An Old Portuguese Custom

I have just glanced at an illustrated guide book which I picked up in Libson and find this very interesting description:

"Situated on extreme west of Europe, Portugal is a small but a fine country, having an explendid climate due to its mildness, either in Spring, Autumn of Winter; it was specially destined for this by nature which endowed it with some of the finest and most charming regions of the world."

In the foreword, the book says:

"May this Guide become a valuable cicerone to innumerous strangers who are always received with all kindness by Portugal and its good people."

I believe that I was the first tour organizer to ever take a party into Portugal from America—it was a notable experience and I assure you that the two statements quoted are true in every detail (the quaint spelling of English words only adds to the piquancy) and we found beauty and kindess everywhere.

The first place of importace visited was Vianna do Castello, at the northern extremity of the oblong piece jutting into the map of Spain—the old country of Portugal. Coming south on the coast-line railway we reached Oporto, next in importance to Libson, the capital. I have already explained the situation of this place in another article.

Our party was a curiosity; tourists were rarely encountered and the people were certainly not camera-shy. At least, I only encountered one exception. I was walking down a steep street towards the docks one afternoon, when I saw a brightly dressed peasant woman—red kerchief on her head, large gold rings in her ears and an orange and red scarf on her shoulders—carrying a tray full of live owls on her arm. I wanted a picture of her and tried to entice her into the sunshine, but she hugged the shadows and I was forced to desist. But, I thought, "she may be around when I am returning." I had just gone on a few yards when I heard some loud words behind me and, glancing around, I saw a policeman loudly berating her for her lack of courtesy to a stranger. He called me back, made her stand in the centre of the road, and I thus succeeded in getting a fine picture of both of them.

Oporto is a mixture of the modern and the primitive; yokes of the long horned, cream coloured oxen, drawing solid wheeled carts along the cobbled streets; motor cars dashing at high speed along the narrow thoroughfares, in utter disregard of pedestrians; bare-footed peasant women balancing trays and baskets on their heads. I saw one woman carrying a sofa and two chairs in this manner; tram cars; soldiers on horseback; donkeys with side panniers filled with merchandise; street corner lemonade booths; hucksters; fish-women jostling their fashionably dressed sisters. Not a cosmopolitan city exactly, although vessels from many ports were in the harbour.

The merchants of Oporto dress their shops at closing time in a manner I had never seen elsewhere. The druggist will have the floor of his store arranged in such a way as to display his commodities to the best advantage. Starting at the back of the store, the articles are carefully placed until, when the proprietor is ready to close and lock the door, the whole floor space is as attractive as a display window. Likewise shoe merchants, clothing stores, hardware dealers and other lines of retail trade follow this system and, the lights of the store being left lighted, the effect is unique and effective.

Concerts, bull fights (when held in the evening), the theatre and other forms of amusement commence about 10.30 or 11 o'clock. It would be an almost unheard-of thing to start an entertainment say, at 8 o'clock. One night a companion and I were strolling around when, coming into a large square, we saw a building to which ladies and gentlement in evening dress were thronging. I remarked to my associate, "I woder what is going on here," when to my surprise a voice from the curb answered me in English, "This is St. John's Theatre, sir." I went in the direction of the voice and came to where a young man was standing. I thanked him and enquired as to the occasion for the gathering. He told me that it was a fete in honor of St. Anthony and on behalf of the hospitals; that all the elite of Oporto would be present and that the entertainment would be under the patronage of the Bishop. He said, "You are Canadians"; this remark surprised me and I answered, "You are pretty quick; why did you not take us to be Americans?" He said, "Oh, I know differently; you see, I was in Toronto two years ago." Imagine this in Oporto! On further enquiry I learned that he had been a chauffeur in New York for a Mr. O'Neill, who made frequent visits to Toronto and has a summer place not far from North Bay. The chauffeur had returned to Portugal and was now in the service of the Bishop of Oporto.

After a little conversation, our new friend asked us whether we would like to see the theatre; he would enquire from his cousin, who was secretary to the Bishop. We gladly accepted his offer and were escorted to the foyer of the theatre, where he left us, returning in a few moments with a tall handsome priest dressed in a long black cassock, who, gravely but courteously, welcomed us to Oporto and asked if he could serve us. On my remark as to his very excellent English he laughed and said, "Well, I should be able to speak good English. I lived in Fall River, Massachusetts, for 17 years." He asked us if we would like to see the performance, and when I demurred, saying that we were not dressed for the occasion, he waived the objection aside and made arrangement with the manager of the house for our accommodation in front seats in the dress circle.

It was a gala night, tiers of boxes filled with fashionably dressed people, an orchestra playing in the pit and, when the curtain went up the centre of the stage, a group of dignitaries, civil, military and religious, with the Bishop in a crimson habit occupying the centre position as chairman.

The entertainment proceeded; Portuguese music and folk dancing by beautiful girls in every costume of the country. In addition to these were speeches. The first speaker was a very dignified gentleman—a prominent doctor—who spoke at length on the purpose to which the evening was devoted. Judging from the interest and applause he was an excellent speaker. On the table in front of him was a white handkerchief; in the midst of his impassioned oratory he would lift this handkerchief from the table, clear his throat and, without putting it near his mouth, spit into it. The action and the noise that accompanied it shocked and startled me; I looked around, nobody seemed to register any objection. I looked at my companion and we lauged quietly. A doctor, evidently a man of importance and breeding, to do a thing like that. Apparently it was the custom.

A day or so later I was having tea in the restaurant car of the train travelling to Lisbon. My companion was an Englishman who had lived in Portugal for years. I told him of the spitting episode and expressed my surprise, but he only laughed and said, "Oh, that is nothing, every morning we hear these people hawking and cleaning their throats and we English remark, "Listen to the Portuguese National Anthem."

Next week's "impression" will take you to Southern Italy—not far from Naples.

Are you looking for something different in the way of entertainment for your church, society, club or institute?

Capt. F. H. Reid, the well-known traveller, who has been contributing the series of articles to this paper, under the heading of "Travel Impressions, has what is, perhaps, the finest collection of European views in the country. Pictures taken with his own camera, beautifully coloured, showing some of the out-of-the-way places, as well as the localities about which you have read and heard. Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Jugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Holland, Belgium and British Isles are included in this unique collection.

For particulars regarding this, communicate with Captain Reid at Room 421, 73 Adelaide Street West, Toronto.

Most Quoted Newspapers

The Dominion Press Clipping Bureau's record of the standing of Canadian dailies as quoted by others throughout the Dominion for the three months ending September 30 shows the first fourteen to be:

1.	Ottawa Journal	1,921
2.	Toronto Globe	1,485
3.	Windsor Border Cities Star	1.349
4.	St. Thomas Times-Journal	1.341
5.	Toronto Mail and Empire	1.317
6.	Winnipeg Free Press	1,071
7.	Toronto Star	1,008
8.	Stratford Beacon-Herald	1,007
9.	Montreal Star	859
10.	Winnipeg Tribune	844
11.	Toronto Telegram	779
12.	Kingston Whig-Standard	768
13.	Brockville Recor'r, Times	725
14.	Brantford Expositor	678

Light's Speed

Pasadena, Calif.—The speed of light is placed at 299,774 milometres, or 186,271 miles per second, in a new estimate made here. Dr. Walter S. Adams, Director of the Carnegie Institution's Mount Wilson Observatory, said, in announcing the new figure, that it was not absolute, but that the final computation which will be completed in about six months, would not vary much more than two kilometres from it.

Hockey Players Get New Headgear

The tragic "Ace" Bailey incident has taught hockey officials a lesson—Bill Boyd of the Orioles in the Eastern Amateur League adjusts a new headgear on "Buck" Buckles.

Royal Bank Annual Statement Shows Strong Liquid Position

Liquid Assets At $362,471,645 Are Equal To 55.76 Per Cent. Of Liabilities To The Public—Total Assets At End of Year Were $729,260,476 — Gratifying Increase Of Over $18,000,000 In Canadian Savings And In Demand Deposits — Many Businesses Evidently Showing Large Turnover.

The Annual Statement of The Royal Bank of Canada covering the fiscal year which ended November 30th last should afford satisfaction to the public, as well as to shareholders. The statement discloses a very strong position, with an increase in liquid assets to a total of $362,471,645, equal to 55.76% of liabilities to the public. It is understood that a particularly interesting feature of the year was an increase in Canadian Savings and Demand Deposits. A lower volume of commercial loans and increase in the portfolio of Government bonds is in line with expectations in view of the reduced demand for banking accommodation. The necessity for investing larger amounts in Government bonds is one of the causes contributing to a reduction in earnings, but after making full allowance for all bad and doubtful debts and providing for cost of management, profits were amply sufficient to cover the payment of dividends and the usual appropriations, leaving $216,650 as a further contribution to profit and loss account. The unsettled state from which business is now emerging, has emphasized the usefulness of strong inner reserves. The directors' recognition of this fact is evidenced by a transfer of $15,000,000 from Reserve Fund to reimburse the inner reserves of the bank, and to provide reserves which they consider adequate for future contingencies. This action is in line with adjustments which have been made by many of the leading and most powerful banks in all parts of the world, and will be regarded as a prudent and constructive move. The published Reserve Fund is maintained at the substantial figure of $20,000,000 and $1,383,604 is carried forward to the credit of profit and loss account.

Strong Liquid Position.

Total assets shown by the Statement for the fiscal year which ended November 30th last are $729,260,476; liquid assets of $362,471,645 aggregate 55.76% of liabilities to the public; cash and bank balances total $157,699,215, equal to 24.26% of public liabilities.

The total of $106,850,615 invested in Dominion and Provincial Government securities represents an increase of $17,401,771 compared with the previous year. A small decrease is shown in Canadian municipal securities and British Foreign and Colonial public securities.

While certain lines of business are less active than a year ago, other industries have experienced a keen demand for their products in recent months, with the result that inventories have been brought down to abnormally low figures. Both these factors have contributed to reduce the need for banking accommodation, and this is reflected in a decrease of $44,442,954 in loans and discounts. Commercial loans now stand at $316,119,392 against $360,562,286. Call loans in Canada and abroad were reduced by $3,598,571 during the twelve months' period.

Canadian Deposits Increase

A feature of the Bank's year was an increase of $18,610,694 in Canadian demand and savings deposits. As Canadian demand deposits represent in the main the working balances of business and farming customers, the substantial upward move in these figures is of particular interest as an indication of increased commercial and industrial activity.

Shareholders will be interested in seeing that despite the lower level of interest rates which particularly affected the return from liquid assets maintained at reserve centres, profits for the year were $3,901,649. This amount fully covered dividend requirements of $2,975,000, contribution to Officers' Pension Fund, $200,000; appropriation for bank premises, $200,000; reserve for Dominion Government taxes, $310,000, and left $216,650 to be added to profit and loss account, making a total of $1,383,604 to be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The Annual General Meeting of the shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the Bank in Montreal on Thursday, January 11th.

Pretty Princess Has Birthday

Youngest Yaughter of Italy's Royal Family is Vivacious, Beautiful and Accomplished

Rome. — Princess Maria, pretty youngest daughter of the reigning house of Italy, celebrated her 19th birthday recently in a season marking her first round of participation in public affairs.

The young Princess was deluged with good wishes and presents as she passed the day with her parents, King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Elena.

Late this fall Princess Maria began to assume the responsibilities of the only remaining daughter of the King residing in Rome. She appeared at several public ceremonies. Previously her appearances at the opera, benefits and other functions were under the chaperonage of the Queen or of elder married sisters.

Reports of Princess Maria imminent engagement have been recurrent this year as in the past. Her name has been linked most persistently with that of Archduke Otto, pretender to the throne of Hungary; and the Infante Juan son of former King Alfonso of Spain and heir-pretender to the Spanish throne.

The Princess is blithe and vivacious in temperament, and beautiful in the classic Italian brunette way. She dances well, swims and skiis, and follows the Italian tradition in her fondness for music.

Maria's older sisters are Princess Mafalda, wife of Chancellor Adolf Hitler's warm adherent, Prince Philip of Hesse; Queen Joanna of Bulgaria; and Princess Yolanda, wife of Count Calvi Di Bergolo of Turin.

Her brother, Umberto, Prince of Piedmont and heir to the throne, lives in the Royal Palace at Naples, where he is in charge of the army corps.

Write For Information and Map on
UNIVERSAL GOLD SYNDICATE
1201 Central Bldg., Toronto, Ont.

Maintain Cheese Volume

There is a real danger to the Canadian export cheese trade in permitting the volume of cheese to decline further. Some dealers in the United Kingdom even now question the advisability of dealing in Canadian cheese in view of the limited quantity available, and the relatively short time during which they are available. —Dominion Dairy Commissioner.

Genius may be swifter than perseverence, but the latter wins in the long run.

SPORTS REVIEW

St. Clair McCabe, Staff-writer, Dominion Sports Illustrated

According to press despatches, the Boston-Leaf hockey game the other night was just an ordinary match. It was altogether a different brand of hockey than that which was played when these two teams clashed several weeks ago. There was no ill-feeling among the players nor was the crowd antagonistic. The attendance was the smallest of the year, being only three thousand, while the last time the teams met it was the largest.

* * * *

The Canadian tennis championship was again won by an invader from the United States. John Munroe, of San Francisco, defeated Walter Martin of Toronto in five sets at Vancouver. Martin was the only Canadian to show impressive form at the Dominion meet.

* * * *

Jack Lovelock, of Oxford, who represented New Zealand in the 1932 Olympic Games, and set a world record for the mile of 4.07 at Princeton in 1933, may never run again owing to an unsuccessful operation on the cartilage of the knee.

It will be recalled that he ran at Hamilton in the Hamilton O. C. Oxford-Cambridge meet, winning the mile. England depends a great deal on his services for the 1934 British Empire Games.

* * * *

Canadian sailing dinghies, the superiority of which was proven in three matches between England and Canada last summer, are achieving world-wide popularity. The races, which were carried on in days of almost flat calm and on days of very rough weather, showed the general seaworthiness of the little lap-streak vessel, which was first constructed in and around Toronto. Sailors from Britain and the U.S.A. are now placing orders with local builders.

* * * *

Dear Bill:

After defeating Jack Sharkey, which victory won him the heavyweight championship of the world, Primo Carnera was paid $360.

* * * *

Dear E. J.:

The Montreal Canadiens is the only team to take any precaution against accidents such as "Ace" Bailey's. They have a light fibre helmet which is to be worn in their games.

* * * *

Address all communications to:
The Wilson Publishing Co.,
73 Adelaide St. West,
Toronto, Ontario,
in care of the column.

CAST OFF UGLY FAT

Woman Loses 28 lbs. in 3 Months

"Three months ago," a woman writes, "I was persuaded to try Kruschen Salts to reduce my weight, which was 222 lbs. I had tried other things, but all to no avail. Now I know that Kruschen Salts are different. In three weeks I lost 5 lbs., and I felt five years younger. I really must say I feel a different woman. I have now lost 28 lbs. to date."—(Mrs.) S. G. B.

If you are overweight take one half-teaspoonful of Kruschen Salts in a glass of hot water before breakfast every morning. There will be no rapid or alarming loss of weight, but just a steady decrease of that flabby fat which is as unhealthy as it is unsightly. Kruschen is a scientific blend of six mineral salts found in the waters of those European spas that have been used by generations of overstout people to reduce weight.

OFFICIAL CROP REPORT.

The dry bean acreage this year is placed at 52,300 acres, with an average of 14.9 bushels per acre, giving an estimated total production of 779,300 bushels against a five-year average production of 1,027,000 bushels. The bean crop was very spotty and the yield extremely variable. The price being received by growers is considerably more than last year and in spite of a much smaller crop, financial returns will be larger than last year.

Sugar beets are yielding better than weather conditions early in the season indicated. The acreage shows some reduction from last year, being 33,300 in 1932 and 31,900 this year. Production in 1932 was estimated at 333,000 tons and in 1933 at 319,000 tons, with an acreage yield of 10 tons per acre both years. The average sugar content approximates 17 per cent. this year, compared with 14.7 per cent. last year, and as a result the yield of sugar will be greater than in 1932, although the total tonnage of beets is less.

"Even the game of golf has its evils," says a writer. And its upheavals.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
Write us for suggestion prices, easy payment plan, etc. Cornets, Saxophones, Violins, etc.
Conn-Leedy Musical Instruments Ltd.
10 Shuter St. - Toronto

Classified Advertising

PATENTS

AN OFFER TO EVERY INVENTOR. List of wanted inventions and full information sent free. The Ramsay Company, World Patent Attorneys, Bank Street, Ottawa, Canada.

COAL AND COKE.

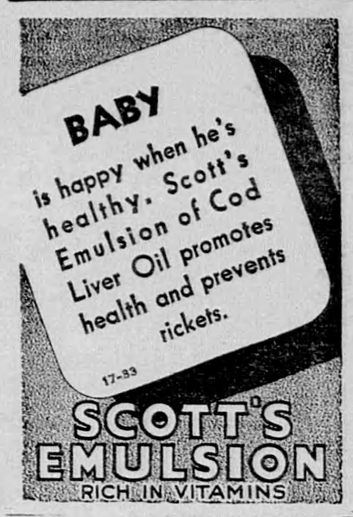
COAL—WRITE OUR WHOLESALE Department for quotations on steam coal. The Milnes Coal Co., Ltd., Toronto.

Coleman Lamp Repaired For $1.50

No matter how well made any product occasionally needs to be "tuned up." Just ship your lamp to us prepaid with your name and address, together with $1.50. We will repair it and return it to you prepaid. (This does not include replacing a fount beyond repair or a broken shade.) Always ship lamp without shade. All other repairs are included in above price.

The Coleman Lamp and Stove Company, Limited
9 Davies Ave., - Toronto, Ontario

RELIEVE CONGESTION CHEST COLDS
POULTICE with "MECCA" OINTMENT AND MUSTARD



Famous Rejections

G. B. Burgin gives (in "A Clubman's Memoirs") a list of some of the most notorious rejections of books which afterward became famous. It includes: Stanley Weyman, "The House of the Wolf"; Rudyard Kipling, "Plain Tales from the Hills"; Conan Doyle, "Sherlock Holmes"; Anstey, "Vice Versa"; John Strange Winter, "Bootle's Baby"; Edna Lyall, "We Two"; R. D. Blackmore, "Lorna Doone"; Carlyle, "Sartor Resartus"; Mrs. Beecher Stowe, "Uncle Tom's Cabin"; A. Shorthouse, "John Inglesant"; Rider Haggard, "Dawn"; W. Clark Russell, "The Wreck of the Grosvenor," and Thackeray, "Vanity Fair."

Apple Producing Costs

Field work in connection with a study of the cost of producing apples in Quebec has been completed by A. Gosselin, Economic Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, and R. Lecpyer, Rural Economics Branch, Department of Agriculture, Quebec. Data have also been secured with regard to the cost of developing an orchard to bearing age. It is expected that these projects will be carried on for several years in order to obtain average costs.

Get Rid of That
Cough or Cold
For Only a Few Cents

In these days when even pennies count, it's great to have a remedy like BUCKLEY'S MIXTURE, that banishes coughs and colds so quickly that the cost is only a few cents.

One dose of BUCKLEY'S MIXTURE gives unmistakable relief. Two doses very often knocks out a cough or cold for good. No matter how long your cough or cold has hung on, Buckley's will stop it—*quick!* That's why people say, "It acts like a flash—a single sip proves it." Beware of substitutes. Buckley's is sold everywhere.

The Soap That's Known and Sold The World Around
Cuticura
Nothing Better for Daily Use
Price 25c.

QUIVERING NERVES

When you are just on edge . . . when you can't stand the children's noise . . . when everything you do is a burden . . . when you are irritable and blue . . . try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. 98 out of 100 women report benefit.

It will give you just the extra energy you need. Life will seem worth living again.

Don't endure another day without the help this medicine can give. Get a bottle from your druggist today.

Lydia E. Pinkham's
VEGETABLE COMPOUND

ISSUE No. 1—'34