

thirty years, she was the real ruler of France and she had had a real training for it - she was a very, very able woman and she had learned tact and she had learned how to handle people. Her want of beauty was made up for by gracious manners and an elegant taste in art and she had had to conspire in order to keep her head above water in previous years - and now she kept right on for the next 30 years. But she was in a very difficult situation - with a third of the country Protestant and with the Counter-Reformation beginning to come into the country in such force as to want to wipe Protestantism out. Yes? (Student question) He was only fifteen - he was only sixteen when he died. I've read no references to it - I can't say whether there was any skilled work or anything like that but there was no child that survived the leeching. (Student question - did he die naturally?) Yes, he died naturally. He was a very sickly, weak child - in fact all her children were. And Charles IX was a rather sickly, weak child. But she was in a difficult situation and she set to work now and if she had set to work to follow the policy - not the policy her uncle the Medici Pope was interested in his own authority and the advancement of his family and he wasn't really much interested in the Counter-Reformation except incidentally. He did not put the interests of the Roman Church as supreme in his activities. He was constantly conspiring with the King of France against the Emperor and thus keeping the Emperor from putting down Lutheranism - that wasn't his objective but it did work in that direction. Well now Catharine de Medici was Romanist and she would like to advance Romanism and if she had set herself like the Giises were set during the brief reign of Francis II, the Counter-Reformation might have succeeded in the next thirty years in France if she had welcomed the Jesuits when they came in now as her assistants and helpers in it - but that was not her objective at all. That was very incidental to her, in fact quite secondary. Sometimes she'd become excited about it and work at it a little and then she'd forget it entirely. Her objective was her