

The Church in China

The following interesting extract from a letter written by Father Rene Jouon to Canon Robert, the editor of the *Petit Messager des Missions*, is taken from 'The Annals of the Propagation of the Faith.'

'When leaving France I never dreamt of finding in the Celestial Empire a civilisation as European as your own. The great city of Shanghai truly deserves its name of "The Paris of the Far East."

'How can one describe the mass of steamers and men-o'-war anchored in the river, the long wide streets of the 'Concessions' the crowds that throng them, the banks, the shops, the flood of traffic, the tramways, the motor cars.

'Then there is a perfect network of telephone wires, submarine cables to Japan, America, Europe, and even wireless telegraphy. Yes, there is a Chinese station working from the Marist Fathers' fine College of St. Francis Xavier. I even had the honor of holding communication, from the Hall of Physics, with the Commandant of the Astrea, and, our receiver being double, I heard the thanks conveyed to us for having announced to the English cruiser the slight earthquake felt at Shanghai.

'Unfortunately this sudden rush of civilisation does not in the least conduce towards making the conversion of China easier. There are countless cinematograph exhibitions in Shanghai, and the Chinese, who are as easily amused as children, spend whole nights there learning anything but what is good. An immense theatre has just been built in the French Concession, and it is not the Catechism that will be taught there.

'In fact, the outlook is not brilliant in the cities, and it may even happen with our Chinese Christians of Shanghai as it does with Italians who go to Paris: the constant contact with wealth and cheap amusements (sometimes even given free) gradually wean them from the Church and the precepts of our holy religion.'

Death of Eminent Norwegian Convert

Dr. Krogh-Tønning, the first Norwegian Lutheran clergyman to embrace the Catholic faith, passed away on February 19. He was regarded as one of the greatest theologians of his day in Norway. It was said by a Lutheran minister at the time of his conversion that he could have worn the mitre if he had remained in the Norwegian Church. Dr. Krogh-Tønning was born in 1842, and in 1867 passed his theological examination. He wrote several books, and the Academic College gave him the degree of doctor in Lutheran theology. His chief pastoral work was in the Gamle Akers Church, in Christiania (one of the most important parishes). The Gamle Akers Church dates from the eleventh century, and was then Catholic and dedicated to our Lady. His sympathy for the Catholic Church was roused principally through reading the *Lives of the Fathers*, and also modern Catholic authors, especially Newman. As time went on he felt he could no longer remain in the Lutheran Church. The great sacrifice was now made, and he left the parish he loved so much.

He now went to the Jesuit Fathers in Aarhus, in Denmark, where his last difficulties were solved, his studies being interrupted by illness. His longing for the Bread of Life became so strong that one morning he said to one of the Fathers: 'I can't wait any longer. I must become a Catholic so that I can receive the true Sacraments.' On June 13, 1900, he was received into the Church. This step was accompanied by great financial and other difficulties.

Bjornstjerne Bjornsen, the celebrated Norwegian poet, writes of him as follows: 'It is not often that we hear of any one, especially at his age, giving up so much as he has done for conscience sake.'

For the last ten years he spent a retired life, editing several works. In 1905 he was made a doctor 'honoris causa' in Catholic theology.

His funeral was unique. The body was taken from Torfun (Our Lady's) Hospital to St. Olaf's Church, where a Requiem Mass was said. The church was full. In the afternoon, when he was taken to his last resting-place, St. Olaf's was again packed. Thirty-seven of his old conferees in the Lutheran Church accompanied his remains to the churchyard. The vestibule of the church was full of flowers; among them were many wreaths and crosses sent from the different parishes he had worked in while still a Lutheran priest. One was from his old parish, Gamle Akers Kirke, where he had worked for many years. All the Protestant newspapers have been unanimous in praising this grand, noble, and upright man who gave up everything for the sake of conscience.

Teddy came home late from school,
Gave a horrid sneeze,
Had a tickling in his throat,
Soon began to wheeze.
Mother took his temperature,
Put him straight to bed,
Gave him Woods' Great Peppermint Cure,
"Bosker stuff!" said Ted.

Domestic

By MAUREEN

Houschoid Hints.

A cut lemon may be kept fresh for a long time by laying it on a piece of waxed paper, cut side down, and folding the paper over in such a way as to exclude the air.

A few drops of vinegar rubbed into the hands after washing clothes will keep them smooth, and take away the spongy feeling that they often have after being in water a long time.

If you can bear the heat of the poultice on the back of your hand, it can be safely applied to the patient without fear of burning; and if olive-oil is added to the linseed poultice while mixing it, it will greatly increase its curative powers.

If salt, instead of tea leaves, be used to clean a carpet, it will be found a great improvement. It not only will have the effect of brightening it, but will not injure the most delicate carpet or felt. It also keeps the dust down, and prevents moths from destroying it.

To keep your doorsteps and brasses nice in frosty weather, add to every pailful of water used in washing doorsteps one cupful of methylated spirits, and the steps will be as dry as on the finest summer day instead of becoming a sheet of ice, as is usually the case.

Lunch Cake.

Mix together four ounces of butter or lard, four ounces of ground rice, four ounces of sultanas, half a pound of flour, one whole egg, two ounces of sugar, a teaspoonful of baking powder, and sufficient milk to moisten it nicely. Bake in a buttered tin from thirty to forty-five minutes. Serve plain, dusted with sugar.

Seed Cake.

Take four ounces of butter, four ounces of lard, one ounce of sugar, one and three-quarter pounds of flour, four ounces of lemon peel, half a pint of milk, four large eggs, half an ounce of caraway seeds, half an ounce of baking powder, and a little essence of lemon. Work the butter and sugar to a cream, then add the eggs one by one, and when the eggs are well mixed with the butter and sugar, stir in all the ingredients.

Tomatoes Pickled.

For this purpose the small round sort are the best, and each one should be pricked with a fork, to allow some of the juice to escape. Put them into a deep earthen vessel, sprinkle salt between each layer, and leave them for three days covered; then wash off the salt, and cover with a pickle of cold vinegar, to which add the juice, mixed with a handful of mustard seed, and an ounce of each of cloves and white pepper for every peck of tomatoes.

Treacle Pudding.

Take a pound and a half of flour and mix with it a good teaspoonful of carbonate of soda, chop 8oz of mutton suet very finely, and mix well with the flour, not forgetting half a teaspoonful of spice and the same quantity of salt. When making the pudding, warm up three-quarters or 1lb of treacle slightly and work it into the flour, adding enough water to make the whole into a light dough. Tie in a floured cloth, leaving room for the pudding to swell. Plunge into a saucepan of fast-boiling water and cook for three hours. Take care that the pudding is well covered with water, and when serving do not use a knife, but pull the pieces apart with a fork.

A Cheap Disinfectant.

Carbolic acid is an excellent and cheap disinfectant. A solution of it should be poured down all sinks and drains once every week or fortnight during hot weather. To make this solution allow 10oz of liquid carbolic to 3 gallons of cold water. Use about $\frac{1}{2}$ a pint for each pipe, and bottle the remainder for use as required. Label each bottle containing carbolic acid 'Poison,' and adopt this plan with all poisons. In fact, it is a good plan never to keep liquid poisons in anything except the distinctive bottles used by chemists for the purpose. These denote by their 'feel' that the contents are dangerous.

A Cloth-cleaning Recipe.

The following simple formula is given by the Society of Arts for cleaning fabrics without changing their color. Grate raw potatoes over clear water, in the proportion of two fair-sized potatoes to a pint. When the last bit of fine pulp has dropped into the water, strain the mixture through a coarse sieve into another vessel holding the same amount of clear water, and let the second liquid stand till thoroughly settled. Pour off the clearer part to be kept for use. Rub or sponge the soiled fabrics with the potato water, wash in clean water, dry, and iron. The thick sediment can be kept and used for cleaning thick materials, like carpets and heavy cloth.

Maureen

DEAR ME

Forgotten that SYMINGTON'S COFFEE ESSENCE! Whatever shall I do? Call at the nearest store and ask. They all keep it.