PRIEST-POET WINS LASSERRE PRIZE

By M. Massiani

(Paris Correspondent, N. C. W. C.) The committee of sixteen writers called upon to make the award, each year, at a meeting held in the Ministry of Public Instruction, of the Lasserre prize of 10,000 francs, gave it this year to the poet Louis le Cardonnel. Many people learned supers for the first time from the articles cated. published the day after this decis-ion, that Louis le Cardonnel is a

priest.
Abbe Louis le Cardonnel is now Abbe Louis le Cardonnel is now sixty-two years of age. He wrote his first poems in 1882. At that time he was part of the advance guard of the literary movement headed by Malarmé, and he had become the friend of Huysmans. "Miracle working shrines are still-Later, he was to go with the latter to live in the Benedictine monasters with the Middle Are." "he rowards with the Middle Are." "he rowards with the Middle Are." to live in the Benedictine monastery of Ligugé where he developed a passion for the study of religious things. He went to Rome, entered the French seminary there, and completed his philosophical and theological training. He was or-dained at the age of thirty-four and went to his native diocese of Valence. But the Benedictine life attracted him. A novice in the Monastery of Ligugé, under the name of Brother Anselm, he found Huysmans, who had retired, there as an Oblate. Unfortunately, however, health did not enable him to follow the Benedictine rule, so he resumed his life as a secular priest and went to live in Italy, at Florence, Rome, and Assisi. He is now living in the latter city, in company with some Franciscans, with Johan-

Louis le Cardonnel has published three volumes of verse. In the first, "Poems," which appeared in these congregations to withdraw within a short time and report their 1904, he collected the verse written within a short time and report their during a period of twenty-four years. Ten years later only five hundred copies had been sold. In 1912 he published "The Carmina Sacra." He has now published "De l'une a l'autre Aurore" (From One Dawn to Another). Evit Sacra." He has now published "De l'une a l'autre Aurore" (From One Dawn to Another.) But glory has come, and in a few days three editions have been brought out.

ENCLOSED RETREATS IN IRELAND

The practice of making enclosed retreats is spreading among the Irish laity. In 1874 the first House of Retreat for Laymen in Dublin was opened by the Jesuits at Milltown Park, near the city. Until quite recently it was the sole house of its kind in Ireland, but lately the movement towards Retreats for laymen has received a great impetus. In 1921 Rathfarnham House of Peterste at Market 1931 Rathfarnham House of Peterste 193 House of Retreats was founded.
About that time the commodious castle at this place, three miles from the center of the city, was acquired by the Jesuits.

Since then, more has been done towards popularizing periodical the Catholics of Jugo-Slavia. One enclosed retreats than anything of the prominent Catholic ecclestheretofore accomplished.
The enclosed retreat

been a strong and powerful weapon in the fight with continental irrelig-

ion and materialism.

Rev. P. McBride, S. J., describes the fine work accomplished at Rathfarnham. In these retreats a man has a standard by which he may judge everything he uses or with he has occasion to come in contact-money, pleasure, companions, abilities and talents, life itself; a rule by which all his desires and seekings after material prosperity are rightly measured.

The enclosed retreat is a social work of the highest order," says Father M Bride, "it penetrates to the moral evils which underlie the social difficulty. It helps to bring rich and poor together, to make them of one mind so that the rich man become just and tolerant, the poor man hard-working and conscientious. It puts a new coloring on their lives by taking the true spirit of ancient Christianity from the region of theory and re-intro-ducing it to practical everyday life. Men who have made retreats become men of grit and no longer the victims of their environment."

DISSENSION AMONG ANGLICANS

London, Eng.—Spiritual healing is the latest subject of dissension among the Anglicans. A layman, Hickson, has attracted nation-wide attention to healing services which he has conducted at Bradford, in London and elsewhere, and crowds of people are flocking to

The (Anglican) Bishop of Bradford has given his blessing to Mr. Hick-son's mission, and has himself taken him, but Adjutant Pericard, fightpart in the services. Some Church of England clergymen seem rather pleased that they have been able to reproduce something which in the popular estimation "looks like Lourdes."

LONDON, CANADA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1925

But the old church of England die-hards are not to be intrigued by such things. Dean Inge, the "gloomy dean," wants none of it.

"It is high time," he says, "that

an energetic protest was made against the encouragement which is being given by certain bishops to the craze for miracle-mongering in the treatment of sickness, which is part of a widespread recrudescence of superstition among the half-edu-

"They are bringing the Church of England into contempt, and doing incalculable mischief by exploiting those partially submerged beliefs and habits of thought which

"Miracle working shrines are still exploited by the Catholic Church as in the Middle Ages," he remarks, and quotes a Frenchman as having said that Lourdes is a very lucrative commercial affair to those who take

wrestle with the new bone of contention, the average Protestant is left to make his own decision, both as to the matter of miracles and as to the matter of leaders who don't lead.

NEW PERSECUTIONS IN JUGO-SLAVIA

By Dr. Frederick Funder (Viennia Correspondent, N. C. W. C.)

A recent degree of the new Pasic-Pribicevic Government of Jugo-Slavia prohibits students of secondschools from joining the

present kingdom. In 1922 the Catholic episcopate of Jugo-Slavia made a public and emphatic protest to the King against the persecution of the Marian Congregations which, the Bishops pointed out, was a serious infringement upon the internal administration of the Church in Bosnia and Croatia. The protest by the episcopate was successful, however, only after the Pasicover the reins of government alone. Now, however, the old Pasic-Pribicevic coalition is once more in power and one of its first steps was to renew the obnoxious measures against the Catholic congregations.

The action of the government has provoked deep resentment among iastics of that country recently expressed himself to the correspondent of the N. C. W. C. News Service as follows:

"It is incomprehensible that the Government realizing that the nation is on the edge of the abyss because of constitutional controversies, should seek to multiply the elements of discord by adding renewed religious persecutions to the existing political discrimina-tions. So far we have had moderate elements among the Catholic Croats and Slovenes who loyally lent the State their support and believed in it. Now, however, the situation appears hepeless. For six years the enervating struggle has gone on Each time when pros-pects seemed bright a greater disappointment has been the lot of the

LEAGUE TO DEFEND PRIEST SOLDIERS

By M. Massiani (Paris Correspondent, N. C. W. C.)

The League for the Defense of the Rights of Religious who Fought in the War, founded two months ago, has formed its board of directors. It has elected as president of the War, founded two months ago, has formed its board of directors. dent M. Jacques Pericard, a newspaper man who, because of a sublime cry uttered at a memorable moment, will remain one of the most heroic figures of the World

Jacques Pericard, adjutant in an infantry regiment, was on guard one day in the front line trenches, when the Germans attacked unexpectedly on a short front. By throwing hand grenades the assail-ants were able to kill or disable the ing like a lion, gave this magnificent legendary order: "Up, dead legendary order:

The attack had already begun to weaken in the face of the resistance of his little phalanx when the

or the Medaille Militaire.
In their declaration of principles.

the founders of the League state: "We shall not tolerate, at the hour when traitors are being amnestied, that certain former combatants, our brothers in misery, should be the victims of measures of exception which cannot be laws since they are contrary to the declarations of the rights of man Whilst the Anglican leaders and of the citizen, and to the wrestle with the new bone of conlaw; since they do not tend to promote the common welfare but are the work of a party, and since they are opposed to natural rights and to the rights of God."

RUMANIA

EMPOWERSORTHODOXTOSEIZE

CATHOLIC CHURCHES Bucharest, Nov. 15.—Reports are being received here that in many places Catholics are being forced against their will to attend religious services in Orthodox Churches. Information has also been received that at Brasov, on September 12, a church belonging to the Catholics of Torcsvar, Transylvania, was taken over by an Orthodox clergyman, a certain Zernesti. This Zernesti presented beld a punishable offense by the limself to the Catholic presented Transylvania, was taken over by an Orthodox clergyman, a certain Zernesti. This Zernesti presented himself to the Catholic pastor and demanded possession of the local parish church, showing a decree of the Royal Minister of Cults which transferred the possession and use of this parish church to the control of the supreme court in 1920 over truled the earlier decisions and set of this parish church to the

Orthodox.

To those acquainted with the often expressed sentiments of the Royal Minister of Cults there was nothing strange in this procedure. Minister Lapadato, who is also assessor of the Orthodox consistory of Cluj, has repeatedly given public vent to his hostility towards the Catholic Church. To him as its author is attributed the plan of consolidating all Catholic Churches to Rumania with the dominant Orthodox.

Obscenity of printed matter. The effect of this decision he said was to take the life out the statute against was a great center of Greek art and science.

The city of Cairo is the largest in Africa, and due to the presence of turists throughout the greater part of the year, has become most modern, with excellent hotels while just outside its borders begins the almost endless stretch of the sandy desert.

After the occupation and practical domination of Egypt by Turkey

CATHOLIC BISHOP INSULTED

Geoagiu, figured took place at the reeking with depraying obscenity restoration of this church. This have been in free circulation ever Schismatic priest, Geoagiu, publicly since."

declared that he would not give Just what the Clean Books over the keys of the church to the Catholics. Forced, however, to do situation, Justice Ford outlined as so he came to the church and for follows: over an hour publicly insulted both

people of the town. That these grave incidents are provoked by the Orthodox clergy, in many cases, under the protection of the civic authorities, is evident the adherents of every church. The decree is looked upon here as a public confession on the part of the Minister of Cults of the unfortunate part which many officials of the Government have played in arous-

The Catholics of the Greek-Rumanian Diocese of Lugos have also been subject to grave incon-veniences in some cases to downright injustices. The important journal L'Unirea, in its issue of October 4, published the story of the successful attempt made by the

A determined effort is likewise being made to close up all Catholic schools, as was reported in earlier dispatches. Many parish schools, last year convicted and sentenced dispatches. Many parish schools, last year convicted and sentenced particularly those of German and to a four months term of imprison-Hungarian Catholics, have been discontinued already. Other schools, like those in Transylvania, have been seriously hampered in their work and badgered on every possible occasion. The teachers of German and the seriously described by the seriously hampered in their work and badgered on every possible occasion. The teachers of German and the seriously those of German and the seriously the seriously

ment are under way. The success of these negotiations, however, is of these negotiations, however, is being imperilled by the many injustices practiced upon the Catholic minority. The Vatican scarcely can be expected to sign a Concordat with a nation where religious discrimination and persecutions are almost of daily occurrence

THE CLEAN BOOKS LEAGUE

BOOKS NOT PERMITTED IN BRITAIN SOLD IN N. Y.

"To speak of censorship of obscenity is an absurdity. It is a crime and who ever heard of censorship of crime," declared Justice John Ford of the New York Supreme Court in an address here Supreme Court in an address here

Books League.

Justice Ford reviewed legal precedents which, he said, snow that publication of obscene matter has been considered a crime under the Common Law of England and the this parish church to the up a new standard as a test of the

"In face of a statute so plain that it cannot be misunderstood and a unanimous decision of the Court of At Cibu, a parish church which Appeals giving to it full force and Appeals giving to it full force and effect there has not been a single conviction based upon the distribution of any book of literary pretension since 1920 when the Brainard sion since 1920 when the Brainard on the day the writer reached there. At Clou, a parish church which had been taken over forcibly by the Orthodox was only restored to the Catholics of the Rumanian Rite after a decree had come from the Royal Minister of Cults. An unfortunate incident in which the leading Schismatic pastor, a certain Geografy figured took place at the restored to the Court of the First Department. Yet hundreds of such publications

"The purpose of the Clean Books Bishop Nicolescu and the Catholic League is merely to amend the statute so as to restore the test endorsed by the Court of Appeals and applied by all the courts of the United States and of all other States and countries under Anglofrom a decree published in the Saxon institutions. We simply from the Arab. The Turks are not L'Unirea of September 20. On want to breathe the breath of life numerous in Egypt; and the Arabs that day the Royal Minister of Cults publicly forbade all State functions from engaging in religious coning our homes and families from the dead of minister of cults and the dead of minister of cults and the two dead of minister of cults and the dead of minister of cults and the dead of minister of cults and the cults are the dead of minister of cults and the cults are the cults are the cults are the cults are the cults and the cults are the cult from engaging in religious con-troversies, and decreed that the protection of the law be given to threatens them on all sides. If that is censorship it is censorship of wise quite universally worn. crime and let our critics make the natives have not changed

"That censorship cry is so dis honest. Our immunity from censorship as the Supreme Court of the ing religious prejudices and stirring up racial discrimination. came from English precedent. Censorship as it formerly existed in England had little to do with obscenity. On the con-trary it was while censorship trary it was while censorship was in force that printed obscenity was rampant and since it was dis-continued the suppression of obscenthe successful attempt made by the administration officers of the province to prevent Catholics from getting into communication with their own Bishop, Monsignor Nicolescu. The local parish priest was also forbidden by them to baptize children. Only after a vigorous protest on the part of the baptize children. Only after a vigorous protest on the part of the ordinary of the diocese did he succeed in obtaining permission to succeed in obtaining permission to be succeed to

history. No more glorious name could have been carried to the presidency of the league of former language. Seventy-five per cent. of these teachers failed due to the severity of the examinations and to the unchical procedure of the league are religious and laymen. The wice-presidents are a Benediction and an engineer; the treasurer is a Eudist, the secretary a Jesuit. Among the other members are a professor from the Faculty of Letters of Bordeaux, a surgeon from the Paris hospitals and the president general of the Catholic Association of French Youth. All, without exception, have been decorated with the Legion of Honor or the Medaille Militaire.

In their declaration of principles

called on not long ago to take a rigid examination in the Rumanian for definition of obscenity the Clean Books League, according to Justice Ford, is endeavoring to have severity of the examinations and to the unchical procedure of the examiners went so far as to ask questions of the teaching Sisters which were obscene in the extreme. A storm of public protest was a roused over these incidents and the government ordered an investigation, but nothing has come of it.

CONCORDAT MENACED

At the present time negotiations for a Concordat between the Vatican and the Rumanian Government are under way. The success of the examination and to the endeavoring to have written into the statutes the definition of obscenity the Clean Books League, according to Justice Ford, is endeavoring to have written into the statutes the definition of obscenity the Clean Books League, according to Justice Ford, is endeavoring to have written into the statutes the definition of obscenity the Clean Books League, according to Justice Ford, is endeavoring to have written into the statutes the definition of obscenity the Clea

ONE - TIME STRONGHOLD OF CATHOLIC FAITH NOW RULED BY MOHAMMEDANS

By Right Rev. Mgr. John F. Noll There would be no Egypt if there were no Nile dissecting the Arabian and Sahara deserts, and inundating their sandy surface for many miles during five months of the year. This river has built up about 12 000 square miles of the most fertile land in the world. On this small area dwell nearly 14,000,000 people, all but 1,000,000 of whom practice the Mohammedan religion. The

Supreme Court in an address here outlining the purposes of the Clean Books League.

Justice Ford reviewed legal pre-They have never abandoned that heresy, though few of the Copts have the faintest idea what the con-Copts troversy about the one or two natures in Christ means.

ONCE CATHOLIC STRONGHOLD

Lower Egypt, which to us is upper Egypt, or that portion which obscenity of printed matter. The effect of this decision he said was to take the life out the statute against

tical domination of Egypt by Turkey for several centuries, the French and English, in turn, gained considerable control, and today Egypt has Home Rule under an English The native population quite naturally craves independence, and many times during the year holds a noisy foreign domination. The clergy of the Greek and Latin rites prefer her teachings.

"In spite of family ties and life" favorable to the progress of the Christian faith and because under Moslem domination Christians would be discriminated against in various ways.

EGYPTIAN DISTINCT TYPE

Four-fifths of the people of Egypt are native peasants, and form quite a distinct type from the Turk or from the Arab. The Turks are not cloth about their heads instead of threatens them on all sides. If wearing the red fez, which is othermanner nor their mode of living, to any great extent, during the she does most of the work in the fields, and it is a common sight to see a man riding an animal with woman walking at his side.

Egypt, which was known to us do from childhood as the land of mystery, of sorcery, of mummies, of the pyramids and the sphinxes, invited new interest throughout the world following the discovery of the tomb of King Tut, in the so-called Valley of the Kings, near Luxor.

land which Joseph, one of Jacob's sons, ruled over after he married Several cures have been reported as the result of Mr. Hickson's healing efforts. They are, or appear to be, of the type which made M. Coue

and depravity or continental Europe been seriously hampered in their supporting troops arrived and been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived and become the been seriously hampered in their been supporting troops arrived an

ized in many ways, and has been made easy of reach by the large steamboats which plow through the Mediterranean, the status of educa-Mediterranean, the status of education is still very backward. The government does not conduct elementary schools, and the very poor cannot secure an education. Those able to pay tuition engage the services of a teacher, who usually conducts his classes in the shadow of a mosque. He sits on a stool amidst forty or fifty children stool amidst forty or fifty children, who learn parts of the Koran by frequent repetition in a sing-song manner. The government con-ducts secondary schools in the cities, which are fairly good, because they are in competition with schools conducted by forcigners. The Jesuits and Franciscans have good schools in Cairo. A train leaves Cairo every even-

ing for Jerusalem during the tourist season, and the trip is made in about fifteen hours.

TWELVE CONVERTS AT THE ILLINOIS U.

Champaign, Ill., Dec. 19.—Twelve converts, mostly students in the University of Illinois, made their public profession of Faith and were received into the Church by the Right Rev. Bishop Joseph Schrembs, at the Mass in the University chapel Sunday.

Among the converts were a post-graduate student, working for his Ph. D. degree, and a student from Ph. D. degree, and a student from the Philippine Islands. The con-verts had received their instruction from Rev. John A. O'Brien, Ph. D., in charge of the work for Catholic students at the University of Illi-

The impressive ceremony was witnessed by 800 Catholic students who were deeply moved by the spectacle and by the stirring eloquence of Bishop Schrembs who preached the sermon and gave the converts their first Holy Communion

'This,' said Bishop Schrembs, "is one of the most impressive sights that could be witnessed. A group of University trained men and women, investigating the subject with painstaking carefulness, and following rigorously the logic of evidence, have found their way into the Catholic Church. It is a strik-ing demonstration of the irresist-able logic of the facts, proving the divine origin of the Catholic Church and the Divine character of

long associations which would hold back, you have followed whither that white light of reason and of conscience has led you. Hold fast to that Apostolic Faith, even in the face of persecution and social ostracism, for it will guide you safely into the Harbor of Eternal Truth."

The addition of this class of

twelve brings the number of converts received into the Church during the last three years at the University of Illinois, up to the total of 64. The conversions are traceable largely to the work of the Catholic Foundation at the University and to the efforts of the students cooperating with their chaplain, in interesting students unaffiliated with any Church, in the study of the Catholic Faith.

Bishop Schrembs made a forceful appeal to his large audience for the speedy materialization of the plans for the erection of the Catholic Foundation building at the University. He characterized it as "a progressive movement in the right direction, that will bring rich returns to that Church which is able, not only to withstand, but to profit from the closest scrutiny and

NUNS TRAVEL BY AIRPLANE

Paris. Dec. 15 .- One of the first cases of a nun traveling by airplane But Egypt also has an ancient history which interests Christians very much. This country figures so prominently in the Bible, as the land which Joseph, one of Localist in the land which Joseph one of Localist in the land which L houses of her order, was unable to follow the desired schedule on account of the lack of railroads. the daughter of Putiphar; the land where his descendants grew into a vast multitude, whom Moses was directed to lead to the Promised Land after God sent viscosity. Land after God sent plague after second trip of 997 kilometers, over death. Those arriving the day of the Andes to Baranquilla, the great the funeral included messages from

CATHOLIC NOTES

New Orleans, La., Dec. 19 .-George S. Gibbons, nephew, of Cardinal Gibbons and one of the industrial leaders of the South, died here Sunday while attending

Mass. Rome, Dec. 12.—The 1,300 prisoners in the Penitentiary of Milan were entertained at a special dinner recently through the kindness of Pope Pius XI. who sent the director of the Penitentiary the

money necessary for this purpose. Cologne, Dec. 15.-Father Joseph Heidenreich, the oldest priest in Bavaria. has just celebrated his ninety-fifth birthday in the little village of Holzkirchen, where he is pastor. Despite his great age, his bodily and spiritual vigor are

unimpaired. New York, Dec. 19.-The Paulist Choristers had a most appreciative audience on Wednesday, when they sang Christmas carols at the annual Christmas luncheon of the Advertising Club of New York, at the clubhouse, 23 Park avenue.

New York, Dec. 19. — His Eminence Cardinal Hayes has sent to the Visiting Nurse Service of New York his personal check for \$500, as a contribution to a fund being raised to maintain 200 additional nurses among the poor of the

Washington, Dec. 19.-The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Denis E. Nolan, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army, to be a Major General. General Nolan succeeded Major General John L. Hines as Deputy Chief last September when General Hines became Chief General Hines became Chief of Staff on the retirement of General Pershing.

Chicago, Dec. 19.— Rehearsals for the 1925 Passion Play, to be given under the auspices of the Holy Name Society, have already been begun. As a preliminary toward making this a permanent annual presentation, a Passion Play branch of the Holy Name society, making provision for membership by women and girls, was authorby women and girls, was authorized and formed.

Lyons, Dec. 9.—On his last visit here, Premier Herriot, who is also Mayor of Lyons, paid a visit to the hospitals of the city, where he lunched with and complimented the nuns nursing in them, despite the fact that he is now engaged in a bitter campaign against religious orders in France. The order of hospital nuns is one of the few religious congregations recognized

by French law. Pittsburgh, December 12.—The Rev. Paul Baccash of the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Cecil, Pa., died here Tuesday morning in St. Joseph's Hospital of pneumonia. Father Baccash, a Syrian by birth, is believed here to have been the order. believed here to have been the only priest of his race to have had the charge of an English speaking parish of the Latin rite.

Detroit, Dec. 16.-Catholic Croatians and Jugo Slavs under the pastorate of Rev. Oskar Suster have purchased the church property at Oakland and Melbourne avenues. The building formerly served as church for the Christ Evangelica Lutheran parish. The new parish, which was organized about a year ago and has been holding services in the gymnasium of the Holy Rosary school, will be known as St. Jerome's.

Detroit, Dec. 16 .- Bishop Gallagner announces the inauguration of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the diocese of Detroit. The Right Rev. Mgr. Edward Jones, who was appointed by the Propa-ganda in Rome as Supervisor of Foreign Missions for the United States has been compilied. States, has been commissioned by the Bishop to establish the society in the diocese. A pastoral letter explanatory of the work of the Propagation of the Faith to the clergy and laity will be issued on the Feast of the Epiphany.

Paris, Dec. 12.—Between 1 200 and 1,500 students from the colleges and high schools of Paris, young men from eighteen to twenty five years of age, met on November 26 in the basilica of the Sacred Heart of Montmartre to take part in a night of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. A great procession was formed in the basilica and Benediction was given by the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris. Foreign Catholic students living in Paris sent delegates. After a solemn office, the students formed relays, spending the night in a vigil before the Blessed Sacrament.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 19.—Ex-Gov. Martin H. Glynn, eminent Catholic layman, the man credited with bringing peace between Great Britain and Ireland, was laid at year. rest here Thursday after impres