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Britain's new concessions are not enough, EU leaders tell May: Inside

Government says Legionella outbreak “under control”

● Nineteen people (18 tourists and one hotel worker) have contracted the disease in Palmanova.

● 70 year old British tourist died in hospital last week.
● See Page Four.



Spanish flag-waving underpins Rajoy's tough line on Catalonia

Madrid.—At Jose Luis Sosa-Dias's factory near Madrid, lengths of bright red and yellow polyester are being steamed and pressed as workers rush to rebuild stocks of the Spanish flag after a huge surge in sales in the last few weeks.

Patriotic displays of the flag are rare in Spain, where it still reminds many of the Franco dictatorship. But Catalonia's bid for independence has fired up national sentiment, and with it demand for flags.

“We sold about 35,000 flags in 50 days. Normally we might sell 500 or 600 in a month,” said Sosa-Dias, who is originally from Uruguay. “In the 38

years I have been in Spain it is the first time I have seen so many flags on balconies and houses, and at demonstrations as Spaniards said ‘I am Spanish.’”

Such displays reflect a rising nationalism that is encouraging prime minister Mariano Rajoy to stick to his tough line against Catalonia. It also makes it harder to reach a compromise with the region.

That nationalism was on display when hundreds of thousands of Spanish unionists staged protests in Madrid and Barcelona in support of unity after Catalonia's illegal independence referendum on 1 Oct. trig-

gered a constitutional crisis and clouded prospects for Europe's fifth-largest economy.

According to a monthly official opinion poll, the level of concern among Spaniards over the situation in Catalonia increased threefold in September compared with August.

And while a majority say they feel they have both national and regional identities, 66 percent support Rajoy's refusal to offer more autonomy to the country's 17 regions, according to the poll.

Among voters who back Rajoy's People's Party, this number jumps to 86 percent