

**COVARRUBIAS SAYS HE WILL BE QUEEN'S AID**

**Gallant Old Spaniard Who Is to Impersonate Portola Anxious to Meet Sovereign**

**Visits San Francisco for First Time in 11 Years to Arrange for the Details**

Don Nicolas Covarrubias of Santa Maria, who will impersonate Don Gaspar de Portola in the great October festival paid a visit to this city yesterday to meet the executive committee of the festival and to arrange the details of the program, in which he is to play so conspicuous a part.

Covarrubias was joviality through and through yesterday afternoon when he spoke of the festival. Tall, straight as a quango of 30 and with the spirit of youth bubbling in his conversation, the grand old Spaniard looks to have been born just before the civil war rather than the Mexican war.

"The Portola festival," he answered to a query pronouncing the word with a delicious roll of the "r" and the accent on the last syllable. "Of course if you wish to Americanize the name," he continued, "you can say 'Portola' (putting the accent on the second syllable). I think the committee said something about the American way of pronouncing the name, but the Spanish is the only way."

Covarrubias' appreciation of the honor that has been conferred upon him is keen.

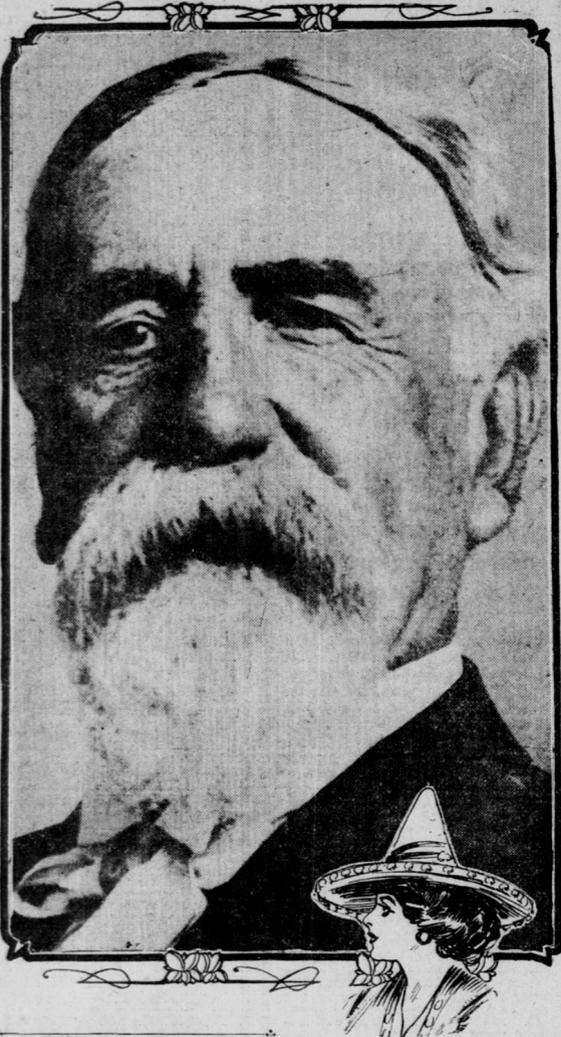
"I have seen photographs of the beautiful queen, Miss Virginia Bogue," said he. "She is a magnificent type of California womanhood. My duty and pleasure will be to ride always at her side and to do her obeisance. I am to be not so much the Don Gaspar de Portola of the festival as the guardian of the queen."

Covarrubias has not been in San Francisco in 11 years. The executive committee will give a luncheon in his honor today at the St. Francis and the program of the festival will be gone over. He will remain here three days.

"I have no set ideas as to what I am supposed to do," Covarrubias said, "aside from what I have read of the festival and what my past experiences as the king of festivals suggests to me."

Don Covarrubias will bring two of his own horses to the festival, one Nipome, a splendid stallion of cream white, dappled, which he will use in the night parade, and a beautiful chestnut called "Babe."

**WILL RIDE BY PORTOLA QUEEN**



Don Nicolas Covarrubias, who will represent Portola in festival.



**CRANKS THREATEN LIFE OF PRESIDENT**

**Chicago Secret Service Men in Possession of Letters Indicating Plot**

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

CHICAGO, Sept. 6.—Two letters threatening the life of President Taft during his forthcoming visit in Chicago, now in the hands of Captain Porter of the secret service, have stirred up the latter and police officials of the city with the result that efforts will be made to make the chief executive of the nation the most guarded president that ever came to Chicago.

Captain Porter was inclined today to belittle the threats. The letters, he declared, were from cranks. He refused to reveal the contents or signatures. The president will arrive in the care of government secret service men. These will be reinforced by six of the best operatives at local headquarters and a heavy guard of city detectives and policemen.

One of the new methods to be employed in guarding the president is the plan of Captain Porter to have all of Taft's protectors face the crowd at all times instead of turning their backs on the multitudes, as has been common practice on previous occasions. His men in this way, he believes, will be able to intercept the possible use of firearms or missiles of any sort.

**CENSOR INTRODUCTIONS**

As soon as the president arrives at the La Salle street station Captain Porter will assume charge of the body guard. The president will be taken to one of the rooms of the station, where the reception committee will meet him. Introductions will be censored by Captain Archie Butt, his personal aide, to prevent the possibility of a straggler sifting through. Those to be introduced will present their cards to Captain Butt, who in turn will introduce them to Taft.

President Taft's visit to the West Side baseball park to witness the game between the Cubs and the Giants, however, is considered the most delicate situation for secret service men to handle. Peter Drautzberg, one of the operatives of the local bureau of the service, will have charge of the arrangements during the game.

**WRITTEN BY CRANKS**

Regarding the visit of Taft to Chicago and the arrangements made to escort him about the city, Captain Porter said:

"It is true we have received a couple of threatening letters about the president. I believe they are from cranks. I regard the president's safety during his stay in Chicago as absolutely secure."

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