

CUBAN REBELS TRAINED TO GUERRILLA WARFARE

Successfully Fighting Spain
for a Century, They Know How to
Worry Palma



LATEST PHOTOGRAPH OF
DON TOMAS ESTRADA
PALMA, PRESIDENT OF CUBA



GENERAL JOSE M. GOMEZ, THE INSURGENT LEADER, WHO HAS BEEN IMPROVED



PALMA AND HIS CABINET

REVOLUTION stalks again in Cuba. The unhappy island of unrest, whose fair soil has for a century been soaked in the blood of insurgents and their tyrants, is once again in turmoil.

Three brief years of peace, intervening since the achievement of independence, are now over, and the traditional warfare is resumed.

When Estrada Palma, once chieftain of a political junta, quit his quiet school at Little Falls, New York, to become the first President of the Cuban Republic, he little knew what a complex problem awaited him. The spirit that kept Cuba fighting for liberty against Spain grew not only from a desire for liberty. It was the expression of the restless mind of the Cuban that never is at peace and turns to strife on the least excuse.

After being freed from Spain, Cubans wanted the fruits of freedom at once. They saw no reason why they should wait. During the period that the United States remained in control, the strength of Washington was able to preserve order, but it was inevitable that strife should come under the Palma regime.

The disappointed seekers for patronage had to be heard from. Quentin Bandera, born good in the Cuban Wars of the last 30 years, thought it no more than a fair reward that he should be Chief of Police, but Palma, a man of education, shrank from putting in a place of power a man who could not write his name.

They made Bandera a door-keeper at \$75 a month, and he nursed his grievances till at the first outbreak of revolt he took the part of the insurgents.

His death under the machetes of the Cuban guards a few weeks ago took from the insurgents their best fighting leader.

Leaders Not Lacking.

But the revolt will not lack for leaders. There are always lots of them to arise when the fires of insurrection stir the Pearl of the Antilles.

Such men as Viceroy Garcia, General Carlos Garcia, and General Justo Garcia, sons of General Calixto Garcia, Generals Montecagudo and Loynaz del Castillo, and Colonels Piedra and Alberti are relentless fighters who will stick to their cause, right or wrong, with that pertinacity that seems peculiarly characteristic of the Cuban rebel.

The target at which they are aiming is said to be President Palma, and fear is felt by many that the Chief of the Republic may fall by the assassin's hand. Precautions have been taken by the army and police authorities to extend every protection to Palma at all times.

In such crises there is always a large degree of danger from within. President Palma has been to special pains to assure the loyalty of all parts of his government. He has called into conference all the chief of his various departments, has armed the customs armament, and increased the guard around the treasury.

Seditious proclamations have been traced to their source as far as possible, and the publishers punished. Warnings have been posted in all parts of the Republic forbidding all persons to take part in any movement inimical to the present authority, and promising summary justice on those who do.

The same triumph of Palma and the Liberal regime at the recent election started the talk of rebellion, the soldiers have been gathering the names of the disturbers in Havana and other centers, and these are under surveillance so that they may be arrested at the first open act of treason.

There is little of a political issue in the revolt. It is rather the personal ad-

venture of those whose ambitions have been disappointed by the Palma regime.

Skilled in Guerrilla Warfare.

make him a sufficient, though frugal, dinner. So the Cuban insurgents' most efficient commissary generals are the war-thirsty and the maraudous soul of his lavish fighting spirit.

As for quartermaster's supplies, filibusters must, for the most part, furnish the insurgent with his arms and ammunition, and often these supplies are scant enough. The immediate bodyguard of old Maximo in the days of 1896 were a band of desperadoes, bold and ravenous, but the vast majority of his followers and those of the dreaded Macario had little or nothing in the way of long range firearms, except what they took from the Spaniards.

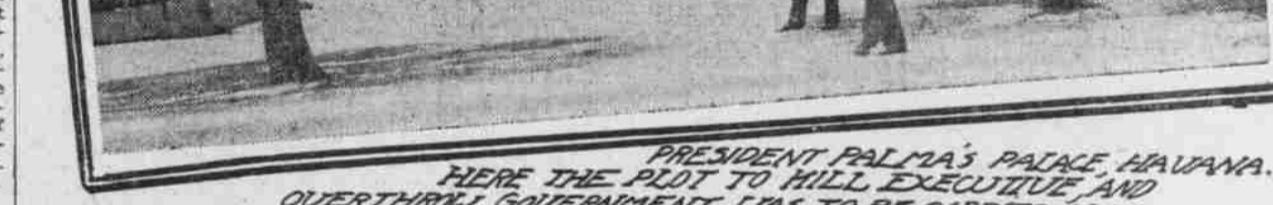
Many hard old-fashioned revolvers slung about their almost naked waists, and practically all armed and knew how to use the keen-edged, heavy cut knife.

With camp equipage, except of the most primitive and portable kind, the insurgent in the field disdains to cumber his movements. While in camp a thatched hut, usually knocked together from cane, bamboo or palm branches, readily serves the purpose of a shelter. In a country perennially balmy, clothing is the least of his troubles. He usually goes barefooted from choice, if not from necessity.

Four Generations of Fighters.

In the present conflict both sides understand the art of guerrilla warfare, for both practiced it against Spain. What they were able to do shoulder to shoulder they must now accomplish against each other, and unless the United States should

be forced to intervene to protect its own



PRESIDENT PALMA'S PALACE, HAVANA.
HERE THE PLOT TO KILL EXECUTIVE AND
OVERTHROW GOVERNMENT WAS TO BE CARRIED OUT

interests, the turmoil will certainly give sympathy, though other Nations lengthen out over a considerable period.

That pitted the woes of Cuba had promised to help.

his peaceful school to become the shining target in a country where peace is a stranger.

Is Thirteen Really an Unlucky Number?

THIRTEEN enjoys among numerals a dual position peculiarly its own. It is somewhat singular that a number regarded by some so sacredly as to be reverently venerated should have acquired in the eye of others an unpopular stigma by all that is evil, unlucky and undesirable.

Passing swiftly from the remoter ages of superstition to more modern times of seemingly sounder reasoning, one finds it typical alike of good and evil according to the particular circumstances of the case. Superstition dies hard, and while the 20th century, with its ripening intelligence, is wonderfully able to accept with clarity what the revolution of ages has brought about in so many desirable directions, one sees the changing here and there like limps to the same extremes even still going so far as to refuse to dine in a company of 13 lest death should thereby claim too soon an unwilling victim. This notion is popularly supposed to have arisen through that memorable meal from which Judas rose to meet his doom.

Nothing is more surprising than the inconsistency and contrariness at times of the human race. Dr. G. Russell Forbes has recently drawn passing attention to what is recorded in verse on the marble tablet in the chapel of the Trichium Paulorum in Rome, adjoining the Church of St. Gregory on the Caelian hill—namely, that the 13th guest was the emblematic embodiment of evil. In the case of Pope Gregory the 13th guest was the symbol of good.

Thirteen, says Wynn Western in his treatise on numbers, "was the sacred number of the Mexicans and the people of Yucatan. The method of computation among the Mexican priests," he continues, "was by weeks of 13 days, their year being 28 weeks, or 13 days and one over. Thirteen

years formed an induction—a week of years—the 13 days over forming another week. Four times 13, or 52, was their 'cycle.' In Yucatan there were 13 snake gods." He draws attention, also, to the fact that old authors speak of 13 as a number used to procure agreement among married people. Thirteen, it should be pointed out, is the number of the Hebrew word "achad"—"unity."

More recently, however, it was spoken: "Gallant deeds in all parts of the country for upward of 100 years, combined with excellent conduct in quarters, have obtained for the regiments the respect of the country, and the Queen Victoria has graciously named it after her royal consort in testimony of its many and varied services."

Europe Generally Prudiced.

In opposition to this the Turks, Russians, Italians, French and English have all shown themselves more or less prejudiced, from time to time, against 13. More in his diary refers to a dinner of 13. The Catalans when a French countess was hastily summoned to remedy the grievance. French prejudice, if report be true, has even gone so far as to delete the dreaded 13th guest from the menu. Yet prior to 1823 the Irish superstitions, in many ways though they be, could calmly carry about with them a coin worth just 13 pence.

Thirteen—the "baker's dozen"—is, of course, everywhere regarded as including a vantage loaf. "Would you not," asks Dr. Forbes in contending for the 13th, "desire to kill him?"

A Thirteen Club at one time made itself conspicuous in a ludicrous endeavor to upset this widely spread prejudice and other ill-forebodings ominous by the mind that it appears to that abnormal imagination no longer as fancy, but

as fact. Thirteen, however, was the symbol of death considerably earlier than the beginning of the Christian era. If the 13th guest be referred to it will be found that this is represented by a skeleton with his scythe. This symbolism may be traced through ancient oral tradition to the 13th letter of that sacred word of the Hebrew Kabbalah, Yod-heh—a word never, it is supposed, uttered by the Israelites themselves, and only by the angels once a year.

A number being attributed to each letter of the alphabet, every word in due course gained a numerical value, and so from this ancient conception of an occult meaning numbers certain results were attained. As the 13th doctrine of the Kabbalah endeavored to portray not only the nature of the deity, the divine emanations, the cosmogony, the creation, the nature of the angels and of men, but also their destiny. It can be understood why "death" became associated with its "own" number.

The Thirteenth Guest.

Sitting down as the 13th at dinner was, we are told in the old Norse mythology, deemed "unlucky" by the Scandinavians because at a banquet in the Valhalla Loki, the Scandinavian god of strife and evil, intruded himself on one occasion, making the 13th guest, and succeeded in his desire to kill him with an arrow of misfortune. Never before had he been so conspicuously successful in his efforts to kill a god or peace. It is noticeable that in this instance the 13th guest was the emblematic embodiment of evil. In the case of Pope Gregory the 13th guest was the symbol of good.

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identifying themselves with skulls and bones, black cats, cross-eyed warts, and coffin-shaped coffers, so that the London Spectator in 1894 was itself unable to refrain from facetiously exclaiming: "Who could have believed that there were 169 men in London so singularly lacking in humor?"

More recently, however, it was made to be the 13th which was the unlucky number. It was spoken: "Gallant deeds in all parts of the country for upward of 100 years, combined with excellent conduct in quarters, have obtained for the regiments the respect of the country, and the Queen Victoria has graciously named it after her royal consort in testimony of its many and varied services."

Our Original Thirteen States.

Attention may now be turned to several lately revived instances in the annals of American history of thirteen being felicitous rather than the reverse. The Americans, however, were ever increasingly prosperous people who, it is conjectured, on the 13th, compassed originally thirteen states, and the national motto, intentionally or not, "E Pluribus Unum," consists of just thirteen letters.

More remarkable examples in evidence of the influence which personal feeling may have over one's opinions are given by Wagner's Preference.

Richard Wagner, the musician, on the other hand, preferred "thirteen." Born in 1813, fate endowed him with a name of thirteen letters and in course of time allowed him to compose thirteen works. His "Tannhäuser" was finished on April 13, and was first performed in Paris on March 13. He left Bayreuth on September 13 and died on February 13.

Even in the present year of grace folks may be found to be superstitious. There is "luck in odd numbers," not alone three and thirteen, but in seven also. As shown in a former paper, like "three" and "thirteen," "seven" has played no inconspicuous part in the story of the past. Had Columbus been a man of common sense he would have given up his search for the "perfect" number, typical of "beginning, middle and end." Bismarck's reasons for his predilection were briefly

stated at the time of his death. He served three masters: he was responsible for and fought in three great wars; he was the author of three constitutions, so completely conquered and suppressed, that he established the triple alliance; in the Franco-German war he had three horses killed under him; he had three names (Bismarck, Schoenhausen and Lauenburg); he acquired three titles; he was a prince, duke, and the armament arms of his family are a leaf of clover and three oak leaves. His family motto, "In Triumphantia, robur!"—Strength in Trinity"—was unique in itself sufficed to give me measure in my career in politics. So, too, were his feelings associated with the triple number that the caricaturist represented him with three hairs on his head. He had three children. Under his rule, Germany was divided into 13 provinces. Liberals and ultramontanes were formed.

An instance in which this may be seen and in association with the so-called "unlucky" number is in the time-honored and well-known game of whist. Thirteen cards are dealt out and rigorously divided by each player. It depends largely, of course, upon the player himself whether these thirteen cards are turned to his advantage or disadvantage. One more remark about thirteen. At reported quite recently "thirteen" was reported having come up "three times in succession," losing the casino. It was stated, no less than 5,000 pounds sterling, enough, one would think, to upset the prejudiced attitude of many a superstitious mind.

I've given it house room long enough." He took the book and looked at her rather queerly. "All right," he said, but there was no enthusiasm in his voice. "What's your isn't it?" she demanded. "Well, not exactly," he replied. "I gave it to you for a birthday present about two years ago."

Now she is writing his name in every book she owns.

The Unexpected.

W. A. Glasgow, Jr., of the Interstate Commerce Commission's counsel, smiled. He had been interrogating a reporter in his hotel, and the reply he received was unexpected. "I have an unlooked-for answer, truly," he said. "It was like the answer the policeman gave to the good citizen." An instance in which this may be seen and in association with the so-called "unlucky" number is in the time-honored and well-known game of whist. Thirteen cards are dealt out and rigorously divided by each player. It depends largely, of course, upon the player himself whether these thirteen cards are turned to his advantage or disadvantage. One more remark about thirteen. At reported quite recently "thirteen" was reported having come up "three times in succession," losing the casino. It was stated, no less than 5,000 pounds sterling, enough, one would think, to upset the prejudiced attitude of many a superstitious mind.

The Forgotten Gift.

She had been cleaning up her "den" and came across various and sundry unmentionables in the process. After thinking hard she had restored them all to their rightful owners with a fine and conscious sense of virtue. Only one remained and one night the man with whom she connected this particularly bad article. She brought it out and told him the whole story. "Here's a little old book of ours," she announced in her usual flippant way, "and I wish you'd take it home. You laugh and laugh and laugh again."