

# The Catholic World

## CANADA—A Progressive Diocese

The Right Rev. Dr. Pascal, Bishop of Prince Albert, was recently received in audience by the Pope. His province of Saskatchewan in 1901 had only a population of 10,000; the same province has now a population of 257,000, and those figures will be greatly increased before the end of the present year. The diocese of Prince Albert is one of the largest in Canada, and the Bishop expects that in the near future a new diocese will be formed at Regina. At the present time Mgr. Pascal has fifteen parishes, served by French-Canadian priests, and there are seven or eight thousand German Catholics, occupying about fifteen parishes, and having twenty-two churches or chapels which they have built for themselves, their religious direction being confided to priests of the Benedictine Order.

## CHINA—Catholic Statistics

According to the Shanghai Calendrier-Annuaire, 1907, there are now in the Chinese Empire 950,658 Catholics, with 410,907 catechumens now under instruction in the forty-three vicariates and prefectures in which the Celestial Empire is ecclesiastically divided.

## DENMARK—Progress of the Church

Attention to the progress of the Church in Denmark is specially attracted now that Dr. Maurice Francis Egan represents the United States at Copenhagen. During the past few years there has been a steady advance. The Church enjoys the greatest liberty and freedom, and the Catholic schools are generously helped by the State. The King's brother, Prince Waldemar, is married to a Catholic French Princess of the House of Orleans. The United States legation adjoins their residence.

## ENGLAND—The Eucharistic Congress

The 'Catholic Weekly' learns that up to the beginning of April more than 2,400 membership tickets for the Eucharistic Congress have been sold in English-speaking countries alone, and that there has been a good demand for tickets from France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, and Italy. The Horticultural Hall, the Caxton Hall, and the Westminster Cathedral Hall have already been secured for the sectional meetings. The arrangements for papers are not yet complete, but an excellent list of subjects and readers has already been secured. There will be a special French section, for which a sub-committee, with the Abbot of Farnborough as President and Father Carton de Wiart as hon. secretary, is being formed.

## FRANCE—Restitution of Property

In the French Senate it has been stated that on 31st January last 9,552 lawsuits had been commenced by collateral heirs for the restitution of property seized by the State, but formerly left by Catholics to the Church for the celebration of Requiem Masses, etc. The value of the property claimed by these collateral heirs is estimated at 34,614,413 francs, or £1,384,577. In the Department of the Seine alone 132 actions at law have been commenced by the collateral heirs whom Government is preparing to cheat out of rights conferred on them by common law. The total amount of the property reclaimed by them in Paris is over £200,000, including £160,000 for the Church of the Sacred Heart at Montmartre.

## GERMANY—The Secret of Catholic Unity

Statistics as interesting as they are instructive have just been published by the 'Zeitungswesen' concerning the Catholic papers of Germany and their readers, says 'Rome.' In 1880 the number of readers of Catholic papers in Germany was 596,000, a figure that probably surpasses the readers of Catholic papers throughout the whole English-speaking world at present. But ten years later it had risen to a million, in 1900 to a million and a-half, and at present it is over two millions. Is it any wonder that the Catholics of Germany are solidly united, or that the Centre party, which, although not exclusively Catholic, is almost entirely so, should have come to be known as the Tower of Ivory?

## ITALY—Maligning the Clergy

A good deal (says a Home exchange) has been heard of the so-called revelations made by Guiseppe Abele, editor of the 'Secolo Nuovo' of Venice, with regard to the priests of St. Francesco della Vigna in that city. The 'revelations' were of the usual unsavoury kind, and were circulated far and wide by the Socialist editor. Since news of the 'revelations' gained so much publicity, it is well that the verdict given by the Venetian Court of Justice at the conclusion of the public trial in which Abele was given an opportunity of driving home his charges, should receive equal publicity. The clergymen were completely cleared by the Italian Tribunal after due deliberation. The court sentenced the editor to imprisonment for two years, and imposed a fine of two thousand francs. Previous to the end of the trial Abele fled the city, and has not been heard of since.

## ROME—French Pilgrims

On March 28 the Holy Father granted a collective audience to about one hundred and fifty ladies who had come to Rome as delegates of the 'Ligue Patriotique Française,' which now numbers nearly 40,000 members, and which is organised principally to help the priests and the Bishops of France in such religious work as may be done by lay women. The presentation of the group to his Holiness was made by Cardinal Lecot, Archbishop of Bordeaux, and among those present were no fewer than five Bishops at present in Rome on their ad limina visit. The Holy Father, after listening to an address read by the Secretary of the League, explaining the scope of the organisation and its great growth throughout France, made a brief reply, in which he highly praised the work of the members, comparing them to the pious women in the Gospel who went to the Sepulchre where Jesus had been buried. 'Your work,' said his Holiness, 'is inspired by the same sentiments which urged those pious women to the tomb of the Redeemer, and as those women were rewarded by seeing Him risen, so too you will be rewarded by seeing Him risen again in your own country.' Next day his Holiness received in audience a numerous French pilgrimage which is on its way to the Holy Land.

## UNITED STATES—Visitors from China

Rev. Peter Chang, perhaps the first Chinese Catholic priest to visit the United States, arrived in New York recently. He was accompanied by Bishop August Henninghus, of the Diocese of South Shan-Tung, China. The Bishop went to China as a missionary twenty-one years ago. Father Chang is twenty-seven years old. He speaks German fluently, but does not know a word of English.

## The Laetare Medal

Notre Dame University's choice this year of the Laetare medallist is a peculiarly happy one. Dr. James C. Monaghan has done a great deal to further the interests of morality, education, and citizenship. He is a capable educator, a brilliant writer, and an especially able governmental official. In a word he is an ideal Catholic layman, in every respect worthy of being numbered among the distinguished American Catholics who have been recipients of the Laetare medal.

## The Archdiocese of New York

April 8 was the hundredth anniversary of the creation by Pope Pius VII of the Diocese of New York. The Holy Father's decree of April 8, 1808, creating New York as a separate diocese was indeed an event of supreme interest for American Catholics. It is of interest to note that the first to be named Bishop of New York was an Irish Dominican Friar, Father John Connolly, who had been Prior of San Clementi, Rome, and had saved that Irish foundation from destruction at the hands of the Republicans.

Jin's, M.H.R., grew desperate,  
Drugs by the quart was quaffin',  
And yet his cough would indicate  
He'd soon re'ure a coffin!  
He took Woods' Peppermint Cure! And since  
I've bren of all debaters  
The ne plus ultra, and the prince  
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