

YEAR PASSED WAS GOOD ONE FOR CUBANS

Cuba Points With Pride to Accomplishments in Various Departments During Year 1922.

(By The Associated Press)
HAVANA, Cuba, Jan. 27.—Cuba needed no holiday message from President Alfredo Zayas to prompt it to point with pride to the nation's accomplishments in 1922, and view with rose-hued eyes its plans for 1923. It is explained at the presidential palace in accounting for the chief executive's failure to issue the customary document. The facts speak for themselves. It is declared in official quarters, and the facts, as set forth under the head of 1922 accomplishments, follow:

Dudget reduction in round numbers from \$132,000,000 to \$53,000,000 accompanied by administrative reforms.

Orderly partial elections on Nov. 1, although the official returns have not yet been made public.

Reformation of the National Lottery involving the disappearance of \$10,000,000 a year in illegal collections.

Progress in the following directions: Restoration of normal financial conditions through the authorization of a \$50,000,000 foreign loan; classification of nearly \$70,000,000 in unpaid current indebtedness; liquidation of the 18 percent and 200 percent banks which closed as a result of the 1920 crash; tariff revisions; banking legislation; electoral and judicial code reforms; revision of the reciprocity treaty with the United States; Taxation reforms.

Hopes for a Happy New Year are based, more or less, on what is expected to result from the accomplishments of 1922 and from the successful consummation of tasks well begun, but still incomplete.

The economies already implemented, the new taxation as yet unproductive, and the settling of old obligations with the receipt of the proceeds of the \$50,000,000 loan after Jan. 12, are confidently expected to restore prosperity. Prospects for a 4,000,000-ton sugar crop at a price not far from 4 cents a pound are not listed as exactly "bearish."

Supplementary to the hoped-for results from 1922 accomplishments, 1923 achievements are believed to be potential fruits of a preferential legislative program unofficially approved recently at a meeting of a majority of the senate. This included the limitation of Chinese, Jamaican and Haitian immigration; reform of the federal accounting system; a new banking code, involving the creation of a bank of emission and a federal reserve system; reform of the electoral code and the organic judiciary law; constitutional reforms, to make possible the creation of a federal district, including Havana, and electoral and judicial reforms.

The need of banking legislation looms largest in official and business circles. The wreckage of the old system is rapidly being salvaged, and when it is accomplished not much delay is anticipated in complying with the president's requests for a central bank of emission to act as the government's fiscal agent, and an adequate reserve system.

The bank that congress is confidentially expected to create will be a fusion of various Cuban projects, notably, the Torriente plan, with suggestions made by W. P. G. Harding, former governor of the American federal reserve system, after a six-weeks mission to Cuba. The defunct Banco Na-

cional will be revived by the injection of \$4,000,000 in real cash and \$16,000,000 in securities which the government took from the institution to secure its deposits. Half of the \$4,000,000 will be subscribed in Cuba, half in the United States. The \$16,000,000 will have no voting power, but each of the \$2,000,000 will elect directors who, in turn, will choose the governor of the new bank and the reserve system. In case of a deadlock, the American federal reserve will propose two candidates, from whom the Cuban governor must be selected.

In its review and forecast officially, is discreetly, but not unintentionally, quiet on the part that Major General E. H. Crowder, special American emissary to Cuba, has played and will play in the course of events. Nor is any great emphasis placed on the results, thus far negligible, of the judicial investigations, indictments and charges made in connection with alleged frauds in the former management of the affairs of the national lottery, and of the internal revenue, public works, communications, and treasury departments.

Politically the burning question is whether or not President Alfredo Zayas and former president General Mario G. Menocal will seek re-election in 1924, and what are the chances of other potential candidates, such as Carlos Manuel de Cespedes, secretary of state and former minister to Washington, and General Carlos Mendive and Gerardo Machado, Liberals.

DUELIST SQUEALS; BOTH PARTIES TO AFFAIR ARE FINED

(By Associated Press)
RED LODGE, Mont., Jan. 27.—After having arranged with Mike Popovich to fight a duel, Mike Bejonovich reported to Police Chief McAllister that Popovich had threatened to shoot him and would be found with a gun in his possession.

Chief McAllister reported to the reverend for the encounter and "covered" Popovich when the latter appeared. Popovich was so infuriated at this denouncement that he refused to give up his weapon, and McAllister was compelled, at the risk of his own life, to beat the man over the head before he could disarm him.

The foregoing is the gist of a story told Justice of the Peace Newman, when the two principals were arraigned on charges of carrying concealed weapons, disturbing the peace and threatening to kill.

Bejonovich's alleged frameup developed quite a "kick-back" when Justice Newman fined him \$50 and sentenced him to serve 10 days in the county jail. Apparently believing that Popovich was more sinned against than sinning, the court imposed a fine of \$50 and let him go.

RAILWAY PLANS BARGAIN DAYS

(By Associated Press)
ST. PAUL, Jan. 27.—Bargain days on railroads—the offering of special inducements to equalize passenger and freight traffic under the same principle that the modern merchant advertises wares to stimulate trade at times which otherwise would be neglected—were advanced today by Charles M. Babcock, Minnesota commissioner of highways, toward ameliorating railroad ills in the United States.

"More or less slack periods as well as those of traffic congestion make up rail transportation problems, according to press reports," said Mr. Babcock. "In my opinion, adoption by railroad managers of the business stimulants and methods employed by the successful merchants of today will go far toward solving the problem. Many commodities can be moved as well in one month as another and inducements in the form of freight rate reductions in the so-called dull months, I believe, would equalize the now seasonal movement. The same would apply to passenger travel, although in a lesser degree, perhaps. Bargain days on our rail-

roads could be made to work for the mutual advantage of carriers and shippers."

Traffic experts of long experience said that proposed legislation now pending in congress provides for seasonal rate reductions to promote the shipping of coal in certain months, but credited Commissioner Babcock with originating the proposal to broaden the plan.

"Building material shipments after a simple example, continued Mr. Babcock, "cement can be shipped almost as well in one month as another, and every car of cement for construction takes others of lumber and steel and various materials entering building and also exempt from seasonal shipping conditions. All that seems necessary to move such freight to the best advantage and convenience of the carriers is a cut rate inducement and it must be enough only to slightly more than offset the investment charges. Return loads and other details probably can be worked out with little difficulty, once the plan is undertaken."

An auto stage line between Forest Grove and Huston began operations Monday on a regular schedule.

Building operations are active in Princeton, large numbers of men being engaged in the construction of the new \$110,000 hotel, the Cornett building and the postoffice.

MONTANA CAT HAS HISTORY

(By Associated Press)
AUGUSTA, Mont., Jan. 27.—A cat with a history is owned by Mrs. Montana August of this city. The cat is a white Persian-Angora with one blue eye and a yellow one, and is totally deaf. Its name is Pluffy and it was born in the Minis-Tour section in France in the spring of 1910.

Pluffy's mother, Annette, was the mascot of the famous Princess Path who obtained her in Belgium in 1917 and took her to France. Colonel A. J. Mulberry requested Mrs. August, who was then Captain Mae Morton of the Salvation Army, to care for Annette, and it was while in her charge that three kittens were born which were named Beauty, Pluffy and Annette.

Colonel Mulberry kept little Annette, and gave Beauty to Secretary E. Parrott of General Pershing's staff, and presented Pluffy to Captain Morton. When the American boys were shipped back to the United States, Captain Morton was moved to Paris.

Bordeaux and first, little Pluffy went along. Then the two visited relatives of Captain Morton's father near the border of Scotland before sailing for Quebec.

Since coming to the United States Pluffy has lived in Salt Lake City, winning first prize at the Utah state fair there in 1921. When Captain Morton, who was in Montana as secretary of the Salvation Army here, service department, became ill, Montana August and settled her, Pluffy accompanied her.

READ THE WANT ADS!

LA GRANDE
CONCRETE PIPE COMPANY
PERMANENT AS THE PYRAMIDS
Manufacturers of
Sewer Water Irrigation Culvert Drainage
Building Foundation Silo Chimney
Pipe Blocks
WELL CURBING—SEPTIC TANKS
Phone Main 120 Factory Island City

Superfine Bread
made by
Macpherson's Bakery
La Grande, Oregon

California
WHERE the sun shines most of the time. Out-of-door life all the time.
Thousands of miles of paved highways through picturesque semi-tropic settings make motoring wonderfully exhilarating.
Most attractive ocean beaches on the Pacific Coast.
Most complete system of hotels, apartment houses, cottages, bungalows and small suites for tourists of any country in the world, and all costs reasonable. Room for everybody.

Representatives of the
UNION PACIFIC SYSTEM
will gladly furnish instructive and beautifully illustrated booklets giving complete information about the glorious playground of the West. Let them tell all about hotel rates, railroad fares, through car service, the famous Circle Tour through San Francisco and Salt Lake City, or a part of the way by ocean trip. No journey of equal interest in America.

J. H. KEENEY,
Local Agent, La Grande.
Wm. McMurray, General Passenger Agent.

FORD & GEORGE TAXI
Service Enclosed Cars
CALL
MAIN 44

We Offer For Sale
A new four room modern house, cement foundation cellar. Garage. Price \$2000.00, \$400.00 cash, \$20.00 per month. A good small home.
A 5-room modern house in very fine location on N avenue. The price is right. \$2350.00, \$850.00 cash and balance can be arranged. Lot 60x120.
A 5-room modern house, basement, furnace, good garage, fine lawn, good trees and shrubbery. All in splendid repair. The lot is 50x110. Good location. \$2700.00.
A 5-room modern house, basement, lot 40x104. In good location. Price \$2650.00. Terms \$1000.00 cash, balance arranged as to payments.
We Have Many Good Places For Sale
La Grande Investment Company
Reliable Agents for Reliable Insurance Companies.
1201 Adams Ave. Phone Main 752

An Old Suit
Cleaned and Pressed is Often Mistaken for
A NEW SUIT
The Wardrobe
WOOD W. BERRY
—Dry Cleaning a Specialty—

Betty Wales Dresses
PUTMAN'S LADIES READY TO WEAR AND MILLINERY
Headquarters for Martha Four Foot Hose
New Spring Hats
EXCEPTIONAL VALUES
Hats of hair cloth, satin, and taffeta represent the season's most popular colors and style—all of them late arrivals, emphasizing a new fashion note.

Invest That Money You Got for a Christmas Present in
Gifts That Last
at
J. H. PEARE & SON
La Grande's Leading Jewelers Established 1890

OBSERVER ADVERTISING will bring results

In The Market Place
WHEREVER goods are bought and sold the woman is factor. She can bargain and she knows bargains. As a housekeeper it is her business to buy carefully.
An essential part of effective buying and selling is a bank account. It makes paying easy, gives a record and insures a receipt for every bill paid.
In this bank the business of women is appreciated.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL BANK
La Grande, Oregon
MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

