

people in contrast from their own lives. These two men, that Athanasius brought, introduced the monastic life to the west.

That will be our next head, which we will take up tomorrow morning at 8:00, monasticism spreads to the west. (break in record)

Monasticism spreads to the west. And we notice ~~that~~ that in 340, when Athanasius was sent ~~to~~ on a special exile into Rome, he brought with him ~~two~~ two monks who had lived for some time in the African desert, near Egypt. And as he brought these ~~two~~ two monks with him, at first the two highly sophisticated aristocracy of Rome looked quite askance at these two men. They people of Rome who were accustomed to such fine standards of refinement and hyper-sophistication, saw these dirty monks from the ~~desert~~ desert and men who were not particularly well educated and ~~the~~ the inclination was, Athanasius is a great man, undoubtedly, but why does he ~~bring~~ bring this sort of riff-raff with him. But after they got to know the men a little, they found that the solitude and the contemplation and earnestness of purpose, and the years of giving up everything that ~~could~~ appeal to a man materially had had an effect upon the men's characters that showed out in their attitude. These, of course, were not simply ordinary monks. They were ones that Athanasius had picked for the purpose. But they began to impress the Roman aristocracy by their very difference from them. And soon they were taken a great deal of attention to them, and having them to their homes and talking with them. And many became attracted by their monastic influence and by their type of character that it was developing and it began to be an interest in monasticism in Rome. Soon some people decided to start a monastery there. Or to ~~start~~ start a group of men. They didn't have what they call actually monasteries, yet, and a group of them went out to a place out in the wilds in the wild parts of Rome, and they lived very primitively, under very primitive circumstances. And soon there were these groups started in the neighborhood of Rome. Then not so many years after that, the life of St. Anthony by Athanasius began to be distributed. And as people read this life of St. Anthony's written in Greek, of course, but translated very soon into ~~a~~ Latin, it became what we would call a best-seller. It was read quite widely, and it