

**INDUSTRIAL CUBA: TABLOID
INFORMATION CONCERNING
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT,
POSSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA**

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Industrial Cuba: tabloid information concerning industrial development, possibilities and opportunities in the Republic of Cuba by Various

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[Loose map catalogued & filed with
map collection.]

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INDUSTRIAL CUBA

[L. S. Myers' bank securities co.,
New Orleans]

Tabloid Information Concerning Industrial Development, Possibilities and Opportunities in the Republic of Cuba

Prepared from notes supplied by best
informed resident authorities.

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INDUSTRIAL CUBA

FOR more than three hundred years the industries of Cuba were periodically disrupted by internal and external wars. The nepotism of varying governing powers restricted the development of natural resources, except in just such a degree as would warrant large tribute, regardless of future prosperity.

As a matter of fact, the true industrial development of Cuba began in 1901, when her independence as a nation was assured. In the fifteen years following, Cuba has shown a remarkable increase in industrial growth.

At the beginning of this era, Cuba was in much the same state industrially as was the Southern portion of the United States immediately following the Civil War of the 60's. Her factories were destroyed, her roads were torn and scarred, and the very industries that up to that time assured profit to her workers were paralyzed.

The facts and figures here compiled tell in no uncertain terms the accomplishments of an industrial motive that must have for its incentive a strong natural *foundation*, otherwise no such record could be written.

Naturally, many important industrial facts must be omitted from such a work as this since its object is more to point to present opportunities than to recite past accomplishments.

Further detailed information regarding any of the industries herein named, or omitted, will be supplied by the publishers upon request.

GENERAL SURVEYS OF CUBAN INDUSTRIES

If the commercial and industrial possibilities of Cuba are to be based on her record of the past ten years, it is most natural to conclude that her future is exceptionally bright.

A marvelous soil, a climate unexcelled, a location directly in the pathway of Western and Southern commerce, an ambition to excel in those things which make for good government, and a most liberal encouragement from outside capital, together with friendly international relations, presage for this Republic most exceptional industrial development.

Cuba has in the past ten years increased her imports 82% and her exports 140%.

There has been expended on public works, since 1902, approximately \$100,000,000.00, or about \$9,000,000.00 a year. The Government's fixed policy is one of industrial progress. The Government's plan, in the construction of an extensive system of macadamized highways through the Republic, would serve well as a paragon in many of our States. These highways will serve every part of the Island, and have already put in close touch many of the communities which were formerly isolated. Three principal highways will traverse the Island longitudinally, from East to West, one on the north end, one through the central part, and one between the central part and the Southern coast. Connecting with each of these principal highways, branch roads are being built to all important interior and coastal cities.

1,877 kilometers of paved roads have already been opened to the public. These are distributed in the six provinces, as follows:

Pinar del Rio.....	544
Havana.....	520
Matanzas.....	247
Oriente.....	215
Santa Clara.....	261
Camaguey.....	90

Total, 1,877 kilometers, not including roads built by Provincial and Municipal Governments, which are estimated at about 250 kilometers additional, especially in the Provinces of Havana and Matanzas.

One English mile equals 1,609 meters or $1\frac{809}{1000}$ kilometers (K. M.), or approximately 5 miles equals 8 kilometers (K. M.).

With only fifty-three inhabitants to the square mile, and ample room for the sustenance of three hundred, and but 20 per cent of the available soil adapted to the production of sugar, the possibilities of future growth along other lines than that now producing the greatest revenue are apparently marvelous. These opportunities open to and challenge the capital and enterprise of the world.

While in Cuba sugar is conceded to be the king of industries, it does not monopolize the attention of the Cubans, notwithstanding the fact that at the present time it represents seventy per cent of the Republic's agricultural products, reaching in 1916 approximately \$250,000,000.00 in value.

Some extent of this sugar industry will be

appreciated upon reading the article on sugar in Fact Book No. 2, wherein is detailed a comprehensive statement of this industry. For facts regarding other agricultural products, the same reference is suggested. This book is intended more particularly to deal with those industrial features outside the scope of agriculture.

CUBA'S IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

The following figures of imports and exports, including bullion, showing trade balance in favor of Cuba for the past four years, will illustrate general industrial condition:

Year Ending Dec. 31	Imports	Exports	Trade Balance
1910.....	\$107,959,000	\$151,271,000	\$ 43,312,000
1911.....	113,067,000	123,136,000	9,869,000
1912.....	125,902,000	172,978,000	47,076,000
1913.....	143,827,000	165,125,000	21,298,000
1914.....	119,001,000	177,554,000	58,553,000
1915.....	155,448,000	254,292,000	98,844,000

It will be seen that the imports in 1915 increased \$36,447,000, while the exports have increased \$76,738,000.

The following table details more particularly the sources of imports and exports:

IMPORTS

Countries	1913	1914	1915
United States.....	\$ 75,228,000	\$ 68,623,000	\$ 90,462,000
Other countries in Amer..	10,529,000	7,982,000	8,020,000
Germany.....	9,674,000	5,034,000	800,000
Spain.....	10,033,000	9,939,000	10,817,000
France.....	7,322,000	4,632,000	4,897,000
United Kingdom.....	16,066,000	12,379,000	15,288,000
Other European Countries	7,778,000	6,852,000	6,203,000
All other Countries.....	3,443,000	2,761,000	4,397,000
Total Merchandise....	\$140,073,000	\$118,202,000	\$140,884,000
Bullion.....	3,754,000	799,000	14,564,000
Grand Total.....	\$143,827,000	\$119,001,000	\$155,448,000