

STRANGE BUT TRUE Catholic Facts But Little Known

By M. J. MURRAY



The life of St. Malo records that he allowed a bird which had nested in his cloak to remain until the young ones were hatched.

The newly erected CHURCH at Elizabethville, near Paris is almost entirely COMPOSED OF GLASS!

The representation of CRUCIFIXES of the dying Christ created great concern in Western Europe when first introduced by the Greeks in the twelfth century. Previously only a figure in peaceful repose was designed by the artists. Gradually, however, the custom prevailed in the West.

A Farmstead at Oloron in the Pyrenees mountains has been in the possession of a Catholic family name Laforre since it was built in 1146

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Catholic World Over

copied by the well-known artist, N. de Landa, a member of the Beaux Arts. The painting shows Queen Isabella in her royal robes holding her bible, prayer beads and scepter. Through the bravery and quick thinking of some young men, the casket containing the remains of St. Hildegard was brought from the burning church of St. Mary at Eblingen, near Bingen, Germany, shortly before the structure's walls fell in.

The Spanish correspondent of the London Tablet was the first one to reveal to the world that Blasco Ibanez, the Spanish novelist, whose books were the vogue in this country a few years ago, had died a Catholic, reconciled with the Church. He received the last Sacraments on his deathbed. His wife testified to that effect and so did his son, Siegfried Blasco Ibanez, a Republican and a deputy from Valencia.

One of the features of an exhibition in the galleries of the Alton Hotel, Chicago, is "The New Bishop," which depicts the consecration of the Most Rev. Stanislaus V. Bona as Bishop of Grand Island, Neb., at Holy Name Cathedral last winter.

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Membership of Polish children in the Eucharistic Crusade Days has reached a total of more than 10,000. The Crusade Day recently held in Warsaw evidenced in conclusive manner the great faith of the children. For on the morning of the celebration of children carrying religious banners marched through the streets of the Cathedral where solemn high Mass was celebrated.

His Eminence Jean Cardinal Verdier, Archbishop of Paris, has just blessed the new plant which will generate electric light and power for a vast region in the vicinity of Aveyron, his natal country.

Following the appointment of native bishops in India, China, Japan and Ethiopia, a native priest is soon expected to become the coadjutor with right of succession to the aged Mgr. Marcou, Vicar Apostolic of Phat Diem, Annam, Indo-China. The Phat Diem mission has 98,000 Catholics in a total population of 500,000 and is equipped with all necessary diocesan buildings and in altitudes.

Father Joseph Senawjita, formerly parish priest at Tchehatinsk, has just died in a Bolshevik prison at Novosibirsk, according to word received from the Vatican. The slow destruction of the Roman Catholic clergy is being carried on relentlessly in Russia.

"Dorset" Suggested For Cigar Smokers Webster & Leto, cigar manufacturers, offer the Dorset brand of clear Havana cigars to discriminating smokers. Available at cigar dealers or direct from the manufacturer at 31 Stone Street, these fine hand-made cigars meet all requirements as to taste and price. The "Dorset" is sold for 5c, or may be obtained by the box.

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Mr. Webster and Mr. Leto are thoroughly experienced in the cigar business, both having been associated with the tobacco and cigar business for over twenty-five years. Their experience is made manifest in the excellent cigars which they offer to the trade.

What wonder if tardily our prayers are heard by the Lord, when we tardily or not at all hear the Lord when He commands. - St. Gregory.

Important Hindu Publication Pays Catholic Church Eloquent Tribute

(Fides Service) The following article was taken from the "Prabuddha Bharata," August 1932, which is probably the most important publication of the Hindus. This monthly is published by the Ramakrishna Order of Hindu monks, under the editorship of Swami Sachchidananda, Calcutta, India. "Prabuddha Bharata" means "Awakened India." It is published in English. The article is presented here as it appeared in the original.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH BY TARAKNATH DAS, PH.D.

There are bigots among the Hindus who do not see anything worth while in other religions. But the real nature of Hinduism is universal tolerance and appreciation of all religions. This being the case, a true Hindu finds truth in the unity and other religions. This was the attitude of Sri Ramakrishna. It is not our intention to discuss the real teachings of Christianity, although we wish to make some comments on some phases of the organization of Roman Catholic Church.

The following news item from Vatican City dated April 7, 1932, will throw some light on the universal character of the organization of Roman Catholic Church: "The new Vatican directory was presented to Pope Pius this morning by Mgr. Ottaviani, Under-Secretary of State. It shows there are 1,609 Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops, as well as sixty-five Cardinals.

Europe has 673; North and South America 445; Asia 277; Africa 140; Oceania 74. United States has 109; Canada 74; Mexico 34; Argentina 10; Bolivia 11; Brazil 74; Chile 13 and Colombia 27.

While there are 65 Cardinals and 1,609 Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops scattered all over the world, the number of Roman Catholic priests, monks, nuns and lay brothers must be several hundreds of thousands. Roman Catholic Church maintains hundreds of thousands parochial schools, hundreds of universities and thousands of hospitals all over the world.

Furthermore, it may be of interesting to note that the section of "Propagation of Faith" whose headquarters are located in Vatican City, this year raised \$2,000,000 or about \$9 lakhs from voluntary contributions. This year contribution is about thirty per cent less than what was collected last year. In short Roman Catholic Church, under the direction of the General Council of Propagation of Faith alone, annually spends about one crore of rupees. The cost of educational, philanthropic and social service activities and maintenance of various religious orders of Roman Catholic Church all over the world, will amount to several billion dollars annually. The empire of Roman Catholic Church is vast and it is possibly the greatest organization in the world. Its stability is due to the character of the organization, which is at once a mixture of theocracy, aristocracy and representative system. The Pope, the head of the Church, is regarded as the infallible and absolute ruler of the Church, but he is chosen by the College of Cardinals which is composed of 65 Cardinals representing the Roman Catholic world. The Cardinals are the Princes of the Church - real prin-

Spiritual Thoughts

What is begun out of season never succeeds.

I beg you to speak with much restraint when you have to complain of another.

Do not fancy that if you had more time you would pray more. Blessed God often gives more in a moment than in a long period for His works are not limited by time.

God prefers your health and obedience to your penance.

That you are so resigned to the will of God is, I believe, the greatest benefit obtained by prayer.

Keep some holy water near you, nothing drives the devil away more quickly.

Do not be concerned as to whether your fortune is large or small, all will soon come to an end.

Trust my word and leave all to the Lord of life who knows each of us needs.

God is the true friend on whom we may rely, and if we always do His will we have nothing to fear.

Strive as we may, we shall never lift the cross in this life if we are on the side of the Crucified.

It is always well to talk of God, for profit comes to us from whence we least expect it. - St. Teresa of Jesus.

Thirty Million by Martin J. Heymans is another recently published play of the organization. It is a one-act comedy of domestic difficulties.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH SOCIETY HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS Diocese of Rochester, N. Y. Rev. Leo C. Mooney, Director Columbus Civic Center, 50 Chestnut Street Stone 1492 This copy is edited by the Diocesan Office in connection with National Office. Inquiries concerning missions welcomed.

Catholic Bishop's House, Tiruvalla, Travancore, South India, 1st September, 1932

Dear Editor, With full confidence in the Providence of God I take the liberty to send you a copy of "Malabar Conversions" which will explain itself. I believe that you are interested in the Reunion Movement among the Malabar Jacobites started through the grace of God by His Grace Mar Ivanios and myself, and that you will do your best to help me to gather in the harvest by placing before your readers the needs of my infant diocese which is now entirely separated from the Archdiocese of Trivandrum (Trichur) by a recent decree of the Holy See.

I would very much desire that your numerous readers will join together to subscribe to equip a mission station with a small memorial church. It is estimated that about one thousand and three hundred dollars to purchase a site and to put up the necessary structures. A site will cost on the average \$170, a small memorial church building, \$300, a cemetery with enclosures, \$120, equipment of the church, \$50, and a side room for the priest to stay \$50. Altogether roughly \$1300. If it is a temporary stone structure which may afterwards be converted into a parochial or a parochial primary school or a catechuminate, will cost including the site and cemetery on the average \$745. I have now before me thirty applications from various dioceses to erect mission centres. It is only the lack of necessary funds that prevents me from responding to these appeals. I shall be glad to call the site by the name of your paper, and to christen the church by the name of the patron saint you suggest. Thus I wish to perpetuate the memory of the good services that you do for the spread of the Kingdom of the Sacred Heart among the Malabar Jacobites.

Asks Prayers Above all I would request you to invite the prayers of all your readers for the progress of the Reunion Movement. I should therefore be thankful to you if you would open your columns on behalf of my poor diocese to receive donations from your generous readers. Besides assuring you of my deep gratitude and the blessing of Heaven on all our benefactors I may add that at every Mass celebrated according to our liturgy the following prayer for our benefactors is always said: "At this moment when the Holy Eucharist is placed before us, we remember all those who have either in word or deed done us a little or great good, co-operated with us for the creation of this holy place."

May God bless you and all your endeavours for the glory of God, and the extension of His Kingdom. I remain, Yours in the Sacred Heart of Our Lord, Mar Theophilus, Bishop of Tiruvalla.

Has Mission Course Problems of conversion and missionary work generally have become a part of the curriculum of Marquette University, according to an announcement of the Rev. William M. Magee, S.J., President.

As an aid to mission endeavor, the purpose of the extended program is to offer an opportunity to students to study the problems of various angles of missionary life and to discuss them intelligently. Courses will include the psychology of conversion, mission administration, the characteristics of primitive peoples, related problems of

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