

**THE BRITISH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF PORTUGAL**

**TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
AND REVIEW 1996**

13, Rua da Arriaga
1200 LISBON

ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS

by D. C. d'Arcy Orders

THE ANGLO-PORTUGUESE NEWS has been around for so long - it celebrates its 60th anniversary in 1997 - that it is difficult to believe that there existed any English language publications before the APN but there were.

THE LISBON ENGLISH JOURNAL is the first English language publication so far discovered. Unfortunately, only one copy survives; this, dated 25th June 1836, is numbered 7 which, as it is a weekly publication, indicates that it was first published on 14th May 1836. From the contents it is obvious that it was directed at the British merchants in Portugal, mainly in the Lisbon area. There is no mention of the names of either the Editor or publisher. How many issues were published is not known but its life may not have been very long because on October 1st 1836.

THE LISBON MAIL was launched as a weekly from Rua Capelistas, 50. It was a rather turgid publication and directed at the British Merchant community. No photographs, no advertisements, no gossip and never a laugh in all its pages.

The original size was approx. 32cm x 39cm but, after 29 issues, was enlarged 32cm x 56cm. However, after another 10 issues at the larger size, the anonymous proprietors offered their apologies to readers for reverting to the original size due to the additional costs accruing to the larger format. On the 8th January 1837, for no apparent reason, what would have been the 40th edition was numbered 1! There is no mention of the names of the proprietors, editors or staff. Sometime in late 1837 or early 1838 THE LISBON MAIL must have ceased publication because in the first issue on 2nd March 1839 of THE LISBON CHRONICLE on the front page of which is stated that:

- A newspaper with the above title will be published every Saturday in the English language containing Extracts of the proceedings of the Cortes, Official news

THE TIMES OF PORTUGAL

A Record of Commerce, Sporting and General News

in English and Portuguese

Lisbon, Saturday, August 23, 1924.

Editor: Alfred Arnold
Formerly of the Daily Express, London
Sheffield Daily Telegraph

Publisher: Oscar Tromberg
(Of the Late Morning Globe & Evening Sport)

OFFICE
TRAVESSA DA ESPERA, 7, 3.º - LISBOA

COMPOSTO E IMPRESSO NA TIPOGRAFIA INGLEZA
RUA EUGENIO DOS SANTOS, 119 - LISBOA

World of Sport



"I'm very sorry to hear your wife is so ill, Benjamin. Not dangerous, I hope."
"Thank ee, miss; but she be too weak now to be dangerous." (The Hammer)

Owing to pressure on our space, the London Letter and the theatrical notices are unavoidably left over.

Even the noble art of self-defence has come under the spell of the trusts fever. We learn that as a result of the presence in Paris on the occasion of the Olympic Games, of so many leading lights in the sporting circles of the United States, Canada, and South America, steps are to be taken towards the formation of an all-American boxing federation which will arrange the programmes for the championship contests all over the American continent. Meanwhile, the proposal to organise an annual match between the pugilists of the British and U. S. armies is being received with much favour on both sides of the mill pond and in all probability the first encounter of this nature will take place this year in England.

A febre de organizar tudo em grandes sociedades invadiu até a nobre arte de deteza social. Sabemos que em resultado da presença em Paris na occasião dos Jogos Olympicos, de tantos celeberrimos nos setores sportivos dos Estados Unidos, Canada e America do Sul, vão ser tomadas medidas para a formação duma Liga Pan Americana de box que se encarregará de arranjar os programas para os campeonatos no Continente Americano. Entretanto a proposta de organizar um match annual entre pugilistas dos exercitos Ingles e Americano esta sendo recebida favoravelmente nos dois paizes com toda a probabilidade o primeiro encontro desta natureza realizar-se-ha este anno em Inglaterra.

(Continued on page 1.)

PROLOGUE

"The Times of Portugal" in making its first appearance on the stage of public opinion, renders homage to two nations. To one, Great Britain, the cradle of human liberties, it owes, and gladly gives the allegiance due to the Motherland. To the other, beautiful Portugal, the famed birth place of so many glorious heroes, it extends its hand in cordial friendship and high esteem, while also sincerely welcoming the amity of all other nationalities.

"The Times of Portugal" has set itself a two-fold task. The first, to represent and defend the commercial interests, to minister to the intellectual needs, the social amenities and the sporting instincts of British subjects, the second, to reflect faithfully the ideals and aspirations of the amiable people amid whom it is their lot to dwell.

"The Times of Portugal" will strive to the utmost of its power, to help in strengthening and in binding ever more closely, the bonds of cordial friendship which have united Britain and Portugal for more than six centuries, alike in times of peril and of joy, a friendship which has been further cemented by the blood of noble warriors and heroes. May it be the good fortune of "The Times of Portugal" to see this ancient amity result in the ever greater happiness and prosperity of the two peoples.

"The Times of Portugal" fazendo a sua primeira apparção perante a opinião publica, rende homenagem a duas nações. A uma, a Grã Bretanha, o berço de liberdades humanas, deve, e com prazer, prestar homenagem devida á Patria. A outra, o bello Portugal, a celebre terra natal de tantos heroes gloriosos, extendê a sua mão em cordial amizade e alta estima, emquanto que tambem gososamente sauda cordalmente todas as outras nações.

"The Times of Portugal" tem um duplo fim. Primeiro o de representar e defender os interesses commerciaes, prover ás necessidades intellectuaes, amenidades sociaes e instinctos sportivos dos subditos Ingleses, o segundo, o de demonstrar fielmente os ideaes e aspirações do povo amavel entre os quaes é a sua sorte residir. "The Times of Portugal" esforçar-se-ha o mais possivel para consolidar e estreitar cada vez mais os laços de cordial amizade que ligam a Grã Bretanha e Portugal ha mais de seis seculos, tanto em tempos de perigo como de alegria, uma amizade que tem sido mais consolidaada pelo sangue dos nobres guerreiros e heroes. Seja a ventura do "The Times of Portugal" ver esta antiga amizade propagar-se cada vez mais para a felicidade e prosperidade dos dois povos.

Salvê Bretanha, Salvê Lusitania.

For three months 960
Single number 90
Advertisements per line 40

The Lisbon Chronicle.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING, SATURDAY, MARCH 24.

Subscriptions received only at the Office, N.º 6
Rua do Caldeira — Sol — at the same Office
— at N.º 1 Rua Augusta, and 149 Rua do Ouro.

The correspondence will only be received postage paid, at the Lisbon Consular Office, in Rua do Caldeira N.º 6.

Prologue for THE LISBON CHRONICLE; A Weekly Publication

A news paper with the above title will be published every Saturday in the English language, containing: Extracts of the proceedings of the Cortes, Official news, from the Government paper — Foreign news — The arrival of, and departure of British vessels from the Tagus — the State of the Market — Exchanges — Political Articles &c.

The proprietors of this Journal, knowing how much the British residents in this Capital esteemed the former — Lisbon Mail — for its sound political opinions, and for its being written in the English idiom; and the publication of that Paper having ceased, have taken on themselves the arduous task of editing a new journal written in that language — with the title of — The Lisbon Chronicle — They at the same time offer it to the Patronage of all the British Merchants residing in Portugal, whose interests shall be zealously and boldly defended in its columns.

Any subscriber who may wish to give publication to any articles of general interest, will find ready insertion for them in the — Lisbon Chronicle. —

CORTES.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

Monday, Feb. 26, 1839.

A motion of S. M. de V. Pereira relative to recognizing the Republics of South America was put off, to be discussed in presence of the Minister of Foreign affairs.

Order of the Day — The Project of a Law relative to the proposal of Government, to continue in receipt of the taxes. A long debate ensued. Several Gentlemen spoke against the manner in which the Gov. has spent its funds. The first article of the Project passed — favourably to the ministry.

Tuesday, Feb. 26.

Senr. R. F. MAGALHÃES presented a representation, signed by 80 merchants of this City, praying for a remedy against what is ordered by the §§ 5 and 7. Chap. 7. of the Decree of the 10th. July 1834. — Forwarded to the Committee of the Arts and Commerce; the finance Committee also to be heard on the subject.

Order of the Day — The same as yesterday. After some debate, the 2d. and 3d. arts. passed.

A communication was forwarded by the Committee of the arts and commerce by the minister of finance, inclosing a petition from the Captain of the Danish vessel, Anna Margarita, lying in the Tagus, under franquia. The Captain states in his petition that, having sailed from Copenhagen, with a cargo of merchandize for Rio de Janeiro, he should discharge his ballast either at the Cape Verd Islands or at Lisbon, for to complete his cargo with salt.

He preferred this Port, and asked for leave to effect the lading his vessel with salt.

He requested to be informed of the rate of tonnage he would be liable to pay, altho' at Cape Verd he would not be obliged to any. However, as this hypothesis was not provided against in the Decree of Nov. 14. 1836, the Committee had the honour, conforming with the advice received from the Director of the Custom-House, and taking into consideration the importance of favouring the exportation of an article, which conduces so much to the prosperity of the nation, to present the following Project of a Law. —

Art. 1. All foreign vessels entering the ports of this kingdom, and having obtained franquia, for to load with salt, or to complete their cargoes with this article, shall simply pay the tonnage established by the 4th. art. of the Decree of the 14 Nov. 1836.

Art. 2d. All legislation to the contrary stands revoked.

Committee-room 14 Feb. 1839.

Here follow the signatures. Several Gentlemen spoke on the subject — Senr. ROMA, moved that the project should be returned to the Committee, to be reconsidered relatively to the Decree of the 14. Nov. 1836, as to the rate of tonnage; in which he succeeded. Nothing definitive was decided on the subject this day.

Wednesday, Feb. 27.

Senr V. PEREIRA's motion, that communications should be opened with the Republics of South America was approved by the Chamber. The President of the Council said that government was aware of the importance of this object, and had already done much towards establishing those relations.

The question relating to the rate of tonnage to be paid by vessels under franquia

was adjourned.

Senr. PASSOS MANOEL laid on the Table several petitions on various subjects. He expressed his astonishment at the great number of crimes committed throughout the Kingdom during the year 1838, and requested to be informed on this subject. He spoke further in favour of his Pantheon Law; that this law was considered aristocratic by the people, which was not the case. He dismissed the subject saying that in Portugal there should be either Pantheons or managers.

Senr. J. A. de MAGALHÃES declared to the chamber, his intention to ask the Minister of foreign affairs, which has been the execution given to the 8th. art. of the convention of the 8th. July 1817, relating to the committee nominated to decide on the capture of vessels suspected of being employed in the Slave trade.

After some conversation on subjects of minor importance, the Chamber adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 28.

Senr. R. da F. MAGALHÃES rose and said that he took this opportunity, as the minister of finance was present, to speak on the events of Algarve — The incident he was about to state happened in Villa Real de S. Antonio, on the 1st. Feb. — A great quantity of Tabacco was dis-embarked from a vessel fitted out for war, on the beach near Cacella, protected by nearly 300 armed smugglers who had crossed the Guadiana for that purpose. He also said that every body is aware that ten is sold at 800 r. in the pound in Lisbon, which plainly shews that it is smuggled. The letter which states the above also hints that another disembarkation is contemplated. That it was impossible for the Custom-house officers to do their duty against such armed forces. He hoped that the minister of finance would give the case due attention. That the smuggling vessels now fitted out in Gibraltar required a greater opposition than what the Cahiques could effect. He concluded advising the Government to nominate a regular force to oppose such outrages.

The MINISTER of FINANCE said he was not aware of this fact — that neither the Contractors nor the Custom-house authorities had given him notice of it. He merely heard from those authorities that some boats had been sent out against the smugglers' vessel — that those boats pursued and fired at her, but being fired at in turn, after the disembarkation, with large cannon, resistance became out of the question. He then gave a long account of the measures Government had taken to prevent the repetition of such cases. The question was put off to be discussed in presence of the Minister of marine.

Friday, March, 1st.

Senr. PASTO SOARES laid on the Table

from Government paper, Foreign News, the state of the market, Exchanges, the arrival and departure of British vessels from the Tagus, Political articles etc. The proprietors of this journal, knowing how much the British residents in this capital esteem the former Lisbon Mail for its sound political opinions and for its being written in the English idiom and the publication of that paper having ceased, have taken upon themselves the arduous task of same time, offer it to the patronage of all the British merchants residing in Portugal whose interests shall be zealously and boldly defended in its columns.

Again, there is no mention of the names of editors or proprietors.

The layout and content of the LISBON CHRONICLE was exactly the same as that of the previous journal. The editorial address was 102, Rua das Trinas Mocambo, Buenos Ayres. The last issue available is that of 30th March 1839.

It was not until the next century that there is a record of another English language publication; it is THE LISBON RAG, a frivolous, jolly hockey-sticks, type of magazine launched in January 1912 by a Miss Hickey who resided in Rua das Janelas Verdes at the Convento das Mariannas which was at that time the home of the Scottish Presbyterian Church now (St. Andrew's Church) from 1872 until 1899 and is now an Hotel, York House.

THE LISBON RAG was directed solely at the British community or "Colony" - as Miss Hickey refers to it - and the first issue includes reports on amateur theatricals the Royal British Club dinners and a long article on the Lisbon Sewing Bee which appears to be a group of English matrons who met regularly to knit garments for the needy and, no doubt, catch up with the latest Colony gossip!

The Intellectual Society is mentioned at which a Miss Mascarenhas gave a lecture on Egyptian Archaeology, fifteen pages long from which fact one gets the impression that those present would have been satisfied with, at most, ten!

There is quite a sprinkling of doggerel and a page or two of rather corny jokes.

The Editor was, obviously, a keen hockey player and, from the report of matches, it appears that a Ladies Team, playing, presumably, at the Lisbon Cricket Club's ground at Cruz Quebrada, had been in existence since 1909.

The policy of the Editor was not to mention any names in either articles or those of contributors, the only exception being on the last page which listed forthcoming marriages. These were in January 1912: Miss Gertrude Miriam Hickie, presumably, the Editor, to Mr. Cecil Turner; Miss D. Tomkins of the British Hospital to Mr. Saunders of the Eastern Telegraph Company at Carcavellos (yes, two 'L's in those days), and Miss Amy Dawson to Stanley

Rawes which latter marriage provided the first link between two British families long established in Portugal.

No cover price is quoted and no advertisements appeared. The finances of THE LISBON RAG remain a mystery!

The second issue followed, more or less, the format of the first although the jokes were even worse and the doggerel was replaced by supposedly witty rejoinders to observations made by hypothetical (I suspect) correspondents.

There is an article in the form of a fairy tale which is, quite obviously, a thinly disguised protest at the refusal of members of the Royal British Club "to allow women to enter their hallowed precincts". This issue seems to have been a hobby-horse of the Editor as a second article entitled "The pleasures of attending General Meetings" purports to describe an Annual General Meeting of the Royal British Club, lasting four hours, at which a courageous member proposed that "The Ball-room, Supper-room, Reading room, Balcony and Hall be let to Ladies for a Spinsters' Dance". This outrageous proposal was, of course, heavily defeated.

The sporting page reported on a mixed hockey match, refereed by a Mr. Sykes - a rare mention of a name - and announced a forthcoming football match, the "Colony" against the students of the English College, the Catholic seminary in Lisbon.

Issue No 3 continued the campaign against the Royal British Club suggesting that a "Ladies' Club be formed in this town with a large ball-room attached, dances to be held there any evening throughout the year". To indicate that the Ladies were more reasonable, "the Club would be open to gentlemen at any time on Mondays between the hours of 7 am and 9 am".

Issue No 4, the last available, again criticises the Royal British Club for banishing a group of ladies, celebrating a coming-of-age party, to the annexe of the Club.

From a report of a hockey match, it appears that the game had taken on a more traditional character. The Ladies' goal-keeper was "discovered swooning at her post after trying to keep a ball away" and "one of the Ladies knocked down the opposing Carcavellos captain (a gentleman) acquiring a black eye in the process".

Whether Issue No 4 was the last is not known; perhaps the Editor was the same Miss Hickie whose engagement was announced in the first issue and, as the result of her subsequent marriage, discovered other rather more satisfying activities to occupy her time.

The next publication to appear was the THE TIMES OF PORTUGAL issued on 23rd August 1924. The Editor was Alfred Arnold (formerly of the

Daily Express, London, and the Sheffield Daily Telegraph) and the Publisher Oscar Tromberg (of the late Moscow Golos & Kinsky Sport) - an impressive background!

In the first issue it was stated that "THE TIMES OF PORTUGAL in making its first appearance on the stage of public opinion renders homage to two nations. To one, Great Britain, the cradle of human liberties, it owes and gladly gives allegiance to the Motherland. To the other, beautiful Portugal, the famed birth place of so many glorious heroes, it extends its hand in cordial friendship and high esteem, whilst also sincerely welcoming the amity of all other nationalities.

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BRITANIA, LUSITANIA, ALL HAIL!!
Good stirring stuff!!.

As the prologue suggests this publication was more for general reading. The size was about the same as the present ANGLO-PORTUGUESE NEWS and the text was printed in parallel columns, one in English the other in Portuguese. The back page was filled with advertisements with the odd one featured in the inside pages.

Issue No 2 was dated 6th September so it appears it was a two-weekly publication;

How long it continued publication is not known.

The next publication to appear was THE LISBON MAGAZINE first issued in March 1931 from Rua da Estrela, 4, the address of the Parsonage of St. George's Church and priced at Esc.7.50. The name of the Editor is not disclosed.

The magazine was quite a professional publication of 32 pages with advertisements and containing interesting articles by Mrs. M.S. Jayne, President of the Lisbon Branch of the Historical Association; by A. H. W. King, HBM Consul and by Stanley Gudgeon, HBM Vice-Consul. There is a long erudite review of an amateur production of "The Unfair Sex" at the Ginásio Theatre on 12th February 1931, the cast of which included Mrs. R.C. Norton; W.R. Johnson; L.J. Rawes; Mrs. E.C. Chancellor; Miss A Freitas; A.E. Arnaud and Miss E. Woollett. The producer was Miss S. Willoughby who, elsewhere in the magazine, advertises her dancing classes for children held at the St. George's Church Hall now the Estrela Hall. The magazine includes a long letter from a member of the Lisbon Sports Club proposing that the Club should establish a school for caddies. These young boys received just over three pence per round. His suggestion was that they should be offered two or three days per week of tuition in the three Rs under a trained teacher. There is no record that there was any support for the suggestion.

The second issue, also of the same high standard, did not appear until nine months later in December 1931. In it the anonymous editor bemoans the lack of support for the first issue complaining that only 160 copies of the first issue were sold to a "Colony" of well over 1,500 and unless at least 200 copies of the second issue were sold the magazine could not continue. Presumably, sales did not reach the required minimum and no further issues were published.

Three years were to elapse before THE PORTUGUESE TIMES was launched on 15th January 1935. W.Hope Bidwell was shown as the Director and Proprietor and Luiz C. Lupi as the first Editor, José Avillez succeeding him in June 1935. The format was that of a newspaper with eight pages slightly smaller than the present ANGLO-PORTUGUESE NEWS. It was published weekly and cost 1 Escudo per copy. The front page and one other was devoted to international news; two to news and sport of the British "Colony"; one headed "Women week by week" which included articles of interest only to women readers; one to general local news and two, including the whole of the back page, to advertising. Advertising rates were Esc. 1.50 per line, 10 Esc. per inch, leaned towards tourism, the Estoril Coast being described as the "Riviera of Portugal" and the average temperatures quoted as being 53.6° in Winter and 62.6° in summer. There were long lists of the Great and Good staying at the leading hotels. The Hotel Aviz which stands where the Sheraton now is and "under British management" quoted twenty-five shillings for a single room with private bath and including continental breakfast, lunch and dinner. At the other end of the scale, the daily rates of the

Pensão Zenith in Mont' Estoril were six shillings to seven and sixpence for full pension and baths. In the TIMES is an advertisement by Crilly Airways announcing the inauguration on 20th February 1936 of a daily service between London and Lisbon, the flight taking eight and a half hours!!

The last issue of THE PORTUGUESE TIMES has not survived so it is not known when it ceased publication and for what reason.

In 1937 THE ANGLO-PORTUGUESE NEWS (APN) began publication and, despite various short-lived attempts to launch a competitor publication, still dominates the market.