

The Catholic World

AUSTRIA—The Hungarian Question

Only a few weeks ago Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir to the Austrian throne, is reported to have said concerning Hungary, which is perhaps the greatest stronghold of Catholicity on the Continent: "I am not hostile to Hungary, because I am convinced that Hungary is really the most solid and sure support of the monarchy and the throne. The fidelity of the Hungarian nation has been already gloriously proved. It is ridiculous to affirm that I am either a reactionary or a cleric. As far as my own person is concerned, I am a sincere and fervent Catholic, which fact, however, does not impede me, nay, rather it obliges me, to respect the religious convictions of others."

ENGLAND—A Golden Jubilee

A presentation to the Right Rev. Dr. Gordon, Bishop of Leeds, in honor of his sacerdotal golden jubilee, took place privately on September 8. It had been originally intended to make the presentation on September 24, when his Lordship attained his seventy-eighth year, but the state of Dr. Gordon's health would not permit him to undergo the strain of a public function. His Lordship, in acknowledging the presentation, said he intended to use the money for charitable purposes in the diocese.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Over 200 pilgrims left London for Lourdes early in September. Nearly every part of the United Kingdom was represented, ladies and gentlemen travelling from London, Preston, Blackburn, Dublin, Nottingham, Harrogate, Newcastle, Liverpool, Lancaster, Bideford, Paignton, Cork, and many other places; while one or two colonials were also in the party. The leader of the pilgrimage was the Right Rev. Dr. Brindle, D.S.O. (Bishop of Nottingham).

GERMANY—The Centre Party

The dissolution of the German 'Bloc' was a victory for the Centre Party (says the *Catholic Times*), and in consequence religious controversy has of late become conspicuous in political discussions. The Liberals see that the Protestant organisations are more combative, that they are striving to bring their influence to bear on the electors, and that they will gladly give their support to candidates for the Reichstag who are hostile to 'Rome.' In the Liberal press, therefore, there is a decided tendency to utilise their services and to get up a fresh Kulturkampf. There is not much probability that the campaign will succeed. The present Chancellor has no ambition to figure as a disturber of religious peace, and Bismarck's failure as a persecutor taught a lesson which is not likely to be forgotten by the Government. The ordinary German elector does not cherish deep religious prejudices; so that it is pretty certain the anti-Roman campaign will come to naught. In a long speech which he delivered at Rheinbach the other day Dr. Spahn dealt with this attempt to import religious bitterness into electoral battles. The Centre Party, he said, would not be diverted by such attacks from their work on behalf of the people, and they had the fullest confidence that the electors who had returned them to the Reichstag would, when called upon to do so, heartily approve of their policy. The by-elections indicate that this statement is strictly true. Other parties lose ground as time passes, but the Centre remains as numerous in membership and as powerful as ever.

ITALY—The Archbishop of Westminster

The Most Rev. Dr. Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, after a visit to Courmayeur, in the Aosta Valley, proceeded to the famous Hospice of the Little St. Bernard. On leaving, Dr. Bourne declared that he would take back to England with him a most pleasant remembrance of the welcome which he had received from the civil authorities, the clergy, and the population of Aosta and Courmayeur.

ROME—The Church in India

The Holy Father on September 14 received in private audience the Bishop of Hyderabad and conversed with him for some time on the conditions of Catholicism in India, and also on the general situation in the country. His Holiness remarked that he followed with constant interest the development of the colonies under British rule.

RUSSIA—Catholic Progress

When a policy of ecclesiastical toleration was adopted some time ago in Russia (says the *Catholic Times*) there was at once a notable influx from the 'Orthodox' Church into the Catholic fold. The Russian journalists could not understand why the movement had occurred, and they criticised with considerable severity the conduct of the 'Orthodox' pastors. They were, the writers declared, too apathetic, and did not take pains to instruct their flocks properly. The 'Orthodox' clergy were aroused to more energetic action. They wrote articles in their own defence and affirmed that the lapses from the 'Orthodox' Church

were due to mere temporary excitement and to the impulse the Romeward movement received from a few leading spirits who had previously been adherents of the Roman Church in disguise. But as time passes on there is no diminution in the number of conversions. Men and women are 'coming over to Rome' in many parts of the Empire, and figures prove that the total increase in the ranks of the Russians who recognise the Holy Father as the head of the Church is very large. An official report has just been published of a visitation made in Siberia by Dr. Cieplak, Assistant Bishop of Mohilew, and according to this document, the Bishop has been busily engaged in founding new churches and has established something like a dozen new congregations. If perfect religious freedom prevailed in Russia the position of the Catholic Church would speedily become very strong in the country.

SCOTLAND—A Royal Wedding

The marriage of Prince Miguel of Braganza to Miss Anita Stewart was celebrated on September 8 in the Catholic church at Dingwall with great pomp. The town and church were profusely decorated. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. Dr. Chisholm, Bishop of Aberdeen, assisted by the Rev. Father Fraser, of Dingwall, and the Rev. Father Macdonald, of Glenfinnan. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Smith, widow of Mr. James Henry Smith, the Chicago millionaire, by her first marriage with Mr. William Rhineland Stewart, New York. Mrs. Smith is the tenant for the shooting season of Tulloch Castle, Dingwall, Ross-shire.

Bishop Chisholm's Experiences

The portrait presented recently to the Right Rev. Dr. Chisholm, Bishop of Aberdeen, on the occasion of his sacerdotal jubilee, is to be permanently placed in Blair's College, of which he is rector. His Lordship, in acknowledging the presentation, made a speech, in the course of which he declared that his experiences had been very uneventful. But as a priest he had seen many and great changes, and had come to share in many advantages that had fallen to the lot of the Catholic Church in Scotland during the last fifty years. 'I have made it a rule,' said the Bishop, 'during my life, while holding myself first and foremost as a priest, to mix freely in the civil and municipal and social life of my neighbors. And while they have come to think that I was not such a bad sort after all, I have come to know them as real good ones. This good feeling has been manifestly shown me to-day on the part of my outside friends and brethren in taking part and share in the day's rejoicing.'

UNITED STATES—Catholic Schools

With the opening of the school year (remarks the *New York Catholic News*) comes the news that our Catholic colleges and parochial schools report the largest attendance in their history. This is particularly the case with the colleges. Every one of them in New York and neighboring dioceses has more students now than ever before. This fact indicates that Catholic parents are beginning to realise that after all the institutions of higher education under Catholic auspices are as good as any in the land.

Proposed Pilgrimage

The Knights of Columbus are preparing to make a great pilgrimage next year to the birthplace of Christopher Columbus at Genoa.

A Tercentenary

The 24th of June, 1910, will recall the most memorable event in the history of the Micmac Indians of Canada, as three hundred years ago the first members of their tribe were baptised at Port Royal, now Annapolis Royal, N.S. Baptism was administered by Rev. Jesse Fleche, priest of the diocese of Langres. Twenty-one Indians were baptised on June 24, 1610, but during the same year the number of converts reached 140, and before long the whole tribe was Christian. And to use the words of the Dean of the Canadian hierarchy, Right Rev. John Cameron, D.D., Bishop of Antigonish, N.S., their loyalty to the Catholic Church has ever continued to be simply heroic.

Indian Catholics

Unusual and impressive features attended the Solemn High Mass sung at St. Michael's Mission, North Dakota, the other day, at the opening of the Catholic Sioux Congress of North Dakota. The celebrant was Rev. Albert Negahquet, the only full-blooded Indian in the priesthood, and the Mass was solemnised out in the open, before an altar vaulted only by the bright blue sky.

Colored Catholics

The senior colored priest in the United States is the Rev. C. R. Uncles. In a lecture lately delivered in Philadelphia, he said: "To-day there are more than sixty priests laboring among Afro-Americans exclusively. There are twenty-five or twenty-six Orders of women, three of them made up wholly of negro women. There are fewer than 200,000 Catholics among the negroes of the United States, but it must be remembered that the vast majority of Afro-Americans live in the southern States, and the Catholic Church in the black belt of the south has never