

enable the railroads to distribute goods directly from the ship.

## 2. GOOD ROADS.

During the second American intervention public highways—military roads of the most approved construction—were built or put under way in every section of the island. The present government is continuing this road building, and considerably extending it.

## 3. SANITARY MEASURES.

The sanitary reforms instituted by the first American government of intervention, and which are being continued by the present government, have reduced the mortality to such a degree that Cuba now stands among the nations showing the lowest mortality rate.

## 4. POPULAR EDUCATION.

A modern educational system was instituted during the first occupation and is being constantly improved, and we believe that what "the little red school-house" has done for other lands it will do for Cuba.

## 5. MODERN BUSINESS METHODS.

The ability of the people to adapt themselves to new business methods is, perhaps, most instructively shown in the modernization and rapid development of banking since the cessation of Spanish rule. Reference made elsewhere in this issue to the banking business in Cuba will enable the reader to form an idea of Cuba's rapidly increasing commercial importance.

Those who know the island and its people best believe that Cuba is making good. The pessimist can always find something to justify foreboding. But the man of broad judgment, who knows that it is impossible to find perfection in this world, and who is inclined to be generous in his judgment will say with Caspar Whitney: "Yes, Cuba is making good."

## • • • "The Beaver" in Cuba.

It is with a feeling of satisfaction that we draw attention to the important part that Canadian capital has played in developing the resources of Cuba. Since the war of liberation Sir William Van Horne and his associates have been very active in promoting railway enterprise there. It is chiefly owing to their enthusiastic and persistent efforts that a much needed railway was built and in 1902 was opened for traffic.

This Canadian-built line places the capital city, Havana, in close touch with Santiago, Camaguey, and Eastern Santa Clara, and it is to be noted that the railway, now such an effective force in Cuba's development, was considered, when first projected, absolutely impracticable.

Sir William saw the immediate necessity of this work from both a political and economic point of view. He considered it vital that Cuba should have perfect communication between the leading cities of the Eastern and Middle provinces and the Western extremity of the island. This has now been realized—and forms a monument erected upon foreign soil to the enterprise of Canadians.

## Banking in Cuba.

Two Canadian financial institutions that have operated with considerable success in Cuba are the Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Nova Scotia.

The Royal Bank of Canada opened its branch in Habana in 1898. In the year 1903 business had increased to such an extent as to warrant the erection of their present building at Obrapia 33, which at that time was the most modern office building in the city. The offices of this Company have been located in their new building since its completion. A photograph of the structure is shown in this number of *SUNSHINE*.

In the year 1906 this bank obtained a contract for the payment of \$35,000,000 in army claims to the Army of Liberation. This important work was carried out in so highly satisfactory a manner that it has been a big factor in establishing the prestige and confidence which the Cuban people have in this Bank. These payments having been made in the most remote districts, the name of the Bank is a household word from one end of the Island to the other.

This Company's operations in Cuba cannot be spoken of without a word of reference to Mr. F. J. Sherman, who was for many years Agent at Habana, being afterwards appointed Supervisor for Cuba, and to him credit must be given for the great success of their Cuban business.

The Bank of Nova Scotia is located at the corner of O'Reilly and Cuba streets. The Habana Branch of this institution was opened on January 1st, 1906, and has continued since that time increasing its business and influence. In a recent interview given a daily paper, the Agent stated that the deposits during the past year had shown a marked increase, indicating the popularity of the bank as well as the prosperity of Cuba.

The Habana Branch is at present in charge of Mr. F. W. Ross; Mr. A. Forsythe is Assistant Agent. The bank also has a Branch at Cienfuegos.

The National Bank of Cuba was organized in the year 1901, and has kept pace with the growth of the commerce of Cuba. On the 30th June, this year, it issued its semi-annual statement, showing total assets \$32,900,000 and deposits \$23,700,000. These figures show an increase of \$6,000,000 and \$8,000,000 respectively over the statement published on December 31st, 1909. These figures will demonstrate what has been done in ten years; surely a most remarkable record. The Bank has 21 Branches located in all the important points of the Island. The executive of the bank consists of Mr. Edmund C. Vaughan, President, Mr. W. A. Merchant, Vice-President, and Mr. H. Olavarria, Cashier.