

ARCHBISHOP PIETRO FUMASONI-BIONDI, NEWLY APPOINTED DELEGATE TO THE UNITED STATES

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Monsignor Pietro Fumasoni-Biondi, D. D., Archbishop of Dioclea, was born in Rome, Italy, September 4th, 1872. For several years after his ordination to the priesthood, he was assigned to the Congregation of the Propaganda in a clerical capacity, and also acted as private secretary to His Eminence Sebastian Cardinal Martinelli, who was later Apostolic Delegate to the United States from 1896 to 1902.

On November 4th, 1916, Monsignor Fumasoni-Biondi was named Titular Archbishop of Dioclea, the titular church in Rome of the late Cardinal Gibbons. Later he was appointed Apostolic Delegate to the East Indies, with residence at Kiandy in Ceylon. He next became the first Apostolic Delegate in Japan, having jurisdiction also over Corea and Formosa. He was designated for that post November 15th, 1919, and soon established his reputation as an administrator and did much to improve the relationship between the Holy See and the Mikado. When the Archbishop's term of service ended in 1921, many of the high officials of Japan expressed the hope that he might later return to the Orient as Nuncio so that Japan might enjoy the privilege of establishing an embassy at the Vatican.

Before his departure from Japan, Monsignor Fumasoni-Biondi received the decoration of Second Order of Merit, which was conferred on him by the Mikado, and in addition to this honor, the title of Grand Officer of the Sacred Treasure.

On March 3rd, 1921, His Grace arrived at Rome and was appointed Secretary of the Propaganda Congregation. In addition to these duties, he was Consultor of the Sacred Congregation of Ecclesiastical Affairs and of the Congregation for the Oriental Church.

The newly appointed Apostolic Delegate is a real Roman. Born in Rome, he pursued his entire course of studies there, and was ordained in the Eternal City. He was consecrated Bishop and spent many years of his priestly life in that city which is the heart of the Catholic world. Ad Multos Annos!

—Bro. Augustine Naselli, O. P.



Most Rev. Msgr. Fumasoni-Biondi, D. D.



HOME OF APOSTOLIC DELEGATION—This is the residence at Washington, D. C., of the Holy Father's representative and his suite. It is on Biltmore Street. The Papal arms are over the door. The Apostolic Delegation to the U. S. was established in 1893 (International.)