

Historic Scene in the Lateran Palace

By Rev. JOHN J. COCHRANE.

GRAPHIC WORD PICTURE OF GREAT EVENT.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE POPE'S SELECTION.

The following article, which depicts the scene at the signing of the pact between the Holy See and Italy, points the significance of the fact that, whereas the Holy Father might have chosen the Vatican as the place for the signing of the Concordat whereby his Kingdom has at last been acknowledged by Italy, he selected for the history-making ceremony the Lateran Palace of the Missions.

logs, gifts of the Nyr-Malabar Catholics. From the Upper Nile, in the heart of Africa, in more ivory, this time a carved elephant mounted with silver, a gift from Bishop Biermann, of the Mill Hill Missioners, London.

From China, in Colombia, South America, is a collection of ornaments in precious metals, rare possessions of the Indians, and a large emblem moulded from pre-Columbian gold found near Bogota. From Alaska, then, in North America, is a chaplet of many beads carved from bone by the natives, and sent to the Pope by Jesuit missionaries through General Noble after his first visit to the Pope.

Europe is represented by a silver model of Castle Xavier, home of the apostle without peer, St. Francis Xavier of Navarre, a glory of Spain.

UNDER ONE BANNER.

Premier Mussolini sits with Cardinal Gasparri in these surroundings to-day, and takes the first step in swearing the good

There could be no more fitting scene for the great event, for it was from this Palace that Pope saint Pius sent forth missionaries to carry the message of the Gospel to the uttermost ends of the earth. And the peace that has been made between the Holy See and Italy is not a peace for Italy, nor for any one nation or continent. It is meant for all the nations of the world, and it has been made by a Pope whose great desire is to unite all the nations under one banner—the banner of Christ the King.

THE TABLE OF THE SIGNATURES WAS IN MISSIONARY EXHIBITION.

It is noon on Monday, the fateful February 11, and we are standing by the portal at the north door of the Mother of the

Their meeting was to have been a secret guarded for the inner circle, but the story, like so many of its kind, leaked out. A crowd, tense with excitement, is seen to witness the passage of these two men. Within five minutes will have a sound of the trumpet. I do not deny it—I am in a tremble at

few were reconnoitering, since the Museum doorman said there had been but 120 visitors up to 5 o'clock. However, there in the Hall was Mr. Corvini, of the Associated Press, getting "colours." He was in a sort of enthusiastic awe the fact that he had discovered that the table upon which



THE LATERAN PALACE.

Churches of the world, St. John's. We have watched first Cardinal Gasparri and then Premier Mussolini drive into the Lateran Palace, and they are now sealing the accord between the Holy See and Italy.

the pregnant greatness of the moment, for my mind is dwelling not only in the piazza, or on the scene behind the Palazzo windows. My thoughts are shooting like the shuttle of a loom out from Rome to the four corners of the globe, weaving a fabric of the reverberations which this fusing of the Pope will awaken in every country where a Catholic heart throbs.

A MISSIONARY ATMOSPHERE.

There are newspaper men near me. A Frenchman is saying to himself: "This will make a good story to-night in Paris"; an Englishman: "This gets the first column in London this evening." A German—since Berlin and Munich; an American, sure, he sees his "stuff" in headlines from New York to San Francisco.

But I stop at no country in particular; it is the world-wide significance behind the event which is counting with me. More, it is the world-wide significance which Pope Pius XI. has made the conscious effort to put behind the event which grips me. Because, whether my compatriots the pressmen are going to take note of the fact or not, Pope Pius XI. has gone out of his way to give the signing of the accord between the Holy See and Italy a missionary atmosphere.

There were really no grave reasons why the document could not have been signed at the Vatican. Instead, the Holy Father decided the historic Hall of the Popes of the Lateran Mission Museum should once again see history, that the background of the signing of peace with the country in which the supernatural centre of the Church is found should be an institution organized to make clear that Catholicity is above all flags, all nations, labours for every people on earth.

THE HALL OF THE POPES.

Yesterday afternoon (Sunday) I anticipated the meeting of to-day by a visit to this Hall of the Popes, now the Hall of Conferences, of the Museum. Relatively

the signing was to take place was from the Philippine Islands.

A visitor to the Vatican Mission Exposition in 1925 would have noticed that the massive structure, made of a single piece of wood over six yards long and two yards wide, was the same that stood in the Hall of Oceania at the Exposition, a gift of Jesuit missionaries to the Pope. About this table this noon Church and State are listening to a final reading of the accord, and then the signatures.

The hall in which the table stands is spacious and richly decorated. The Lateran Palace, recall, was the home of the Popes for a thousand years, from 314 to 1323, and from it were sent out the missionaries who brought the Faith to many of the countries of Europe. It still retains in good condition its ornately-decorated walls.

FROM EVERY LAND ON EARTH.

The floor, paved in marble, is unencumbered with furniture, except for this new historic table and another large one at the opposite end of the hall, also constructed of a single cross-section of a tree-trunk of the Philippine forests. At other end of the hall is a bust of a Pope—one of Sixtus V., builder of the Palace; the other, near the table of signatures, representing Pius XI., founder, in 1928, of the Lateran Mission Museum, to which 24 halls of the Palace are now dedicated.

About the walls, there, in finely-constructed glass cases, are symbols of the Catholic Church on the five Continents, gifts to the Holy Father from Europe, Asia, Africa, North America, South America—not many, but a selection of the choicest among the thousands which fill the Museum.

WHERE EAST AND WEST MEET.

From China is a collection of ancient coins, one of the most complete in the world, numbering 6948 pieces. In all, the oldest of which date from 1222 B.C. From India are ivory tusks, with lace-like carv-

will of Italy toward the Prince of Good Will, the leader of the Catholic millions of these five Continents.

The newsmen here in the Piazza will not mention it to the Parisians, Londoners, or New Yorkers, but this peace is not made alone for Italy, for Europe, for America. It is made by a Pope passionately devoted to uniting all men the earth over under one banner: a Pope from whom Asia, Africa, Oceania receive every whit the same concern as the Western world.

As I wait here I can see the Catholics of Peking, of Tokyo, of the Fiji Islands, of the East Indies, of Madras, of Uganda, of the banks of the Congo, of the White Man's Grave on the far African West Coast rejoicing that this peace has been signed in the Lateran, now their Palace, in Rome.

KITCHEN CRAFT UP-TO-DATE.

Let us look upon the bright side of things. It is a fact that longevity has increased, and it is largely due to the improved ways of handling food-stuffs. In older times all kinds of grocery supplies were kept in bulk in boxes and drawers from which they were ladled out into paper bags in the presence of the buyer. Today, everything is neatly packed in packages, tins, or bottles. This prevents contamination by insect pests and disease germs, hence the modern way ensures a pure food supply at least of you buy anything that is bottled or canned. When buying K.R. Camp Fire, you do not only get pure meals, which are kept fresh to the air-tight tin, but you get the very best meals possible, because the meals used in K.R. Camp Fire are grown on the fertile acres of the Fighting Backs. Any one who has been to the Downs has had first-hand experience of the wonderfully healthy climate, and the air and water raised in this climate embody the utmost purity. That is why the K.R. Camp Fire meals are so healthy and can be enjoyed with benefit in every body by using pure K.R. Camp Fire. The new Kitchen Craft is clean, economical and health-giving. It has been made by using K.R. Camp Fire as a base, which can be used in preparing any kind of food, including soups, and decorative pastries. K.R. Camp Fire is made up from the best of Home, Tongue-Berf, and Bacon. It is the Great Australian Dish. It is free from preservatives, always fresh, and most economical in price.

The Tropik Improved Venetian Louvre Blind.

Ans. Blind does for the Blind.—Ours are for those who require Perfection.

Stanley-st., South Brisbane.

Phone 1178.

C. J. (Jim) CRAIG'S NEWSTEAD BUTCHERY

For Prime Quality at the Lowest Price. 104 Breakfast Creek Road (tram section). Phone 6418.