

Lemius, O.M.I., procurator of the Oblates at the Holy See and consulter to the Sacred Congregation of Studies; also Rev. A. M. Lepicier, professor of theology at the university of the Propaganda. Besides three others who are teaching in seminaries, and one rector, the academy counts two lay gentlemen, a lawyer and a doctor of medicine.

With the encouragement of the Pope a similar society has been founded in many of the catholic institutes of different countries and has been aggregated to the one at Rome. Among the members of the Roman Academy who remain in Italy are two bishops, while the rest are mostly professors. Of those residing in other parts most are teaching in colleges, seminaries and lyceums, one is professor in the Royal University of Madrid, another in the University of Amsterdam, and a third in the Catholic University of Louvain.

A few weeks ago another name was proposed by the first member of the executive council of the Roman Academy, that of Rev. Henry Lacoste, O. M. I., professor in the Catholic University of Ottawa. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the members, and the Cardinal Prefect, former professor of Fr. Lacoste, gave his consent with joy and satisfaction. The nomination was afterwards graciously confirmed by His Holiness the Pope who always speaks of Ottawa as "my university."

That institution had more than one title to a representation in the Roman Academy. Ever since its foundation St. Joseph's College has always strictly adhered to the principles of St. Thomas Aquinas. Leo XIII in the apostolic brief by which he raised the Ottawa institution to the rank of a Catholic University, among the many other reasons which he states as rendering her worthy of such an honour, gives the following testimony: "We also know with what zeal our beloved sons, the members of the congregation of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, have devoted themselves, since the year

1848, to the proper education of the young, having willingly bestowed on this noble work and its advancement their possessions as well as their zealous care, and how much the superiors of that same Congregation have always taken it to heart, to preserve and nurture in a becoming manner among their subjects a devotedness towards the Holy See and the Rulers of the Church, and at the same time to watch that *philosophy and theology should be taught in accordance with the doctrines of St. Thomas Aquinas*. These being so, we can understand how many illustrious scholars, formed by the learned professors of the College of Ottawa, have gained for their teachers wide esteem and honour."

In many ways has the Sovereign Pontiff testified his satisfaction and approbation of the philosophy taught in the college since its elevation to the rank of a catholic university, notably by sending every year a gold medal to be awarded, as prize to the best philosophical student. St. Joseph's college was the first educational institute to adopt as class book of philosophy, the work of the learned Dominican, the late Cardinal Zigliara. This author, a strenuous defender of Thomistic principles, as Dominicans generally are, was a warm friend of Ottawa University. He also, every year up to his death sent a medal to be given as a prize for philosophy. Moreover in the same institution a society of St. Thomas has been established, and is maintained as much as possible after the manner of the one at Rome. The end kept in view and the means employed to attain it are common to both. Ottawa University was one of the first institutes which formed a like society, and so put early into practice the recommendation of the encyclical letter "Eterni Patris." Founded solely with the view of assuring the spread of sane philosophy and of responding to the pressing invitations of the august Head of the Church, the St. Thomas Society of Ottawa must be productive of good results. May it live and prosper.