

The Catholic World

CANADA

A VENERABLE PRELATE.

The Right Rev. Richard A. O'Connor, D.D., Bishop of Petersburg, Canada, recently celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. Bishop O'Connor was born at Listowel, County Kerry, Ireland, on April 15, 1838. He went to Canada in 1841 with his parents, and settled in Toronto.

FRANCE

ANTI-CHRISTIAN TYRANNY.

The Paris *Eclair* states that the Abbe Carrier has been imprisoned at Grenoble. His offence is that in giving catechetical instructions to children he spoke to them about the history of their country. It appeared to him quite fitting in describing to Catholic children the beginnings of Christianity to inform them how it was introduced into France, how it became associated with the destinies of the country, and of the part it played in the formation, training, and expansion of the nation. This teaching the abbe imparted in familiar conversations, the object of which was to lend increased interest to the particular subject with which he was dealing. He was summoned, appeared before a court, and was condemned in a fine. He refused to pay it and has been sent to gaol. Is it not clear when the French Government is thus punishing a priest for communicating knowledge to the minds of the young that it is pursuing a policy the outcome of which is bound to be national decay? Ever since the warfare against the Christian religion was commenced by the Government of France the policy of the authorities has become more and more degrading for the country. A Government could scarcely display its ineptitude more glaringly than by casting a man into prison for having explained to children the grounds for glorying in the past of their country.

ITALY

SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Genoa has given the other cities of Italy an example of energy and firmness. Audacity usually marks the conduct of the irreligious elements of Italy, nor did it fail to urge the Municipality of Genoa, which is a typical 'blocc' corporation, to vote away the imparting of religious instruction in the elementary schools of the city. In Rome and a few other cities a few meetings and newspaper complaints might end in action that might take effect—six months hence. But to the sturdy people of Genoa energetic steps are as meat and drink, and accordingly the Mayor of the city found in his office the other day a commission of fathers of families who politely but firmly declared their children should receive religious instruction, and therefore demanded the schoolrooms to be placed at their disposition according to the law. They had even at that moment teachers of both sexes, duly qualified, to commence religious lessons. Needless to say, the good Mayor promised to do everything possible to meet their demands. Genoa also is about the first diocese in Italy to put into execution the Pope's wishes regarding Italian emigrants. To the diocesan Directive Committee the Archbishop has confided the spiritual and temporal interests of those about to emigrate.

JAPAN

A REMARKABLE INCREASE.

The death of Bishop Cousin marks the passing of one of the pioneers of the faith in Japan. He was ordained in 1865 and arrived in the mission where he labored so faithfully the same year. He succeeded the famous Bishop Petitjean as head of the diocese of Nagasaki. On March 17, 1910, at the celebration of the feast of the Finding of the Christians, he recalled

many scenes of which he was the eyewitness. In 1865, when he arrived in Japan, there were only five priests and not a single neophyte. Twenty-five years later, at the General Synod of Japan there were three Bishops, twenty European missionaries, fifteen native priests, thirty seminarians, and two thousand Christians. In 1891 Pope Leo established the Japanese Hierarchy. Particular care of Bishop Cousin was the native clergy, drawn principally from the old Christians, the children of the martyrs. He ordained during his twenty-five years forty Japanese priests. He established thirty-five missions and dedicated fifty churches and chapels. The Catholic population of Nagasaki in 1885, when he took charge of the diocese, was 23,000, and last year the census showed 47,000. The number was doubled in twenty-five years. The Bishop was forty-five years a missionary in Japan.

ROME

THE SACRED COLLEGE.

Of the 64 Cardinals who form the Sacred College (says *America*), 33 are Italians, and 31 are non-Italians, divided into 7 French, 6 Spaniards, 6 from Austria-Hungary, 4 from the United States, 2 Germans, and one each for Ireland, England, Holland, Belgium, Portugal and Brazil. The religious Orders will have this representation: three Friars Minors, one each for the Capuchins, Benedictines, Oratorians, Carmelites, Jesuits, Redemptorists, and Augustinians. The Redemptorist Father Van Rossum is the second member of that Congregation to become a Cardinal since its foundation by St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Cardinal Deschamps, Archbishop of Malines, being the other.

UNITED STATES

CARDINAL GIBBONS' MEMORIAL.

According to an announcement by Bishop Corrigan, the full amount collected for the Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Hall of the Catholic University of America, the corner stone of which was laid on October 12, is 121,462 dollars, about half of the amount necessary to complete the memorial.

A GENEROUS DONOR.

Realising the importance of the Catholic University and the necessity of providing ample funds for its expansion, Mr. James J. Ryan, of Philadelphia, called on Cardinal Gibbons in Baltimore recently and placed in his hands fifty 1000 dollar bills. Mr. Ryan believes in the charity 'that doth not vaunt itself.' He took precautions to prevent the very name of the donor being made public, and paid in cash and not by cheque in order to escape notoriety. But such good deeds in this day and time cannot long be hidden. The fact that a chair of Scripture was to be founded at the University and that the Cardinal had selected for it the name 'The James J. and Hannah Cusick Ryan Chair of the Old Testament' gave the clue, and Mr. Ryan was compelled to confess that he was the donor. The gift of Mr. Ryan is a personal tribute to Cardinal Gibbons, one of the most notable of the many that has marked his jubilee year.

DEPARTURE FOR ROME.

Two of the three American Cardinals-Elect, Archbishop Farley of New York, and Monsignor Falconio, Apostolic Delegate to Washington, sailed from New York on November 14, on board the Kronprinzessin Cecile for Rome. They were the central figures in a remarkable religious demonstration at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and thousands cheered the Archbishop en route to the pier.

Portraits Are Our Forte

Sittings a pleasure, not an ordeal at the "Tesla" Studios, opposite Post Office, Wanganui, so the hackneyed phrase no longer required—sooner have a tooth out.

Enlargements made from any photo. in black and white, sepia, or water colours.