

Republic Is Ideal Government

Says Queen Elizabeth Of Roumania

REMARKABLE Statement by Queen Shows What a Reigning Sovereign Thinks of Sovereignty—"Cruel to Keep a Man on the Throne for Forty Years" She Says—Condemns the Hereditary Principle, and Declares That Kings See Only the Greed and Intrigue of Humanity—"The Throne Is at Best a Very Sad Institution" She Sums Up.

Among all the rulers of Europe, none excel in accomplishments, originality and philanthropy Queen Elizabeth of Roumania, known to all the world as "Carmen Sylva." She has just declared in favor of the republican form of government.

Here are some other sayings of this extraordinary ruler:

"We don't want the world to be good; we only want it to grow better, and to allow us to help it thereunto."

"It is the woman who weaves the future of her country."

"Woman's rights; we have the right to suffer, to be patient, to work hard, to help, to nurse, to be virtuous and make men so; what more do we want?"

"The woman question has been treated in different ways; by the Amazons, by the nuns, by the doctoresses and women of the law; only the mothers have kept silent in the fulfillment of woman's only real vocation."

BUCHAREST, July 29.—(Special Correspondence.)—A ruling Queen as the writer of a republican introduction to an unconventional account of royalty is surely a novelty. Yet that is the nature of the foreword just prepared for the memoirs of an American woman.

"Frances Fearn," of New York, was the widow of the late Judge Walker Fearn, who represented the United States at the courts of Roumania, Serbia and Greece. She is no longer a widow, however, for some months ago, in the old cathedral of Salisbury, she became the wife of an English lawyer and man of letters, Arthur Inkersley.

But it was as "Frances Fearn" that she wrote her earlier memoirs, dealing with the negro before the war; and the same name will head her memoirs of the three courts where she has lived.

Beginning with Roumania, we have this foreword by Queen Elizabeth, known all the world over as a trained writer, under the pen name of "Carmen Sylva."

Here is the real opinion of a reigning sovereign upon reigning sovereigns. Never before has a reigning queen come out point blank in favor of the republican form of government. I quote textually from Queen Elizabeth's statement, headed "Sovereignty."

She writes:

"Of course, the republic is the ideal form of government, as those who reign have time for resting and setting up their strength again when it is quite spent. It is cruel to keep one man on the throne for 40, 50 and even 60 years, till God will release him."

Cruelty of Being Made King.

Hence the Queen's own husband, King Charles the First, is a victim of

this cruelty. For he was elected Prince of Roumania 46 years ago, although not acclaimed King until 1881.

The republican declaration is all the more severe as it comes from a member of the house of Hohenzollern. That famous house, first heard of in 1660, has two branches. Queen Elizabeth's husband, King Charles, belongs to the senior branch, called Sigmaringen. William the Second, German Emperor, is the head of the junior branch, called the German-Prussian. To the Emperor William the attitude of the Queen of the senior branch of the Hohenzollerns must be particularly painful. For he is justly looked upon as the very personification of divine right; the most uncompromising divine righter in the world.

Queen Elizabeth finds cruelty not only in being compelled to reign for life, but also in the hereditary principle. For she writes:

"The cruel thing is hereditary monarchy, as you have to be successor, even if your talents lie quite on another side and your tastes are diametrically opposed to the mission of seeming greatness thrust upon you."

Having condemned the monarchical form of government and denounced the hereditary principle, she sums up the situation by saying that "the throne is at best a very sad institution." What makes it so melancholy is that its occupant sees only the worst side of humanity. The greedy, the grasping, the intriguing gather round it. It is as sad as the life of a physician who lives chiefly among the sick. The Queen confirms her contention by referring to the "Vanity of Vanities," mentioned by the wise man. "Read Solomon," says her majesty, "and I need explain no longer what a sovereign is or what a sovereign feels."

Napoleon the Third was a kind of undefined socialist, but it seems that Queen Elizabeth definitely favors a socialist republic.

Queen Elizabeth's affection runs to children and to the blind, doubtless because both are so helpless. An extract from the Fearn diary shows the Queen's almost biblical affection for the little ones: "Her happiest hours were those spent with the children of the village, whose playground was not far from her villa. Here she spent most of her time, surrounded by the little folk, who would sit in rapt admiration at her feet, fascinated when she told them stories and her own fairy tales. To show their love and gratitude they would bring her a profusion of flowers of all kinds which they themselves had gathered in the woods."

"When she went for a walk on the dunes and the children followed her

