

portunity to reach Islam; Equatorial Africa its peril. Each of these typical conditions is in itself an appeal. The supreme need of the Moslem world is Jesus Christ. He alone can give light to Morocco, unity to Persia, life to Arabia, rebirth to Egypt, reach the neglected in China, win Malaysia, meet the opportunity in India, and stop the aggressive peril in Africa."

The Vatican and Roman Catholic authorities of Spain and Portugal have their hands more than full with the problems that are pressing on them. Spain attempted to reopen negotiations with the Vatican concerning the reduction of the number of religious orders. The Vatican would consent only on condition that no legislation should be introduced on these topics in the Cortes without the consent of the Holy See. This demand has been firmly refused, so a deadlock has once more occurred. In Portugal a conspiracy against the provisional Government failed. This conspiracy had the approval of the authorities at Rome. But now, as ever, "wise in their day and generation," these defeated priests and monks are trying to make peace with the government, especially since the determined threats to bring about the separation of church and state. The government, on their part, demand assurance of loyal adherence to the republic before releasing the arrested priests.

That the Bible is the most widely read book in Germany is a cheering piece of news. The large increase last year is said to be largely due to the publication of illustrated Bible portions which have had a large sale among continental Catholics. Roman Catholics are accustomed to have religion presented to them by means of pictures, and it is hoped this success may mean an application of this method elsewhere.

The far north has perils of its own and terrible hardships to offer the missionary. Two missionaries were, not long since, attempting to cross a desolate waste from the basin of the Mackenzie River to the headwaters of the Porcupine. When they started on what proved to be a 27-days' tramp they had food for only three days. For the last few days they kept alive by eating their moccasins and muckluks, which are boots made of raw sealskin. These

were soaked until they became soft, then cut in strips and toasted over the fire. The trip lasted altogether fifty-one days and completely exhausted both of the travellers.

Chicago has become one of the leading Roman Catholic cities of the world. It is now said to rank with Paris, Vienna, Munich and Dublin as a Catholic centre. In 75 years it has risen from a single parish, with 100 communicants, to an archdiocese of 1,000,000 communicants. There are in the city 188 Catholic churches and 143 parochial schools with 81,680 pupils. The statement of these facts ought to provide food for reflection among Protestants.

A great forward movement is being arranged and carried out among many of the denominations of the United States. Among other plans, one denomination is sending a party of representatives around the world for mission study. They are to leave July 1 and to stay abroad a year or a little longer. They go first to Great Britain and Europe to study religious conditions there, past and present, then to Greece, Turkey, Syria, Palestine and Egypt, Ceylon, India and Burma, the Straits Settlements, Siam and Laos, the Philippines, China, Korea, Japan and the Hawaiian Islands. That the churches at home may not have to wait too long for the inspiration gained, there are to be 10,000 correspondents in as many churches, to receive reports of the tour and bring these reports before the churches. A volume is to be printed on the return of the party. This is an energetic, business-like policy to gain the facts and disseminate knowledge which will create the interest and bring forth the means necessary for the speedy evangelization of the world. The whole undertaking is financed independently and so brings no expense to the Board.

It is said that fully three-fourths of the population of Japan is a rural population and has yet never had an adequate presentation of the Gospel. A call has gone forth from Japanese Christians and American missionaries for reinforcements to work in town and country. The Japanese ask that the former solicitude for the spiritual welfare of the country be once more exercised.