917.10	\$ 13.920,261.29	\$ 18.056,086.39
February ..	" 12.705,495	" 11.343,136.38	" 16.187,269.81	" 20.675,177.97
March ....	" 16.197,933	" 20.142,713.10	" 27.205,774.15	" 30.759,063.54
April .....	" 10.791,762	" 12.874,409.87	" 17.767,300.87	" 18.427,143.77
May .....	" 9.916,590	" 13.703,155.99	" 16.817,764.84	" 15.721,159.36
June .....	" 10.879,022	" 14.737,048.93	" 18.357,248.41	" 17.170,750.97
July .....	" 10.772,460	" 16.748,530.06	" 22.330,405.89	" 20.399,964.44
August ...	" 9.651,111	" 13.472,078.86	" 15.897,628.36	" 13.638,115.82
September ..	" 13.957,521	" 15.646,025.23	" 24.234,011.54	
October ...	" 11.159,935	" 14.928,998.07	" 19.474,258.71	
November ..	" 11.934,870	" 16.250,632.89	" 21.389,142.50	
December ..	" 13.443,487	" 14.939,697.02	" 30.880,984.82	
<b>TOTAL.</b>	<b>\$139.115,812</b>	<b>\$174.541,543.51</b>	<b>\$244.462,071.19</b>	<b>\$154.847,462.26(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

**TAX SURCHARGE FUND**

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January .....	\$ 597,459.75	\$ 644,613.47	\$ 335,661.50	\$ 468,040.11
February .....	" 745,006.93	" 740,538.66	" 329,163.44	" 346,625.75
March .....	" 761,058.24	" 1,017,542.49	" 659,752.02	" 820,208.16
April .....	" 794,939.02	" 827,484.57	" 479,669.01	" 400,283.00
May .....	" 697,609.02	" 448,396.85	" 503,669.38	" 392,340.29
June .....	" 697,995.08	" 290,447.17	" 324,891.37	" 311,710.27
July .....	" 644,950.51	" 476,262.61	" 519,053.79	" (8)433,714.26
August .....	" 640,208.25	" 373,475.47	" 459,225.93	" (8)352,529.34
September .....	" 712,307.06	" 468,979.32	" 605,060.06	
October .....	" 785,290.22	" 397,436.17	" 518,082.70	
November .....	" 659,700.25	" 327,926.57	" 314,614.23	
December .....	" 671,244.15	" 352,466.66	" 531,431.46	
Addition .....	" 164,423.29	" 78,649.99	" .....	
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>\$8.572,191.77</b>	<b>\$ 6.444,218.00</b>	<b>\$5.580,274.89</b>	<b>\$ 3.534,451.18(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

## EXTRAORDINARY BUDGET REVENUE FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January	\$ 966,593.74	\$ 1,065,668.36	\$ 1,294,862.30	\$ 1,779,483.85
February	811,282.42	637,180.99	924,427.53	716,571.12
March	1,053,652.57	1,335,847.83	1,296,231.52	1,658,173.93
April	1,128,392.72	1,624,362.45	1,844,238.97	2,103,536.81
May	417,215.53	1,061,418.00	705,829.87	840,448.01
June	275,327.82	845,844.48	722,513.22	713,280.47
July	895,962.60	1,478,427.24	1,922,227.82	1,959,985.89
August	286,612.17	582,521.06	579,096.52	572,262.68
September	277,328.81	427,328.84	453,906.51	
October	1,130,822.60	2,027,611.62	2,214,089.97	
November	1,471,667.60	2,331,298.34	2,657,955.92	
December	1,153,432.58	407,016.61	741,980.97	
Addition	55,085.36	110,744.21	.....	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,923,376.52</b>	<b>\$13,935,270.03</b>	<b>\$15,357,361.12</b>	<b>\$10,343,742.76(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

## LAW Nº 31 FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January	\$ 279,060.74	\$ 288,367.69	\$ 337,269.89	\$ 471,484.80
February	1,138,827.41	1,127,303.96	1,112,358.17	1,424,668.48
March	1,492,315.29	1,753,899.23	1,559,247.31	1,772,451.36
April	1,459,476.91	1,482,053.29	1,463,019.00	1,560,000.57
May	582,151.53	647,719.45	1,099,075.08	813,178.24
June	289,660.78	130,702.10	442,815.29	255,320.78
July	209,735.59	1,148,593.01	71,850.91	58,974.69
August	231,164.83	93,938.63	167,173.36	26,944.86
September	255,075.53	18,041.66	14,387.27	
October	301,316.54	32,233.42	7,503.31	
November	315,211.06	27,644.19	3,417.03	
December	248,373.27	69,204.57	1,872.45	
Addition	108,636.54	.....	.....	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,711,006.02</b>	<b>\$ 6,819,701.20</b>	<b>\$ 6,279,989.07</b>	<b>\$ 6,383,023.18(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

## SPECIAL PUBLIC WORKS FUND

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January . . . .	\$ 1,418,323.11	\$ 1,284,673.40	\$ 1,497,042.43	\$ 1,481,856.58
February . . . .	" 1,088,078.58	" 1,225,454.63	" 1,188,324.69	" 2,365,315.64
March . . . . .	" 1,154,013.23	" 1,663,701.34	" 1,581,855.49	" 1,569,992.86
April . . . . .	" 1,544,888.35	" 1,589,992.41	" 1,321,875.56	" 1,583,235.55
May . . . . .	" 805,805.95	" 989,813.61	" 839,795.65	" 1,291,150.33
June . . . . .	" 971,669.08	" 422,022.52	" 1,084,839.56	" 752,457.74
July . . . . .	" 1,493,654.92	" 1,659,830.73	" 2,590,510.71	" 2,786,884.54
August . . . . .	" 1,309,581.53	" 896,836.76	" 1,375,281.50	" 1,226,268.91
September . . . .	" 1,116,788.33	" 708,036.87	" 1,354,984.27	
October . . . . .	" 1,189,922.79	" 1,298,945.03	" 1,075,134.49	
November . . . . .	" 1,040,921.65	" 1,058,823.73	" 669,523.23	
December . . . .	" 1,222,829.29	" 723,393.89	" 884,123.27	
<b>TOTAL .</b>	<b>\$14,356,476.81</b>	<b>\$13,521,524.92</b>	<b>\$15,463,290.85</b>	<b>\$13,057,162.18(*)</b>

## CUSTOMS - HAVANA INCLUDED IN GENERAL BUDGET REVENUES

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January . . . . .	\$ 2,005,802.01	\$ 2,503,974.25	\$ 2,875,687.21	\$ 3,606,779.41
February . . . . .	" 1,559,862.02	" 2,476,000.77	" 2,859,257.77	" 3,589,401.63
March . . . . .	" 1,827,487.49	" 3,002,162.18	" 3,228,300.17	" 3,759,085.07
April . . . . .	" 1,676,177.92	" 2,332,654.47	" 3,232,298.87	" 4,223,569.33
May . . . . .	" 1,820,157.38	" 2,663,686.54	" 3,405,039.51	" 3,878,205.10
June . . . . .	" 1,676,177.81	" 2,509,666.73	" 3,059,117.00	" 3,796,884.06
July . . . . .	" 2,180,260.30	" 3,081,693.03	" 3,878,794.76	" 3,836,419.50
August . . . . .	" 2,235,765.65	" 2,552,685.58	" 3,175,478.57	" 3,056,379.18
September . . . .	" 2,140,509.70	" 2,724,283.71	" 3,374,962.47	
October . . . . .	" 2,709,171.99	" 2,456,314.20	" 3,904,568.07	
November . . . . .	" 2,751,256.69	" 2,386,304.61	" 4,766,388.63	
December . . . .	" 2,402,750.29	" 2,552,490.83	" 4,729,322.41	
<b>TOTAL .</b>	<b>\$24,985,379.25</b>	<b>\$31,242,316.90</b>	<b>\$42,489,215.44</b>	<b>\$29,746,723.28(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.



## LARD IMPORTS

The scarcity of this important food product, places its imports' statistics in the category important news, inasmuch as the idea seems to be generalized, that the importations of this product has dropped, when in fact it has been kept at a high level, substantially topping those of recent years.

Year	Kilos	Value
	11.048,371	\$ 2.792,777
1935	12.949,074	" 3.328,269
1936	18.556,720	" 4.893,814
1937	20.821,488	" 3.969,660
1938	24.253,564	" 3.485,648
1939	29.913,519	" 3.680,947
1940	29.758,273	" 6.376,863
1941	28.346,248	" 7.970,694
1942	36.134,862	" 11.204,484
1943	30.075,838	" 9.372,319
1944	29.180,641	" 9.090,281
1945	17.223,943	" 8.268,321
1946	35.978,138	" 23.949,293
1947		

The foregoing statistics not only show an increasing volume of imports since 1940, but also a gradual rise in the cost of this product, if we compare the values for the years 1940 with 1944, considering the volume imported, which is almost the same in both years.

It is a well known fact that the domestic manufacture of both, pork lard and vegetable oils, has been expanded to the limit, in order to offset the still prevailing shortage in the importance of both products. But in spite of these efforts the global quantities available are not enough to take care of the growing demands experienced during the last years due to the natural growth of the population, and the greater purchasing power observed.

## RICE IMPORTS

Rice is among the foreign commodities that are considered basic in our daily diet, and in spite of the efforts made to stimulate the cultivation of this grain in Cuba, and although domestic production has reached a yearly average of 35 million pounds in recent years, we still need large imports in order to cover our domestic consumption, which is estimated at no less than 500 million pounds per year. (An annual per capita of about 114 pounds).

The imports and their value recorded, as well as the average per pound during the past twelve years, have been as follows:

Year	Lbs.	Value	Per Lb.
1936	437,744,751	\$ 7,322,952	
1937	486,787,777	" 9,960,228	\$ 0.0167
1938	405,833,879	" 9,963,149	" 0.0184
1939	437,770,739	" 9,184,047	" 0.0218
1940	423,047,866	" 9,910,510	" 0.0209
1941	398,334,455	" 14,269,742	" 0.0226
1942	342,304,818	" 19,597,442	" 0.0358
1943	442,272,870	" 28,935,246	" 0.0572
1944	455,519,948	" 31,688,278	" 0.0654
1945	364,399,301	" 25,907,013	" 0.0895
1946	321,502,757	" 25,980,012	" 0.0710
1947	600,402,020	" 60,219,509	"

## FLOUR IMPORTS

The Food problem, and the spectre of famine mostly everywhere in Europe, according to recent news released by the UNRRA, have been source of concern in our Continent, for fear of a possible scarcity of a group of basic foodstuffs.

The Wheat flour imported into our Republic, according to Official statistics, and its value, since 1936, is follows:

Year	Pounds	Value
1936	196,480,000	\$ 5,264,182
1937	207,044,484	" 6,230,070
1938	201,140,277	" 5,387,642
1939	208,137,677	" 3,828,357
1940	198,738,834	" 4,537,545
1941	221,175,551	" 4,574,324
1942	274,292,387	" 6,122,728
1943	310,990,540	" 8,026,103
1944	286,677,773	" 7,623,040
1945	476,893,836	" 14,364,900
1946	341,533,600	" 11,460,805
1947	400,317,924	" 26,808,280

Wheat flour together with rice, lard, oil, grains and potatoes, form the group of basis foodstuffs, that Cuba essentially requires for its table; and even though its normal supply is not possible under present circumstances, it is hoped to be able to continue receiving the quantities required for domestic consumption as shown by the statistics prepared on the basis of our customary requirements.

## OUR TRADE WITH SPAIN

Spain's purchases from Cuba amounted to approximately \$5,000,000 in 1945 while the value of Cuba's purchases from Spain amounted to about \$3,480,000.

Value of commercial interchange between Cuba and Spain, as per Official data compiled by the Department of Statistics of the Ministry of the Treasury.

Year	Imports	Exports
1938	\$ 1,585,978	\$ 1,292,415
1939	" 1,340,083	" 2,205,208
1940	" 1,659,367	" 2,965,004
1941	" 1,179,058	" 2,179,964
1942	" 528,245	" 641,477
1943	" 1,191,982	" 2,249,021
1944	" 1,356,048	" 4,957,365
1945	" 3,480,444	" 4,957,365
1946	" 5,174,200	" 8,441,712
1947	" 1,449,722	" 6,669,598

Among the products exported to Spain by Cuba, twisted tobacco is by far in first place, as Spain is Cuba's number two customer for this type of tobacco. The first place is held by U.S.

## OUR TRADE WITH FRANCE

The damage inflicted to our foreign Trade by the war can be easily seen by analyzing our commercial interchange with a number of Countries with which Cuba has kept a regularly stable traffic of merchandise. We give below the statistics covering our trade with the Republic of France, with which we had a levelled trade balance during pre-war years, until it began to decline in 1941 up to 1945, when large Cuban exports to that Country were made, in spite of our usual purchases of French products being negligible, owing to well known reasons.

Cuban-French Commercial Interchange during the past ten years.

Year	Imports	Exports
1938	\$ 2,777,771	\$ 2,052,732
1939	" 2,272,985	" 1,752,974
1940	" 1,432,789	" 1,429,522
1941	" 41,510	" 1,203
1942	" 6,837	" .....
1943	" 2,032	" .....
1944	" 266	" 4,207,158
1945	" 14,402	" 7,619,435
1946	" 577,402	" 4,313,178
1947	" 1,410,357	" .....

The heavy exports registered in 1945 from Cuba to France, were almost wholly made up of sugar; a product of which France has faced an enormous scarcity in the last few years, due to the war inasmuch as its domestic production of more than one million long tons (1939-1940), has dropped by more than half, according to the latest figures available.

The products which Cuba ordinarily imports from France, are: Drugs, Patent Medicines, weaving thread, fabrics, silks, fine, glass-ware, perfumes, wines, liqueurs, mineral waters, essential oils and ethers, soap, automobile tire and inner tubes, and others, which have entirely disappeared from her market since 1941, so that our figures for 1945, scarcely represent 1% of the purchases made by Cuba from France in the year 1940, when a drop of almost 50% had already occurred in the value of our imports.

The factors that are to contribute towards a restoration of the Cuban-French commercial interchange, are very diverse, but without doubt, the principal one is the time that France will require to rebuild its industries and general economy, so as to enable her to obtain dollars with which to acquire products from our Continent.

## SALARIES AND PRIVATE WAGES

AMOUNT OF SALARIES AND WAGES PAID MONTHLY IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES IN CUBA, NOT INCLUDING THOSE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOR

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January .....	\$ 25.826,700	\$ 29.276,100	\$ 36.807,900	\$ 43.307,600
February .....	" 31.332,600	" 34.863,400	" 44.141,900	" 49.955,500
March .....	" 33.270,400	" 37.838,300	" 48.561,400	" 52.356,300
April .....	" 31.157,100	" 36.303,300	" 50.200,100	" 52.950,800
May .....	" 27.956,700	" 35.225,800	" 57.973,500	" 50.503,400
June .....	" 26.558,600	" 30.592,500	" 43.254,300	" 43.668,700
July .....	" 25.000,800	" 30.207,000	" 37.657,300	
August .....	" 26.014,200	" 31.472,000	" 37.338,600	
September .....	" 26.567,900	" 31.860,900	" 36.709,500	
October .....	" 27.297,300	" 31.526,800	" 38.963,300	
November .....	" 27.688,800	" 32.966,400	" 40.242,300	
December .....	" 30.858,400	" 36.520,300	" 44.624,900	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$339.529,500</b>	<b>\$398.653,500</b>	<b>\$516,475,000</b>	<b>\$292.742,300(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

## TRADE BETWEEN CUBA AND CANADA

The trade between Cuba and Canada, which had remained at a low level since the beginning of 1931, staged a comeback in 1941, showing a much large volume, which has stayed at exceptionally high figures during the last years, as evidenced by the following comparative statistics based on official data obtained from the Department of General Statistics of the Ministry of the Treasury.

The Value of our commercial intercourse with Canada, from 1931 through 1947, according to the above mentioned source of information was:

<u>Years</u>	<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>
1932 .....	\$ 1.075,799	\$ 600,178
1933 .....	„ 891,374	„ 531,032
1934 .....	„ 1.196,005	„ 520,919
1935 .....	„ 1.171,570	„ 255,222
1936 .....	„ 979,754	„ 233,089
1937 .....	„ 1.011,147	„ 662,178
1938 .....	„ 815,490	„ 334,967
1939 .....	„ 986,398	„ 634,503
1940 .....	„ 698,631	„ 1.014,116
1941 .....	„ 1.508,634	„ 2.425,745
1942 .....	„ 1.311,813	„ 4.294,450
1943 .....	„ 1.736,526	„ 4.797,554
1944 .....	„ 2.679,490	„ 1.959,301
1945 .....	„ 3.116,146	„ 6.555,734
1946 .....	„ 3.238,036	„ 9.349,168
1947 .....	„ 4.662,023	„ 22.927,366

From 1901 until 1933 Cuba's purchases from Canada were always above one million dollars, having reached its maximum figure in 1919 when our imports from that Country amounted to \$7.670,383.

As to our exports to Canada, these remained rather high between the years 1910 and 1930, and then dropped between 1930 and 1940. The year 1920 turned out to be the highest in our exports to Canada, when we sold them \$7.479,986, worth of goods.

The industrial and agricultural progress achieved in the last few years, is as indubitable as its high purchasing power, present prospects being of a continued improvement of the Cuban-Canadian commercial relations, according as more and better maritime communications between both Countries are made available to the trade.

# STATISTICAL BAROMETER

## FISCAL AND ECONOMIC INDICES

	1947	1948
<b>FISCAL - COLLECTIONS</b>		
General Revenues .....	\$ 148,483,674	\$ 154,847,462
Special Fund, Public Works .....	" 11,479,526	" 13,057,162
Havana Customs .....	" 25,713,974	" 29,746,723
Interior Revenues .....	" 51,012,102	" 36,707,054
Tax Surcharge Fund .....	" 3,730,957	" 3,534,451
Natl. Defense Budget .....	" 9,169,557	" 10,343,743
Law 31-Ntl. Development .....	" 6,252,809	" 6,383,023

### FOREIGN COMMERCE

Imports into Cuba .....	\$ 149,258,140	\$ 53,091,349
Exports from Cuba .....	" 205,771,101	" 343,770,188
Sugar - Exports - Tons .....	3,438,679	3,098,343
Tobacco Exported - Value .....	\$ 19,771,958	\$ 19,402,032
Leaf Pounds .....	14,463,684	17,525,308
Manufactured - Units .....	30,611,096	31,785,673
Cigarettes - Units .....	13,078,942	16,896,018

### INTERIOR COMMERCE

Money and Banking:		
Deposits Received .....	\$ 5,275,931,187	\$ 5,574,620,026
Cheques Paid .....	" 5,153,381,231	" 5,536,736,857
Havana - Banks Clearings .....	" 1,592,185,089*	" 1,787,798,278
Money in circulation in public hands		
Estimate .....	" 451,249,425	" 563,553,052
Proportion of Cuban coin to money		
to circulation .....	97,62%	81,78%

### MISCELLANEOUS

Bldg Permits - Havana Prov. ....	\$ 13,029,033	\$ 24,579,912
Health - Maternity Fund, Havana		1,458,018
Health - Maternity Fund, Havana Prov.	" 1,310,706	" 332,065,500
Private Salaries and Wages .....	" 318,596,400	

# SPECIAL CREDITS

Unforeseen authorized expenses not included in Global Statements  
of Public Disbursement.

From January 1st to September 15, 1948.

Judiciary .....	\$ 450,000
Prime Minister's Office .....	" 2,340
Department of Justice .....	" 31,410
Department of State .....	" 1,026,275
Department of Interior .....	" 866,587
Treasury .....	" 4,129,404
Department of Agriculture .....	" 1,285,865
Department of Commerce .....	" 35,500
Labor .....	" 1,544,040
Education .....	" 1,709,734
Public Works .....	" 39,804,776
National Defense .....	" 127,862
Department of Communications .....	" 486,150
Health .....	" 3,513,641
Veterans' Pensions .....	" 196,105
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$ 55,209,689</b>

Credit concessions for unforeseen expenses included in the  
Extraordinary budget for National Defense.

From January 1st to September 15, 1948.

National Defense .....	\$ 9,693,391
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NOTE: This statement comprises special credits voted for public disbursements not foreseen in the global statements of Public Disbursements (Ordinary Budget does not exist. This classification, by Departments, has been made in view of the ends to which same will be charged by the Treasury Accounting Department, because this information is not published. The compilation has been made from an examination of laws or Decrees promulgated in accordance with publication in "Official Gazette".

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# Punta Alegre Sugar Corporation

*and Associated Companies.*

120 WALL STREET • NEW YORK CITY

**CENTRALES:** Punta Alegre  
Baraguá — Florida

SUGAR AND MOLASSES

**"COLUMBIA"** Granulated Sugar

*Refined from*

PURE CANE SUGAR



HABANA:  
ROYAL BANK OF CANADA BLDG.

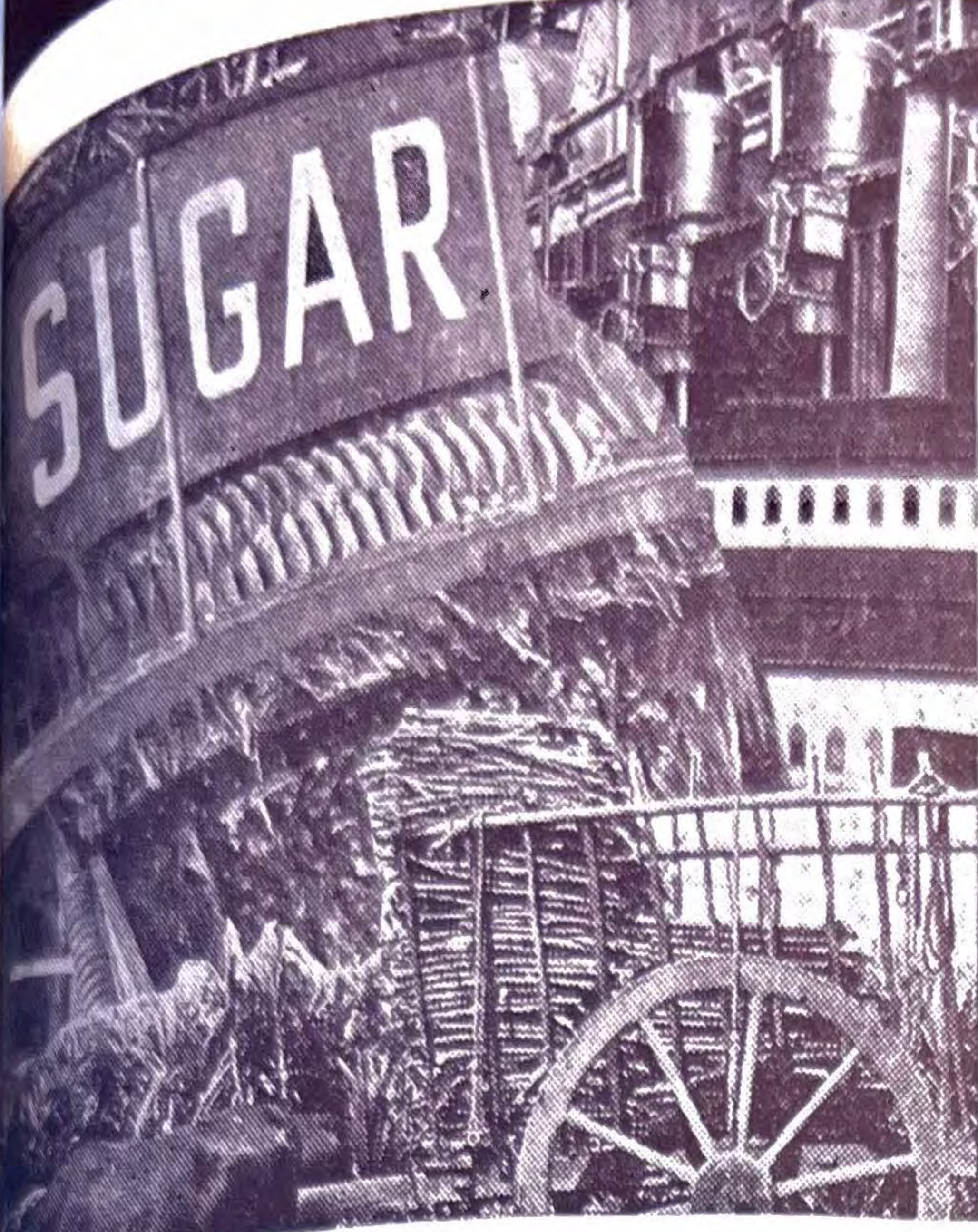
ROOMS 612 - 613

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SUGAR



Hauling Sugar Cane.  
Cuba's Principal Industry.

Carretas llevando caña al batey.

# THE SUGAR INDUSTRY

## CUBA'S ECONOMIC BACKBONE, CANE SUGAR

**T**HE GRINDING SEASON begins in January when the cane is ripe and ends generally in April or May when the spring rains cut off the supply by making the roads impassable.

**SUGAR MAKING.** When mechanical conveyors bring the cane into the mill from the chutes into which it has been, dumped from carts and cars, it is passed to grooved rollers with sharp edges which slice the cane longitudinally and otherwise crush it. Iron fingers grasp it and break it further before it reaches a series of ponderous compressor-rollers which, with increasing pressure, squeeze the sweet sucrose from it. When eventually it is pushed aside it is in the form of dried, tinderlike bagasse (bagazo) which is used under the holders as fuel. The foaming juice (guarapo) falls into huge pans, and after being strained is pumped into big tanks near the top of the mill. A lime solution to neutralize the acid and remove certain impurities, is added when the liquid is heated. This is now run into settling tanks where it concentrates into a top layer of froth, a middle layer of clear juice, and a bottom layer of dark brown, semi-solid material comprising mud, lime, and other substances. The cleared juice now goes to the evaporator

where it is boiled down to almost pure syrup (meladura); then to vacuum pans where a portion of it is crystalized. This product and the mother syrup are now run into perforated centrifugal machines which operate at a speed of 1,000 revolutions a minute. Here the crystals are separated from the mother liquid, which is hurled out as molasses (miel). This in turn is boiled down into two grades of sugar and a final molasses to be sold to the distilleries (destilerías) to be converted into alcohol, and to feed manufactures for making cattle feed. The mud and lime from the settling tanks are used as fertilizers.

THE POLARISCOPE (polariscopio) in which the ray sugar is now tested for its percentage of sugar, is an interesting feature of the laboratories of all the big mills. Its principle is based on the action of a ray of light passing through a quartz crystal and acting upon a sugar solution placed in a tube in the instrument. The degree to which the ray is deflected to the right or left when passing through the crystal is a measure of the percentage of sugar in the tube. Raw sugar (Azúcar crudo o de centrifuga) usually is bought on a polarization of 96° white sugar usually polarizes at 99.80. If it does not measure up to the standard, it contains impurities or moisture, and the price is shaded accordingly.—Jute bags (sacos) which contain 320 or 325 pounds of raw sugar now replace the old Spanish hogsheads with their net weight of 1,400 to 1,600 pounds. Many millions of these annually leave Cuba for the great sugar refineries (refinerías) in the United States where the yellowish product is converted into the white sugar (azúcar blanco) of commerce.

#### **Conditions of life in the sugar mills.**

Living conditions on the sugar plantations are generally good. Besides the handsome house of the manager and other heads of departments, on nearly all of the large plantations there are hospitals, schools, chapels, theatres, parks and gardens and an abundant supply of good water. On nearly all the plantations there is a general department store where the employees and workmen can purchase their food, clothes and other necessary articles, at reasonable prices.

#### **Native customs pertaining to the sugar industry.**

During the two or three months when the sugar mills are in operation grinding cane, all is activity and animation. The process of grinding is carried on day and night, the laborers working on 8 hour shifts. Long trains, loaded with cane are continually arriving from the country, and as soon as the sugar is manufactured, it is stored in huge sacks, each holding 325 lbs. marked with the name of the mill and a number in rotation, and placed in the warehouse belonging to the plantation. All the plantations have their individual electric plants, which not only light the factory but the large surrounding territory. As soon as the mill finishes grinding, the machinery and apparatus are thoroughly cleaned, as they remain inactive for the following 8 or 9 months. After that they are put in order to grind the next crop, and repairs are made so that they are in perfect condition. As a general rule, factory employees are paid a salary during the whole year.

## GROUPING OF SUGAR MILLS IN CUBA BY NATIONALITY OR OWNERSHIP OR CONTROL

	Sugar Mills		Production for 1946	
	Number	%	In bags of 325 lbs.	%
Cuban Nationality . . . . .	111	64.17	13,175,540	48.02
American, Canadian & Other Nationalities . . . . .	62	35.83	14,262,893	51.98
	173(1)	100.00	27,438,363	100.00

### SUGAR REFINERIES

Although considerable quantities of raw sugar are refined in the United States, there are 20 sugar refineries in Cuba where the yellowish product is converted into the white commercial sugar.

### CAPITAL INVESTED IN THE SUGAR INDUSTRY

American . . . . .	\$ 600,000,000
Canadian . . . . .	45,000,000
British, French & Dutch . . . . .	35,000,000
CUBAN . . . . .	370,000,000
	\$ 1,050,000,000

### SUGAR INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

- Cuban Institute for Sugar Stabilization.**  
Zulueta N° 465, Havana.
- National Mill Owners, Association of Cuba.**  
Zulueta N° 465, Havana.
- Sugar Arbitration Commission.**  
Royal Bank of Canada Bldg. 2nd. floor.
- Cuban Cane Grower's Association.**  
Manzana de Gómez, Dept. 537-38-39, Havana.
- Cuban Association of Sugar Refiners.**  
Edificio "Abreu" Dept. 207. O'Reilly and Mercaderes.
- Cuban Sugar Technologist's Association.**  
Zulueta N° 465, Havana.
- National Distiller's Association.**  
Lonja del Comercio N° 506, Havana.

Compañía

Azucarera  
de Güines

CENTRAL  
PROVIDENCIA  
(GÜINES)



N A M E	SITUATION	Present port of shipment	Kil.
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### PROVINCE OF MATANZAS

* 33—España	Perico	Cárdenas	21
34—Guipúzcoa	Martí	Cárdenas	37
* 35—Limonos	Limonar	Matanzas	25
* 36—Mercedes	Manguito	Cárdenas	67
* 37—Por Fuerza	Calimete	Cárdenas	74
* 38—Progreso	Méndez Capote	Cárdenas	39
39—Puerto	Canasí	Habana	63
		Matanzas	30
* 40—San Ignacio	Agramonte	Cárdenas	74
* 41—Santa Amalia	Carlos Rojas	Cárdenas	30
* 42—Santa Rita	Baró (Agramonte)	Matanzas	92
* 43—Santo Domingo	Unión de Reyes	Matanzas	40
* 44—Soledad	Jovellanos	Cárdenas	37
* 45—Tinguaro	Perico	Cárdenas	44
46—Triunfo	Limonar	Cárdenas	21
47—Zorrillo	Los Arabos	Cárdenas	77

### PROVINCE OF LAS VILLAS

48—Adela	Remedios	Caibarién	81
49—Amazonas	Sancti Spíritus	Chalana T. de Zaza	12
* 50—Andreíta	Cruces	Cienfuegos	32
* 51—Caracas	Sta. Isabel de las Lajas	Cienfuegos	37
52—Carmita	Vega Alta	Isabela de Sagua	66
53—Cieneguita	Abreus		10
* 54—Constancia (Abreus)	Abreus	Chalanas Cienfuegos	60
* 55—Constancia (Encrucij.)	Encrucijada	Isabela de Sagua	28
* 56—Corazón de Jesús...	Sitiecito (Sagua)	Isabela de Sagua	194
* 57—Covadonga	Sitiecito (A. de Pasajeros)	Cárdenas	15
* 58—Damují (antes Ferre)	Palmira	Cienfuegos	30
59—Dos Hermanas	Cruces	Cienfuegos	69
* 60—Escambray	Fomento	Casilda	35
* 61—Fe	Camajuani	Caibarién	49
62—Fidencia	Plaretas	Caibarién	20
* 63—Hormiguero	San P. de Camarones	Cienfuegos	67
* 64—La Vega	Guayos	Tunas de Zaza	67
65—Macagua	Mata (Calabazar)	Isabela de Sagua	15
* 66—Manuelita	Palmira	Cienfuegos (Lighter)	57
* 67—María Antonia	Santo Domingo	Isabela de Sagua	39
68—María Luisa	Zulueta		39
* 69—Narcisa	Yaguajay	Caibarién (Lighter)	39
		Ens. Las Varas	8
70—Natividad	Sancti Spíritus	Tunas (Lighter)	30
* 71—Nazábal	Encrucijada	Isabela (Lighter)	60
72—Nela	Mayajigua	Caibarién (Lighter)	37
* 73—Parque Alta	Rodas	Cienfuegos	59
* 74—Pastora	San Juan de los Yeras	Cienfuegos	70
* 75—Perseverancia	Real Campiña	Cienfuegos	14
* 76—Portugaleta	Palmira	Cienfuegos	25
77—Purio	Calabazar de Sagua	Sagua (Lighter)	50
* 78—Ramona	Rancho Veloz	Sagua (Lighter)	3
* 79—Reforma	Caibarién	Caibarién	53
* 80—Resolución	Quemados de Güines	Isabela de Sagua	2
* 81—Resulta	Sagua la Grande	Sagua	34
* 82—San Agustín (Lajas)	Sta. Isabel de las Lajas	Cienfuegos	19
* 83—San Agustín (Remd.)	Remedios	Caibarién	

NAME	SITUATION	Present port of shipment	Kil.
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**PROVINCE OF LAS VILLAS**

*84—San Francisco	Quemados de Güines	Cienfuegos	35
*85—San Isidro	Cruces	Sagua (Lighter)	30
*86—San José	Placetas	Caibarién	28
*87—San Pablo	Zulueta	Caibarién	24
*88—Santa Catalina	Cruces	Cienfuegos	39
*89—Santa Isabel	Fomento	Casilda	66
*90—Santa Lutgarda	Mata	Isabela de Sagua	48
*91—Santa Marta	Ranchuelo	Cienfuegos	41
*92—Santa Rosa	Ranchuelo	Cienfuegos	38
*93—Santa Teresa	Sitiecito (Sagua)	Isabela de Sagua	25
*94—Soledad	Cienfuegos	Cienfuegos (Lighter)	12
*95—Trinidad	Trinidad	Casilda (Lighter)	10
*96—Tuinicú	Sancti Spíritus	Tunas de Zaza	49
*97—Ulacia	Rodrigo	Isabela de Sagua	39
*98—Unidad	Sitio Grande (Sagua)	Isabela de Sagua	50
*99—Victoria	Yaguajay	Caibarién (Lighter)	35
*100—Washington	Manacas	Isabela de Sagua	59
*101—Zaza	Placetas	Caibarién	39

**PROVINCE OF CAMAGUEY**

*102—Adelaida	Falla (Morón)	Caibarién (Lighter)	107
103—Agramonte	Florida	Puerto Tarafa	148
*104—Algodones	Majagua	Pastelillo	203
*105—Baraguá	Ciego de Avila	Baraguá	18
106—Camagüey	Piedrecitas	Pastelillo	127
*107—Céspedes	Céspedes	Pastelillo	120
108—Ciego de Avila	Ciego de Avila	Júcaro	27
*109—Cunagua	Cunagua	Puerto Tarafa	138
*110—Elia	Elia (Guáimaro)	Antilla	250
*111—Estrella	Céspedes	Pastelillo	124
*112—Florida	Florida	Pastelillo	116
113—Francisco	Guayabal	Guayabal	16
114—Jagüeyal	Ciego de Avila	Júcaro	22
*115—Jaronú	Jaronú (Esmeralda)	Puerto Tarafa	87
*116—Jatibonico	Jatibonico	Pastelillo	224
*117—Lugareño	Lugareño (Sibanicú)	Puerto Tarafa	27
118—Macareño	Manopla	Manopla	35
*119—Morón	Pina	Puerto Tarafa	182
120—Najasa	Hatuey (Sibanicú)	Pastelillo	127
*121—Patria	Morón	Puerto Tarafa	165
122—Pilar	Gaspar	Nuevitas	154
*123—Punta Alegre	Punta de San Juan	Caibarién (Lighter)	75
*124—Santa Marta	Santa Cruz del Sur	Santa Cruz del Sur	12
*125—Senado	Senado	Puerto Tarafa	38
*126—Siboney	Marchena (Camagüey)	Pastelillo	110
*127—Stewart	Simón Reyes	Júcaro	18
*128—Velazco	Cupeyes (Morón)	Puerto Tarafa	118
*129—Vertientes	Vertientes	Santa Cruz del Sur	65
*130—Violeta	Cupeyes (Morón)	Puerto Tarafa	139

NAME	SITUATION	Present port of shipment	Kil.
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**PROVINCE OF ORIENTE**

*131—Algodonal	El Cristo	Santiago	26
132—Almeida	Almeida	Boquerón	68
133—Altagracia	Oriente (Palma Soriano)	Santiago	64
*134—Alto Cedro	Marcané	Antilla	42
*135—América	Contramaestre	Santiago	84
*136—Báguanos	Cueto	Antilla	49
*137—Borjita	Dos Caminos	Santiago	30
138—Boston	Banes	Macabí	0
*139—Cacocum	Cacocum	Antilla	102
140—Cape Cruz	Pilón	Ensenada de Mora	0
*141—Chaparra	Puerto Padre	Pto. Padre (P. Claro)	19
142—Cupey	Cacocum	Antilla	121
143—Delicias	Puerto Padre	Pto. Padre (P. Claro)	9
144—Dos Amigos	Campechuela	Campechuela	0
145—Ermita	Guantánamo	Boquerón	60
*146—Esperanza	Guantánamo	Boquerón	31
147—Estrada Palma	Yara	Manzanillo	35
148—Hatillo	Hatillo (Palma Soriano)	Manzanillo	406
149—Isabel (Beattie)	Media Luna	Santiago de Cuba	5
150—Isabel (Jamaica)	Jamaica (Guantánamo)	Media Luna	46
*151—Jobabo	Jobabo	Guantánamo	261
*152—Los Caños	A. Hondo (Guantánamo)	Antilla	10
*153—Mabay	Julia	Caimanera	43
*154—Maceo	Cacocum	Manzanillo	11
*155—Manatí	Dumañuecos (V. Tunas)	Antilla	20
*156—Miranda	Miranda (P. de Cauto)	Manatí	72
157—Niquero	Niquero	Antilla	0
*158—Palma	Palma Soriano	Niquero	54
*159—Preston	Preston	Santiago	0
*160—Río Cauto	Río Cauto	Preston	65
*161—Romelié	Yateras (Guantánamo)	Manzanillo (Lighter)	31
162—Salvador	Calicito (Manzanillo)	Boquerón	6
163—San Antonio	Yateras (Guantánamo)	Manzanillo	36
*164—San Germán	San Germán	Boquerón	70
165—Santa Ana	Auza (San Luis)	Antilla	41
166—Santa Lucía	Santa Lucía (Oriente)	Santiago	8
167—San Ramón	S. Ramón (Manzanillo)	Vita	0
168—Santa Cecilia	Guantánamo	San Ramón	24
*169—Sofía	Bayamo	Boquerón	40
*170—Soledad (G. S. Co.)	Guantánamo	Manzanillo	46
171—Tacajó	Cueto	Caimanera	0
172—Tánamo	Cayo Mambí	Antilla	0
173—Teresa	Ceiba Hueca (Manzanillo)	Cayo Mambí	0
174—Unión	San Luis	Ceiba Hueca	33
		Santiago	

The Sugar Estates marked by asterisk (\*) are connected with the general network of the CUBAN TELEPHONE COMPANY, and its sub-marine cable lines to the Sugar Estates in Cuba and other countries throughout the world.





Selecting tobacco leaves in a plantation.  
Seleccionando Hojas del Tabaco.

## TOBACCO

**W**ITH the restoration of peace after the European War and the resumption of normal conditions, tobacco culture again assumed its original importance in the industries of the Republic, since Cuba has always been able to produce a grade of tobacco not equalled in any other part of the world.

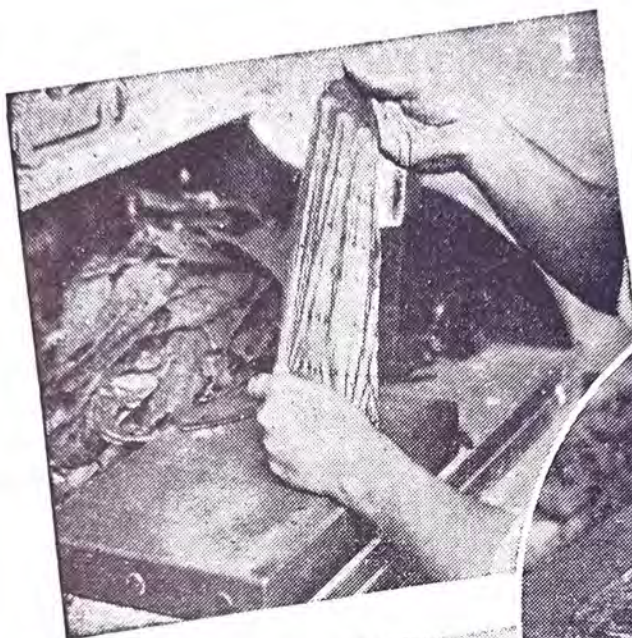
Tobacco, unlike sugar, seems to be dependant for its quality largely on some peculiar chemical characteristic of soil not easily determined, hence it is that the production is localized, certain sections being given over entirely to tobacco and yielding a product many times more valuable than that grown only a few miles distant. These patches or small fields are known as "vegas" and the men who tend them as "vegueros".

The choice tobaccos of Vuelta Abajo are grown in a restricted section of which the city of Pinar del Río is the approximate center. The whole area of the Vuelta will not exceed thirty miles from east to west nor is it more than ten miles from north to south. And even in this favored district, the really choice tobacco is grown in "vegas" comprising a small oasis from three to fifteen acres in extent, in which a very high grade of tobacco may

# LA CORONA

FACTORY & SALES DEPT.  
106 AGRAMONTE ST.

## HOW CORONA CIGARS ARE MADE



Showing the  
tobacco leaf.



The wrapper  
leaf opened.



↑  
Filling with special  
leaves.

Rolling filler  
into wrapper  
leaf.



# LA CORONA

FACTORY & SALES DEPT.  
106 AGRAMONTE ST.

## HOW CORONA CIGARS ARE MADE

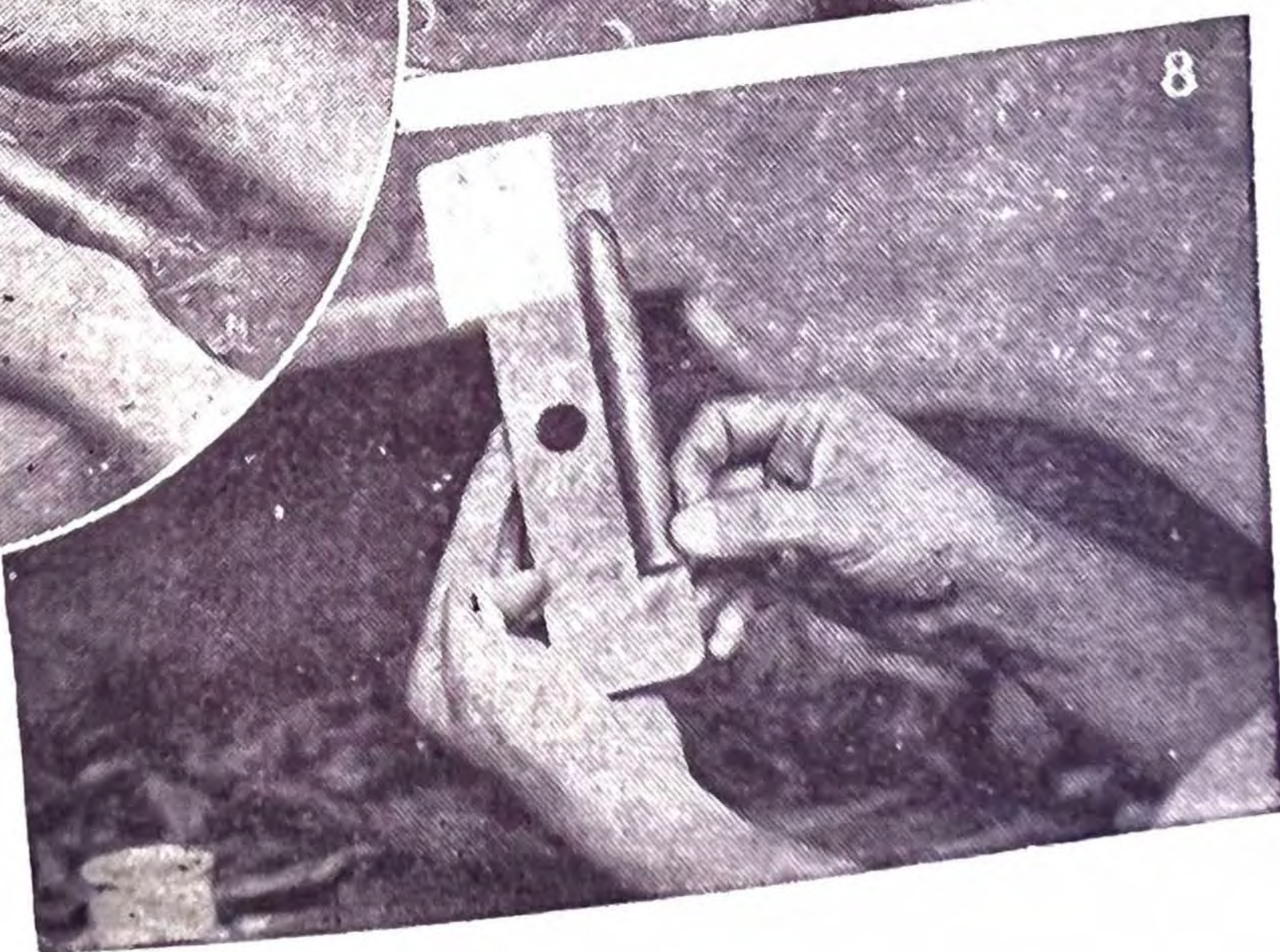
Cigar shaped after filling.



Rolling cigar on table.



Finishing ends.  
Measuring size and length to standard.





In no other part of the world has it been possible to grow a tobacco which equals in exquisite aroma and flavor that of Havana. Only the soil and the sun of Cuba have succeeded in producing this prodigy of Nature. Therefore, you must avail yourself of this opportunity to take back your full quota of HAVANA CIGARS.

100 cigars per person can be taken into the United States free of duty.

## Get THE GENUINE

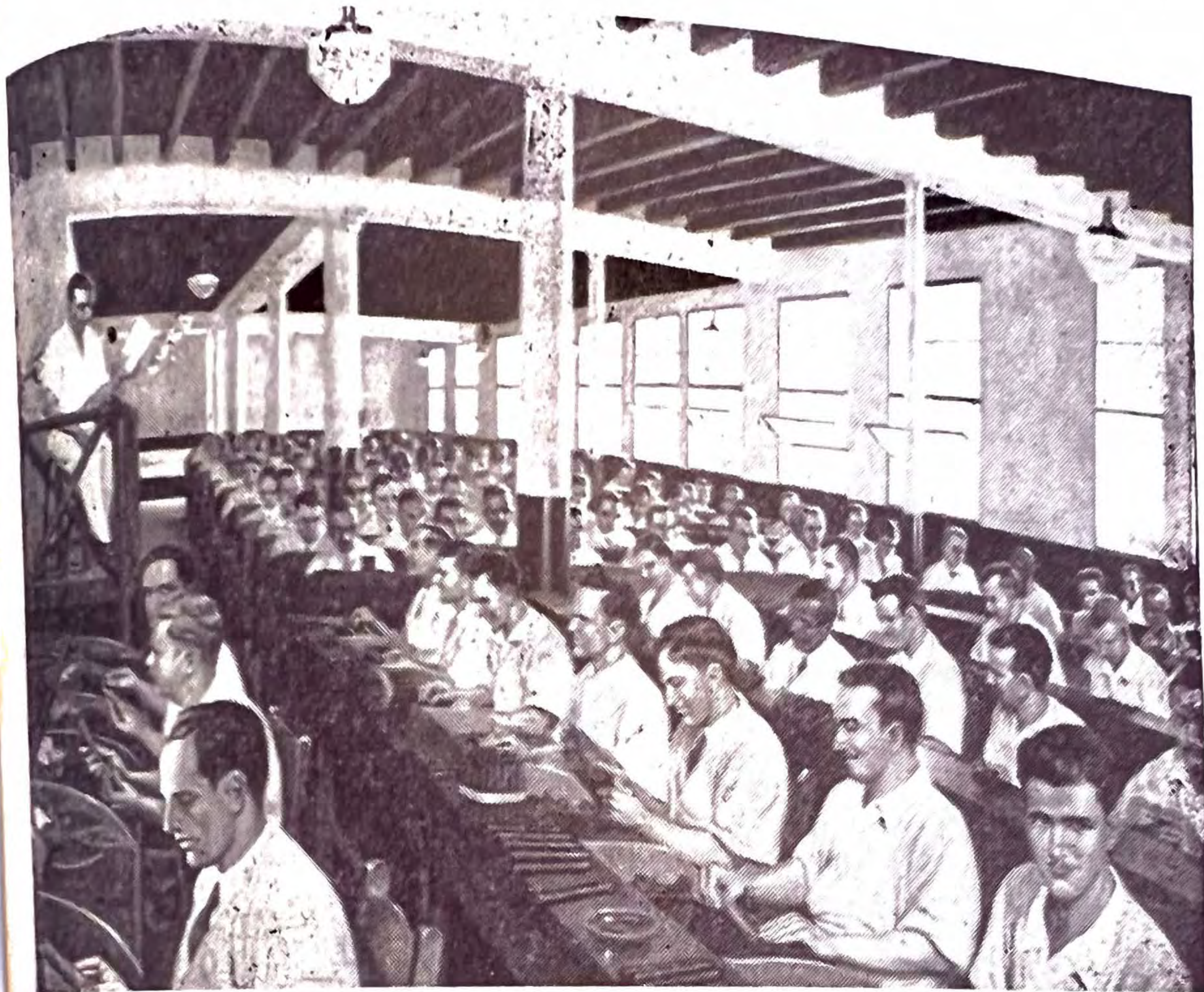
REMEMBER, THAT IT SHOWS GOOD TASTE TO MAKE A PRESENT OF HAVANA CIGARS, YOUR FRIENDS WILL CERTAINLY APPRECIATE IT.

Look for the green Warranty Stamp of the Cuban Government. This official seal will be found.

*on every box of Real Havana Cigar*



COMISION NACIONAL DEL TABACO HABANO  
MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA  
23 y P, Vedado • Habana, Cuba



**Skilled Operators Making the World Famous Havana Cigars.**

Expertos operarios fabricando el famoso Habano.

be grown, while adjoining lands, similar in appearance, but lacking in that one magic quality which produces the desired aroma and flavor, are largely wanting. The prices obtained for the tobacco grown on these favored "vegas" seem almost incredible. A bale of this tobacco, weighing between 80 and 90 pounds, will readily sell at from \$100 to \$600.

The life of a tobacco plant, from transplanting to the time in which it is cut and removed from the fields, is only about ninety days. The selected seed is sown in land where brush or leaves have been previously burned, destroying injurious insect life, while furnishing the required potash to the soil. The seed beds are known as "semilleros" and are carefully tended until the plants are five or six inches in height, when they are removed and carried to the vega, previously prepared with an abundance of stable manure or other fertilizer, well rotted and plowed in. In three months time, with care and careful cultivation a crop will be ready for cutting and curing.

Excellent tobacco is also grown in the Valley of Viñales and may be successfully cultivated in nearly all the valleys, pockets and basins that lie between the mountains of western and northern Pinar del Río. This tobacco as a rule is graded in quality and priced a little below that of the choice Vuelta Abajo center.

# LA CORONA

*Havana Cigars*



LA CORONA Cigars, the choice of connoisseurs are available in various shapes and sizes to please the most exacting tastes.

FACTORY AND SALES DEPT.  
106 ZULUETA St.  
*opposite the Presidential Palace*

*You are cordially invited to visit our*  
TOBACCO MUSEUM



Siboney Indians as found in Cuba at the time of the discovery, inhaling smoke produced by burning tobacco leaves. (La Corona-Cabañas Tobacco Museum)

Along the line of the Western Railroad extending from Con-solación del Sur to Artemisa, tobacco is also grown on the rolling lands and among the foothills that lie between the railroad and the southern edge of the Organo mountains. This section, some fifty miles in length, with an average width of five or six miles, in which tobacco forms quite an important product, is known as the Semi-Vuelta or Partido district. Its leaf, however, brings in the open market only about half the sum received for the Vuelta Abajo. Nevertheless, at all points in this section where irrigation is possible, the culture of tobacco, especially when grown under cloth, is quite profitable.

The cost of poles, wire and covering cloth, under normal conditions, is about \$300 per acre and when to this is added several carloads of manure or other fertilizer, the expense of covering, fertilizing, cultivating and caring for an acre of tobacco will easily reach \$500, whence the deduction that tobacco crops must bring a good price in Cuba is evident.

If the land is shaded with cloth, one man with a mule and light cultivator can take care of five or six acres, at least until the crop has matured, then help may be required for a few days to aid in cutting and removing the leaves to the tobacco barn or curing house. Every step of its growth must be directed by one who knows, hence it is almost necessary to secure the co-operation of a native tobacco planter or veguero, who will either take care of the vega on share, or at reasonable salary.

The tobacco industry at present time ranks commercially next to sugar. The total value of the crop in 1924 was \$90,000,000 of which \$70,000,000 was exported to foreign countries.

**CIGAR-MAKING** is one of the greatest of Cuban industries. The climate is an important factor in cigar rolling, the evermoist air reducing the leaf to an appropriate flexibility. While many cigar-making machines have been invented, it is said that no mechanical device can equal the perfection of cigar rolling by expert human hands. A skillful operator can roll 200 cigars a day. While at work the men are addressed by a professional reader who sits on a raised platform and acts the part of a lecturer, or a human loudspeaker who reads the latest novel, or broadcasts news-flashes. Many attractive girls (cigarreras) work at making, sorting, labeling and packing the cigars. The finished products are examined by experts who reject any faulty one. Those which pass inspection are placed in slightly ventilated, seasoned cedar cabinets and allowed to remain a few days to permit the moisture to evaporate. Great care is exercised in storing the cigars, for tobacco will lose its fragrance and flavor if placed near impurities. Eventually the cigars are packed in Cuban cedar boxes of 25, 50 and 100 each.

To ensure a perfect cigar the tobacco must be thoroughly cured

In accordance with a recent Resolution issued by the Government of the Republic of Cuba.

**THE HOME OF HAVANA CIGARS**

222 Lincoln Road

Miami Beach, Fla.

Is now Officially entitled

**CENTRO OFICIAL DEL TABACO  
HABANO**

A branch of the Cuban Administration,  
at the same address.

and just moist enough to be handled without breaking. To ensure the proper degree of moisture the leaves are sometimes sprayed with clean water until they acquire the right consistency. Women and girls then strip the leaves from the stems and after they are carefully graded, experts decide which tobacco is to be used for wrappers (capa); which for fillers (tripa), and what quality cigars are to be made of it. The wrapper determines the color; whether **claro**, light; **colorado claro**, ruddy; **colorado maduro**, dark (ripe), and **maduro**, the darkest grade. There are upward of 200 shades in the cured leaves. The filler, which comprises 90 per cent of the weight, determines the character of the cigar. A dark color does not necessarily indicate that a cigar is strong, nor does a light wrapper insure mildness. Both dark and light wrappers can be strong and bitter if they are not thoroughly cured.

HAVANA CIGARS should be smoked slowly, or else combustion will be imperfect, the fine white ash will fall off frequently, and the delicate aroma of the tobacco lost. Cigar-bands (bandas, anillos) are said to be the outcome of a custom in Cuba in colonial times when Spanish ladies smoked the fragrant local products and placed paper rings about their **cigarros** to avoid staining their fingers by contact with the tobacco.



## VALUE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTION IN CUBA

Years	Exports	Local consumption	Total
1935 .....	\$ 15.699,475	\$ 15.487,935	\$ 31.187,410
1936 .....	13.330,917	17.802,770	31.133,687
1937 .....	14.924,008	20.863,980	35.787,988
1938 .....	14.044,269	21.055,260	35.099,529
1939 .....	14.094,383	20.813,430	34.907,813
1940 .....	12.138,722	25.536,630	37.675,352
1941 .....	14.117,053	28.719,215	42.836,268
1942 .....	15.768,702	33.807,180	49.575,882
1943 .....	28.051,024	35.678,260	63.729,284
1944 .....	51.743,762	49.099,410	100.843,172
1945 .....	50.443,025	54.913,075	105.356,000
1946 .....	55.602,000	.....	.....
1947 .....	34.688,950	.....	.....

### E X P O R T S

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January .....	\$ 2.277,294	\$ 1.446,758	\$ 1.204,346	\$ 1.351,826
February .....	" 3.088,197	" 940,246	" 2.722,108	" 1.396,333
March .....	" 3.003,917	" 4.103,207	" 3.493,562	" 3.258,259
April .....	" 4.611,761	" 3.944,943	" 3.186,837	" 3.035,395
May .....	" 2.780,545	" 2.951,108	" 3.588,960	" 2.407,871
June .....	" 5.350,897	" 3.205,138	" 2.742,862	" 2.708,324
July .....	" 2.230,912	" 3.583,238	" 2.833,283	" 2.489,717
August .....	" 4.284,827	" 4.329,245	" 1.813,766	" 2.754,297
September .....	" 4.083,020	" 3.914,401	" 1.536,571	
October .....	" 4.808,285	" 5.990,835	" 2.843,785	
November .....	" 4.286,125	" 9.527,224	" 3.373,773	
December .....	" 8.837,242	" 11.944,792	" 5.349,097	
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$ 50.443,025</b>	<b>\$ 55.881,135</b>	<b>\$ 34.688,950</b>	<b>\$ 19.402,032(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

## CIGARS - UNITS

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January .....	7,977,444	1,907,041	1,930,105	461,984
February .....	12,736,439	1,703,515	4,987,273	1,002,578
March .....	15,736,836	7,309,674	3,968,499	1,253,598
April .....	9,802,446	6,305,989	5,823,108	6,225,676
May .....	11,384,654	3,738,674	5,820,038	4,476,593
June .....	10,324,562	5,593,545	2,120,000	6,315,994
July .....	2,622,171	4,289,647	5,961,873	7,139,993
August .....	11,826,603	4,986,621	1,932,994	4,909,257
September .....	4,560,209	5,095,066	1,870,790	
October .....	11,540,201	6,950,282	2,027,070	
November .....	3,472,675	5,499,409	1,845,393	
December .....	7,970,911	6,315,510	1,177,039	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>109,955,151</b>	<b>59,694,973</b>	<b>39,464,382</b>	<b>31,785,673(*)</b>

## CIGARETTES - UNITS

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January .....	518,926	2,708,670	51,800	48,744
February .....	9,355,046	82,848	1,884,128	1,386,732
March .....	5,550,712	3,227,684	1,422,632	283,058
April .....	566,784	3,498,756	3,996,542	4,358,544
May .....	1,750,722	1,786,469	2,101,680	4,444,800
June .....	1,427,658	4,527,478	1,091,152	4,317,360
July .....	1,899,982	1,892,994	1,721,008	490,700
August .....	1,216,551	3,377,846	1,777,520	1,566,080
September .....	5,557,784	1,898,768	1,964,665	
October .....	1,222,425	3,917,258	2,011,624	
November .....	291,668	720,910	5,076,868	
December .....	4,759,306	7,165,018	4,143,376	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>34,097,564</b>	<b>34,804,699</b>	<b>28,002,995</b>	<b>16,896,018(*)</b>

## LEAF - LBS.

Months	1945	1946	1947	1948
January .....	1,218,020	1,561,333	1,456,902	1,723,761
February .....	1,402,815	420,296	1,776,922	1,546,320
March .....	1,709,476	4,425,142	3,695,485	5,299,772
April .....	2,581,756	3,962,509	1,848,376	2,422,293
May .....	1,329,777	2,092,865	2,291,032	1,761,032
June .....	2,950,478	1,874,727	1,818,374	1,558,759
July .....	1,439,846	2,170,822	1,576,593	1,161,443
August .....	2,016,863	2,852,154	1,514,430	2,051,428
September .....	2,601,076	2,445,630	889,102	
October .....	2,519,498	3,935,960	2,068,246	
November .....	2,961,510	9,734,446	2,540,704	
December .....	6,865,457	10,610,051	4,979,279	
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>29,596,572</b>	<b>46,085,935</b>	<b>26,455,445</b>	<b>17,325,308(*)</b>

(\*) 8 Months.

# COFFEE

The early use of coffee as a beverage is likewise surrounded with a lore, rich in romantic interest as "The Tales of the Arabian Nights". Kaldi, an Arabian goat herder of the 9th century, is credited with having discovered its use as a beverage. Others claim that a Dervish named Hadji Omer, driven out of Mocha in 1285 A. D., lived for days by eating the berries from a coffee-tree that grew near his hiding place, and that he was the first to drink hot water in which he had steeped some of these berries after first browning them over his fire.

Originally it was native tree of either Abyssinia or Arabia, while others of perhaps equal authority assert that it was not until several hundred years later that the first coffee-tree was brought to Arabia from Kaffa, in Eastern Africa.

The Arabians called it "Kawah" or "Kaweh". The Turks later called it "Kaveh". Through a further change of pronunciation and spelling "Kaffee" it was but a step to "Coffee" as it is now known throughout the English-speaking countries.

The gift of some of these trees in 1714, by the Magistrate of Amsterdam to Luis XIV of France, inauspicious as it was at the time, was to become significant later. For in 1720 Louis XIV directed his friend, Captain Des Cleiux to take a seeding across the Atlantic to Martinique, one of the island possessions of France in the West Indies.

And so from 1720, the map of the coffee-growing world began to witness a change—a change which in the future was to see the New World countries supply practically all the world's coffee requirements.

To Don José Antonio Gelabert we owe the introduction of coffee into Cuba from Santo Domingo, in 1748. In the same year, it is asserted, the first coffee plantation was established in the island on the Gonzales farm. This is today the Finca María, located in Wajay, Province of Havana and owned by the widow of the late President, Dr. Alfredo Zayas.

Coffee, a traditional source of national wealth, reached the pinnacle of its fame in Cuba toward the middle of the nineteenth century when the luxuriant coffee plantations in Oriente Province were splendid examples of native agriculture. But when sugar leaped into prominence and became the leading agricultural product of the Island, coffee was gradually neglected and lost some of its importance.

To offset this situation, the Government established a protective tariff on coffee in 1927, and it has had a decidedly encouraging effect on the industry as a whole. Looking back over the intervening years it is possible to appreciate the benefits of this timely protective legislation.

## AGE AND PERIOD IN WHICH COFFEE BLOOMS AND PRODUCES IN CUBA

Coffee commences to bloom about the third year, but the good crops develop at the sixth or seventh year after planting, and continues in about the same condition up to the fifteenth year when the plants begin to deteriorate.

In Oriente Province where the best coffee in Cuba is grown, the first flowers appear in the month of December and the last in the month of May.

Gathering of the berries generally begins in the last half of July and continues at times up to December.

Three or four crops are gathered.

## YEARLY PRODUCTION OF COFFEE IN CUBA

According to figures obtained from the "National Coffee Growers Association" the yearly production of Coffee in Cuba has been the following:

Crop 1937-38	71,143,900 pounds
" 1938-39	58,333,500 "
" 1939-40	53,405,200 "
" 1940-41	59,935,170 "
" 1941-42	59,256,348 "
" 1942-43	78,794,868 "
" 1943-44	75,753,847 "
" 1944-45	57,140,539 "
" 1945-46	49,807,233 "
" 1946-47	" "
" 1947-48	71,856,000 "

## CUBA IS AN IMPORTANT COFFEE GROWER

Records of the "Cuban Institute for the Stabilization of Coffee" show the following statistics:

There are about 5,300 "caballerías" (1,749,000 acres) of land devoted to coffee growing in Cuba, with an estimated value of \$37,100,000.

The total worth of the coffee industry including, warehouses, shelling, plants, plantations, roasting plants, constructions, equipment, buildings installations, etc. is around \$90,000,000. The coffee industry is the means of supporting some 70,000 Cuban families.

Cubans pay about 36 millions of dollars per year for the coffee they drink.

# THE BLUE GUIDE TO CUBA

GUIA AZUL  
DE CUBA

*Sección en  
Español*



# INDICE

## SECCION EN ESPAÑOL

	<u>PAGINA</u>
Portada de la Sección .....	241
Cuba, Topografía - Orografía - Hidrografía - Geología .....	243-246
El Gobierno de la República de Cuba .....	246-247
Sinopsis Histórica de Cuba .....	247-249
La Habana de Ayer, de Hoy y de Mañana .....	250-252
Cuando la Habana fué Ciudad .....	252-253
Las Viejas Calles de la Habana .....	253-254
Indices Económicos de Cuba .....	255-257
Sitios de Interés para el Visitante .....	258-260
Lugares de Diversión y Teatros .....	261
Relación de Hoteles y sus Precios .....	263
Night Clubs (Cabarets) y Restoranes .....	264
El Museo Nacional y el Museo de la Ciudad de la Habana .....	264-267
El Capitolio, El Templete, La Fuente de la India, Palacio Municipal .....	267-268
Un Recorrido por nuestra Ciudad .....	269-273
Como pasar siete días en Cuba .....	274-276
Clima - Balnearios Medicinales - Isla de Pinos .....	277
La Destrucción del Acorazado "Maine" .....	278
Fiestas Oficiales .....	278
Guie su propio Auto en Cuba .....	279
Iglesias de la Habana .....	280
A z ú c a r .....	282
T a b a c o .....	283



Colón toma posesión de la tierra recién descubierta.

# C U B A

**S**ITUACION Geográfica y Area.—La Isla de Cuba es la mayor, más Occidental y más poblada de las Antillas. Está situada entre las dos Américas, a la entrada del Golfo de México, entre los 19° 40' y 23° 30' latitud Norte y los 74° y 85° longitud al Oeste del Meridiano de Greenwich. Su figura es larga y estrecha, semejante a un arco de círculo que se extiende de Este a Oeste, cuya parte exterior convexa mira al Norte y termina en dos cabos o puntas denominados el del Este Punta de Maisí y el del Oeste Cabo de San Antonio, la extremidad más septentrional es el Cabo de Hicacos, hasta el cual el contorno de la Isla ha ido ascendiendo al Norte desde el Cabo de San Antonio para descender desde allí, al Sur, hasta su extremidad Oriental: la más meridional es el Cabo Cruz, que termina en la llamada punta del Inglés; desde la Punta de Maisí hasta el mencionado Cabo Cruz, el contorno de la Isla afecta sensiblemente una línea recta, que constituye a su final uno de los lados del ángulo saliente, cuyo vértice es el dicho cabo; el otro lado se dirige del Sur al Nordeste, hasta la boca del río Cauto, desde donde vuelve adoptar la forma curva, reentrante hacia el Norte, la que, a partir de la Ensenada de la Broa al Sur de la provincia de Matanzas, en su límite con la de La Habana, desciende por ese rumbo hasta la extremidad Occidental de la Isla. Los límites de ésta son: al Norte, el Golfo de México y el Estrecho de la Florida que la separa de

los Estados Unidos a una distancia aproximada de ciento setenta kilómetros o unas cien millas inglesas, de Key West, y el Canal Viejo de Bahama, que la separa del gran Banco de este nombre, al Este, el estrecho de Maisí y Paso de los Vientos, situado, con una extensión de ochenta kilómetros o cincuenta millas aproximadamente entre esta Isla y la de Haití o Santo Domingo; al Sur, el estrecho de Colón que la separa como unos ciento treinta y cinco kilómetros u ochenta y cinco millas de la Isla de Jamaica y el mar de las Antillas; y al Oeste, el estrecho de Yucatán, con una extensión de doscientos kilómetros o ciento treinta millas entre la Isla y la Península de aquel nombre en la República de México.

En su mayor extensión que es la longitudinal, de Este a Oeste, mide la Isla aproximadamente mil doscientos kilómetros, o setecientas treinta millas; su ancho varía desde un máximo de doscientos kilómetros o ciento treinta millas, que mide desde la punta de Prácticos a la entrada de la Bahía de Nuevitás en la costa Norte, provincia de Camagüey, al pequeño puerto de Mota en la costa Sur, Provincia de Oriente, hasta un mínimo de cuarenta kilómetros o veinte y cinco millas, poco más o menos, que mide desde la Ensenada de Majana, al Sur, al Puerto de Mariel, al Norte, en los confines de la provincia de Pinar del Río con La Habana.

La Isla está rodeada de otras pequeñas islas, islotes y cayos separados de ella por estrechos de poca profundidad; la mayor de todas es la isla de Pinos, al Sur. 114,524 kilómetros cuadrados, 44,164 millas cuadradas (Censo de 1943) de cuya

El área de Cuba, incluídos los islotes y cayos antedichos, se ha calculado en superficie la isla de Cuba, propiamente dicha, alcanza 107,924, kilómetros cuadrados o 41,634 millas cuadradas; a la isla de Pinos se atribuyen 3,100 kilómetros cuadrados, o 1,180 millas cuadradas; y a las demás islas y cayos adyacentes, en conjunto, 3,500 kilómetros cuadrados o 1,350 millas cuadradas. Por lo expuesto se ve que Cuba tiene una superficie mayor que algunos países europeos, como Portugal, Bélgica, Países Bajos y otros y aproximadamente igual a la de los estados de Pennsylvania y Virginia en los Estados Unidos de América.

Desde el punto de vista militar, Cuba, ocupa una fuerte y ventajosa posición estratégica, pues encontrándose situada entre los dos canales que constituyen el único paso para el golfo de México, domina la entrada de éste.

**Topografía:** Cuba, a causa de su figura larga y estrecha, tiene una gran extensión de costas, que se calcula en 3,500 kilómetros, de los cuales corresponden 1,700 a la del Norte y 1,800 a la del Sur. Estas costas son en extremo sinuosas; cabos y puntas no son numerosos ni muy avanzados, pero abundan en bahías y puertos amplios, seguros y abrigados, en lo general con entradas estrechas; como los de Bahía Honda, La Habana, la Isabela de Sagua, Nuevitás, Nipe y Baracoa, al Norte y Guantánamo, Santiago de Cuba, Manzanillo, Cienfuegos y Batabanó al Sur.

La costa Norte es, en general, alta y escarpada y la del Sur, baja y pantanosa. Según ya se ha dicho, la Isla se encuentra rodeada, excepto en la parte oriental, de bajos, islotes y cayos, que forman grupos o archipiélagos, y ocupan en la costa Norte una extensión, aproximada a la mitad de ésta y a las dos terceras en las del Sur; en lo restante la costa es, por ambos rumbos, limpia y acantilada.

En la costa Sur, al Oeste de Cienfuegos, casi en el límite de las provincias de Santa Clara y Matanzas, penetrando en ésta, existe un terreno bajo y cenagoso denominado Ciénaga de Zapata, al Norte de la península de su nombre, con una



longitud aproximada de 120 kilómetros o 75 millas, que en su parte más ancha mide, también aproximadamente, 48 kilómetros o 30 millas.

La superficie de Cuba es muy quebrada e irregular, aunque sus montañas no alcanzan gran elevación. La parte occidental, en las proximidades de la costa Norte, y la oriental en las de la costa Sur, son las más montañosas de la Isla. En esta última, mucho más alta que aquélla, el terreno es quebrado, con colinas o lomas de poca elevación. En la parte central a partir de la provincia de Las Villas hacia Oriente, hasta el límite de la provincia de Camagüey con la de este nombre, el terreno es llano; forma grandes extensiones, denominadas sabanas, cubiertas de pasto natural y que estuvieron dedicadas y aun hoy en parte se dedican, a la cría de ganado. En la parte montañosa existen grandes y pintorescos valles; el más conocido de todos es el del Yumurí, en la provincia de Matanzas. Estos valles están en general cultivados. En la ladera Sur de las montañas de Pinar del Río se encuentran las afamadas vegas de tabaco conocidas con el nombre Vuelta Abajo, que es el que comúnmente se da a la región de la isla comprendida desde La Habana hasta el Cabo de San Antonio.

En la Isla abundan los montes, de los cuales hoy se conservan algunos restos en las regiones del Centro y Oriente, que dan idea de su frondosidad y riqueza; pero las necesidades del cultivo, en muchos casos no racionalmente comprendidas y el deseo de un lucro immoderado, han ido destruyendo esa riqueza, próxima a extinguirse si se continúa con los procedimientos que hasta ahora han venido siguiéndose para aprovecharla.

También abundan en la Isla los ríos, pero casi todos son de poca extensión y escasa profundidad.

**Orografía.** El orden de montañas de la Isla aparece formado por dos grandes grupos, separados por dos grandes llanuras de terreno accidentado. El grupo occidental comienza en el Cabo de San Antonio hasta las lomas de Camarioca en Matanzas, la forman varias cadenas de montañas paralelas a la costa y más próxima la del Norte. A él pertenece la llamada Sierra de los Organos y su punto culminante es el Pan de Guajaifón en Bahía Honda con 760 m. de altura.

El grupo denominado central corresponde a la llamada Sierra Morena, la de el Pico de Potrerillo con 960 m. de altura.

Bamburanao y Matahambre y Escambray. El punto culminante de esta región es

En la Provincia de Oriente se encuentra la parte más montañosa de la Isla, en la que las cordilleras se extienden en todas direcciones unidas a la Cordillera Madre, denominada Sierra Maestra, que se extiende a la costa Sur. En esta región se encuentra el Yunque con 850 m. de altura, el Ojo del Toro con 1,000 m., la Gran Piedra con 1,500 y el Pico Turquino con 2,400.

**Hidrografía:** Los ríos de Cuba, aunque numerosos, son de poca profundidad y caudal. La Isla sólo tiene dos vertientes: la Septentrional y la Meridional; los ríos de la primera son de curso más corto que los de la última, y entre los de aquéllas hay algunos navegables.

**Geología:** La Isla está asentada en rocas sedimentarias anteriores al período terciario, en las que se han encontrado fósiles cetáceos, y probablemente jurásicos. Sobre esas rocas en la costa hay capas compuestas de materias terrígenas y sobre éstas, otra más, muy gruesa, de piedra caliza blanca, formada de sustancias orgánicas derivadas del océano, que es lo que la distingue de los arrecifes y cayos que datan del período eoceno y heligoceno.

La Isla debió surgir del mar por un gran cataclismo en las postrimerías del período terciario, después que se acumularon las rocas en que aquélla se asienta. En el período cuaternario, parece que sufrió una serie de desplomes y elevaciones que afectaron al litoral y produjeron los altos farallones e innumerables arrecifes que rodean la costa en muchos lugares, como en las inmediaciones de La Habana y Baracoa.

Se ha sostenido por algunos geólogos, basados en la identificación de algunos restos de animales vertebrados fósiles que se han encontrado en algunos lugares de la Isla y en el continente, que aquélla estuvo unida a éste; pero las investigaciones hechas hasta el presente no permiten afirmar con completa certeza esa hipótesis.

Las Cuevas de Bellamar, en Matanzas, son una verdadera maravilla, y las visitan todos los turistas; en Camagüey, las Cuevas de Cubitas, y en Oriente, cerca de Banes, una llamada Cueva del Negro, también son notables, así como las Cavernas de Monte Líbano, cerca de Guantánamo.

La República de Cuba se divide administrativamente en su territorio nacional, en seis Provincias, cuya superficie y población se dan en el cuadro siguiente:

<u>Provincia</u>	<u>Superficie en millas</u>	<u>Población en 1943</u>
Pinar del Río .....	5,207	398,794
La Habana .....	3,168	1.235,939
Matanzas .....	3,257	361,079
Las Villas .....	8,257	938,631
Camagüey .....	10,065	487,701
Oriente .....	14,210	1.356,484
Total (Cuba) .....	44,164 millas c.	4.778,628

La densidad de población de acuerdo con los datos del Censo de Junio 30, de 1943, era de 108 habitantes por milla cuadrada. Hoy Cuba pasa de los 5.250,000 habitantes.

## EL GOBIERNO DE LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA

**C**UBA es una nación independiente y soberana organizada bajo la forma democrática republicana representativa de gobierno, en tres poderes: Ejecutivo, Legislativo y Judicial.

El Poder Legislativo está integrado por el Senado y la Cámara de Representantes. Cada una de las seis provincias envía al Senado 9 senadores electos por cuatro años, la totalidad de los cuales se renueva al final de su período, en la oportunidad de celebrarse elecciones presidenciales. El número total de senadores es

de 54 y en el mismo están debidamente garantizadas las representaciones de las minorías.

La Cámara de Representantes tiene un representante por cada 35,000 habitantes o fracción mayor de 17,500 habitantes. Los Representantes son electos por Provincias, por elección, directa y por el régimen de representación proporcional, el período de elección dura cuatro años y deben renovarse de por mitad cada dos años.

El número actual de representantes es el de 136.

El Presidente de la República es el Jefe Ejecutivo de la Nación, electo por cuatro años y la misma persona no puede desempeñar de nuevo el cargo hasta transcurridos ocho años de su cesación en el mismo. El Presidente designa libremente el Primer Ministro y los Ministros de su Gabinete, quienes son los Jefes de sus respectivos Departamentos o Ministerios. La Administración está organizada a través de los Ministerios de Estado, Justicia, Gobernación, Hacienda, Trabajo, Obras Públicas, Comercio, Educación, Salubridad y Asistencia Social, Defensa Nacional y Agricultura.

El Poder Judicial está dividido en el Tribunal Supremo, que actúa como Corte de Casación, en seis Audiencias, una para cada Provincia, que son Tribunales de Apelación y Juzgados de Primera Instancia y Juzgados de Instrucción y Correccionales, para las materias civiles y criminales, correlativamente, finalmente existen Juzgados Municipales que conocen de reclamaciones inferiores a quinientos pesos y asuntos de menor importancia.

El Ministerio Fiscal que representa al pueblo y depende del Ministro de Justicia tiene representación en los distintos Tribunales del Poder Judicial en los casos en que se precisa su intervención.

La Nación administrativamente está dividida en Provincias y en Términos Municipales, en las que el Gobierno se divide en Ejecutivo y Legislativo teniendo la Provincia un Gobernador Provincial y una Asamblea o Consejo Provincial, y cada Término Municipal un Alcalde y un Ayuntamiento.

Las seis provincias son: Pinar del Río, La Habana, Matanzas, Las Villas, Camagüey y Oriente. La ciudad de La Habana es la capital de la República de Cuba. La mayoría de edad en Cuba es a los 21 años.

## SINOPSIS HISTORICA DE CUBA

**L**A Isla de Cuba fué descubierta en 27 de octubre de 1492 por Cristóbal Colón en su primer viaje al Nuevo Mundo y descrita por él como: "La Tierra más hermosa que ojos humanos vieron". Colón creyó que Cuba formaba parte del Continente, y así lo hizo constar, pero en 1508, Sebastián de Ocampo bojeó nuestras costas comprobando que era una isla.

En 1511 se comenzó por los españoles la exploración y colonización de Cuba, habiendo sido designado para ello Diego Velázquez, fundándose Baracoa en 1512, Bayamo en 1513; Trinidad, Sancti Spíritus, La Habana y Puerto Príncipe, (ahora Camagüey), en 1514; Santiago de Cuba en 1515. La Habana fué fundada en la costa sur de la Isla sobre el mar Caribe, cerca de donde hoy se encuentra Batabanó, trasladándose sus vecinos a la costa norte, primero en ribera del río Casiguas, la chorrera, y después a donde se encuentra actualmente la ciudad.

Las depredaciones de los bucaneros hicieron preciso la construcción de una fortaleza, en 1540, que fué destruída en 1555 por el pirata Jacques de Lores, levantándose más tarde, de 1558 a 1577 el Castillo de la Fuerza, la más antigua fortaleza de América.

Hernando de Soto organizó en La Habana y de ella partió con su expedición para la conquista de la Florida en 1539.

1634.—La Habana fué señalada en Real Decreto como "Llave del Nuevo Mundo y Antemural de las Indias Occidentales" que simbólicamente recoge el escudo de la ciudad en una llave.

1762.—La Habana fué tomada por el ejército y respectivamente la escuadra inglesa bajo el mando, de Albermarl y Pocock tras ruda defensa de la ciudad y del Castillo del Morro realizada por Luis de Velazco y Vicente González; la ocupación de los ingleses se extendió desde el Mariel a Matanzas, pero al año siguiente los ingleses abandonaron nuestro territorio a cambio de la península de la Florida que habían recibido de España.

1777.—Fueron promulgadas las ordenanzas de comercio libre con las Colonias.

1790.—La designación del General Don Luis de las Casas como Capitán General de Cuba, puesto que ejerció desde julio 9 de dicho año, abrió una era administrativa de progreso y de desarrollo en la vida económica y cultural del país.

1793.—Un grupo de cubanos distinguidos organizó la Sociedad Patriótica que estableció escuelas, academias y publicó el primer periódico.

El esfuerzo de aquellos grandes hombres se ha perpetuado a través de 156 años en la institución que ellos fundaron y que hoy lleva el nombre de "Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País".

1795.—Por Real Decretó fué creado el Consulado de Agricultura y Comercio que propendió a la introducción de nuevos cultivos e industrias.

1798.—En la ciudad de Puerto Príncipe (hoy Camagüey), quedó instalada la Audiencia que como Tribunal de Apelación de los asuntos de Cuba, había venido funcionando hasta entonces en Santo Domingo.

1804.—Fué creado el Arzobispado de Santiago de Cuba.

1812.—Se promulga en España la Constitución por las Cortes de Cádiz, dando iguales derechos a los españoles del Nuevo y del Viejo Mundo, en atención a que los cubanos habían permanecido fieles a la dinastía española, en oposición a José Bonaparte que ocupaba el trono de España.

1823.—El designado el general Dionisio Vives Capitán General de Cuba, quien descubrió y persiguió a los conspiradores de la Sociedad "Soles y Rayos de Bolívar" que laboraban por la independencia.

1825.—Se constituye la Junta Protectora de la Libertad de Cuba que trabaja activamente en México por la causa de la Libertad.

1825.—En 28 de mayo el Capitán General es investido de Poderes absolutos y comienza un régimen de dictadura militar.

1826.—Francisco Agüero Velázquez y Andrés Manuel Sánchez son ejecutados en la ciudad de Puerto Príncipe, siendo los primeros mártires de la independencia cubana.

1827.—Funciona el primer ferrocarril que une a la Habana con Bejucal, anticipándose con ello a muchas naciones de Europa.

1851.—Se producen distintos movimientos por la independencia de Cuba que terminan con la muerte de sus líderes, entre ellos los de Joaquín Agüero, y el del General Narciso López, quien tomó la ciudad de Cárdenas el año anterior, enarbolando allí, por primera vez en tierra cubana, la actual bandera de la república.

1868.—En el 10 de octubre se inicia en La Demajagua, Provincia de Oriente, por Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, la famosa guerra de los Diez Años, plena de actos de heroísmo y sacrificio patrióticos que demostraron al mundo la devoción del cubano por la libertad y su firme propósito de conquistar la independencia.

Durante este período se consagran muchos nombres ilustres: Máximo Gómez, "Perucho" Figueredo, Antonio y José Maceo, Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, Ignacio Agramonte, Julio Sanguily, Calixto García, el poeta Juan Clemente Zenea, (fusilado en la Cabaña en 1871), Tomás Estrada Palma, José Morales Lemus y Miguel Aldama, estos dos últimos representantes del Gobierno Provisional de Cuba en Washington y que visitaron distintos países hermanos en propaganda por la causa de la libertad.

1895.—El 24 de febrero se reanudó la Revolución que había organizado desde los Estados Unidos nuestro Apóstol, José Martí y que culminó con la Independencia de Cuba.

Los principales héroes de esta epopeya libertadora fueron José Martí, cerebro y alma del movimiento libertador y los Generales Máximo Gómez y Antonio Maceo, que en el campo de la guerra llevaron a realización los planes de Martí, y verificaron la invasión de Oriente a Pinar del Río, que puso en pie de lucha todos los rincones de la Isla, oponiendo a las fuerzas españolas, varias veces superiores en número y perfectamente equipadas y parqueadas, el valor, la abnegación y la audacia de nuestros soldados que supieron vencer al general Martínez Campos, al General Valeriano Weyler y al General Ramón Blanco.

1898.—En el puerto de La Habana se produce la explosión y destrucción del barco de guerra americano "Maine".

1898.—En abril 21, la voladura del "Maine" y la declaración conjunta del Congreso de los Estados Unidos, determinan la guerra Hispano-cubano-americana.

Las fuerzas americanas lucharon en Cuba bajo el mando del General Shafter, el General Leonardo Wood y el Coronel Teodoro Roosevelt. Las fuerzas cubanas las mandaba el general Calixto García. Tuvieron batallas importantes en tierra en Las Guásimas, El Caney y la Loma de San Juan.

El puerto de La Habana fué bloqueado. Y la escuadra española, bajo el mando del Almirante Cervera fué destruída por la Escuadra Americana, mandada por el almirante Sampson, frente al puerto de Santiago de Cuba.

1898.—El 10 de diciembre fué firmada la paz por el Tratado de París.

al General Brook.

1899.—El 1º de enero el Gobierno de Cuba fué entregado por los españoles

1899.—En el mes de diciembre el General Leonardo Wood fué designado Gobernador General y bajo su administración se produjeron obras importantes, incluyendo la Ley Electoral, Obras Públicas y Sanitarias, y extensión de los ferrocarriles.

1902.—Previas las elecciones y el triunfo en las mismas de Don Tomás Estrada Palma, se entregó el Gobierno de Cuba por el Gobernador Leonardo Wood al Presidente recién electo, comenzando nuestra era Republicana.

# LA HABANA DE AYER, DE HOY Y DE MAÑANA

POR EMILIO ROIG DE LEUCHSENRING,  
HISTORIADOR DE LA CIUDAD DE LA HABANA

**N**OS complacemos en corresponder a la gentil invitación que nos ha hecho nuestro estimado amigo Sr. Roger Le Febure para colaborar en su **GUIA AZUL DE CUBA**, de 1949, ofreciéndole estas breves cuartillas sobre La Habana, nuestra ciudad capital, de la que nos enorgullecemos de ser hijos, y a la que hemos consagrado buena parte de nuestra vida, empeñados en el propósito de esclarecer y divulgar su historia, costumbres y grandes hombres, con la finalidad de que sea posible, a propios y extraños, apreciar, en estricta justicia, la extraordinaria y trascendente personalidad urbana de nuestra ciudad, centro de las Américas, llave del Nuevo Mundo antemural de las Indias Occidentales, según la calificaron, ya desde el siglo XVII, los monarcas españoles, y su aporte magnífico al desenvolvimiento de la cultura y la civilización universal, así como la significación excepcional que La Habana ha tenido siempre en la historia de Cuba, y no sólo como capital de la Nación, sino por su propia importancia comercial, industrial, política y cultural y por su contribución vigorosa, en grado máximo, al progreso y engrandecimiento nacionales.

Y sin que trate de disminuir los valores espirituales y materiales del campo y de los poblados y otras ciudades de Cuba, no puede olvidarse que Cuba ha sido generalmente conocida en el mundo, por La Habana, y hasta ha llegado, para el extranjero, a ser Cuba, La Habana. En los primeros tiempos de la colonización, aunque es La Habana la última o una de las últimas villas fundadas por orden de Velázquez, y queda establecida inicialmente en Santiago, la capital de la Isla, bien pronto la Isla toda se convierte en La Habana, y existe por La Habana y para La Habana. Durante casi toda la época colonial, la historia de Cuba puede decirse que es la historia de La Habana. Cuando en 1762 los ingleses se deciden a arrebatarle a España ésta, su más importante posesión antillana, les basta tomar La Habana, y no se preocupan del resto de la isla, porque Cuba era La Habana. Y cuando Bolívar piensa que alcancen a los hijos de Cuba los beneficios de sus campañas libertadoras americanas, nunca habla, ni en cartas ni en otros documentos, de la independencia de Cuba, ni de enviar expediciones a Cuba, sino de la independencia de La Habana y de ocupar con sus tropas, comandadas por Sucre o Páez, La Habana; y en cambio, al incluir en esos proyectos independentistas, a los hijos de Puerto Rico, no habla de San Juan, sino de Puerto Rico.

Esta importancia excepcionalmente representativa de La Habana se manifiesta a su vez durante nuestra epopeya revolucionaria emancipadora. No es posible que en La Habana, centro del poder político, gubernativo y militar de España en Cuba, se desenvuelvan los movimientos sediciosos, aunque muchos de ellos en La Habana se preparan y organizan. Pero cuando orientales, camagüeyanos, villareños, matanceros, pinareños, se lanzan a la manigua insurrecta, saben que lo hace para llevar la revolución hasta La Habana y libertarla, porque aun libertadas cada una de aquellas regiones, no serán verdaderamente libres, mientras no sea libre también La Habana.

Después de nacida la República, La Habana ha seguido siendo más conocida en el extranjero que Cuba. Cuba se ha popularizado en el mundo, de entre todos sus productos naturales, por el tabaco. La caña, que constituye la vida —y la muerte— económica de Cuba, no ha logrado imponerse en el mundo como producción cubana, ni a través de la cañana Cuba al alcanzado renombre mundial. Y el tabaco, para el extranjero, no es tabaco cubano, es tabaco **habano**, y por ese tabaco **habano** se ha creado en todo el orbe un color, el color **habano**.

El cubano o el extranjero que hubiese abandonado nuestras playas en los últimos años de la dominación española, y visitase ahora, por primera vez desde entonces, la ciudad de La Habana, recibiría sorpresa y asombro tan extraordinarios con la transformación casi total que durante ese corto lapso de cincuenta años, se ha realizado en nuestra Capital, que le parecería que es otra ciudad, completamente distinta a la que antaño conoció, la que ahora visita, sin haber perdido por ello el encanto de vieja ciudad colonial, en su zona llamada de Intramuros.

Y así es en efecto. De aquella pequeña, apacible y modesta población que en 1899 no llegaba a 250,000 habitantes, con sus calles estrechas, tortuosas; sus costumbres ingenuas y sencillas, por lo provincianas; sus casonas de una a dos plantas, palacios de familias pudientes de la época y las quintas de recreo que poseían en lo que entonces eran lugares de temporadas: el Cerro, Jesús del Monte, el Vedado; sus abandonados y sucios establecimientos comerciales; sus pesados carretones y carromatos, o sus desvencijadas guaguas, sus quitrines y coches de alquiler, sus tranvías arrastrados por fuerza animal; sus alumbrado de aceite, petróleo o de gas., de aquella vieja ciudad, aldea grande, de San Cristóbal de La Habana, ha surgido en medio siglo, como obra de encantamiento, esta magnífica urbe contemporánea, con más de 700,000 habitantes, sólo en el término municipal, y que sobrepasa al millón, teniendo en cuenta los municipios limítrofes, unidos de hecho a la Capital y formando parte intrínseca de la misma; de aspecto y costumbres cosmopolitas; grandiosa, activa, en ininterrumpido crecimiento y progreso material, comercial, industrial, artístico y cultural, en comunicación por mar y aire con todo el mundo civilizado, centro de las rutas que unen a las naciones americanas entre sí y al Nuevo Mundo con el Mundo Antiguo, en vísperas de convertirse en una de las metrópolis más bellas de América y del Universo, para orgullo de sus habitantes y atracción del turismo universal.

Tal es esta Habana, una de cuyas más relevantes características consiste en poseer esa doble personalidad de ciudad a la vez muy antigua y muy moderna. Esa Habana antigua, con sus viejos castillos, iglesias y casonas, con sus plazas, callejuelas y rincones pintorescos. Esa Habana moderna de las grandes avenidas, espléndidos edificios, magníficos paseos, suntuosos clubs y hermosísimos repartos. Esa Habana, que, al decir de Manuel Villaverde, "blanca más que Jerusalén, tiene tres amantes rivales: el sol, el mar y el céfiro". Esa Habana, de la que dijo uno de sus más ilustres visitantes —Alejandro de Humboldt— que era la más alegre, pintoresca y encantadora de las ciudades; y en tiempos más recientes, pidió un periodista norteamericano —William Phelon— que junto a **El Morro** y sobre la faz de esas aguas, fuese esparcida la mitad de sus cenizas, y la otra mitad en la Puerta de Oro, la entrada de la bahía de San Francisco de California, "los dos lugares más hermosos del mundo que había visto, después de cansarse de recorrerlo"; esa Habana, centro de las Américas, llave del Nuevo Mundo; cuna del hombre genial de quien Rubén Darío dijo con justicia, que era uno de los dos

únicos genios aparecidos en nuestro Continente, "Verdadero superhombre, grande y viril, poseído del secreto de su excelencia en comunión con Dios y con la naturaleza": José Martí.

No es posible que dejemos de señalar la importancia, verdaderamente excepcional, de La Habana en la Vida cultural y espiritual de nuestro país; su aporte, el más considerable, sin comparación, a la formación de la conciencia nacional; la fecunda y excepcional labor desenvuelta en el campo de las letras, las ciencias y las artes por muchos y muy ilustres hijos de La Habana, que en todo tiempo, durante la Colonia, supieron poner su saber, su talento y su fervoroso y desinteresado patriotismo, al servicio del bienestar del país, y con sus prédicas y enseñanzas abonaron unos e hicieron fructificar los otros en las conciencias y en los corazones de sus compatriotas los sagrados ideales de independencia y de libertad.

Por todos esos motivos expresados es que La Habana, capital política de la Colonia desde la segunda mitad del siglo XVI, y de la República, ha sido, igualmente, en todo tiempo, centro de irradiación cultural, capital intelectual de Cuba.

## CUANDO LA HABANA FUE CIUDAD

El Rey de España, Felipe II, resolvió acceder a los reiterados ruegos que tanto los vecinos de La Habana, como sus autoridades le habían hecho de que se le concedieran los honores y prerrogativas de ciudad, los que al efecto le fueron otorgados por Real Cédula de 20 de diciembre de 1592, que copiada a la letra dice así:

"Don Phelipe, por la gracia de Dios, Rey de Castilla, de León, de Aragón, de las dos Sicilias, de Jerusalén, de Portugal, de Navarra, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Galicia, de Mallorca, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Córdoba, de Córcega, de Murcia, de Jaén, de los Algarves, de Algecira, de Gibraltar, de las Islas Canarias, de las Indias Orientales y Occidentales, Islas y Tierra firme, del Mar Océano, Archiduque de Austria, Duque de Borgoña, de Bravante, y Milán, Conde Abspurg, de Flandes y de Tirol y de Barcelona, Señor de Vizcaya y de Molina etc. Por cuanto teniendo consideración a lo que los vecinos y moradores de la villa de S. Christoval de la Habana de la Ysla de Cuba me han servido en su defensa, y resistencia contra los enémos, ya que la dha. Villa es de las principales Poblaciones de la dha. Ysla, y donde residen mi Gobernador y Oficiales de mi Hacienda, deseo que se ennoblezca, y aumente. Por la presente quiero y es mi voluntad que ahora y de aquí adelante para siempre jamás, la dha. Villa sea y se yntitule la Ciudd. de Sn. Christoval de la Habana de la dha. Ysla de Cuba, y así mismo quiero que sus vecinos gocen de todos los privilexios franquezas y gracias de que gozan y deben gozar todos los otros vecinos de Sunexantes Ciudades y que esta pueda poner el dho. Título y se ponga en todas las escrituras Auttos, y lugares públicos y ansí se lo llamen los Reyes que después de mi vinieren a los quales encargo que amparen y favorezcan estta nueva Ciudad y se le guarden y hagan guardar las dichas gracias y privilexios y mando a todos mis súbditos y Naturales de mis Reynos y de las dhas. Indias eclesiásticos y seglares de cualquier dignidad, preeminencia y calidad que sean, que llamen e yntitulen a la dha. Villa la Ciudad a quien fuere mostrado, y pedido su cumplimiento: De lo qual mandé dar la preste.



de Sn. Christoval de la Habana y que ninguno vaya ni pase contra este mi privilegio el qual hagan guardar todas y gualesquiera justs. de estos dhos. mis reinos y de las dhas. Yndias como si en particular fuera dirigido a cualquiera de ellas, firmada de mi mano y sellada con mi sello en Heras, a einte de Dire, de mil quinientos noventa y dos años.—Yo el Rey.—Yo Joan de Ibarra, Secretario del Rey nro. Sor. la hize escribir por su mandato.”

## LAS VIEJAS CALLES DE LA HABANA

**AMARGURA.** Esta calle se llamó antiguamente del Calvario, de las Cruces, de las Cruces del Calvario y de la Cruz Verde.

En los comienzos del siglo XVII, la Orden Franciscana estableció un Calvario en el sitio donde se halla hoy la Iglesia del Cristo. Recorrían la calle de la Amargura, desde el convento de San Francisco hasta el Calvario, una multitud de devotos, representando la Vía Crucis. De ahí el nombre de esa calle. Todos los pueblos católicos tienen calles con la misma denominación. En la esquina de Mercaderes y Amargura existe aún una Cruz Verde que da nombre a la esquina como antes lo había dado a la calle.

**AGUACATE.** Antes calle del Aguacate de Belén.

Debe su nombre a que en la huerta del antiguo convento de Belén había un inmenso árbol de aguacate. Las ramas de este árbol sobresalían de la tapia precisamente hacia la parte de la calle a que nos referimos. Los vecinos para señalar sus respectivas viviendas utilizaban como dato indicador el aguacate mencionado. De ahí que corriendo los años, el árbol diera nombre a la calle.

**BERNAZA.** A fines del siglo XVIII hubo en esta calle una panadería. Del dueño de este establecimiento, D. José Bernaza, tomó su nombre.

En época remota, el tramo de Bernaza comprendido entre la Plaza del Cristo y Monserrate se llamaba calle del Caído, por la circunstancia de que un hombre se cayó desde la azotea de una de sus casas a la calle.

**EMPEDRADO.** Su nombre se debe a que fué la primera vía que se empedró con cantos rodados o chinas pelonas. El hecho se remonta a un pasado distante, pues por documentos oficiales se ha podido comprobar que ya estaba empedrada en el año 1641.

Aun en la actualidad puede notarse la gran corriente de agua que se precipita por esta calle en día lluviosos, lo que hace presumir que esa fuera la causa de la preferencia en empedrarla.

**BOMBA.** Se atribuye su nombre a distintas causas. Hay quien afirma que lo tomó por el hecho de haber caído en una de sus casas una bomba cuando el sitio de La Habana por los ingleses, mientras que otros recuerdan el hecho histórico de que a su terminación existía en los comienzos del Siglo XVIII un polvorín que, según un plano de la época se denominaba “Almacén de pólvora a prueba de bomba”.

En 1804 se le llamaba Calle Cerrada de Santa Catalina o de la Pólvora. Precisa recordar que la calle de la Bomba que constaba de dos cuadras solamente,

se unió con la de San Juan de Dios al abrirse una calle a través del Convento de Santa Catalina,

Cuando mediaba el siglo XIX también se le decía calle del Padre Sánchez, apoderado del Hospital de Paula que vivía en ella, o calle del Vigía del Morro por la misma causa.

**ETNA.** Debe su nombre al Teniente General Etna, que era Segunda Cabo de la Isla al ocurrir la invasión de Vuelta Abajo por Narciso López.

También se llamó en tiempos más remotos Callejón de la Ceiba, de la Ceiba del Templete y Boquete de la Ceiba.

En Jesús del Monte existe una calle con el mismo nombre.

**LAMPARILLA.** En tiempos pasados, en la esquina que forma esta calle con la de Habana, vivía un devoto que tenía perennemente encendida una lámpara a las Animas Benditas. A este hecho debe su nombre la antigua calle de Lamparilla.

**MONSERRATE.** Tomó su nombre de la Ermita de Monserrate, mandada a construir por doña Magdalena Corbera y su esposo don Gaspar Arteaga y Ureña. Dicha ermita estaba enclavada en el ángulo sureste de la Manzana de Gómez.

En cierta época, también se llamó de Monserrate, la calle de San Rafael porque siguiendo una línea recta desemboca en la ermita. En la antigüedad esta calle estaba limitada en su parte oeste por las murallas.

**OBISPO.** Se llamó así por haber vivido en el principio de esta calle el obispo Morel de Santa Cruz.

Hay quien dice que la causa es más antigua, pues en un documento del año 1641 se asegura que el obispo Fray Gerónimo de Lara vivió en dicha calle esquina a la de Compostela.

**O'REILLY.** Lleva el nombre de O'Reilly por el que fué subinspector de las tropas que vinieron en 1763 con el Conde de Ricla, O'Reilly hizo su entrada en la ciudad por esta calle.

Antiguamente se llamó del Basurero y de la Aduana. Se le dijo del Basurero porque en ella arrojaban los vecinos sus basuras. Y de la Aduana, por haber estado establecida esta Dependencia al final de la calle a que nos estamos refiriendo.

**PAULA.** Tomó su nombre del hospital de San Francisco de Paula que estaba en su extremidad Este.

**SAMARITANA.** La calle de la Samaritana que es hoy Porvenir debe su poético nombre al hecho de que las monjas de Santa Clara surtían de agua a sus vecinos tomándola de un aljibe del viejo convento.

También se llamó calle de la Huerta del Campo porque en la parte del Convento de Santa Clara que corresponde a esta calle tenían las monjas una huerta.

**TACÓN.** Ostenta el nombre por el General Tacón que gobernó la Isla desde 1834 a 1836 y que en el orden administrativo fué mejor gobernante que sus predecesores, aunque políticamente fué enemigo de las aspiraciones de los cubanos.

**TENIENTE REY.** Don Félix del Rey, Auditor de Guerra de esta Isla dejó su nombre a esta calle. En ella vivió durante algún tiempo.

## INDICES ECONOMICOS DE CUBA

LA Revista CUBA ECONOMICA Y FINANCIERA, especializada desde su fundación en 1926, en el estudio de los problemas económicos y financieros de Cuba, se complace en ofrecer por la Guía "THE BLUE GUIDE TO CUBA" una selección de los más importantes índices estadísticos de Cuba, estableciendo la comparación del último año de 1947 con las cifras de 1946 y de 1939, como año aproximadamente normal de la pre-guerra.

Huelga señalar que el aumento que se ha registrado en el pasado año en el volumen y en el valor de las exportaciones básicas de Cuba, tales como azúcar, sub-productos del azúcar, tabaco, frutas y vegetales, etc., constituyen la explicación del mejoramiento general de los demás índices y el origen de la elevación del standard de vida de la República, cuyo poder adquisitivo en los últimos años, ha permitido impulsar el valor de sus importaciones a las cifras que se cotejan al final del presente estudio estadístico.

Remitimos a nuestros lectores a las comparaciones estadísticas del comercio exterior de Cuba, cuyas importaciones provienen aproximadamente en 68% de los Estados Unidos, y cuyas exportaciones absorben aproximadamente en un 79% los Estados Unidos, en cuanto al valor como promedio.

### VALOR DEL COMERCIO EXTERIOR DE CUBA

Años	Importación	Exportación	Años	Importación	Exportación
1927	\$257,384,062	\$324.367,706	1938	106.007,325	142.677,752
1928	212.816,812	278.069,689	1939	105.861,814	147.676,258
1929	216.215,113	272.439,762	1940	103.860,139	127.288,307
1930	162.452,268	167.410,669	1941	133.890,137	211.507,591
1931	80.111,502	118.865,553	1942	146.737,569	182.375,414
1932	51.024,265	80.672,015	1943	177.436,346	350.622,767
1933	42.361,520	84.390,541	1944	208.648,454	427.058,296
1934	73.418,154	107.746,409	1945	238.935,507	409.924,729
1935	95.464,502	128.022,342	1946	300.227,328	475.864,363
1936	103.214,450	154.846,769	1947	519.890,402	746.592,325
1937	\$129.572,117	\$186.071,036			

INDICES DEL COMERCIO EXTERIOR)	1940	1946	1947
Volumen de mercancías importadas .....Ton. Métricas	1.883,597	3.226,596	3.918,287
Valor de mercancías importadas .....	\$ 103.860,139	\$ 300.227,328	\$ 519.890,402
Volumen de mercancías exportadas.....Ton. Métricas	4.419,228	5.099,915	7.259,313
Valor de mercancías exportadas .....	\$ 127.288,307	\$ 475.864,363	\$ 746.502,325
Saldo favorable del comercio exterior.....	\$ 23.428,168	" 175.637,035	" 226.611,923
Volumen del azúcar exportado.....Ton. Largas Españolas	1.989,192	3.613,480	5.418,717
Valor del Azúcar crudo exportado.....	\$ 61.919,740	\$ 254.714,782	\$ 533.078,630
Valor de la exportación de tabaco .....	" 12.141,000	" 55.602,000	" 34.688,950
Volumen de la exportación de mieles finales.....Galones	152.237,618	112.493,505	218.279,650
Valor de la exportación de mieles finales .....	\$ 4.960,702	\$ 15.299,278	\$ 19.795,410
Volumen de la exportación de alcohol .....	Litros 431,361	93.800,532	117.544,392
Valor de la exportación de alcohol .....	\$ 36,502	\$ 16.912,851	\$ 17.394,253
Valor de la exportación de caramelos (4) .....	" 4.096,392	" 8.659,138	" 3.881,488
Valor de la exportación de frutas y vegetales.....	" 4.235,453	" 9.614,643	" 7.252,129
Precio promedio Almacén público Habana, azúcar crudo, Cts. la libra .....	1.36	Cts. 3.55	Cts. 4.80
Precio Promedio libre a bordo azúcar cruda, la libra.....	" 1.40	" 4.10	" 4.92

INDICES FISCALES, BANCARIOS Y MONETARIOS	1940	1946	1947
Ingresos Presupuestales y de Leyes Especiales .....	\$ 79.327,460(4)	\$ 215.262,258(4)	\$ 287.142,987(4)
Sueldos y Jornales privados, no agrícolas .....	" 139.035,050	" 398.653,500	" 516,475,000
Moneda en circulación en poder del público (1) .....	" 72.310,797	" 375.512,874	" 466.635,964
Ascendencia de la Deuda Pública de Cuba (5) .....	" 221.767,720	" 180.412,075	" 174.518,450
Compensaciones Bancarias (2) .....	" 708.250,551	" 1,840.150,740	" 2,321.856,652
Total de Depósitos Bancarios (1) (3) .....	" 128.758,456	" 502.487,082	" 586.150,788
Total de Préstamos Bancarios (1) (3) .....	" 67.068,072	" 161.845,042	" 174.252,754

INDICES DE PRODUCCION Y DE CONSUMO

	1940	1946	1947
Licencias de Fabricación. Prov. Habana .....	\$ 13.697,202	\$ 34.592,496	\$ 21.133,483
Licencias de Fabricación. Prov. Habana — Número.....	2,144	2,274	1,680
Producción Azúcar crudo .....	2.779,350	3.840,728	5.677,238
Valor estimado de producción Azúcar crudo.....	\$ 84.689,605	\$ 305.414,690	\$ 639.190,250
Producción de mieles finales .....	124.902,620	233.720,060	299.443,334
Valor de la producción de mieles finales .....	\$ 3.784,549	\$ 31.419,051	\$ 39.400,000
Producción de Alcohol .....	37.269,690	192.376,796	143.195,615
Producción de Tabaco en Rama .....	55.426,179	83.489,243	77.107,818
Valor de la Producción Agrícola de tabaco .....	\$ 7.349,153	\$ 37.099,642	\$ 25.000,000
Cigarrillos de tabaco Cubano consumidos.....	312.805,018	439.028,678	456.213,748
Consumo de cigarrillos importados .....	3.082,461	10.415,413	13.217,698
Estimado de producción de Café .....	53.404,683	49.807,232	76.847,817
Producción de Cerveza nacional .....	40.219,113	81.120,300	84.383,615
Consumo Nacional de Gasolina .....	62.990,019	51.121,000	82.840,748
Estimado de ingresos del Turismo .....	\$ 14.411,650	\$ 28.962,800	\$ 36.793,650
Número de Turistas y Excursionistas.....	130,033	119,696	157,609
Número de teléfonos instalados en Cuba (1).....	58,777	77,804	83,743
Número de vehículos motorizados inscriptos (1) .....	47,125	49,899	66,794
Número de consumidores de flúido eléctrico (1) .....	241,794	359,480	391,955
Consumo de flúido eléctrico en Cuba .....	301,346	457,537	486,039
Población de Cuba .....	4.291,063	5.051,850	5.129,686

(1) En Diciembre 31.

(2) Cifras de los Bancos afiliados al Havana Clearing House.

(3) Cifras de los Bancos del Havana Clearing House y otros importantes.

(4) Incluye Presupuesto ordinario; Fondo Especial de O. P.; Además Recargo Tributario (Ley 28 Sept. 1941); Defensa Nacional. (Acuerdos leyes N° 1 y 14 Dic. 1941; y Fomento Nacional. (Ley N° 31 Nov. 1941).

# SITIOS DE INTERES PARA EL VISITANTE

## LAS MURALLAS DE LA CIUDAD:

Como un recuerdo de la pretérita ciudad de La Habana, quedan ruinas de las murallas que en distantes días dieron protección a los vecinos de la ciudad.

Las murallas se extendían desde el Arsenal a lo largo de la costa hasta la Punta, tomando por la calle de Monserrate bordeando el actual paseo del Prado y el Parque de la Fraternidad. Su construcción era resistente y maciza y empezó en 1674, terminándose en 1797 con un costo de cerca de \$1.000,000.00, siendo de señalar que los vecinos poderosos contribuyeron a la edificación de la muralla con el trabajo gratuito de sus esclavos.

## EL CASTILLO DE LA PUNTA:

La construcción del Castillo de la Punta se inició en el año de 1590, al mismo tiempo que el del Morro, que se encuentra precisamente enfrente, al otro lado de la Bahía, destinados ambos a defender el puerto contra las incursiones de piratas, bucaneros y filibusteros, que infestaban las costas del mar caribe. Al llegar las horas de la tarde, el puerto se cerraba con una gruesa cadena que se fijaba de uno a otro castillo, destinada a impedir la entrada por sorpresa de naves piratas.

**LA PUNTA** fué escenario de enérgica resistencia en 1762 cuando la toma de La Habana por los ingleses, ya que distando sólo 250 yardas de las murallas de la ciudad, fué preciso materialmente exterminar a sus defensores para vencer su resistencia. En la actualidad el Castillo de la Punta es sede del Estado Mayor de la Marina de Guerra Nacional.

## PASEO DE MARTI:

Fué uno de los primeros paseos de extramuros el paseo del Prado, sombreado por una doble alameda a los gustos de la época, años más tarde, pavimentado en 1902 por el General Leonardo Wood. El Prado constituyó desde sus primeros tiempos sitio de especial predilección para la sociedad habanera de los siglos XVIII y XIX, y a su vera, se construyeron residencias, siendo a partir de 1914 que el creciente desarrollo comercial fué tomando sitio en el antiguo paseo del Prado, denominado a partir de la República Paseo de Martí. Hace dos lustros, el Prado fué reconstruido, de acuerdo con el diseño de M. Forestier, el urbanista francés de fama mundial, en el mismo se encuentran los monumentos a los ilustres literatos y revolucionarios Juan Clemente Zenea y Miguel de la Cruz.

## LOS JARDINES DE VENTO:

La Taza de Vento, como habitualmente denominan los habaneros a los jardines de Vento, que rodean a los manantiales de donde se surte de agua la ciudad se encuentra a 9 millas al suroeste de La Habana, en cuyo sitio está el aprovisionamiento principal de nuestro acueducto, que se verifica tomando el agua del río a través de un sifón invertido, notable obra de ingeniería debida al ingeniero D. Francisco de Albear y que ha permitido el abastecimiento de nuestra ciudad no obstante el aumento de nuestra población, en condiciones insospechables para su ilustre autor.

### **LA PLAZA DE ARMAS:**

Sus orígenes se remontan a 1577. Por siglos constituyó el foco de la vida social, política y religiosa de nuestra comunidad y el rendezvous obligado de los gobernadores y prelados que rigieron los destinos de la Isla. En su centro se encuentra un monumento a Fernando VII, erigido en 1834, que se conserva sólo por su mérito artístico e interés histórico.

El Templete, el Castillo de la Fuerza, el Palacio Municipal, el Antiguo Palacio del Segundo Cabo,—hoy Tribunal Supremo de Justicia y otras construcciones coloniales enmarcan la Plaza de Armas, restaurada en sus características coloniales el año 1935.

### **EL JARDIN BOTANICO:**

Esta villa se muestra a todos los visitantes como la residencia veraniega de los Capitanes Generales, hoy en día es un Jardín Botánico al servicio de los Institutos de Segunda Enseñanza y Universidad de La Habana.

Puede ser visitado libremente. Para trasladarse al Jardín Botánico pueden tomarse los tranvías "Príncipe-Muelle de Luz" o "Príncipe-San Juan de Dios", en el Parque Central.

### **TORRE DE SAN LAZARO:**

El torreón de San Lázaro fué construído en el siglo XVII, no como fortaleza como muchos suponen, sino simplemente como atalaya o Torre de Vigía en la que se mantenía un observador constantemente, para dar la señal de alarma, en caso de un toque por los piratas que entonces asolaban estas latitudes.

### **TORRE DE LA CHORRERA:**

Construída en 1646 en la desembocadura del río Almendares y tomada por las fuerzas expedicionarias británicas cuando éstas ocuparon La Habana, en 1762.

### **EL PASEO DEL MALECON:**

Este magnífico paseo fué proyectado por el General Francisco Albear, un notable ingeniero cubano, constructor del Acueducto de su nombre, en 1857 y construído en 1902 por el Mayor M. Black, siendo Gobernador de la Isla el General Leonard Wood. La palabra Malecón significa pared y es digno de mención el señalar que el visitante que contemple hoy ese magnífico y bello paseo colocado en el mismo sitio unos años atrás no hubiese visto más que un inservible y árido terreno cubierto de rocas donde se depositaban las basuras de la ciudad.

### **EL CASTILLO DE LA FUERZA:**

Una pintoresca fortaleza de gruesas paredes y una torre de frente a la bahía. Su construcción fué motivada por haber destruído los piratas la primitiva fortaleza, ordenándose entonces por Real Cédula de 1556 la construcción de dicho Castillo, que confió el Gobernador de Soto a D. Mateo Aceituno que se trasladase a la Habana a construir dicha fortaleza.

### **LA ACADEMIA DE CIENCIAS:**

Un edificio viejo y de líneas finas y sólidas sito en la calle de Cuba, en donde fué construído para Convento de los Monjes Agustinos, en 1607, y entregado a la Academia de Ciencias en 1837. Durante la ocupación norteamericana el General Leonard Wood ordenó la renovación y reconstrucción del edificio aun cuando se preservaron cuidadosamente sus líneas originales.

### **IGLESIA Y CONVENTO FRANCISCANOS:**

En donde actualmente se encuentra instalado el Ministerio de Comunicaciones frente a la Plaza de San Francisco, su construcción data de fines del siglo XVI y es uno de los más sólidos y curiosos ejemplos de la arquitectura eclesiástica de la época. En 1737 sufrió una reconstrucción tan extensa que puede afirmarse que el edificio actual es el de esa época y ofrece un magnífico ejemplo de las construcciones sólidas y sombrías cuyo uso era frecuente y la impresión para un visitante es más bien el de una edificación con fines militares o defensivos que de una iglesia y convento. La Torre que tiene tres pisos servía al doble propósito de punto de mira para orientación de los navegantes y vigía para prevenirse contra las incursiones de los piratas.

La escultura que se encuentra a la derecha es en honor de San Francisco de Sales, un sacerdote del siglo XVI que fundó la Orden de la Visitación, y la figura de la izquierda es la de Santo Domingo, que fué fundador de la Orden de los Dominicos en el siglo XII. Las once celdas del antiguo monasterio se proyectan sobre el patio central del Convento y muchos de los monjes que pasaron sus vidas en este tranquilo lugar se encuentran enterrados en ese propio patio.

### **CASTILLO DE SAN SALVADOR DE LA PUNTA:**

Construído como un suplemento al Castillo del Morro como defensa a la ciudad de La Habana y actualmente ocupado por la Marina de Guerra Nacional, situado al final del famoso Paseo del Prado en donde hace esquina con el Malecón, constituye un recuerdo del pasado en medio de un panorama típicamente moderno. Sólidamente construído su antiguo foso actualmente relleno y el portal con arcos indican los finales del siglo XVI en que fué edificado.

### **AVENIDA DE CARLOS III.**

Entre las Avenidas más bellas y elegantes de La Habana hay que mencionar la Avenida de CARLOS III, iniciada en 1835 por el Capitán General Miguel Tacón, Gobernador de Cuba y durante muchos años fué considerada la mejor zona de residencias en la capital. Durante el gobierno de Tacón el final de la ciudad se denominaba Calzada de la Reina y el otro extremo era el Paseo de Carlos III, con la estatua de este monarca, obra del escultor Cosme Velázquez. La Avenida continúa hasta el pie del Castillo del Príncipe, hoy cárcel de la ciudad.

### **CASTILLO DEL PRINCIPE:**

El Castillo del Príncipe corona a una loma del mismo nombre y es una antigua fortaleza que desde hace tiempo se utiliza como cárcel. Originalmente estaba rodeada por un foso de 50 pies y elevadísimas murallas. Se ha dicho que túneles y pasadizos secretos unen esta fortaleza con distintos barrios de la ciudad, aunque hasta el momento no ha sido posible comprobarlo.

### **CASTILLO DE ATARES:**

El Castillo de Atarés es otra antigua fortaleza construída sobre la loma del mismo nombre y dominando el extremo sureste de la bahía de La Habana, fué construída por el Conde de Ricla, sobre el año 1763. En época colonial se utilizó como prisión y sirvió de cárcel al Coronel W. E. Crittenden y 50 compañeros que fueron ejecutados por su participación en la desgraciada y heroica tentativa liberadora del General Narciso López.



## LUGARES DE DIVERSION

Casi todos los teatros de La Habana, hoy dedicados a cinematógrafos, comienzan sus sesiones a partir de la 3 p.m., en forma rotativa, similar a la existente en los Estados Unidos de América.

Siempre hay un lugar interesante donde ir en La Habana, desde muy temprano hasta altas horas de la noche. El Casino Nacional, que es el Monte Carlo de la América Central abre sus puertas todas las noches a las 9 p. m. y permanece abierto hasta las 4 a.m., durante el invierno.

Otros atractivos para el forastero lo son, las carreras de caballos, el Jai-Alai, la Playa de Marianao, los Cafés al Aire Libre, la Playa de Varadero, Jibacoa, Arbellá y otras.

**JAI-ALAI.**—El interesante y divertido juego vasco del que puede disfrutarse todas las noches en el Frontón comenzando a las 8.30 p.m.

**PLAYA DE MARIANAO.**—La Playa de Marianao es una magnífica playa de arena dotada de todas las comodidades modernas y magníficos establecimientos de baños. Hay también un excelente restaurant y barras. En realidad la Playa de Marianao es más bien un Club exclusivo, con excelente servicio, que una Playa Pública.

## PRINCIPALES TEATROS Y CINEMATOGRAFOS

- TEATRO AMERICA, Avenida de Italia y Neptuno.
- " ALKAZAR, Consulado esquina a Virtudes.
- " ASTRAL, San José y Avenida de Menocal.
- " AUDITORIUM, Calzada y D, Vedado.
- " DUPLEX, San Rafael, entre Amistad e Industria.
- " ENCANTO, Neptuno y Consulado.
- " FAUSTO, Paseo de Martí, esquina a Colón.
- " MARTI, Agramonte y Dragones.
- " NACIONAL, Paseo de Martí esquina a San Rafael.
- " NEPTUNO, Calle Neptuno y Perseverancia.
- " OLIMPIC, Línea y C, Vedado.
- " PLAZA, Paseo de Martí.
- " PRINCIPAL DE LA COMEDIA, Animas y Agramonte.
- " RADIO CINE, Avenida de Italia y Neptuno.
- " REINA, Avenida de Bolívar y Rayo.
- " REX, San Rafael, entre Amistad e Industria.
- " RIALTO, Neptuno entre Consulado y Prado.
- " RIVIERA, 23 entre G y H, Vedado.
- " TRIANON, Ave. Wilson entre A y B, Vedado.
- " VERDUN, Consulado, entre Animas y Trocadero.
- " Warner, Calle L y 23, Vedado.

**NOTA:**—Los teatros marcados con asterisco (\*), tienen Aire Acondicionado.



1.—El Capitolio Nacional. 2.—Centro Gallego y Teatro Nacional. 3.—Hotel Inglaterra. 4.—Parque Central. 5.—Hotel Royal Palm. 6.—Tienda "El Encanto". 7.—Hotel Regina. 8.—Cuban Telephone Co. 9.—Parque de la Fraternidad. 10.—Palacio de Aldama.

# HOTELES DE LA HABANA

PRECIOS DE DICIEMBRE 1 A ABRIL 30 1949

Nombre y Dirección	Cuartos con baño	PLAN EUROPEO	
		Sencillo	Doble
<b>HAVANA CITY</b>			
ALAMAC, Galiano 308 .....	50	\$ 4.00- 5.00	\$ 5.00- 7.00
AMBOS MUNDOS, Obispo 153 .....	54	6.00- 9.00	8.00-15.00
BRISTOL, Amistad 305 .....	94	6.00- 8.00	10.00-12.00
GRAN AMERICA, Industria 502 .....	75	2.50- 6.00	4.00- 9.00
INGLATERRA, Prado 416 .....	150	5.00- 7.00	8.00-12.00
LAFAYETTE, O'Reilly 264 .....	50	5.00- 8.00	7.00-11.00
LINCOLN, Galiano 164 .....	130	6.00-10.00	10.00-15.00
MONTSERRAT, Monserrate 401 .....	50	3.00- 9.00	5.00-15.00
NACIONAL DE CUBA, 21 & O Sts., Vedado..	549	15.00-18.00	20.00-30.00
NEW YORK, Dragones 156 .....	120	5.00- 8.00	8.00-10.00
NUEVA ISLA, Monte 259 .....	102	4.00- 6.00	7.00-10.00
OCEAN HOTEL, Malecón Ave. ....	65	5.00- 8.00	6.00-12.00
PACKARD, Prado y Cárcel .....	40	5.00- 8.00	6.00-12.00
PARKVIEW, Colón 101 .....	60	6.00- 9.00	10.00-15.00
PASAJE, Prado 515 .....	75	3.00- 5.00	5.00-.....
PERLA DE CUBA, Amistad 458 .....	55	3.00- 5.00	5.00-.....
PLAZA, Zulueta 267 .....	300	6.00-.....	10.00-.....
PRESIDENTE, Calzada & G Sts., Vedado .....	154	8.00-12.00	11.00-20.00
REGINA, Industria 41 <sup>n</sup> .....	98	4.00- 6.00	8.00-12.00
RITZ, Neptuno 514 .....	80	5.00-10.00	8.00-14.00
ROYAL PALM, San Rafael & Industria .....	200	7.00-11.00	11.00-14.00
SAN CARLOS, Av. de Bélgica 507 .....	50	2.00- 3.50	4.00- 4.50
SAN LUIS, Belascoaín 73 .....	141	3.00- 5.00	4.00- 6.00
SARATOGA, Prado 603 .....	100	4.00- 7.00	7.00- 9.00
SEVILLA-BILTMORE, Prado 255 .....	333	13.00-18.00	13.00-18.00
SIBONEY, Prado 355 .....	40	3.00- 4.50	4.00- 6.50
VEDADO, 19 St. 101, Vedado .....	32	5.00- 8.00	6.00-12.00

## HOTELES PARA FAMILIAS

APARTMENT HOTEL, 8 & 19 St., Vedado....	115	4.00- 6.00	6.00- 8.00
ARECES, Prado 106 .....	36	5.00- 6.00	6.00- 7.00
BIARRITZ, Prado 519 .....	31	3.00- 6.00	5.00- 6.50
CARABANCHEL, O'Reilly 360 .....	26	1.50- 3.00	2.00- 4.00
GRAN HOTEL, Ave. del Brasil 557 .....	80	3.00- 5.00	5.00- 6.00
PALACIO, Ave. de Bélgica 359 .....	30	3.00- 4.50	5.00- 7.00
RESIDENCIAL REGIS, Prado 163 .....	67	2.50- 7.00	3.50- 9.00
TROTCHA, Calle 7ª N° 758, Vedado .....	45	.....	.....
FLORIDA, Obispo y Cuba .....	..	6.00- 8.00	8.00-12.00

## NIGHT CLUBS

- SANS DUCI:** Un delicioso lugar para bailar, comer y beber, muy elegante.
- TROPICANA:** Un rincón romántico. El show es formidable, excelente comida, baile.
- ZOMBIE:** Show variado, a dos cuerdas del Parque Central.
- CASABLANCA:** (Aire acondicionado). Excelente show y baile, frente al Parque Central.
- CASINO NACIONAL:** Uno de los mejores del mundo. Excelente bar y restaurant, y allí se puede probar la suerte.
- JOCKEY CLUB:** El rendez-vous elegante de las mujeres más lindas del mundo. Los shows son excelentes.

## RESTORANES DE MAS FAMA DE LA HABANA

FLORIDITA, ZARAGOZANA, MIAMI, EL PATIO, y COSMOPOLITA, AMANDO, EL PARIS, RIO CRISTAL en las afueras de la Habana, REGULADORA, TOLEDO, RADIOCENTRO, EL CARMELO, LA ISLA, PUERTO SAGUA, SANTA CLARA, TEMPLETE, BAHIA, FRASCATI, VISTA ALEGRE.

## EL MUSEO NACIONAL

Nuestro Museo Nacional se encuentra provisionalmente instalado en la calle de Aguiar, entre las de Amargura y Ave. del Brasil, está bajo la dirección del notable pintor cubano Antonio Rodríguez Morey, Profesor de la Escuela de Bellas Artes San Alejandro. Pronto quedará instalado en el edificio ya en construcción, al fondo del Palacio Presidencial, para dar adecuado local a los tesoros artísticos e históricos que hoy colman las Salas del Museo Nacional, a todas vistas insuficientes para llenar la misión cultural que cuadra a una institución de este género.

De las distintas Salas de nuestro Museo Nacional queremos referirnos en especial a las siguientes, dando sucinta nota de las principales obras en ellas expuestas.

### Sala de los primitivos pintores cubanos.

Allí se encuentran de Escalera, los cuadros de San Alipio, San Antonio y San José con el Niño, todos del siglo XVIII; de Vicente Escobar, Cristo Orando y Retrato de mujer; de Miguel Angel Mederos, la Batalla de Champigni; de Juan Peoli, la Escultura y la Pintura; de José Arburo, el Hombre de la Espada; de Cisneros, Lot y sus hijas; y de Ferrán, Cristo y la Samaritana.

### Sala dedicada a los grandes maestros.

He aquí una relación de las principales telas que se encuentran en esta Sala. Madonna y niño, de Murillo, Escuela Española.

Los Jugadores de Cartas, de Valentín. Escuela Francesa.

Nodriza, por Carlos Van Loo. Escuela Flamenca.

San Cristóbal, por Paolo Veronese. Escuela Italiana.  
El Rey David, de Crayer. Escuela Flamenca.  
Leyenda Flamenca, por Víctor. Escuela Flamenca.  
Mujer con Perro, de Spronk. Escuela Holandesa.  
Barbudo, por Fabrislus. Escuela Holandesa.  
La Virgen y el Niño, Guido Reni. Escuela Italiana.  
Sueño de San José, por Felipe Champaigne. Escuela Francesa.  
San Sebastián, por Ribera, el Españolito. Escuela Española.  
San Bruno Asceta, por Zurbarán. Escuela Española, y  
La Virgen y el Niño, por Memling. Escuela Flamenca.

#### **Sala de los maestros de la Antigüedad.**

Con los siguientes tesoros:

El triunfo de David, del Geuercimo. Escuela Italiana.  
Moisés salvado de las Aguas, de Bassano. Escuela Italiana.  
El Conde Trissino, de Podernone. Escuela Italiana.  
Adán y Eva, de Aníbal Carracio. Escuela Italiana.  
Retrato, por Thomas Lawrence. Escuela Inglesa.  
Retrato de Dama, por Bronzino. Escuela Italiana.  
Lucrecia la Romana, de Tintoretto. Escuela Italiana.  
Abraham visitado por los Angeles, de Giordano. Escuela Italiana.  
José y Faraón, de Matías Preti. Escuela Italiana, y  
Cristo en la Columna, de Van Thulden. Escuela Holandesa.  
Existe en esta sala, un hermoso tapiz de Bruselas del siglo XVII, representando la Construcción del Templo de Salomón.

#### **Sala de pintores contemporáneos.**

De las numerosas y valiosas telas que contiene, sólo nos referiremos a las más notables:

Mi Prima Esperanza, La Dama del Abanico y Antequera, del gran Zuloaga; el Niño de la Sandía, de Sorolla; Playa de Valencia, de Cecilio Plaá; El parte ocupado, de Muñoz; Borde del Sena, de René Veron; el Templo, y Semana Santa en Madrid, de Pradilla; el Rosario en Ascano, de Vega; Pasando la Charca, de Morey, Cumpliendo el Voto, de Romañach; Estudio Dantesco, por Monchalblon, y Paisaje Normando, de Daubigny.

#### **Las Salas Históricas.**

No es posible dentro de nuestro espacio dar siquiera una referencia sintética de las reliquias históricas que atesora el Museo Nacional, y las cuales ha coleccionado en distintas Salas, de las que son las más importantes, las consagradas a la Epoca Colonial, a los hombres de ciencias, poetas, escritores y educadores más notables de Cuba, a José Martí, al Generalísimo Máximo Gómez, a Antonio Maceo, a Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, a los Músicos Cubanos más notables, a la Guerra de Independencia, y a la Etnografía Cubana.

Esculturas, grabados, joyas de la época, porcelanas, miniaturas, hierros forjados, etc., contenidos en vitrinas completan el caudal valiosísimo que conserva nuestro Museo Nacional, que puede ser visitado todos los días en horas de la mañana.

## EL MUSEO DE LA CIUDAD DE LA HABANA

**D**ESPUES de visitar la Catedral, que se halla en estos momentos en pleno proceso de restauración, el viajero no debe perder la oportunidad de visitar, a pocos pasos, el Museo de la Ciudad de La Habana, establecido hace pocos meses en el viejo Palacio del Conde de Lombillo, una de las hermosas mansiones coloniales que que circundan la Plaza de la Catedral, contribuyendo a hacer de ésta uno de los rincones más pintorescos, si no el más, de la parte antigua de la ciudad.

Aunque de muy reciente creación, el Museo es ya un lugar lleno de atractivos para el visitante, y se halla en vías de importante engrandecimiento, gracias al saber, la actividad y el entusiasmo de su Director, el Dr. Emilio Roig de Leuchsenring, que además ocupa el cargo de Historiador de la Ciudad desde hace más de diez años, y que a otras numerosas iniciativas beneficiosas para la ciudad, ha unido la de sugerir, con pleno éxito, a la Cámara Municipal, mediante el apoyo del Alcalde, la creación del Museo de la Ciudad.

Ya contiene el Museo multitud de objetos de gran interés, desde los más antiguos hallados en tierra cubana hasta otros muchos que se encuentran ligados a la historia contemporánea del país.

Pueden verse allí restos de las culturas cubanas nativas: además de restos humanos de siboneyes y taínos —los dos grupos indios principales entre los que habitaron la Isla antes de la conquista española—, hay vasijas de barro, hachas de piedra dura, utensilios y adornos de concha y de hueso, en gran variedad. Esta colección se completa con algunos originales y muy buenas reproducciones de excelentes ejemplares del arte indio de México, América Central y las Antillas.

Entre muchos objetos de la Cuba colonial —láminas antiguas, láminas, llaves y cerraduras, y mil otros utensilios domésticos— el lugar preeminente corresponde a varios muebles hermosísimos, esmaltados en oro y con tapicería de damasco rojo, procedentes del famoso Salón del Trono del viejo Palacio de los Capitanes Generales durante la época de la Colonia, y que actualmente ocupa el Ayuntamiento de La Habana.

En el patio del Museo se yerguen algunas estatuas de piedra o de mármol, procedentes de la Audiencia de Justicia de La Habana, y de la Quinta de los Molinos, residencia veraniega de los Capitanes Generales españoles. Otra pieza interesante es un quitrín, el típico carruaje de dos ruedas en que las más lindas y aristocráticas mujeres de La Habana, acostumbraban pasear en torno de la Plaza de Armas, hace un siglo.

Una amplia sección está consagrada a las reliquias de las Guerras de Independencia —desde 1868 hasta 1898—, y entre ellas, atraen especialmente la atención algunas piezas procedentes del acorazado norteamericano **Mcine**, hundido en la bahía de La Habana, y un antigua y pequeño cañón que ayudó a las fuerzas al mando del Mayor General Mario García Menocal a tomar la ciudad de Victoria de las Tunas, en una de las más resonantes victorias cubanas de la Guerra de 1895.

También contiene el Museo una colección de armas; entre ellas, sables y pistolas de las fuerzas del general Narciso López, el primero que hizo ondear en Cuba la bandera cubana, en Cárdenas, en 1851, mucho antes de que Carlos Manuel de Céspedes iniciara, en 1868, la Guerra de los Diez Años.

La memoria de los grandes hombres que han honrado a Cuba con su gloria, sus talentos y virtudes, mantiénese viva entre las paredes del Museo, en los retratos, autógrafos y reliquias de muchos de ellos, entre los cuales resaltan las numerosas cartas y otros escritos originales de José María de Heredia, el poeta nacional, el célebre cantor del Niágara, y una vitrina consagrada toda a José Martí, el más ilustre de los cubanos, que muestra, junto a numerosas y veneradas reliquias, muchos libros de la biblioteca personal de Martí, con anotaciones autógrafas al margen de las páginas de los volúmenes. Además, el Museo guarda con orgullo un autógrafo y un mechón de cabellos de Simón Bolívar, el magno Libertador de América, y otras reliquias de americanos famosos.

Complétase la riqueza del Museo con la abundantísima documentación sobre historia de Cuba y de América que contienen los libros, rarísimos algunos, que forman la Biblioteca Histórica Cubana y Americana, situada junto al Museo, en el mismo edificio, y también bajo la acertadísima dirección del Historiador de la Ciudad, Dr. Emilio Roig de Leuchsenring.

El Museo de la Ciudad de La Habana y la Biblioteca Histórica Cubana y Americana están abiertos al público todos los días, excepto los domingos, de 9 a 12 y media de la mañana, y la entrada es libre y gratuita.

## EL CAPITOLIO

Majestuosamente en medio de los jardines, rodeado de toda la flora tropical se alza uno de los más notables edificios de América donde tiene su sede el Congreso de la República. Debido a la magnitud de sus proporciones a la elegancia de su decorado, la armonía de sus líneas, la riqueza y calidad de los materiales empleados en este monumental edificio cuyos planos y construcción fueron realizados por ingenieros y arquitectos cubanos, es un honor para el país en donde se encuentra enclavado.

El Capitolio constituye uno de los principales atractivos para el turismo en Cuba y puede ser visitado mediante el pago de la cuota módica de 25 centavos.

## EL TEMPLETE

Aunque fué costumbre de los conquistadores celebrar, como primer acto en los lugares escogidos para fundar ciudades, el de la misa, no hay constancia alguna de que esto ocurriera en el lugar donde se levanta, en la Plaza de Armas el monumento conocido por el Templete. Y la ceiba que allí se encuentra recuerda la que se utilizó como padrón jurisdiccional o picota de la primitiva villa.

En ese lugar, y el año 1754, el Capitán General Francisco Cajigal erigió un pequeño obelisco de piedra.

Durante el reinado de Fernando VII, siendo Gobernador Francisco Dionisio Vives, quedó terminada la reconstrucción del Templete, según se expresa en el bronce conmemorativo. El Templete contiene tres cuadros de Vermay.

El primero reproduce la Constitución del primer Ayuntamiento en Cuba, en Santiago, presidido por don Diego Velázquez. El segundo reconstruye la primera misa celebrada en la villa de La Habana, cuya ceremonia contemplan entre curiosos y tímidos los indios.

El tercero, al que nos hemos referido anteriormente, recoge el acto inaugural del monumento por el Gobernador Vives y es un magnífico cuadro histórico, en el que aparecen los retratos de los principales personajes de aquella época.

El busto de Colón es estimado como uno de sus mejores retratos y John Var-derling, el ilustre pintor americano le estudió cuidadosamente para tomarlo como modelo de su "Colón", en su cuadro "Landing of Columbus". "Desembarco de Colón", existente en la rotonda del Capitolio de Washington.

## LA FUENTE DE LA INDIA O DE LA NOBLE HABANA

**H**AY un rincón dilecto para los habaneros de todos los tiempos, rincón sombreado por palmeras, en que la nota blanca de una estatua de líneas gráciles pone una nota emocionada de reposo y placidez en medio del tráfico perenne que la ciñe.

Hoy como hace un siglo a la vera de esta estatua de la India o de la Noble Habana, cuatro generaciones de habaneros han paseado sus alegrías mozas, antaño en volantas y quitrines, más luego en faetones y calezas charoladas, y hoy en autos bulliciosos y policromados, que raudos pasan, perturbando la serena quietud de la India inmutable que desde su rústico trono parece contemplar complacida y extática el jubiloso desfile que se adentra por los cuatro puntos de la ciudad en una euforia de vida y progreso.

Modelada por un artista exquisito, el escultor italiano Giuseppe Gagini, en Carrara, en 1837, la iniciativa de su erección débese al Conde de Villanueva, D. Claudio Martínez de Pinillos. Durante un siglo permaneció la Fuente de la India enmarcada en el propio lugar.

En la actualidad, modificados un tanto sus alrededores y conveniente armonizado su emplazamiento con el Paseo de Martí y el Parque de la Fraternidad, le sirven de fondo, una rotonda de palmeras, que da aun mayor carácter a la belleza de la India, símbolo de la Noble Habana.

## LA CASA DEL GOBIERNO, HOY PALACIO MUNICIPAL

**C**ON Felipe de Fonts de Viela y Ondeano, Mariscal de Campo, Marqués de la Torre y Gobernador y Capitán General de Cuba, en 1771, teniendo en cuenta el estado de ruina en que se encontraba la Parroquia Mayor, por los desperfectos que en la misma había causado la explosión ocurrida en el navío Invencible, cuya Santa Bárbara, incendió un rayo en julio de 1741, lanzando sobre la ciudad dos grandes moles de hierro que destrozaron el templo; de acuerdo con el Obispo Santiago José de Echevarría, dispuso la demolición de la iglesia, y que en sus terrenos se fabricara, la Casa del Gobierno; sometiendo a la consideración del cabildo celebrado en 24 de enero de 1773, sus planes de perfeccionamiento de la Real Plaza



de Armas y la construcción de la Casa de Gobierno. Merecieron la aprobación del cabildo tanto los proyectos como los planos presentados por el Marqués de la Torre, así como la aprobación real, por R. O. de 21 de diciembre de 1774.

A la mansión en que se instaló nuestro primer Ayuntamiento, la que a su vez era residencia de los Gobernadores Generales, se le llamó Casa o Palacio del Gobierno, aun cuando por la Real Orden de 7 de diciembre de 1769 se le denominase Casas Capitulares.

Su construcción sacose a pública subasta, con arreglo a los planos firmados por Antonio Fernández de Trevejo, ejecutándolas, desde 1776, el arquitecto Pedro de Medina.

Al cesar en el mando el Marqués de la Torre, las obras solo estaban en la cimentación, sus sucesores los generales D. Diego García Navarro, D. Juan Manuel Cagigal, D. Luis Unzaga Amézaga, D. Bernardo Troncoso Martínez del Rincón y D. José Ezpeleta, en especial este último, propiciaron su continuación, y finalmente en 1790, merced al esfuerzo del ilustre Capitán General Don Luis de las Casas las impulsó, pudiendo instalar allí su residencia oficial, destinándose la parte que dá a la calle de Mercaderes para Cárcel, hasta que años más tarde tocole a D. Miguel Tacón, levantar la llamada Nueva Cárcel que finalizó por los años de 1838 al 39. En la Casa del Gobierno, el frente de la calle del Obispo se destinó a una parte, a salón del Ayuntamiento, y a oficinas de la Corporación.

Encuétrase emplazado en un cuadrilátero de ochenta varas por cada uno de sus lados, de mampostería gruesa y solidísima, teniendo todos sus zócalos de granito. Alcanza veinte y dos varas de elevación y cuenta con una amplia azotea circundado de barandas de hierro, con almenas de mampostería a trechos. El frente, que dá a la Plaza de Armas tiene nueve elegantes huecos, afectando los dos últimos que se hallan en los dos ángulos del edificio la forma de miradores. El piso inferior, presenta una galería o portal, originariamente empedrado con pequeños cantos rodados formando cuadro, de diez columnas de piedra bien labradas, que forman nueve arcos iguales.

De 1835 data la talla y colocación del pórtico de mármol que existe a la entrada del Palacio. Compónese dicho pórtico, de dos columnas istriadas de orden corintio, rematadas por capiteles de estilo jónico-romano, adosadas a la pared maestra del edificio, notándose en el friso, esculpidos varios motivos de puro estilo griego, entre los que descuellan dos mascarones en el frente de las columnas. La cornisa, dominadora del pórtico, afecta la forma circular pero cortada, al centro. En el centro del patio de este palacio figura una estatua, de mármol blanco, del gran almirante Cristóbal Colón, modelada el año 1860 en carrara por el escultor italiano J. Cucchiary.

## UN RECORRIDO DE NUESTRA CIUDAD DE INTERES PARA EL VISITANTE

- 1.—**El Capitolio Nacional**, con frente al Paseo de Martí o Paseo del Prado. Las horas de visita son de 5 a 9 p.m. todos los días de la semana con excepción del sábado que son de 9 a.m. a 12 m. Derecho de entrada 25 cts.
- 2.—**Plaza y ceiba de la Fraternidad**. Contiguo al Capitolio se extiende la Plaza de la Fraternidad en la que se encuentra plantada una ceiba desde el año

1928, con tierra de las 21 Repúblicas Americanas que participaron en la VI Conferencia Panamericana.

- 3.—**Convento de Santa Clara.** Esta es una verdadera reliquia Colonial, situado en la Calle de Cuba y Sol, donde radican las Oficinas de Obras Públicas. Fué antiguo convento de monjas Clarisas y en sus patios interiores pueden contemplarse las primitivas casas de la ciudad de La Habana hace cuatro siglos, así como el pequeño matadero de la ciudad.
- 4.—**Iglesia de la Merced.** Está situada en las calles de Merced y Cuba y contiene en su interior valiosas pinturas.
- 5.—**Iglesia de San Francisco.** Ocupa la esquina de Cuba y Amargura, es una de las más antiguas iglesias de nuestra ciudad y fué recientemente reedificada, desapareciendo entonces la torre, de su companario, del más puro estilo maya.
- 6.—**El Palacio Municipal.** Emplazado frente a la Plaza de Armas y del cual damos detalles interesantes en la presente Guía, constituye sin duda un bello ejemplo de arquitectura colonial española, y en su patio, puede apreciar el visitante la estatua del Gran Almirante situada en el centro de un típico patio cubano.
- 7.—**El Templete (1519).** Erigido en la Plaza de Armas frente al Palacio Municipal de la ciudad de La Habana, contiene en su interior tres magníficos cuadros murales debidos al pincel de Vermay que producen tres escenas históricas, teniendo además un positivo valor artístico.
- 8.—**El Tribunal Supremo de Justicia.** En la propia Plaza de Armas a la que hace frente, puede ser visitado el Tribunal Supremo de Justicia, instalado en el antiguo Palacio del Segundo Cabo, una de las edificaciones más típicas de la ciudad, y en cuyo patio se encuentra la más feliz interpretación de Martí, en un busto de bronce, obra del escultor cubano Sicre.
- 9.—**Plaza de la Catedral (1704).** En la calle de Empedrado y en la Plaza conocida con el nombre de La Catedral, en la cual se ha conservado rigurosamente el estilo de la época, se levanta la Catedral con sus dos magníficas torres y en su interior conteniendo valiosas joyas de arte. En su recinto reposaron los restos traídos de Santo Domingo, falsamente considerados como del Gran Almirante y embarcados a España al cesar la dominación española.  
En la Plaza de la Catedral son también dignos de admirarse, como típicas muestras de la arquitectura colonial, los palacios del conde de Casa de Bayona, del marqués de Arcos, del marqués de Aguas Claras y del conde de Casa Lombillo.  
En este último palacio se halla instalada la Oficina del Historiador Oficial de la Ciudad de La Habana, donde se encuentran abiertos al público el archivo Histórico Municipal, con la colección de Actas Capitulares desde 1550, la Biblioteca Histórica Cubana y Americana y el Museo de la Ciudad con muy valiosas reliquias históricas.
- 10.—**La Muralla de la Ciudad.** Un fragmento de la Muralla de la ciudad puede ser contemplado frente al Palacio Presidencial, evocando los días en que los bucaneros y Piratas sembraron de inquietud a la naciente ciudad de La Habana. Contigua al Edificio del Instituto de Segunda Enseñanza de La Habana puede apreciarse otro paño de las murallas de la ciudad, que fijaba el límite

- de "extramuros" y otros restos de aquella cerca de la Estación Terminal y en la Avenida del Puerto.
- 11.—**Peña Pobre.** Esta es una callejuela estrecha que señala el trazado angosto de la ciudad primitiva, del todo ajena a las grandes necesidades del tráfico contemporánea.
  - 12.—**La Iglesia de Santo Angel (1664).** Aledaña al Palacio Presidencial se levanta la Iglesia del Santo Angel, una de las más antiguas de la ciudad, no exenta de valores artísticos.
  - 13.—**El Palacio Presidencial.** Emplazado entre la Avenida de las Misiones y el Parque del Presidente Zayas se encuentra este hermoso edificio que sirve de residencia al Presidente de la República. Puede ser visitado por la puerta Sur.
  - 14.—**Centro de Dependientes.** Esta es una Institución ejemplar surgida del esfuerzo de 40.000 miembros, todos ellos pertenecientes al Comercio de la ciudad, y cuyos espaciosos salones, magnífico gimnasio y suntuosa Biblioteca, son un bello exponente de lo que alcanza el esfuerzo en común.
  - 15.—**Paseo de Martí.** Uno de los principales paseos de la ciudad de La Habana, que comienza en la orilla del mar y termina en la Fuente de la India. Prado, constituye una de las notas típicas de La Habana, universalmente conocido; y los suntuosos edificios que lo bordean sirven en la actualidad de lujosas residencias y de sede de establecimientos comerciales de artículos de lujo.
  - 16.—**Casino Español.** En la esquina del Paseo de Martí y Animas, está situado el Casino Español, sociedad que goza de grandes prestigios, integrada en su mayoría por acaudalados españoles pertenecientes al Comercio y la Industria de nuestro país.
  - 17.—**Teatro Nacional.** En la esquina del Paseo de Martí y San Rafael se encuentra el Teatro Nacional, construido especialmente para celebrar el espectáculo de óperas y alta comedia, siendo notable sus condiciones de acústica.
  - 18.—**El Centro Gallego.** Formando cuerpo con el Teatro Nacional se encuentra el Centro Gallego que reúne 37.000 miembros de la región nórdica española.
  - 19.—**El Centro Asturiano.** Frente al Parque Central está situado el Centro Asturiano, cuyas listas suman 45.000 miembros, son notables sus salones de baile, sus billares y como curiosidad exótica su taberna española. Puede ser visitado a cualquier hora.
  - 20.—**Monumento a los Estudiantes.** Frente al Castillo de la Punta y contiguo al Prado se encuentra el Monumento de los Estudiantes conmemorativo del fusilamiento de ocho estudiantes de medicina ocurrido en 1871, por el supuesto delito de profanación de la tumba del periodista español Gonzalo Castañón. Este crimen político y uno de las más trágicos incidentes de su época mereció la repulsa del Capitán español Nicolás Estévez y la defensa del también Capitán Federecio Capdevila, así como la del profesor Dr. Cubas, frente a las exigencias de los voluntarios enardecidos, que reclamaron y obtuvieron el fusilamiento de los ocho mártires.
  - 21.—**El Castillo de la Punta (1590).** Protegiendo la entrada de la bahía conjuntamente con el castillo del Morro está el Castillo de La Punta, al final del Paseo de Martí y frente al Monumento de los Estudiantes, ocupado actualmente por el Estado Mayor de la Marina Nacional.
  - 22.—**El Parque de Maceo.** Es una de las más hermosas plazas de la ciudad la del Parque de Maceo que corona una magnífica estatua del General Antonio Maceo,

el valiente guerrero que llevó la invasión de Oriente a Occidente, venciendo en cien combates las fuerzas españolas muy superiores en número y en equipo a las del Gran General. Maceo fué sin duda uno de los más nobles y esforzados soldados de la independencia.

- 23.—**La Casa de Beneficencia y Maternidad.** En la calle de San Lázaro, frente al Parque de Maceo, ocupando una amplia superficie se encuentra la Casa de Beneficencia y Maternidad, fundada por el Obispo Valdés, y que ha merecido en distintas oportunidades generoso auxilio de cubanos y de extranjeros visitantes. Constituye un modelo en la América y en ella encuentran asilo y educación los niños huérfanos y abandonados.
- 24.—**Universidad de La Habana.** Coronando el fin de la calle de San Lázaro y sobre una colina está situado la Universidad de la Habana, que contiene en su recinto todos los edificios dedicados a la enseñanza universitaria, así como un Stadium con cabida para 40.000 personas, y los Hospitales anexos a la Facultad de Medicina. En lo cimero de la amplia escalinata que le da acceso se levanta una estatua del Alma Mater debida al escultor Mario Korbel.
- 25.—**Hotel Nacional.** Frente a la Plaza del "Maine" se encuentra el Hotel Nacional, edificado en uno de los sitios más pintorescos de la ciudad, que domina desde su altura, rodeado de bellos jardines tropicales, en los que pone su nota alegre una piscina muy concurrida.
- 26.—**El Castillo del Príncipe.** En la intersección de la Avenida de los Presidentes y el Paseo de Carlos Tercero se encuentra el Castillo del Príncipe, dedicado actualmente a prisión.
- 27.—**El Monumento al "Maine".** En el paseo del Malecón y frente al Hotel Nacional se encuentra el monumento al "Maine", erigido en conmemoración de las víctimas del "Maine".
- 28.—**Vedado.** En la Plaza del "Maine" comienza el barrio del Vedado, sección residencial de la ciudad, y el distrito opulento con suntuosas residencias y bellos palacios privados.
- 29.—**Auditorium.** Perteneciente a la Sociedad Pro-Arte Musical, situado en la calle de Calzada y D, Vedado, es la más importante sala de Música de la ciudad por la cual han desfilado los artistas de más fama mundial.
- 30.—**El Lyceum, Calzada y 8, Vedado.** Es un Club Femenino en el cual la mujer cubana se da intensamente a la tarea de la superación personal y del medio ambiente, y en sus salones se celebran semanalmente eventos artísticos y culturales.
- 31.—**Vedado Tennis Club.** Calzada y 12, Vedado. Un exclusivo Club de Cuba, con especial dedicación a la práctica del "tennis", en cuyos terrenos se han jugado los matches de la "Copa Davis".
- 32.—**Cementerio de Colón.** Es el Cementerio de la ciudad, cuyo pórtico constituye una bella obra artística y en cuyo interior se encuentran numerosos monumentos mortuorios como el de los Estudiantes, y los Bomberos, de positivo valor artístico.
- 33.—**Miramar.** Es un barrio residencial cuya Quinta Avenida constituye uno de los paseos más pintorescos de América y da acceso a los suburbios de la ciudad y de la Playa de Marianao.
- 34.—**Campo de Aviación Militar.** Es utilizado para la celebración de los matches de Polo.

- 35.—**Miramar Yacht Club.** Uno de nuestros más concurridos Clubs marítimos.
- 36.—**Playa de Marianao.** Al final de la Quinta Avenida se encuentra la Playa de Marianao, en la que se agrupan magníficos Clubs privados y una playa pública, "La Concha", con blancas arenas y aguas movidas que la hacen sitio de especial predilección de los habaneros.
- 37.—**Country Club of Cuba.** En el centro del Country Club Park, barrio residencial diplomático, se encuentra esta sociedad con sus extensos y cuidados campos de golf. Puede ser visitada con invitaciones especiales.
- 38.—**Jaimanitas Country Club.** Jaimanitas. Es uno de los más atractivos Clubs, con una bella playa privada, campos de golf, tennis, etc.
- 39.—**Oriental Park.** En Marianao, está situado el Oriental Park, en el cual tienen lugar carreras de caballos durante la temporada invernal diariamente. En el Oriental Park se encuentra además el Jockey Club de Cuba, una de nuestras sociedades más exclusivas de los amantes del deporte de los reyes.
- 40.—**La Ciudad Militar de Columbia.** Fundada por el Ejército Americano y transformada totalmente, es un bello empeño de urbanismo.
- 41.—**El Gran Casino Nacional.** Famoso Palacio de Diversión y Alegría con una bellísima fuente de ninfas debidas al escultor italiano Aldo Gamba. El Casino constituye un centro obligado de visita para todos nuestros huéspedes y un sitio de reunión preferente para nuestra más alta sociedad.
- 42.—**Jardines de la Tropical.** Sobre las márgenes del río Almendares la Cervecería de la Tropical ha construído estos bellos jardines en los cuales todo el esplendor de nuestra naturaleza se manifiesta, en inteligente armonía con los más raros y valiosos ejemplares de la flora americana. Un castillo árabe del más puro estilo pone una nota exótica en medio de un bosque de palmeras y cocoteros.
- 43.—**Jardines de la Polar.** En los alrededores de la Cervecería La Polar, en Puentes Grandes, se encuentran sus jardines que ciñen sus campos de deportes, a los que acuden los fanáticos todos los domingos.
- 44.—**El Parque Zoológico.** El nuevo Parque Zoológico es digno de ser visitado.
- 45.—**Iglesia del Sagrado Corazón.** La Iglesia del Sagrado Corazón se encuentra en la antigua calle de la Reina, hoy Avenida de Simón Bolívar, cerca de la esquina de Belascoaín, hoy calle de Padre Varela, y es uno de los templos más modernos y suntuosos de la ciudad.
- 46.—**El Jardín Botánico.** En el Paseo de Carlos III se encuentra el Jardín Botánico perteneciente al Instituto de Segunda Enseñanza y uno de los más ricos de la América.
- 47.—**La Quinta de los Molinos.** Contigua al Jardín Botánico está la Quinta de los Molinos, antigua residencia veraniega de los Gobernadores Generales durante la dominación española, hoy perteneciente a la Universidad Nacional, que es por su extensión y cuidado uno de los rincones más bellos de nuestra ciudad.
- 48.—**San Rafael y Galiano.** He aquí la esquina más céntrica de la Ciudad, corazón del distrito comercial, adonde afluyen en miles y miles de transeuntes que van a perderse en los comercios vecinos, en los espectáculos, y donde se encuentran entre otros, El Encanto y Woolworth and Co.

# *Unas vacaciones que nunca olvidará!*

## **SIETE DIAS EN CUBA**

**1ER. DIA.** Si el turista ha llegado a La Habana en horas de la mañana, después de inscribirse en el hotel y almorzar, debe dar un paseo por la ciudad para familiarizarse, cuanto antes, con los puntos de mayor encanto e interés histórico. El barrio antiguo es un verdadero tesoro en donde se encuentran la Plaza de Armas, cuna de la ciudad fundada en 1519, el castillo de La Fuerza, viejas iglesias y palacios edificados hace más de 400 años, calles angostas con aceras estrechas, y el Palacio del Ayuntamiento, soberbio ejemplar de la arquitectura colonial española. Recientemente se ha restaurado la Plaza de la Catedral, de ambiente apacible que evoca el fervor religioso de otros tiempos. La Catedral está siendo restaurada. También debe visitar "El Museo de la Habana" que se encuentra en la Plaza de la Catedral. Este paseo por La Habana antigua, impregnada aún de aquel ambiente romántico y legendario, resulta delicioso, y puede terminar, produciendo un notable contraste, con una visita al Capitolio Nacional, considerado el más lujoso de moderna construcción en la América Latina, cuyo costo ascendió a \$20.000,000. La entrada al Capitolio es 25 centavos.

Después de la comida se sugiere dar una vuelta por el Prado y disfrutar, por algunas horas, de la vida alegre nocturna de La Habana, que recuerda las de algunas de las capitales europeas. Participe la animación de los cafés al aire libre, con sus orquestas de bellas señoritas y música típica cubana, visite el Centro Asturiano, uno de los palacios regionales que cuentan con cerca de 50,000 miembros en cada uno de esos clubs; pase un rato en cualquiera de los espléndidos Night Clubs que ofrecen buena música y magníficos "shows", y algunos de los cuales se hallan al aire libre; y termine la noche en el Casino Nacional, Palacio de la Fortuna llamado el "Monte Carlo de América" bello lugar con lujosos salones de baile y de juegos al azar, a los cuales acude una distinguida concurrencia. El precio del paseo nocturno es de \$6.00 por persona.

**2DO. DIA.** La mañana de este día será en extremo agradable pasarla en la playa "La Concha", a pocos minutos de la Habana (precio de entrada \$1, los días laborables y \$1.30 los de fiesta). Este bello balneario ofrece la oportunidad de disfrutar de los deportes acuáticos — nadar, remar, paseos en yate, etc., — y de solearse sobre la fina y blanca arena, o participando de las varias diversiones de la playa. En el restaurant al aire libre se sirve un excelente almuerzo a precio razonable. Si prefiere, puede en vez de jugar una partida de golf en el bellissimo campo del Havana Country Club, u otro similar, mediante el permiso necesario y cumplimiento de ciertos requisitos así como el pago de la cuota de \$4.00 por el uso del campo. Después almuerce en el restaurant de la playa "La Concha", que se halla cerca y regrese a la Habana a tiempo de presenciar un buen juego de baseball en el Stadium de la Habana, a las 3 p.m. Si desea ver algo más de la campaña cubana puede dar el Paseo Campestre, que cuesta \$6.00 por persona, incluyendo las entradas a los distintos lugares de diversiones que se hallan por el camino, lo que resulta sumamente agradable e inolvidable.

Por la noche no debe faltar una visita al Frontón para presenciar una de las emocionantes partidas de Jai-Alai, en las que lucen su maravillosa destreza los más destacados jugadores de este deporte, que inevitablemente incita a hacer apuesta sobre el jugador de su predilección. (Entrada \$1.00). En el Palacio de Deportes se ofrecen "matches" de boxeo y otros buenos espectáculos; y en el Stadium de La Habana hay juegos de base-ball a las 9 p.m., pudiéndose escoger cualquiera de estos lugares para pasar unas horas de esparcimiento, terminando alegremente en algunos de los elegantes cabarets, tales como Sans Sauci, Tropicana, Montmatre, Casa Blanca.

**3ER. DIA.** Si es Vd. aficionado a la pesca, a pocas horas de la Habana, en la costa sur de esta Provincia, se encuentra el pequeño pueblo de Batabanó, renombrado por su floreciente comercio de pesca de esponjas, en donde se pueden pasar varias horas emocionantes poniendo a prueba su habilidad de pescador para atrapar algún enorme peto, o sábalo, de los que abundan en esas aguas. El precio del viaje a Batabanó por tren es de \$2.02 ida y vuelta. Si se hace en automóvil, cruzando los encantadores paisajes que se ofrecen por el camino, el precio es de \$20 a \$25 de La Habana y regreso, llevando de 4 a 6 personas.

Otra excursión agradable se puede hacer al Mariel, en donde se encuentra la Academia Naval (entrada libre). Seguidamente se sigue un paseo en lancha por la pintoresca bahía y más tarde, el almuerzo de deliciosos mariscos cuya especializada preparación ha dado fama a ese lugar. Por la noche se podrá oír buena música por la Banda Municipal que ofrece sus conciertos en el Anfiteatro, a las 8:30 p.m. y asistir al de la notable Orquesta Filarmónica de La Habana que ofrece los domingos por la mañana (dos veces al mes) en el Teatro Auditorium a precio popular de entrada. Además, hay operetas y funciones típicas, revistas, etc., en otros teatros de la ciudad; exhibición de buenas películas y exposiciones de arte.

**4TO. DIA.** Otro día inolvidable se puede pasar en el campo. Visite el Central Hershey y vea el maravilloso proceso de la fabricación de azúcar, crudo y refinado. Si Ud. es aficionado al golf o al tennis, allí podrá desplegar su habilidad en uno u otro de estos deportes, en los espléndidos "courts" de ese ingenio y después saborear una buena comida preparada en el Hotel que allí ofrece sus servicios, o llegarse hasta la bella playa de Jibacoa y almorzar en su típico restaurant.

El precio del viaje a Hershey por el ferrocarril que parte de Casa Blanca (al otro lado de la bahía de La Habana) es de \$1.00 por persona.

No le sugerimos el modo de pasar la noche porque ya sin duda Vd. estará bien familiarizado con los atractivos de la vida nocturna de esta bella ciudad, y escogerá lo que sea más de su agrado.

**5TO. DIA.** Dedíquese la mañana a hacer compras. Las tiendas de La Habana son verdaderas tentaciones.

Por la tarde se sugiere una visita al Castillo del Morro y la Fortaleza de la Cabaña. La travesía se hace por lancha y al desembarcar se hallará en un ambiente misterioso de siglos pasados. Los fosos, túneles, calabozos, cámaras de tortura y muchas otras cosas impresionan y dan lugar a emociones palpitantes. Allí se verán las huellas de acontecimientos históricos, como la toma de La Habana por los ingleses, los sacrificios de los mártires de la patria que tenían lugar en los Fosos de los Laureles, los instrumentos de tortura, etc., etc., que lo harán erizar de la impresión que han de causarle. Se pueden tomar vistas del exterior de estas fortalezas, pero al entrar a ellas, su cámara fotográfica la retendrá el guardia a la

puerta, para devolvérsela a su salida, ya que está estrictamente prohibido tomar vistas del interior de las expresadas fortalezas.

**6TO. DIA.** No debe faltar una visita a la ciudad de Matanzas, llamada "Atenas de Cuba", culta y sociable, situada entre paisajes famosos por su belleza, tales como el Valle del Yumurí, y pintorescos ríos que la circundan. Después de visitar las Cuevas de Bellamar y otros lugares de interés en las cercanías de la ciudad, se debe seguir viaje a la playa de Varadero considerada la más bella del Atlántico por su mar de maravillosas tonalidades de azul y la deslumbrante blancura de su arena. Allí se puede gozar de las numerosas diversiones, tenis, golf y deportes acuáticos, y saborear un buen almuerzo o comida en cualquiera de los hoteles de la playa o en el maravilloso "Kawama Club". El viaje de regreso puede hacerse por aeroplano, en sólo 30 minutos se encontrará en La Habana. El precio del vuelo de La Habana a Varadero y retorno, es de \$9.25.

**7MO. DIA.** Otro viaje muy interesante puede hacerse a la legendaria Isla de Pinos que sirvió de inspiración a Robert Louis Stevenson para su novela titulada "La Isla de los Tesoros". Allí se gozará navegando en bote por las aguas cristalinas de sus numerosos ríos en cuyos recodos, aún desconocidos, se dice que los piratas escondían sus tesoros, producto de los saqueos que llevaban a cabo. En esta romántica Isla verá los montes de precioso mármol y playa de arena negra que tanto llaman la atención. En 39 minutos se puede hacer el viaje de La Habana a Isla de Pinos, en avión, a un costo de sólo \$12.95, ida y vuelta. Si se prefiere se puede ir por tren especial que hace combinación con el vapor que sale de Batabanó a las 8 de la noche y arriba a Nueva Gerona a la madrugada siguiente; este viaje cuesta \$12.05 ida y vuelta. Si se hace en noche de luna se experimentará la más grata emoción y el deleite indescriptible de algo que nunca puede olvidarse.

Si se ha decidido a permanecer en el país por varios días más, sugerimos una visita a San José del Lago, lugar encantador cerca de Mayajigua cuyos atractivos los realzan las maravillosas fuentes medicinales que se han hecho famosas debido a las sorprendentes curas que sus aguas han efectuado. Hay un excelente hotel, y cabañas aparte, equipadas con el objeto de dar el mayor confort posible con todas las comodidades modernas; en el hotel se sirven excelentes comidas — todo lo cual contribuye a que la estancia en ese lugar de apacible belleza se recuerde siempre con el mayor placer. También no se debe omitir una visita a Rancho San Vicente, situado en las afueras del Valle de Viñales, tan celebrado por su grandiosa belleza. Para llegar a Rancho San Vicente hay que pasar por la región de la Provincia de Pinar del Río que produce el mejor tabaco del mundo, cuyas vegas son dignas de admiración.

Para satisfacer sus inclinaciones académicas, le indicamos una visita a la Universidad de La Habana, fundada en 1728 y considerada uno de los principales centros docentes de América. Todos los años, durante el verano, la Universidad ofrece cursos especiales del idioma español, a los cuales concurren numerosos maestros y estudiantes extranjeros.

Visite también la Escuela "San Alejandro", El Lyceum Lawn Tennis Club, La magnífica biblioteca de la Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País.

La Corporación Nacional del Turismo, situada en Cárcel Nº 109, esq. al Paseo del Prado, dá información, gratuita, y contesta las preguntas que se le hagan.



## CLIMA Y TEMPERATURA

El clima de Cuba ha sido definido por uno de lo más eminentes metereólogos, el Padre Mariano Gutiérrez Lanza, ex-Director del Observatorio de Belén, como clima "templado y ligeramente caluroso". Debido a la feliz situación geográfica que tiene la Isla, situada en la entrada del Golfo de México y frente al Océano Atlántico, nunca se han experimentado en la Isla esos calores extremos propios de otros tropicales. La temperatura media es de 79º grados y el máximo que se ha experimentado es el de 81º (Fahrenheit).

El fenómeno de muertes por asfixia o calor es desconocido en Cuba, por esa razón puede ser libremente visitada por los turistas, aun en pleno verano.

Puede asegurarse que no hay otro lugar en el Mundo en donde se disfrute de una temperatura más agradable a la que prevalece en Cuba durante los meses de invierno.

## BALNEARIOS MEDICINALES

Cuba es un país con el que la Naturaleza ha sido sumamente pródiga. Tiene fértiles tierras que producen una variedad infinita de frutos, fina madera para construcción, vegetales y café, azúcar y tabaco, que son considerados los mejores del mundo.

Tiene también notables balnearios de aguas medicinales en San Miguel y San Diego de los Baños, dichas aguas gozan de reputación nacional. También muy estimadas por sus propiedades curativas son las aguas medicinales de Santa María del Rosario, Madruga, Santa Rita, Soroa, Mayajigua o San José del Lago. Uno de los lugares más pintorescos de Cuba. El Sr. Berrayarza lo atenderá a cuerpo de Rey. El número de personas que se tratan en estos balnearios aumentan cada día.

## ISLA DE PINOS

La Isla de Pinos se encuentra situada en el Mar Caribe, aproximadamente a unas sesenta millas de la costa sur de la Isla de Cuba, separada de Jamaica por una distancia de 440 millas y del Canal de Panamá por 840 millas.

Su extensión superficial es de 1,180 millas cuadradas, lo cual viene a ser poco menos que la superficie del estado de Rhode Island, en los Estados Unidos, que alcanza 1,248 millas cuadradas.

Descubierta por Cristóbal Colón en su segundo viaje, el día 3 de Junio de 1,502, recibió del gran Almirante el nombre de "La Evangelista", por el cual fué conocida en los inicios de su colonización. Los indios la nombraban "Camaraco". Después de su descubrimiento por los españoles permaneció abandonada hasta el año 1,627 en que principió a ser colonizada por el Capitán del Ejército Don Hernando de Pedroso, que la recibió del Rey de España como una merced a sus servicios militares.

## FIESTAS OFICIALES

**Enero 28.**—Natalicio de José Martí en 1853.

**Febrero 24.**—Aniversario de la Guerra de Independencia de 1895-98.

**Mayo 1.**—Fiesta del Trabajo.

**Mayo 20.**—Aniversario de la Proclamación de la República en 1902.

**Octubre 10.**—Aniversario de la Guerra de los 10 Años. (1868-1898).

**Octubre 12.**—Día de las Américas.

**Diciembre 7. Duelo Nacional.**—Aniversario de la Muerte de Antonio Maceo en 1896.

## LA DESTRUCCION DEL ACORAZADO "MAINE" EN LA BAHIA DE LA HABANA EN LA NOCHE DEL 15 DE FEBRERO DE 1898

**D**ESDE 1868 al 1878 había existido en Cuba un estado de guerra entre los cubanos y sus gobernantes españoles que los oprimían. En 1895 se reanudó en la Isla la revolución contra España, reclamando los cubanos su total independencia y la guerra, cruenta en extremo, produjo innumerables daños a las propiedades extranjeras en el país y fué causa de un fuerte movimiento de opinión en los Estados Unidos, en el sentido de que el Gobierno Americano interviniese directamente en los problemas cubanos. Los Estados Unidos rehusaron dar ese paso, pues se encontraban en paz con España, nación amiga, y enviaron a Cuba en visita amistosa al acorazado "Maine", con las instrucciones usuales, de velar por las vidas y propiedades de los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos que pudiesen correr peligro. En la noche del 15 de febrero de 1898 el "Maine" fué destruído por una explosión y dos de sus oficiales y 258 miembros de la tripulación perecieron. Un Tribunal de investigación rindió informe en el sentido de que el "Maine" fué destruído por una explosión submarina, aun cuando dicho Tribunal no fijó, en concreto, sobre nadie la responsabilidad del hecho. El Gobierno de España expresó su pesar por tan lamentable acontecimiento y su creencia que fué causado por una explosión interna en la parte anterior del buque y recomendó un Tribunal de Arbitraje que fué rehusado por los Estados Unidos. A partir de este momento el sentimiento en los Estados Unidos en relación al problema cubano se hizo tan intenso que el Congreso pasó una Resolución en que se declaraba lo siguiente: "Que el pueblo de Cuba es y de derecho debe ser libre e independiente; que es deber de los Estados Unidos el demandar de España la renuncia de sus derechos sobre Cuba y retirar sus fuerzas armadas de la Isla; que el Presidente de los Estados Unidos queda encargado y autorizado para usar todas las fuerzas armadas de los Estados Unidos y llamar las milicias con el objeto de llevar a cabo esta Resolución; que los Estados Unidos expresan su intención de no ejercer ningún dominio o soberanía sobre dicha Isla excepto para la pacificación de la misma y su propia determinación y cuando esa finalidad sea cumplida dejar el Gobierno y su control en manos de sus habitantes". Esta Resolución fué el inicio de la Guerra Hispano-cubanoamericana, en que, por la acción conjunta del ejército y la escuadra americana y el Ejército Libertador cubano fueron derrotadas las fuerzas de mar y tierra españolas. Con este monumento se ha querido rendir por la República de Cuba homenaje de recuerdo a

las víctimas de aquella catástrofe y perpetuar el noble y solemne reconocimiento del pueblo norteamericano del derecho que tenía el pueblo cubano a alcanzar su independencia y libertad.

## GUIE SU PROPIO AUTO EN CUBA

Cuba por auto, ferrocarril, vapor o avión está considerada por todos los viajeros de experiencia como la tierra más bella de América y nosotros sin temor a equivocarnos podemos asegurar a los futuros visitantes que no existe la mínima posibilidad de una era de desórdenes políticos.

Tanto el turista que utilice el automóvil como medio de transporte o los que vengan por avión serán cordialmente recibidos en Cuba, pero es sin duda el turista que viaje en automóvil el que será objeto de las dos nuevas cortesías. Primeramente todos los automóviles de turistas serán admitidos en el territorio de la República libres de derechos durante un período de seis meses. Segundo, el Automóvil Club de Cuba aceptará como miembros o socios a los turistas que traigan credenciales acreditando que están asociados a cualquier Automóvil Club de los Estados Unidos siempre y cuando dicho Club sea afiliado al International Association of Recognized Automobile Clubs. Este intercambio de cortesías entre los Clubs americanos y cubanos les permitirá a los turistas el disfrutar de las mismas ventajas y comodidades que tienen en su propio país.

Para facilitar a los turistas su entrada en Cuba con sus automóviles la Comisión del Turismo envía sus delegados a la llegada de los vapores para prestar cualquier auxilio o servicio a los visitantes y facilitarles sus derechos en la Aduana.

No se requiere fianza alguna para automóvil en los primeros ciento ochenta días, una simple declaración que contenga una descripción del automóvil y justifique su propiedad, así como la intención del dueño de reembarcarlo al lugar de su destino dentro de 180 días, es el único requisito. Las licencias, documentos y chapas del Estado en que reside el declarante son, por tanto, suficientes para que pueda disfrutar del automóvil libremente durante su estancia en la Isla.

Si el turista desea permanecer más de los 180 días anteriormente señalados, puede conseguir una ampliación por 90 días con el simple requisito de una fianza que asegure el pago de los derechos al expirar dichos noventa días y además el pago de la licencia de circulación por los tres meses anteriormente devengados; el costo mínimo de dicha licencia es de \$15.00 y el máximo \$40.00, de acuerdo con el tamaño del automóvil.

La nueva Carretera Central construída expresamente para el tráfico de automóviles, es una carretera absolutamente moderna, construída de cemento y asfalto, tiene 20 pies y 6 pulgadas de ancho y se extiende desde Pinar del Río en el Oeste y pasando por La Habana hasta Santiago de Cuba, en el Este, una distancia total de 711 millas.

En toda la carretera se encuentran pueblos y ciudades, cada una con distintos atractivos para el turista y en los que es fácil encontrar espléndidos hoteles, antiguos edificios de interés histórico y otros motivos para hacer el viaje interesante.

A medida que se aleja hacia el Este el viajero, encuentra paisajes agrestes como el histórico Valle del Yumurí; los grandes Ingenios de Las Villas, las llanuras fértiles y exuberantes de Camagüey y las montañas de Oriente, algunos de cuyos picos llegan a milla y media de altura.

La carretera se extiende en dirección sureste hacia Holguín, cruza por Bayamo y finalmente termina en Santiago de Cuba.

En toda la carretera hay estaciones de servicio con todo lo necesario y los hoteles ofrecen amplitud de comodidad al turista, el que recorriendo a Cuba por la Carretera Central podrá decir al regresar a su país que ha visto y conocido a Cuba de un extremo al otro de la Isla.

## C A R R E T E R A S

Hay espléndidas carreteras en las cercanías de La Habana, todas construídas de macadam o asfalto, bordeadas de palmeras y en otros lugares por siembras pintorescas de bambúes. Sin embargo, el haber visitado y conocida La Habana no significa haber visitado a Cuba. Un concepto de la belleza natural de la Isla puede adquirirse en los paisajes cercanos a la Capital, no se necesita alejarse gran distancia para poder apreciar la vida campestre con sus detalles siempre tan interesantes para el turista.

(Véanse mapas de carreteras en las páginas 175 a 180).

## IGLESIAS DE LA HABANA

Bajo el Gobierno de España la Iglesia Católica, Apostólica y Romana era la Iglesia y religión oficial de la Isla de Cuba, estaba terminantemente prohibido celebrar oficios de otras religiones y en una circular dictada por el Gobernador con el objeto de facilitar la inmigración, se decía que únicamente los católicos romanos podían habitar la Isla de Cuba. La Biblia Protestante fué decomisada en la Aduana de La Habana. En algunas ocasiones se hicieron esfuerzos para que algunos protestantes pudiesen construir una Iglesia para su culto, tan recientemente como cuando se celebraron los funerales de las víctimas del "Maine" el Capitán Sigsbee solicitó del Obispo un permiso para que pudieran leerse las oraciones del culto protestante en dicho funeral; esa petición fué cortesmente rehusada expresando el Obispo su sentimiento al no poder complacerlo.

El advenimiento de la República modificó este estado de cosas y hoy se profesan libre y abiertamente todas las religiones, existiendo en La Habana varios templos protestantes.

Las Iglesias y Ordenes Religiosas, en época colonial eran muy ricas, poseyendo grandes plantaciones y siembras, en su mayor parte legados de los devotos.

Las ceremonias públicas de Semana Santa, grandes procesiones llenaban las calles y las imágenes y distintos objetos eran portados por los fieles.

Todas estas costumbres en gran parte ya han desaparecido, pues aun cuando eran pintorescas e interesantes, ya no están de acuerdo con el modo de sentir de la época en que vivimos.

El Gobierno Eclesiástico de la Isla de Cuba, que no tiene carácter oficial, pues la Iglesia se encuentra totalmente separada del Estado, lo componen el Arzobispado de Santiago de Cuba, el Arzobispado de La Habana y los Obispados de Matanzas, Cienfuegos y Camagüey.

Entre las Iglesias que merecen mención en La Habana, están las siguientes:

### **San Agustín:**

En las calles de Aguiar y Amargura, antiguamente fué un monasterio construído en 1608 y es la Iglesia más antigua de la ciudad. Merecen ser mencionados los decorados en relieve esculpidos en las paredes.

### **La Merced:**

En las calles de Cuba y Merced, es la Iglesia más rica y aristocrática de la ciudad, al extremo de que sus servicios se conducen con una orquesta completa. Se construyó en 1746; fué reconstruída en 1792 y su interior ha sido lujosamente decorado en los últimos años. Tiene magníficos altares de marmol y excelentes pinturas, y entre varias antigüedades de gran valor se cuenta un cuadro que representa un grupo de indios siendo muertos por los conquistadores.

### **Iglesia del Sagrado Corazón:**

En la antigua Calzada de la Reina, una bellísima Avenida y lugar apropiado para tan monumentos edificio. Sus torres se elevan a gran altura sobre los edificios colindantes y es un duplicado de la famosa catedral gótica de León, España. Su diseño y construcción estuvieron a cargo de un arquitecto miembro de la Orden Jesuíta, el Hno. Luis Gogorza; fué terminada en 1923 y el Obispo Pedro González Estrada ofició en la consagración el día 2 de mayo de 1924. Los cristales que decoran las ventanas son una verdadera obra de arte y fabricados en Francia a un costo de \$54,000.00. El Altar Mayor fué el regalo de un español generoso, D. Narciso Gelats, y construído en Madrid, costando \$72,000.000 y en el mismo se emplearon las más preciosas maderas de Cuba, ónis mexicano y mármoles italianos.

### **El Nuevo Colegio de Belén:**

Un bello y moderno edificio, sito en Buenavista, que es un suburbio de Marianao, contiene el equipo más moderno que se pudo adquirir para fines de enseñanza. Fué completado en 1925, tiene un excelente Museo, Biblioteca, Observatorio y además un Hospital y Escuelas Técnicas; al Padre Goberna de este Colegio y Director del Observatorio, se le reputa como una de las mayores autoridades en ciclones y su informe y boletines orientan la opinión pública en caso de peligro por estos meteoros.

Uno de los detalles más interesantes de este Colegio es la Gran Estatua del Sagrado Corazón, esculpida en mármol de Carrara.

### **Iglesia del Angel:**

O la Iglesia del Santo Angel Custodio, que es su nombre oficial, fué fundada por los jesuítas en 1662. Ocupa un lugar prominente en la loma de Peña Pobre. Fué originariamente una dependencia de la Catedral, tiene diez Capillas y hay que señalar los medallones en el techo que son el trabajo del gran pintor catalán Manuel Roig.

### **La Iglesia de San Francisco:**

En la calle de Cuba, pertenece a la Orden de San Francisco de Asís que reconstruyeron totalmente dicho edificio en el año de 1925.

### **La Iglesia del Cristo:**

Está frente a la pequeña plaza de su nombre y tiene dos torres antiguas dignas de ser observadas por el turista. Esta Iglesia celebra sus cultos en inglés y en español, teniendo muchos feligreses extranjeros.

### **Iglesia de Monserrate:**

La Iglesia de Monserrate dedicada a la famosa virgen de su nombre en Cataluña, es un aceptable edificio moderno con poco que sea interesante para el turista.

### **El Convento de Santa Clara:**

Un antiguo convento de grandes paredes en la parte vieja de la ciudad, fundado por las monjas clarisas en 1635. Hace algunos años fué comprado por el Gobierno y dedicado las oficinas del Ministerio de Obras Públicas, de sumo interés para el visitante, pues sus patios se conservan intactos y puede verse un aspecto de La Habana de hace 300 años, es sin duda uno de los recuerdos históricos más interesantes.

## **A Z U C A R**

De todas las fuentes de riqueza de Cuba, la más importante y la que constituye la base de su bienestar es la fabricación del azúcar de Caña. Debido a la abundancia de las lluvias, a la fertilidad de su suelo y a las condiciones de su clima, Cuba es, indudablemente, el mayor centro de cultivo de la caña y de la producción de azúcar en el mundo. Por ello, y por el desarrollo extraordinario que esta industria ha alcanzado en el país, exige que se le dedique un capítulo especial.

Se dice que fué Diego Velázquez, el primer gobernador de Cuba (1511-1524) quien introdujo en el país la caña de azúcar; pero por muchos años su cultivo se mantuvo estacionario desarrollándose con mucha lentitud durante el siglo XVII y casi todo el XVIII.

Las reformas introducidas en el régimen económico y comercial de la Isla a principios del pasado siglo dieron un gran impulso a la producción de azúcar, que en 1817 llegó a cerca de setenta mil toneladas, aumentó a noventa mil en 1830, a doscientas mil en 1840 y a trescientas mil en 1850.

A las primitivas máquinas sucedieron los trapiches, menos imperfectos, movidos por bueyes y caballos. A partir del citado año de 1850 empezaron a introducirse nuevas máquinas y otros aparatos complementarios para la fabricación del azúcar, en los que se sustituía la fuerza animal por la de vapor, y se ensayaron nuevos sistemas en el cultivo de la caña y en la economía de la industria; hasta después de la paz de 1878 fué cuando uno y otra entraron en una franca vía de progreso, merced a los adelantos científicos de la época e impuesto por la necesidad de la reforma del sistema de trabajo producida por la abolición de la esclavitud.

Hoy existe una asombrosa diferencia entre los ingenios de hace medio siglo y las fábricas del día, centros de producción en los que se tiende cada vez más a separar la parte agrícola de la fabril, y ésta dotada de maquinaria y aparatos modernos de todas clases; así como los campos dedicados a aquélla están cruzados por líneas de ferrocarril que facilitan el transporte del fruto a la fábrica, y de los productos de ésta a los almacenes y lugares de exportación.

Los campos de caña son hoy fincas, denominadas "colonias", que se dedican a ese cultivo, y que a veces están situadas muy lejos de la fábrica a la que proveen, mediante contrato con los dueños de éstas.

La industria de la fabricación del azúcar está perfectamente organizada en la actualidad, existiendo 172 fábricas, denominadas Ingenios Centrales, distribuidas entre las seis Provincias.

## T A B A C O

Esta planta solanácea, cuyas ricas hojas, cosechadas en tierras cubanas, se reputan como las mejores del mundo, es indígena de la Isla de Cuba y ocupa el segundo lugar entre sus valiosos productos. Aunque su cultivo no es tan extenso como el de la caña de azúcar, es objeto de dos industrias importantes, una de las cuales comprende el preparado y empaque de sus hojas para la exportación y la otra la fabricación de millones de tabacos y cigarros que se consumen en el país y se exportan al extranjero. Esta última industria, que representa riquezas considerables y en la que se emplea gran número de obreros prácticos, contribuye grandemente al bienestar de las clases trabajadoras de las ciudades.

El tabaco requiere para su cultivo terrenos ricos, sueltos y arenosos, de los cuales se encuentran los mejores en la provincia de Pinar del Río, especialmente en la parte Sur, donde se cosecha el tabaco conocido por de Vuelta Abajo, que por su calidad exquisita ha llegado a alcanzar el precio más elevado, particularmente en España, Inglaterra y en los Estados Unidos.

También en la parte central y oriental de la isla se cosecha algún tabaco de buena calidad, especialmente en las afamadas vegas de Manicaragua, al Este del río Arimao, en la provincia de Las Villas.

Esta planta, a diferencia de la caña, requiere abono y exquisitos cuidados; debido al valor de sus productos, muchas siembras de las de mejor calidad se cultivan en vastos terrenos cubiertos por un tela fabricada exprofeso para ese fin; y no es raro que se inviertan mil pesos en preparar una hectárea (dos y medio acres) de tierra antes de sembrarla en los meses de otoño.

La cosecha se recoge a los 90 días de sembrado el tabaco, y entonces se procede a curarlo, seleccionarlo y empacarlo.

El cultivo de tabaco ha mejorado notablemente, y en lo que se refiere a la resistencia, calidad y cantidad de las plantas, se han obtenido excelentes resultados. De modo que una cosecha que anteriormente era incierta y dependía en gran parte de las condiciones del clima, está hoy sujeta a la inteligencia y dominio del hombre

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Index to Contents

	<u>PAGE</u>
FOREWARD .....	3
CUBA, Geographical Location, Area and Population By Provinces.....	5-9
HISTORY, Prehistoric Cuba, Arrival of the Spaniards, Synopsis of History...	11-19
The Government of the Republic of Cuba.....	21-23
HAVANA, Your first visit .....	25-28
Morro Castle Fortress .....	29-31
Cabaña Fortress .....	33-35
Sutedents Memorial .....	42-43
The Destruction of the U. S. Battleship Maine in 1898.....	45
48 Places of Interest to see in sequence.....	37-39
El Templete .....	41
Sutedent Memorial .....	42-43
POINT OF INTERES .....	..
GENERAL INFORMATION: Old City Wall, Paseo de Martí, Vento Springs, La Fuerza Fort, Interesting Streets of Havana, Passports, Tourist Protection Bureau, Cuban Customs and Porters, United States exemp- tion for visitors To Cuba, returning to their country Postage Rates - Air Mail, Telegraph Service - Legal Holidays, Do You Know that?.....	47-63
Leading Clubs of Havana .....	64
Chambers of Commerce .....	64
Embassies, Legations and Consulates .....	64
Fraternal Societies .....	65
Orphan and Maternity Asylm, English Language Churches, and Schools...	65
Regulations for foreign pleasure crafts and automobiles arriving at any cuban port .....	66-67
Tariff for Automobiles .....	68-69
Transportation Facilities Throughout Cuba.....	71-73
Havana Hotels Winter Rates (1949).....	75
SHOPPING .....	77-78



	<u>PAGE</u>
<b>A VACATION YOU WILL NEVER FORGET. Seven Days in Cuba, Where to go... What to see... What to Pay.....</b>	<b>79-81</b>
<b>TOURS AND ATTRACTIVE TRIPS. City Trip, Morro Castle Trip, Country Trip, Night Trip No. 1 and 2 .....</b>	<b>82-84</b>
<b>The Press .....</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Book Stores and Newsstands .....</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>The Capitol .....</b>	<b>89-91</b>
<b>Parks and Monuments .....</b>	<b>92-95</b>
<b>Art, Literature, Science .....</b>	<b>96-98</b>
<b>National Museum and Picture Gallery .....</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Churches of Havana and Cathedral .....</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Suburbs of Havana .....</b>	<b>104-106</b>
<b>Medicinal Springs .....</b>	<b>107-110</b>
<b>THEATRES .....</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Where To Eat, Resturants and some cuban and spanish dishes.....</b>	<b>113-115</b>
<b>PLACES OF AMUSEMENT .....</b>	<b>117-124</b>
<b>The nights of Havana, Night Clubs, Music, Jai-Alai.....</b>	<b>117-124</b>
<b>FISHING .....</b>	<b>125-127</b>
<b>CUBAN FRUITS .....</b>	<b>129-132</b>
<b>S p o r t s .....</b>	<b>133-135</b>
<b>AVIATION: A Brief History of Flying in Cuba.....</b>	<b>137-145</b>
<b>Aviation Companies Operating in Cuba .....</b>	<b>146-149</b>
<b>Navigation &amp; Steamship Lines .....</b>	<b>151-155</b>
<b>VARADERO BEACH .....</b>	<b>157-165</b>
<b>Jibacoa The Golden Beach and Hershey Cuban Railway.....</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>DRIVE YOUR Awn CAR IN CUBA. Road Rules, Road Maps of each Province, Excursions .....</b>	<b>167-185</b>
<b>CUBA'S INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS .....</b>	<b>187-194</b>
<b>BANKING. Banks Operating in Cuba and Bank Clearings.....</b>	<b>195-197</b>
<b>STOCK BROKERS OPERATIN IN CUBA: Cuba's Real Estate Value.....</b>	<b>197-199</b>
<b>COMMERCE: Statistics, Cuba's Foreign Trade, our commerce with the United States, Revenues of the Republic of Cuba, Lard Imports, Rice Imports, Flour imports, our trade with Spain our trade with France, Salaries and private wages, and our trade with Canada.....</b>	<b>203-217</b>
<b>Statistical Barometer, fiscal and economic indices .....</b>	<b>218</b>
<b>Special Credits .....</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>THE SUGAR INDUSTRY: Sugar Statistics, Sugar industry oragnizations, the 1947 Sugar Crop, Sugar Mills of Cuba by Provinces .....</b>	<b>221-228</b>
<b>TABACO: General Information and Tobacco Statistics .....</b>	<b>229-238</b>
<b>COFFEE: Information .....</b>	<b>239-240</b>

# Index to Advertisers

	<u>PAGE</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
<b>AVIATION</b>		<b>RUM AND APPETIZERS</b>	
Línea Aeropostal Venezolana (Inside Cover and page 1)..	1	Rum Havana Club .....	162
Royal Dutch Airlines (K.L.M.)	2	Constantino Port .....	202
Cía. Cubana de Aviación.....	136	<b>DEPARTMENT STORES</b>	
British South American Airways	138	Sánchez Mola .....	14
National Air Lines .....	142	El Encanto .....	14
Expreso Aéreo Inter-Americano.	144	<b>FRENCH LINGERIE</b>	
Chicago and Southern Air Lines.....(Map of Havana)		El Encanto .....	14
Aerovías Q.....(Inside Back Cover)		<b>FURNISHED ROOMS (Very Modern)</b>	
Pan American Airways.(Back Cover)		Nenita Quintana .....	34
Peruvian International Airways.	140	<b>CUBAN TOURIST COMMISSION..</b>	
			32
<b>BANKS</b>		<b>GASOLINE</b>	
First National Bank of Boston	20	Standard Oil Co. (Esso).....	162
Banco Continental Americano..	73	<b>GIFTS &amp; SOUVENIRS</b>	
Banco Pedroso .....	148	Laura Modas .....	10
The Bank of Nova Scotia.....	149	El Encanto .....	14
Banco del Comercio .....	186	Lydia "Mariquita" Dolls.....	52
Banco Núñez .....	194	<b>HAUTE COUTURE (French Modes)</b>	
National City Bank .....	196	Eric .....	2
The Royal Bank of Canada....	198	Laura Modas .....	10
Banco Popular .....	200	El Encanto .....	14
		Teresa Olivares .....	16
		Atelier Parisien .....	76
		Emilio .....	106
<b>BOOK STORES</b>		<b>HOTELS</b>	
Swan American Bookstore.....	28	" Presidente .....	4
Martí Bookstore .....	60	Hotel Vedado .....	22
La Casa Belga (English & French)	86	" Lincoln .....	40
		" Monserrat .....	69
		" Ambos Mundos .....	74
<b>CIGARS</b>			
Comisión Nacional del Tabaco.	232		
La Corona Cigars .....	234		
H. Upmann Cigars.....(Last page)			
<b>CROCODILE LEATHER GOODS</b>			
El Encanto .....	14		
La Casa del Perro .....	206		

	<u>PAGE</u>
<b>HOTELS AND CLUBS IN VARADERO BEACH</b>	
Club Náutico .....	158
Kawama Club .....	160-161
Casino de Varadero .....	162
<b>LADIES HATS TO ORDER</b>	
Eric .....	2
<b>MEDICINAL LABORATORIES</b>	
Henri Le Bienvenu, Representaciones y Laboratorios, S.A....	190
<b>NIGHT CLUBS</b>	
Gran Casino Nacional .....	24
Tropicana .....	116
Sans Souci .....	118
Casa Blanca .....	120
<b>OPTICIANS</b>	
Folch Ubeda & Co. ....	30
<b>PERFUMES</b>	
D'Orsay .....	8
Guerlain .....	6
Danville .....	18
Grenoville .....	26
Rejane .....	46
<b>PHOTO SUPPLIES</b>	
Minicam .....	76
Kodak Cubana, Ltd. ....	152
<b>RAILROADS</b>	
Hershey Cuban Railway Co....	127
Seaboard Air Line Railroad...	168
<b>RESORTS AND BEACHES</b>	
San José del Lago (Resort)....	108

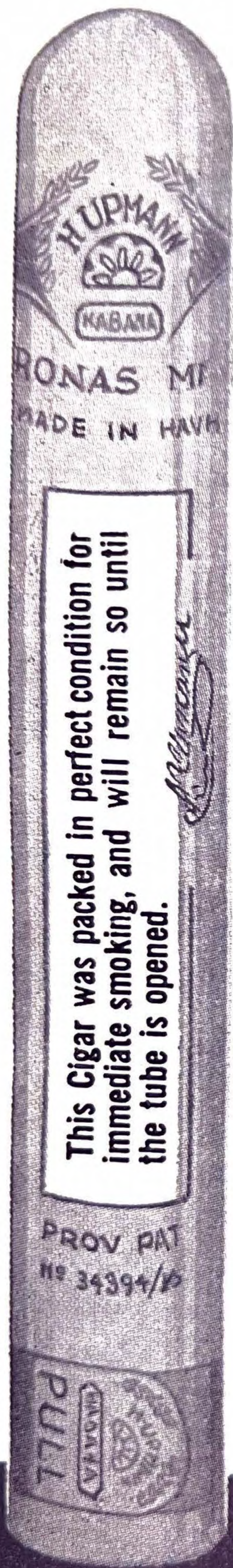
	<u>PAGE</u>
Jibacoa "The Golden Beach".	127
Varadero.—Cuba's most beautiful beach .....	160-161
Club Kawama. — Varadero Beach .....	..
<b>RESTAURANTS</b>	
El Patio .....	67
Río Cristal .....	112
<b>STEAMSHIP COMPANIES</b>	
French Line .....	36
Peninsular & Occidental Steamship Co. (S. S. Florida)....	146
United Fruit Co. ....	148
Standard Fruit & Steamship Co.	150
Lykes Bros Steamship Co. ...	174
Eastern Steamship Lines .....	..
<b>STOCK BROKERS</b>	
Luis Mendoza y Cía. ....	199
Merril Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Beane .....	209
<b>SUGAR MILLS</b>	
Punta Alegre Sugar Corp. ...	220
Cía. Azucarera de Güines ...	224
<b>TOURS</b>	
Dussaq Co. Ltd. ....	82-84
<b>TRAVEL AGENCIES</b>	
Lorraine .....	36
Continental Tours .....	54
Argonaut .....	70
Garrido Travel Agency .....	170
<b>TOWELS</b>	
Telva .....	186

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