without serious conviction, the high standard of the Hugenot morals was
recognized even by their enemies. In an age of profligacy, the "Men of
the Religion" as they called themselves, walked the paths of rectitude
and sobriety". Well now from a man like this who is so hostile to every-
thing Christian, that is quite a strong praise of the character which
Calvinism produced in these French Hugenots. In France we have talked
about Francis I a good bit and you are familiar with his character in
general and his activities. He died in 1547, the same year in which
Henry VIII died and he was succeeded by his son, Henry II, who reigned
for the next 12 years. Henry II was much more strongly anti-Protestant
than his father. He persecuted and slaughtered a great many but he was
not very successful in wiping it out - it increased rather than decreased
during his reign. We will not go into the details of his reign. He
died in 1559 as a result of an accident in a tournament. And when he
died, his son, who was a little boy fifteen, succeeded him. And this
brought his wife into a position she had not been in before because
Henry when he was 17 had fallen in love with a woman of 36 to whom his
devotion never wavered until his death when she was 60. And so during
the 12 years of his reign, his mistress, Diana de Boirtet, was the real
power in France and his wife was pretty much in the background. Now his
wife is a character of great importance in history . If we had lots of
time we would spend two or three hours because she is very important
historically . In view of our interest being really simply in the
church, she's very important in connection with that too, but we have a
lot of ground to cover, I'm only going to say a little about her. But
you certainly should be familiar with her because she is a character
who in discussions of history is quite much stressed. Now her name was
Catharine and she was called Catharine de Medici and when you hear - yes?
(Student question) That's his mistress - the king's mistress - you don't