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Romanones; and Public Works, Calbeton. Three months later a General Election was held (May 8th, 1910), and resulted in the return of a Liberal Canalejista majority. There were 230 Liberals, 109 Conservatives, 45 Republicans (including 12 Radicals), 16 Carlists and Integralists, 5 Independents, and 1 Socialist-Republican. The Senatorial elections, a fortnight later, gave Canalejas a working majority in the Upper House.

Canalejas had not held Cabinet rank since 1902, although for a short time he was Speaker of the Cortes, in 1906. During 1905-1906 he was President of the Academy of Legislation and Jurisprudence. No Premier since Sagasta in 1885 has awakened such interest and expectation. The popular hope and confidence are that he will rise to the height of his great occasion and faithfully realise his own ideals and fulfil his self-imposed mission: "*Hay que Europeizar á España*" ("We must Europeanise Spain"). His programme of industrial and social legislation embraces many measures, among which may be enumerated freedom of strikes and organisation of trade unionism; compulsory arbitration and regulation of contract between masters and men, including improved administration of the law of compensation for accidents; regulation of the labour of women and children; reform of factory inspection; readjustment of working hours; a Government department systematically to supervise and co-ordinate existing laws; amendment of the law of Sunday rest; compulsory insurance both for employers and employed (sickness, accident, unemployment, and compensation); a voluntary State-aided system of