

polished courteous manner of the Radical Liberal, the Republican leader, however, is endowed with a certain natural shrewdness which has taught him how to gain the discontented poorer classes. While his intellectual level is low, a wild fluency of speech and a medley of socialistic ideas, anarchy and rampant atheism permits him to play to the passions of the lower classes. In places, houses of prostitution are associated with the Republican clubs as an effective means to aid him to corrupt working-men and boys and thus find new recruits to the Republican group. He preaches openly that under the tri-color flag of the Republic both King and God must depart from the land. To the Republican mind both are useless. Nature and natural instincts are to rule in Spain. 'Muera Cristo! Muera Dios! (Death to Christ! Death to God!)' have long since become the watchword of Spanish Republicanism. Hence one can understand why God-fearing Christians in Spain look upon the word Republican as a synonym for moral depravity. With such atheistical doctrines publicly proclaimed one need not be surprised that under this rule of 'Nature and unimpeded Liberty,' there will be no room for those who preach the gospel of Christ and labor to save the lower classes from utter loss of faith. As in Portugal, so in Spain, the religious and nuns are charged by the Republicans with being enemies to government by the people and, consequently, the closing of their schools, the confiscation of their property, and their expulsion from their native land is to be in Spain, as it was in Portugal, the first chapter of the reign of the Republic. The priests and nuns of Spain declare that they have no quarrel with Republicanism of a God-fearing type, founded upon justice; but they do admit that they are fighting against atheism and injustice, which to their mind is dishonestly masquerading in Spain under the honest title of 'government by the people.'

#### The Storm Centre.

Barcelona may be termed the storm centre of Spanish Republicanism. It is there that the Republican leaders have found a fertile field for their revolutionary propaganda among the rabble of the slums and among the discontented Catalan and foreign working men of a hundred or more great factories which are found in their beautiful Mediterranean seaport. To-day the different Republican groups in Barcelona may be placed, if we may accept their election returns, at close to sixty thousand men. The Lerroux group, aided by its violently anti-religious daily *El Progreso*, usually mentioned as 'anarchistic,' wields an alarming power and counts among its force more than thirty thousand of the most dangerous element in Barcelona. The revelations made in the Cortes on July 14, by Dalmacio Iglesias, the distinguished Spanish lawyer and counsel for the defence of three of the indicted anarchists of the bomb outrages of April 8, 1908, show that it is this Lerroux group that is responsible for the continued and mysterious bomb outrages and crimes which have so badly injured the commerce of Barcelona.

In Madrid the Republican element has not the strength of the Barcelona groups. Some thirty thousand men would be a liberal estimate of their forces; a number powerful enough to be reckoned with in case of a revolution. While the Madrid Republicans draw their recruits mainly from the slums and the criminal classes, yet Spanish monarchists do not fear Madrid Republicans as they do those of Barcelona. The latter represent the most powerful and dangerous revolutionary group in Spain, and one which keeps the Minister of War ever on the alert. Almost every attempt, during recent years, to assassinate either the King or a Prime Minister of Spain is directly traceable to the Barcelona Republicans.

Of the other cities of Spain, Valencia, Reus and Zaragoza are especially known as centres of Republican propaganda. Taking the country at large, we find groups and clubs in almost every city and town. However, they are politically a weak minority and represent those of the lower class hostile not only to the monarchy but to revealed religion.

#### Opponents of Republicanism.

There are two forces in Spain opposed to Republicanism—namely, the upholders of King Alfonso and the followers of Don Jaime. What the strength of the former, composed of Liberals and Conservatives, would be in the event of a Republican uprising it is difficult to state. The army officers, upon whom the Government must depend, as a body are intelligent and loyal, and are openly hostile to Republicanism and its public anti-military crusade. Upon their ability to command the loyalty of the common soldiery depends the safety of the crown.

The Carlists form the second force the Republicans will have to meet in case they should overthrow the throne. Though the followers of Don Jaime are not represented by many deputies in the Cortes, yet in the three Basque provinces Alava, Guipúzcoa and Vizcaya, and in Aragón, Navarra, Cataluña and Valencia, Carlist sentiment is still strong. The establishment of a weak Republic, with its immediate war on the Church, would send thousands of Catholic men into the Carlist camp and would be the signal for a Carlist uprising. The average Republican of Spain knows from experience that a Carlist is a dangerous enemy. As a rule the Carlist is a man of deep religious sentiment, courteous and refined by nature, a type of the old Spanish gentleman, fearlessly brave, and scorning danger. During

the recent Catholic manifestations against the anti-Catholic policy of the present Ministry, when the Republicans in Valencia and elsewhere attempted to break up the meetings, it was the Carlists who met them with shot for shot and forced them to retreat precipitously.

In *America* of May 21, under the heading 'The Press of Madrid and Barcelona,' we pointed out the forces controlling the anti-Catholic Fabra News Agency, which is the source of English and American information in regard to Spain. Just as Fabra sent to the foreign press false and anti-Catholic information in regard to the Jesuits and religious of Portugal, so we expect that, in the event of any Republican upheaval in Spain, it will fill the columns of our English and American press with all that will show the Catholic Church and its interests in Spain under a false news writers idle at the present moment. The Republican new writers idle at the present moment. The Republican papers of Madrid and Barcelona daily reek with vulgar calumnies against the Church, its priests and nuns. No sacred theme, even of Christ's life, escapes being made the subject of blasphemous parodies and cartoons.

#### Jesuit Fortifications.

A topic which at present is giving the Republican press of Barcelona plenty of matter for gallery play is that of 'The Jesuit Fortifications in the calle de Caspe.' It is well known to the readers of *America* that the Jesuit College and Church in the calle de Caspe, Barcelona, were marked by the Republicans, in the Red Week of July, 1909, to be plundered and burnt to the ground. The Republican plans, however, went awry; a detachment of the Civil Guard and a band of Catholic laymen, well armed, bravely defended the buildings against all attacks. Since then the Lerroux element has planned time and again to set fire to the buildings. In view of this ever threatening danger, it was suggested by Government officials that four balconies, overlooking entrances to the College and Church, and two iron fences and two brick sentry boxes, guarding against approach to the College and Church by way of the neighboring roofs, should be constructed in order to help the police to protect the buildings the more easily in the case of a planned attack. This suggestion was followed; application, with plans and buildings fees, being sent to the Board of Aldermen. The College architect, having received due receipts for his building fees, and not being notified of any objection to his plans, ordered the contractor to begin work. The work was almost completed when the Lerroux aldermen element began to cause trouble. It persuaded the Lerroux aldermen, who formed a majority in the City Council, to declare the balconies, etc., contrary to Barcelona building regulations, and to order the contractors to suspend work. This was done. Against this act the Association or College of Architects of Barcelona, having examined the case, issued a formal protest, and during a change of city administration the work was allowed to be completed. The Lerroux element, however, were determined to continue the fight. It now persuaded the Lerroux aldermen to order, despite the protest of the College of Architects, the now completed work to be demolished. An order to this effect was issued, but only after a stormy session, in which the Lerroux aldermen and their followers, who had crowded into the Town Hall, attempted to assassinate Sr. Vallés, a Catholic alderman, who declared the order illegal, as the city had accepted the various building fees and had not rejected the architect's presented plans. The courts were now appealed to and a decision was handed down declaring the order of the Lerroux aldermen illegal. A second hearing decided that the matter was one for administrative and not judicial decision and, consequently, sent the case to the Provincial Assembly. Here a mixed political committee of eight deputies received the case and by a vote of 5 to 3 decided that the Lerroux aldermen had acted illegally and were guilty of an abuse of power. In the meantime, the orderly element of Barcelona is being immensely amused, both by the Lerroux imaginative descriptions of the 'Jesuit fortifications' and the clamors of the Lerroux aldermen against the intrigues of lawyers and the injustice of Provincial deputies.

## A GREAT CATHOLIC CONGRESS

### GERMANY'S REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATION

The annual Congresses furnish the German Catholic with all he needs or could wish for as a social worker (says a writer in the *Illinois Christian Family*). 'They are a combination of background and activity; of pageant and individual effort.' After all the best way to make a man a constant and efficient social worker is to give him a certain work to do and a background to throw that work into relief. As a worker he learns to realise difficulties, acquires a deeper interest, a whole-hearted sympathy with co-workers, which as a listener to lectures and a reader of the literature on the subject he never gets. The background, the reinforcement of his own powers by others, will sustain him when even religious motives would not suffice to make him persevere. It will at once show him what needs to be done and what others are doing. Therefore the interest which should attach to a study of the organisation of these congresses, particularly as developed during the last twenty years.

"Drunken at e'en, drouthy in the mornin'."—the best substitute for Glenlivet is Hondai-Ianka Tea.

"If ye brew weel, ye'll drink the better." Hondai-Ianka Tea well brewed is fit drink for princes.