

# OUR TOURISTS IN CUBA

WHAT THEY WILL FIND IN HOTEL AND OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS.

(Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.)

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HAVANA, Cuba.—Cuba is fast becoming a winter resort for the United States, and it promises to be the Riviera of North America. The crowds which now go to Florida continue their voyage on to Havana, and rich Americans are settling not only here, but at different points along the northern shore of the island. I know a dozen men who have bought estates in or near the suburbs of this city, and several who are planning to make their winter homes about Nipe bay, on the northeastern coast. There were three times as many American tourists here last winter as ever before, and double that number are expected the coming season. The climate is all building new vessels, and lines are all building new vessels. Next season the Munsens will have new summer homes from New York to Nipe bay, and there will probably be additional ships from New Orleans, Miami and Tampa.

A LAND OF BAD HOTELS. So far no arrangements have been made to accommodate the increased travel. The hotel accommodations are notoriously inadequate, and I am safe in saying that there is not half a dozen first-class hotels in all Cuba. Indeed, with the exception of that at Camaguey, I might say that there is not one which is run after our American methods, and that, notwithstanding the rates are high and provisions comparatively cheap.

This is so much so that some of the railroad managers discourage the coming of tourists in large bodies. A party of 50 can hardly be accommodated, and the time is not ripe for the Cook tourist and others of his class. HOTELS IN HAVANA. Most of the hotels of Havana are run on the Spanish plan, with American prices. The most of the hotels have two rates—a moderate one for the summer, on the European plan, and a higher one for the winter, on the American plan. The summer guests are Cubans and Spaniards; but those of the winter are Americans, whom, as the Cubans rightly think, will pay anything in or out of reason.

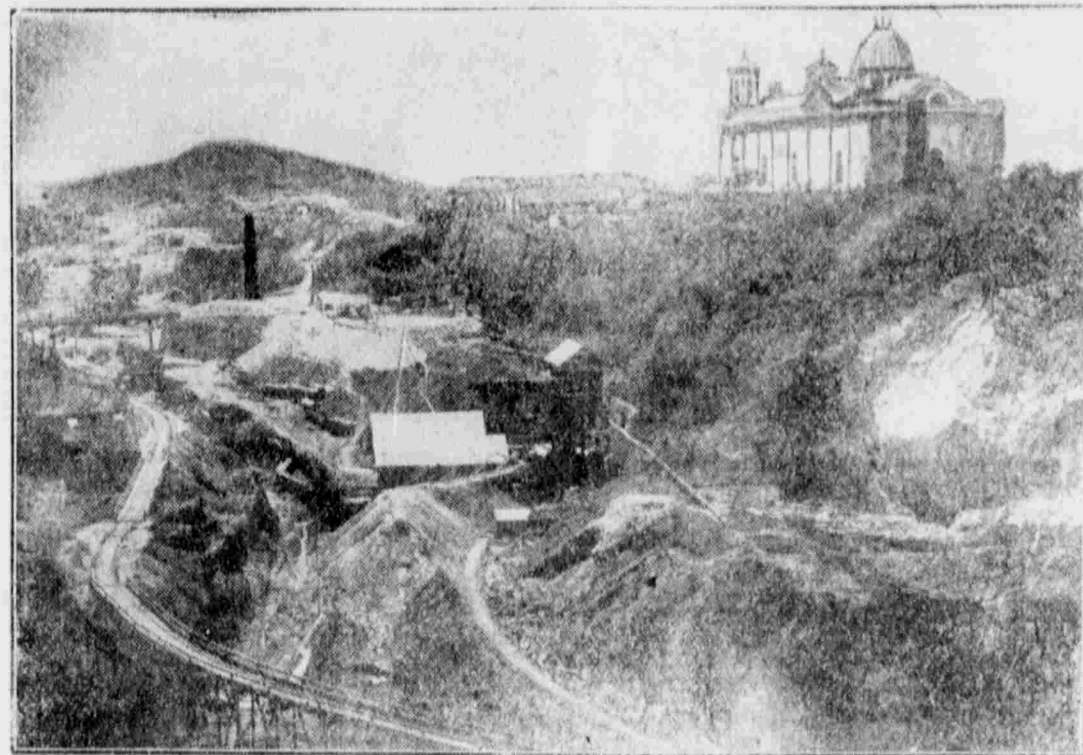
There is one hotel here, the Miramar, which charges \$15 a day for room and board, and there are several others whose rates are \$1 and \$3 and upward per day on the American plan. Among these hotels are the Inglaterra, El Telégrafo, Paraiso and the Louvre. The Louvre and Telégrafo also take guests on the European plan, but the rooms are high-priced; they do not have baths connected with them, although there are bathrooms on the same floor for the common use of both sexes.

In addition there are other places where one can rent rooms; and there is a hotel at Vedado, in the suburbs, where the cash is managed on the American plan. HAVANA AND THE AMERICAN STOMACH. The ordinary Cuban hotel meal does not suit our digestion. If one is not on the European plan he is supposed to take what is set before him, or pay for extra food orders. I am stopping here for myself, wife and daughter. Our first breakfast, or desayuno, consists of coffee and rolls with butter and a couple of oranges. The oranges are pared down to the first layer, a sharp knife, just as you pare an apple, and we eat them by sticking in a fork and sucking the juice. We can have our rolls toasted with a little charge, but the two soft-boiled eggs, which I order for each of my party every morning, are set down on the bill at 60 cents extra. This is 10 cents an egg. Indeed, it makes one almost bite his tongue.

Our luncheon, or what the Cubans here call almuerzo, is taken at 11 or 12 o'clock from a limited bill of fare, most of the dishes of which are Spanish. Some are good, but others stomach-trying. The Spanish omelette, for instance, are delicious, but the beefsteaks are tough and the steaks and other condiments need at least a tablespoon of paprika per meal. I saw once on a hotel table at Parkersburg, W. Va., bottles of ketchup beside the catfish and tobacco. I would recommend them for Cuba.

Anything extra outside the breakfast bill is charged for at the regular restaurant rates. The same is true of dinner, which is eaten from 6 to 8 o'clock, and is the hearty meal of the day.

Havana and the American Stomach—High Rates for Yankees—Queer Features Of Restaurants and Cafes—Cuba's Soft Drinks—Cheap Cabs—The Land Of Ten Million Palms—A Look at the Calves of Bellamar—The Virgin of Cobre and Her Wonderful Cures.



THE CHAPEL OF THE VIRGIN ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP.

have bells about their necks, and some make a great noise as they go.

Outside Havana the heavy traffic is carried in ox carts; such carts are to be seen everywhere throughout the island, except in the larger cities.

The most of the tourists do not get outside of Havana. They miss the most interesting part of the country. There is no more beautiful island than this. It is the Switzerland of the tropics; and, indeed, it might be called the land of ten million palms. I have seen palms in the tropics around the globe, but nowhere do they compare with those of Cuba. The principal tree is the royal palm. It has a trunk like frost-steel, and it rises straight upward to a height of 100 or more feet, when it bursts out into a gigantic tassel of fern-like leaves. The leaves are of the brightest green; they have many branches, and they quiver in the breeze.

These royal palms are to be seen in groves and singly here and there throughout cultivated Cuba. They often line the road to some great hacienda, or mark the boundaries of an estate. They may be seen among the sugar fields, columns of silver rising over a plain of emerald; and again over the dark green of the tobacco or above the reddish bronze of a pineapple plantation. They stand out upon the newly plowed fields of rich chocolate soil

and mirror themselves in every stream and lake. There are tens of thousands—aye, tens of millions of them. These palm trees form, to a large extent, the building and roofing material of Cuba. Their leaves are used to wrap the bales of tobacco which are brought into the factories or shipped abroad. Sewed together, they form the walls of the huts, and laid one over another, the roofs. From 10,000 to 20,000 leaves being used for a single house, such roofs are two or three inches above the gutter to shade the heads of the oxen. They are everywhere else where the carts, a charro, or a couple of mules, are used.

I have spoken of Cuba as the Switzerland of the tropics. It will be known as such as time goes on. Every town has its own peculiar features, and some of the older ones are as queer as any in Moorish Spain. There are caves scattered here and there over the island. "House of Bellamar," near Matanzas, consists of a series of underground chambers and halls about three miles in length, walled and hung with stalactites and stalagmite formations. One of the halls is 20 feet long and 30 feet wide, the roof being upheld by immense columns. It is known as the Gothic Temple. There are wonderful caves in the mountains near Camaguey, and natural bridges and tunnels and subterranean rivers throughout the island. The Ciego river, in eastern Cuba, bores its way through a lofty ridge and comes out on the other side, three miles distant.

THE VIRGIN OF COBRE. Cuba has some shrines which are worth visiting. One that is famous is the shrine of the Virgin of Cobre, in the footprints of Columbus, and if he has that faith which moves mountains he may go to the shrine of the Virgin of Cobre, not far from Santiago, and have all his ailments cured. I visited this place during my exploration of the copper mines. The chapel of the Virgin is right on the top of the mountain, with the village of Cobre perhaps a quarter of a mile below it. There are steps leading from the town to the chapel, and pilgrims come here at certain times of the year and go up these steps on their knees to pray to the virgin and be cured. It is the custom in Cuba when one's prayers regarding a special ailment have been answered to give a silver model of the diseased member to the church. In the glass cases back of the altar I saw 500 little silver legs which the priest told me had been given by the lame who had been made to walk, and hundreds of silver arms and gold hands, and even golden lungs and livers. There were gold and silver eyes donated by the blind who had been made to see, and a cord or so of crutches which had aided the lame to the chapel, but which, being cured, they needed no longer. As I examined these evidences of the Virgin's curative properties the priest told me he had boxes of other gold and silver images stored away in the vaults of the church,

and he related many fairy stories of the Virgin and her wonderful cures. The Virgin is the patron saint of Cuba. She has much the same place here as that of Saint Anne de Bevoise in Canada, or that of the spring blessed by the Virgin at Lourdes. The priest opened the glass case in which she is kept and showed me its exquisite beauty. Her figure is about as big as a two-dollar doll. It is of wood beautifully carved and gilded, and encased in glass, and decorated with emeralds, diamonds and other jewels. There is said to be about \$100,000 worth of diamonds and emeralds upon it, and this, notwithstanding a robbery of about six years ago, when thieves broke into the chapel and carried away treasures worth \$25,000.

The story of this Virgin dates back to the days of Columbus. I have it from the mouth of the priest. Her first appearance was in the hands of Alonso Ojeda, who gave her to an Indian chief, in whose tribe she was worshipped. Later, the Spanish historian, doctores, who gave her to an Indian chief, in whose tribe she was worshipped. The Virgin and the other had their native idols. The contest was to see whose god was the stronger. As the contestants came together the Indians who owned the Virgin repeated an Ave Maria, whereupon the Virgin herself came down in a cloud and gave victory to that army.

A short time after this the Virgin disappeared and she was not seen again until just about eight years after our pilgrim forefathers landed on Plymouth Rock. She was then discovered by two fishermen floating upon a thin board upon Nipe bay. The winds were strong, but the sea did not overturn the board nor wet the garments of the Virgin standing upon it. The fishermen first thought the little image was a sea serpent, but when they came up to her and took up the board they read these words, which had been engraved upon it:

"I am the Virgin of Cobre." The records show that they took the image away and made a chapel for it. The natives worshipped it, but one night it disappeared and only after long hunting was it discovered where its chapel stood. It was carried back, but it again disappeared and was found on the same spot. The people then realized that this was the chosen home of the Virgin who had been made to walk, and hundreds of silver arms and gold hands, and even golden lungs and livers. There were gold and silver eyes donated by the blind who had been made to see, and a cord or so of crutches which had aided the lame to the chapel, but which, being cured, they needed no longer. As I examined these evidences of the Virgin's curative properties the priest told me he had boxes of other gold and silver images stored away in the vaults of the church,

That chapel was built at just about the time Boston was founded. It was afterwards succeeded by the church of today. It stands on the top of a copper filled mountain. What were once the richest copper mines of the world lie all about it and there might be mines underneath it were it not that the natives would consider such excavations a sacrilege.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

## BEAUTIFUL TABLE COVERS.

In floral and conventional designs. Each day marks the arrival of new pieces in the Art Section. Elegant pieces ready to use. Also beautifully stamped pieces to be worked.

Free lessons by Madam Nielson Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## Walker's Store

"THE STORE WITH THE REPUTATION"

## NEWEST DESIGNS IN CUSHION COVERS.

Beautiful poppy designs, in natural colors, also elegant conventional designs in Oriental colorings.

Art section.

## A NOTABLE WEEK IN THE DRESS GOODS AISLE.

TO INTRODUCE THE POPULAR PRICED DRESS FABRICS FOR FALL 1905, WE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING SPLENDID "SPECIALS" FOR ONE WEEK. PRICES ARE ABSOLUTELY "SPECIAL," AND THE GOODS ARE THE VERY BEST OF THIS SEASON'S PRODUCTION.

### SCOTCH PLAIDS.

In this assortment you'll find the popular Clan-plaids. The most desirable fabrics for children's dresses and ladies' waists. Monday and week.

### SMALL NEAT CHECKS

And invisible plaids, for children's and ladies' shirt-waist suits. All the latest ideas in mixed effects are here. Particularly the blue and green checks—the rage for this season. Would sell readily at 50c the yard. But they will go Monday and week at the yard.

### ALL WOOL ALBATROSS

All the new shades are represented in this fabric, both in the light and dark colors. Also cream and black—36 inches wide, and a very excellent value at 50c the yard. But as a "Special" Monday and week, the yard.

### CHECKED PANAMA.

Covert cloth, mixed effects, checked. Pique, striped effects, mohair checks and plaid worsted checks, are included in this assortment. They are easily worn 75c the yard, but as an inducement to early buying we offer them Monday and week at the yard.

A Beautiful Selection of Checks and Plaids for Waists.

THIS ASSORTMENT COMPRISES SMALL CHECKS AND BLOCK PLAIDS, WITH EMBROIDERED DESIGNS. LIGHT WEIGHT FABRICS, AND ULTRA-FASHIONABLE FOR THIS SEASON.

PRICES 75c, 85c, 90c, \$1.00 and \$1.25 the yard.

## A WONDERFUL SALE OF DOMESTICS

IS PREDICTED FOR THE COMING WEEK. IF PRICES AND VALUES STAND FOR AUGHT, THE RECORD WILL CERTAINLY BE BROKEN FOR THE "BEST WEEK" OF THE SEASON. IT'S JUST LIKE THIS—

NOT NO. 1.—Containing calico, white outing flannel, robe prints, unbleached muslin and 36-inch white cheese cloth, to be sold in 10 yard lengths, your choice, the piece 49 cts

LOT NO. 2.—Comprising white outing flannel, fine sixteen prints, fancy outing flannels, unbleached muslin, and linen toweling, to be sold in 10 yard lengths, the piece 59 cts

LOT NO. 3.—Composed of India linen, percale, best apron gingham, fine dress gingham, and bleached muslin, to be sold in 10 yard lengths, the piece 69 cts

LOT NO. 4.—Including best dress ginghams, 24 inch star cotton diapers, fine India linen, and fancy cretonne, to be sold in 10 yard lengths, the piece 79 cts

Lot No. 5 In which you will find fancy figured flannellettes, Amoskeag outing flannels, 36 inch white cambric, Lonsdale or fruit of the loom, heavy quilting flannel and 27 inch Red Star cotton diapers—to be sold in 10 yard lengths, the piece 89 cts

LOT NO. 6.—Make up of cotton batting, 45 by 55 inches pillow cases, linen towels, linen napkins and bath towels, to be sold in lots of 10—your choice 99 cts

## THE JUVENILE SECTION.

### NEWEST MODELS IN COATS FOR LITTLE GIRLS—

These range in sizes from 2 to 14 years and the assortment embraces all the newest fabrics and styles for the little ones—Bear skins, korseys, mole skin velvet and chevrons priced from \$5.50 down to \$2.50

COMPLETE LINE OF CHILDREN'S DRESSES, in wool and fancy plaids, many different styles. Prices range from \$3.00 down to \$1.50

BOYS' "HERCULES" SCHOOL SUITS—Waterproof and dust-proof, with heavy double sleeve lining, the suit adapted to hard knocks.

ANOTHER LINE OF BOYS' SUITS, made with two pairs of trousers, an advanced very much appreciated by schoolboys. Materials are all wool and suits are well tailored.

## A Beautiful Assortment of Silk Petticoats

In all the new shades. Also beautiful plaids, checks and brocades. To introduce this unusually comprehensive stock we offer skirts worth from \$15.00 to \$25.00 at your choice.

FRENCH HAND EMBROIDERED INFANTS' WEAR—Also daily productions of domestic manufacture, including slips, dresses, skirts, blouses, and coats.

FLANNELLETTE GOWNS AND SKIRTS—A very large selection of these garments, in regular and extra sizes. Prices range from \$2.00 down to \$1.00.

50c

## COMPLETE SHOWING OF FINE FURS.

The most complete assortment of fine furs to be found in the city—Stoles, butterfly ties, also the whole mink skin ruffs and six stripe pillow muffs.

A rare collection of seal coats in the newest models—Also Persian lamb coats, trimmed with sable—

BEAUTIFUL MODELS IN LADIES' AND MISSES' SUITS AND COATS—The assortment far surpasses any that we have had previous to this. The newest shades, materials and models are all represented—Prices from \$25.00 down to \$13.75

SKIRTS DESIGNED FOR THIS SEASON—A very comprehensive assortment including the circular and bell models, also the pleated skirts in velvet, chiffon, Panamas, stampers, serges and flannel. These are priced from \$25.00 and down to \$5.00

PRETTY LINEN LINGERIE WAISTS. Also handsome effects in wool plaids and silks.

## THE FAMOUS "CROSS" SHOE FOR WOMEN.

\$3.50

The climax of shoe manufacturing has been attained in this production. Embodying every good feature that a good shoe should possess, it also represents new features peculiar to itself and placing it on a plane, approached by few and surpassed by none. Come and see the new last. Twenty different styles. The "Cross" Shoe will soon be the talk of the town.

\$3.50

## 25 Pieces Corset Cover Embroideries at 50c the yard.

These are new arrivals, and would readily bring 75c to \$1.25 the yard, but to keep things going, we have marked them down to 50c the yard.

Platte Val Laces—worth 25c to 50c the yard—12½c. 200 pieces in this lot, 3 to 6 inch deep—with insertions to match.

Platte Val Laces—worth 15c to 25c the yard—8½c. 200 pieces of these, from 2 to 5 inches deep.

Imitation Torchon Lace—worth 10c the yard—4c. This lot contains 100 pieces with insertions to match.

## TREMENDOUS UNDERPRICINGS ON RUGS.

9x9 Granite Rugs \$3.50 for \$3.00 9x10-6 Granite Rugs \$4.75 for \$3.90 8x9 Granite Rugs \$4.25 for \$3.35 8x12 Granite Rugs \$3.00 for \$4.65

New Patterns in Best All Wool Ingrains Reduced.

Size 9x12, for \$9.00 Size 9x9, for \$7.00 Size 9x10-6, for \$8.25 Size 7-6x9, for \$5.35

## CORRECT GLOVES FOR AUTUMN WEAR.

All the new shades and ideas are to be found in our glove section. Among the leaders we show the W. B. glove \$1.50 as one of the best.

Another fine glove is our Lella, the best glove on the market at \$1.00. In a little better quality we are showing the Reynier at \$2.00, perfection in glove manufacture.

For a good fall and winter glove, in a little heavier weight, the Lucas and Kennedy Mocha glove leads the bunch—both lined and unlined and sells at \$1.50 and \$1.75.

## KIRK'S FAUST TOILET SOAP—WORTH 25c

THE BOX: Special for the week. This soap comes three cakes in a box—A very fine article for the skin.

DR. GRAVES' BORATED TALCUM POWDER 10c SPECIAL. This talcum is known by reputation to every one and will go fast at the low price—worth 25c.

SEVEN SUTHERLAND SISTERS' HAIR PREPARATIONS on sale at our Stationery Department.

## FROM THE MEN'S CORNER.

MEN'S SOFT SHIRTS WORTH \$2.25 AND \$2.50 1.65

These are very good shirts for cool weather, being made of heavy weight of madras with pleated bosom and also of percale—Some have cuffs attached, others detached and most of them are the \$2.50 kind—Sizes range from 14 to 17—A very good assortment of patterns and colors. Don't miss them.



SENATOR T.C. PLATT

## MAE WOOD SUES SENATOR PLATT.

Miss Catherine Wood, who gained notoriety by bringing suit against President Roosevelt's secretary, Mr. Loeb, Consul General Wynne and others some time ago, has filed another suit in Omaha, Neb., against Senator T. C. Platt, president of the United States Express company, and against the company, alleging that the defendants were indebted to her for \$25,000 attorney's fees in helping them defeat the post check bill that was before Congress in 1904. To emphasize her claim, Miss Wood garnished Platt's salary as president of the Express company, and attached all the company's property in Omaha.

Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co.

Walker Brothers Dry Goods Co.