

The Catholic World

CHINA—Praise for Catholic Missionaries

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Home Missions in the Seymour Street Methodist Church, Belfast, on November 30, Sir Robert Hart said that among other missionaries he had a great deal to do with the Catholics. In Ulster it might not be orthodox for him to refer to them in terms of praise, but they taught the essential elements of the knowledge of the true God, and he must say they went about their work with wonderful self-sacrifice. The work which the Catholic missionaries did amongst the Chinese poor was admirable. It was a pity in regard to the Protestant missions that there was so much difference in their tenets, because when the Chinese saw this difference they became puzzled in finding out where the truth lay. Having been brought up in Confucian morals, the Chinaman had his own ideas of duty.

ENGLAND—A Generous Benefactor

At the half-yearly meeting of the Council of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society, the Rev. Father Henry, Superior-General, stated that a most generous benefactor of the Foreign Missions, Major Knight, had placed at the disposal of their society a house, with land, in Devonshire, as a sanatorium for old and sick missionaries. The house is charmingly situated in its own grounds, about a mile from a small market town, and within six miles of the sea; in fact, it is an ideal spot for a sanatorium. There are fifteen or sixteen rooms in the house, which is in capital order and repair, and excellently well furnished. Two Fathers had been in occupation since August last.

Catholic Record Society

The late Lord Herries was president of the Catholic Record Society since its inauguration over four years ago, until his death on October 5. The council at its last meeting, after having passed a vote of sympathy with Lady Herries, unanimously elected the Duke of Norfolk as the second president.

An Apt Illustration

In the course of his speech in the House of Commons on the Education Bill, Mr. T. P. O'Connor dealt with the senseless cry of 'Rome on the rates.' He said he was sorry that he was not in a position to argue this point as if he were dealing not with Catholic schools, but with Jewish schools, because the position was practically the same. The Jews were separated from every Christian community by an impassable gulf of dogma, but they were no more separated from the Protestants of this country than the Catholics were. In many cases the Jews had built and supported their own schools, and there was a great analogy in their fidelity to their schools under persecution between them and the Catholics. As their sufferings and convictions were similar, he contended that they ought to receive the same treatment. He did not wish to be offensive, but what would be said of him if he started the cry of 'Jerusalem on the rates.' He would at once be told that he was using the language of bigotry, but he would be quite as much justified in using that phrase as others were in using the cry of 'Rome on the rates.' One of the most high-minded men in this country, the Chief Rabbi, said the other day he was afraid that the private and voluntary Jewish schools would disappear under this bill, and would be merged into the national system.

FRANCE—Joan of Arc

The Congregation of Rites (states the Rome correspondent of the *Catholic Weekly*) has given a unanimous vote in favor of the miracles presented for the beatification of Joan of Arc. The Holy Father has approved of the vote, and the ceremony of beatification will take place in St. Peter's next April. At the ceremony Joan of Arc will be solemnly proclaimed 'Protectress of France.'

ROME—Australian Prelates

The Holy Father (writes a Rome correspondent) extended a cordial welcome to his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, who presented on the occasion the Very Rev. Canon Stephens, Ballinrobe, Ireland, and Mr. Slatery, Mrs. and Miss Slatery, Sydney, who were travelling to Australia after a prolonged visit to Ireland. On the following morning the Right Rev. Dr. Higgins, Bishop of Ballarat, had a private audience with his Holiness, to whom he presented Mr. and Mrs. Synott, of Sydney. A visit was paid later on to the Institute of the Irish Christian Brothers by the Archbishop of Hobart, the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Bishop of Ballarat, and Canon Stephens, P.P. On departing the prelates expressed themselves

highly pleased with the good work done by the Christian Brothers, and warmly congratulated them on the degree of success which labor and self-sacrifice have attained.

Scots College

Monsignor Fraser, Rector of Scots College, Rome, gave a dinner on St. Andrew's Day, at which all the English-speaking prelates in the Eternal City were present. A feature of the proceedings on the occasion was music by a band of pipers.

The Holy Father's Episcopal Jubilee

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Holy Father's episcopal consecration will fall on November 16, 1909. Measures will be taken to celebrate the event in a suitable manner. With the consent of his Holiness, the Central Committee which has managed the celebration of his Sacerdotal Jubilee is to remain in office for the celebrations in November next.

Exhibition of Jubilee Presents

During the last week in November the gifts offered to the Holy Father as Jubilee presents by the various countries of the world were on exhibition in the Vatican Palace and were viewed by thousands of Romans and foreign visitors. From every part of the globe sacred vestments, chalices, pyxes, ciboriums, monstrances, missals, and altar requisites have come to the number of many thousands. France, Italy, Ireland, Austria, England, Germany, Scotland, Holland, Spain, America, Portugal, even Africa, Australia, China, and Japan have sent offerings to the Father of Christendom for poor churches. At the inauguration of the exposition, at which the Pope attended personally, after Cardinal V. Vannutelli had concluded an address to his Holiness, Princess Massimo presented to his Holiness a richly-bound album containing the names of the nations and the individual cities that had contributed to the offerings. Holding the album in his right hand, the Holy Father said: 'To all these I owe special thanks, because they have acted in accordance with my wish that since they desired to make offerings on the occasion of my Jubilee they should present something which would attest their homage to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and which would prove of benefit to poor churches. This is the second jubilee offering which has been made within a few months. The first was splendid; the second surpasses my expectations. I pray the Lord, then, to make a return for all you have done, because you have not wished to honor any person in this world; you are doing honor to Jesus Himself.' Then Pius-X., after blessing the members of the committee, who have been the means of doing so much to help poor churches, entered into cordial conversation with the President and returned to his private apartments.

SCOTLAND—An Approaching Centenary

'The priests and people of the cathedral parish (writes a Glasgow correspondent) will shortly be celebrating the centenary of the mission. During the passage of the century the Catholic position in the Second City has changed in a remarkable degree. A hundred years ago the Cathedral stood practically alone; to-day there are Catholic churches in every district in Glasgow. A hundred years ago the Catholic population of the commercial capital of Scotland was comparatively small and Catholics figured not at all in public life; to-day the Catholic population is roughly 200,000, and Catholics play a prominent part in all branches of public life. The centenary of St. Andrew's will have a great deal of interest for the Catholics of Glasgow.'

UNITED STATES—The Church in New Orleans

According to a press report from New Orleans, the results of a Catholic census taken there for his Grace, Most Rev. John J. Glennon, D.D., have been made public. The figures show 181,549 Catholics in a total population of 350,000. This makes New Orleans, like St. Louis, over one-half Catholic.

A Talented Religious

Chicago University has awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy to a Sister of St. Elizabeth's College Convent, Morristown, N.J., on the completion of her work there as fellow in biology in 1906. The award was made for original research in that science.

An Appreciation

'The Roman Catholic Church is a thousand years ahead of the Protestant Church in taking care of the child. They bring the children into the Church.' So spoke Rev. S. Travena Jackson, pastor of the Arling (N.J.) Methodist Church, in addressing the Women's Literary Club of that place at a recent meeting.