

IN PORTUGAL.
The crisis in Portugal has ended in a tragedy that has sent a thrill of horror throughout the world, and caused gloom to take the place of gaiety in the royal palaces.
Dom Carlos, under the influence of bad advisers, usurped the prerogatives of the people. He closed the parliament and silenced the press. Yet, it was supposed that the majority of the people regarded these high-handed measures with indifference. Newspaper correspondents at Lisbon did not perceive any signs of a revolution. The assassination came, therefore, as a thunderbolt from a clear sky.
The fact seems to be that those affected by the dictatorial measures of the king quickly organized and carried out their plans for revenge. Among the opposing forces are some who have lost their income. Sinecures have been abolished lately, and this has left some parasites on the public body destitute.
Senhor Franco, who has been called the dictator, said some time ago in an interview that his ambition was to educate the people to take their place in Europe. "I am sending pupils," he said, "and professors to England, France, and Germany. I hope in time to improve the system of instruction and to develop our resources. The country can never expect to be rich, for it has no minerals. We are not an industrial, but an agricultural, community. We have, however, colonies capable of wealth and in Brazil we have compatriots strongly attached to the mother country. I have hope for our future if the people will only be wise. For myself, I am a man of modest yet sufficient means, whose ambition is to be with my dear family rather than in the midst of political turmoil."

But if these are his purposes he has chosen the wrong means for their achievement. His course had led to regicide. In a constitutional monarchy revolutionary, not to say anarchic, measures are not needed. Advancement should be along constitutional lines. The deviation from the constitution is only an invitation to the element that respects no law, to assert itself.

TWO VIEWS

The trend of recent events toward the centralization of more power in the hands of the federal government, appears to divide the leaders of political thought into opposing groups that do not at all coincide with party lines.

Thus Senator Culberson of Texas, to whom the South has looked as its candidate for President at some opportune time, takes direct issue with his leader, Mr. Bryan, upon this issue.

Mr. Culberson goes on to maintain that the government ownership and operation of railroads would create millions of additional federal offices, put millions of property under political management, and multiply railroad salaries.

He even thinks it would make every question of railroad administration and every question of railroad construction or extension political and partisan, in which the South, undeveloped and in the minority, would especially suffer; and that in spite of so-called civil service rules by which it might be surrounded it would be a most dangerous agency to place in the hands of political organizations by which they could perpetuate themselves in power.

At the same time, the demonstrated efficiency of the federal government in dealing with the postoffice, for example, is to many people a most attractive argument in favor of similar governmental control or actual regulation of other public institutions.

So, too, it is noticeable in the case of the conviction of Banker Walsh by a federal court in Chicago, that the government does scourge sin, and that it does bid sinners fear. It sent the rich contractors Greene and Gaylor to jail; their long delay on the road was due not to our courts, but to those of Canada and Great Britain. It has already begun indictments growing out of the November panic.

In contrast with this federal efficiency, the failure of the States to mete out similar justice, appeals to many as an argument for extending the federal power.

An English banker said recently: "We will no longer buy your securities. You seem to have one law for the small thief and quite another for the big thief. Your small scoundrels ride in prison vans; your big, sagacious scoundrels ride in automobiles."

The New York World, a paper opposed to the government ownership of railroads, calls attention to the unpunished crimes of high finance in that city—the "shameless ship-building conspiracy," the "theft of the Third Avenue railroad and the looting of the Metropolitan system" and the shocking disclosures of insurance corruption. It asks, is it any wonder that rich men and poor men alike turn to the National Idea; that swift is the tide. Irresistible the impulse, that leads the federal administration with new duties, untold responsibilities and unprecedented powers?

LOOKING FOR A REMEDY.

Not so long ago Socialism was a term generally uttered with a sneer. It was thought to stand for a dogma to be classed as twin brother to that of the bomb thrower.

Now it is different. It does no longer strike terror, and may be mentioned in any society. Great magazines are suddenly awakening to the fact that the Socialist vote may amount to something considerable in the next election, and there is beginning a new current of thought among conservative editors, the burden of which is that Socialism can never be effective until a majority votes for it, and, therefore, when a majority will vote for it, it will be stripped of its unreasonableness, its radicalism, and its utopian tendency to dreaminess.

The issue of "Life" for this week reproduces a Socialist cartoon showing "For educational purposes" the fact that the Socialist boy is almost as large as the better known political party boys, if its future is measured by its growth during the past five years.

Whether this growth is for the welfare of the country, or not, we do not discuss, but there is something almost startling in the turning of so many minds to themes of social reform. The Socialist dogmas have spread constantly and relentlessly among the people, making a campaign for converts with no intermittent moments. Nathaniel Hawthorne was a writer who compelled admiration and love from all. Only a few years ago his son Julian was forecasted for a position just as great. But, turning his back on social institutions, he comes forward with a pleading for the new dogma. Robert Blatchford, a few years ago, attracted attention to himself as one of the most brilliant English writers, through his work on the Manchester Guardian. Now the word comes that he has resigned this position and given up its salary to become a Socialist special pleader on a weekly paper. Bernard Shaw has been a consistent press agent for this movement, ever since he acquired public distinction. Jack London, raised by the force of his brilliant pen from a position among the San Francisco "rough-necks" first charmed the country with his stirring fiction, and then began to preach to it the creed he had known in the days before his success.

Is there not something in the situation worthy of serious thought? The various systems of Socialism are endeavoring to promote the peace and happiness of mankind. They are mistaken if they seek the goal outside the gospel of the Redeemer. But the fact that so many embrace these doctrines proves that the race is in a condition that demands a remedy. When a person is looking everywhere for a physician, and a remedy, he is sick. No other proof is needed. Mankind is in that position, looking everywhere for a remedy. Try the gospel, in all its fulness.

CHINESE NEW YEAR.

Chinese New Year was observed with usual ceremonies by the Chinese all over the world. One of the features of that occasion is the cleaning process which precedes the festival. The accumulated dirt of many months disappears as if by magic, and everything is made to look bright, clean, and cheerful. Stores, laundries, restaurants, living rooms, and the Chinaman himself undergo the cleansing operations. He washes his outer garments and clothes, and bathes his person in perfumed water.

Chinese habitations are elaborately decorated with streamers of red paper, bearing mottoes and wishes for good luck. Fire crackers are set off as an important part of the New Year's celebration, and this, it seems, is a religious ceremony. The Chinese burn firecrackers to drive out devils. Chinese boys and girls are not allowed to touch these death dealing weapons of religious warfare.

The red color is predominant in Chinese decorations. This is because, in the view of the Chinese, the red color represents the life of the universe. Its use is, therefore, equivalent to a wish for health of body and soul. No present, it is said, is ever bestowed upon anyone, which is not carefully wrapped up in red paper. Red is the color of the "longevity candles" and the "birth-day eggs." Red is used on every joyful occasion, as at marriage or at the birth of a male child.

A Chinese custom which is well worthy of imitation is the settlement of all debts before New Year's day. The Chinese believe there is no disgrace equal to having an unpaid debt on the first morning of the new year. In order to enable them to meet their liabilities, shopkeepers frequently offer their wares at low prices, and it is a common occurrence for families to part with valuable and odd bits of bric-a-brac, curios, relics, ornaments, and objects of art, for a trifling sum. We presume, however, that even Chinese creditors have their trials and difficulties, notwithstanding the theory that all debtors pay up at this time of the year.

The Chinese who are religiously inclined go to the Joss house soon after daybreak on the first day of the new year and there offer their prayers to Wong Kung, through the medium of Shen San. They propitiate heaven and earth with offerings of rice, vegetables, tea, wine, oranges, and imitation money, which they burn with incense, Joss sticks, and candles. Afterward they pay homage to their household gods.

The Chinese year begins with the first new moon after the sun enters the sign of "Aquarius," and consists of twelve months of alternately thirty and twenty-nine days, with a full moon falling in the middle of each month.

POPULATION OF THE WORLD.

The population of the earth is now estimated at 1,600,000,000. In a little more than a century the increase is supposed to have amounted to 150 per cent. The figures, which are thought to be approximately correct, are very interesting. At the beginning of the nineteenth century the world's population was estimated at only 640,000,000. In 1906, one hundred and six years later, 900,000,000 more souls had been

added. That is a wonderfully rapid increase.

There was a time when philosophers looked forward to overpopulation as a certainty. That was when the earth had about half of the number of inhabitants it now has. At present no one is seriously concerned about the problem of over-crowding. It has been demonstrated that the world can sustain many times the number of souls that now inhabit it. But, with the present rapid increase the time will come when man must turn his swords into plough shares. For the production of food will become the chief problem of existence.

The resources of the world have increased, it seems, even more rapidly than the population. The total commerce of the world in 1800 was about \$1,000,000,000; in 1900 it was more than \$20,000,000,000. Other figures show that in wealth and in growth of various industrial agencies the increase has been on a similar scale.

Kentucky love laughs at deadlocks and bars.

Secretary Garfield wants less "red tape" and more rope.

Isn't it about time to abolish the dead man's curve at Layton?

There must be little choice between the Tombs and Matteawan.

Mr. Roosevelt takes heed of the morrow, but ignores the judgment day.

"John Sanderson my jo. John," is the way they sing it in Pennsylvania.

Just now in Portugal the cry, "Long live the king!" has an uncertain sound.

Some of the presidential booms seem sadly in need of a liberal application of fertilizer.

That Pennsylvania bootblack stand transaction seems to have been blacker than it was painted.

If it could, the organ of the "American" party would reduce the sugar industry in Utah to a pulp.

Governor Hughes not only hits straight from the shoulder, but he is a good judge of distance.

Thaw vehemently asserts that he is not insane. If he remains in Matteawan any length of time, he will be.

The question is asked, "Are East Indians white?" Reasoning from analogy, no; for west Indians are not.

A burglar in New York stole three hundred dollars' worth of glass eyes the other day. He is now the cynosure of all glass eyes.

A Missouri college professor says the day will come when "lawyers will go out of their way to make peace between quarrelsome persons free of charge."

There would be less reliance on the plea of temporary insanity in murder cases if those in whose behalf it is made were more frequently sent to the asylum. Of course in the great majority of cases where it is worked it is a mere subterfuge.

President Elliott of the Northern Pacific says that President Roosevelt has made another attack on corporations. He should be more specific and state when, where and how. In the eyes of some people, President Roosevelt's every word and move is an attack on capital.

ILL-OMENED WEDDINGS.

Portland Oregonian.
When a wedding like that of Gladys Vanderbilt to Count Secheny takes place one is always tempted to compose a homily on the sinfulness of vanity, and to grieve that within a few months Gladys will come weeping and wailing back home despoiled of her millions, her youthful enthusiasm for titles, and her confidence that life among the Europeans would be one long dream of splendid happiness; nevertheless she is the envy of all her countrywomen. In spite of the inevitable divorce suit threatening on the horizon, every one of them would like to throw Fifth avenue to catch a beautiful glimpse of the bride and groom as consumed with envy. It is envy alone which stimulates the sordid curiosity of the debutant hangers-in at aristocratic weddings.

LINCOLN CENTENARY.

New York Times.
It was a happy idea, expressed by one of our readers to begin preparations without delay for the appropriate celebration of the Lincoln centenary. The twelfth of next month the 99th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln will be observed. A year later there should be such a national celebration in honor of the memory of that great and well-beloved man as will testify to the esteem in which that memory is held by the whole nation, and also serve to strengthen our national ties. We suggested four years ago that Congress, with the sanction of the president, should lay this matter before that body and appoint a representative commission to make arrangements for the occasion. Thus far nothing has been officially done at Washington, D. C., to prepare for a celebration. In the state of Illinois, we believe, the centenary will be observed in various appropriate ways. But the national celebration should be in the national capital.

THE TUSKLESS ELEPHANT.

Ceylon Manual.
It is a singular thing that Ceylon is the only part of the world where the male elephants have no tusks; they have miserable little grubbies projecting two or three inches from the upper jaw and inclining downward. Nothing produces either ivory or horn in fine specimens throughout Ceylon. Although some of the buffaloes have tolerably fine heads, they will not bear a comparison with those of other countries. The horns of the native cattle are not above four inches in length. The elk and the spotted deer's antlers are small compared with deer of their size in India. This is the more singular, as it is evident from the geological formation that at some remote period Ceylon was not an island, but formed a portion of the mainland. It is thought that there must be elements wanting in the Ceylon pasturage for the formation of ivory.

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

[For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.]
When we consider the importance of men in business, it seems strange that employers do not give more care to the work of securing them. All the difficulty in the employment problem is not due to the lack of good men; a great part of it may be attributed to the neglect of the employers to meet applicants for positions in a fair spirit and to judge them rightly. If the men with whom the employer surrounds himself are the direct cause of his success or failure, more care should be given to their selection than to any other part of the business. Yet this is rarely the case.

Too many employers give this feature of their business scant attention, and that only during their odd moments. There are few employers who follow the example of the president of a certain large New York company and give more time to the selection of employees than to any other branch of the work. This man adopted the plan years ago, and he believes that it pays. The result has been a force of men who are first-class in every respect. He knows them all, from the general manager to the lowest clerk, understands their capabilities and is always certain just what he can expect from them in the way of work. He has around him a supply of human capital that is constantly increasing in value.

The head of a large business would not talk with one of his customers concerning a \$500,000 contract when he was out of temper, ill or extremely busy. He would think he must be in the very best possible mental and physical condition for the interview, so that he could achieve the best possible results for his concern. But when it comes to hiring high-grade employees who may be worth far more to him than a half a million dollar contract, he does not let these things stand in his way, and often allows his own ill temper or worry over business cares to influence him against a really capable man. And a good man lost to a firm in this age of strenuous competition for human brains and energy is a most serious matter.

JUST FOR FUN.

Oldest Inhabitant—"You see, sir, 'twas the place 'as changed. When I 'owt coomed 'ere I 'ad lots o' friends; but now there be no one left to hobnob with!"—Punch.

Sapleigh—"I make my aw-living by my wits, doncher know?" Miss Cautique—"Well, here's a dime, Run along and get something to eat!"—Chicago Daily News.

"Do you favor wider locks?" inquired the man who takes a mild interest in Panama affairs. "I do," answered the bibulous citizen. "Also larger key-holes."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"I hear that your husband is critically ill, Mrs. Tiff," said Mr. Gummery. "Yes, he is. He criticizes the doctor, and he criticizes the nurse, and he criticizes me. Oh, he's critically ill, all right."—Judge.

Teacher—"Cold, you know, is merely the absence of heat. To what simple phenomena do you owe the absence of heat during the winter months?" Class (in unison)—"The janitor doesn't turn it on!"—Chicago Tribune.

"You said that if I bought this suburban house I could live like a prince. With malaria and automobiles, I'm in for my life!" "Well," answered the agent soothingly, "think of the prince who live in fear of their lives."—Washington Star.

"I hear," said Mrs. Oldcastle, "that Miss Wadsworth has taken up the study of Gaelic." "Has she?" replied her hostess, as she kicked back a corner of the \$3.00 rug. "Josiah wanted me to take it up, but I never was no hand for cards."—Chicago Record-Herald.

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