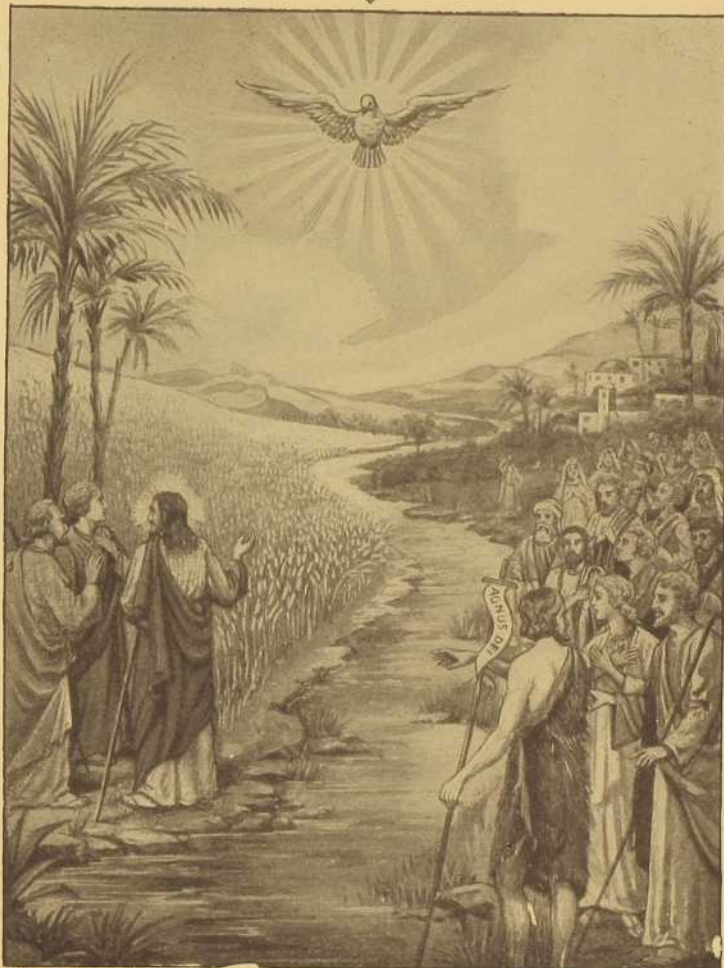


THE PRECURSOR



Vol. VI., 7th Year MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1929 No. 5

WORKS ALREADY EXISTING

of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

MOTHER-HOUSE

*314 ST. CATHERINE ROAD, OUTREMONT,
NEAR MONTREAL*

(Founded in 1902)

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Procure for the Missions. Work-room of Church Vestments, embroidery, lace and painting for the support of the Mother-House and Novitiate. School for the formation of Chinese catechists. Sewing-circles for ladies and young girls. Diffusion of a Missionary Review: *THE PRECURSOR*. Free missionary library.

NOVITIATE

PONT VIAU, NEAR MONTREAL

HOLY CHILDHOOD HOME

P. O. BOX 93, CANTON, CHINA

(Founded in 1909)

School for catechists. Catechumenate. School for christian and pagan pupils. Orphanage. Foundling-Home. Work-rooms.

SHEK-LUNG LAZARETTO

SHEK-LUNG, NEAR CANTON, CHINA

(Founded in 1913)

CHINESE WORKS IN MONTREAL

110 LAGAUCHETIERE ST. WEST, MONTREAL

(Founded in 1913)

Sunday School and language courses for Chinese adults, every Sunday afternoon, from 2.30 to 4.00.

NOMINING, P. Q. (Bethany)

(Founded in 1914)

CHINESE SCHOOL

(Founded in 1916)

Teaching of English, French and Chinese.

CHINESE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY

112 LAGAUCHETIERE ST. WEST, MONTREAL

(Founded in 1918)

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception also visit Chinese patients in Catholic or Protestant Hospitals.

(Continued on page 3 of the cover)

Please Help the Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

By procuring work for them.

THE Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have a work-room in which are made church-vestments and altar-linens, the profits of which are destined to support their Mother-House and Novitiate.

Missionaries must undergo several years' preparation before being able to commence their apostolic labors in foreign fields.

The articles mentioned on the following page may be procured, on reasonable terms, at the work-shop of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Montreal.

We paint to order, spiritual bouquets, calendars with pictures of Our Lady, the Holy Family, the Little Flower, and mission scenes. First Communion and Confirmation badges, scapulars, *Agnus Dei*, cushions, etc.

Wax infants for Christmas cribs, are also made in all sizes.

Chinese embroideries and laces are offered for sale. They are made by our Chinese orphans. By encouraging these sales you co-operate in the salvation of many young pagan girls who, while earning their livelihood in Catholic work-shops, receive at the same time the light of Faith.

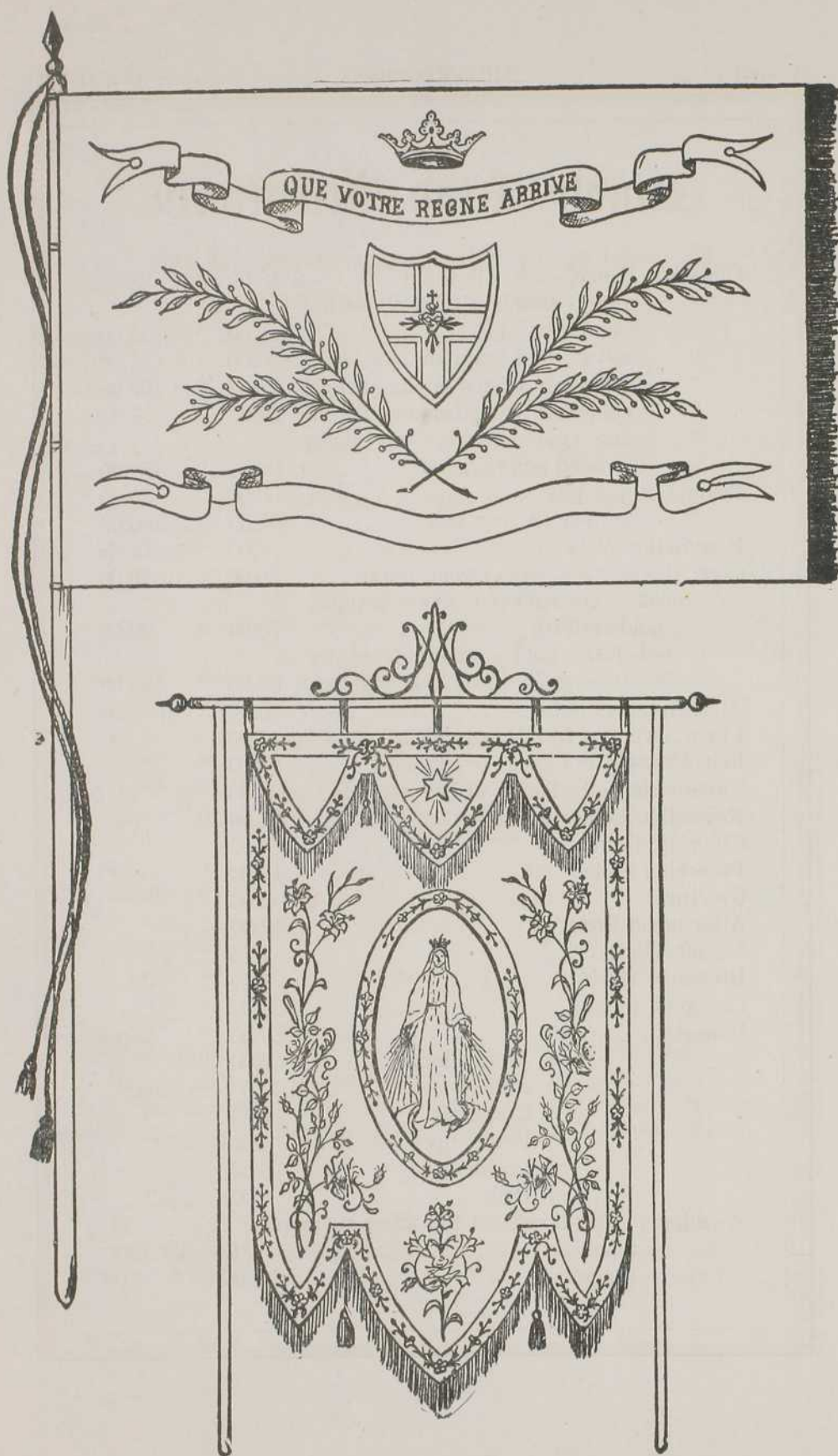


Kindly Read Attentively

Chasuble, damask silk, silk braid	\$ 18.00 and \$ 28.00		
“ moire - antique, with beautiful emblem	30.00	“	38.00
“ velvet, gold braid and emblem ..	30.00	“	45.00
“ gold-embroidered moire-antique ..	75.00	“	100.00
“ gold-cloth, gold braid and emb. ..	50.00	“	75.00
“ fine gold - cloth, very richly hand embroidered	90.00	“	150.00
Dalmatics, per pair	50.00	“	80.00
“ gold-cloth, per pair	100.00	“	150.00
Benediction Veils	7.00	“	upwards
Cope, damask silk, silk or gold braid	30.00	“	50.00
“ gold - embroidered moire-antique, gold emblem	70.00	“	90.00
“ gold-cloth, gold - embroidered by hand with a beautiful emblem. ..	90.00	“	150.00
Albs, Antependiums	10.00	“	upwards
Linen Surplices, Monstrance Veils	3.00	“	“
Felt Altar-Covers, green or red	5.00	“	“
Tabernacle Veils, Sick Call Burses	5.00	“	“
Reversible Confession Stoles	5.00	“	“
Ciborium Covers	4.00	“	“
Preaching Stoles	10.00	“	“
Cinctures	2.00	“	“
Altar-bread Boxes	2.00	“	“
Missal Marks	1.75	“	“
Breviary Marks	1.00	“	“
Canopies, Flags	30.00	“	“
Banners	60.00	“	“
<i>Altar Linen</i>	{ Altar Cloths	6.00	“ “
	{ Amices	12.00	per doz.
	{ Corporals	8.50	“ “
	{ Finger-towels	4.50	“ “
	{ Purificators	5.00	“ “
	{ Palls	4.00	“ “

We supply Altar-breads at the following prices:

Small	\$1.00 per 1000
Large	0.37 “ 100



Practical Means

of helping the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

By contributing alms to:

- The erection of the Novitiate Chapel dedicated to
Our Lady of the Missions.....
The erection of Chapels in mission countries.....

By providing for the:

Annual supply for the upkeep of the sanctuary lamp in our houses of Canada and in mission countries \$	20.00
Foundation of a Burse for the support of a missionary sister.....	1,000.00
Annual support of a maiden-catechist.....	50.00
Annual support and education of an orphan.....	40.00
Foundation of a crib—in perpetuity.....	200.00
Annual care of a leper.....	60.00
Monthly upkeep of a crib.....	5.00
Ransom of a baby, likely to live.....	5.00
Ransom of a dying baby.....	.25
Monthly support of a missionary sister.....	10.00
Monthly support of a novice preparing for the mis- sions.....	10.00
Annual subscription to THE PRECURSOR.....	1.00

The alms that you will give to the missionaries, the help that you will bring them, will be employed for the greater glory of God, and will be for you the most certain and remuneratory investment, the "hundredfold" promised by Jesus Christ.

* * *

The missionary must not be alone to sacrifice himself. All Christians must unite and help him in his work by their prayers and alms.

Benefactors of the Society

1.—**Founders**, those who donate \$1,000.00 or more.

2.—**Protectors**, those who, by the donation of \$500.00, provide the dowry and trousseau of a poor novice. By combining their alms, a parish, community or family may have right to this title.

A Founder's or Protector's Diploma is awarded to persons making the above mentioned donations.

3.—**Subscribers**, those who give an annual offering of \$25.00.

4.—**Associates**, those who give the sum of \$2.00 per year.

The Society also considers as Benefactors, all persons who contribute to the maintenance of its works any offering whatever, in money or kind.

Privileges Accorded to Benefactors

While commending their Benefactors to God, that He Himself may reward them according to their generosity, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception assure them as large a share as possible in the merit of their apostolic labors, as also in the prayers and sufferings of all the unfortunates confided to their care.

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

1.—A special intention in all the Masses heard and Communions received by the Sisters.

2.—A Mass offered every month for their intentions.

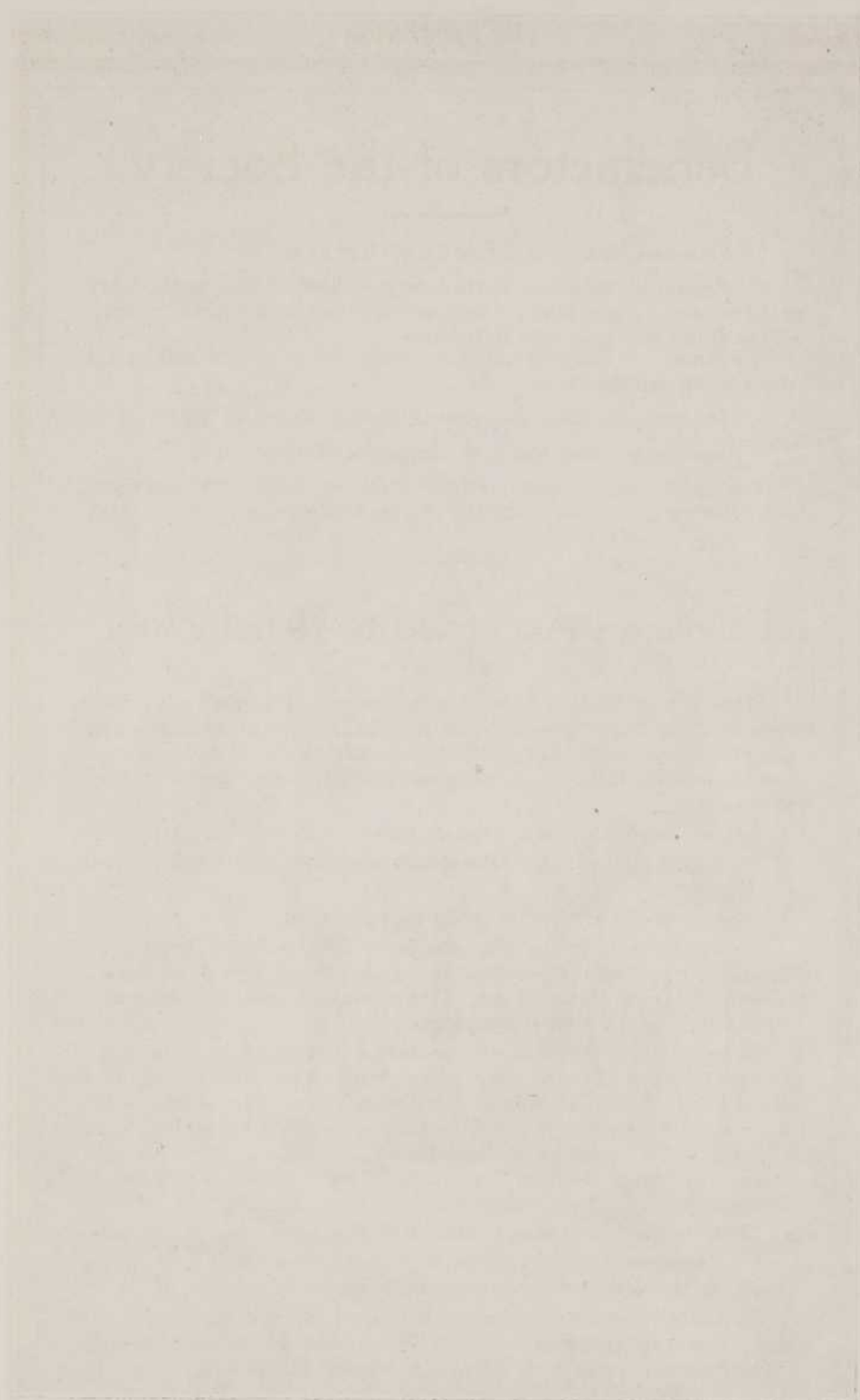
3.—Every Friday in the year, the Sisters offer, for their Benefactors' intentions, their hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel of the Mother-House. (The names of Founders and Protectors are deposited on the Altar of Exposition).

4.—For the same intentions, the members of the Community make, every day, the Guard of Honor to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgin. The evening hours of Canada corresponding with the morning hours of China, as the Guard is closing here, it commences at the Lazaretto of Shek-Lung, where the poor lepers, in succeeding groups of fifteen, continue the Perpetual Rosary for the intentions of the Society's Benefactors.

5.—A Requiem High Mass is sung every year for deceased Benefactors.

6.—A share in the merits of the Way of the Cross, made daily by the Sisters, is also accorded to deceased Benefactors.

7.—In the Novitiate Chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, two Masses are celebrated every week for all Subscribers to "The Precursor" and for all living and deceased Benefactors.





"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"

THE PRECURSOR

Published by the
Missionary Sisters

of the Immaculate Conception

with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

VOL. VI, 7th Year

MONTREAL, September-October 1929

No. 5

CONTENTS

Official Text of the Wishes of the First Congress in honor of Our Lady of Quebec.....	236
Pope Pius X's devotion to Mary.....	238
Our Lady's Natal Day.....	239
Canadian Prefecture.....	240
Departure of three Fathers of the Canadian Foreign Mission Seminary for Manchuria.....	240
Departure of eleven religious Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception for the missions of Manchuria and Canton.....	240
In loving Memory of our beloved Sister Ste Lucie.....	241
The fifteen promises of the Rosary.....	245
A few Roses scattered by the Little Sister of Missionaries.....	246
Echoes from our missions.....	248
Extracts from the Novitiate Chronicles.....	281
Pauline Marie Jaricot, Foundress of the Association of the Propagation of the Faith.....	286
Thanksgivings — Petitions — Necrology.....	291

ILLUSTRATIONS

Chinese Children praying for their benefactors.....	239
The Nativity of Our Lady.....	245
Our Lady of the Rosary.....	245
Chinese Orphans at recreation.....	252
Chinese Children.....	255
A Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception and her two Chinese Helpers, Infirmarian at Liao Yuan Sien Dispensary, Manchuria, China.....	256
The Men's Dispensary at Liao Yuan Sien, Manchuria, China.....	259
A lesson in lace-making at the School of Naze, Japan.....	275

Official Text of the Wishes of the First Congress in Honor of Our Lady at Quebec

1. — The first Congress in honor of Mary at Quebec, presided over by His Eminence, Cardinal Raymond Marie Rouleau, Archbishop of Quebec and by Their Lordships the Right Reverend Bishops, humbly begs the Sovereign Pontiff:

(a) — To define and proclaim as dogma of faith the universal mediation of the Blessed Virgin, a truth which is clearly insinuated in the Holy Scriptures, explicitly taught by the Fathers and Doctors of the Church, recorded in numerous liturgical texts, actually accepted by the unanimity of theologians, expressly affirmed in many pontifical documents, and which since long is practically a popular belief.

(b) — To spread throughout the universal Church the Mass and the Office of Mary, Mediatrix of all graces.

2. — The Congress in honor of Mary at Quebec recommends that priests explain to the faithful, in the pulpit and during Catechism lessons the doctrine of the Mediation of the Most Blessed Virgin, and to spread the works exposing this doctrine, for instance "*The Glories of Mary*," by St. Alphonsus Liguori, "*The Admirable Heart*" by Jean Eudes, "*The Treatise of the True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin*" and "*The Secret of Mary*" by Blessed Grignon de Montfort.

3. — The first Congress at Quebec recommends the daily recitation of the beads. It expresses the wish that they be said together in the home as much as possible, and that the faithful form the pious habit of often saying them before the Blessed Sacrament so as to gain the Plenary Indulgence granted by the Sovereign Pontiff Pius XI. The Rosary, by its many *Aves* asks Mary for all the graces of which we stand in need "now and at the hour of our death"; by the meditation of the mysteries it reminds us of all that Jesus and Mary have accomplished in the work of our salvation. At the same time, the Congress expresses the wish that the faithful of our parishes assiduously attend the devotions of the month of the Rosary.

4. — The Congress instantly recommends the faithful to maintain the pious custom of wearing the Scapular or at least the Scapular Medal.

(a) — The Miraculous Medal being for the past century the great instrument used by the Blessed Virgin to bestow her favors upon man, the Congress recommends that everyone be invested with and wear the medal as a sensible sign of their appurtenance to the Mother of God.

(b) — The Congress desires that each year in the parishes of the diocese a procession be made in honor of the Blessed Virgin on the solemnity of the Assumption.

5. — The Congress particularly recommends the faithful to remember to recite the Angelus three times a day. Verily, the Angelus recalls to us the great mystery of the Incarnation which was operated only with Mary's consent, the first act of her mediation.

6. — The Congress encourages the Clergy and all social authorities to combat all blasphemy, especially blasphemy against the Blessed Virgin.

7. — The Sodalities of the Blessed Virgin being one of the best means of spreading the devotion to Our Blessed Lady and of assuring the preservation of the Christian spirit among our populations, the First Congress in honor of Mary at Quebec expresses the wish that the congregations of the Blessed Virgin increase in the parishes and that both old and young enroll themselves under Mary's banner.

8. — The Congress expresses the wish that parents form the habit, there where it does not already exist, of carrying their children immediately after Baptism to the altar of the Blessed Virgin and to consecrate them to her in order to draw this good Mother's protection upon these dear children.

9. — The Congress strongly urges the faithful to attend the May devotions made in our churches. Those unable to leave their homes, should make these devotions in the family. They may even assemble, as is the practice in several country parishes, at the foot of the "roadside cross" to offer a few prayers to the Blessed Virgin.

10. — The Congress expressed the wish that there be made, with the approbation of His Eminence, interparochial or regional Congresses in order to deliberate together on the best means of reviving the most important practices of piety towards Mary and the better adapted to local customs, and also that a permanent council be established, destined to prepare the Congress.

11. — The Congress expresses the wish that in every parish researches be made concerning traditions, customs and documents relative to the devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

12. — The total donation to the Blessed Virgin, such as explained by the Blessed de Montfort, having been judged the most perfect means of practically recognizing Mary's Mediation, the Congress strongly recommends priests, seminarians, and all religious, as well as the faithful, to consecrate themselves entirely to Jesus through Mary and to lead a life of intimate union with the Blessed Virgin.

(“ La Semaine Religieuse ” Montreal)

(Translated from the French)

O Mary, vessel of purest gold, ornamented with pearls and sapphires filled with grace and virtue, thou art the dearest of all creatures to the eyes of eternal wisdom.

Bl. Henri Suso.

Pope Pius XI's Devotion to Mary

EVERY morning, after having said prayers aloud, Pius X's mother, Margarita Sansoni, explained to her children the legend of the saint of the day, and ended her instruction with these earnest words: "My little darlings, I would rather lose you than see you forget Our Lord Jesus Christ and the Madonna." This accounts for her joy when she noticed that her little son Joseph loved to take his comrades to the sanctuary of the "Cendrole," in which for centuries a picture of the Madonna was particularly venerated. Being interrogated on the point, Joseph ingenuously declared his love for the Immaculate Virgin, and the vow of chastity he had taken under the protection of his heavenly Mother. There may be seen to-day at the head of the bed in his little chamber, still kept as it used to be, the beautiful picture of this Madonna whom he loved so much. During his vacations at Riese, in the course of his seminary years, his principal occupation, after prayer, was to serve Mass, and to prove his devotion to Mary, he recited the Office of the Blessed Virgin. In the evening he assisted devoutly at the recitation of the Rosary, made in common in the parish church.

When promoted to the bishopric of Mantua, Mgr. Sarto took for his coat-of-arms an anchor rising out of troubled waves, and a golden star radiating light in the blue heavens. The anchor with its three branches symbolizes the theological virtues; the golden star is Mary, the Star of the Sea. The five points of the star mark the magnificent titles of the Blessed Virgin: Immaculate in her Conception, Full of Grace, Mother of God, Co-Redemptrix, and Queen of Heaven.

When Patriarch of Venice, he used to gather his episcopal family around him every evening for the recitation of the Rosary. He wished also, to revive the traditional pilgrimages to the celebrated sanctuaries of his diocese. Notre Dame *della Salute* in particular, saw the magnificence of its processions restored. This truly devout son of Mary had formed the project of visiting Lourdes as a simple pilgrim. The death of Leo XIII, and his own election to the Sovereign Pontificate put an end to his design. But as Pius X, he indemnified himself by having erected in the Vatican Gardens a fac-simile of the Pyrenean sanctuary with its majestic slope. It was toward the Immaculate Lady of Lourdes that the beloved Pontiff would direct his steps during the hours of his daily walks in order to pray undisturbed. He smilingly called this "making his tour of France!"

"The Sentinel of the Blessed Sacrament"



When the devil wishes to make himself master of a soul, he seeks to make it give up devotion to Mary.

St. Alphonsus.



Our Lady's Natal Day

*Virgin Queen! Thy natal day
Bids us homage to thee pay—
(Teach us how, oh dearest Queen!)
Virgin Mother of us all,
Meekly answer we the call,
Though our lay be lowly, mean.*

*Born to earth its rarest gem
Gift from God's fair diadem—
Mary, Hope of all the world!
Anne and Joachim, heaven-blessed,
Their Angel-child with joy caressed—
Their home at Nazareth impearl'd!*

*"Thou art fair... beloved"—foretold,
"Art without a stain" in gold—
Vision of their holy walls;
"Mary"—name from heaven sent,
Gabriel gave a God's intent—
Name, our soul so sweet inthralls!*

*Angels strewed thy floral way,
Graced with song thy natal day,
Nature gladdened all the earth;
Highest Heaven gave proclaim,
Terror shakes a hell's acclaim.
At thy hour of holy birth.*

*Virgin Queen, we pledge anew
Our love, our lives, O keep us true,
Fairest One—thy natal day!
Lead us ever upward, on;
Gain us graces from thy Son;
Call us thine, to ever stay!*

*Heathen Nations, seek thy side;
In thy love to e'er abide,
We—thy natal day—beseech!
Souls, thy keeping to the end,
Pure and sweet, thy graces lend,
Heaven's summit fair to reach!*

RONALD STEPHEN McDONALD

Canadian Prefecture

The Sacred Congregation of Propaganda has just ceded a Canadian Prefecture in the territory of Manchuria, China, to the Foreign Mission Society of the Province of Quebec.

■ The new Prefecture is separated from the Moukden vicariate which is dependant upon the Foreign Missions of Paris and the Jehol vicariate confided to the Scheut Fathers.

■ Sze Ping Kai is the name of the new Prefecture.

The temporary approbation of its constitutions has also been accorded to the Foreign Mission Society.

■ Our most lively congratulations and best wishes for success to our valiant missionaries of the Canadian Seminary.

Departure for Manchuria

On Saturday, September 28, three Fathers of the Canadian Foreign Mission Seminary will leave Montreal to lend a helping hand to their confreres in Manchuria. They are the Reverend Fathers Harry Gill of Nicolet, Emilien Masse and Francis Lefebvre of Joliette diocese. They will set sail at Vancouver on October 3, on the *Empress of Asia*.

Departure for Canton and Manchuria



Eleven religious Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception will leave their Mother-House at Outremont, Montreal on Saturday, September 28. Five of them will go to Canton to help their Sisters, the six others will sail to the distant land of Manchuria to there open new missions. They will leave Vancouver, October 3rd on the *Empress of Asia*.

A prayer is solicited for our dear Missionaries that they may have a safe crossing and that their apostolate among the poor pagans be a fruitful one.

Poor and humble servitors of Christ, struggling with hardships of all kinds, we never lose sight of the fact that it is neither to large armies nor vast treasures the victory has been promised: like the birds of the air, to whom the Almighty has promised their daily food, the missionaries are content to live from day to day, their only confidence in Him Who gives them strength.

Propagation of the Faith.

In loving Memory of our beloved Sister Ste. Lucie

who died at Nominig, June 4, 1929

It was on June 4th 1929, that our beloved Sister Ste. Lucie (nee Claire Langlois) peacefully passed away. Her death was a reflection of her calm and gentle life, and her too-short sojourn amidst her religious family leaves traces of her innocent candor and charming simplicity.

She was born at St. Claire, Dorchester, on September 12, 1900. It is she, herself who, in relating the story of her vocation, describes the sweet home of her birth. "At St. Claire, Dorchester," says she, "near the village can be seen on a hill, that is often called "Langlois Hill," a large, ancient but modest dwelling. Nearby there is a charming grove whose green foliage shades the humble home and shelters numerous little birds who enliven it by their cheerful melodies. Oh! how I love my hamlet, how I love the home of my birth!!! What loving memories do one and the other evoke!!! It is there that I was born, there that I spent my childhood days..." Then she speaks of the tender solicitude of her parents towards her, especially that of her good old grandmother who lived with them. "Many an evening," relates our dear Sister, "did she rock me to sleep... These sweet lullabys of my grandmother are still fresh in my mind..."

Her childhood is marked by a few mischievous and obstinate deeds, but it is easily seen that her gentle heart will soon conquer these slight faults and the visit of her uncle, Father Langlois, now Bishop Langlois of Valleyfield, was a stimulant which helped her to amend. She so dearly loved her uncle that his visits were the greatest joys of her childhood, later of her adolescence, and even of her religious life. When told that her venerated uncle was to visit St. Claire, it seems that her promises were worth hearing so earnestly would she entreat her grandmother to disclose none of her many pranks, but no sooner had the good-natured grandmother concluded the bargain, than the child would give herself up to an exuberant joy. She could then look forward, with no afterthought, to the so agreeable visit.

During her first years of school, one of her teachers often spoke to her pupils about the poor pagans. Little Claire's heart was inflamed with a great love and zeal for their wretched souls and she resolved that one day she would co-operate in their salvation.

On the blessed days of her First Communion and Confirmation she earnestly implored the grace of one day becoming a religious, but it was especially towards the age of fourteen that she was urged by grace to become a missionary. The reading of missionary reviews captivated her.

She graduated at the age of seventeen and before leaving her dear convent she promised that during her life she would strive as much as possible to make the Blessed Virgin loved, "but then," does our dear Sister add, "I did not know that one day I would become one of her privileged children:

a Missionary of the Immaculate Conception, for at that time the Community was unknown to me. The few years that she spent in the world before entering the convent were devoted to teaching and to the charms of home life. She was the eldest of many children. "How happy we were at home," she would often say. "I dearly loved my little brothers and sisters, and they also loved me."

In August 1922 she made a closed retreat at our house at Quebec and there her soul clearly heard the divine calling to the apostolic life. Still it was only the following year that her great desire was realized. It was on the 2nd of August 1923, that she entered our postulate. Her loving mother accompanied her to the convent which greatly eased the painful parting from the dear home.

Her life in the cloister, like that of most of the humble novices of the Immaculate, was consecrated to the practice of modest virtues: silence, labor, prayer, abnegation and the hidden life.

She heartily cherished her sublime vocation, she loved her Superiors with a childlike affection, she was gentle and amiable with her Sisters and most grateful towards her Community.

On March 25, 1926, she was admitted to Holy Profession — then employed at the work-room for church vestments, for she was very skilful with the needle, and her health was too delicate to allow her to devote herself to exterior works. Despite the great care given her, that same year she began to feel the symptoms of the illness that was to bring her to the grave. With the appearance of the bright spring days, our kind Mother sent her to our quiet home at Nominating where she remained all summer and seemingly regained health. Then she came to spend the winter at Pont Viau, where she could again enjoy the pure fresh air and the tranquillity of this solitude. There our dear Mother herself again chose a cheerful room. How she seemed to enjoy this sojourn in this cradle of her religious infancy. Still in the course of the winter we noticed that she was losing what she had gained during the summer. The salubrious mountain air was evidently more favorable to her. In June, accompanied by her infirmarian and a few sisters in need of a rest, she returned to Nominating. This last year which she spent on earth was marked by her submission to the Holy Will of God. She felt that her Divine Spouse was calling her to Him, but yet she ardently desired a longer life to be consecrated to the glory of God and the salvation of souls, and to be able to repay her dear religious family, did she say, for all that had been done for her, but then she would always add with holy resignation: "God's Holy Will be done... if He wants me... very well!"

To the end she was ever happy and cheerful, content and grateful for everything that was given her. "I thank you, beloved Mother," she wrote before her death, "I thank you for your ever watchful care. Do not be uneasy about me, it would be impossible to receive more tender and maternal care than is lavished upon your happy little child. I ask our Heavenly Mother to bestow her richest blessings upon our beloved earthly Mother. If God restores me to health I shall work ardently for

my dear Community which has done so much for me. All her letters bear this characteristic of gratitude, happiness and abandonment. On February 11, when she was anointed for the second time, she again proclaimed her happiness and on the following day, she wrote, "Yesterday, as formerly at Massabielle, the Blessed Virgin smiled on her children of Noming... May I explain myself! It is because we have felt the tangible love of this tender Mother. The renewal of annual vows of two of our Sisters took place in my room, which was beautifully adorned in festal array for the occasion. After having given Holy Communion to the three of us, the Reverend Pastor then anointed me. How sublime is this Sacrament! What a pure celestial happiness it brings with it! Yesterday, if Our Lord had just beckoned to me I would have thrown myself into His arms. Many a time did I close my eyes hoping to awaken in eternity, but I always found myself to be still quite alive. My two companions are writing to tell you of their happiness, but of the three, dear Mother, I am surely the happiest!...

A little after, her venerated uncle, Bishop Langlois, visited her. This consolation was as a ray of sunshine which sweetly illumined the evening of her life.

She gathered a few of his words keeping them as a spiritual bouquet which she often meditated and which she transmitted to our beloved Mother, adding: "These precious words I keep buried in my heart." Here is a summary of them: "Sickness is a gift from God, and He has given it to you. You have had the privilege of being anointed twice... I understand that it is not always amusing to be sick, but when like you, one is treated as a queen... You are so tenderly cared for... God has given you ample time to prepare for the long voyage... On leaving this earth we are not admitted to a foreign land, but to the kingdom of our Father... When you will be in Heaven, let roses fall upon earth. I do not believe that I shall ever again see you on this earth. I trust, however, that you will live until the 25th of March for your perpetual vows. May the crown of white lilies which you will wear on that day be a symbol of your immortal crown." (I had just shown my uncle the crown of white lilies which had been prepared for the great day of my perpetual vows.) And looking at the white lilies that adorned my little Communion table, he said, "You grow lilies!..." When His Lordship was about to take his leave, I said, "I am convinced, Uncle, that you love our Community and that you are deeply interested in it, when I am gone will you always, always love it and always take an interest in it?"... Brushing away a tear, he answered, "Yes." I added, "you know what our Mother and the Community have done for me, kindly bless them!... It would be ungrateful not to mention my sister infirmarian who for so long has given me such tender care, please bless her also."

Before closing her letter, our dear little Sister added, "I anxiously await the long-desired day!... I ever remain in the arms of the Blessed Virgin where, dear Mother, you have so affectionately placed me."

May we again quote the last letter of our dear departed one written on March 25th, the long-awaited day of her perpetual vows.

DEARLY BELOVED MOTHER,

Words fail to express my happiness on this day of my Perpetual Profession. Never could I have imagined such bliss. Your privileged daughter has become, forever, the Spouse of Our Lord. — I wish that the remaining days be devoted to the singing of a hymn of gratitude. You would be charmed, dear Mother, if you could see how beautiful my room is adorned. It is a little corner of Heaven. All my sisters have devoted themselves to make this day one of incomparable joy. In spirit I have assisted at the ceremony at the Novitiate, it was very impressive, but I soon returned to rest in my little nook. I heartily thank you, dear Mother, for your affectionate letter and your precious souvenirs of profession. I thank you also for your thoughtful dainties. My most affectionate regards to Sister Assistant. With all the affection of a heart overflowing with love, do I embrace you, dear Mother.

Your happy child.

From that date, her submission to the Will of God became more perfect. To all that was asked or offered, she would invariably answer: "As you wish... Whatever God wills..." She was always satisfied and happy.

During the last two weeks she spent on earth her sufferings were most acute, but she never complained. She anxiously awaited to take her flight to heaven. Father Mercure, Principal of the Mont Laurier Normal School, who visited her, asked her if she was afraid of death. "Oh! no Father," she answered, "not in the least. I shall throw myself into the arms of God, into the arms of my Father..."

On Monday, eve of her death, she called the Sisters to her bedside. I shall soon leave you, you may give me all your messages for heaven," and she spoke of her departure as one about to take a long-desired journey. "I am sure," she said, "that the Blessed Virgin will come to meet me, I feel her presence... On earth I have not had the happiness of going to the missions, but in heaven I shall visit everyone of them (and she enumerated each one) and if I have a little influence up above, I will help all my sisters. I will do something for the missions.

On Tuesday, June 4, at seven o'clock in the morning without the least struggle, she peacefully passed away.

Her mortal remains were taken to our Mother-House where she was exposed, according to the custom, among green ferns and pure white flowers at the feet of the Immaculate Virgin. In her hands were placed the book of rules, the formula of vows and her rosary. Upon her heart was placed a fresh white lily. The funeral took place, June 6th, in the chapel of the Mother-House. His Lordship, Bishop Langlois of Valleyfield, officiated at the funeral service and accompanied to its last resting-place, the virginal remains of his beloved niece, sealing her tomb with a paternal blessing.

Here below she now sleeps peacefully in the Lord, but in Heaven she will be more than ever an apostle, a missionary of the Immaculate Conception.

The Fifteen Promises of the Rosary



1. To all those who shall recite my Rosary devoutly, I promise my special protection and very great graces.

2. Those who shall persevere in the recitation of my Rosary will receive some signal grace.

3. The Rosary will be a very powerful armor against hell; it will destroy vice, deliver from sin and will dispel heresy.

4. The Rosary will make virtue and good works flourish, and will obtain for souls the most abundant Divine mercies; it will substitute in hearts love of God for love of the world, elevate them to desire heavenly and eternal goods. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means!

5. Those who trust themselves to me through the Rosary will not perish.

6. Those who shall recite my Rosary piously, considering its mysteries will not be overwhelmed by misfortune, nor die a bad death. The sinner will be converted; the just will grow in grace, and become worthy of eternal life.

7. Those truly devoted to my Rosary shall not die without the consolations of the Church or without grace.

8. Those who shall recite my Rosary will find during their life and at their death the light of God, the fullness of His grace, and will share in the merits of the blessed.

9. I will deliver very promptly from purgatory the souls devoted to my Rosary.

10. The true children of my Rosary will enjoy great glory in heaven.

11. What you shall ask through my Rosary you shall obtain.

12. Those who propagate my Rosary will obtain through me aid in all their necessities

13. I have obtained from my Son that all the confreres of the Rosary shall have for their brethren in life and death the saints of heaven.

14. Those who recite my Rosary faithfully are all my beloved children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.

15. Devotion to my Rosary is a special sign of predestination.

Imprimatur: † PAUL, Arch. of Montreal.

Montreal, Oct. 23, 1914.

A Few Roses Scattered

By the Little Sister of Missionaries...

"When I shall be in Heaven, Jesus, Thou wilt fill my hands with roses and I shall shower them upon earth."

St. Therese of the Child Jesus.



This donation of \$9.00 is towards the Little Flower Burse in return for favors asked and granted. Mrs. & Mrs. J. L., J. O'D., **Montreal**. — Please accept my offering of \$2.00 in thanksgiving to St. Therese of the Child Jesus, for the poor lepers at the Shek-Lung Lazaretto. Saint Teresa has obtained many favors for me. Please remember my intentions in your prayers, that my sister and I may keep our positions. L. O., **Chicago Ill.** — Enclosed find \$2.00, one for the renewal of my subscription and the other an offering for favors received from Saint Therese. Please ask this little Saint to grant me another request. I shall send an offering in her honor later. Mrs. L. S., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — I am sending \$5.00 to help in your missionary work in gratitude for a favor obtained through the intercession

of St. Therese. R. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — With joy am I accomplishing the promise that I made in honor of the so helpful Patroness of Missionaries by sending you the sum of \$5.00. A subscriber, **St. Honore**. — My offering of \$5.00 for your missions in gratitude to the Little Flower of Jesus for a cure obtained. Mrs. M. D., — Kindly find enclosed a Postal Note for \$5.00, my thank-offering to St. Therese of the Child Jesus for the avoidance of an operation after promising an offering for the missions. Mrs. J. V., **Quebec**. — Having obtained an improvement in health, I am fulfilling my promise by sending you an offering for your distant missions. I beg you not to forget me in your prayers. Mrs. O. T., **Montreal**. — My grateful homages to the dear Little Flower of Jesus for a cure obtained. P. E. P., **Montreal**. — In favor of the Mission Burse please accept my offering of \$1.00 in gratitude to the Little Patroness of Missionaries. L. A., **Montreal**. — I am renewing my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" in gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favor obtained after promising publication. I recommend two other intentions to her. A subscriber, **Warren, R. I.** — My little girl who from her birth has suffered from sore ears has been cured through the intercession of the Little Flower. Please find enclosed \$1.00 for a subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" in thanksgiving for this favor. Mrs. H. V. — I am pleased to send you \$1.00 in thanksgiving to St. Therese for the favor she has granted me. May this dear Protectress deign to obtain another great grace for me. Mrs. A., **Palmer, Ont.** — Please accept this Money Order for \$5.00 as a contribution to the Little Flower Burse in thanksgiving for a favor received. Mrs. J. W., **Linwood, Mass.** — This offering is for the ransom of dying babies, fifty cents to prove my gratitude to St. Therese and fifty cents for a special intention. M. W., **Toronto, Ont.** — My heartfelt gratitude to St. Therese of Lisieux for the cure of my baby after donating \$5.00 in her honor. I recommend to her a father of a family who has not approached the sacraments for three years, also several other intentions. A subscriber, **AMOS**. — I enclose an offering for two novenas of lights in honor of the Little Flower in thanksgiving for having obtained a good position. I also wish to recommend to her care two young wayward boys. Mrs. R., **Montreal**. — I am sending you \$5.00 for the upkeep of a Chinese crib in gratitude for a favor obtained through the intercession of St. Therese of the Child Jesus after promising to publish in "THE PRECURSOR". A subscriber, **Napierville**. — This cheque for \$25.00 is in favor of your missions to thank the Little Flower for favors granted me. Mrs. B. — In token of gratitude for a favor obtained through the intercession of the little Saint of Carmel I am sending you a cheque for \$5.00 to help in defraying the expenses of the next departure of your missionaries. Mrs. V. L., **Montreal**. — I am sending you

\$2.00 in honor of your powerful Patroness. — I am fulfilling my promise of renewing my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and of having a High Mass sung in honor of St. Therese in thanksgiving for several favors obtained after promising publication. I recommend many other intentions to the intercession of this celestial Benefactress. Mrs. L. M., **St. Isidore**. — My donation of \$2.00 towards the Little Flower Burse as my token of gratitude for graces received. A Subscriber, **Spencer, Mass.** — Offering of \$10.00 in honor of the powerful little Patroness of Missionaries to express my heartfelt thanks to her. Mrs. J. V. — After having prayed for a long time to the Little Flower I have obtained a special grace. I am sending you \$0.50 as a thank-offering to be used for the ransom of two little Chinese babies. Miss A., **Kapuskasing, Ont.** — Herein I enclose \$1.00 in gratitude to St. Therese for a favor received. M. B. — For two years I suffered from heart trouble. After invoking the Little Flower of Jesus and subscribing to "THE PRECURSOR" I have obtained a complete cure. It is with pleasure that I publish it to the glory of this good little Saint and to prove my gratitude I promise to be a life-long subscriber to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. W. A. R., **Waterbury, Conn.**

Burse of St. Therese of the Child Jesus for the adoption of a missionary.

A **Burse** is a sum of money the interest of which forms a perpetual income for the support of a Missionary. **Burses** are founded in honor of a Saint whose name they bear. The religious whose support is thus assured becomes for life the missionary of the donor and takes his place near the poor infidels. The Founders of **Burses** participate in all the spiritual advantages of the Community. The sum of \$1,000.00 given in one or several payments by one or many persons forms a complete **Burse**.

We shall then receive with gratitude, any offering, even trifling, (thanksgiving for favors obtained or requests for new ones) for the complete formation of the **Burse** in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. May the Little Sister of Missionaries inspire generous souls with the thought of adopting a Missionary and let fall on them a shower of roses!

July	1928	153.10
September	"	55.75
November	"	192.00
January	1929	303.05
March	"	59.85
May	"	182.00
July	"	93.75



A fervent prayer is requested for the repose of the soul of Miss E. Cartier, Montreal, a member of the "St. Therese of the Child Jesus" Sewing Circle for the missions, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont.

Echoes from our Missions

En route to the distant missions of Canton, Tsongming and Naze

Extract from the diary of our four travellers, dedicated to our venerated and beloved Mother.

Thursday, May 2, 1929

We land at Kobe, the second Japanese port... We are so anxious to reach our destination that we count every stop...

I do not know what important personage is expected at the dock, but mostly all the Japanese who are waiting there, sing in unison. It is pleasant to hear and to see them. We notice that many of the young Japanese girls do not sing, but gently wave their handkerchiefs, keeping time with the music. In truth this nation is very graceful...

The first separation takes place at five o'clock this afternoon. Our dear Sister Joseph de la Ste. Famille leaves us for the trip to Naze, in company with a Japanese virgin, and Sister St. Jean-Baptiste, who arrives from Kagoshima, replaces her on the boat, and will sail with Sister Ste-Helene, as far as Tsongming, their destination. Needless to say that we feel very sad in bidding *adieu* to our dear sister going to labor in the Japanese mission.

We now speed towards Nagasaki.

Friday, May 3

Arrived at Nagasaki, we begin to seek a Catholic church. After a few minutes' walk, we find ourselves in front of the cathedral. A magnificent statue of Our Lady of Japan is placed at the entrance. We enter the church where we make our spiritual exercises after having admired the beautiful painting of the Japanese martyrs. Their sufferings must have been excruciating!

There were but two Japanese girls in the church. One of them was practising at the organ for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament which was to take place at half past six. While we were praying she softly began to play "Star of the Sea" and "Veni Creator". Tears came to our eyes. Was it not an act of thoughtfulness on the part of divine Providence which reminded us that it would be through our two great devotions to the Holy Ghost and the Blessed Virgin, that we, Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception, would be able to accomplish some good in infidel lands?... The young Japanese musician certainly did not know that she had touched two very sensitive chords in our hearts, and that she was speaking very eloquently to our souls...

As we are leaving the church, we meet a Japanese priest who invites us to visit Bishop Hayasaka. We accept, and are received with great kindness.

As he understands the French language, he entertains us for nearly an hour, speaking of our Community, its works and of Japan. The diocese of Nagasaki, His Lordship tells us, comprises about 60,000 faithful, two-thirds of the Catholic population of Japan. But a great deal yet remains to be done. The only religious community so far, in this diocese, is that of the Sisters of the Infant Jesus. In time, shall we also have the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception?... Conversions are very difficult to bring about in Japan. We need science and holiness. The Japanese are proud, they like knowledge and have confidence in the learned only, and I would even say that holiness without science is almost powerless.

Formerly, the Japanese preferred the English language, to-day, they seem to appreciate French more... Many charitable works are needed, the Japanese attend church very little, but the different works of charity edify and attract them. The Sisters do much good. We have some native Sisters in the Northern missions. This Community was founded by Father Breton. One day when this priest was passing through San Francisco, U. S. A., he was requested to spend some time in that city, in order to assemble the Japanese Catholics who were unable to speak English, and to hear their confessions. He found them so numerous that he sent for some pious young girls from Japan to direct their schools. These progressed very rapidly. Father Breton then handed over this work to the Fathers and the Sisters of Maryknoll and returned to Japan to found another Community on the same plan. Those young girls are now real religious approved by Rome.

His Lordship tells us that he took his course in theology in Rome and had as classmates Rev. Fathers Daigle of Montreal and Gosselin of Quebec. He also spoke to us of Reverend Father Calixte, O. F. M. to whom he taught the first Japanese sentences. After this lengthy conversation which we found very interesting, His Lordship graciously invited us to partake of bananas and cake which he had just received as gifts and which were yet on the parlor table. "Eat, dear Sisters," he told us kindly, "the bananas from the Bishop of Nagasaki are tasty..." His Lordship then gave us his blessing and wished us a safe journey.

This long unexpected visit kept us late for the supper served on the boat. However, the extra trouble to which we put the waiters, was amply compensated for, as it procured them their first catechism lesson. The absence of all the other passengers, left us more liberty, and the multiplied questions of these poor pagans on the Sign of the Cross which we make before and after our meals, on the rosary that we wear, on certain particulars of our way of living, give us the occasion of explaining to their eager minds the principal truths of our holy religion. The lesson was ended by the distribution of miraculous medals which they all promised to keep and treat with respect. In return for their veneration of the picture of the Mother of God, we assured them of the very special protection from our Immaculate Mother. All these pagans being Cantonese, we were able to teach them in their own tongue.

Saturday, May 4

After breakfast, we have the opportunity of visiting the boiler-room of the boat. It is very interesting and instructive. We have learned that the "Empress" covers eighteen miles an hour, and can go even twenty. The ship has sixty-four fires and consumes three hundred tons of coal per day. A trip from Vancouver to Manila, both ways, consumes twelve thousand tons. There are fourteen engineers who work in shifts of four, the chief and his assistant inspecting the machines continuously. This department is eighteen feet below water-level, and there is another still lower where the water reservoirs are kept. Three pumps are used to procure water from the sea, for the baths, the laundry, etc... There are also electric as well as ice-plants and machines to change the salt-water into fresh water. It seems that this water is not very palatable, and the drinking water served on board was supplied at Vancouver.

This afternoon, we visit the kitchen, pantries, refectories, and the third and fourth classes. In these two classes everyone occupies the same room and the kitchen is entirely Chinese. We then pass through the laundry where the employees work day and night.

On returning on deck after this interesting visit, we see some enormous fish playing in the waves. It is a very pleasant sight indeed!... Soon after, at a short distance from us, we catch sight of the "Empress of Russia" returning to Canada... Its sight makes our hearts beat a little faster. It is followed, at a distance of two or three rods, by a big Japanese vessel.

We have recreation the whole day; this is the last we shall spend with our Sisters of Tsongming. To-morrow, another separation will take place.

Sunday, May 5

At ten o'clock in the morning, the boat is at the dock facing Shanghai. We look closely, yet we do not see our Sisters... Why have they not come? Trusting to divine Providence, we prepare to carry out the Sunday precept. At a distance of two or three rods from the wharf, we can see above the tiled roofs, a steeple surmounted by a cross. It is certainly a Catholic church. We direct our steps towards it, a boy about twelve years of age is very glad to act as our guide. The church is decorated with banners and flowers, but deserted: a virgin alone, prepares bouquets of white roses for the altar. She tells us that we are at the church of the Rosary whose pastor is Reverend Father Tsu, cousin of Bishop Tsu. There was no Mass this morning in this church, as the pastor is away in another mission at a distance of three miles. There are but two virgins here to direct a school of some two hundred pupils.

Having done our utmost to satisfy the dominical precept, we return to the boat, and we try to reach the Convent of the Helpers of the Holy Souls by telephone, in order to find out whether our Sisters of Tsongming are in the city. The line is busy for more than an hour. We are in a country where patience is required. But meanwhile, Reverend Father Côté, S. J., Bishop Tsu's secretary, appears at the door of our cabin. Two Helpers

of the Holy Souls one of whom is Mother St. Agnes, Bishop Tsu's niece, have also come to meet us and are waiting in the parlor. It is an agreeable surprise, but we wonder why our Sisters have not come instead. Here is the explanation: on Friday, Sister Marie de l'Epiphanie arrived in Shanghai with Sister Marie de Sion who had a sore throat and symptoms of diphtheria. An epidemic of this disease is causing much trouble at Tsongming. In a few days, eight of the oldest orphans of our Sisters fell victims to the malady. It is in caring for the children that Sister Marie de Sion contracted it. However, it was fortunately checked from the very first, by a powerful serum which was injected in time. But the day following their arrival, Sister Marie de l'Epiphanie learned that the Sisters who remained at the Convent were not well... She returned immediately, faithful to her duty as Superior, although by so doing she gave up the pleasure of meeting our Sisters whom she may perhaps never see again, and of welcoming the new arrivals which the Mother-House was sending her. This is missionary life and we must accept generously these small sacrifices which are asked us by God, if we are to co-operate in the salvation of souls. The reason of the delay of the priest and Sisters in coming to meet us was that our boat landed opposite Shanghai, but on the far side of the river. We have to take a ferry-boat to Shanghai. There, the automobile of the Tsu family takes us to Saint Joseph's convent, where Sister Marie de Sion actually is. The latter is convalescing rapidly. The two new arrivals will leave with her only on Wednesday, as the Bishop wishes our little patient to recover perfectly and the two others to rest before undertaking the trip from Shanghai to Tsongming. This trip takes three hours by boat and two by wheelbarrow.

At six o'clock to-night the last separation takes place. This second *adieu* is not less painful than the first. We return to the "Empress". In a few days, we also shall reach our apostolic field.

Thursday, May 8, Feast of the Ascension

Prayers and meditation over we prepare our trunks, as we shall land to-day for good. We are at Kowloon, facing Hong Kong. How slowly the boat anchors! The sky is cloudy and a dense fog completely hides the dock. We had hoped to be able to catch a glimpse of the white guimps of our Sisters coming to meet us... At last, we discern them... Yes, they are really our Sisters, Sister Superior and Sister Assistant. But we must be patient for a little while longer! The boat is anchored by means of immense cables, the gangways are placed in position, yet we must wait for nearly an hour before landing; some officers are stationed at the gates...

At last, we are free. What happiness, dear Mother, for Sisters to see one another after years of separation! Instinctively we all return to our cabins to talk more leisurely of our dear Outremont. Your maternal embrace is given and received with effusion... But we must think of our Sisters who are waiting for us at the house. There also, the greeting is very fraternal. What happiness for one and all when we transmit the many



messages from our Sisters in Canada! What a number of things to see, and especially to say in this one day as the "Leung San" of to-night will bring us to Canton to-morrow.

CANTON, CHINA

Friday, May 9

Canton!!! the object of our twenty-four days' trip. Canton, the city which was once called the "capital of the devil" the city of civil troubles, of wars, of conflagrations, the pagan city that left Saint Francis Xavier, who was bringing it salvation, perish at its door. Oh! would that he were the one now coming! The realization of the fervent desire of the Saint is left to us, humble little Sisters! What a great grace!

Sister Saint Etienne, who comes to meet us, tells us that Reverend Father McDonald, S. J., is waiting for us before saying Mass. We receive Holy Communion as fervently as possible, having been deprived of it for nineteen long days. Our entire personnel joins with us in thanking God for His many favors: the orphans as well as the tiny tots from the kindergarten class, the workers from the work-rooms and even some of our old pupils who are very faithful converts. In the course of the day, we also receive the visit of some old acquaintances, for the news of the arrival of some new Sisters at the Convent soon spread throughout the christendom.

We then set to the opening of the cases... What surprises!... What joy!... How often do we hear these words: "How kind our dear Mother is! How charitable our benefactors!..." Can you imagine the children's happiness!... I was just wishing for this, for that..." and the tasty sweets from the Mother-House... And the lovely *candy sticks* sent by the Delorimier school of Mont-real for our little orphans! "How good God has been to us this Ascension

Day," our Sisters are often heard to say. Dear, kind Mother, how we wish you could be with us at this moment, you, whose great desire is to see others happy... When all the cases have been opened and the contents displayed on tables, we send for the personnel so that everyone see for themselves your great generosity towards them, Mother, and the liberal assistance of the sewing-circles of Canada in supplying clothing for the Missions. Feelings of admiration are written on all faces, and all eyes are wide-open. Each one wonders what her share will be. But the bell rings for the spiritual exercises, the distribution will take place later on.

After supper, a delegation from the orphans' quarters comes to invite us in a very formal way to repair to the parlor. We accept. Mother, permit me to give you a few details of this little concert prepared for us. Yes it was really a concert: a duet, an improvised recitation and an address presented with a bouquet of natural flowers. Here is a summary of the address which was perfectly recited by a blind pupil: "New Sister Superior, noted personage, and Sister Marie-Celina, we, the happy recipients of the Kindergarten of Canton, extend to you a hearty *Welcome*; and in your precious persons, we desire to thank *Tai Ma Me* (the great Mother Superior General) for having sent you to be as father and mother to us. Our own parents have abandoned, neglected us, our distress appealed to your hearts. In your charity, you have left the lofty heights of your own beautiful Canada to come to the lowlands of our unfortunate country bringing to us the light of truth. And this sacrifice is a second one for yourselves and your dear parents. Once again, we express our thanks to you and to them. You have brought us faith, telling us of the true Master of Heaven, and procuring for us all the benefits of the Holy Religion. From you we receive food and clothing, thank you. You are real mothers to us, we wish in return to be always true to your teachings. We would like to give you a tangible proof of our gratitude but we have nothing. However, it is with overflowing hearts that we say most sincerely: *Thank you and Welcome*.

At the close of the little celebration, Sister Superior distributes red *candy sticks* which are eaten immediately. Can you picture all our little people passing before Sister Superior to receive their share: the bigger orphans presenting the little ones, the hunchbacks, the lame leading the blind. This touching, yet simple sight would already be a reward to those who perhaps have had to make a sacrifice themselves in order to prepare this happy treat for our dear children.

Thursday, May 23

Anniversary of the death of our late Sister Saint Joseph. Although three years have already passed since this beloved Sister left us, her memory is still cherished by those who during long years had been in intimate contact with her, and who to-day reap the fruits of her laborious works. The nine thousand little souls baptized by her and the still greater number of children she so generously received and cared for, to-day form her heavenly crown. We request this beloved Sister to continue her missionary work in favor

of our Community and especially in favor of our house of Canton and at the same time we offer her the merits of our Mass, of Holy Communion and of all the spiritual exercises of to-day. The entire personnel joins with us; even some of our former pagan pupils, pagan as yet, have shown how kindly she is remembered by them, by coming to visit us.

Tuesday, May 28

A good old Christian lady from a neighboring street brings us two dozen candles in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin of our grotto who has, she says, cured one of her little sons. The child had fallen and had fractured his leg in such a way that he could never recover the use of the limb, according to the doctors. Trustful prayers to the Blessed Virgin have obtained a complete cure which is regarded as extraordinary, to say the least.

* * *

MANCHURIA, CHINA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, missionaries to Liao Yuan Sien,
Manchuria*

Wednesday, April 10, 1929

Out of the 130 patients who have come to the dispensary to-day, four little tots were clothed with the baptismal robe.

Mail from Canada... a letter from our dear Mother... What joy and sunshine it brings to the little Manchurian family!

Thursday, April 11

Again to-day 130 treatments are made and four baptisms.

Saturday, April 13

At the six o'clock Mass this morning, takes place a marriage between the Priests' Professor and a Christian woman from the neighboring Mission. At nine o'clock, the bride, dressed in red and in a sedan-chair, also red, comes to greet the personnel of the Mission. At the door of the yard, musicians, hired for the occasion, accompany their Chinese music by a deafening uproar. In China, a festival without noise is no festival at all.

Three little ones have been made children of God and of the Church.

Thursday, April 18

Mr. P'ong an excommunicated Christian, who for the last ten years has not been to confession, is dying. Two virgins go to visit him in order to prepare him for the coming of the priest, but the old man refuses to see him. Father P'ang goes to the house just the same, but soon returns, he also was refused. All our prayers and works of the day are offered to obtain the conversion of this unfortunate.



Friday, April 19

The number of our patients are always on the increase which is a great puzzle for our two Sister infirmarians who wonder where they will find the time, the medicine, the bandages for so many people!... 215 patients have been registered to-day, several of them are new-comers. Two little ones came seeking their passports for a better life.

Saturday, April 20

We have the consolation of learning that Mr. P'ong asked for Father P'ang to hear his confession, the patient was also able to receive Holy Communion. He is sinking rapidly. At nine o'clock, two Sisters go to see him. After the dispensary hours, two others pay him a

visit. The Chinese virgins who accompany us recite the beads aloud. The prayer over, the patient who appeared to be unconscious articulated a few words and painfully carried his hand to his forehead to make the Sign of the Cross. Sister Superior sprinkled the *k'ang* with holy water and poured a little on the dying man's brow. In response to a gesture from the patient the virgin approached. "Oh! pray, pray again," he said, "the devil violently tempts me!" The virgin had him recite a few aspirations to the Blessed Virgin, and we recommended him to the agonizing Heart of Jesus and to St. Joseph whose patronage we celebrate to-morrow.

Sunday, April 21

We sang at the High Mass in honor of our good Father St. Joseph. Sister Superior and Sister St. Vincent de Paul went this morning to see Mr. P'ong. They had scarcely returned when word was sent that his last moments seemed to be approaching. Sister St. Gerard and Sister Marie de la Protection hastened to his home to be able to pray at the bed-side of the moribund but when they reached the house death had already accomplished its work. A great crowd had gathered. They made places for the two Sisters and while praying for the repose of the soul of the poor man saw to the laying out of the corpse.

This is not very complicated in China, as soon as there is possible danger of death the patient is dressed in his shroud. This is considered a mark of honor and respect. Our patient wore his since last Thursday.

The body is placed on a kind of table about three feet in height and ready for some time past. A last garment is added as well as big heavy black shoes tied with red shoe-strings, and his face is covered with a black veil. The son and daughter of the deceased helped by one of the daughters-

in-law saw to these preparatives. When all was completed the oldest daughter gave a signal. At the same instant, as though a spring had been released, everybody burst out crying, or rather burst out screaming. I had never heard anything like it in my life. I never thought that a human voice could utter such cries. The son of the deceased especially seemed inconsolable. Kneeling at the head of the corpse he proffered deafening moans. Now and then he would rise, look at his father and again commence his lamentations while assuming a prostrated attitude. On the other side of the corpse the daughters did as much while one of the daughters-in-law mingled her voice to the noisy grief, while stirring a paper fire which had been lit at his feet.



A MISSIONARY SISTER OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND HER TWO CHINESE HELPERS, INFIRMARIANS AT LIAO YUAN SIEN DISPENSARY, MANCHURIA, CHINA

From time to time a relative or friend would approach the afflicted ones, whose tears flowed in extraordinary abundance, to try to console them, but every time that they would risk a word of consolation, the cries and sobs would increase.

During this time the virgins and our professors who had accompanied us sang the prayers for the dead. On our way home we pondered over the difference between their customs and ours and thanked God for having granted the grace of a Christian death to this poor man. Up until the last moment he kept his crucifix in his hand and often bore it to his lips. It seems that despite his ill-conduct he was faithful in reciting a decade of the beads every day. How true it is that it is never in vain that we invoke the Mother of Mercy!

Wednesday, April 24

Reverend Father Superior asks that we sing a High Mass which will be celebrated this morning in honor of St. Joseph for the success of the construction work which is to commence to-day.

We count on the register to-night 220 patients. As yet it is the highest number that we have reached in one day. A Sister, a Chinese virgin, and two orphans give treatments from eight o'clock until noon, and from three o'clock until five.

Saturday, April 27

Sue Magdalena, virgin of the Tou Suan mission comes to remain at the orphanage to learn how to care for the sick. As soon as she will be acquainted with the indispensable things that an infirmarian should know, she will return to Father Berger's Mission.

Sister Superior baptizes two little girls at the dispensary: Mary Lucile, Mary Lia.

Tuesday, April 30

Dressing of wounds and divers treatments during the month of April 3,578, a daily average of about 135.

Wednesday, May 1

Pious exercises in honor of our Immaculate Mother took place at the opening of her beautiful month: Chinese hymns by the pupils and orphans, recitation of the Rosary and other prayers. May the Immaculate Virgin accept our humble homages and continue to favor our little mission with her maternal blessing!

Saturday, May 4

Two young pagan girls, betrothed to Christians, come to stay at the Orphanage so as to learn Christian Doctrine.

Thursday, May 9

Some time ago a man forty years of age, suffering from heart trouble came to our dispensary. As his face and hands were greatly swollen, we kept him at the mission so as to give him the necessary treatment, but especially to instruct him gradually in the truths of our holy Faith. This morning after the six o'clock Mass, he fainted. Father Turcotte went immediately to see him and administered the sacrament of Baptism. The patient died a few minutes after.

Friday, May 10

Reverend Father Larochelle of Tung Liao has come to Liao Yuan Sien for a few days. He brings to the orphanage a little eleven-year-old girl suffering from nervous trouble. Father bought her from a family where she had been most cruelly treated.

We to-day count four baptisms at the dispensary. Yesterday two little babies were also baptized.

Monday, May 13

In returning from a visit to one of the homes we had the happiness of seeing Mary Irene whom we baptized on March 6th. Slowly, very slowly, tuberculosis is doing its work. It is pitiful to see this poor child, she is extremely thin. Nevertheless it is with a smile that she awaits death. The virgin asks her to offer all her sufferings to God and has her recite a few aspirations to the Blessed Virgin. "Since I have become a Christian not a single day have I missed praying to her and I have always kept the little picture of the Blessed Virgin that you gave me," she said, pointing to the picture on the wall close by her side.

On leaving her, I begged our Blessed Lady to grant that up until her last moment she be as resigned as at present and as confident in divine mercy.

Thursday, May 16

Some time ago a pagan woman offered us her two children: a little girl of six and another of sixteen both suffering from spinal trouble and unable to walk. We accept them and they are now among the personnel of the Orphanage. How sad it is to see these two little cripples always in the same position on the *k'ang*. The eldest being unable to lie down spends the night leaning on her elbows. She moreover suffers from wounds on her back and legs. A virgin teaches them our religion little by little.

Friday, May 17

Sister Superior has little summer dresses cut for our orphans. Our two little crippled girls who have only torn dresses to wear ask if they too will have new ones. Sister Superior had some cut, and the older of the two, despite her infirmity, sews them herself by hand.

These dear children are never sad. They even appear to be content with their lot. We long to see them Christians. What merit they would gain for eternity!

We are happy this evening to enregister the baptism of five children and one adult.

Tuesday, May 21

The number of baptisms at the dispensary increases monthly. Since the beginning of May we have counted 50.

Sunday, May 26

A good mother brings us her little child blind from birth. She wishes at all costs that we restore him his sight: "Sister, he must be cured, do you understand? It is my only child, and it is a boy!" Moreover, the baby is sick, so sick that I do not delay in baptizing it and applying salve to its eyes. The young mother, happy and confident, returns home. Poor little one! The remedy I have placed on your eyes will never restore you your sight, but the regenerating waters poured upon your brow already makes you an heir to the Celestial Empire.

Monday, May 27

With the spring season the warm days have returned. The patients arrive at the dispensary a few less in number for the fine weather contributes to the cure of several. The number of baptisms however does not diminish. Two little ones have been baptized to-day.

Wednesday, May 29

At the closing of the beautiful month of Mary, we redouble our homages of filial piety towards our Immaculate Mother. To-day we have won four victories for heaven.

A father asks us to go to see his wife and four-year-old child dangerously ill. The poor woman suffering from dropsy for the past three months and having received no care, is in a pitiful condition. Useless to think of bringing her to the Orphanage. The trip would perhaps prove fatal.

Owing to circumstances we cannot speak to her of holy Baptism to-day. We baptize the little girl who to-morrow will have certainly taken her flight towards the celestial abode. Her father not wishing to have it die in the home told us of his intention of throwing it away. We immediately asked him to give it to us, and the same evening he brought it to the Orphanage.



THE DISPENSARY HOUR FOR THE MEN
AT LIAO YUAN SIEN, MANCHURIA, CHINA

Thursday, May 30

Our little dying child seems to have regained a little strength this morning. At eight o'clock we hasten to visit its mother. The patient is unable to speak and can no longer see but she still understands the words we address her. On account of the early hour there are no strangers in the house. The Chinese virgin summarily instructs her in the principal mysteries of our holy religion, speaks to her of God's mercy, and of the happiness awaiting her if she consents to be baptized. Four times she repeated her request and each time the dying woman made a sign of refusal. Somehow we could not make up our minds to leave the room for we thought that this would be assuredly the last day for her. The thought then came to me to solicit the intercession of our regretted Mother Marie de St. Gustave and of our dear Sister St. Cecile who have so dearly loved the poor Chinese and who so generously made the sacrifice of their lives for the conversion of unfortunate China. We had hardly recalled the souvenir of our two dear deceased sisters when the patient made a sign that she acquiesced to our entreaties. In gratitude for this favor we baptized her and gave her the name of Marie Josephine Cecile. In this same family a dying baby received its passport for heaven and two others were baptized at the dispensary.

Friday, May 31

We learn this morning that the patient died yesterday, a few instants after our departure. Her little four-year-old daughter who had been brought to the Orphanage by her father also took her flight this morning at four o'clock. Last night, seeing that death was near at hand we asked for Reverend Father Superior who came to confirm her. Fortified by the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation she went to join her mother who had preceded her but by a few hours.

Dressings of wounds and divers treatments during the month of May: 2,636. Baptisms at the dispensary and in the homes 62.

Saturday, June 22

This afternoon in the chapel takes place the baptism of an adult, thirty years of age who has dwelt for some time at the men's home in order to learn his Catechism. This man is one of our former patients who received his first religious instruction at the dispensary. Six little children are baptized at the dispensary.

* * *

TSONGMING, HAIMEN VICARIATE, CHINA

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Tsongming

Sunday, February 10

To-day is the Chinese New Year's, that is the first day of the first moon. Many have written about the customary ceremonies of the Chinese pagans. Here, in the neighborhood of the mission, mostly all the families are Christian, and the pagans are poor. No noise of fireworks as in the cities of Canton and Hong Kong, none of those long strips of red paper bearing large yellow characters. However, if there are fireworks and red posters, we neither hear nor see them. We must add that the houses, rather the huts are scattered, and that we are behind a wall eight feet in height which fortunately we are not obliged to cross very often. We notice, nevertheless, that neither Catholics nor Protestants work for at least three days. The pupils have a month's vacation at this epoch, therefore, the helpers have less work and so they take a rest. On the first day of the year they come to wish us "pa gni" (this is their New Year's wish). We give a little present to each one, either a towel and a piece of soap, or a handkerchief and scented soap, or else a pair of stockings. Candies and oranges sent from Shanghai by Mrs. Tsu, are also distributed. For three days white rice and better food will be served. To spare the white rice which does not thrive here, they add maize to it in the winter and barley in the summer, two cereals which grow here in abundance. Is it appetizing?... Rather so, the odor of the maize is quite pleasant. In any case white rice is always preferred, just as in Canada white bread is preferred to black.

Our personnel do not take a holiday. They make use of the spare time to work for themselves, making shoes and clothing. The interior of the houses being cold they place themselves in the passage where there is plenty of sunshine. More than ever no attention must be paid to the cleanliness of the home, to everything around them. One would need to have no eyes. As on great festal days many strangers come asking to visit the foundling-home, to see what the Sisters have done, for they are told that we have changed many things. Our interpreter answers that everything is as formerly, that all that is new is a clothes-horse made of nine beams and some wire, the rest is the same as before. We have much difficulty in preventing them from entering into the cloister, so accustomed are they to move around everywhere, that which is not very pleasant, nor convenient. It is hard to work when there are people all around us. The door-keeper accustomed to let everybody pass, is now unable to keep back the crowds that invade the foundling-home. A particular group introduced themselves thus: "We are pagans, we have given you many of our children and would like to see if you are taking good care of them, if so we shall send you others." What do the people of Canada think of this? Still stranger: a man arrives carrying a new-born baby. He is given twenty cents as usual. Shortly after, the same man returns saying that his wife asks for a child to take care of. Sister Marie de Sion and I were in the porch at the time and the door-keeper told us that this man was the father of the child that had just been brought to us. His own child was given back to him and he is to receive \$1.50 a month in return for the care given the baby. But in a few days, it will be taken from him, if not it might happen that after having received \$1.50 for twenty-four months he would not wish to give up his own child. He would have a natural right to do so, but it would not be a just one.

I have been told that on the Chinese New Year everyone in Canton and Hong Kong wears his best clothes when unable to have new ones. Here, I do not notice anyone in new or even in "best attire." I do not yet know what Tsongmingians look like in their *Sunday dress*. I must say to their credit that I find them pious. Many travel several miles on foot every Sunday so as to assist at Mass and receive Holy Communion, returning home only after Benediction at three o'clock. The Communions each Sunday are quite numerous. The piety of these good Christians is really edifying.

We have heard that on February 21st there will be a closed retreat, and those attending it will sleep and eat in the places of the pupils away on their holidays. Noone seems to bother about it. We ourselves are waiting to be notified by Father Forain. As the Presentandines who left for their retreat at Zi-Ka-Wei are expected back soon, the Chinese think that they will prepare everything only a day or two before the retreat. But I know that the task will be ours, and sixty are supposed to attend. I am still a Canadian and do not forget that for sixty persons we shall be obliged to make the necessary arrangements to give them a fitting reception. I go to see Father Forain who tells me that, "there is no need of preparation,

for the kitchen, as long as there is rice and oil the rest can be bought from day to day, in the dormitory the pupils' beds will be occupied and if there are not enough for all, those who cannot find a bed will sleep on the floor... "

Just the same we see to the cleaning of the refectory, dormitory and class-rooms which will be used as halls and corridors. Our people arrive. Beds are lacking but they are not in the least embarrassed, they sleep two in the same bed. Each one brings her bed-clothes and toilet articles. Their morning toilet is made outside along the passage, their basins placed on the slopes. In the refectory a bowl and two chopsticks for each one, compose the dishes. The rice on each table is brought in a little wooden cask covered by a straw mat. The eatables are in three bowls a little larger than the first. That which cannot be eaten is thrown without any ceremony upon the table. No soup nor dessert, only rice, vegetables, fish and meat or some other variety of Chinese food. On the last day five dishes will be served instead of three "a little feast of rejoicing." The meal over the bowls and chopsticks are washed outside in little tubs. They do not dry them. The water remaining in the bowls piled in a cupboard will be spilled on the floor at the next meal. I forgot to mention that the tea is contained in a high granite bowl in the corner of the refectory. Each person goes to serve herself using the bowl on the table for that purpose.

There is reading at dinner and supper. They listen fairly well. During the year everything is carried on thus with the pupils. Such must be the case (the reading excepted) in all the families, from what I notice on my trips. It is not out of place to look into the houses since the narrow streets seem to run through them: no doors, no windows, it is the street everywhere or it is the street through the houses.

The retreat is preached by a Chinese priest from a neighboring church. The programme resembles that of the Reverend Jesuit Fathers. The Jesuits were the first laborers in this part of China.

Silence is well kept, almost as well as in a Canadian closed retreat. There is satisfactory order also.

On the fourth day the Reverend retreat-master and Father Forain come to pay a visit and distribute souvenir pictures. We give them medals of the Blessed Virgin and then separate. The wheel-barrows come for our happy converted ladies some of whom have come a distance of 10 *lis* (26 English miles.)

Fifty ladies or young girls from different christendoms assisted at the retreat. Thirty-one of ours attended all the exercises, but they ate and slept at their homes. All are fervent souls devoted to the christendom, real helpers of the priests. They do not work for a salary, the majority receive nothing or very little. His Lordship greatly desires to found a retreat-house for these good people who unreservedly devote their entire lives for the good of the christendom. They have set aside nothing for their old age since they have not received a salary. Who will think of them? His Lordship believes that the Church should support them since they have devoted their lives to its interests.

During the last days of February, the pupils returned to class after a

vacation of six weeks. It is as in the month of September. Indeed it is a new year that begins. The two school terms are completely distinct, separated by six weeks of vacation. When the Chinese speak of the first term they always say last year. This explains how it happens that in China everyone's age is generally a year in advance. Anyone born in November or December, even on the 31st is a year old on January 1st and continues to count thus. When we ask a pupil her age we must always calculate a year less than what she tells us. The same at the foundling-home. We are told that a tiny baby is one, two, or three years of age. At first we are surprised by the disproportion of age with the height of the child, but quickly enough we accustom ourselves to make the usual subtraction. We must also become familiar with another calculation, that of the Chinese calendar. In the beginning it is puzzling, but after having examined a calendar indicating the European day and month and the Chinese day and month we manage to find where we are. The ninth of our month of May was the first one of the fourth moon. The Chinese year is composed of twelve moons as ours is of twelve months. Each moon contains 29 or 30 days. After a certain number of years, a thirteenth month has to be added, that is to say a thirteenth moon, and then a new year of twelve moons is begun again, something similar to our leap-year.

As we are speaking of figures, I cannot omit mentioning currency. The "sapecs" are used very little, a proof of this is that they are scattered almost everywhere without attracting anyone's attention. They are even used sometimes in place of metal washers for a nail or a screw to prevent it from going too far into the wood. One hundred sapecs are needed to make one cent which is but one-third of the value of a Shanghai cent. For a Shanghai dollar we therefore need ten thousand sapecs or three hundred coppers. At Tsong-ming if the sapecs are not made use of, these coppers are used while still calling and counting them sapecs. Thus a dollar in coppers is called 30,000 sapecs although we have but three hundred coppers in our hand. A dollar does not always value three hundred coppers. The rate varies, thus complicating all accounts the more. The other day Sister Ste. Helene said: "One must needs know Arithmetic to count money here..." I add that we need a very honest Chinese helper, if not we should be cheated very often. There is much counterfeit money. Only a person accustomed to it is able to discover it. Weights and measures are also quite different and the scales are of another type. We may truthfully say that we are in another world. The beginning is really difficult and complicated. Impossible to learn everything at once. But it will come by degrees. In a year's time we notice that we have learned many things, although it did not seem so at first.

May I again speak of my pupils. The installation is very simple. The family servant brings the bed-clothes, trunk, toilet and laundry tubs, arranging the netting and bed-covers himself. A thin mattress on a board makes a very comfortable bed. They would prefer a kind of springs, much softer than the board, since they are made of cocoanut fibre and used by the wealthier classes, but the school possesses none of the kind. As these pupils

are generally poor and give but \$10.00 a term, half of which is usually supplied by the priest himself, they content themselves with what they have. These young girls are accustomed to a more than simple life. How complicated would this mode of living be in our country... At first, one must needs observe closely to become acquainted with the customs so as to be able to follow them. We shall be able to act more efficaciously later on. The great question will be to ameliorate the household furnishings. How difficult to ameliorate when so many indispensable things are lacking. Before we can obtain good results we need to know what means to take to be successful. We have every reason to hope that little by little with the help of God and that of our Immaculate Mother we shall find ourselves in better conditions.

His Lordship has come for the inscription of the pupils and to confide to us the direction of the classes. Three teachers having been trained at Seng Mou Yeu appear most charming. They will take charge of the different Chinese classes.

A Sister will have the direction of the discipline and will teach French. Sister Marie de Sion will for her part see to the sewing, the embroidery work and the singing. The classes remain under the direction of Reverend Father Forain.

After three days consecrated to a fervent retreat, studies are taken up with ardor. In general the application is good. The pupils like study, embroidery work and singing much more than housework. In procuring better material we shall succeed in interesting them in the latter.

Friday, May 1

A reinforcement of two sisters, what a relief for us! On the other hand what countless sacrifices on your part! We realize this and fully resolve to benefit by the precious help you send us. We spend our recreations speaking of you, dear Mother, of our devoted Sister Assistant, of our Sisters and of all our loved ones whose remembrance we cherish. What sweet joys for all our hearts! I think that the days that bring us some Sisters from the homeland, are among the most beautiful, the most joyful. How we do prize them!

Sister Marie de Sion is radiant with happiness. Next winter no more anxiety, for the little ones will not suffer from the cold. The lovely flannelette sheets, the bed-spreads, the heavy comforters, the little woollen sweaters, the small warm stockings, the caps, etc., etc. Oh! how pretty, how comfortable! Truly the Canadian mothers have worked as if they had their own children in mind, and the young girls, their own brothers and sisters. How I would like to thank each one of them personally and tell them of the joy of our little ones! If you please, Mother, kindly convey our thanks and assure them of our prayers and of those of our little angels. Their charity lifts a great load from our shoulders and permits us to work more profitably for the good of the mission.

I have told you, Mother, that a kitchen for our personnel has been built. Need anything be said about the decoration of the apartment? I was in

complete ignorance of the decorations and when I arrived at the kitchen door, I cried out in surprise: heavy black lines in various designs were being traced on the white plastered wall. Nothing less than mourning colors, but here, black and white are not considered as such. In those designed borders are sketched on one side, an immense picture of the Sacred Heart and on the other some Chinese scenes. Above the big iron kettle, a large fish is drawn. The artist turns like lightning to ask me if it is nice. As I have to adopt myself to Chinese tastes, I must answer, yes, yes! He was surprised at first, almost dismayed by my outburst of surprise. Marie Jeanne explained the reason of my astonishment, he seemed to understand. My "yes, yes," encouraged him and the brush again flew along... It is the Chinese custom to trace designs on ovens. The Catholics usually draw one or two religious subjects.

His Lordship must add a new wing to the girls' school, enlarging their refectory and dormitory.

We have procured the services of a young girl for the sum of \$200.00 (\$100.00 in our money). A young pagan girl, remarkably tidy, engaged by her family to a boy she did not want to marry, longed to work for the Sisters. As the people had spent the money paid by the family of her suitor (in China, wives are sold: a man is asked if he is married, and when he is not he answers he cannot procure a wife as he has no money), and could not reimburse it, it followed that our young girl belonged to the family of her future husband. She did not wish at all to go and live with them. The future husband being Christian, the young girl was to become one before marrying, and this is the reason why she was brought here a few weeks before our arrival at Tsongming. She pursued her studies, saying that she wished to become a Christian but that she would not marry. After our arrival she said that she wished to remain with us, to work with the Sisters. But the \$200.00 debt, who would pay it? The pastor looked for another Catholic suitor who would be able to pay off the debt. One day, he sent for Sieu-Ying, this was the young girl's name. The interview was short and she returned saying: "I will not marry, I want to work for the *"Mo Mo"* (the Sisters)." The priest, dubious of her sincerity, as different stories had circulated about her, insisted upon her accepting the proposed husband, who was free from debt and earned \$1.00 per day. But she kept refusing, crying the while. I had thought that perhaps we could pay off her debt and thus keep her as a help. She was the neatest girl that I knew in this country, appeared intelligent and seemed to be a good worker. The amount was high, \$100.00 in Canadian money! What was to be done? There could no longer be a delay, the Pastor wished to come to some agreement with the relatives who insistently demanded that either the young girl marry or that the money be refunded. I called on the Pastor and exposed my intention of paying the \$200.00 and in return secure the services of Sieu-Ying during eight years, during which time no salary would be paid her. The priest would not accept the proposition, as he believed the girl to be stubborn rather than sincere. I had done my utmost, so I returned home. But towards evening I received

a letter from the Pastor telling me that the conditions were accepted. What joy this news brought to Sieu-Ying! A paper was signed, a native virgin from this place acting as witness. She thanked me on her knees. The poor child promised her good-will to whatever we should ask of her. She felt free, rid of all the bonds which tormented her. She asked to be allowed to see her own mother, a visit which she dared not make before, for fear the other family who lived close by would discover her. I was deeply touched by this act of filial love and would have gladly granted her permission, had I not been advised that it was more prudent not to permit her. The mother was invited to come and see her instead.

This occurred in January. Sieu-Ying continued learning her catechism and prayers. On Holy Saturday she was baptized and received the name of Teresa. She was radiant with happiness! I think that she will be a good help and will always remain with us. She helps in the kitchen, with the laundry and ironing. This young girl is twenty years of age; she has been redeemed with alms that came from Canada. I shall try to send you as soon as possible the photograph of our interesting Teresa.

Mother, how I would like to see some kind of a work-shop or industry to occupy so many people who are out of employment, and who would work if they had any.

We dearly love our two new Sisters and find it most agreeable to be six together. They have two hours of Chinese class every day and the four others, one hour each, in two groups. We must succeed in speaking and writing the Chinese language well.

The little ones at the foundling-home are able to recognize the door whence comes the candy. One morning, five little tots arrived. I asked them what they wanted. Their eyes were more eloquent than their tongues, our oldest are beginning to lisp a few words which they repeat after us. So, I made them answer: "*Zia Zia Mo Mo, yao dong.*" — Thank you, Sister, I would like some candy. Sister St. Jean Baptiste and Sister Ste. Helene find them very bright.

This morning we were told that in an institution of the Sisters of Charity, out of eighty-nine children from one to three years, the measles and its dangerous complications claimed fifty-nine. This epidemic which visited us has been a general one and there was absolutely no remedy against it. It was due, it seems, to the long draught.

We are not short of work. It is difficult, however, to act effectively until we have made the annual cycle. Everything is so different from home, we have to observe closely to understand the mentality, the manner of working in the fields and other details. Once our lesson is learned our field of action will increase.

Saturday, May 11

A child, one of the many given away by heartless parents for the sake of a few pennies, who is now five months old, very healthy and active, had been given out to nurse from its birth. Each month, when the nurses

come to receive their salary, they must bring the child confided to their care that we may judge its condition, and all remarks are entered in a special register. On this occasion, the woman brought in a puny-faced baby assuring us that it was certainly the child that we had confided to her. But the Sister in charge was not to be deceived thus, and told the woman that the child was not ours. After a long argument she succeeded in having the woman say, "Very well, Sister, I shall go and get yours," and half an hour later she returned with another baby that she had probably taken from a nearby foundling-home. Meanwhile, Sister Marie de Sion had been warned, she had even been told that the woman had boasted of having exchanged the first baby who was in perfect health, and in return had received a few cents and that it was not the first time that she had carried on this traffic. The second baby also being a sickly one, it was not accepted either, but Sister kept the two as hostages while she sent the woman back to get the one we had confided her. The affair had become rather critical as the child had been baptized and was now in pagan hands. Yet how were we to proceed, since the child had been sold... Three woman-helpers were sent out with instructions to find the child and to bring it back to us... and it is only to-day, after a three days' search, that one of them found it in a family living in the neighborhood and brought it back to the fold. I cannot express the joy with which we greeted the return of the lost lamb and how fervently we voiced our *Magnificat*

Wednesday, May 15

Yesterday, the six of us received an invitation to visit a pagan foundling-home and to have dinner there... Impossible to refuse. This morning about half past ten, some rickshaws were sent for our convenience by the director of the foundling-home. We left immediately. At the entrance to the mission we notice some laborers busy thrashing barley. There are eight women each armed with a long pole at the end of which is tied some kind of board, and they strike the ears with all their might. We stop for a few minutes to observe them which seems to please them greatly. For our two newly-arrived Sisters this mode of thrashing is a real curiosity, they have never seen anything like it, everything is so primitive on this island. Having no animals in this section, the inhabitants must do all the work by hand, and needless to say, the modern agricultural implements used in Canada are absolutely unknown here.

We are escorted to the rickshaws by these good people who bow profoundly while bestowing on us their very best of wishes.

On our way we see coffins here and there in the fields. They are mostly all made from the trunks of trees. In certain places, they are completely covered by a small mound of earth covered with verdure, which forms the only decoration. Then again, but very seldom, this mound is hedged in by trees. All the surrounding soil is cultivated. We are told that there is not an inch of untilled land on this island and still there is not sufficient work for the entire population.

To reach the foundling-home where we are expected, we have to cross four canals about twelve feet wide, dug by hand, to help irrigate the plantations. Over these canals are small bridges built for the rickshaws and the drivers must needs be very careful as there are only a couple of inches left on either side of the wheels. Generally we cross on foot as it is rather dangerous, as may be surmised; but sometimes the drivers are very careful and we may remain in the rickshaws... This is what we did when we came last week. To-day, as some of the rickshaws are a little wider than others we all alight to cross the different bridges. Arrived at the last one — the longest — we land safely: the crossing had been difficult and we were ready to ride again in our respective "carriages" but the last rickshaw on crossing falls into the water carrying the driver with it. The poor man struggles, having fallen underneath the vehicle... At last wet from head to foot, he rises without being hurt in the least. The other drivers have a good laugh first of all, then help him out of the water and we are again on our way. We have drawn a practical conclusion from this incident, which we shall never forget. Without any further accident we arrive at the foundling-home where we are received with many joyful demonstrations. After the usual greetings, we are taken to the second floor where we remove our cloaks. Tea is then served.

As it is the day for the nurses to receive their salary we hasten to come downstairs to begin the visiting, accompanied by our amiable hostesses. What a number of babies and women in rags!... One cannot imagine such a spectacle, it must be seen... All the women crowded in one room await their turn pushing and jostling one another... The children, some hardly a few days old, are mostly all puny and wan when they are not sick. Pay-day at the foundling-home discloses pitiful cases, and yet the pagan directors do not examine the physical condition of the children, they simply pay the amount agreed upon, with a slight increase of salary if the child is healthy. If it has died, another one is given out without any more ado. At the foundling-home, the last arrivals only are left, those who have not yet been placed out to nurse, and the sick ones are thrown on a bed where they await death... What a pity! How different the fate of our little Canadians, and yet what have they done to deserve it!

We are then brought back to the director's residence and are taken to the dining-room. Would you like to hear the description of this dinner after Chinese fashion, served by one of Tsongming's most respectable families? The room is scarcely large enough to accommodate twelve persons. We are invited to take our places around a large round table covered with a thin unbleached cotton cloth, unhemmed. We are eleven, the two lady hostesses and a little girl, all dressed in their best. Before each one is a small delft spoon (it will serve as our plate) and a pair of chopsticks. On the table, in saucers, are nine different kinds of food, a tenth one, in a larger plate, forms the main course, which will be changed as often as twenty-one times before we shall be permitted to leave the table. The meal begins with a small glass of wine, which we decline, then a small piece of cold meat is served in our spoon which we eat with our chop-sticks. The fol-

lowing dishes are served one by one and very leisurely: roast chicken, duck, turtle, different kinds of fish, fresh pork, crawfish, etc. etc., no vegetables, sweets, nor beverages. At the second course a small saucer is brought to us on which to place our useful spoon which will be changed after the seventeenth or eighteenth dish. We must accept everything offered us... fortunately only a spoonful is served at a time! The meal still continues and still more food is brought in. We try to keep up our courage according as each new dish appears... We must continue to the end... At last, after two full hours, comes the bowl of rice, how welcome it is, the dinner will soon be over, it is the thirtieth dish!..

During all this time a crowd of curious onlookers is stationed at the door and windows. Yes, no less than thirty persons are constantly watching us. The waiter is obliged to send them away each time he enters and no sooner has he left the room than the poor wretches again take up their post of observation.. We must appear interested and keep up the conversation. Marie Jeanne and Josephine, two young girls who accompany us, do their share and act as interpreters, the latter even waits on the table and she certainly excels in this function. In the last place a wet napkin is presented us with which to wipe our hands. It is the final act, we leave the table.

After dinner a short conversation takes place on the verandah. Marie Jeanne tells the Director that we have been served an excellent dinner. Hardly ten minutes have elapsed when we are invited to have tea at another table. The master of the house entertains us lengthily, he is entirely well disposed towards us and well acquainted with the Catholic clergy of the Mission.

About 4.30 P. M. we take our leave. We cannot help saying something about the contemplation of which we were the object on our way. It certainly was for those poor people an unique spectacle to see eight rickshaws, six of which carried sisters... In the small village of Paochen, which we passed at one point, there is but one street hardly ten feet wide. Everyone interrupted his work to observe us, some even leaned over us to see more closely. Let us hope that we have left a good impression on this multitude.

* * *

Manila, Philippine Islands

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters at the Chinese General Hospital

Tuesday, March 12, 1929

On this last day of the novenna to Saint Francis Xavier, three adults from the Charity Ward receive Holy Baptism; a man a hundred years old, another one eighty-four and a tubercular patient of twenty-two. The latter, if nothing unforeseen happen has fully two years to spend here below before enjoying the crown which the good Master is preparing for

him, as his state is not yet serious. Andrew, this is now his name, overheard Sister Marie des Victoires explain the elements of Christian Doctrine to our good centenarian. Observing one day, that she was at a loss to explain something in his dialect, he came to her assistance. From then on he acted as interpreter, learning the Christian Doctrine at the same time. He thus became attached to the Catholic faith. This young Chinese left China with his father only a few years ago. His mother, brothers and sisters remained in that country. The father has since re-married a Catholic Filipino. The children of this unfortunate woman are baptized and practise their religion.

Tuesday, March 19

Our good father St. Joseph brings us to-night, an old man who is at death's door. Sister St. Jean de l'Eucharistie, called to his bedside by one of the nurses, asks him if he is willing to receive holy Baptism which will make him a child of the one true God, and procure him eternal happiness. He willingly consents and tenderly embraces the crucifix which is presented him, without knowing alas! that the One whose cross he embraces is the One who merited for him the means of salvation which is now offered him. It is a great happiness to procure heaven to souls by Baptism at the moment of death, but how we wish they would have a little time to know, love, and serve here below, the One who laid down His life for them!

Wednesday, March 20

A baby spends just enough time at the Hospital to receive his passport for heaven. We give him as patron, Saint Benedict whose feast the Church celebrates to-morrow.

Wednesday, March 27

Our children of Mary are beaming with happiness to-day, their hearts are overflowing with that true joy which is found in the practice of charity. Among our little Filipinos who are preparing for First Communion, one of them had been absent for some time from the daily Catechism lesson given by Sister Mary of the Rosary. We felt sorry, as Jovita, though the smallest, was not the least intelligent, this could easily be told from her sparkling little black eyes. — Why does not Jovita come to catechism any more? — Ah! her companions would answer rather evasively, we think it must be that her mother is away in the country, and that she has to look after the children. This was said in a way that seemed more or less sincere, and Sister Superior repeated the question and learned that the mother was not away. She sent for the latter in order to obtain the real reason which forced her to keep the child at home. The mother admitted that her husband was a laborer and poor, that the children were already numerous, and in spite of her grief and that of the child, she was unable to dress her suitably for her First Communion. "Look," she added, "she is now wearing her best dress, I cannot buy her another one." Poor mother!

— "We shall dress her," answered Sister Superior, greatly touched at the sight of the suffering imposed on this good mother by poverty. How this assured and consoled her!

Sister Assistant, acquainted with the matter, addresses a note to the nurses-in-training belonging to the Sodality. "A little girl has been crying for a week because her mother is too poor to buy clothes for her First Communion." Immediately a list of subscriptions amounting to 6.30 pesos is sent. Our Children of Mary, in their spare time, make the little underskirt, the white dress and the veil, Sister Superior decorates the candle, Sister Mary of the Rosary has charge of the wreath, whilst little Jovita and her mother are joyfully awaiting Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday, March 31

Four of our little Filipinos who were to partake of the divine Banquet this morning have to be delayed, as it has been impossible to find their Baptismal certificates, despite the steps taken at the Hospital even by the intern Doctor who was touched at the children's grief. This afternoon, Bishop Finneman baptized them conditionally. Two of our nurses, Children of Mary, are chosen to act as godmothers and they assume the responsibility of seeing very seriously to the spiritual welfare of their charges. We seize every opportunity of inculcating on our pupils a desire for the practice of zeal. Very often, when graduated, they leave for the provinces, and are in a position to do immense good among their own people. One of our former pupils, baptized here, is now a devoted helper to the missionary priest of her province. She makes sure that the children do not die without receiving Baptism, she exhorts the sick to go to confession to receive Holy Communion and Extreme Unction, and she moreover teaches Catechism to little children. A few days ago, she came back to the Hospital and was speaking to Sister Assistant, who was her Principal when she was following her studies, of her success and also about the difficulties which the devil does not spare her, to try to diminish her zeal. Sister Assistant comforted her as well as she could, and she left, decided to accomplish, in spite of all obstacles, all the good which God expected from her. If we could incite all our pupils to become apostles! What a beautiful dream... May our Immaculate Mother bring about its realization!

Monday, April 1st

Joy reigns supreme this morning! Our seven little Filipinos possess the God of all purity in their souls. A little Spanish girl who had been a patient here for some time, also received Holy Communion yesterday for the first time. This little child is very bright and God seems to have brought her to the Hospital for the express purpose of coming into her heart. She constantly requested to be permitted to receive the "Little Jesus." In secret she said to her father, "I want to become a religious when I grow up, just like the Mothers here."

Andrew, a Chinese patient of the Charity Ward, baptized at the beginning of the month, also made his First Communion yesterday. Although he likes cigarettes very much, he generously abstained from smoking any during Holy Week, in order to please the One who is to-day the King of his heart.

O Immaculate Virgin, we confide thee these Easter lilies. Watch over them, O Holy Mother, so that their purity may ever be preserved from the least blemish.

Saturday, April 13

Mr. Yu Hian receives Holy Baptism to-night. As he appeared very ill, Sister Saint Joseph de Bethlehem went to his bedside offering him a miraculous medal which he seized joyfully, thanking her at the same time. — "Do you know God? Are you baptized?" — "No." — "You are very ill, soon you will be in eternity, do you wish me to give you the Holy Water which will make you a child of the only true God and will procure for you eternal happiness?" — "Yes, Sister I desire with all my heart to become a Catholic, provided it does not cost too much, as I have no more money."

Poor unfortunate being! Perhaps for a long time that motive alone had kept him from becoming a Catholic. — "Do not worry about that, God wants your heart, and not your money. And now are you sorry for all the wrong you have done in your life? Tell God that you are sorry for having offended Him, and that if you recover you will not do wrong any more." — He made this act of contrition with all the energy he could muster. Sister St. Joseph then poured the holy water on his brow giving him the names of Joseph Marie. The grace of the Holy Ghost illumined the dying man's face... He felt very happy and grateful, and often pressed his lips to Our Saviour's wounds. At 6.30 this morning, his eternal thanksgiving began up above.

Sunday, April 14

Our pupils' annual retreat preached by Reverend Father Doffey, S. J., began yesterday. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and four instructions are given each day. Peace and fervour reign in the Hospital. Our pupils, though obliged to take care of the patients as usual, do it in such a recollected manner that we are greatly touched and edified. The two intern doctors also follow all the exercises with the pupils.

How many salutary words of advice are addressed them during these days... We hope the seed has not fallen on barren ground and that it will, with the help of the Holy Ghost, bear abundant fruit, especially for our more advanced pupils who are soon to leave us to take up their work of nursing, amidst so many dangers!

At the time we write, a cab with pink shades is passing... the Filipino who is driving it wears a pink coat and trousers of the same color, and at

the back, sits, in a very dignified manner, a lady dressed in pink silk... A safe journey to you! May your whole life be always as rosy!...

This afternoon a Jesuit Father who came to the Hospital said to Sister Assistant: "There is a tubercular woman patient at Santol who is continually asking to see the Sisters of the Chinese. Is she delirious, or does she really wish to see you. I do not know. If you can go, take my car which is outside, the chauffeur will take you thither." Sister Assistant and Sister Marie de la Visitation leave. What a surprise when they arrive and see before them a former patient of theirs, a Protestant. The joy with which they are received cannot be described: they are the Sisters who had taken care of her at the Chinese Hospital... they who have been so kind to her... Sister Assistant and Sister Marie de la Visitation show her much affection giving her a crucifix and a miraculous medal and take advantage before leaving of saying a few words about the happiness of those who die in the Catholic Faith. Unfortunately, the patient speaks very little French and our Sisters do not understand her Chinese dialect, however Sister Assistant thinks she wishes to be baptized.

Thursday April 18

Sister Assistant returns to Santol to see the tubercular patient. She is accompanied by Miss Mary Sy, a young Catholic Chinese who frequently visits the Convent.

Our visitors are again received with exclamations of joy, and surprise. Sister Assistant had unknowingly taken with her as companion, a childhood friend of the patient. — "But this person is Protestant," remarks Miss Sy, "and is greatly attached to her religion... she has been acquainted with the two religions for a long time." — "Try anyway, I think she wishes to be baptized in the Catholic Faith," replied Sister Assistant who felt all the more confident as she had noticed upon her arrival that the patient was conspicuously wearing the crucifix and the miraculous medal.

After an affectionate and sympathetic conversation, the religious question was touched. Miss Sy said to the patient, "Before receiving Baptism, I did not know what happiness was... I felt there was something lacking... I was never satisfied... but after receiving Baptism, and especially when I had the privilege of receiving Our Lord Jesus Christ into my heart, I felt I possessed true and complete happiness, and now, even when I suffer, provided I receive Holy Communion in the morning, I am always happy." — "It is also my great desire to be baptized and to die in the Catholic religion," answered the poor woman. Miss Sy turns towards Sister Assistant, — "It is very true that she is converted, she desires Baptism... With the interpreter's help, Sister Assistant then prepares her; she excites her to contrition for her sins. The patient deeply recollects herself, and from the bottom of her heart, she repeats: "I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, because Thou art so good..."

At these words, big tears roll down her cheeks, expiating tears which mingle with the regenerating waters which Sister Assistant immediately

pours on her brow. Baptism could not be delayed as the patient, at the last stage of tuberculosis, may leave this earth at any moment. But she is now prepared, her heavenly Father awaits her with the crown of eternal bliss.

Saturday, April 27

Mr. Yu Tiao Chuan, a Chinese salesman, stricken with typhoid fever, and who was forced to spend some time here, leaves this morning, entirely cured, and with the firm resolution of becoming a Catholic, as well as his wife. "If there are no means of my receiving instructions in my district (in China), I shall come to live in Manila... The Protestant missionaries are very numerous at home, but I have heard only once about Catholic missionaries... I shall do everything in my power to find some, as I wish to belong to the true Religion... I wish to give all my children to the Catholic priest..."

He was so eager to study about our holy Faith while he was here, that he was seen, even during meals, eating with one hand and holding his Catechism with the other.

He left, bringing with him a miraculous medal. We also gave him one for his wife. May our Immaculate Mother obtain him the realization of his desires and bring this entire family to the true fold!

Sunday, April 27

Several times, Sister Saint Joseph de Bethlehem, while taking care of Mr. Carlo Toya, a young Chinese, spoke to him of the Catholic religion, even asking him if he would not like to become a Christian. "I shall think it over, Sister." To help him out, Sister Saint Joseph offered him, this morning, a miraculous medal of the Blessed Virgin. To-night, when passing in front of his room, she heard him call *Madre!... Madre!...* "Yes, what do you wish?"—"What must one do to become a Christian? I am decided, I want to be a Christian", he answered without preamble and in such a resolute tone, that had he had his way, we should have been obliged to baptize him immediately. But our patient is not in danger, he will even be well enough to leave the Hospital in a few days. Sister Saint Joseph explained to him that he would have to be instructed first. She gave him a Catechism and a letter of recommendation to the Dominicans who live near his home and who look after the Chinese Mission in Manila.

Our patient goes to sleep, feeling very happy and very hopeful... He will most probably dream of the Saving Waters being poured on his head and that the true God, powerful, good and almighty, calls him "His child."



The good God does not need years to accomplish His work of love in a soul; one ray from His Heart can, in an instant, make His flower bloom for eternity.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus.

NAZE, JAPAN

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters Missionaries to Naze

Tuesday, April 2, 1929

This afternoon, a woman comes to place her little girl in our Boarding-School. She does not speak a word of Japanese, only Oshimago, dialect of the island. She is a Christian but does not practise her religion. On



A LESSON IN LACÉ-MAKING AT THE SCHOOL OF NAZE, JAPAN.

the island where she lives, a ten hours' walk from Naze, there is neither priest nor catechist, consequently no church. To reach it there is no other communication than the little paths traced her and there across the mountains. So it is because there is no church there that the little girl desires to stay here. When the mother gave this reason she added: "My child's example does me good, henceforth I also wish to practise my religion and come to live where there are priests."

Saturday, April 20

Three little country girls upon arriving in Naze to there make their home come to see the Sisters and ask to visit the school. They are pagans. Sighting a picture or something else new to them they ask for explanations. For a long time they gaze silently upon the beautiful picture of the Immaculate Conception which we received from the Mother-House last year and which hangs in the parlor, and then turn towards Sister saying: "Who

is this beautiful lady?" — "It is the Blessed Virgin". — "Who is the Blessed Virgin?" — "She is the Mother of Little Jesus." — "Who is Little Jesus?" — they ask. We therefore speak to them of Jesus and of His Holy Mother. They gaze upon the Blessed Virgin the while. One of them says, "I am in the sixth grade and I have not yet learned anything about all that! May the image of our Immaculate Mother forever remain engraven upon the memory of these little ones!"

Sunday, April 21

We take advantage of the fine weather to go with the teachers and boarders on a little excursion to the Mohamba (Model Farm). As in our beautiful Canada there are in Japan gay parties at the "the sugar-camp."

The Japanese sugar has, instead of the golden tint of our Canadian product a dark brown colour, so dark in fact, that one may safely say that it is black. This, however, does not spoil its flavor. It is produced by the sugar-cane which is harvested on mostly all large farms twice a year, the first harvest taking place towards the last of February, and the second one in the latter days of November. There is nothing as interesting as to see the farmers at work. The stalks which measure from three to five feet in height resemble plain sticks of wood. By means of a heavy press the juice is extracted; the stalk is placed in an opening at the right of the press and the crushed plant comes out at the left, while the juice runs into a pail placed at the extreme end.

Mohamba is the only place on the island of Oshima where electricity is used to run this machine; all the other farmers use either a water-mill, or an ox which, constantly turning around the press, keeps it in motion. Once the juice has been extracted from the sugar-cane, it is poured, at three different times, into large boilers. The syrup is then put into huge pots and placed on a quick fire. By means of a long-handled spoon it is well stirred until it turns into sugar. Nearby are moulds of all kinds, into which the sugar is poured when ready; a variety of shapes is thus obtained.

The cultivation of the sugar-cane forms the principal industry of the island and consequently is one of the chief means of livelihood. As soon as the sugar season is over, about the middle of March, the planting begins for the next crop. The heavy May rains often hinder its growth, as they cause the roots to decay. At this season the plants are already about a foot in height. Sugar-cane is also eaten here in its raw state, and when the Japanese baby cries, the mother has no better way to dry its tears, whatever the cause may be, than a stick of sugar-cane. For our school children also, there is no better treat. They take off the bark and eat the soft spongy part which has a really delicious flavor when one becomes accustomed to it.

On our way to Mohamba, we saw, among other interesting things a big goat, almost a giant of its kind. It is always kept in a locked cage. Nearby, were several small black goats which gaily frisked about. There were a little farther some lovely white rabbits whose little pink eyes blinked at the sight of so many strangers. In a pond, in the midst of light green

rice-fields, are kept large frogs, destined to be served as a dainty dish to some wealthy people. Close by, in a smaller pond, was a multitude of tiny frogs waiting their turn to grow up and then be eaten. Our trip being ended, we were taken to a shady nook very oriental in its nature. There were flowers of all colors, graceful palm-trees, an *ogi basho*, banana tree, which resembles a huge open fan, and a majestic pine tree under whose lofty branches we took our lunch, half Japanese half Canadian. Some games were played around the large tree which were greatly enjoyed. We became children to keep the children amused and the echo of their joyous laughter attracted the people from the neighboring farm, proving how thoroughly they were enjoying themselves. On our way home, we could see something that looked like white stars peeping here and there from among the verdure-covered mountains. We knew them to be beautiful snow-white lilies. If the mountains were not so dangerous on account of the snakes there, we could have brought a perfumed bouquet to decorate the altar of our divine Mother, but we had to be content with admiring them.

*Letter from Sister St. Joseph de la St. Famille, newly-arrived in Japan
to her Superior General*

Naze, May 12, 1929

DEARLY BELOVED MOTHER,

Eight days have elapsed since my arrival in Japan and gladly do I come to give you the details.

On May 5th, about 12.15 P. M., the Japanese steamer arrived at Naze. Small boats came to meet it to bring the passengers to land. I was accompanied by a Japanese nurse from Kagoshima to Naze. Sister Superior and three other Sisters, with the boarders and some pupils from the school were waiting for us at the dock. I am powerless to describe this first interview: I am sure that you guess all, dear Mother.

Reverend Father Pius who sailed on the same boat as we, came to say Mass at our Convent; it was a quarter after one. Our Sisters sang our loveliest hymns and I received Holy Communion. After having been deprived of Mass and the Holy Eucharist for three weeks, I need not say how greatly I appreciated my happiness on this first Sunday in May.

The altar and statue of the Blessed Virgin were decorated with lilies, whose delicate perfume permeated the little chapel of Naze.

When the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was over, I arose, carrying the candle which I had at my departure from the Mother-House, to renew my act of consecration to the Blessed Virgin. I accomplished this action with all possible fervor, but I must say that I felt so deeply impressed that I could hardly finish it. How much I said and promised to Our Immaculate Mother!... I feel so weak and so powerless!...

We then went to the Community-room where I greeted each one of my Sisters. Sister Superior extended me such a kind and tender welcome that

I immediately felt at home. Mother, your daughters of Naze are real Japanese now, they speak and understand everything. To see them so learned nearly discouraged me... I wonder if I shall ever be able to accomplish as much, but God's grace never fails. I find that at this time of the year it is almost as warm as in the month of August in Canada, but I am warned that it is not summer yet. Our house is large, neat and bright. Everything is tastefully arranged and one enjoys seeing that our little convent is modelled after that of our dear Mother-House, the pictures in the different rooms are even the same. It does not take long to feel that the great virtue of charity reigns in the little Community at Naze.

The dwellings of the Japanese are very poor: they are small cottages with thatched roofs and built very close to one another.

The very day following my arrival I began the study of the language and how to make the Sign of the Cross in Japanese. I devote three or four hours each day to my studies and Sister Superior gives me lessons.

This morning I went to Mass at the parochial church and I had many distractions. In the first place, all the people go barefoot, with the exception of those who wear small socks to the ankles. Even the altar-boys who have lovely red soutanes are also in their bare feet. Small children run in the aisles, some cry and others sleep. Nevertheless, the assistants seem very fervent, and after Holy Communion especially, the faithful appear very much recollected, they bow their heads to the ground. It is a pity that they are not more numerous!...

Reverend Father Pius, who is at Okasari, a mission at the extremity of the island, obtains many conversions. He is preparing several baptisms for Pentecost. He was telling us that one of the nurses who came from Kagoshima with us, has been promised in marriage to a man thirty-five years of age, whom she has never seen. She is but eighteen years old and prefers the religious life to that of the married state. The priest, seeing her looking so sad, made arrangements with the young girl's father and obtained her two years more of liberty. How distressing to see such slavery existing among the women in these unfortunate pagan countries.

May 13

This morning Sister Marie de la Redemption being ill, I replace her at school in a second year class. To-morrow I shall go again for two other classes. I enjoy this greatly, but I understand that it is necessary for the teachers to be replaced every hour, since they have to stand up continually while teaching in the schools here.

It seems to me, Mother, that I shall like my new home. Sister Superior and all the Sisters are so good to me. It is impossible to be unhappy, and I have taken the firm resolution to do all in my power to learn Japanese, nevertheless not to worry if I do not learn as quickly as I desire. With the help of the Blessed Virgin, I shall surely attain my aim. I offer for this intention my little worries and sacrifices and I rely upon on the prayers of my Sisters in Canada. May our Immaculate Mother hear my prayers and help me to be a docile and holy child.

Thank you, dear Mother, for having sent me on mission. I wish to live a long time so as to give a few souls to God.

Your new little Japanese who loves and thank you,

Sister JOSEPH DE LA STE. FAMILLE, M. I. C. (1)

(1) Jeannette Delisle, Worcester, Mass.

VANCOUVER

St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital,

Vancouver, May 22, 1929

VERY DEAR MOTHER,

I have again opened Heaven to a soul, and unable am I to suppress my emotions. Even though the occasion presents itself quite often for us missionaries to accomplish this sublime act, we may say that we never accustom ourselves to such happiness...

On the 17th of the month, Dr. Yip, Chinese physician, came to the hospital at 10.30 P. M., bringing us a young girl suffering from meningitis. The poor child had no relatives on this side of the waters. She was an actress by profession and had come to the Canadian West in hopes of making a fortune. Oh! she did make a fortune, but not the kind that she dreamed of... She is now the dearly-beloved daughter of the King of Heaven and earth and heiress to the eternal kingdom of her Divine Father. When she arrived she was very ill but fully conscious. On the 21st as her condition grew worse, I, myself watched by her bedside all night so as to prepare her for the great voyage. She could speak neither English nor French, having arrived from China but a month ago. I was certainly pleased to be able to speak her language, and she seemed to appreciate this advantage.

At 5 P.M. when all her theatrical friends, who had come to see her, had withdrawn, I approached the patient and realized that she was not improving. I hastened to repeat the lessons given the preceding night concerning the truths of our holy Faith. What happiness, she immediately asked for Baptism. Knowing that she could lose consciousness any moment, I had her repeat the acts of Faith, Hope, Charity and Contrition, then I poured the regenerating waters on her brow... Hardly had the great act been accomplished when she grew delirious, so delirious that it took two nurses all their time to keep her in bed.

Words cannot express how touched I was on considering God's mercy towards this simple and candid soul, and the words of a pious author whose works I read a few days ago kept coming to my mind. I made them the subject of my meditation for the day: "God would stir the worlds for the salvation of a single soul."

Is this not the case with our young pagan girl who was born and reared in surroundings where the light of the Gospel had never penetrated? God went millions of miles in search of her, then put her in our way that we might act as the instruments of His mercy. Oh! how unworthy I feel for such a mission, but still how I would like that my gratitude be re-echoed

to the four corners of the globe! And during such happy moments, after having thanked God and the Blessed Virgin, it is towards you, dear Mother that my heart inclines. What thanks I owe you for having numbered me among your children. In token of gratitude for your great kindness in my behalf, I gave to the dear child whom I had the honor of regenerating in the baptismal waters the name of "Marie Delia."

It was about 12.30 P. M. that this privileged soul took its flight to the celestial abode. She never gained consciousness after her baptism.

From heaven, she will be, I am confident, a protectress and a mediatrix in favor of our dear Community.

Your humble and loving child,

Sister ST. LOUIS DE GONZAGUE.

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters of St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital, Vancouver.

Monday, June 3

Anniversary of the foundation of our dear Institute. Our Heavenly Mother sends us a festal gift: three moribunds to whom we give their passports for heaven.

Friday, June 21

Reverend Father O'Boyle very kindly says Mass for us in our chapel. We do our best in singing the praises of St. Louis de Gonzague, patron of our dear Sister Superior.

In the afternoon, after Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Reverend Father Keenan, S. J., baptizes two of our *young charges*: one is 85 years of age and the other 72. The former is always in good humor. As soon as he sees us coming, be it morning, noon or night, he greets us with a cheerful: "Good-morning, Sister, nice day to-day, nice day..." Always smiling, he is ever ready to oblige everyone, and tries to relieve the sufferings of his poor companions. He received in Baptism the name of Joseph Louis.

The second is now known as Joseph Albert. Before coming to our Hospital he had attempted to commit suicide, so discouraged was he in seeing himself alone and ailing. How happy he now appears!...

Friday, June 28

At 5 o'clock this afternoon the bell announces an emergency case. Good Dr. Wong has found a poor patient and he carries him to us in his arms. It is touching to see this brave pagan doctor devoting himself thus for the bodily good of his compatriots... What should we not do to save the souls of these poor unfortunates, who are our brothers, children of the same Heavenly Father!...

Saturday, June 29

At 7 o'clock this morning, Lum Wah, the poor patient who was brought to us yesterday left for a better life, after having been cleansed in the baptismal waters.

Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

Dedicated to our dear Parents



To love Mary, what consolation here below, to make her loved, what assurance for the hour of death!
St. Bernard.

Tuesday, May 29, 1929

Like the sun, the happy doves of the dove-cot smilingly rise this morning... A great happiness awaits them.

In the course of the forenoon our beloved Mother arrives accompanied by our good Sister Assistant General. Seemingly, nothing more is to be desired.

As it is a holiday, we go in company with our dear Sister Assistant to rest under the majestic trees of the little woods while our Mother is busy settling certain matters with Sister Superior and our Sister Economist. We speak of our Sisters, of our missions, we relate little edifying anecdotes, heartily laughing the while, and our gay chattering seems to be an incentive for the little birds assembled under the foliage... Almost uninterruptedly do they warble their charming melodies... Truly, they also enjoy our holiday and share our happiness...

From time to time we notice that one or the other of our little Sisters discreetly withdraws. They are they who are to take part in the concert that we also prepare for our beloved Mother's feast, and we would like that the programme be carried out as perfectly as possible.

At seven o'clock the entertainment begins: duet, songs, piano, violin, violoncello and then the pretty little play all to the glory of Mary, entitled "The Miraculous Medal." It is terminated by a living tableau: the Immaculate Virgin, transported on the clouds, wearing a golden diadem and a long azure blue mantle, her hands overflowing with graces, symbolized by a multitude of silver rays, appeared before us in a wave of light. She maternally smiled upon us while soft voices piously sang: "O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." The representation produced a most impressive effect.

After the reading of the address, our Mother said to us: "I greatly appreciated your beautiful singing, I enjoyed your sweet music, but what pleased me the most was your charming little play: "The Miraculous Medal". You cannot imagine the pleasure you give me when you thus portray the devotions and virtues which should characterize our Institute... It seems to me that your little entertainment will stimulate us all to propagate the miraculous medal..."

Then alluding to a line of our address wherein we expressed to her our desire of being a consolation to her in return for her tender care, our Mother assures us that her "Dove-cot" is a source of happiness to her, and that

it is sweet and reposing to come to visit it... Once again do we realize her maternal leniency, and bidding "Good-evening" to this good Mother we repair to the chapel to thank Our Lord and the Immaculate Virgin for deigning to accept us as their happy children.

Solemnity of the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday, June 2

Loudly and clearly the bells ring out announcing the passage of our Eucharistic King through the streets of our modest village to shower thereon His graces and blessings. The roads are bordered with pine branches and strewn with flowers or verdant foliage, the houses are decorated with scrolls and flags. The pious faithful, while escorting the golden monstrance which holds the Master of Heaven and earth, waft heavenward their prayers and hymns. We have the honor of taking part in the cortege.

After a long march the procession halts before a magnificent repository. In the midst of green pines and streamers of variated colors the Eucharistic throne is erected, and on either side, representing their heavenly brothers, pretty little *terrestrial* angels bend low in adoration.

After the Divine King has bestowed His blessing upon the recollected throngs, they wend their way to the church still singing with all the enthusiasm of their ardent piety, hymns to our Blessed Lord to which are added strophes of the *Magnificat*, or again they recite the Rosary. How beautiful, how simple and yet how sublime is this spectacle of public manifestation of our faith... How much happier would the nations be if they always rendered to God the homage due to Him!

For our part, on such occasions, we appreciate the more the happiness in having consecrated our lives entirely to Him and how we desire to see incline beneath His peaceful and glorious sceptre the multitudes of poor pagans who still groan under the demon's tyrannical slavery! This day must dawn... O Jesus! hasten its coming in answer to the prayers of our Immaculate Mother!...

Tuesday, June 4

Just after the spiritual exercises at noon, we were told that our dear Sister Ste. Lucie has this morning left this earth. For more than a year she has been at our house at Nomining hoping that the pure mountain air would prolong her life, but the Divine Spouse drew her to Himself, and she took her flight.

Although we expected this departure, it was not without deep regret that we learned of it for if we may and should spiritualize all sentiments of nature, we cannot destroy them, neither does our good Master ask this of us. Did not He, Himself, weep over Lazarus' tomb?... And has not the army of the Immaculate Virgin lost a conqueror of souls?

But no! for in Heaven she will be like the Little Flower of Jesus — as great an apostle as she would have been on earth. This was one of her last wishes on the eve of her death; "upon my arrival in heaven, I shall not rest right away... I shall go to all our missions to labor therein, for very little have I labored upon earth..."

We have the sweet confidence that she is already enjoying the Beatific Vision, for, as our Mistress remarked to us this afternoon, she was a pure and candid little soul, abandoned entirely to the Holy Will of God... Moreover, she had just been purified by a second Baptism, for only on the 25th of last March did she pronounce her Perpetual Vows. She also had received the Sacrament of Extreme Unction three times during her illness. Nevertheless we offer the suffrages prescribed by our Constitutions for the repose of her soul, and if she does not need them they will be applied to the poor souls in Purgatory.

Occasionally during the past year, she wrote charming letters to our Mistress or to other Professed Sisters at the Novitiate and it was always a great joy for us to hear them read. She revealed to us the happiness of living for God alone and of being totally submissive to His Holy Will... Is not this the secret of holiness?...

Sunday, June 9

Like last year, we have the happiness of receiving the young ladies of the two sewing-circles: that of "St. Therese of the Child Jesus," Mother-House, and that of "Our Lady of the Missions," Point St. Charles. They come on a pilgrimage to our modest sanctuary. Mass is celebrated at nine o'clock (daylight saving) during which the Children of Mary alternatively sing the bounties of the Heart of Jesus, whose feast we solemnize, and the glories of the Immaculate Virgin. Their piety edifies us and we are happy to hear them recite in the most filial accents, the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception.

Their thanksgiving over, they repair to the paths of our little woods where we serve them a light breakfast.

During the morning Reverend Father Superior of the Foreign Mission Seminary kindly greets our guests and has them visit the new construction. It is a thoughtfulness which they greatly appreciate and enjoy.

On their return to the Convent, they sing, in form of consecration a last hymn to the Immaculate Virgin, then leave us towards noon, bringing with them, do they assure us, the sweetest remembrance of this happy day and bidding us "Au Revoir" until next year.

Sunday, June 16

We to-day celebrate the glorious patronal feast of our beloved Mistress and we profit by the occasion to express our affection and gratitude to her who lavishes such bounty and solicitude upon our religious childhood.

Yesterday evening was a pretty prelude to this beautiful day. We must admit that we met with a little difficulty in our preparatives, for we desired that our filial demonstrations would somewhat resemble a surprise but it is not an easy matter to slip from the recreation hall, thirty sisters at a time, without it being noticed... However, our Mistress appeared to notice nothing, which greatly increased our joy, and last night our modest exploits seemed to please her.

Needless to say that we have a real holiday: there is no question of study, and seemingly the Holy Ghost does not wish to ask any sacrifice from us to-day... We, therefore, present upon the altar of our hearts, offerings of joy and of gratitude. Have they not their value?... Oh! yes, they are among those, do we believe, that God particularly cherishes.

Tuesday, June 18

On her return from the Congress in honor of Mary which took place at Quebec, our beloved Mother stops to visit her Dove-cot. With an inexpressible charm she describes to us the magnificent celebrations which were carried on in this ancient city, in honor of Our Lady, the sweet Mistress of Canada.

It is impossible for us to here produce the beauties, pomps and splendors described by our good Mother. Our unskilful pens would cause them to lose all their lustre, but we repeat, after having assisted in spirit at these demonstrations: "Oh! how beautiful... how touching! how pious!... How abundantly must the Blessed Virgin have showered her maternal blessings upon our dear Canada, her conquered domain, so happy beneath her sceptre!"

Sunday, June 23

The heat is depressing, but we should be very selfish if we complained, we to whom God has given a real little corner of the terrestrial paradise to place our nest... Has everybody in the big cities the refreshing shores of a great and beautiful river, like our Riviere des Prairies?... Do they receive the gentle breezes and the freshness of the moss from a beneficent little woods like the one which shades us?... And we think a little of the poor Souls in Purgatory to whom we may give some relief by joyfully offering the little discomfort that we endure. But that does not hinder us from ascertaining that the air is full of electricity.

And we are not surprised when a little later in the afternoon, a terrible storm suddenly arises. The sky becomes dismal, lightning flashes through the sombre clouds, the thunder rolls violently and the wind is furious. If it would only rain... but no, hardly a few little showers in the midst of the squall!... We offer prayers, soliciting protection from heaven. Little by little the obscurity diminishes, nature becomes calm, the little birds again warble merrily... Just at Vesper hour when we are still in the chapel a strange glimmer comes from the opposite shore. We quickly perceive that lightning has been the cause of an immense fire. We are grieved when we learn a little later that it is the beautiful convent of the Ladies of the Sacred Heart that has been a prey to the flames. With our whole hearts do we sympathize with those whom God thus visits by trial and we entreat Our Lord and His holy Mother to come to their assistance.

Tuesday, July 9

A butterfly with spotted wings flew — as do all butterflies — across our little woods while we were reciting our rosary this afternoon. One

would have said that the sparkling insect wished emulously to have its pretty wings admired. Is there any other worry in the light head of a butterfly! The poor insect who, this afternoon, wishes to draw admiration will, this evening perhaps, burn its wings in some destructive flame. How many souls imitating the fickleness of this graceful insect thus expose without reflection the precious treasure of their innocence to the dangers of an alluring world! In our *Aves* to the Queen of virtues we remember these little sisters more inexperienced than guilty.

Thursday, July 11

Our little Sister postulants are beaming with joy to-day. They come and say teasingly to us: "Call us *crows* while you have time, for we shall soon be doves." It is because we have begun to cut and fit the habits for the next Clothing, and our dear benjamins have the sweet hope of donning the white livery of the Immaculate Virgin in two months' time. We heartily wish them this privilege and on that great day their happiness will be ours also, as we, they experience the holy joy while being incapable of putting it into words.

Votive lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin

*In the chapel of the Missionary Sisters
of the Immaculate Conception.*

To comply with the desire of several pious persons devoted to the Blessed Virgin, we are pleased to quote the prices of lamps and candles that may be burned at Mary's shrine in our modest chapel, in thanksgiving or to obtain some favor from this tender Mother.

A lamp or candle	{	10 cents each.
		75 cents for a novena
		\$20.00 for one year

A consideration which should be a powerful stimulus in urging us to do our part of the apostolate is that it is not alone the love of God which bestowed upon us the unmerited gift of Faith that urges us on, not alone the love of our neighbor, of those hundreds of millions of pagans living in spiritual darkness, but also the love of our Mother the Church, which now, more than ever, stands in need of help from all her children.

Propagation of the Faith.

Pauline Marie Jaricot

Foundress of the Association of the Propagation of the Faith.

(Continuation)

LAST PHASE

Maria shuddered on hearing this and was on the point of uttering a gentle reproach for this apparent harshness, when, noticing her venerable Mother's tear-filled eyes she at once read her thoughts and murmured while stifling a sigh: "I will do it, poor Mother!..." She was seized by an unspeakable emotion; for these tears had just revealed to her the distress of this poor holy woman.

"Our Mother immediately withdrew," did the noble daughter relate to me, "and I remained motionless, gazing upon the little lamb following its dear mistress until she had closed the door. Then it sadly ran towards me. I took it up in my arms, pitying and caressing it for a long time... Finally, I said to it, as if it understood me: 'Dear, sweet little victim, if you only knew how great is our misfortune, you would forgive me for taking your life...'"

Neither Pauline nor Maria touched this meat. The rest of the family unaware of what had occurred appeased their hunger, but the prolonged moans of its poor mother soon revealed the sacrifice.

If the extreme distress of Loretto had been known, the pious laborers who so dearly loved Pauline, would have assisted her in her poverty, and her friends of Paris would have helped her in her distress. But she felt a repugnance to ask help from those whom she knew would deprive themselves of everything in order to come to her assistance.⁽¹⁾ The devotedness of Count and Countess de Bremond was still a cause of anxiety to her and she reminded them anew and in a somewhat severe manner, that they should not become so absorbed in the proceedings taken in her behalf as to neglect the task assigned them by God: propagate the Association of prayer and penance.

How admirable and touching it was to see her conversing with these two Christians of the things of Heaven. It was always from the calm and luminous regions of faith that she considered things here below, above which her thoughts soared freely, despite the heavy chains forged on her by misfortune.

She had however some difficulty in moderating the chivalrous ardor of Count de Bremond, who strove to serve God's interests in the same way as he had served those of his king and country.

She often repeated to him that one must be very discreet towards our adorable Master, leave all to His wisdom confidently awaiting His own hour.

(1) There exists a number of letters written to Pauline by the laborers, who in sending their meagre alms, begged to be excused in being unable to give more.

Alas! the brother could easily believe this sister, for in the complete desertion in which she had lived for so many years, she had triumphed over all the trials that this prolonged delay had offered and still offered to her faith.

This universal desertion existed even with regard to her spiritual director. In the latter years, especially, she was treated with coldness and severity, to such an extent that her soul seemed to be traversing a desert without being able to find even a drop of water. Nevertheless, she kept these words in mind:

"The Lord will manifest Himself and will keep His promise... If He delay, wait yet awhile, O my soul, for He will surely come..."

Her rich creditors never left her a minute's rest. Despite all evidence to the contrary, several persisted in believing or at least in loudly proclaiming that she could, but did not want to pay her debts, and thus continued their pursuits and threats.

Certainly, injustice and spying did more harm than ever to her who found herself absolutely powerless to supply the sum required for the smallest proceeding.

And how boldly were the laws of respect and justice being violated in her regard!

The vexations and threats of which she was the object caused her such torture that at each ring of the door-bell she would sigh, apprehending an order which she could not fulfil.

When in distress she requested Maria to recall some incident or word of Holy Scripture, her faithful friend would obey in all simplicity.

"I would say to her," relates the latter, "Poor Mother, you are not as unfortunate as Job... He had no friends, whereas I love you and shall love you always..." Or I would repeat to her what was written about Our Lord: 'They have numbered all my bones,' and I would add, 'you are not yet reduced to this, poor Mother.'"

"'Tis true, my daughter," she replied with humility, "these words are for me as a dew which temperates the ardor of the combat waged by my nature against suffering. O my God, I accept all and offer all to Thee for the salvation of my persecutors."

This was her customary prayer.

One day, finding herself in a state of intense suffering, a lady who by her position was far from being in want, and who many times before had reiterated her demands beyond all measure, came again to claim the payment of a small interest.

Pitiless to the anguish imprinted on the features of this poor holy woman, she tormented her so cruelly for more than an hour, that the poor unfortunate uttered this protestation, of which the accents cannot be translated: "Ah! Madam, I affirm it before God!... therefore believe it at last! *Nothing remains to me but my blood, drink it if you thirst for it....*"

XXXIII

THE ARRIVAL

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more for the former things are passed away."

"I, Jesus, I am the bright and morning star!"

"And the spirit of the Bride sayeth: 'Come and he that thirsteth, let him come...'"

When thrilled with admiration, the Royal Prophet exclaimed: "Who can worthily publish the works of the Lord," his thoughts, no doubt, soared beyond Calvary and above all marvels of creation to another marvel, admirable in an altogether different manner: the sanctification of the saints...

We have seen that the Divine Artist spared no pains in order to reproduce surely and magnificently, His every feature on the soul unreservedly abandoned to Him... The tableau is complete, and the resemblance is a striking one!... Let us now recollect ourselves, for the Adorable Workman is about to shatter before our eyes, the frail covering which conceals His masterpiece from all eyes.

Pauline was indeed right when she wrote the following lines to her enemies:

"I wish you to know that you do not need to make much effort in order to crush the little ant called Pauline Marie... Her sixty years are soon to end, and labor and suffering have sapped her life away."

At the beginning of the year 1861, her habitual sufferings increased; an extreme weakness together with the most violent palpitations of the heart made walking a real torture to her. She no longer went down to Lyons except in absolute necessity, and she walked so slowly that it took her much time to cover a short distance. Up until the very end she was insulted by a beggar on the Chazeaux stairs. But now when God was her all, her nature, formerly so proud and now almost conquered, no longer revolted against humiliation.

The shaking of her poor body and the increasing intensity of her trials confirmed her foresight of a near death. This painful condition did not hinder her from still receiving the afflicted and from listening lengthily to their tales of woe. When Maria, uneasy on account of this increased fatigue begged her to shorten these interviews, she replied: "Allow me to enjoy the only consolation left me!... I have neither gold nor silver, but what I have, I give willingly."

Her love for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist increased daily with suffering. We see her in continual adoration at the feet of Him, who after having given her to enjoy from childhood the charms and sweetness of His love, since long has kept an absolute silence towards her, and appears to have withdrawn into inaccessible depths, in order to let His servant struggle alone in the midst of darkness and daily anguish.

On the part of Heaven, profound night, on the part of earth, calumny, treason, satiety of opprobrium, ingratitude, abandonment on all sides, poverty which leads her and her daughters to famine and want. What matter! "*Fiat! Fiat!* I am here to accomplish Thy will..." does she repeat as her trials increase.

In her final struggles, still more than ever do her prayers express forgetfulness of self; she forgets herself to plead the sublime causes which never ceased to preoccupy her during her whole life: *the triumph of Holy Church, the salvation of France, and that of laborers.*

In the month of August, 1861, she desired to go to Paris to make another attempt to collect alms for her devoted creditors, but her friends seeing her worn out from fatigue, opposed this last effort of her courage.

She lingered on until the 5th of the following October, date on which the Holy Rosary was solemnized. What glorious remembrances, at once consoling and sad, did this patronal feast of her beloved works recall to her! It was on the same date, beneath her gaze, and we might say at the sound of her voice, that the angel of her soul, holy Father Wurtz, ended his apostolical career.

God chose this touching anniversary to permit death to deal severely with the frail and precious existence which it had so often attempted to shatter.

Despite the violent pains in her chest, the servant of Mary spent a part of this day in the little interior chapel where many a time a celestial light was seen to illumine her features.

During the octave that followed, the ravages caused by the disease were powerless in drawing a single murmur from the patient. As she was not yet helpless, she took advantage of this to address to the councillors of the Living Rosary, a farewell, dictated by her maternal heart which felt the approach of the mysterious sleep of death. She bequeathed to her spiritual family all that she held dearest here below: the Blessed Eucharist to adore, the Church to serve, souls to save, and if possible, the accomplishment of the work of justice towards her needy creditors, the work which had been the constant object of her efforts, and which was to be for her the last and bitterest of sacrifices.

Her very soul manifested itself in these beautiful pages where one may feel the first thrill of immortality.

"No," did she say, "I shall not die in taking refuge in the bosom of *Life!* 'Tis there that I shall repose while awaiting the glorious resurrection, which I hope for through the infinite mercy of the Sacred Hearts which have shown me such love! I shall drown all my iniquities in the boundless ocean of purity and of holiness, confessing to the glory of Divine Bounty, this truth, that I am but pride and impatience, that I am nothing at all!... And even if my sins were to be a hundred times more numerous, I would dare to say to my Saviour: 'Thy mercy greatly exceeds my sins; this is why I hope in Thee and shall never be confounded...' "

The Sunday within the Octave of the Feast of the Holy Rosary, overcoming her sufferings, she assembled the councillors of Lyons. She spoke to them lengthily and ardently of the love of our Savior for souls, of the happiness of spreading His kingdom, of the nothingness of everything here below, and she repeated these words to them several times: "My dear children, love one another as Jesus Christ has loved you."

She was deeply touched and many of her pious auditors were moved to tears, for the voice of the saintly Mother was more tender, more penetrating than usual, and it revealed the heart-breaking strains of the last farewell. Still, they were far from imagining the excruciating pain that this courageous Mother was enduring and the violence that she was doing to self.

The meeting over, she listened with her usual kindness to the little confidences of those who could not decide to leave her.

When she was at last alone with her daughters, she said to Maria, "Give me something to drink, quickly, I am exhausted..."

Her face was suddenly covered with large red spots, which gave one to think that she was about to succumb. This terrible symptom disappeared but a large wound opened near the heart, and three days later, despite her courage, she was obliged to remain in bed.

As the doctor did not appear uneasy, and as they had seen the patient return to health after having been on the point of death three times, her daughters did not lose the hope that their Mother would recover.

As for Maria, her tender and admirable infirmarian, no illusion was possible, for from hour to hour she perceived the wound which so cruelly pierced her Mother's breast become larger and deeper. The latter could not rest an instant except in the arms of her faithful friend, who held her as a sick child in need of sleep.

Devoted unto heroism, Maria accepted with love, the most unimaginable fatigues. After having been the angel of the unfortunate for twenty-four years, she now proved herself, in every sense of the word, the angel of martyrdom! Ever watchful near her Mother, she assisted, consoled, even cheered her sometimes by the naïf and charming witticisms of uncultured intelligence, but nevertheless elevated and cunning. So faithful was she by the sufferer's bedside during the three winter months when the nights are so long and so cold, and she deprived herself of so much sleep, that she nearly lost her eyesight. "Ah!" did she say, "the noise caused by the bounding of my poor mother's heart, prevented me from sleeping."

And if sometimes, nature claimed its rights, and the infirmarian would give way, an involuntary moan from the patient and a call for Maria would immediately arouse her, and she would again resume her watching.

Despite the pitiful condition to which sickness had reduced her, Pauline was assailed, almost until her very agony, by business men, who did not even respect her last moments. On these painful occasions, she was ever patient, delicate, and manifested an admirable lucidity of mind.

(To be continued)

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin

for favors obtained

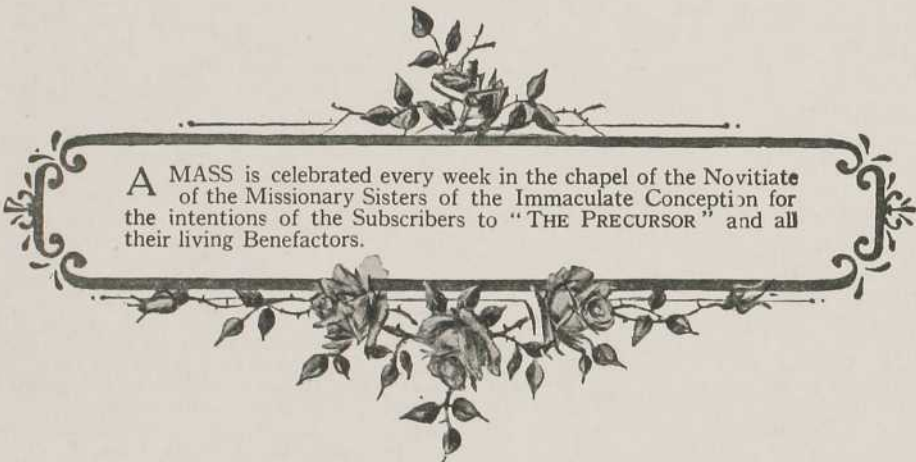


"O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection.

BL. HENRY SUZO.

With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am sending \$1.00 for a Mass in thanksgiving for favors received, also \$3.00 for your missions. May I ask your prayers for health and that my husband may be successful in business. Mrs. E. O'B., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing \$1.00 in honor of the Blessed Virgin for a favor received. M. M., **Oil Springs, Ont.** — Thanks to the intercession of our Blessed Lady my prayers have been heard. May I again ask you to pray for my intentions. Please accept the enclosed \$2.00 in favor of your missionary work. Mrs. W. D., **Cleveland, Ohio**. — My offering of \$2.00 to help in your works in token of gratitude for a favor received. T. M., **London, Ont.** — Please find enclosed \$2.00 for favor granted me through the intercession of St. Joseph. I am also sending \$1.00 towards your work. I beg you to pray for my intention. Mrs. I. Y., **Montreal**. — In thanksgiving to our Blessed Lady I am sending \$1.00 to help in your works. Mrs. E. V., **Winnipeg**. — Enclosed please find \$3.00 for Masses in honor of our Blessed Lady for favors received. Mrs. E. R., **Ottawa, Ont.** — To fulfil my promise to our Heavenly Mother I am sending \$1.00. I ask you to unite your prayers with mine for my son's conversion. M. G., **New Bedford, Mass.** — Some two years ago I had a novena made promising that if I regained my health to send \$1.00 a month to help your missions. I am now cured and am happy to fulfil my promise. I. M., **Montreal**. — In token of gratitude to Our Lady of Perpetual Help I am sending \$5.00 for the Chinese missions. Mrs. G. W., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 as promised if a favor were received. E. W., **Linwood, Mass.** — The enclosed Money Order is for a Mass for my intentions as I promised to have a Mass said every month for a year. A. L., **North Bay**. — Please have the children thank the Sacred Heart for a favor I have received and pray also for my special intention. This little offering is to help in your missionary work. Mrs. B. P., **Providence, R. I.** — Would you kindly pray for my intentions. I am enclosing \$1.00 in gratitude for having received a favor. K. R., **Ottawa, Ont.** — My request has been granted. Please accept my thank-offering of \$2.00. Mrs. D. D., **Springfield, Mass.** — My subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" in thanksgiving to our Blessed Lady, the dearest and truest of all mothers. N. L., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am sending \$1.00 in gratitude for a favor obtained. Will you please burn a novena of lights for me. Mrs. A. E. P., **New Bedford, Mass.** — Some time ago I promised that I would give a donation in honor of St. Francis Xavier if I obtained what I asked for. Attached hereto you will find Money Order for \$10.00. Miss A. L., **Ottawa, Ont.** — This donation of \$25.00 is for the ransom of five Chinese babies in fulfilment of my promise. L. B., **Webster, Mass.** — Our Immaculate Mother has granted me a favor. It is with grateful thanks that I am making this little donation of \$5.00. Mrs. W. H., **Verdun**. — I enclose \$2.00 in return for favors granted my husband and myself. Please pray for our special intentions. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boyle, **Belle Anse, P. Q.** — Kindly accept the enclosed \$5.00 for the Chinese Missions to thank St. Joseph for favors received. I would like that at least \$1.00 would be used to purchase dying Chinese babies. Mrs. G. J. W., **Montreal**. — With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am sending an offering for two Masses in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin. H. G., **Riviere au Renard, P. Q.** — Kindly publish my profound gratitude to the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower who have deigned to obtain us success in an undertaking. In their honor I am sending the sum of \$1.00. Mrs. P. B., **Mont Rolland**. — From my weekly salary I shall set aside \$1.00 for the Chinese missions in thanksgiving to God for giving me the grace of securing a position. L. D., **Montreal**. — Thanks to the miraculous medal I have been able to overcome a difficulty. May our good Mother, the Most Blessed Virgin be blessed a thousand times. A subscriber. — Here enclosed stipends for a Mass of thanksgiving for a position obtained. M. R., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — My offering of \$5.00 for your missions to thank the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph to whose intercession I attribute the favor that has been accorded me. Another request is solicited. Mrs. M., **Grondines**. — Deign to accept my humble donation of \$1.00 as token of gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for the cure of my child. Mrs. R. G., **Grand'Mere**. — Will you please unite with me in thanking the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph for having restored me to health asking them for the conversion of a little eleven-year-old boy who is on the road to perdition. Mrs. A., **Fitchburg, Mass.** — I am pleased to send you

this small sum of \$1.00 for the ransom of dying babies in gratitude for favors obtained. I again ask the Blessed Virgin and St. Therese for success in different undertakings, the cure of persons dear to me and another particular favor. Mrs. G. K., **Montreal**. — I am acquitting myself of my debt in sending you an offering of \$5.00. Kindly publish in "THE PRECURSOR" my gratitude towards the Blessed Virgin and St. Therese of the Child Jesus for success in undertakings. Mrs. H. F., **Laprairie**. — Here enclosed \$5.00 for your missions in gratitude to our good Heavenly Mother. May I again solicit the assistance of your good prayers. Mrs. H., **St. Eustache**. — I promised the ransom of a little Chinese girl if what I asked for would be granted me, and happily my prayers have been heard. In token of gratitude kindly accept my humble offering of \$5.00. Miss A. B., **St. Esprit**. — With joy am I fulfilling the promise I made to the Blessed Virgin in addressing you \$1.00. Through her intercession I obtained the decision of my vocation during the month of May. I return thanks to Mary, my good Mother, for this great favor. I complete the accomplishment of my promise in asking you to publish in "THE PRECURSOR". Anonymous — Offering of \$1.00 for a position obtained through the Blessed Virgin's intercession. A. B., **Jonquiere**. — My heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for the favor she granted me after promising to subscribe to "THE PRECURSOR". Miss B. R., **Montreal**. — We are sending you the balance of the sum promised to thank the Blessed Virgin for obtaining the sale of property. We had also promised publication in your review. Mr. and Mrs. A. L., **Shawinigan**. — With my whole heart do I thank the Blessed Virgin for the great grace with which she has favored me and send you in her honor my alms, \$1.00. I again ask her who has never been invoked in vain to cure my child. Mrs. W. N., **Laurierville**. — A patient of the Hotel Dieu Hospital, **Montreal**, desires to publish to the glory of Mary, the success of an operation which she acknowledges due to our Blessed Mother. — I am most thankful to the Blessed Virgin for success in business. In token of gratitude my offering of \$5.00. Mrs. A. S., **Terrebonne**. — I am sending you \$5.00 for a little Chinese baby. Miss D. C., **Marlboro, Mass.** — I am enclosing \$2.00 in thanksgiving for favor granted promising \$10.00 if other requests are obtained. E. A. D., **Windsor, Ont.** — My cheque for \$5.00 as my thank-offering for a favor received from the Blessed Virgin. I am sending a Money Order for \$7.00. Please join with me in thanking our dear Lady for having cured me of a broken leg. M. P., **Westmount**.



A MASS is celebrated every week in the chapel of the Novitiate of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception for the intentions of the Subscribers to "THE PRECURSOR" and all their living Benefactors.

Petitions

"O Mary conceived without sin
pray for us who have recourse to
Thee".

Please find enclosed an offering of \$1.00. I would like you to make a novena and burn two candles that my boy may be successful in his examinations. If I obtain this favor I shall forward you \$2.00 to help your missions in China. Mrs. R., **Montreal**. — I beg your prayers to our Blessed Lady that we may rent our rooms and pay our debts. K. R., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Enclosed you will find \$1.25 for the renewal of my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" as also a small offering towards your works. Please pray for the health of my daughter. Mrs. J. O'N., **Valleyfield, P. Q.** — I am a subscriber to "THE PRECURSOR"

and I wish that you would pray for my little boy that he may be cured of deafness. If I obtain my favor I promise to give \$100.00 to help in your missionary works. **Mrs. J. G., Holyoke, Mass.** — May I ask the help of your prayers for the immediate satisfactory sale of property. I promise to send \$10.00 for your missionary work if my request be granted. **Mrs. M. E. M., Windsor, Ont.** — I am sending \$1.00 for a novena of lights to be burned at our Blessed Mother's shrine. I promise if I obtain a cure to donate \$100.00 for a grotto dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes and also \$100.00 for your works. **J. P. G., Worcester, Mass.** — My subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". I beg you to pray that a child's eyesight be restored. **M. V., St. Thomas, Ont.** — I am enclosing herewith a small offering and would appreciate very much if you would burn a novena of lights for a special intention and also have a Mass said in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for the Poor Souls. **A. M., Windsor, Ont.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for a novena of lights in honor of our Blessed Lady that I may obtain a special favor. I promise to send \$1.00 for a Mass if granted this request. **Mrs. L. A., Spencer, Mass.** — I am sending you \$1.00 for my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR." Please pray for my intentions. **S. B., Montreal.** — Please have a Mass said for the loneliest soul in Purgatory for my intention. **M. M., Montreal.** — I beg you to pray to the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower that they may grant me two favors. Please accept the enclosed offering for your works. **Mrs. W. B., Windsor, Ont.** — I promise to support a missionary in China by giving \$10.00 monthly for that purpose if I walk or have the use of my legs. **Mrs. B., Sheddin, Ont.** — I am sending \$1.00 for lights in honor of Our Blessed Lady and St. Joseph. Kindly pray for my intention. A subscriber, **Montreal.** — I trust that this little donation will help in furthering your good work. A subscriber. — Please find enclosed \$2.00 in favor of your works. I ask your prayers for health for my husband and myself and also that my husband may obtain steady employment. **Mrs. W. D., Cleveland, Ohio.** — The following persons ask for special favors: **S. McL., Bronxville, N. Y.** — **E. H., Toronto, Ont.** — **Mrs. A. P., Hebronville, Mass.** — **Mrs. M. D., Williamstown, Mass.** — **Mrs. L. L., Ottawa, Ont.** — **Miss L. L., Montreal.** — **J. B., Ottawa, Ont.** — **Mrs. W. M., Masson, P. Q.** — **Mrs. P. J., Carson Mine, Ont.** — **Mrs. W. R., Stratford, Ont.** — A subscriber, **Montreal.** — **Mrs. H. H., Verdun, P. Q.** — **M. L. K., Stratford, Ont.** — **Miss M. C., Windsor, Ont.** — **Mrs. D. G., Greenfield, Mass.** — **Mrs. K. H., Zurich, Ont.** — **C. S. S., Montreal.** — I beg you to kindly make a novena for my husband that he may regain what money he has lost. Please accept my offering of \$1.00 in favor of your works. If my request be granted I shall make a donation of \$25.00. **E. W., Montreal.** — The enclosed cheque is to help in your missionary work. Please make a novena in honor of our Blessed Mother and the Sacred Heart for my intentions. **Mrs. L. G., Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Kindly have two Low Masses said in honor of the Blessed Virgin and St. Ann that they may continue to favor me with their choicest blessings. **H. E. G., Riviere au Renard, P. Q.** — I am out of work and trying for a position. Would you kindly pray for me? If I receive this favor I shall send \$10.00 for the Chinese missions. **R. S., Port Alfred, P. Q.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for the renewal of my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR", also \$1.00 for a novena of lights for a special intention. **Mrs. E. S., Toronto, Ont.** — I beg the prayers of the Community for the conversion of my husband. **Mrs. E. C., Toronto, Ont.** — Please accept this Postal-Note for \$2.00, my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and an offering for the purchase of ointment to relieve the poor lepers. May I ask you to pray that special favors be granted me. **Mrs. X. K., Douglastown, P. Q.** — I promise a donation to your missions if a special favor be granted me. **C. B., Montreal.** — The following persons ask for health: **Mrs. J. L., Montreal.** — **C. F., Fitchburg, Mass.** — **Mrs. D. J. H., — J. A. K., — Mrs. J. B., Montreal.** — **Mrs. F. F., Three Rivers, Mass.** — **Mrs. E. S., North Adams, Mass.** — **Mrs. C. M., Windsor, Ont.** — **Miss Y. R., — Miss F. R., Pawtucket, R. I.** — **Mrs. T. D., Manotick Station.** — **Mrs. J. B. M., Montreal.** — **Mrs. P. P., Rosemount.** — Will you kindly pray that I may obtain a good position? If my request be granted I promise to send a substantial donation to your worthy cause. **Miss F. D., Amherstburg, Ont.** — Please find enclosed an offering of \$1.00 for which kindly have a Mass offered for the Holy Souls for my intentions. **J. B., Windsor Ont.** — With my renewal subscription I am sending \$1.00 towards the Little Flower Burse. Please pray for us. **M. A. S., Toronto, Ont.** — I would like to have a novena of lights burned in honor of the Blessed Virgin and the Little Folwer for which I am enclosing an offering I promise another donation and to subscribe to "THE PRECURSOR" if the favors I am asking be accorded me. **Mrs. L. K., Edmundston, N. B.** — My brother is deciding upon a very important business transaction. Please pray for his success. He is enclosing an offering for a novena of lights in honor of our Blessed Mother and St. Therese. If this request be granted he promises a substantial donation to your needy missions. **Mrs. J. O'G., Ste Sophie, P. Q.** — Kindly accept my offering for a novena of lights in honor of the Little Flower. I promise to send \$5.00 towards your wonderful work if a special favor be granted me. **R. D., East Windsor, Ont.** — Please pray that my son may be cured of drinking. **Mrs. E. G., Indian Orchard, Mass.** — May I ask you to make a novena for a very special intention. I shall have a novena of vigil lights burned. **Mrs. R. M., Montreal.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 in honor of the Little Flower. Please pray that I may obtain my former position again. **Mrs. L. S., Pawtucket, R. I.** — I am asking the Sacred Heart for a special request. Please unite your prayers with mine. The enclosed offering of \$1.00 is for your works. **Miss A. J.,**

Cleveland, Ohio. — Please accept this donation of \$1.00 towards your missionary work I humbly ask the prayers of the Community that my son may follow the advice given him.
Mrs. E. Q. Verdun, P. Q. — I am enclosing an offering of \$1.00 for your works. Please remember me in your prayers to our Blessed Mother that she may grant me a special request.
Mrs. J. S., Whitinsville, Mass. — This donation of \$5.00 is to help in your works. Kindly pray to the Sacred Heart, Our Blessed Lady and the Little Flower for my special intention: If it be granted I promise to send \$5.00 more.
J. O'B., Montreal. — I am gladly forwarding this offering to help in your missionary works. May I solicit your fervent prayers that my husband may give up drinking. If I am heard I shall send another donation.
Mrs. M. C. Riverside, Ont. — I wish to beg your prayers for three special intentions. If God deign to grant me these graces I shall send a generous donation in thanksgiving.
M. L. M., Windsor, Ont. — Will you kindly have a Mass said and pray for me as I am greatly in need of help.
Mrs. R. H. K., Amherstburg, Ont. — Please ask the Sacred Heart and St. Rita to help me to rent my rooms. If my request be granted I promise to send a donation for your work.
Mrs. J. A. H., Montreal. — May I ask your prayers for health for my mother and myself.
Mrs. T., Chatham, Ont. —



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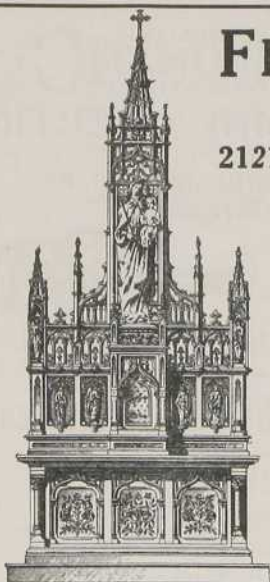
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