

WEMBLEY ROSARY RALLY.

5/10/54.

Huge crowds in Wembley Stadium watched the Roman Catholic Pageant which marked the Marian Year --- the year appointed by Pope Pius XII, for world-wide devotion to the Virgin Mary. The theme of the Pageant recalled that the present parish of Willesden dates from the seventh century, To be crowned, was a replica of the statue of Our Lady of Willesden. Before the crowning,

the spectators were addressed by Cardinal Griffin, *who congratulated*

*them on the large number present*

The original statue was destroyed in the reign of Henry VIII.

But at the time of the Black Death in the fourteenth century, the shrine at Willesden had been a place of pilgrimage.