HAVANA FOR AMERICA'S DISPORT

Soon the Lid Will Be No More; Monte Carlo, Lottery, Cockfighting Instead—The Cuban at Race Track and Ball Game.

From the spectacle of a lidless Cuba, about which there will be at least two opinions, Frederic J. Haskin will turn in his next letter to The Journal, to a cleaned up Cuba, as to which all humanity must be of one mind. Even the Cubans themselves, though aided against their will, have shown themselves appreciative of the sanitary triumph achieved in the crusade against Yellow Jack. The grounds given for the sober prediction that the dreadful scourge of yellow fever will soon be utterly blotted off the face of the earth will be admirably stated in Mr. Haskin's next letter to The Journal, which will appear tomorrow.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

(Copyright 1909 by Frederic J. Haskin.)

Havana, Jan. 18.—"Twenty years from now Havana will have 1,000,000 people, it will be the Paris of the western world, the Monte Carlo of the United States, the playground of the Americas."

So declared a wise American business man who made his millions in Pittsburg, but who does not gamble, who has never owned a race horse and who hasn't any property in Cuba. The enthusiasts who do gamble and own race horses and Cuban property indorse his statement with the exception of the 20 year limitation. Barring the 1,000,000 people, they say Havana will be all these other things within five years.

Encouragement of gambling was one of the chief campaign assets of the Liberal party which elected General Gomez president. When the new government comes into power on January 28, one of the first actions will be to reestablish the government lottery. Cock fighting will be restored to the category of legalized sports. Bull fighting may be rehabilitated later on. Racing is already here. Jai alai is a most exciting gambling game. The opening of palatial "casinos," is within the range of immediate possibilities and baseball in Cuba is already a betting game.

Games of Chance Seem Not Evil.

The president of Cuba wishes to become in America what the Prince of Monaco is in Europe, the official governmental guardian of genteel gambling. The Latin has no conception of that Puritan conscience which has permeated all the American union and which looks with stern disapproval upon the game of chance. The Cuban has forgiven Spain for shooting his patriots and starving his mother to death in a reconcentrado camp, but he can never forgive the United States for abolishing the lottery and placing a cock fight beyond the pale of the law. Now that the United States is again to withdraw from Cuba, and the new government is to be "Liberal," Havana hopes to make the most of its broad minded liberality.

Open gambling is a thing of the past in the United States, with the exception of a few cities of the mountain section of the west and such millionaire resorts as Newport and Palm Beach. Racing, the "sport of kings," has fallen under the ban of the Puritan conscience in the States and every horseman will admit that the game is dead in America. Immediately after the passage of the law which killed horse racing in New York, the great turf kings began to look for foreign fields. Many went to Europe, but Mexico, Argentina, Cuba and even Venezuela attracted attention. That gave the Havana promoters their cue. They would make Havana the great racing town of the United States, whether the American flag floated over its forts or not.

Havana's Program Is Complete.

Havana is close to New York, not half as far away as San Francisco. Its climate is ideal for winter racing. The meeting held this winter was not a great success as race meetings go, but there was a Saratoga atmosphere about the hotels that bespoke the presence of the "talent" in goodly number. Next winter there will be a government anxious to encourage racing, there probably will be national and municipal subsidies for the encouragement of the "breeding of thoroughbred horses," and the city of Havana will loom large on the sporting map.

If, in addition to racing, Havana can furnish the attraction of "clubs," where one can take his chance at anything from craps to baccarat, the jai alai "functions," the government lottery, the cocking mains and a good game of baseball with a betting ring attached, will it not appeal to the heart of him who flees from the wrath of the aroused Puritan conscience? If Governor Hughes and Governor Folk and the other reformers have sewed things up so that a man can't get his money down in the States, will not the Honorable A. Mutt, Esq., set sail for Havana?

Havana thinks he will and it is making every preparation to receive him kindly, absorb his loose change, give him some action for his money and then tender him the use of the municipal banana patch for subsistence. The banana patch is a happy thought, for it must be borne in mind that it is absolutely impossible to walk back home from Havana without getting one's feet very, very damp.

Betting Styles Vary Widely.

The success of the horse racing game in Havana will be measured by the amount of patronage from the United States. The Cuban is a born gambler, like all his Latin American cousins, but he is a gambler on sentiment. He has neither the patience nor the disposition to figure out the "dope sheets." He doesn't care anything about "form." He bets on his feelings. That variety of gambling does not prosper at the racetrack. The racing game lives off the people who apply arithmetic, algebra, spherical trigonometry and integral calculus to the form sheet. They figure out exactly which horse will win in the fourth race. They back their judgment with their money. If the horse doesn't win, the dopester never finds fault with his system. It was the jockey or the condition of the track or the presence of a crosseyed man in the betting ring which put the plans agley. The true dopester never questions his mathematics.

The Cuban bets on the horse with the pleasing name, on the jockey with the pleasing colors, or on the horse which the companions of the moment consider a sure loser. At jai alai he bets on his favorite team without regard to form or condition. At that game he gets action for his money and if he loses he is reconciled. The races are not sufficiently exciting and he doesn't patronize them regularly.

The lottery appeals to him because it affords a chance to get a great return for a very small outlay. The odds are against him in the drawing, but he thinks only of the difference between the grand capital prize and the price of a ticket. The Cuban national lottery is assured of a big business from the moment it opens for business.

The Cuban Baseball Fan.

The average American baseball fan would be astounded if he could see a ball game in Havana. Havana has several first class teams, as has been proved this winter in contests with big league teams from the states. The game is played exactly as in this country, the English language being used by the umpire and the players. The Havana newspapers have introduced much American slang into the Cuban vocabulary through the medium of the sporting page. That slang has been carried into politics and baseball has become, in fact, the national game of Cuba.

The great difference is in the grandstand. There is none of that rapt attention which characterizes the American baseball spectator. There is none of that absolute unanimity which enables 20,000 Americans to start a scream of triumph in perfect unison, and then allows it to die in 20,000 throats when the ball is miraculously fielded.

The Cuban crowd is betting. Every man is against his neighbor. A man goes to bat. The chink of silver is heard all over the stand. They are betting that he will hit the first ball pitched. In another moment they are betting that he will never get to first.

If he does, they bet that he will die there. If the umpire's indicator shows three balls and two strikes there is a perfect furore of betting as to whether the next ball will be a strike or a ball. If it is a foul everybody groans with disappointment, because the bets are still up in the air.

The Monte Carlo Proposition.

There is a serious business side of this proposition to make Havana an American Monte Carlo. It is argued that the sporting element will find some place to indulge its appetite for betting, that the legislatures of the several states have driven gambling games of all kinds from the borders of the Union, and that Havana might as well reap the rich harvest as to let the money escape to Europe. Havana has the advantage of being the nearest foreign city to American shores. It has the advantages of a good climate, of beautiful surroundings and of a cafe life which is not equalled in any other city on this side of the Atlantic.

Despite uncertainty as to the future of the Cuban government, the American colony in Havana has increased steadily from the time of the first occupation until now. There is a little uneasiness at the present moment, but not enough to cause anyone to withdraw from the city. Americans fall into the habits of Havana life quite easily. This is especially true of the sporting fraternity, to whom the afternoon and night are lifetime, and the morning is dedicated to sleep.

The proposition to establish a great gambling casino in Havana which would rival Monte Carlo is in abeyance. It is being discussed and it may be done, but the decision will be postponed until the new government is thoroughly established and the success of the minor forms of gambling is ascertained.

Greatest of All, the Cock Fight.

For the average Cuban the greatest joy in the fact that Cuba is again self-governing will be found in the realization of the fact that the ban on cock fighting has been removed. In former years, under Spanish rule, cock fighting was regulated by severe rules, but it was not prohibited. The mains must be held on Sundays, on saints' days which were generally observed, and on national holidays. This restriction was found necessary because such a large proportion of the population went in for cock fighting that business would have been paralyzed if the fights were permitted on working days. What the new government will do in the way of regulation is not known, the important thing is that the incoming administration has promised to legalize the sport.

The Cubans are rejoicing because the bridle of a New England conscience, imposed by American intervention, is to be removed. They invite their fellow sportsmen of the United States to share their liberty. The business men of Havana are confident that the invitation will be accepted. And on this confidence they base their prediction that within 20 years Havana will have 1,000,000 people and will be the gayest city in the western world.

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MYSTERIOUS NOTE CASE ON TRIAL

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Geneseo, N. Y., Jan. 18.—The noted suit of Margaret E. Clark of Dansville against the estate of John Hyland, the late Dansville millionaire, was called for trial in the county court here today. The cause of action is a $10,000 note, which the plaintiff claims Hyland gave her, but the action has been so long drawn out that the costs and interest have brought the amount up to nearly $20,000.

Nothing was known of the alleged note until Mrs. Clark produced it after Hyland's death, when she declared the millionaire had forbidden her making it known until after his death. The action was brought to trial several years ago and the ruling of the court was that the note was a forgery. The attorneys for the plaintiff then obtained a reversal in a higher court and a second trial was ordered.

Spectacles at Metzger's

A JAPANESE TRAGEDY

Upper picture shows Komito, daughter of a professor in the Tokio university, who was to marry Torao Nomura, a young Japanese, who was a butler in the family of an Ardmore, Pa., banker. A few months ago Komito committed suicide. Since then Torao has been acting strangely and recently he shot and killed a nursemaid in the banker's family and then killed himself.

PARTIES BEHIND LIBEL INQUIRY

Charles P. Taft and Douglas Robinson, Apparently—Taft a Witness.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Jan. 18.—Charles P. Taft, brother of the president-elect, arrived here today in response to a summons to appear before the federal grand jury and testify in the investigation of the charges made by the New York World in connection with the Panama canal property.

While the government is ostensibly behind the prosecution, it was rumored today that Charles P. Taft and Douglas Robinson, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, who, the New York paper alleged, benefited through the purchase, are the real prosecutors.

If found guilty of the charge of libel the publisher of the World, under the law of the District of Columbia, will be subject to a fine not exceeding $1000 and a jail sentence not exceeding five years, or both.

GOSPEL'S WORK IN THE DARK CONTINENT

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Washington, Jan. 18.—With President Roosevelt as the principal speaker and Vice President Fairbanks as the presiding officer a notable meeting is promised at the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal church tonight in celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the landing of the first Methodist evangelist in Africa. Besides the address of President Roosevelt, there will be a review of the Christian work in Africa by Bishop J. C. Hartzell, Methodist bishop to that continent. The meeting is intended to mark the beginning of an international celebration of the anniversary by Methodists the world over.

One Way To Avoid Piles

and Appendicitis.

"Every incoming patient recites the same story—neglected or improperly treated constipation. The great increase of operations for appendicitis, rectal diseases and womanly displacements, indicates the crying need of a mild but sure treatment for constipation, says a well-known hospital matron. Headache, stomach troubles, piles and all the fevers of children can be prevented by using this mild formula whenever any costiveness exists: Get at any well-stocked drug store 'one ounce aromatic fluid cascara,' 'one ounce compound essence cardiol,' and 'two ounces aromatic syrup rhubarb.' Mix, and adults take from ½ to 2 teaspoonfuls after each meal, while children will readily take from five drops to a teaspoonful after each meal, according to age. This treatment will correct the bowels and not drug them. The longer it is used the less need of it except when some heavy meal is consumed, or when one catches cold."

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PROBLEMS FOR MINE WORKERS

Lewis-Walker Feud Heads List—Anthracite Affairs—New Demands.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Indianapolis, Jan. 18.—The United Mine Workers of America, the largest single labor body in the United States, will begin its annual convention in Tomlinson hall tomorrow. Practically all of the 800 delegates who will comprise the convention have arrived in the city. They represent the 100,000 organized miners scattered over Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, West Virginia, Alabama, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Virginia, Texas and several other states.

The general feeling among the delegates is that the convention this year will be the most important in the history of the organization. In addition to the usual amount of routine business and the consideration of the wage scale the convention faces serious internal dissensions which threaten the very existence of the organization.

The Lewis-Walker Feud.

One of the first matters to be taken up will be the report of the tellers entrusted with the task of counting the ballots in the recent election of international officers. Whether President Thomas L. Lewis will succeed himself or be succeeded by John H. Walker of Illinois, who was the opposing candidate, will then be officially announced.

The fight between Lewis and Walker was the most bitter in the history of the United Mine Workers. Lewis was accused of using his force of organizers for campaign purposes, while other accusations were made that former President John Mitchell, Congressman W. B. Wilson, former secretary, and W. D. Ryan, present secretary treasurer, were all bending their efforts to accomplish the election of Walker.

Both Lewis and Walker believe they have won the election and when the matter is introduced in the convention it probably will be the signal for bitter strife. Lewis says he feels confident that he has been reelected by a very sweeping majority. Illinois, Iowa and Indiana are said to have given their support to Walker and the latter's friends are claiming his election by a rather small, but still a substantial majority.

Inasmuch as a majority of votes are necessary for election, the indications are that the recent balloting did not result in the election of either a national vice president or a national secretary treasurer. There were seven candidates for the vice presidency and five for the secretary treasurership.

Demands of Anthracite Men.

The present agreement between the anthracite mine workers and the operators will expire April 1. The convention will discuss the demands to be presented by the miners. The convention proper will not fix the wage scale. This will be left to the joint conference, when the miners and operators will meet with equal representation to agree.

It is already evident that the reaching of an agreement this year will be a matter of much difficulty. Demands similar to those which led to the big strike of 1902 and the six weeks' "suspension" of 1906 have already been drafted by a committee of the miners' union. If they are insisted upon there is certain to be a rupture, representatives of the operators say, as they will not grant them.

The new set of demands, which was submitted to the conference of the miners' union at Scranton last fall, includes many which the anthracite strike commission of 1902 declined to grant, and which were renewed in 1906. The trouble in 1906 ended by the extension for three years of the award of the strike commission.

What the miners desire most, and what the operators declare they never will agree to, is the "check off" system, by which the operators would undertake to collect dues for the union by holding out a certain portion of the employes' earnings.

New Demands.

First in the list of new demands is one which points to the abolition of the conciliation board, which now acts as a permanent arbitration council to settle all disputes. The second demand is for the complete recognition of the United Mine Workers of America as a party to negotiate a wage contract and for the virtual adoption of the "check off" system.

The third, fourth and fifth demands in the list prepared for the miners' committee call for fewer hours, higher wages, and the payment of contract miners by weight exclusively. Another question of importance to be settled is the duration of whatever agreement is made between operators and mine workers. The latter suggests one year. The operators object to this on the ground that if it were adopted it would mean the renewal of negotiations every year, with the possibility of the negotiations ending in a strike.

KEEP PLEDGES OR BE RECALLED

Legislators Will Face Disgrace If They Violate Their Oaths.

(By Journal Leased Salem Wire.)

The recall is to be set in motion without even one day's delay if any member of the legislature fails to keep his pledge to the people to vote for the popular choice for United States senator. This is the announced determination of W. S. U'Ren and other members of the people's power league, who are keeping close watch on the course of the legislators.

Mr. U'Ren is expected in Salem today or tomorrow, and he has told some of his friends that he will have recall petitions ready for circulation on Wednesday. If members fail to keep their pledges in any district in the state, the petitions will be at once placed in the hands of workers in the affected districts.

When 25 per cent of the electors have signed the petitions they will be ready for filing, and within five days, if the member fails to resign, an election must be called. The election must be within 20 days after five days allowed in which the member is given an opportunity to resign. It will thus be possible to accomplish the political death of a faithless member when the session is little more than one half over.

Death Roll of the Northwest

Mary E. Wood.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Enterprise, Or., Jan. 18.—Mary E. Wood, 82 years of age, died at Lostine, Wallowa county, January 13. Her maiden name was Mary E. Francis. She was born in Pittsylvania county, Virginia. Early in life she removed with her parents to Missouri. On June 28, 1852, she was united in marriage to George W. Boatman. By the death of her husband in 1855, she was left a widow with two small sons, John B. and Marshall K. Boatman, and in 1859 in company with her children and her brother, S. K. Francis, she crossed the plains and mountains by the ox-team route, riding most of the way on horseback and assisting in driving the stock, which they brought with them. They settled in Alsea valley, in what is now Benton county. She was married to William H. Wood November 13, 1859. He survives her at the age of 85 years. To this union one son was born, George D. Wood, residing at Lostine, Or. Accompanied by her husband and her two sons she came to Wallowa county in October, 1881, locating near the town of Lostine, where the remainder of her life was spent.

The deceased in early womanhood became a Christian and united with the Baptist church. She was a devoted Christian and a consistent member of the church, displaying those qualities of character which caused her to be honored and loved by all her neighbors and acquaintances.

Besides her husband the deceased is survived by two brothers, S. K. Francis of Enterprise, Or., and John Francis of Missouri; a sister, Louise Pace of Prairie Creek, Or.; two sons, Marshall K. Boatman of Enterprise and George D. Wood of Lostine.

Mrs. J. M. Brown.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Ontario, Or., Jan. 18.—The remains of Mrs. J. M. Brown, one of the pioneers of this section, who died in a hospital at Portland, have arrived here for burial. Mrs. Brown was 65 years of age. She leaves a husband and six children: Mrs. T. B. Fiser of this city, Mrs. H. H. Ruth of Topeka, Kan.; Mrs. G. B. Currey of Junctura, Or.; Mrs. Jessie Potter of Alaska, Mrs. L. Pefferle of Baker City and Ben J. Brown of Harriman, Or.

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Poe Centenary Observed.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

New York, Jan. 18.—Chancellor MacCracken, Hamilton W. Mabie and Edwin Markham were the chief speakers at exercises held at New York university this afternoon in celebration of the Edgar Allen Poe centenary. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Bronx Society of Arts and Sciences and was preceded in the forenoon by a pilgrimage to the Poe cottage in Fordham.

Artificial Limbs Have Been Costly.

In a circular just issued by Mr. Linstrom of B. C. Linstrom company, 271½ Morrison street, he claims that over $10,000 has been paid for artificial limbs absolutely worthless, that have been made here in Portland in the last seven years. Those interested should send for one of these circulars.

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