## RELIGION IN FRANCE

Eminent Divine Considers it Will Not Not Return to Monarchy

There are ten million out of a total population of forty million people in Srance who receive communion, while more than thirty million out of the forty contribute in one way or another to support the Roman Catholic Church throughout the Republic, stated the Rev. Canon Desgranges, while on a visit to Montreal. He also referred to the awakening of Catholic sentiment amongst the better families, and to-day a good many of the sens of the best families of the Republic are recruiting for the priesthood.

The question was put to the Canon as regards the future form of government for his mother land, and he said that The did not look for the restoration either of the monarchists, as represented by the Duke of Orleans, or of the Empire, as represented by Prince Victor Bonaparte.

The idea of a priestly life in France, he added, is not to play a part in political affairs, but to loyally serve the Government of the peoples' choice. Catholics do demand, however, the reopening of relations with the Vatican, as the present state of affairs places the Catholic Church of France at a great disadvantage alongside those of

The relations of the Catholic people with church property, he considered, should be modified. The Canon cited the case of Quebec, where the Protestants have their own schools and the Catholics theirs.

Germany and other countries.

There is an indication, he said, that the directing minds of the French Republic are coming to see that the state cannot live independently of the Church, and that religion is absolutely necessary fo the soul. He believed in fact, that men like Poincare, Ribot, Briand and many others, admit this truth, although they will not avow it openly.

#### RECORD STONE QUARRIED

Excavators in Syria Find 1,500-Ton Stone

What is said to be the largest stone ever quarried is a great monolith in the ruins of Baalbec, in Syria. It is 69 feet long, 14 feet broad and 17 feet deep, and is estimated to weigh 1,500 tons. It is thought by archæological scholars that this huge stone was intended by the ancient builders to adorn the Temple of the Sun, nearby -now, of course, in ruins.

Herein is a wall which careful measurements show to be 63 feet long and 13 feet high. And, more remarkable still, the stones are placed in position 19 feet above the ground level. Mcreover, although no sign of any cementing mixture is to be found in these ancient buildings, the stones have been squared and polished so evenly that only after the most minute search can the joints be found, and when traced it is impossible to thrust the blade of a pocket knife between them.

## Women Travel Alone

"More and more women are travelling alone every year," said the manager of a big travel agency. "Everything is made so easy nowadays that discomfort is reduced to a minimum.

"A woman can go round the world to-day, and can be under supervision the whole time if she cares to."

Women are becoming as enterprising travellers as men. These are

some of the latest exploits: Mrs. Blount penetrated to the heart of the Dark Continent.

Countess Molitor now crossing the Great Desert of South Arabia alone. Miss Edith A. Browne now proceed-

ing through the vast depths of the great Amazon forests.

Miss Werner who has lived among the native races of the East African protectorate.

## A Lucky Chance

"A short time ago," writes a correspondent from Vernon, B.C., "a neighbor of mine was asleep in his shack at daybreak one morning, when he was awakened by a scratching at the door and on having roused himself was sutprised to see a black bear push his way into the shack. There was a loaded .22 beside his bunk. Reaching out for this he took a shot at Bruin, By a lucky chance he killed him dead and thus was brought to an end a very emberrassing situation."

## PITCHING THE CAMP

A Space is Scooped Out Three or Four Feet Deep

Here is how R. J. Fraser, a traveller in Northern Canadian climes, describes "pitching the camp":

The moment the halt is called there ensues a scene of hustle and activity. Your Indian in winter is a far different being from the shiftless, indifferent loafer who lies about the summer wigwam. He must exert himself or freeze. As it is nearly sunset all hands must make the most of the short twilight minutes. Snowshoes are kicked off and used as shovels. A space only large enough to accommodate the members of the party when stretched at full length, side by side, is scooped out to a depth of three or four feet. Some of the men fell nearby trees, and a threefoot barricade is built to windward. While the others are scattered about the woods felling and gathering firewood, the guides carpet the interior of the camp with spruce boughs. Then, as the firewood comes in, they pile it in front of the shelter, crib fashion, the full length of the camp. For kindling, the top of a dead spruce cannot be beaten, and quickly the huge pile of resinous wood is lit, at both ends and in the middle. In a few minutes there is a aroaring blaze, breast-high, that drives one back to the bottom of the camp. With his mittened hands he is forced to shield his frost-bitten face from the terrific heat, and yet, at the same time, h's back, exposed to the north, is freezing. When a sufficient quantity of wood has been gathered for the night, and one must not neglect to include a supply for the breakfast fire, the drivers drop their axes and give a little attention to their dogs, now well cooled off and shivering in their harness. The wearied brutes are released from the laden toboggans, and tied to convenient trees, out of reach of each other. Were they allowed to roam untethered, there would be but little sleep for the travller. The night would be one continual battle amongst the savage brutes, and when the wolfblood surged uppermost trapper and

## NEW TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

hunter might easily fall prey to the

half-starved "huskies."

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Coral and Kindness

Queen Helena of Italy has set a new fashion in Rome. For the last few years the coral fishermen of Torre del Greco, near Naples, have had bad times. No one wanted the red stone They appealed to the of the seas. Queen, and the consequence was that at a Court ball at the Quirinal, instead of the magnificent pearl necklace which she usually wears, Queen Helena wore round her neck six rows of coral, and her beautiful hair was crowned with a diadem of diamonds and coral. Coral at once became the fashion. Old coral ornaments that have slumbered for years in their cases are being furbished up, and the jewellers are being besieged with orders for the blood-red stones. Queen Helena's kindness has succeeded, and the fishermen of Torre del Greco are happy again.

#### Replanting the Forests

Over twelve thousand letters have been received at the Dominion Government Forest Nursery Station at Indian Head, Sask., and almost two and three-quarter million trees distributed for planting on the farms of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. To accommodate this constantly increasing demand, a branch nursery has been established near Saskatoon. Nine inspectors supervise these prairie-farm plantations, and give personal advice to the farmers, and the Forestry Branch, Ottawa, issues bulletins free of charge to anyone interested in this work in Canada or elsewhere.

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