

to say, it is in him all the while. At present in France, to be outwardly at least an atheist, a free-thinker and a scoffer is a necessary qualification for any public office, even that of a policeman.

A system of education has been imposed, which will entail an enormous expenditure for teachers' salaries and public school-buildings, in order that the rising generation of Frenchmen may not so much as hear the name of God. The body of the people, still believers in religious education, will hear of no other for their children, and have to pay twice over, first, for the palatial atheistic lyceums that are being constructed and opened throughout the country, and secondly for the maintenance of religious free schools and teachers. Meanwhile war preparations are advancing on a gigantic scale, and exhausting, by repeated drafts of men and overwhelming taxes, the resources even of exuberant France.

The Holy League is working its way in France, where a vast field is opened to its promoters. It appears to be the centre and soul of the religious movement which promises at no distant day to christianize France once more. Its latest fruits have been a more frequent reception of the sacraments among all classes of the people, a national celebration, with festivities and pilgrimages, of the Tercentenary of St. Aloysius, and a more solid one still, the organization of councils of the Juvenile League throughout the Catholic colleges and schools of the land.

Finally, the solemn opening and dedication of the Basilica of the National Vow on the hill of Montmartre overlooking Paris, at which the French hierarchy assisted, and a letter of congratulation was read from the Pope, has given a fresh impulse to religion and especially to devotion to the Sacred Heart. In this magnificent monument, second only to St. Peter's, and dedicated by the Church of France to the Sacred Heart, the National Vow of Reparation