



The Castle of Guimaraes, birthplace of King Afonso Henriques (1109-1185), who created independent Portugal

(continued from previous page)

dent, the apparently inevitable conflict of interests between neighbouring countries.

*Our Lady of Almurtao
Our Lady of the border,
Turn thy back on Castille
That thou mayst not be Castillian.*

Thus sung the peasants of Beira Baixa to the wonder-working Virgin of a well-known shrine near the frontier.

"Similarly, the national spirit of Portugal turns its back on Castille with all the implications of the latter's proverbial 'nine months of invierno (winter), and three of inferno,' and sets its face towards the moist airs and soft winds of the Atlantic. If Spain may be compared to a cord pulled taut to snapping-point, Portugal is one hanging free of tension. If Spain stands for passion, Portugal stands for sentiment. If Spanish genius is primarily dramatic, Portuguese is lyric.

The Humanistic Outlook

"Portugal is above all things human, humane, and humanistic. Perhaps this may be attributed in part to the fact that the country was never feudal and man was therefore never looked upon as a soul-less serf, deprived alike of rights and liberties. Special charters assured the liberty and independence of each new township.

"It is the humanistic outlook on life, ever conscious both of the dignity of mankind and of the pathos of human life, which forms the spiritual bond linking Britain and Portugal in an alliance which goes far deeper than political convenience. Five centuries ago, not long after the conclusion of the Treaty of Windsor, the friendship between the two countries and the solid interests which unite them were expressed in the following lines:

*Portingallers with us have troth in hand
Whose merchandie cometh much into
England.*

They are our friends with their commodities

And we English passen into their countries.

"In this centennial year, many of us who love the Portuguese, regret that we cannot 'passen into their countries' to attend the commemorative ceremonies, and to pay our tribute to the national spirit which is still so vital and so flourishing to-day. Our sole consolation

can be that we are prevented from doing so only by the war which we are fighting in defence of that view of life which is our common heritage and our common bond."

BBC Programmes From The ZB Stations

THE ZB stations will present a variety of BBC transcriptions on Sunday, October 31, at 7.45 p.m. "Troise and His Mandoliers," to be heard from 1ZB, is a short programme of light music by Pasquale Troise and his band known as "The Mandoliers," the majority of the instruments being mandolins, with some guitars, a piano-accordion, and a piano. This combination has proved one of the most popular in the *Music While You Work* series of daily broadcasts to factory workers in the British Isles.

Station 2ZB will present "Power for the R.A.F." In this BBC programme "Billy Welcome," who has made a name by portraying for radio the human side of Britain at war, takes the listener into one of the largest aero-engine factories in Britain. The broadcast is made from the canteen, and the contributors are the men who make the Rolls-Royce Merlin engines.

From 3ZB will come "Men Behind Victory: the Men Who Beat the Magnetic Mine." One of those men was Lt.-Cdr. Ouvrey who, when he went out alone to dismantle a mine beached on the Thames estuary mudflats, said: "If I get blown up, you'll know you mustn't make my last move with the next of these mines you collect. Now give me the tools." This was the spirit that led to victory over Hitler's "secret weapon."

"An English Family" is the title of the programme from 4ZB, and "One of Our Aircraft is Missing" will be heard from 2ZA.

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