

## Great Cities of the World

### HAVANA, The Cuban Capital

Havana the capital of Cuba, was and not so long ago, one of the quaint cities of the world. Within the past few years, however, it has become so rapidly modernized that many of the ancient landmarks have entirely disappeared. Others have received a touching up or a remodelling, which gives them quite a smart, new air. The American occupation of Havana has left its mark on everything, and for the better in most instances, as every honest observer must admit.

Havana's narrow streets, however, and its picturesque style of building will no doubt always remain, though many of the homes recently erected in Vedado, Havana's aristocratic suburb, have a decidedly modern air. Considering conditions that prevail, no better style than the old style of architecture could be found.

"Every country has a way of its own," is an old Spanish proverb. Truly, Cuba's capital city has one that is all its own. With reference to the building of residences, it certainly is a good way. It is a cool way, and in a hot climate surely this is the best way. The walls of the majority of the houses in Havana are three to four feet thick; some are five to six feet in thickness. The ceilings are eighteen to twenty feet high. Most of the dwellings have only one story, but this one story is often 25 to 30 feet in height. The family use the flat roof for a sitting room at night. During the day the washwoman dries her clothes there.

House in Havana seldom have front or back yards, so precious is space. When there is a yard it is usually in the middle of the house, as in Mexico. The dwellings have double doors, the main ones often fifteen to sixteen feet high. Within these large doors smaller ones are cut. The latter are the ones frequently used. On some of the larger doors I have counted eight to ten wreat hinges. When I first saw these large doors with the little ones cut in them I thought at once of the story I had heard of the wise (?) man who had two holes made through the same door—a big hole so his big cat could enter and a smaller one for the little cat!

Some of the streets of Havana are so narrow that a pedestrian has often to stop quickly, turn sideways and press against the wall or back up into a doorway to avoid the danger of being knocked off the pavement by the trolley.

On most of these streets the sidewalks are but a single paving stone in width. So narrow are they, there is no room for lamp posts. Thus the gas lamps are attached to the houses by means of brackets; so, too, are the letter boxes.

Watching the four and five tandem mule teams making a train in the narrow streets of Havana, some of them no more than ten to twelve feet wide, is an interesting observation. How it is done is a marvel. It all depends on the quickness and intelligence of the leader. When the corner to be turned is reached the mule in the lead continues on up the street, the others promptly following, until the cart or wagon is across the centre of the street into which the turn is to be made, then, at a signal from the driver, the leader turns back along the route just traversed till he gets to where the wagon has halted, and thence on into the cross street, while the wheel mule turns the cart at right angles. As soon as the wheel mule makes this turn, the leader promptly takes up the line of march again, the others following him with the precision of trained soldiers.

Many pedlars are to be seen on the streets of Havana. Indeed, it is rarely that you turn a corner without bumping into one. They sell all sorts of things, from a ladies dress to a shoe string. One of the queer sights is the dry goods pedlar, a walking dry goods counter, he may fittingly be termed. He carries his stock in trade upon his shoulder, and often it is a heavy one, consisting of numerous bales of lawns, muslins and dimities. He goes to all the houses where he has customers and to others where he hopes to find new ones. He is very obliging. He will unpack every bale and open every bolt wide for a lady's inspection, even if she wants no more than two or three yards of goods.

More of the well-to-do ladies of Havana, however, prefer to go to the stores for their shopping, and it is really quite an enjoyable thing to do, I assure you. The clerks are so obliging, and there is such a large variety of goods of the kind to delight the feminine heart; silks and velvets from France, fine hand-made lace from old Madrid, and much, too, that is done in Cuba, and fans galore! Of all the beautiful fans of the world, Havana, Cuba, has the lion's share.

An odd custom among Havana merchants—one, too, that is prevalent in other Cuban cities, is that of furnish-

ing breakfast for the clerks. As this meal is not eaten until eleven o'clock it could more properly be designated as lunch, but it is the Cuban breakfast, all the same. The table is set for the meal right in the store, and proprietor and clerks sip their black coffee and eat their bread and fruit in full view of passers by and prospective customers. If a customer enters a store while a meal is in progress he knows full well that he must wait, for it is an understanding as rigidly adhered to as though it were a law, that no merchant of Havana or his clerk leaves his breakfast to wait upon any customer, however prominent in social or business circles that customer may be.

Some of the signs on the shops and stores of Havana suggest the greatest irreverence, a shameful disregard for sacred things. Instead of the name of the proprietor or of the company owning the establishment, it will bear some fanciful title, as "The Rose of Paradise," "The Temple of Divinity," etc. A tobacco store in Havana is known as the "Angel of God," while a shop for the sale of numerous miscellaneous articles is called the "Peace of Heaven."

A common sight on the streets of Havana, even in the fashionable shopping districts, is the great lumbering meat wagon, drawn by two giant oxen, with the yoke across their horns instead of about their necks, and the lines passed through their nostrils. The housekeeper's custom in Havana is to buy just one day's supplies at one time. Even groceries are so purchased. The butchers' and grocers' wagons, bakers' and market gardeners' carts are kept busy, going their daily rounds and often they go twice a day.

The present population of Havana is upwards of 300,000. It covers a smaller territory than any other city of its population in either America or Europe. This statement will readily give one an idea of how closely packed together the people must live. One of Havana's great blessings, especially to the poor, is its number of public parks. Some of them are quite small, it is true, but all are beautifully kept. There is shade and green grass, and now and then a leaping fountain. The Prado is not exactly a park; it is a lovely promenade extending through a large portion of the city. Some of the finest residences in Havana face the Prado. Americans take especial pride in this beautiful tree-lined avenue, for the reason that its fine concrete walks and other touches of improvement followed the American occupation.

Havana's chief pride is the Malecon, the handsome promenade along the sea wall, with Morro Castle looking down upon it across the entrance to the harbor. In addition to the concrete walk, there is a macadamised driveway. On a fair evening, when the band is playing, the flags flying gaily from old Morro and the Malecon is alive with pedestrians, the Cuban capital presents a truly festive scene.

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### A CASE FOR ORGANIZATION

(Edmonton Journal)  
From Winnipeg comes the statement that those on whom the responsibility rests of securing enough men for harvest time are worrying as to where they are to come from. After all that we have heard about unemployment this comes as a surprise. The whole trouble is that our economic activities lack organization in the worst kind of way. In the old land the Government and the people are beginning to realize how much they may learn with profit from Germany in this respect. The military forces opposed to us would never have been able to accomplish so much if they had not been backed up as they are by a superb organization, which in time of immense stress has accomplished wonders. There is no getting away from this. And what has proved so great an advantage in time of war must do so in time of peace.

## Peeps at the Panama-Pacific Exposition

### IV.—Arch of the Sun

The ancient Romans were very much given to the erection of triumphal arches in honor of an individual or to commemorate some historical event, usually a great victory. These arches were originally temporary wooden structures adorned with garlands of flowers, stretching across the street or road along which the victorious general or king was to pass.

After a time the triumphal arch became a massive, highly ornamented and permanent memorial, built of stone, and decorated with appropriate bas-reliefs and inscriptions. Some of these may yet be seen among the ruins of old Rome, notably the Arch of Titus, which is richly sculptured with scenes showing the triumphs of Titus in the conquest of Judea; and the Arch of Severus, erected in commemoration of his victories over the Parthians, the greatest and most lavishly decorated of them all.

The victories of Napoleon were celebrated by the erection of the "Arc de Triomphe," situated at the end of the Champs de Elysees in Paris, from which twelve avenues radiate. It stands 150 feet high, is 135 feet broad and 69 feet deep. It is splendidly decorated and adorned with allegorical statues and contains the names of the principal battles of Napoleon.

In the City of New York there is a fine memorial of the father of the American Republic known as "The Arch of Washington."

There has been no attempt to reproduce any of these historical structures at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, but an original idea has been carried out by the erection of a magnificent structure known as the Arch of the Rising Sun, which in many respects is more beautiful than any of the arches that have been referred to, although of course, it has not the quality of permanence. This arch is located at the eastern approach to the great Central Court. The great group piece of sculpture, known as "The Nations of the East," is the work of A. Stirling Calder, Lee Luntell and Frederic G. Roth. Just above the centre of the arch, underneath the statuary group, is the following inscription:

"The moon sinks yonder in the west, while in the east the glorious sun behind the herald dawn appears. Thus rise and set in constant change those shining orbs and regulate the very life of this, our world."—Kallidasa.

On the left are the words: "They who know the truth are not equal to those who love it."—Confucius.

On the right: "Our eyes and hearts uplifted seem to rest on Heaven's radiance."—Hitomaro.

### V.—The Canadian Building

"Great Nation of Canada Sets Pace at 1915 Fair"; "Canada Leads the World"; Canadian Most Beautiful Building on the Grounds"; "Canada. Surpasses all in Exhibits at Exposition." These sentences seem like fulsome exaggeration, written by one interested in booming Canada, but we are assured that each one has been copied from the head-lines of San Francisco papers.

The Canadian Building is located on the Avenue of the Palms, having perhaps the most strategic location of any buildings representing countries, and being generally admitted to be the most beautiful.

This magnificent structure has been modelled generally after St. George's Hall in Liverpool and cost \$600,000. It is 350 feet long by 250 wide, and the exhibits which it contains are worth \$200,000. Marble steps lead to it from four beautiful entrances, each of which is flanked by great travertine columns.

One of the things that catches the eye on entering are the crossed flags and coat of arms which are worked in wheat, cereals and beans of different colors. Not a single bit of color outside of that obtained from nature is used in these flags. It is wonderful and looks from a few feet away as though a master artist had mixed the colors of a painting.

Along the hallways on the walls, are paintings which give a feeling of distance to the rooms, in one of which you see the great Canadian country as it was before the settlers came, with wild game roaming at will. It is so realistic that you almost believe the animals—buffalo, cattle wild horses—will move about if you wait a little. At the end of this scene there is a beaver dam, and here the astonishing thing is that there are real live beavers swimming around. It is hoped that by refrigerating the water with ice the beavers may be able to live in California's warm climate during the exposition. Beyond this there is a real waterfall and a trout pool in the shadow of the pines, in which pool, also, real trout swim. It is marvellous the effect that is produced.

One feels that he is in the frontier Canadian woods.

Along the west hall one looks up and feels almost as if he were on shipboard entering the harbor of Vancouver, with the surrounding hills and fields in the background, painted so realistically. Model ships will come and go on the artificial waterfront of this great western city and grain elevators will unload a cargo into the holds of these ships, which will sail away.

Connecting with this harbor is the great transcontinental rail service, on which are operated miniature trains. They are supposedly coming in from the great Canadian prairies and unloading their cars into the grain elevators, thence to the ships to be carried to all parts of the world. These unique contrivances are all manipulated by electricity and work so perfectly that one forgets that he is looking at an exhibition and really gets into the full swing of the great commercial spirit of Canada.

On the walls and ceilings are Canadian villages, mountains, fields, streams, cities, all modelled in cereals of different colors, and it is done so smoothly that it looks like mural decorations of a high type.

It is worthy of mention that Canada has not only set the pace in the beauty and uniqueness of her exhibits, in the architectural design of her wonderful buildings, but she was one of the first to get started on her building and the first to complete and fill with exhibits the allotted space.

### VI.—The End of the Trail

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition is unique in its art work, and especially in the statuary that adorns the highways, buildings and courts. One could well imagine that he was in some old Greek city, built for the centuries, rather than the fleeting months of one year.

The "Tower of Jewels," the central architectural figure of the grounds has flanking it, standing about fifty feet from the ground, ten or twelve or fifteen-foot high figures that in their way are classics of this type of statuary, the Priest, the Philosopher, the Miner, the Prophet, imagination, etc.

In front of every one of the several courts stands a great figure. In front of the Court of Flowers stands the "Pioneer," Walt Whitman might have been the model for this figure—Walt Whitman, with his long, grey hair, his open shirt showing the breast, astride a spirited horse, carrying across his shoulder an axe and a gun.

But perhaps the most beautiful of all of these figures, and the most expressive, and one that no doubt will be later moulded into enduring bronze, is "The End of the Trail," by James Earl Fraser, and it stands at the entrance of the Court of Palms.

### The End of the Trail

Ah, God, how weary, worn, and tired he is!

The journey has been long from morn till night;

From youth to age his varied way has run;

The camp fire and the hunt; the games, the chase, the fight

To death, the winter's snows, the summer's suns;

The stars at night his only journey's light;

His faithful steed, with wiry limbs, and speed

Often like to the winds that swept the plain

Whereon his flying feet so small and fleet

A drum-beat played as backward flew his mane

Of jet. But now the end is near, the night has come;

The night that marks life's journey's end; the Warrior's face

Has dropped with weariness upon his knotted breast.

His lurching limbs speak naught but weariness.

The sun has lost itself behind the sweeping west;

Has left the plains in utter, crying loneliness;

His spear is dropping to the ground; the pony's pace

Has set into that last, slow stride, and like a snail

They creep towards the end of life's long, winding trail.

—W. L. Stidger in Christian Advocate.

### WILL SUPERVIZE MAKING OF WAR MUNITIONS IN CANADA

London, June 19.—David A. Thomas, the Welsh coal magnate, the Exchange Telegraph Company says, has accepted an appointment from David Lloyd George, Minister of Munitions, to go to the United States and Canada to supervise the making of ammunition contracts.

Mr. Thomas a survivor of the Lusitania disaster, presided on June 11 at one of Mr. Lloyd George's "speeding up munition meetings" at Cardiff. He was reported to have said at that time that he had been told by friends he must have been spared when the Lusitania sank, that he might do for the government some work not yet accomplished.

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