

DR. GRAU PROMISES DEMOCRATIC RULE

President-Elect of Cuba Sees End of Dictatorships in the Western Hemisphere

OUTLINES PROGRAM HERE

Plans to Industrialize Country —Urges That U. S. Share in Military Bases There

Promising that he would "never dictate laws of a personal character," Dr. Ramon Grau San Martin, President-elect of Cuba, also declared yesterday morning at a press conference in the Hotel Plaza that dictatorships in the Western Hemisphere are only temporary and will disappear because they "do not represent the will of the people, and their rule can only be imposed for a time by force."

Dr. Grau, who will take office on Oct. 10, insisted that his administration "will govern with the ideals of a constructive revolution and with laws that will result in the immediate improvement of the whole country."

Several of his fifty interviewers, including many correspondents for Latin-American newspapers, tried to pin Dr. Grau down to a definite opinion as to whether he regarded the Argentine Government as a dictatorship, and one questioner wanted to know precisely how he felt about the Franco regime in Spain and alleged Falange activities in Cuba.

They had to be content, however, with his generalization about "all Governments everywhere, which must be dictatorships if they are not elected by the people." He said that "it is absolutely necessary for all peoples to have the kind of government they want—they must elect it to represent their will, and it is necessary for dictatorships to go, if we are to have unity in the Americas."

Says Cubans Reject Falangists

The Spanish Falange, he said, is today an element without any influence in Cuba and its activities have been "practically abolished" because "the intelligence of the Cuban people rejected this organization and its program."

Dr. Grau then expressed the hope that the United States would not abandon completely its military bases in Cuba, when they are returned to his country six months after the war's termination, but would share their maintenance "for the future defense of the Western Hemisphere." He said he was in favor of extending their facilities indefinitely to this country as they would serve as a particular safeguard to the Panama Canal and the Caribbean.

Industrialization and diversification of Cuba's agricultural production, Dr. Grau said, would be main points of his Administration's program, along with reduction of the island's external debt, which he placed at less than \$200,000,000.

Dwelling on the democratic theme at a dinner in his honor at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel last night, Dr. Grau asserted that America is the great homeland of democracy, and consequently could not remain indifferent in the present duel to the death between democracy and totalitarianism.

Approximately 1,200 guests attended the dinner, which was given jointly by the Pan American Society and the Cuban Chamber of Commerce. The other speakers included Frederick E. Hasler, president of the Pan American Society, who presided; Aurelio F. Concheso, Cuban Ambassador to the United States; Spruille Braden, United States Ambassador to Cuba, and Roscoe Green, president of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce in the United States.

Calls for Unity on Nations

"We are defending democracy in America and in the world," Dr. Grau said. "For this reason the democratic countries should always—and especially in these times when history imposes such lofty tasks—work together in perfect and indissoluble collaboration."

"Under no pretext whatever should we accept the possibility that it may be necessary to deprive people of liberty in order to foster the advent of social justice, in view of the fact that this can only evolve in all its majesty and purity through the free determination of the people, and not through an authoritarian government against which human dignity would necessarily have to revolt."

Dr. Grau warned, however, that liberty, when left to itself, without regard to social justice, tended to create a struggle of self-interests and unequal conditions for the members of the community.