

of the Society is at Paris, France, the centre of authority being vested in a Council General composed of the presidents of the superior council of the world.

In the German Empire there are 486 conferences or branches with 11,116 active members, professors, students of the university, merchants, tradesmen, and men from the humblest walks of life, vying with each other in doing works of mercy for Christ, the Master's sake, under the banner of St. Vincent de Paul.

In Austria-Hungary there are 338 conferences. 379 Conferences are actively at work in Italy. In Belgium there are 1,011 conferences, holding a membership of 16,427. France has 1,400 conferences; England, 176 conferences; Brazil has 256 conferences, with 4,470 active members; Canada has 115 conferences with 5,000 members. In the principal cities of the United States there are many conferences, New York has 63; Philadelphia 94; Washington 21; New Orleans 29; St. Louis 50; Boston 59; Springfield 24; Worcester, 8—and this is only a little of the work.

Throughout the world there are nearly 6,000 conferences, with a membership in the last report of 100,000 active members. Here is a Catholic lay organization to be proud of! Yet we must not be vainglorious. There is still room—nay, urgent need—for more workers in this cause.

The "intention of the Apostleship of Prayer for October was "Young Men." Throughout the world the members of the Apostleship of Prayer were called upon to offer up their prayers for "Our Young Men." Let us hope that the hearts of our young educated laymen may be turned to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Truly there is no other work which means so much for God's poor and the sanctification of their own souls!

THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA.

A Magnificent Seat of Learning Destroyed by Fire.

The following details regarding the destruction by fire, on the 2nd inst., of the Ottawa University, cannot fail to awaken the deep and warm interests of the readers of the Review.

We quote from "United Canada." Blaze started in Academic Hall. Loss—\$500,000. Insurance—At least \$160,000. Library—30,000 volumes destroyed.

Seven persons injured, one likely to die, Personal effects of 200 students burned.

THE INJURED.

- Rev. Father McGurty.
- Rev. Father Boyon.
- Rev. Father Fulham.
- Mrs. Bastien, who may not live.
- Miss Ardelle Dupuis.
- Miss Cordelia Trembly.
- Mr. Colin.

Reported Missing—Miss Davis. Again has fire proved a destructive element, and to lay wiped out one of the city's finest institutions. Breaking out at 7.35 this morning, within two hours the Academy, main building and seminary of Ottawa University were destroyed. Several priests and servants were injured, the personal effects of two hundred students who board at the College were destroyed. Over \$500,000 worth of property and equipment went up in smoke.

The fire will closely affect two hundred students, thirty professors, thirty ecclesiastics, and seminarians and thirty female and two male servants.

A library of thirty thousand volumes and many valuable exhibits and collections, of which the authorities were justly proud, and which cannot be replaced, are among the loss.

University was insured to the extent of at least \$160,000.

HISTORY OF UNIVERSITY.

Its Record and Development Since Its Inception in 1848.

The history of the Ottawa University is interwoven with the history of the Canadian Capital. To trace its origin one must go back to the beginning not of Ottawa, but of the humbler Bytown, the original nucleus of the grand city of today. Upon the invitation of

the Bishops of Montreal and Kingston, the Oblate Order undertook the spiritual charge of the Catholic population in this district. That was in 1844. In July 1847, Father Eugene Guigues, Provincial of the Oblates in Canada, was raised to the episcopacy with the charge of this district, and one of his earliest achievements was the founding of Bytown College. Its first home was on Church street, facing the cathedral, and it was there that his Grace Archbishop Duhamel, Dr. St. Jean, Judge Curran, Dr. Robillard, and Henri Robillard, ex-M.P., received their early education. The course was opened by Rev. Father Chevalier, in 1848, with an attendance of 65 students. In May of the same year it was incorporated as the "College of Bytown." The wooden structure which had hitherto done service soon proved inadequate to the growing attendance, and in 1853 the school was transferred to what was then regarded as an elegant structure, now the Christian Brothers' school, at the corner of Church and Sussex streets. The institution had so many difficulties to combat that Bishop Guigues selected for its direction a young man of exceptional administrative ability and energy. Father Tabaret. In 1855 a further extension was needed. An effort was made to secure the present site of the Parliament buildings, but that failed, and the present land on Wilbrod street was chosen. The location had already been given to the Episcopal corporation by Mr. L. T. Bossere on the understanding that a college should be erected thereon. Property was purchased on either side of the original grant, and in a year the walls of a solid stone structure, 84 by 40 feet were complete. That was the foundation of the University of Ottawa, which now lies in utter ruin.

The loss involved by the disastrous fire at the University is not easy to measure. Old students will never have the same interest in returning to new halls. The Journal says:

The lamentable destruction this morning by fire of nearly the entire Ottawa University buildings must bring home to every citizen a realization of the fact that the University is one of the very important assets of the Capital. When such institutions are established and running smoothly they are taken as a matter of course. People do not stop to think of their value. The blow which has fallen upon the University, a blow which it is conceivable might have ended its work had there been no insurance and which at best must seriously cripple the institution for some time, perhaps for years, must awake every one to the fact that without Ottawa University the Capital would lose a great educational advantage, an important centre of learning and culture, and a civic asset which brings a large number of students and their friends here, and impresses the standing of Ottawa abroad in quarters which other considerations might not effect.

THE OLD FATHER AND HIS SON.

The old farmer died suddenly, so when Judge Gilroy, his only son, received the telegram, he could do nothing but go up to the farm for the funeral. It was difficult to do even that, for the Judge was the leading lawyer at X—, and every hour was worth many dollars to him.

As he sat with head bent in the grimy little train which lumbered through the farms, he could not keep the details of his cases out of his mind.

He had been a good respectful son. He had never given his father a headache, and the old

man died full of years and virtues, "a shock of corn fully ripe." The phrase pleased him.

"I wish to tell you," said the doctor gravely, "that your father's thoughts were all of you. He was ill but an hour, but his cry was for 'John! John!' unceasingly."

"If I could have been with him," said the Judge.

"He was greatly disappointed that you missed your half-yearly visit last spring. Your visits were the events of his life," said the doctor.

"Last spring? Oh, yes; I took my family then to California."

"I urged him to run down and see you on your return, but he would not go."

"No he never felt at home in the city."

The Judge remembered that he had not asked his father to come down. Ted was ashamed of his grandfather's wide collars and Jessie, who was a fine musician, scowled when she was asked to sing the "Portugese Hymn" every night. The Judge humored his children, and had ceased to ask his father into his house.

The farmhouse was in order and scrupulously clean; but its bareness gave a chill to the Judge, whose own home was luxurious. The deaf old woman who had been his father's servant sat grim and tearless by the side of the coffin.

Martha was faithful," whispered the doctor, but she's deaf. His life was very solitary. The neighbors are young. He belonged to another generation."

He recently uncovered the coffin, and then with Martha went out and closed the door. The Judge was alone with his dead.

Strange enough, his thought was still of the cold bareness of the room. Those hacked wooden chairs were there when he was a boy. It would have been so easy for him to have made the house comfortable—to have hung some pictures on the wall! How his father had delighted in his engravings, and pored over them!

Looking now in the kind old face, with the white hair lying motionless on it, he found something in it which he had never taken time to notice before—a sagacity, a nature fine and sensitive. He was the friend, the comrade whom he had needed so often! He had left him with deaf old Martha for his sole companion!

There hung upon the wall the photograph of a young man with an eager, strong face, looking proudly at a chubby boy on his knee. The Judge saw the strength in the face.

"My father should have played a high part in life," he thought. "There is more promise in his face than in mine."

In the desk was a bundle of old account books with records of years of hard drudgery on the farm; of work in winter and summer, and often late at night to pay John's school bills, and to send him to Harvard. One patch of ground after another was sold while he waited for practice, to give him clothes and luxuries which other young men in town had, until but a meagre portion of the farm was left.

John Gilroy suddenly closed the book. "And this is the end!" he said. "The boy for whom he lived and worked won fortune and position—and how did he repay him?"

The man knelt on the bare floor, and shed bitter tears on the quiet old face. "O father! father!" he cried. But there was no smile on quiet face. He was too late.—Youth's Companion.

"That is the third bicyclist who has barked himself against me this morning," mused the wayside tree, "without hurting me a bit. Take it all in all, I am more skinned against than skinning."

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CROP OF 1902:

| | BUSHELS |
|---|------------|
| Wheat | 53,077,267 |
| Oats | 34,478,160 |
| Barley | 11,848,422 |
| Flax | 564,440 |
| Rye | 40,900 |
| Peas | 34,154 |
| Total yield of all Grain crops 100,052,343 | |

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