

DRIVE OUT RELIGION

SUCH IS AIM OF REIGNING GOVERNMENT IN PORTUGAL.

Attack on Catholics—Country is on the Eve of an Election Which Will Have Far-Reaching Results.

A vivid picture of social and political affairs in Portugal is traced in clear, strong and bold lines by the Lisbon correspondent of the Saturday Review (London), who thinks the Republic is supporting itself only by tyranny. The vast majority of the Portuguese people entered themselves in the last census as Catholics, and the 1,600 citizens who declared that they had no religion include the provisional government and its leading adherents. Their aim is not to turn the country from the Catholic to the Protestant faith, believes this writer, but to drive out all religion. The Protestants in Portugal number only about 4,000, many of them foreign residents, so the main attack is on the Catholic body. The country is now on the eve of an election. The first step taken by the government is to pass an electoral law which shuts out monarchists from the polls as completely as colored voters are said to be excluded in some southern states. The correspondent declares: "It is necessary to be very emphatic as to the conditions under which the elections are to be held in Portugal lest erroneous conclusions be afterwards drawn. All the monarchical and independent press has been suppressed by force, and there can appear in the country no newspapers save such as support the government. The elections are to be carried out on the basis of a new electoral law, drawn up for the occasion, to meet the necessities of the moment, a law which makes it almost impossible for the monarchists to record their votes. The electoral lists are being 'doctored' so that the right of voting may be taken away from thousands of independent citizens who are suspected of being opposed to the government. The right of public meeting is abolished, and the slightest attempt by the monarchists to inaugurate an electoral campaign is vigorously suppressed. No independent citizen dare protest against the dictatorial decrees of the government unless he is prepared to see let loose on him crowds of those apaches who attack with impunity newspaper offices, clubs, and individuals, spreading everywhere an atmosphere of terror and oppression.

"In a word, the approaching elections will be a sham. A parliament will be elected by 1,600 citizens to approve of the acts of tyranny practised against more than five million of the inhabitants of this country." While the French Government, like the American government, professes to be neutral in matters of religion, not so with the Portuguese government. This is one of the weakest spots in the stability of the new republic, says the present writer, who quotes the unwise and vengeful words of Alfonso Costa, an introducing his separation law into the Cortes. This minister remarked that "within two generations after the passage of this law, Catholicity will have been annihilated in Portugal." Present conditions may be judged from the remark of the writer that "a bishop violently deprived of his see, several dozens of clergymen imprisoned, the religious feelings of the people outraged—this is what is happening to-day in Portugal."

The bishop who was deprived of his see was the Bishop of Oporto, a strong Catholic and Monarchist center. When a pastoral had been drawn up by the assembly of Portuguese bishops and ordered to be read in the churches, Alfonso Costa held up his hand and imposed silence. Of course the pastoral dealt with the critical, and all the bishops excepting him of Oporto obeyed the mandate. Portugal has 5,200,000 inhabitants, 4,200 Protestants, 550 of other denominations, 1,600 of no religion, and the balance Catholics. The Saturday Review indignantly exclaims, after pointing to the collapse of the Provisional government is naturally threatened with:

"Thus 1,600 individuals arrogate to themselves the right to persecute more than 5,000,000 citizens! Every free thinker lords it over some 3,000 fellow citizens! Modern times can show no despotism worse than this tyranny exercised in the name of democratic principles and with the supposed assent of the nation." The present Republican government pretends to be based on the national will, to exist in the name and by the votes of the majority. As a matter of fact, it has the support of only an insignificant minority of the people; and this fact fully explains its tendency to persecution, its violence, and its despotism. Regimes which feel that they have a majority of the nation behind them regard themselves as safe, and this feeling of security and of strength naturally makes for tolerance and imposes a respect for the rights of the minority. On the other hand, regimes

which are supported by a minority, that is, regimes dominated by a small fraction of the people, tend evidently toward oppression. By repeated acts of violence they seek to give themselves an illusory appearance of strength. Without systematic violence they could not exist, for if public opinion were absolutely free they would be crushed by the mere weight of numbers."

WOLFE ISLAND NEWS.

Grant Pyke Purchases a Motor Boat and a Hay Scoop. Wolfe Island, June 1.—Mr. Peo, Cape Vincent, has completed a thirty-seven horse power motor boat for Grant Pyke. He has also had erected for him a flat-bottomed scow capable of carrying in the neighborhood of eighty tons of pressed hay. The estimated cost of the two is about \$3,000.

Mr. Cramer has purchased from Captain Robertson a motor boat. Mr. Stewart, of New York, is a guest at the Briceland Hotel. Mr. McAuland and family, of Pittsburgh, Pa., will be here next week to spend the summer.

Among the arrivals from Kingston last week who opened up their homes were Mr. and Mrs. H. Tandy, Dr. and Mrs. Sparks, Mr. and Mrs. Bartels. Several others are expected this week. Malcolm McDonald is erecting a new cottage for A. E. Ellis, architect, of Kingston. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, of Glenburnie, are visiting at E. Payne's. Mrs. Turpin, Kingston, is the guest of her mother Mrs. Lafleur. John Laughlin spent last week in Watertown, N.Y., visiting relatives. Michael Doyle is visiting relatives at Rosiere, N.Y. Mrs. George Baker is leaving next week to join her husband, Dr. Baker, Toronto. Mrs. O'Reilly is the guest of Mrs. Frank Briceland. Peter Keegan is seriously ill in Watertown, N.Y. It is whispered that the island will lose one of its wisomana young girls early next month.

Ireland and Canada.

Ottawa Journal. When Canada had four million population Ireland's people numbered somewhere close to eight million. Next year's census will probably reveal Canada to have in the neighborhood of eight million people, while the completed Irish census, as announced, gives the population of the Green Isle as little above the four million mark.

What Ireland has lost Canada and the world has gained; for it, by immigration, Ireland has lost millions, she has the satisfaction of knowing that hundreds of thousands of these lost sons of hers are prospering in North America as they probably never could have had the opportunity of prospering at home. Moreover, they do not forget their homeland, for next to the Hebrew, the world's wonder in this respect, the Irish race retain their racial characteristics and identity in new surroundings. What Ireland has lost has become the little heaven that has transformed and transmuted, through the whole mass of North America's hundred million people a necessary quality of Celtic optimism, humor, adaptiveness and a tough, hard-working fibre that has given the newer race something it could not well have done without. The loss of Ireland, has been the gain of America and of humanity.

Lots Like Hers.

Fire Chief Croker, of New York, was talking about the need of laws whereby the fire department could compel property owners to protect their property against the perils of fire. "As things stand to-day," he said, "we can't force these men to do our bidding. We can only request them to. They then promise they will obey us, but in the issue they are like old Mrs. Hopkinson."

"To Mrs. Hopkinson, a very quarrelsome old lady, her pastor said: "You must never cherish an enemy, madam, against your neighbor. If your neighbor injures you, forget it."

"So I do forget it, doctor," said Mrs. Hopkinson, piously, "but the trouble is, I've got a powerful bad memory, and I keep forgetting I've forgotten."—New York Tribune.

He Knew His Fate.

"Silas, my lad," said the grocer to his new assistant, "who bought that mouldy cheese to-day?" "Miss Brown, sir," was the youth's reply. "And the stale loaf we could not sell last night?" "Miss Brown, sir." "Where's that lump of rancid butter that the baker refused?" "Miss Brown bought it, sir," was the answer. "And the six eggs we could not sell a week since?" "Miss Brown—Are you ill, sir?" asked Silas, as the grocer turned green and groaned. "No, no! only I'm going to tea at the Brown's to-night," replied the unhappy man, as he wiped the perspiration from his face and sank into a chair.—National Monthly.

The Sydney Coal Strike.

Hamilton Spectator. The coal miners' strike at Springhill, N.S., which has lasted two years, is about to be settled on the basis of the recommendations made by the board of conciliation and investigation nearly two years ago. This is one of the few strikes that the Lemieux act has failed to settle, but it isn't the fault of the Lemieux act. Obstinate and perversity have operated to keep up this industrial war two years longer than necessary. If the fighters refuse to make use of the means provided for the arrangement of peace terms, they have no more reason for blaming the instrument of peace for its "failure" than a sick man has for blaming the doctor for failing to cure him after he has refused to submit to the doctor's treatment.

Tamworth Tidings.

Tamworth, June 1.—Rev. Mr. Dixon left on Tuesday morning to attend conference at Port Hope. W. A. York has started to build his new shop. Third & Saul have received their new brick machinery. J. A. Hunter has added a porch to his house. John Frizell is visiting his brother and father after an absence of thirty years.



Dentists advise: "Keep the TEMPORARY teeth in the mouth just as long as Nature will permit, so as to insure later the regular, even, healthy PERMANENT set." Educate the youngsters to the twice-daily use of SANITOL TOOTH PASTE. Its active antiseptic properties will effectually preserve the "baby" teeth and keep in sound, healthy condition the tender gums. 25 cents at your druggist's.

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