history of **PORTUGAL**





Departure of Hans Staden for Brazil from Lisbon. A 16th century engraving taken from «Americae Tertia Pars Memorabile Provincae Brasiliae et Historiam Contines...» (Lisbon National Library). For printings convenience the reproduction is inverted.



history of **PORTUGAL**



91

Office of the Secretary of State for Information and Tourism General Direction for Information



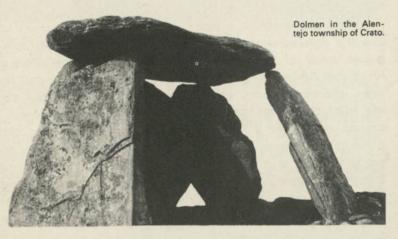
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Composto e impresso na Tip. Anuário Comercial de Portugal

ORIGINS OF THE PORTUGUESE NATION

View of the ruins of Conimbriga, the Roman city devasted in the 5th century.

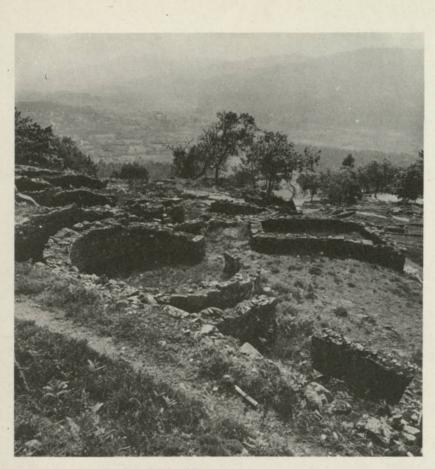
PORTUGAL is now a nation situated on several continents, grouping different cultures and races. It began to exist as an independent State shortly before mid-way in the 12th century. Situated at the western edge of the Iberian Peninsula, bordering the Atlantic, it was the creation of the first king Afonso Henriques, the son of Count Henri of Burgundy. Yet previous formative stages had conditioned its future appearance and characteristics. The kingdom of Portugal was not imposed on certain natural, physical and human factors; it was not merely the result of given direct, intentional political forces. Portugal in the Peninsula does not constitute a geographical unity: it comprises three distinct areas, from a geographer's point of view: the Atlantic North coastal area, the



northern interior and the south. This variety is matched, although imperfectly, by an economic effect. In its turn the position of this peripheral zone (three-quarters of the Atlantic coastline of the Peninsula) is undoubtedly a dominant factor, since it unites Portugal to the Atlantic and turns it away from Spain.

The territory of mainland Portugal, almost insular in nature, with offshore waters rich in fish and an excellent climate for the production of salt, tied the human element first to activities based on the sea and sea trade, then led it to venture into tropical regions. The pre-Portuguese human tableau reveals an individuality distinct from the socio-cultural pattern of Hispania. Eminent prehistorians have pointed to cultural peculiarities in primitive Lusitania (the present-day Portugal and Galicia), according to Strabo's layout. In such distinctions we should not try to differentiate the origin of the Portuguese nationality, but they are, all the same, ethnological factors which create links and traditions which solidify. Since the early Pleistocene, at the dawn of the Stone Age, very ancient stone industries have been revealed: 'the culture of split rocks', of the Lusitanian type and later the pre-Asturian, a cultural genus that distinguishes, throughout the Palaeolithic, populations along the coastline engaged in gathering shellfish. In the Mesolithic period the making of sharpened stones, the Asturian period in the Atlantic North of the country and, even before this, the famous «shell-beds» at Muge, in the Tagus valley, pointing to the existence of the Tagus Man, are further expressions of these coastal dwellers.

In the neo-eneolithic period the land which later became Portugal saw the development of the dolmenic or barrow culture (collective graves made of big slabs). Thus we come to the «Portuguese megalithic circle», which developed through the Copper and Bronze Ages, characterized not only by funeral constructions but also by the relics that have been found (slab idols, axes, ceramics, gold objects, etc.). Even if Portugal (with Galicia) was not the startingpoint of that culture, the latter undoubtedly flourished there and its products in the area are representative. At that time the areas where, thousands of years later, Portugal was to take shape, already suggested the insular nature of the «crossroads» and «starting-point» which it was to possess so markedly. It is true that elements of the «Portuguese



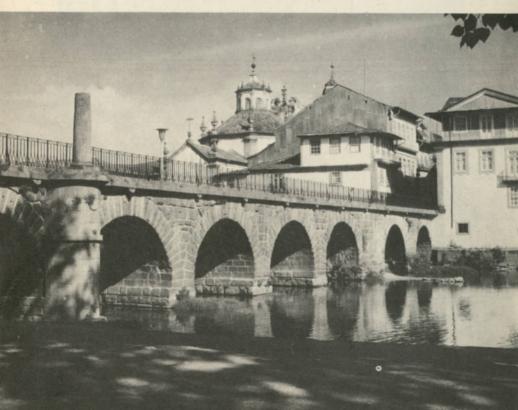
Partial view of the ruins of the Briteiros hill-camp.

megalithic culture» travelled over the Atlantic, being found in Brittany, Ireland and Great Britain.

In the Iron Age a further cultural peculiarity was the hill-fort culture (fortified areas on hill-tops, surrounded by walls, with round and rectangular houses). Towards the end of the third century B. C. the Romans came into Hispania. When they reached the far west of the peninsula there came about the epic story of Viriato, the prince of the Lusitanians, who withstood the legions of Latium. The great chief was killed by treachery but the resistance of the Lusitanians went on and it was only in the time of Augustus that these tribes were integrated into the Roman Empire.

The Romans divided primitive, natural Lusitania along the line of the Douro. To the north of it Galicia was incorporated into the Terraconense region, while to the south, as far as the Guadiana, Lusitania under Roman jurisdiction was marked out. Then, under Caracalla's division (c. 216), Galicia became a province also. But the network of Roman roads, from north to south, reunified the West, favoured the Atlantic influence and the homogeneity of the peoples in the area. Under the Roman administration the economy became more complex, of a complementary nature. The inhabitants came down from the hill-tops and agriculture developed. The exploitation of the sea and of mines had an influence on the economic life of the Empire. The consecutive legal districts of Braga, San-

> Roman bridge over the Tâmega at Chaves. The laying-down of means of communications was one of the most important consequences arising from the Roman penetration into Lusitania.





Chapel of São Frutuoso, at São Salvador de Montélios, in Minho province, which dates from the period of Visigothic influence in the 7th century.

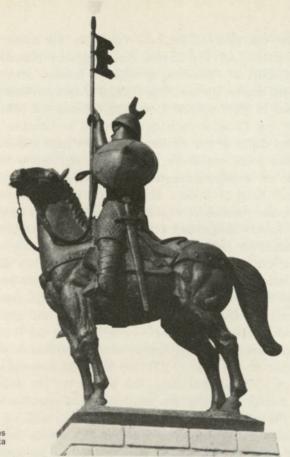
tarém and Beja, interconnected by the roads, corresponded to the focal points of the future Portugal in Europe.

In the fifth century the Barbarians of the north entered the Peninsula in their turn. The Suevi set up a kingdom on the Atlantic coast. Under the pontificate of the metropolitan of Braga Balconius, the Suevi King Requiário «became a Catholic», with his people. Due to this fact and other links in communal life, 'the Suevi and the people of the West united in a single state, the kingdom of Galicia. It was the first barbarian state in Europe to enter the communion of the Roman Church although, shortly afterwards, at a time of crisis, they officially withdrew from it again, due to the political pressure from the Aryan Visigoths. But in the mid-6th century St. Martinho, bishop of Braga and Dume, a great figure of the Church and Christian thought, re-converted the Suevi-Braga kingdom. The «Suevi factor» thus recreated the unity of the Atlantic slope of the Peninsula in a first political and ecclesiastical attempt to unite the lands to the north and south of the Douro separated by the Roman provincial division. Within this kingdom the word «Portucale» began to mean more than just one spot.

With Leovigildo (585) the Visigoths gave political unity to the Peninsula, but the Visigothic empire was a federation of kingdoms: Gothic Gaul, Visigothic Hispania and Suevi Galicia. This Galicia extended south of the Douro and was never perfectly assimilated to the Visigothic State, on either the political or the ecclesiastical planes. The West, from the northern limits of the see of Braga to the south, under dukes or princes, continued to be separable.

With the Arabs and the Moors (8th century) this system was subverted. From northern Galicia to the Douro, Pelayo mustered the first forces of resistance to Islam: this Christian nucleus was to give rise to the kingdom of Asturias and León, the first spearhead of the Reconquest, and at its southernmost extremity lay Atlantic North Portugal. The rest of the west of Portugal formed the Algarve-Andalusia area, where the conquered Christian inhabitants, Mozarabs and renegades, often revealed rebelliousness or a great influence. The division of the West into areas of Christian and Arab domination respectively did not change the pre-Islamic characteristics identifying this zone, which had a common language (Western romance, according to Menéndez Pidal). This division enriched the Portuguese West in a cultural framework (according to the view of Jaime Cortesão). The cosmopolitan nature which marked later historical Portugal largely derived from Moslem culture, thanks to the Mozarab population of the south, through whom it remained even after the Reconquest was complete. The first Portuguese ports opened to international trade merely carried on with a trade that had had a Moslem origin. There would seem to be justification for the significance attributed to the Mozarab movement in the formation of the adventurous, wandering spirit which inspires the history of Portugal.

In 868, when Alfonso III was king of the Asturias, Count Vimara Peres won back the town of Portucale, the future Oporto, near the mouth of the Douro. The reoccupation began of Portucale south



Statue of Vimara Peres by the sculptor Barata Feyo, in Oporto.

of the Minho, which was to become the real terminus of the Asturian-Leonese kingdom. In this zone, from the beginning of the 10th century, or even earlier, a dynasty of nobles defended the country from Moorish attacks and became very influential in the Leonese court itself. Some Leonese kings — Ordoño II, Ramiro II and Bermudo II — before ascending the throne gained experience, and training, so to speak, as «kings of Portugal», that is, as governors of the far south of Galicia, with the support of the economically strong population of Portucale. The zone was becoming increasingly significant politically. At the time of Emperor Fernando the Great (11th century), who united León and Castile, instituting a centralized political regime, the Counts of Portucale, as regional leaders, disappeared from the political scene. On the other hand the northern frontier of «Portugal» ceased to be the River Lima and reached the Minho river. To the south the Christian reconquest arrived at Coimbra in 1065. When, on the death of the Emperor, his lands were divided up, a Count of Portucale did make his appearance, one Nuno Mendes, the last spark of a semi-independent County of Portucale, who fought Garcia, King of Galicia. He died on the battlefield (1071).

Under Alfonso VI, the kingdoms of León and Castile were reunited and Toledo recaptured (1085). The Christians made considerable inroads into Andalusia. To the west, the Moors abandoned Santarém, Sintra and Lisbon (1093). The Visigothic idea of the empire was revived. At about this time a kind of vice-kingdom appeared in the West, which extended from the far north, near the Cantabrian mountains, down to the Tagus. This area had been taken over by Raimond, Count of Amous, of the family of the Dukes of Burgundy: he was one of the many French nobles who had crossed the Pyrenees to fight on the side of Alfonso VI against the Moors.

In 1095, Count Henri, the brother of the Duke of Burgundy, and Teresa, his wife, the daughter of Alfonso VI, were given as a free, hereditary possession, the Land of Portucale, that is, all the Christianized West to the south of the Minho. This area, separated from what is now called Galicia, was to be subordinated to the Emperor alone. This was not a land held in fee in the French style, or a temporary holding on behalf of the king. It was a broad seigniory, a lordship of lordships, with full possession and also immune, since it comprised political powers. Although within a feudal climate, Portucale was no land held in fee or as a benefice, but as a hereditary, free, even if not unconditional, seigniory.

In the year of the Emperor's death (1109), Count Henri, at his court in Toledo, seems to have demanded a sharing-out of territory. Some years before he had reached an agreement with Raimond, his cousin, who had married Princess Urraca, which was known as the Pact of Succession, it having been agreed that Henri would receive the holding of Toledo, which did not seem practicable, or

Galicia, with the obligation to defend the rights to the succession of Raimond's wife, when Alfonso VI died. In fact, Henri was attracted by the notion of reforming a united West, centred on Portugal. It should not be forgotten that the metropolitan Church of Braga had had, since the Suevi period, its suffragan bishoprics, north and south of the Douro.

Urraca succeeded her father in the states of León and Castile, and soon after married Alfonso, King of Aragón, a great military leader who at once took the title of Emperor. But the nobles of Galicia refused to accept this step and sought to impose as king, at least in their own region, Alfonso Raimundes, the son of the dead Raimond and Urraca. A lengthy civil war now began, since Alfonso of Aragón had to fight Galicia and also some Castilians and Leonese. The queen herself often supported the claims of Alfonso Raimundes, and promised to proclaim him king of the entire kingdom. Henri of Portugal supported first one, then the other faction, and seems to have acted as an important and almost independent ally («Count of all Portugal, by the grace of God»). But he lost his southern lands (Lisbon, Santarém), which were regained by the Moors. He died at Astorga in 1112, and his body was taken to Braga, where it is buried in the Kings' Chapel.

His wife, Countess Teresa, took over the reins of power. She took to herself the title of Queen and as such was recognized by the people of Portucale. She continued her husband's policy of interfering in the civil war still raging on Queen Urraca's lands. In 1115, at the Parliament of Oviedo, however, she had to declare herself her sister's vassal, but she constantly endeavoured to free herself of any such submission. Almost constantly she supported the Galician party, led by the Trava family, and took possession of the dioceses of Tui and Orense. Her plan seems to have been to support Alfonso Raimundes so that he would rule over León and Castile, leaving her to control Portugal, and thus dominate the West. The notion of nationality and independent existence was beginning to take hold of the imagination of the Portuguese.

The Galicians of the North dominated the court of Queen Teresa, who appointed the son of the Count of Trava, Fernando Peres de Trava, viceroy of Oporto and Coimbra. But a «Portuguese» party formed against this Galician-Portuguese approximation: the leader, who supported Queen Teresa's son, was Dom Paio Mendes, Archbishop of Braga. Hostilities opened in 1128 with the skirmish at São Mamede (Guimarães). On the one side were the forces of Queen Teresa and Peres de Trava, her lieutenant; on the other, those of the Prince Afonso, supported by the archbishop and barons of Portugal. The event means, above all, a coup d'état, the substitution by force of the rulers of Portucale. But it is a very important happening historically. When he gained full control of the county, Afonso never again recognized submission as Prince of Portugal to the kings of León and Castile.

In the north he had to fight to maintain possession of the lands won in the far south of Galicia by his mother (in the dioceses of Tui and Orense). In 1139 he took a daring decision, came far to the south of the Tagus, in the heart of the West Andalusian area, and defeated the Moors south of Beja. This was the battle of Ourique.

POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND FORMATION OF THE HOMELAND

Castle at Vila da Feira, a significant example of mediaeval military architecture and scene of fierce fighting in the reconquest period.



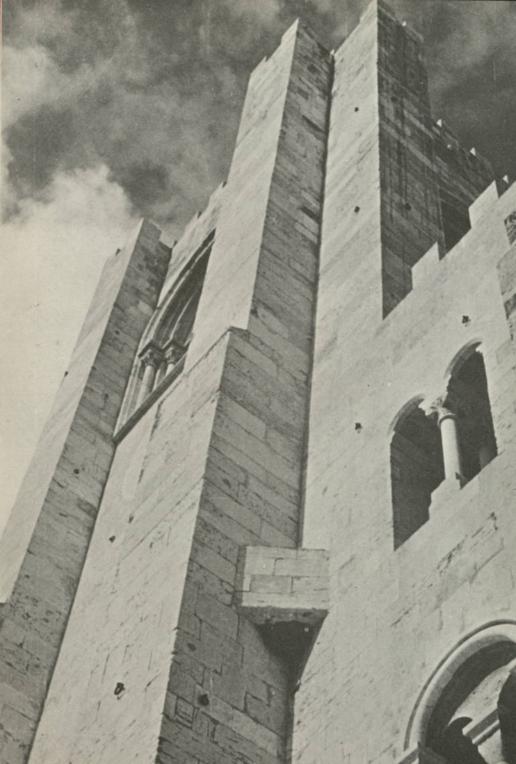
FTER Ourique, either as a result or by a coincidence, the name of king began to be attributed to Afonso Henriques (+1185). At the conference of Zamora (1143), in the presence of the legate Cardinal Guido di Vico, Alfonso VII recognized his right to the title, but considered him to be still a vassal because of his holding of Astorga. At about the same time, the Portuguese prince dedicated his kingdom to the Holy See, in the person of di Vico. The diplomatic side of the affair was handled by Dom José Peculiar, who laid down the juridical independence of Portugal. He negotiated the enfeoffment of the kingdom to the Papal authority which, under ruling international law at that time, exempted it from any other form of temporal domination. For this purpose the archbishop went to Rome and the pontiff accepted the vassalage of the distant State in return for four ounces of gold a year. It was only in 1179 that Alexander III called Afonso Henriques «King», in his Bull «Manifestis probatum»: by that time military triumphs and internal consolidation of the kingdom had further motivated the papal decision.

In 1147 Afonso Henriques took Santarém. Then the Portuguese, aided by a fleet of Crusaders — Flemish, French, English and German — who sailed by on their way to the Holy Land, took Lisbon in the same year, after a long siege. This city was to be the capital of the new kingdom. By this victory the Portuguese king regained the southern frontiers of the seigniory given to his parents by Alfonso VII. In 1158-59 he advanced further south, taking Évora and Beja, after capturing Alcácer, the key to the Alentejo plain. At this time Afonso Henriques and Fernando II signed the Treaty of Pontevedra, which recognzied the former's possession of land between the Tagus and Lerez, thus including lands north of the Minho in the Tui diocese. Portugal thus reached the northern limits of the Braga juridical district, as defined in Roman times, confining with southern Galicia. To the south, Gerald the Fearless, frontier commander, effected raids and made conquests. In 1169, Afonso Henriques helped him to lay siege to Badajoz, but the King of León appeared and besieged the besiegers in their turn. When withdrawing, Afonso Henriques broke his leg and was taken prisoner by the Leonese. To win his freedom he had to give up his land north of the Minho.

In 1173, by a strange act of desertion, Gerald with some others went over to the Moors and went to Africa. If we are to believe a Moorish source, he sent plans to Afonso Henriques for an expedition of conquest to North Africa. When this was discovered, Gerald was executed by the Moors. Thus, for the first time, the Portuguese were thinking of overseas ventures.

With the death of Afonso Henriques, his dynasty began, its members dedicating themselves alternately to administration and to making war. The Portuguese monarchy was built up in the Asturo-Leonese manner: hereditary royalty aided by the royal court, the monarch holding supreme authority, though this was tempered by the privileges, rights and exemptions of the classes of the nation. The latter were shown, above all, in the privileges of the higher clergy and nobles, and in the liberties and customs of the districts (settlements of free men). The basis of the economy was agriculture, hampered by war, which was, after all, the only way in which the sovereignty of the territories that were to constitute the nation could be ensured.

Lisbon Cathedral, like the main Portuguese cathedrals, was built in the 12th century at a place where, tradition has it, a mosque formerly stood.



Afonso I was succeeded by his son Sancho I (1185-1211). who was distinguished for his intelligent administration, the development of municipal institutions, by setting up districts which favoured the settlement of empty lands. The southern coast of the Algarve represented the terminus of the Portuguese advance to the south. Sancho I conquered Silves, with the help of another fleet of crusaders (Third Crusade), but the attack was premature. since he later had to retreat all the way back to the Tagus, because of the counter-attack of the Almohides, recently arrived from North Africa. Afonso II (1211-1223), who had no great military talent. was energetic in reinforcing the royal power against para-feudal tendencies which became evident even among his own sisters. During his reign, however, the Portuguese recovered Alcácer do Sal (1217) and a military contingent aided Alfonso III of Castile against the Moors at the Battle of Las Navas de Tolosa (1212). Sancho II (1223-48), another conquering king, began a new phase of territorial expansion by forcing the Moors south down the Guadiana, on both baks, as far as Tavira and Cacela, in East Algarve, and thus established a Christian corridor between two areas still dominated by the Moors.

Due to the protests of the clergy, whose domination the king sought to restrict, and because of his inability to maintain order at home, keeping some control over the privileged classes, the monarch was dethroned and exiled (1245) by Innocence IV. He was succeeded by his brother, Afonso of Boulogne, the future Afonso IV (1248-79). The act of dethronement led to a civil war in which there were many cases of loyalty to the deposed king, until it became certain that he was dead. Under his brother, the conquest of the Algarve was completed, so that Portugal finally extended from the mouth of the Minho to that of the Guadiana. But disputes had arisen with Alfonso X of León and Castile, who claimed a right to the Algarve: this guestion was cleared up and the Portuguese king married the Castilian monarch's daughter, even while his previous marriage was still in force. Portugal thus gained the southern lands, although Alfonso X retained the usufruct of the Algarve until the son born of the marriage with Princess Beatriz reached the age of seven. When Prince Dinis, the future king, was

The Moorish occupation left behind architectural influences, still visible in the picturesque Algarve chimneys.

born, Alfonso X recognized his grandson's right to the Algarve, although he maintained other privileges which he gave up under the Treaty of Badajoz in 1267.

With the conquest of the Algarve coast, the «insular» nature of Portugal was stressed: a contribution was made to this by the roval navy, which aided the kings in the Reconquest, from the Tagus to the Algarve. But the war was itself a territorial one, effected with the collaboration of the military-cum-monastic orders, the Templars, the Hospital Knights, the Orders of Calatrava (later Aviz) and Santiago. After the conquest they took upon themselves the defence of the frontier areas, receiving in return seigniories and castles. They thus contributed to purposes both military and of settlement. In this latter regard the canons of Santa Cruz of Coimbra and the Cistercian monks of Alcobaca distinguished themselves. Little by little, however, the lower classes asserted themselves, above all through the urban districts and the trading guilds. Their representatives appeared at the Leiria parliament in 1254 with those of the other classes, and they took part in the debate on the «purchase. of the currency», that is, acceptance of a voluntary tax to avoid devaluation or loss of value of the currency by the king's action.

Dinis (1279-1325) succeeded Afonso III. He was the most outstanding figure of the first Portuguese dynasty. Faced with an agricultural crisis, he took wholesome protectionist measures to develop the countryside, so that he has gone down in history with the nickname of the «Farmer King». From a general point of view his policy aimed at a complementary type of economy, integrating Portugal in the currents of European trade. His reign is a landmark in the oceanic trends of our history, since the development of Portuguese sea-borne trade dates from it: Portuguese merchant ships sailed and traded in the North Sea and with several Mediterranean countries. He signed a trading treaty with Edward II of England, which gave safe-conducts to all Portuguese merchants. travelling to Great Britain. Others settled in Flanders. The king gave his approval for a maritime exchange with deposits at Bruges to subsidize trading and to meet the expense of legal actions. In his reign Portugal acted against piracy to defend its coast and its shipping. This work was extended over the Atlantic as far south as Cape Não.



Panel of the Representatives, part of the triptych of the Leiria Parliament which met in 1254 during the reign of Afonso III, by Martins Barata, in the São Bento Palace — Lisbon.

To improve his war fleet King Dinis brought in the Genoese Manuel Peçanha, whom he made Admiral-in-chief, as a hereditary office. To replace the Templars, suppressed throughout Christendom by the pope, he set up in Portugal the Order of the Knights of Christ, with the former's patrimony. This Order placed, later, economic interests in expansion at the service of its main aims, to spread the faith and to defend the sovereignty of the kingdom. In the cultural sphere Dinis listened to the requests of many high-ranking clergymen, both secular and monastic, and founded the University in Lisbon (1290): in 1308 it was transferred to Coimbra. It moved between the two towns on several occasions, spending rather more time in Lisbon on balance until João III finally placed it in Coimbra in 1537. In short, the «Farmer» king did not limit his activities to agriculture, but also did much to meet the interests of the sea and of the intellect. Still in the 13th century, frontier claims involved a period of conflict with Castile, which terminated in the Treaty of Alcañices (1297), which defined the eastern frontier of Portugal, defining the land frontiers of Portugal in Europe, which is the oldest, most stable territory on the map of European countries.

King Dinis also proved to be one of the best of mediaeval Portuguese poets. He was so outstanding among his contemporaries, in a period in which poetry flourished, that Aubrey Bell referred to him as being «not only the best king but the best poet of his time in the Peninsula».

Afonso IV (1325-57) distinguished himself, in spite of the war with Castile, in fighting on Spanish territory by the side of Alfonso XI,

King Dinis, anticipating the epic of overseas expansion, gave orders for the planting of pinewoods in the Leiria area to provide timber for shipbuilding.







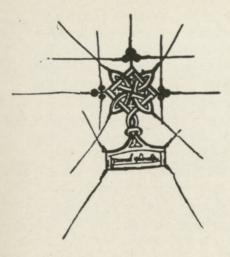


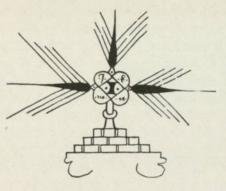
Customs of mediaeval life in illuminations reproduced from the Calendar of the Old Lorvão Missal, a precious MS of the 15th century. his son-in-law, against a new Moorish incursion which threatened both Castile and the rest of Christian Spain. He won the nickname of «the Courageous» at the battle of Salado (1340). He also dedicated himself to the maritime interests of the nation, and he took the initiative in sending the first official expeditions to the Canary Islands, which he claimed for Portugal, the first expeditions of that kind to the area by a European nation. They were the consequence of a private voyage to the islands under the reign of Dinis, also by a royal decision. With Afonso IV, therefore, began the oceanic undertakings of Portugal.

Although his life was overshadowed by the murder of his secret wife, Inês, Pedro I (1357-67) kept a careful watch on national finance,



Detail of the Gothic tomb of King Pedro I in Alcobaça Monastery, 14th century.





Marks made by the notaries who authenticated the Anglo-Portuguese Treaty (National Torre do Tombo Archives).

avoided war and put justice above all things. He restated the temporal power and would not allow papal documents to circulate in his country without the permission of the State, that is, without royal approval. This law, approved by the Parliament, remained in force until the Republic of 1910.

The last king of this dynasty, Fernando (1367-83), is a controversial figure. He spent with excessive freedom and was unfortunate in his three wars with Castile. He was given the nickname of the «Fickle», because he rejected two fiancées for the love of Leonor Teles, whom he married after having her first marriage declared null and void by the Church. As far as economic matters are concerned there is no doubt that King Fernando was a great statesman. To benefit agriculture, he promulgated the law of fallow lands under which landowners were ordered to till their land or rent it to others who would; it also facilitated the purchase of cattle and slowed down the flight from the countryside. He also made laws to protect sea trading and shipbuilding, by giving timber from the royal forests to build ships. Boats or fittings bought abroad were exempted from taxes and duties, and goods exported on the first voyage or imported on the return from the first trip were exempted from duties, or paid only half, respectively. At that time, according to the chronicler Fernão Lopes, the Tagus resembled «a forest of masts». King Fernando was also responsible for the first maritime insurance system, one of the first, if not the first, ever attempted in Europe. By payment of regular premiums, funds were instituted in Lisbon and Oporto, to compensate masters for ships lost by shipwreck or any other accident.

Important events occurred in the diplomatic field. The wars with Castile were not, of themselves, fruitful to Portugal, but they did give rise to the centuries-old alliance between Portugal and England, the oldest and longest-lasting between European powers. After the first of these wars Portugal negotiated military and political pacts with England: first with the Duke of Lancaster (Treaty of Tagilde, 1372) and then with the Crown (London, 1373). Thus the kingdom defined its Atlantic policy, by entering the Hundred Years' War against France and Castile, and saved Great Britain from the serious prospect of an enemy Franco-Iberian bloc. Towards the end of the third war Fernando decided to marry his daughter Beatriz to the new king of Castile, Juan. The marriage contract of Salvaterra de Magos was drafted, to ensure the independence of the kingdom of Portugal. Under the agreement, Beatriz and her husband would never reign over Portugal, but would be only titular monarchs until they had a son of the age of 14, who would be crowned king. Meanwhile the country would be ruled by the Queen Mother Leonor Teles as Regent, so that Portugal would always be «a kingdom of its own». In any case Fernando's grandson would only inherit the Portuguese crown because the Castilian crown belonged to the issue of the Castilian king's first marriage. But these clauses proved unavailing against the Castilian ambitions.

DISCOVERIES AND OVERSEAS EXPANSION

«So we opened up those seas That no previous generation had dared to sail»

(Camoens, «Os Lusiadas»).

N the death of King Fernando the widowed Queen Leonor Teles assumed the regency (1383), on behalf of Princess Beatriz. But a strongly nationalist party, comprising nobles, an active bourgeois faction and the common folk, protested against this arrangement: they did not desire the union of the Portuguese and Castilian crowns. and they chose their own candidate for the throne, the Master of Aviz, Dom João, a natural son of Pedro I. They acclaimed him Regent and Defender of the Kingdom, which provoked an armed struggle for independence. The nationalist party murdered the Count of Ourém, João Fernandes Andeiro, the main figure in the Regency. and Queen Leonor appealed to her Spanish son-in-law to support the rights of the descendants of her dead husband. The King of Castile invaded Portugal and got rid of the Regent by having her kept in the Convent of Tordesillas, when she had changed her mind and was already advising her supporters to join the party of the Master of Aviz.

Meanwhile the latter, acting as Defender of the Kingdom, and aided by English forces, was being besieged in Lisbon by the Castilians. This went on for a long time. In this long-drawn-out struggle the young leader Nun'Álvares defeated the enemy at the battle of Atoleiros, in the Alentejo. The position of the Master of Aviz was stabilized at the Coimbra Parliament of 1385, in April. The skilful man-of-law, João das Regras, supported the choice of the Master as king and this was accepted. The Master agreed to this designation as being the son and grandson of kings, and



Banquet given by King João I in honour of the Duke of Lancaster. Wash by Gouvêa Portuense, reproduction of the original in the British Museum.

on the understanding that the illegitimacy of his birth should be legalized.

Nun'Álvares again shone at the battle of Aljubarrota, which took its place in the Hundred Years' War, the Portuguese and the English fighting against the Castilians and the French. Apart from the problems affecting Portuguese independence, the two former powers defended the Pope in Rome, while the two latter were for the anti-Pope at Avignon. João I, late Master of Aviz, won a victory. But the war went on, with periods of truce, until peace was signed in 1411.

A new period in Portuguese history opened with João I. The overseas voyages and discoveries were about to start systematically. Mediaeval Portugal was about to reveal the road to the modern

world, above all through sea discovery and especially through the seigniorial system until João II. Many factors brought Portugal the basic rôle in this universalization of the Christian West: its geographical position as an amphitheatre facing the Atlantic; seagoing traditions; the rise of a new social force, the middle-class; the appearance of geniuses who encouraged the work of discovery and conquest, such as Prince Henry, the son of João I, and later João II. Prince Henry was at the same time a modern and a mediaeval man: he was modern because he was guided by experimentally acquired knowledge and because he did not reject the concept of «profit», the mainspring of capitalism; but still mediaeval because in the hierarchy of values he still considered the «service of God» pre-eminent. His main aims seem to have been to strengthen and extend the sovereignty of the crown, to bring Portugal better economic conditions, and to extend the sway of Christianity. While there were economic reasons for the enterprise (the shortage of cereals), and matters of defensive strategy, against piracy, which were traditional motivations, the political need to consolidate the dynasty considerably influenced the idea of expansion outside Europe, yet the purpose of «extending Christendom» undoubtedly impregnated the other causes: it should not be forgotten that Prince



Seal of the Order of Avis.

33

Henry was the governor of an order of warrior monks, the Order of Christ. He seems to have considered three directions for expansion: conquer lands in North Africa; discover new lands to the West; explore the west coast of Africa, perhaps as far as India.

The Portuguese discoveries were not the result of mere adventure or luck. Astronomy was applied so that the ships could plan their route on the high seas; sea instruments were improved and a new type of ship, 'the caravel, suited to long journeys, was invented. These factors gave rise to the so-called Naval School of Sagres.

Portuguese expansion to North Africa began in 1415, with the taking of Ceuta. The initiative was taken by the king's sons, especially Prince Henry, but the king quickly agreed. In the series of causes that we have mentioned we should no doubt recognize the spirit of the crusade and of chivalry, as well as economic, military and political interests (as for example the defence of the Algarve against Moorish marauders). With the conquest of Ceuta, suggested to the Princes by João Afonso, the treasurer, the attempt was being made to conquer regions rich in cereals and the North African traffic, and points from which the attacks of corsairs against South Portugal and its sea trade were launched.

Expansion led to the discovery of the islands of Madeira (1418-9) and the Azores (by 1431), Cape Verde (in the reign of Afonso V, but before the death of Prince Henry in 1460). The discovery of Madeira and the Azores was followed up by settlement: in the former the sugar-cane was encouraged, in the latter wheat and the mustard-plant. Thus a plan of occupation of virgin, deserted lands was set going, with the economic notion of gaining a useful yield from them.

The first major achievement in Prince Henry's plan for the circumnavigation of Africa was Gil Eanes' passage off Cape Bojador in 1434, in the reign of King Duarte (1433-38), who succeeded João I. This illustrious, eloquent prince, as they named him, was the author of noteworthy works (the «Loyal Counsellor», and the «Book of the Compleat Rider on Horseback»), had a short reign, embittered by the disaster at Tangier (1437), when his youngest brother, Prince Fernando, was taken captive and held by the Moors until his death.



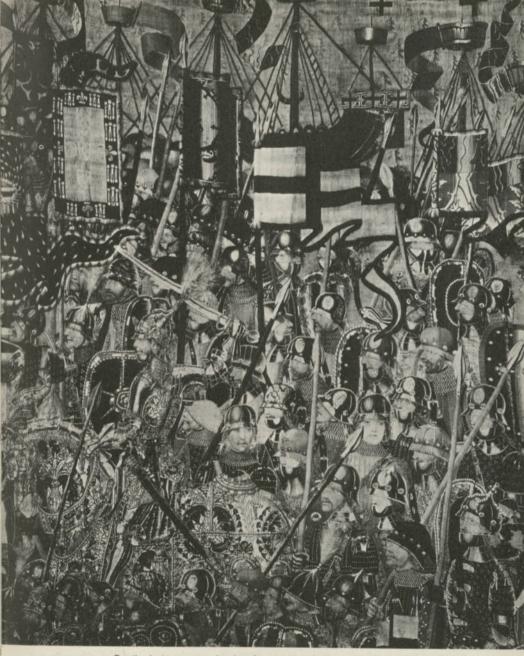
Island of São Miguel in the Azores settled from the 15th century on.



«Talant de bien fere», Prince Henry the Navigator's device.

Duarte was followed by his son Afonso V, the «African» (1438-81) who was still a child. His uncle Prince Pedro was proclaimed Regent (1440). Henry continued to manage the overseas enterprise, encouraging voyages ever further south along the African coast. Thus the sinister legends of the Dark Sea, thought to be filled with monsters and to be boiling hot, were dissipated. In 1443 the Portuguese penetrated the Gulf of Arguim and adopted the caravel, the ship of Portuguese expansion. The voyages to the south went on, reaching the Senegal area and then Portuguese Guinea. In the year of the Prince's death (1460) they reached Sierra Leone. Apart from the missionary ideal, Prince Henry's determination to travel down and round the west coast of Africa aimed at trading in those regions and to divert the flow of valuable goods (gold, spices, ivory, slaves) from Mauritania (having crossed the Sahara). The failure to win Tangier probably encouraged Portugal all the more to proceed with its Atlantic enterprises (settlement of the islands and exploration on the west coast of Africa).

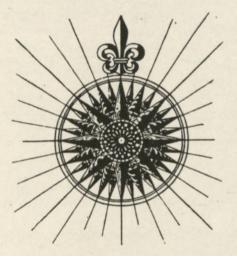
After Prince Henry's death the exploration and traffic of the Guinea coast was handed over to Fernão Gomes, with the stated aim of discovering 100 leagues of new coast every year. Thus the Prince's Atlantic policy was continued, the key concept being profit, even though it was subordinated to religious and political concepts. Fernão Gomes steadily sailed south, making use of the experience previously acquired and the progress made by the Portuguese in the art of sailing since the Prince's time. Guinea traffic increased. In the reign of Afonso V interest in North Africa intensified, perhaps with the notion of extending Portuguese sway there. Mahomet II had in the meantime won Constantinople (1453). Whether or not it was the echo of this event that encouraged the Moors, they sought to expel the Portuguese from Ceuta. Afonso V, with Prince Henry,



Detail of the tapestry showing the attack on Arzila. Authorship of the cartoons of the tapestries in the Pastrana Collegiate Church, in Spain, is ascribed to Nuno Gonçalves

crossed to Ceuta and Alcazarquivir was won (1458). After an unsuccessful attempt, 1471 brought the conquest of Arzila, Tangier and Larache, which led the king to adopt the title of «King of Portugal here and beyond the sea in Africa».

In the course of the 15th century the political facet of the nation reflected the course of history since the crisis of succession. While in Western Europe feudalism was crumbling in the face of centralized



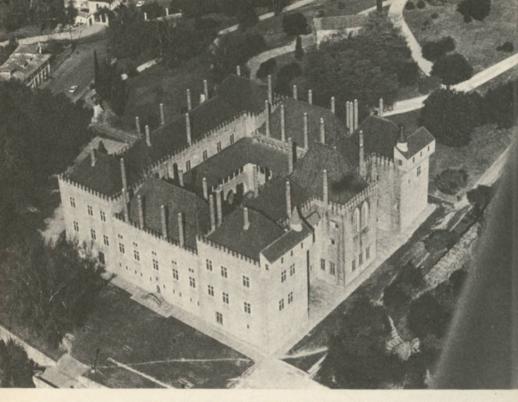
royal power (Louis XI in France), the feudal regime in Portugal had never been more than a sense of local domination: this system, however, not only continued but in fact was increasingly tending towards a kind of para-feudalism. As a result of the independence campaigns, João I had impoverished the treasury by the many gifts he had made to those who had helped in the struggle. Nun'Álvares gave lands in fee and acquired vassals. The sovereign wished to reinforce his power and to put a brake on the para-feudal tendency he thought up a law, which was made effective under Duarte, known as the «mental law», stipulating that bequeathed property is indivisible and should be handed over to the Crown when its holder dies without a legitimate male heir. But when Regent Prince Pedro, during Afonso V's minority, tried to assert the concept of the State, he ran into opposition from the nobility, under the leadership of the Duke of Braganza, the natural son of João I. The interests at stake showed such mutual recrimination and lack of understanding that the outcome was the battle of Alfarrobeira, at which Prince Pedro was killed (1449). The gifts later made by Afonso V further weakened the Crown, and monarchical centralization in the country was thereby retarded.

But the centralizing movement triumphed when João II (1481-95) became king. He called the Parliament at Évora and there forced the nobility to recognize the supreme jurisdiction of the royal power. Many nobles began to plot against him but João II did not hesitate to destroy the two main noble families of Portugal. The Duke of Braganza, Dom Fernando, was executed and shortly afterwards the Duke of Viseu, Dom Diogo, the queen's brother, was stabbed by the king himself. The Crown then became an absolute power. Under the strict authority of the king the nation went decidedly on with another phase of its world-wide expansion. João II continued to implement the plans of Prince Henry and he encouraged voyages to the north-west by private expeditions; he was, however, basically most interested in solving the problem of a sea route to India, which would save European traders having to work through North-African middlemen.

It was in this continuation of Prince Henry's plans that João II most deserved the epithet of «the Perfect» that he has traditionally been given. He kept a watchful eye on the security of the royal monopoly of overseas trading. He encouraged research in cartography, sailing by the stars (Board of Mathematicians), developed naval shipbuilding, supported missionary work and defined a broad-based transoceanic policy for the future.

In 1481-2 the king gave orders for the castle of São Jorge da Mina to be constructed on the Guinea coast, to ensure Portuguese trading in gold and other articles in the area. He simultaneously engaged in seeking out the route to the East. Diogo Cão reached the Congo in 1482. In a second voyage the native king sought Portuguese collaboration to civilize his kingdom: thus the relations began between Portugal and the Congo and the future Angola.

In 1487 João II sent a small fleet led by Bartolomeu Dias to go on further south and to do all he could to discover the route to



Palace of the Dukes of Braganza, at Guimarães. A noteworthy example of 14th century civil architecture.

the East. In the same year he ordered Afonso de Paiva and Pero da Covilhã to set off overland to find the Eastern kingdom of Prester John. Dias rounded the Cape of Storms (now Cape of Good Hope) and sailed up the east coast of Africa as far as Prince River. After journeying in the East Pero de Covilhã, sailing across the Red Sea to India, then down the Indian Ocean to Sofala, almost marked out, with Dias, Vasco da Gama's future route. With the news brought back by the former, and sent back by the latter from Cairo, the nautical problem of the India sea-route was practically solved. The fleet to perform this voyage was being got ready when the king died.

At the time of this king a Genoese, Christopher Columbus, who had come into Portuguese sea interests when still very young, made a proposition to the king that he could reach India from the West, but the king's cosmographers did not approve the plan and João II refused his services. Columbus did not give up but went off to Spain to persuade the Catholic Monarchs to give him a small fleet to carry out his plan. He gained their support and set off from Palos. He managed to reached one of the Antilles group. Other voyages to America followed but he always believed that he had reached the East.

When João II heard from Columbus about the results of his expeditions he considered that the discovered lands belonged to him and decided to send out a Portuguese fleet to occupy them. But the Catholic Monarchs favoured negotiations. Alexander VI, a Spanish Borgia, intervened in the dispute and promoted a sharingout of the lands to be found, between Portugal and Spain, along a line of longitude that João II did not accept. Finally, in 1494, the Treaty of Tordesillas was signed, which determined that Portugal should have all the lands found or to be discovered east of a line drawn 370 leagues from the Cape Verde group, while everything to the west would go to Castile. This treaty was confirmed by the Holy See: in the reign of Manuel I it brought Portugal the future possession of Brazil and the right to the real sea route to India.

Under Manuel I (1495-1521), the nephew of Afonso V, a new dynasty of Aviz kings began, since João II had died without legitimate offspring. In this period Portugal played a decisive part in world history. In 1497 Vasco da Gama's fleet set sail for India. For the first time the Portuguese fleet comprised powerful, fast ships, well provided with cannon and able to carry provisions, a sign that they expected difficulties in the East. On the outward journey the fleet made an extensive detour in the South Atlantic to avoid contrary winds. After the Cape of Good Hope was passed, they put in at Moçambique and Mombasa. The difficult voyage continued until first Melinde and then Calicut were reached (1498). Here Gama held parleys with the local king, the Samorim. Portugal had opened up the route to the fascinating East for the western world. Till then the world had been divided into the watertight compartments of West and East, but in future all cultures were to be brought into contact. This is why Toynbee divided world history into two major periods: before Vasco da Gama and after him.

41



Goënfi fe quanta foro anden area pandat Plana frequens tectis filendida dives opum ? "Ut mercem hie properet gemmis auroque nitentem Ille abdueta procul ovendere mancipia? Congesta hue videus Gu Infulç et Eco max

In 1500 a powerful fleet under Pedro Álvares Cabral set out for India. As the letter from the pilot Pero Vaz de Caminha to Manuel I puts it, «on their route» they found land, the land of the Holy Cross, in the course of an extensive detour to the south-west, either to reconnoître or to take official possession of the Brazilian coast. In the same year the Portuguese reached the east coast of North America and previous expeditions had already been to Greenland and Newfoundland. At Cochin in India Álvares Cabral set up the first Portuguese fortress. Other expeditions left for the East. But the local interests were both powerful and hostile to the Portuguese



Goa Market in the mid-16th century, when the Portuguese controlled the trade-lanes of the Indian Ocean. «Histoire de la Navigation aux Indes Orientales» («History of Navigation in the East Indies»), 1619, in the Duarte de Sousa Library (Office of the Secretary of State for Information and Tourism, Lisbon).

presence, which led Manuel I to appoint the first viceroy, Francisco de Almeida. On his way via the east coast of Africa he built a fortress at Kiloa and destroyed Mombasa. In India he built forts at Angediva, Cananor and Cochin. The defeat of two enemy fleets (the Sultan of Egypt's, allied with the Venetians) off Diu decided Portuguese domination in the Indian Ocean for over a century.

But Indian problems became increasingly complex. Afonso de Albuquerque went out as second governor. He began by attacking Ormuz, the trading emporium of Persia, and then sailed to India, taking over powers in 1509. The next year Albuquerque conquered



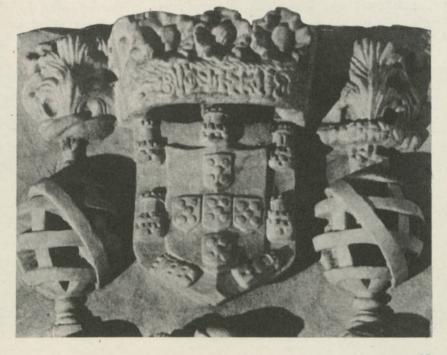
Universal Planisphere Astrolabe, 16th century, (Lisbon Geographical Society).

Goa, which became the centre of Portuguese administration in India. In 1511 he took Malacca, which dominated the sea-routes of the extreme Orient and extended royal trading as far as the Molluccas. He failed to take Aden in 1515 but built a fortress at Ormuz. He died that same year in sight of Goa. Portugal finally dominated eastern trade but Albuquerque's policy aimed at more than territorial bases. He also initiated Indo-Portuguese fraternization through mixed marriages and, above all, he got the natives to play a part in the administration of the territories integrated in Portuguese sovereignty.

While Portugal was defining its policy in the East, the experienced Portuguese sailor Fernão de Magalhães, working for the Spanish king, set out to reach the Moluccas from the west. Carlos V of Spain entrusted him with a squadron of five ships: Magellan entered the Pacific by the strait which now bears his name and a few months later discovered the Philippines, where he was assassinated in 1521. His first officer, Sebastian del Cano, completed the round trip back to Spain along the Portuguese route. The world had been circumnavigated for the first time.

The consequences of the Portuguese discoveries and conquests are of great national and world significance. On the strictly Portuguese scale, they created the Portuguese Empire, extending the Christian faith and Portuguese sovereignty. On the international plane, they moved the axis of trade from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, developed the capitalist economy, brought prosperity to the middle classes, expanded Christendom, extended the frontiers of human knowledge with a trend towards experimental science. Portugal introduced a new era not only in the sciences based on observation (geography, cosmography, nautical science, cartography, natural sciences, medicine, etc.) but also in arts and literature: «The Lusiads», an epic poem «worth an entire literature», according to Schlegel; the Manueline style in building, characteristic of an oecumenical people, inspired by oceanic and exotic motifs; while painting gained international scope with Nuno Gonçalves, who painted the marvellous polyptych of St. Vincent. Manuel I's reign was the apogee of Portugal's presence in the world, but it was darkened by the

Coat of arms of King Manuel I (Évora Regional Museum).



absence of an enlightened financial policy, economic development and because of the progress of a moral crisis brought about by greed, luxury and aristocratic vanity.

In the century of the Counter-Reform the Portuguese throne was occupied by João III (1521-57). By this period the nation had overtaxed its strength and was almost exhausted. It is true that in India the empire was further extended, both in Hindustan with the capture of Diu, and in the Moluccas, and Macau became Portuguese as a gift from the Lords of Canton, as a reward for the maritime aid given them against the pirates in the China Sea. But the attacks on the Portuguese by Turks and Arabs intensified. Diu was attacked by an enormous army and the Portuguese had to defend it with a tiny force. As for North Africa, the Moors had never been influenciable by Portuguese Christian civilization and those territories brought little gain to the nation's spiritual and economic aims so, taking a prudent decision, most of them were abandoned, with the exception only of Ceuta, Tangiers and Mazagão.

As for Brazil, King João III's name was connected with the first attempt to settle and enhance the territory. That immense province in South America was divided into captaincies or holdings. which were vast parallel zones along the coast, reaching into the interior. Each holder or captain governed with wide powers on a seigniorial basis, administered justice, collected taxes, distributed land to settlers, founded towns. The Crown took for itself one-fifth of precious metals and stones found, the monopoly of redwood, the coinage and very little more. Of course sovereignty was excepted but the system was not a complete success. Disputes grew greater among the holders and the territory was defenceless against the greed of corsairs, especially French ones. In order to ensure the political and administrative unity of the dominion, to protect it militarily and to explore the interior, the king set up a governorgeneralship in Brazil. The first to hold this post was Tomé de Sousa, who governed from São Salvador. The Indians were pacified, sugarcane cultivation was begun and cereals began to be produced. Considerable missionary work was done, especially by the Jesuits. The foundation of the city of São Paulo was partly due to a college of Jesuits under Manuel da Nóbrega.



Brazil in Sebastião Lopes' map, 1558 (British Museum).

João III supported the movement of the Counter-Reform. He introduced into his kingdom a State Inquisition, by papal concession (bull «Meditatio cordis»), and three main tribunals were set up, at Lisbon, Évora and Coimbra, Within the spirit of the time the effort was made to defend the religious homogeneity of the country. The Holy Office prevented religious wars in the country and popular vindictiveness against the «new» Christians. The main victim was the Jew, who was engaged in economic activities and carried on usury. During this reign, too, came the Company of Jesus, Portugal being its first province. The Jesuits worked in education and evangelization, and outstanding for his work was Francis Xavier, who expanded the faith and Portuguese civilization in the East (India, Japan, China). He made a vast number of converts and was martyred.

In the cultural sphere the king, an enlightened protector of humanism, took important steps, such as transferring the university from Lisbon to Coimbra (1537), calling in foreign humanists and teachers, or Portuguese who had gained renown away from their native land (the Gouveia brothers). In 1551 he handed over to the Company of Jesus not only the College of Arts in Évora but also the University there, which he had founded. It was a brilliant period in Portuguese culture, in which such men as Pedro Nunes, Camoens, Jerónimo Osório, João de Barros and Garcia de Orta were outstanding.

In spite of his large number of children João III died without a direct heir. He was, therefore, succeeded by a grandson who was still a child, Sebastião (1557-78), also the grandson of Carlos V. Because the king was a minor the regency was entrusted to his grandmother, the widowed Queen Catarina, who in 1562 withdrew to Castile, leaving Cardinal Dom Henrique, the young king's greatuncle, as regent in her place. At that time the notion of empire prevailed, and Damão in India was conquered by the viceroy Constantino de Bragança. In Brazil intense work went on in the captaincies and the city of Rio de Janeiro was founded. In 1568 the Parliament handed over authority to King Sebastião, an ardent knight whose main desire was to extend the frontiers of Christendom. The climate of the time was marked by the Council of Trent. Camoens



Coimbra in the 16th century, the oldest known engraving of the city, from «Urbium Praecipuarum Totius Mundi», 17th century (Duarte de Sousa Library).

exhorted the young sovereign, and his country, to conquer or reconquer North Africa. The Austrian Empire was a model to follow, thought the young monarch. Carried away by incitement and examples, he decided to intervene in Morocco, meeting the appeal of the Moorish leader Mulei Hamet, who sought his aid to regain his throne from the usurper Mulei Moluco, his relative. Sebastião organized an imposing army, with a large number of mercenaries, and set out for Africa. Serious mistakes were made in this expedition, which culminated in, and exaggerated the seriousness of, the defeat at Alcazarquivir, but the young king preferred to die fighting rather than to admit defeat and save his life. He was never heard of again but a myth was created, «sebastianism», the hope that he will someday return.

When the news of the tragedy became known, Cardinal Dom Henrique was appointed «governor and keeper of the kingdom», because no one was ready to admit that Sebastião was really dead. But facts had sooner or later to be faced and old Henrique, a priest, tied by an oath of chastity, was acclaimed king (1578-80). He had, above all, to solve the problem of the succession. The main pretenders were Felipe II of Spain, Catarina of Braganza, António, the Prior of Crato, all grandchildren of Manuel I, the first two being legitimate. The problem was a legal one: legitimacy lay with Catarina, the daughter of Prince Duarte, but Felipe II, the son of Princess Isabel, the empress by marriage, had to help him the power and prestige of the House of Austria, and the fact that he was a major figure in the European Counter-Reform. Moreover the King of Spain had gained supporters by promises and bribes. The Parliament met at Almeirim but came to no conclusions. On the death of King Henrique, António proclaimed himself king (1580-3). He went from Santarém to Lisbon, where he was also acclaimed, but the Duke of Alba invaded the country on behalf of Felipe II, via Alentejo province, and annihilated António's forces in August 1580.

RESTORATION AND NATIONAL REORGANISATION

Statue of João IV, at Vila Viçosa, by Francisco Franco. N a history of over eight centuries since Portugal became a nation and state (1140), to go back no further, at least as far as São Mamede (1128), only sixty years were spent under foreign sovereignty, that of the Habsburgs of Austria. As an interregnum between António, Prior of Crato, and João IV, came the dynasty of the Felipes, reigning in Spain: but resistance was still offered to them, here and there, even after the battle of Alcântara. Terceira Island (Azores) only surrendered in 1583.

The Portuguese state was not in fact absorbed by Spain. Felipe II did install a dual monarchy, and in Portugal reigned as Filipe I. As a result of this principle he swore at the Parliament of Tomar in 1581 that he would respect all the privileges of the kingdom. It was only under Filipe III (Felipe IV of Spain) that the Portuguese felt their independence threatened, due to the absorptionist tendencies of the Spanish Minister, Duke of Olivares.

But ill-ease among the Portuguese grew. The real desire for independence had not been lost: the economic crisis in agriculture and trading, growing taxation, attacks on shipping and the Portuguese overseas territories effected by the enemies of the Spanish Habsburgs, encouraged a national reaction at home. On the other hand, France, a strong country led by Richelieu, was fighting Spain (final period of the Thirty Years' War) and encouraged rebellion in Portugal, promising aid for the rebels against the dual monarchy. For the conspirators the real King of Portugal was the Duke of Braganza, representing the male line of previous Portuguese kings. Dom João



Engraving showing the main scenes of the Restoration of Portuguese Independence in 1640.

was living at his ducal palace at Vila Viçosa, unmoved by the attractions of Madrid, but when the time came he met the aims and desires of the revolting nobles (1 December 1640) against the Castilian presence. A few days later he was crowned King of Portugal in Lisbon. This was an act of unparalleled bravery. The courts of Europe were sure that he would not be king for long. But João IV (1640-56) brought together every factor that might consolidate the new dynasty through two fundamental attitudes: military preparation of the country for war and diplomatic efforts to gain the sympathy of foreign countries to recognize the Portuguese dynasty and to aid him.

At the outset the war went no further than frontier skirmishes, and only one important battle took place in the Peninsula, at Montijo in 1644. The diplomatic struggle was a hard one, while skilful negotiators wove together alliances and agreements. There were tremendous difficulties with Rome and João IV died before the Pope gave his recognition of Portuguese independence. In spite of adversaries, the Portuguese territories overseas supported the decision of the homeland and fought Holland, which had signed a peace with Portugal in Europe but was busily engaged in trying to take its provinces from it in Africa and America. Brazil repelled the Dutch with its own resources and very small reinforcements from Lisbon. Angola and São Tomé were won back with the help of a military expedition from Brazil, under Salvador Correia de Sá. In the East Portugal lost Malacca and, in the following reign, Ceylon also.

João IV's successor, the young Afonso VI (1656-83), was sickly and half paralysed. Yet he had good regents or ministers, whose work contributed to the title of «the Victorious» given him as a result of the military victories against the Spanish in the war to confirm national independence. Alluding to his paralysis, Father António Vieira in a sermon said that «half of a Portuguese king was enough to resist and overcome the greatest monarchy in the world». During the regency of the Queen-Mother, Portugal won the battle of the Lines of Elvas, through the generalship of the Count of Cantanhede. The king's sister, Catarina of Braganza, married Charles II of England, thus resuming the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance, but at a high price, since the «Princess' dowry» included Tangier and Bombay. Under the ministry of the Count of Castelo-Melhor, when the king was already of age, there came the battles of Ameixial, when the Count of Vila Flor and Count Schomberg triumphed over John of Austria, Castelo Rodrigo and, finally, the conclusive battle of Montes Claros.

A palace intrigue led to the removal from office of Castelo Melhor, but the king himself was made a prisoner and the regency taken up by his brother, the future Pedro II, who took the title of Prince Regent until Afonso VI's death. On behalf of his captive brother he signed peace with Spain (1668). The Braganza dynasty had won. Foreign courts had long since reached the conclusion that Portugal would survive, at home and abroad, and France sent a princess to marry Afonso VI. The marriage was annulled and Princess Maria Francisca of Savoy married Pedro II.



Biblidung mie bis Tengini Catharina von Broß Britanien, süchhiff von Läähona nacher Bigdand verreiß Anno 3662.

Procession of the Embassy sent to Lisbon for the marriage of Catarina, the daughter of João IV, to Charles II of England, and embarkation of the Princess (Engraving by Dirk or Daniel Stoop, 17th century).

Under Pedro II (1683-1706) Portugal found itself involved in the War of the Spanish Succession. Portugal first supported Felipe V, the French Prince, but then changed sides and allied irself to the powers defending the candidature of the German Archduke Charles (Carlos III), that is, Germany, Holland and England, who would cede part of southern Galicia to Portugal. The Portuguese forces, under Marquis de Minas, entered Madrid in triumph. Meanwhile King Pedro II had died and in their turn the Allies ceased to support their «king». Also important in this period was the controversial Methwen Treaty on trade: under it the entry of English woollens was favoured in return for preference given by England to Portuguese wines. Economically speaking, there is still argument about the consequences of this agreement, but there can be no doubt that the situation of Portuguese textile industries worsened, endangering their incipient development. Politically speaking, the treaty was a further sign of the renewed political links with England, arising from the Spanish Succession War.

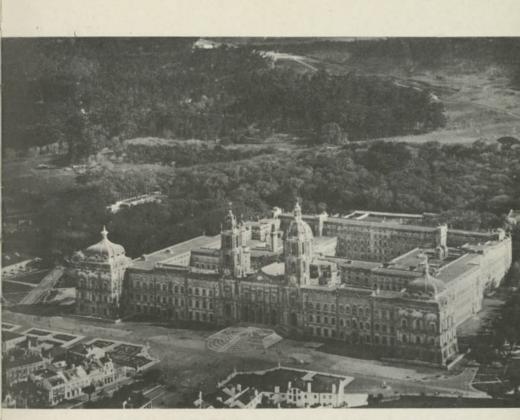
When João V (1706-50) became king, Portugal was in a difficult military situation. In withdrawing from Madrid, Marquis de Minas was defeated at the battle of Almança. Politically, the Portuguese pretensions to the lands in southern Galicia had to be given up because the allies opposed to Felipe V signed the peace of Utrecht (1713). In South America Brazil was attacked by the French and Rio de Janeiro sacked. In Africa English privateers harassed Portuguese trade, but the Empire held out and Portugal increased its war fleet. Although he was a peace-loving sovereign, João V aided the Pope in the sea war against the Turks. The squadron under the Count of Rio Grande won the battle of Matapan (1717) alone, the French and Italian ships of the allied fleet having taken flight before the Ottoman navy.

João V was a contemporary of Louis XV and the sumptuous luxury-loving monarchies of Europe and he rivalled them in the brilliance of his embassies and the pomp of his court, which were taken as a gauge of the importance of countries. At this period the



Bartolomeu de Gusmão, a forerunner of aviation, became famous for the invention of an aerostat which he called his «Big Bird» (1709). artistic patrimony of Portugal was enriched and a style formed. The State received one-fifth of the product of the mines of Brazil (an annual average of three million crusados), but this money was spent very freely indeed on large-scale works like the Aqueduct at Lisbon and Mafra Monastery. Culturally speaking, also, this reign was fruitful: magnificent libraries were founded (University of Coimbra): the Royal Academy of History was founded, in which erudite men became outstanding; a Portuguese Academy was set up in Rome for scholars studying the arts there. Other, more scientific, enterprises were begun, such as the survey of Brazil. In this reign, too, the archbishopric of Lisbon was elevated to a patriarchate, obtaining from Rome the right to a very splendid ritual, almost papal in sumptuousness, known as the Joanine ritual. The Portuguese kings were given the title of «most faithful». Economically speaking, certain industries were encouraged, but that chronic problem of the economy, agriculture, further declined. In Brazil men ran away from the fields to work in the mines. During this reign, of almost half a century, enlightened absolutism took root in Portugal: thanks, however, to the liberal spirit of the monarch and the organic traditions of the kingdom, it did not become despotic.

The next king was José (1750-77), who seems to have let his Secretary of State, the Marquis of Pombal, Sebastião de Carvalho e Melo, take over effective rule. Portugal shared in the spirit of the time. The king stood majestic and solitary, above all social classes, making contact only through his minister. The men in power sought to encourage the nation's progress but in fact severely harmed its structure. The Marquis was a hard but undoubtedly talented, energetic man. After the 1755 earthquake he became famous for his reconstruction of Lisbon. As his power grew he organized a spectacular trial and execution of nobles; in Oporto men who had mutinied against the new monopoly measures paid for their rashness with their lives; he expelled the Jesuits, whom he hated. In the economy he encouraged a directed economy and the monopolies came into being, handed over to companies; various industries were set up and reorganized, especially textiles; measures of protection were decreed. From this point of view the nobility did not gain new life, nor the middle classes prosper, as competition was damped



Bird's eye-view of the Mafra Monastery, built on the order of João V at the beginning of the 18th century.

down by monopoly. A deep, valuable reform was made of the university, and experimental teaching was developed. Socially speaking, the Marquis of Pombal respected the humanitarian and Christian tendency of the nation by abolishing slavery in Portugal and freeing the Indians of Brazil. Also the distinction between new and old Christians was abolished.

During José's reign Portugal found itself involved in the Seven Years' War between France and England, each one supported by various allies. Under the Family Pact of 1761 it was the duty of the Portuguese King to support France and Spain, but the Marquis did not accept this coalition because of the English Alliance. As a result French and Spanish troops invaded Portugal through the



Coimbra University. The curricula were drafted by Marquis de Pombal. It has a library built by João V.



Marquis de Pombal with the plans for the rebuilding of Lisbon after the 1755 earthquake. Oil-painting by David Purry and Geraldo de Visne (1767); Oeiras town-hall.

Alentejo and Beira provinces. The Portuguese army, reorganizde by the General Count de Lippe, a German, faced and forced back the enemy. Under Lippe's direction the whole military organization of the kingdom was reviewed and reformed.

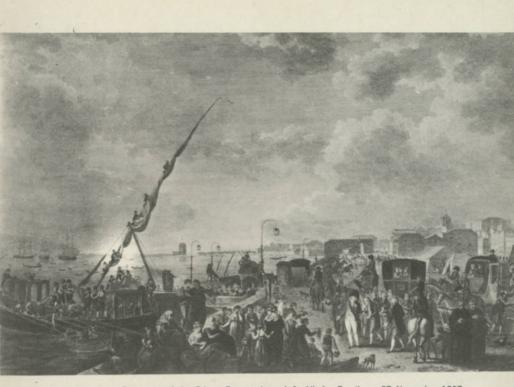
José was succeeded by Maria I (1777-1816), the first Queen regnant since the 12th-century Dona Teresa, there being no male heir. There was at once a reaction against the excesses of Pombal's administration. Surrounded by illustrious public men, the Queen dedicated herself to the common good. She negotiated peace with Spain, paid off debts, rebuilt the navy and set up the Admiralty.

Industry progressed and factories sprang up everywhere. Academies and schools were set up, like the Royal Academy of Sciences, a valuable institution inspired by illuminism, and the Royal Academy of Fortifications, Artillery and Design, later to become the present Military Academy. Also there was the Casa Pia in Lisbon, both school and charitable institution for the poor, directed by the Intendant Pina Manique. Some buildings of artistic interest were constructed, like the Estrela Basilica and the Queluz Palace.

A period of pacification and recovery was beginning in which the national scope of the royal action gained only prestige. But the French Revolution was spreading its lessons throughout Europe, shaking it to its foundations. The gueen went mad and her son, the future João VI, became regent, with the title of Prince Regent. In France Louis XVI was executed, which led to the first European coalition against the Revolution, gathering powers both big and small. In agreement with England, Spain and Portugal sent contingents to the Pyrenees (Roussillon) but the Spanish decided to withdraw, and the Portuguese, after distinguishing themselves in this campaign, had to follow their example. Consul Bonaparte forced Spain to send an ultimatum to the Prince-Regent demanding that he give up the English Alliance. He refused and this brought Portugal into the war, being invaded and losing Olivenca, with other places. Meanwhile, in Paris, Napoleon was proclaimed Emperor and soon after he attacked the Allies, entering Berlin and decreeing the Continental Blockade (1806). Again Portugal did not throw over the alliance with England and as a reply Junot invaded Portugal. This was the beginning of the French invasions (1807).

Prince João, with the support of the Council of State, decided to remove the royal family to Brazil, not as a form of emigration abroad but as a mere transfer of the seat of the court within national territory. He thus saved the fleet, Portuguese possessions outside Europe and, above all, national independence. With its organs of sovereignty safely in Brazil, Portugal was not left to Napoleon's mercy, as happened to other countries. Even England had no cause to occupy the overseas Portuguese possessions.

An intruder, Napoleon's brother Joseph, was imposed on the Spanish as their new king. As a reaction there arose the Spanish



Departure of the Prince Regent, later João VI, for Brazil, on 27 November 1807. From the book «Campaigns of the British Army in Portugal», 1812 (Duarte de Sousa Library).

guerrilla movement and European Portugal followed this example. The second French invasion was led by Soult, and the last, in 1810, by Masséna, Prince of Essling. But the Portuguese trops, with English collaboration, defeated the enemy at Bussaco and then at the lines of Torres Vedras. Masséna retreated and was pursued by the victorious allies across Spain and into France itself, reached in 1814, when Napeolon addicateb.

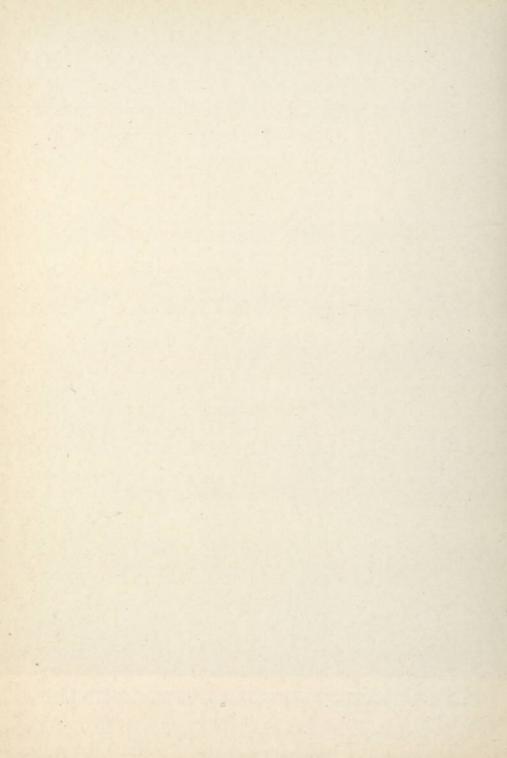
In 1816 Maria I died at Rio de Janeiro. Since 1815 she had been Queen of Portugal and Brazil, the Prince Regent having elevated the latter to the dignity of kingdom united to the motherland.

63





The Portuguese army, aided by English troops, defeats the French invaders at the Battle of Buçaco on 27 September 1810. «Campaigns of the British Army in Portugal», 1812 (Duarte de Sousa Library).



CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

Portrait of the parliamentarians Passos Manuel, Almeida Garrett. Alexandre Herculano and José Estêvão de Maga-Ihães, outstanding figures in the consolidation of constitutional government in the 19th century. THE reign of João VI began (1816-26). He was a tolerant monarch and at times showed considerable gifts as a statesman, as Brazilian historians have recognized. When he came to Brazil as Prince Regent, in 1807, he found there a colonial type of vice-royalty, which he transformed into the headquarters of a bigger Portugal, an empire. He opened Brazil to international trade, endowed it with industries, roads, academies, schools, museums, libraries, the opera, an army and a navy. But rebellion broke out in Portugal, the liberal revolution of 1820, which forced the court to return to Lisbon. Prince Pedro stayed in Brazil as Regent.

The secession of Brazil was imminent. In 1822 Prince Pedro, furious against the Constituent Assembly in Lisbon, which sought to go back on his father's work (the existence of the united kingdom of Portugal and Brazil), proclaimed Brazilian political independence, by the river Ipiranga (the cry being independence or death!). The new situation was only recognized by the King of Portugal in 1825, but he retained the title of Emperor of Brazil, with Brazilian acceptance. With this act of secession the notion of unity prevailed: two states were dissociated from a real union but the two nations did not, therefore, go into opposite camps. The strongly regional Portuguese tropical nature of Brazil, with a different political organization, was to make the country into a different nation, yet Portugal and Brazil



Pedro IV of Portugal proclaimed the political independence of Brazil in 1822, and took the title of 1st Emperor of Brazil.

tend, nevertheless, towards unity as members of an Atlantic community with common interests, traditions and glories.

Political strife in Europe was to reduce the scope of royal power. Under the current system João VI became steadily less powerful in the early years of the Portuguese liberal regime, with the 1822 Constitution, which deprived the Crown of practically all effective power. The king had no legislative capacity, which was the province of the Parliament (a sole chamber), and the executive power would be carried out by Secretaries of State. The king was freed from responsibility but at the same time deprived of real authority.

Civil war next disturbed national life. In 1823 counterrevolutionaries overthrew the Constitution (the Vila Franca movement). A new, more moderate constitution was planned. This movement was headed by Prince Miguel, João VI's second son. For many Portuguese he was the legitimate heir to the throne, since his elder brother had become Head of the independent State of Brazil. When a further revolutionary surge by his supporters in 1824 (the April movement) failed, Miguel had to leave the country.

On the king's death in 1826, the regency council proclaimed Pedro I of Brazil as his successor but the latter, instead of accepting the reunion of the two states under his rule, abdicated from the Portuguese throne in favour of his daughter, Maria, Princess of Grão-Pará, a child of 7. He gave the kingdom another Statute, the Constitutional Charter of 1826, which maintained strong royal power, almost traditional authority in its entirety, although he did establish the parliamentary regime on the English pattern. His abdication was to be conditional on an oath of fidelity to the Charter and the marriage of his daughter to Prince Miguel. Meanwhile the previous regency was maintained.

Miguel, exiled in Austria, took the oath of allegiance to the Charter and was appointed Prince Regent. In 1828 he returned to Lisbon. In Portugal he was received as the legitimate sovereign. To solve the problem of the succession, Miguel convoked the Parliament on the traditional pattern, which declared him king since the death of his father, since his brother, Pedro of Brazil, had, as Emperor of Brazil, lost his rights to the succession. From their point of view Miguel's reign began in 1826, but the Liberals consider it to have begun in 1828. Pedro was also king since 1826, pending his abdication, and ceased to be king when he declared once and for all that his powers were transferred to his daughther, in 1828. In fact only Terceira Island in the Azores had been consistently faithful to the liberal cause: at Angra do Heroísmo a regency on behalf of the Queen was set up.

Pedro also abdicated his imperial crown in Brazil (1831) and came to Europe, visiting France and England to organize an expedition against his brother's administration. A civil war between them broke out, each supported by a political faction. Under the Agreement of Évora Monte (26 May 1834) Miguel recognized his defeat and left the country. With the liberal victory the Constitutional Charter was restored.

For the liberals the reign of Maria II (1828-53) began in 1828, but in actual fact it only began in 1834, even though her father was still Regent. In Lisbon he decreed the extinction of all the religious orders. Shortly before his death, in that same year, he handed over his powers to his daughter. She was a gifted ruler but had the misfortune to live in a period characterized by frequent military insurrections: the Charter was abolished by the September movement of 1836, replaced by the 1838 Constitution, which lasted for about four years. As a result of Costa Cabral's revolution in 1842, King Pedro's Constitution was restored. Then came the Maria da Fonte revolution, of a popular nature, which spread to most of the kingdom.



Pena Palace at Sintra, built from 1840 onwards by the husband of Queen Maria II, Prince Fernando. His name was to be linked with several important cultural enterprises.

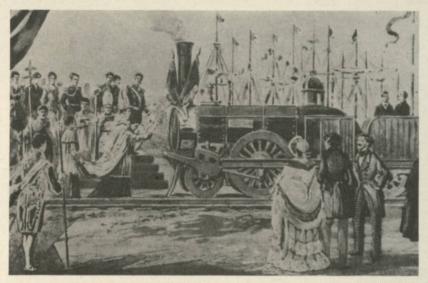
Even foreign intervention was involved (1847). It was only after the movement of Regeneration, in 1851, that economic activities were revived and developed.

At the same time banks were set up and encouragement given to the associative and co-operative concept. Developments also took place in education, with the institution of polytechnic schools in Lisbon and Oporto, the Army Training School, the Fine Arts Academy, Teacher Training Colleges and High Schools. Queen Maria II married Prince Fernando of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, thus forming a new dynasty, the Braganza-Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, which remained in power until the dethronement of Manuel II in 1910.

In the second half of the century, Maria II was succeeded by her son Pedro V (1853-61), under the regency of Fernando II (his father) until he reached the age of 18 in 1855. He paid particular attention to the development of education. He instituted the Higher Course in Arts, in Lisbon (1859), now the Lisbon Faculty of Letters. During his reign important material improvements were made with the introduction of the telegraph and the railway into the country. Real progress was made in industry, trade and agriculture, specially thanks to the work of Fontes Pereira de Melo, the minister to whom the Portugal of his time owed, above all, considerable progress in means of communication, which gave Portugal a favourable position on the European scene.

Pedro V died young without leaving any heir. He was succeeded by his brother, Luís (1861-89), in whose reign further encouragement was given to the development of communications (roads and railway). Attempts were made to develop agriculture with the institution of agricultural credit banks and other forms of protection. The death penalty for all crimes of a civil nature was abolished, which gave Portugal an honourable priority in this advance in criminal law.

As regards the overseas territories, the reign of King Luís was important for the measures taken, in spite of the effervescent domestic political situation, at the time of liberal constitutionalism. The first great hero in this field was Sá da Bandeira, an obstinate idealist who, over 35 years, covering three reigns, fought successfully, as minister and as chairman of the Overseas Council, for the revival of the Portuguese Empire in Africa. His work was done in the period of the September movement (reign of Maria II) and the Regeneration (Maria II to Luís): it began with the abolition of the slave traffic in Africa. Portugal had, long before, taken steps to humanize the life of the slaves and even to free them. At the Congress of Vienna in 1815 the powers had undertaken to suppress the slave trade. Portugal and Great Britain were among the first countries to carry out



Watercolour by Roque Gameiro showing the opening of the Railway in 1856.

this undertaking, in Portugal's case, through the initiative of Sá da Bandeira (1836). His work included many other aspects: the setting-up of colonization centres in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea; shipping lines between Lisbon and Portuguese Africa; voyages of penetration and expeditions of occupation in the overseas territories; the institution of scientific bodies in Luanda, and so on.

As part of the same policy, important scientific expeditions were made in the reign of King Luís. Brito Capelo, Roberto Ivens and Serpa Pinto effected extensive journeys of reconnaissance and research. The first two explored the interior of Angola in detail (1877-8); Serpa Pinto reached the east coast of South Africa (1878-9), a journey which brought him European fame. Later Capelo and Ivens crossed the whole continent from Moçâmedes in Angola to Tete in Mozambique. At about the same period Serpa Pinto and Augusto Cardoso carried out important exploratory work in the Nyasa region.

At that period Leopold II of Belgium, with the collaboration of Stanley, set up the International Association of the Congo, on which pretext he took over the Congolese territories in which Portugal had long had interests. In 1884 came the Berlin International



Serpa Pinto (1846-1900), pioneer of scientific exploration in Africa, marked out frontiers between Angola and Mozambique.

Conference to study the rights of the countries competing in Africa. This Conference recognized the Independent state of the Congo, handed over to Leopold II; it guaranteed freedom of navigation on the Congo, among other rivers, and on Lake Nyassa; and laid down the principle of effective occupation, as a condition of sovereignty. Portugal's historical rights were gravely endangered by this Conference, but, by intensive colonization, it managed to save the territories of Angola, Mozambique and others.

During King Luís' reign, also, an attempt was made to recreate a Portuguese empire in southern Africa, providing an unbroken sequence of Portuguese territory from coast to coast. But this plan ran up against the British plan to carve out its own empire from the Cape to Cairo. The area claimed by Portugal figures in the Franco-Portuguese and Germano-Portuguese treaties on a separate map (1886), known as the *pink map*. Serpa Pinto had been asked to study the zone between the Nyasa and the Indian Ocean (1889) and he put down the Macololos. But Great Britain demanded that Portugal withdraw from this region (Ultimatum of 11 January 1890): indignation in Portugal was tremendous.

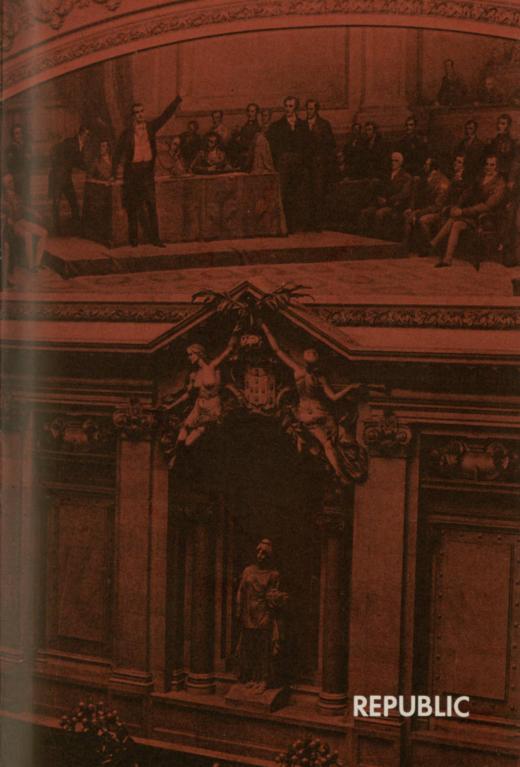
The throne was now occupied by Carlos (1889-1908), the penultimate king of the Portuguese Saxe-Coburg-Gotha dynasty. Faced with the dangers threatening Portuguese sovereignty in the overseas territories, especially in Mozambique, where the black potentate Gungunhana, king of the Vatuas, had rebelled, with British encouragement, King Carlos decided on a policy of active defence. He sent out, as royal commissioner, António Enes, accompanied by noteworthy military figures. In a series of battles thousands of Vatuas were defeated (Marracuene, Magul, Coolela). Finally the military governor of Gaza district, Mouzinho de Albuquerque, took Gungunhana prisoner at Chaimite. The campaign against the rebellious Vatua empire terminated with the battle at Macontene, also won by Mouzinho. In Angola and in Guinea the Portuguese won other battles, putting down insurrections and pacifying territories. Such men as Alves Roçadas, Paiva Couceiro and João de Almeida distinguished themselves in these campaigns.

Carlos was a delicate artist, a man of science and shrewd political sense. His international prestige grew with his African victories. He



The Pink Map, appended to the Luso-German treaty of 1886, put forward the Portuguese plan to link its provinces of Angola and Mozambique through central Africa.

visited several European courts and welcomed to Portugal Edward VII of Great Britain, Emperor William of Germany and the President of the French Republic. When he was setting about a political reform, to impede the disintegration of the monarchy into party faction and strife, he was assassinated, with the heir to the throne, Luís Filipe. All Europe was represented at his funeral; with his death, and that of the heir to the throne, the Portuguese monarchy was approaching its end. The successor to the throne was Manuel II, King Carlos' second son. Successive changes of ministries revealed the need for a political reorganization that nobody would take the initiative in promoting.

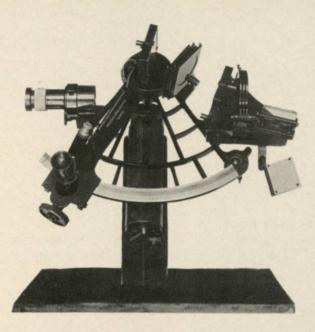


Hall of Sessions in the National Assembly

THE domestic political situation worsened and in October 1910 a Revolution brought in the republican regime, which was generally accepted. After long discussion of the draft, the Political Constitution of the Republic was approved in 1911 and the first elected president was Dr. Manuel de Arriaga. Legislative measures were taken to build up the country in accordance with the Republican ideals, to incentivate national life, especially in education, health and assistance and social policy. In the religious sphere the decision was taken to separate the State and the Church, and religious beliefs were given equal rights.

But party rivalry provoked governmental instability and new laws tended either to be dead letters or to have only a partial effect. Timely legislation on the overseas provinces sought to encourage their development, the political system of administration being characterized by a decentralizing doctrine.

At the outset of the Great War the domestic situation in Portugal was difficult, but various grounds led Portugal to intervene in the conflict in 1916. In the first place national interests were being affected, it being necessary to defend the overseas provinces of Angola and Mozambique, under German attack with a view to annexation. Then, the old alliance with England imposed certain obligations. Early in 1917 Portuguese troops left for France and they fought bravely in Flanders: other contingents went to Angola and Mozambique. Portugal's participation in the peace conference guaranteed permanence in the overseas territories.



Sextant perfected by Adml. Gago Coutinho and adapted to aerial navigation, making the first crossing of the South Atlantic by air possible, in 1922.

In spite of the war effort, party strife went on and instability of government continued to be the usual state of affairs to the end of the first quarter of the century.

The need to reform the system was urgent. A military junta organized a revolutionary movement in 1926, which led to a dictatorship, a period closed by the Constitution of 1933, basing on a unitary and corporative foundation the structure of the Republic. The first president under the new system was Gen. Carmona, who was elected by direct suffrage. In 1928 Dr. Oliveira Salazar was called upon to assume the position of Minister of Finance. His rigorous financial administration, which tended to the obtention of budgetary balance, made it possible to eliminate the floating debt and to revalue the currency.

Monastery of Our Lady of the Victory, 14th century. In the Chapterhouse and near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier the flame of the Homeland burns as symbolic tribute to the Portuguese fallen on the field of battle.

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118

In 1932 Dr. Salazar became the head of the Government, a position he held until 1968, when very grave illness forced him to give up his work. During this long period the Nation maintained governmental stability and important achievements were made in various sectors of the nation's life and work.

In 1968 the President, Adml. Américo Tomás, called on Prof. Marcello Caetano to occupy the post of Prime Minister

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

1128 — Battle of São Mamede in which the army under Afonso Henriques overcame the forces led by his mother and the Galician nobles who supported her. As a result he began to rule the County of Portucale.

1139 — Battle of Ourique against the Moors. From this time, according to tradition. Afonso Henriques began to style himself King of Portugal.

1147 - Lisbon wrested from the Moors.

1179 — In his Bull Manifestis Probatum, Pope Alexander III recognized Afonso Henriques as King of Portugal.

1231 — Death in Padua of St. Antony of Lisbon, doctor of the Catholic Church, one of the first Portuguese to do missionary work in Morocco and one of the greatest preachers of all time.

1249 — Occupation of the Algarve (extreme south of Portugal) completed.

1276 — The Portuguese cardinal Pedro Julião, a professor of medicine and a philosopher, became Pope with the title of John XXI.

1290 - Foundation of the University in Lisbon.

1319 — Foundation of the Order of Christ, to replace the Order of the Templars abolished in 1312.

1373 — King Fernando signed a Treaty of Alliance with England under Edward III. It is the oldest treaty still in force.

1384 - Invasion of Portugal by the Castilians.

1385 — The parliament meeting at Coimbra acclaimed the Master of Aviz as King, with the title of João I. Battle of Aljubarrota: the Castilian army scattered and Portuguese independence assured.

1415 - Expedition to Ceuta and conquest of the town (Morocco).

1418 — Discovery of Porto Santo and Madeira islands, followed

after a few years by discovery of the islands of the Azores group. 1434 — Gil Eanes sailed beyond Cape Bojador.

1445 — Dinis Dias continued the discovery of the African coast as far as Cabo Verde.

1446 - Nuno Tristão reached Guinea.

1454 — Bull by Pope Nicholas V, granting Prince Henry the Navigator the dominion of the lands discovered in Africa, to make them Christian.

1458 - Alcacer Ceguer (El Ksar Srir) taken.

1460 - Death of Prince Henry the Navigator.

1470 — The islands of Ano Bom, São Tomé and Príncipe discovered.

1472 - João Vaz Corte Real reached Newfoundland.

1482 — Diogo Cão reached the mouth of the Zaire and explored the region of the Congo.

1485 — The printing press introduced into Portugal (Faro). 1487 — King João II sent Pêro da Covilhã and Afonso de Paiva by land to get information about Prester John of the Indies.

1488 — Bartolomeu Diaş sailed round the Cape of Storms, its name being changed by João II to «Cape of Good Hope».

1492 — João Fernandes and Pedro de Barcelos discovered Greenland.

1494 — Treaty of Tordesillas under which Portugal and Spain fixed the areas of the globe which each could settle.

1498 — Vasco da Gama reached India by sea and landed at Calicut.

1500 — The fleet under Pedro Álvares Cabral, who was on his way to India, was blown west and he discovered Brazil.

1502 — Gil Vicente began his brilliant work as founder of the Portuguese drama, reciting his Monologue of the Visitation.

1507 - Ormuz and Goa conquered by Afonso de Albuquerque.

1511 - Conquest of Malacca.

1530 - João III began the methodical settlement of Brazil.

1537 — Publication of the «Treatise on the Globe» by Pedro Nunes, which had a very great influence on the art of navigation. Reform of the University, which was moved from Lisbon to Coimbra.

1542 - St. Francis Xavier reached India.

1557 — Macau ceded to Portugal.

1559 - Damão (India) conquered.

1563 — Publication at Goa of «Colloquies on Herbs and Drugs» by Garcia de Orta, a work of great importance in the history of medicine.

1572 - First edition of «The Lusiads» by Camoens.

1578 — Expedition to Africa organized by King Sebastião completely annihilated at the battle of Alcazarquivir.

1580 - Filipe II of Spain acclaimed King of Portugal.

1612 — In an opinion of the Council of the Indies, which supervised matters dealing with the overseas territories, a principle was laid down which has always subsequently inspired Portuguese legislation and administration: «India and the other overseas lands over which this Council has authority are not different from or separated from this kingdom but are just like the Algarve or any other European province thereof: for they are governed under the same laws and by the same rulers and enjoy the same privileges granted to the other provinces of the kingdom; so that a man who is born and lives in Goa or in Brazil or in Angola is as Portuguese as one born and living in Lisbon».

1625 - Father António de Andrade entered Tibet.

1640 — A group of 40 plotters managed to restore Portuguese independence after the daring uprising of 1 December and to acclaim João IV King of Portugal.

1648 — Salvador Correia de Sá recovered Angola and São Tomé which had been, in part, dominated by the Dutch.

1654 - The Dutch surrendered Brazil.

1668 — After a series of campaigns the Spanish recognized Portuguese independence.

1755 — The earthquake on 1 November ruined practically the whole of the city of Lisbon. The King's Minister Marquis of Pombal, took energetic steps for the immediate rebuilding of the city on the basis of a broad, up-to-date plan.

1764-73 — Economic, administrative and political reforms by the Marquis of Pombal: reform of the University of Coimbra, foundation of free primary schools, a subsidy established for the salaries of teachers and instructors, creation of the Exchequer, the National Press Office and factories to produce silk, paper, glass and woollens.

1807 — In view of the French invasion led by Junot, the Prince Regent transferred the court and capital to Rio de Janeiro.

1821 - King João VI and the Court returned to Lisbon.

1822 — Prince Pedro proclaimed the independence of Brazil and was acclaimed Emperor.

1825 - João VI recognized Brazilian independence.

1856 — Abolition of slavery throughout the overseas territories.
1867 — The death penalty and forced labour sentences abolished by decree.

1877-8 — Capelo and Ivens carried out important scientific researches in Africa.

1878-9 - Serpa Pinto crossed Africa from coast to coast.

1895 — António Enes and his collaborators, and later Mouzinho de Albuquerque, pacified Mozambique.

1910 — The 5th October Revolution and proclamation of the Republic.

1916-8 - Portugal participated in the Great War.

1922 — Gago Coutinho and Sacadura Cabral flew across the South Atlantic for the first time (Lisbon-Rio de Janeiro).

1926 — 28th May. The armed forces under Gen. Gomes da Costa rebelled and assumed power with popular support due to general weariness at a long period of political and social upheavals. Gen. Carmona was made Prime Minister until in 1928 he was elected President of the Republic by direct suffrage.

1928 — Professor Oliveira Salazar appointed Minister of Finance.

1932 — Professor Oliveira Salazar asked to form a ministry and to become Prime Minister.

1933 — A national plebiscite approved the new Political Constitution, which instituted the corporative system. Publication of the National Labour Statute, to lay down the general principles of the corporative organization of the Nation.

. 1939-45 — During the Second World War Portugal made available certain facilities to the Allies in the Azores.

1939 — Treaty of friendship and non-aggression signed between Portugal and Spain.

1940 — Concordat and Missionary Agreement with the Holy See signed in Rome.

1949 — Portugal becomes a member of NATO.

1955 — Portugal admitted to the United Nations Organization.

1960 — The fifth centenary of the death of Prince Henry the Navigator commemorated.

1961 — In flagrant violation of all the principles of international law the Indian Union invaded and occupied the Portuguese State of India (Goa, Damão and Diu).

1963-4 — Adm. Américo Thomaz paid an official visit to Angola, Mozambique and other overseas provinces.

1965 — Adm. Américo Thomaz re-elected President of the Republic.

1966 - The new Civil Law Code came into force.

1967 — Fiftieth anniversary of the Appearances at Fátima. Among the pilgrims was His Holiness Pope Paul VI.

1968 — Adm. Américo Thomaz paid an official visit to Guinea and Cape Verde. The Prime Minister, Prof. Oliveira Salazar released from his post (27 September) as the result of a grave irreversible illness. Prof. Marcello Caetano appointed to succeed him.

1969 — The Prime Minister, Prof. Marcello Caetano, paid an official visit to the overseas provinces of Guinea, Angola and Mozambique and also officially visited Brazil.

1970 — Prof. Marcello Caetano paid an official visit to Spain. The President of the Republic visited officially the overseas province of S. Tomé and Príncipe. Death of Prof. Oliveira Salazar. Additional Protocol to the Treaty of Friendship and Non-Aggression with Spain signed.

1971 — Official visit of the Prime Minister to Cape Verde province. General meeting of NATO in Lisbon. Constitutional revision and Press Law approved by the National Assembly. Convention on equality of rights between Portuguese and Brazilian citizens. Summit meeting in the Azores between the U. S. and French Presidents, with the presence of Prof. Marcello Caetano.



contents

| I - ORIGINS OF THE PORTUGUESE NATION | 3 |
|---|----|
| II - POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND FORMATION OF TH | |
| III - DISCOVERIES AND OVERSEAS EXPANSION | 29 |
| IV - RESTORATION AND NATIONAL REORGANISATION | 51 |
| V - CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY | 67 |
| VI — REPUBLIC | 79 |
| VII - CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE | 85 |

