

Daily Eagle M. M. MURDOCK, Editor. R. P. MURDOCK, Business Mgr. M. M. MURDOCK & BROS., Publishers and Proprietors.

PROBLEMS IN CUBA Are Serious Enough But by No Means Hopeless.

DISCONTENT AND CRIME But Political Significance is to be Imputed Charly.

New York, Jan. 25.—The Havana correspondent of the Evening Post says: It is as evident as it is natural that Cuba is to pass through a period of reconstruction, and that her rehabilitation is to proceed by degrees and out by bounds. It is wholly certain that this period will be, and can be, no other than a time of more or less serious disturbance. There will be uncertainty and uneasiness, and there will be both accurate and greatly exaggerated reports of crime and disorder. There will also be many rumors of depredation and mischief, having no other basis than the imaginations of minds in which the state of the times breeds an alert suspicion, and a tendency to turn an animated discussion into a general riot.

While this may seem a rather sombre view of the coming months in Cuba, it cannot be classed as pessimistic, and it is but the logic of the situation. Going no further back in history than the last six months, both Santiago and Porto Rico may be cited as precedents. In Cuba to-day apprehensive minds are filled with anxiety for both present and future. Reports of an eminently serious character are of constant appearance in the local newspapers. Many of these are repeated in news messages to the United States, where it is even more difficult than it is here to measure them to actual value. Some are quite true, some are wholly false, and some are innocuous turned into mountains. It is not wise to brush all these aside, to regard them as idle and petty, nor is it right to regard the island of Cuba as the scene of a smoking volcano, which may, at any time break forth in active eruption. Elements of danger are unquestionably here. A firm, wise, and active administration should hold every serious menace well in hand. It will be impossible to suit all, and even at this early stage many mutterings of discontent are heard.

The Cuban protests against the retention of old Spanish officials and against any selection from the ranks of Spanish applicants for any position whatever. The Spaniards, who constitute a very important part of the social, commercial, and financial life of this district, very naturally feel that they are clearly entitled to an active voice and representation in the new order of things. They distrust the Cubans and are fearful of an unjust discrimination against the Spanish element in the community.

Local civil officials contend that they are overlooked and disregarded by the military government. Steps are often taken by the military authorities without consultation with the civil officials. For the time being different departments certain work may be done. The civil governor of the province, the Alcaide of the city, and the chiefs of departments are said to feel that they are being ignored and overruled by the military officials. This follows an undeciphered resentment, which can be measured only by the time that has elapsed since this means unavoidable. There is work to be done which admits of no delay, and there is certainly enough red-tape in the normal proceedings of a military administration, without complicating it with all the forms and ceremonies of Spanish officialdom.

The Cuban army is an element which some of the fearful regard as one of menace. This may or may not be a far-fetched bugaboo. It is not easy to say just what might be done by a people who have spent a large share of their lives in fighting for a cause which is dear to them, and who now see well defined indications that their country will find its termination in directions which, though an improvement upon the former state, are yet not those of their desire. Their somewhat insistent attitude regarding payment for past services is not particularly creditable to them as patriots, perhaps, but it is quite natural. There have been instances in our own country in which the flag was loved very much for what there was in it.

The entire Cuban situation undoubtedly bristles with social and political complications, which can only be smoothed down and straightened out by tact, patience and time. Friction is as inevitable as sunshine. The problems which are given rise to opinions which may be grouped into three fairly distinct classes, which intermediate variations. These are the intermediate party, which is strongly represented among the property-owners and the merchants; the Cuba Libre party, which finds the idea of freedom for the island has been a lesson for which they have labored, fought and suffered; and, third, a less definite party, which holds the question in abeyance to await developments. Probably there are few Spaniards who believe in any plan of independence, but there are many Cubans who favor annexation. Some desire that the matter be submitted to the vote of the people at a time in the early future. Others would prefer that such a course be deferred until matters become far more settled than they are at all likely to be for many months.

Beyond and really more immediately serious than these purely political questions, there are others which have to do with a dangerous criminal element of a considerable size. The most important question affecting the future of Cuba is the care and education of the great number of orphans whose parents perished in the reconcentration. The estimates of mortality during the three years since Weyler's reconcentration proclamation was issued vary from 40,000 to 60,000 persons, or from 30 to 40 per cent of the population of the island. The number of orphans cannot be even approximately estimated, but there must be a great many thousands of them. If they are not cared for they are liable to grow up as vagabonds and prostitutes.

PINAR DEL RIO'S CLIMATE. By reason of an investigation made of the western part of Pinar del Rio province, General Green states that as the climate is entirely different from that of Havana, being dry and salubrious at all seasons of the year, the hills three miles west of the town which rise to an altitude of about 2,000 feet, would be the best spot for the location of a general convalescent hospital for use of all the troops on the island. The transportation facilities are good, the climate healthy, yellow fever unknown and an altitude from 1,200 to 1,500 feet. The heat is said not to be excessive, even in the summer months.

WALBING BAKING POWDER ABSOLUTELY PURE Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

able numerical strength. There is what may be regarded as the refuse of both armies still at large upon the island. Bands of Spanish guerrillas and of Cuban bandits, men of lawless and predatory habits, are reported as robbing, plundering and destroying property in different parts of the island. Little and disolute negroes are, by the papers of this date reported as stealing cattle and otherwise making life a burden for honest people in various parts of the province of Pinar del Rio. Criminally disposed and vengeful Cubans are said to be availing themselves of the opportunity for "getting square" with Spanish neighbors. Personal grudges are being wiped out under cover of the political situation.

Very much the same sort of thing was reported in my letters from Porto Rico. The conditions are repeated here upon a more extensive scale, and readers of sensational papers and of some which are not sensational, are confidently expected to be frequently regaled during the coming weeks with some gruesome and some more or less thrilling tales of disorder, riot, butchery, and brutality in the island of Cuba. To very little, if any of it, should there be attached any political significance. Certainly the major grudge to be wiped out is not to individuals of the lawless and criminal element.

CASTORIA The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of J. C. Ayer & Co. STATED BY GENERAL GREEN

Chief Problems are Rabble Soldiery and Orphaned Heirs. Washington, D. C., Jan. 25.—Assistant Secretary of War McJannet today gave out the report of Major General E. V. Green, concerning the duties recently assigned to him in Cuba.

Speaking of an inspection which he made of the Cuban troops, General Green found that of his 100,000, 20,000 were black and white. They were able-bodied lot of men, although smaller in stature than Americans. They had been inured to hardship during the last three years, seemed well disciplined and so fully controlled by their officers that, although their suffering for lack of food was great, no cases of pillage had been reported. Their equipment was worthless.

The officers impressed General Green most favorably. For the most part they were intelligent, educated men, well mounted and well dressed. General Green gives it as his opinion that this force possesses the elements of a fine body of native troops, provided they are properly organized and equipped, and their regimental and possibly, battalion commanders selected from American officers.

DANGER IN DELAY. It is his opinion that the organization of these troops should be begun at the earliest possible moment, otherwise there is danger that the force may disintegrate and turn into brigands. Under existing conditions of lack of food and clothing, it will be difficult to hold them much longer. The chief of one of the cavalry regiments, Colonel Delgado, was in youth a most noted brigand in Pinar del Rio province. General Green believes that this officer and his men, under proper discipline, would be very efficient as a part of a rural constabulary. The roaming life they have led for several years has disqualified them for the work of peaceful farmers.

THOSE WHO PREFER FARMING. The department of the cavalry forces, about 10,000 to 15,000, who are not especially adapted to the life of a soldier and are peaceful laborers and farm hands, seemed anxious to return to their homes; but as their homes have been destroyed, their families having perished in the reconcentration, their fields grown up with weeds and as they have no money to purchase implements and tools, it is impracticable for the time being this is impracticable. It is of the utmost urgency to provide work for these men. In General Green's opinion, money could be put immediately into the hands of the starving laboring class by employing them in construction and repair of roads, the rebuilding of hospitals, asylums and public buildings. In a few months, by pursuing this course, they would be enabled to return to their homes and start life over again. Money thus disbursed would find its way through the ordinary channels of trade. This would revive business, and money would accumulate in the banks, from whence it could be loaned to such Spaniards as could give security. This would also enable them to restore the damages done to their plantations.

PROMPT PAYMENT OF WAGES. The prosecution of this work and the prompt payment of wages will gain the gratitude of the Cubans and at the same time enforce respect for the authority and government of the United States. Nothing would more sharply indicate the difference between the Spanish and American methods than the prompt payment of wages in good coin, the faithful carrying out of the government obligations and the prompt suppression of anything tending to disorder.

RELIEF SUPPLIES. The food sent by the Bratton was distributed along the north coast and was sent by the Combs and Bratton along the south coast. A small portion only was distributed to insurgent troops, the bulk going to the reconcentrados. The latter are in such a debilitated condition that their stomachs cannot assimilate hard bread and bacon and General Green recommends that if further supplies are sent they should consist of rice, beans, coffee, sugar and canned meats. There are many thousands of adults in the hospitals who are unable at present to do any work and who are in a starving condition. These it would be necessary to support for some months until they either regain their health or die.

THE IMPORTANT QUESTION. The most important question affecting the future of Cuba is the care and education of the great number of orphans whose parents perished in the reconcentration. The estimates of mortality during the three years since Weyler's reconcentration proclamation was issued vary from 40,000 to 60,000 persons, or from 30 to 40 per cent of the population of the island. The number of orphans cannot be even approximately estimated, but there must be a great many thousands of them. If they are not cared for they are liable to grow up as vagabonds and prostitutes.

RAILROAD TIME TABLES

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WICHITA & WESTERN. Arrive Leave Arrive Leave

CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILWAY. Time Table Effective Nov. 21, 1897.

FRISCO LINE. ST. LOUIS & SAN FRANCISCO RAILROAD. Arrive Leave

MISSOURI PACIFIC. Arrive Leave Arrive Leave

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Excursion Rates Via Santa Fe Route. On January 12, February 7 and 21.

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St. Louis, Mo. Ar. 8:15 p.m. Lv. 8:30 a.m.

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AMUSEMENTS Crawford Grand E. L. Hartling, Manager

Thursday, January 26. In Grand Opera

The Auditorium Chas. Bittling, Manager

Crawford Grand E. L. Hartling, Manager

Beach & Bower's Famous Minstrels

Our Best Advertisement

Baldwin Studio, 115 E. Douglas Avenue.

Wife's Cream Baking Powder

EAGAN PUT ON TRIAL Continued from Second Page.

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Children Fatten Like Little Round White PIGS

Grape-Nuts Taste is Frequently a Valuable Guide in Selecting Food.

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