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FILM GIORNALE D'ATTUALITÀ

POPE'S CORONATION ANNIVERSARY

Vatican City, March 11, 1956 :

Pope Pius XII, spiritual leader of nearly one-fifth the world's people, was the center yesterday of a colorful ceremony honoring the 17th Anniversary of His Coronation.

Silver trumpets and rousing cheers heralded His entrance into St. Peter's ~~Square~~ Basilica.

Last week, on March 2nd, the head of the Roman Catholic Church observed the double anniversary of his 80th birthday and his election to St. Peter's throne.

The Pontifical Mass and a cappella in St. Peter's Basilica was th highlight here. Eugene Cardinal Tisserant, french-born dean of the College of Cardinals, is officiating at the high papal altar that rises directly above the spot where St. Peter was buried. About 24 other cardinal princes of the Church are participating.

The cappella was preceded by a glittering procession in which cardinals, archbishops, bishops and other high prelates of the Church accompanied tje Pontiff up the broad center aisle of the Basilica to the Papal altar. The Pope was carried in his portable throne. He took his place on a throne placed temporarily at the side of the pontifical altar.

Special missions representing the governments and heads of some 40 countries attended to honor the Pontiff who has devoted much of his energies to the cause of peace.

There were also the diplomats of 45 embassies and legations accredited to the Vatican, besides special missions.

Others here to honor the Pontiff on his Coronation Anniversary included heads of religious orders from all parts of the world and thousands of members of those orders.

The coronation celebration, normally held every year on a lesser scale in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel, is the first being held in three years.

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