

old-age pensions; encouragement of co-operative societies; reform of taxation upon a graduated system; partial or complete abolition of food taxes and reduction of tariffs; improvement of national education; the formation of Labour Exchanges; and reform of the foral system of Galicia and the *latifundios* of Andalusia and elsewhere. Among what may be called his pet projects are the extension of municipal government and the abolition of compulsory military service.

It may be said that Canalejas has scarcely merited the confidence reposed in him. The religious question is in abeyance for the present. His Decree allowing Dissenters to exhibit sign-boards and notices upon the exterior walls of their churches was a welcome concession which, naturally, met with great opposition from the clericals. The Oaths Bill, which allows secular forms of declaration to be made, is another useful measure, but the *Ley del Candado* is distinctly disappointing. Existing statutes or decrees are sufficient to enable Government or its Minister of Justice to prevent the foundation or admission of further monastic Orders or Congregations, without recourse to additional legislation, whilst the acceptance of an amendment making the law invalid if a new Law of Association fails to pass within two years, is a serious mistake. Negotiations with Rome were suspended in July, 1910, but the Papal Nuncio still resides in Madrid, and receives his State-paid salary of £1,200 per annum.

Many prolonged and tenacious strikes and lock-outs during 1910, especially those of Bilbao, Barcelona, and Sabadell, are indicative of increasing social unrest.