

THE PRECURSOR



Vol. VII., 8th Year

MONTREAL, MARCH-APRIL, 1930

No. 2

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.

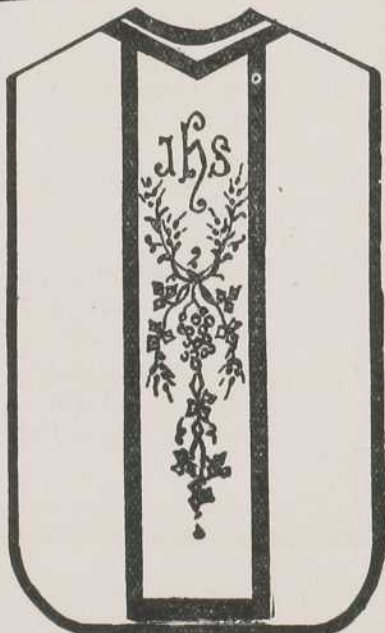
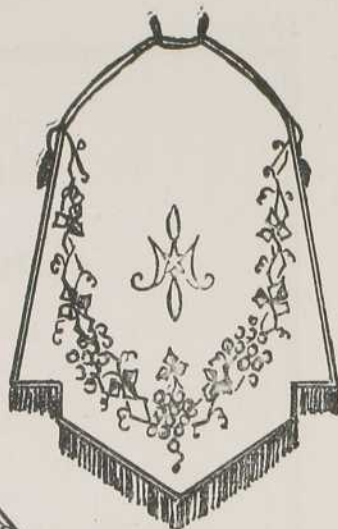
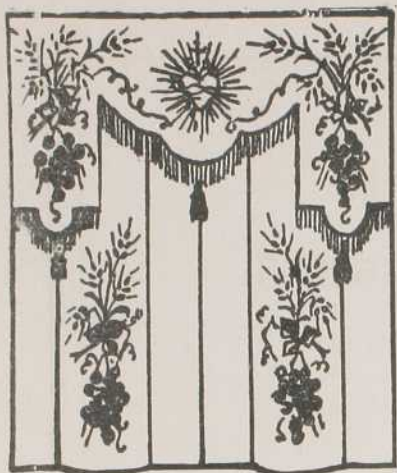
Missionaries must undergo several years' preparation before being able to commence their apostolic labors in foreign fields.

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.

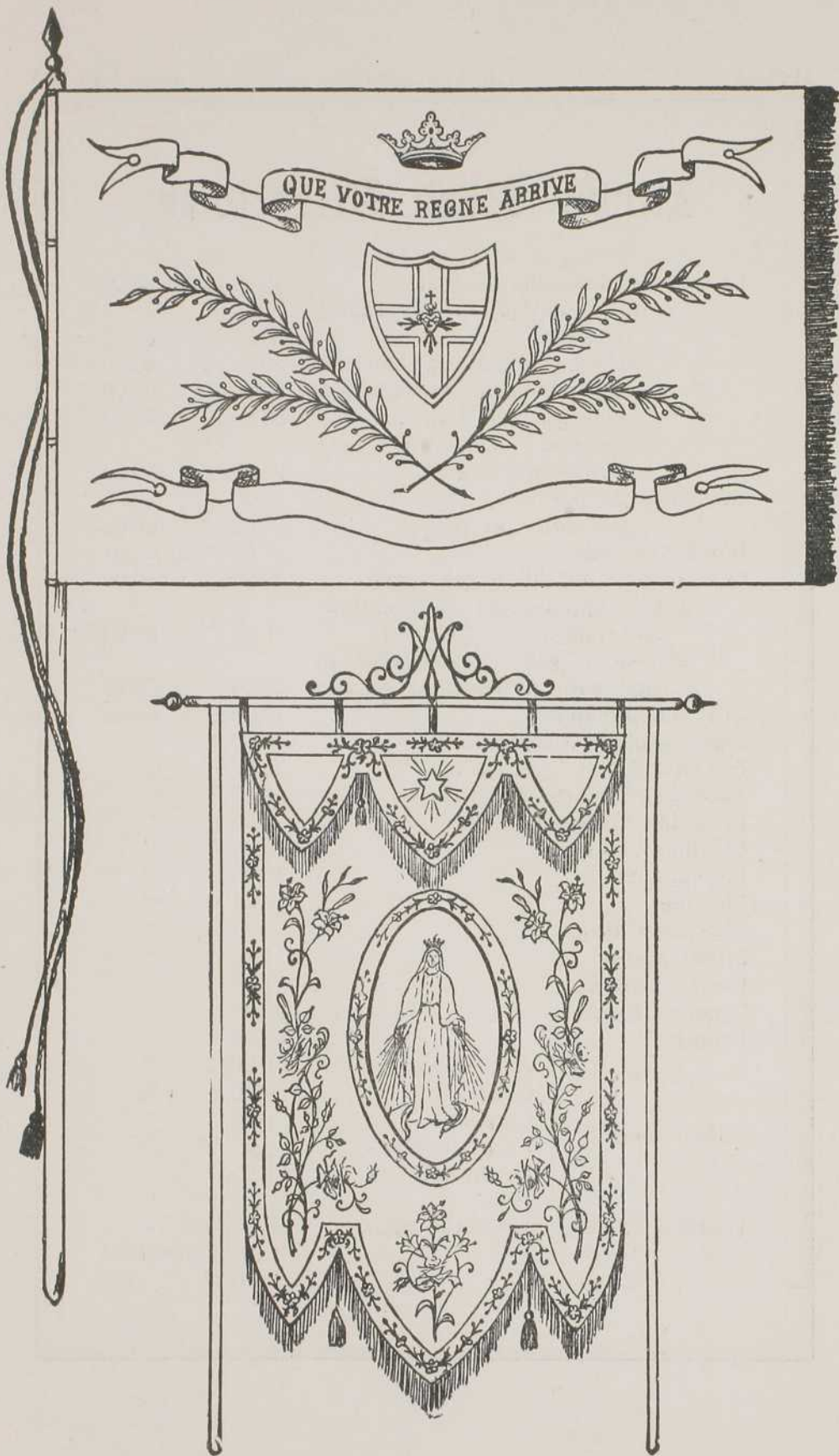


Kindly Read Attentively

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 missions 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 Sister 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.

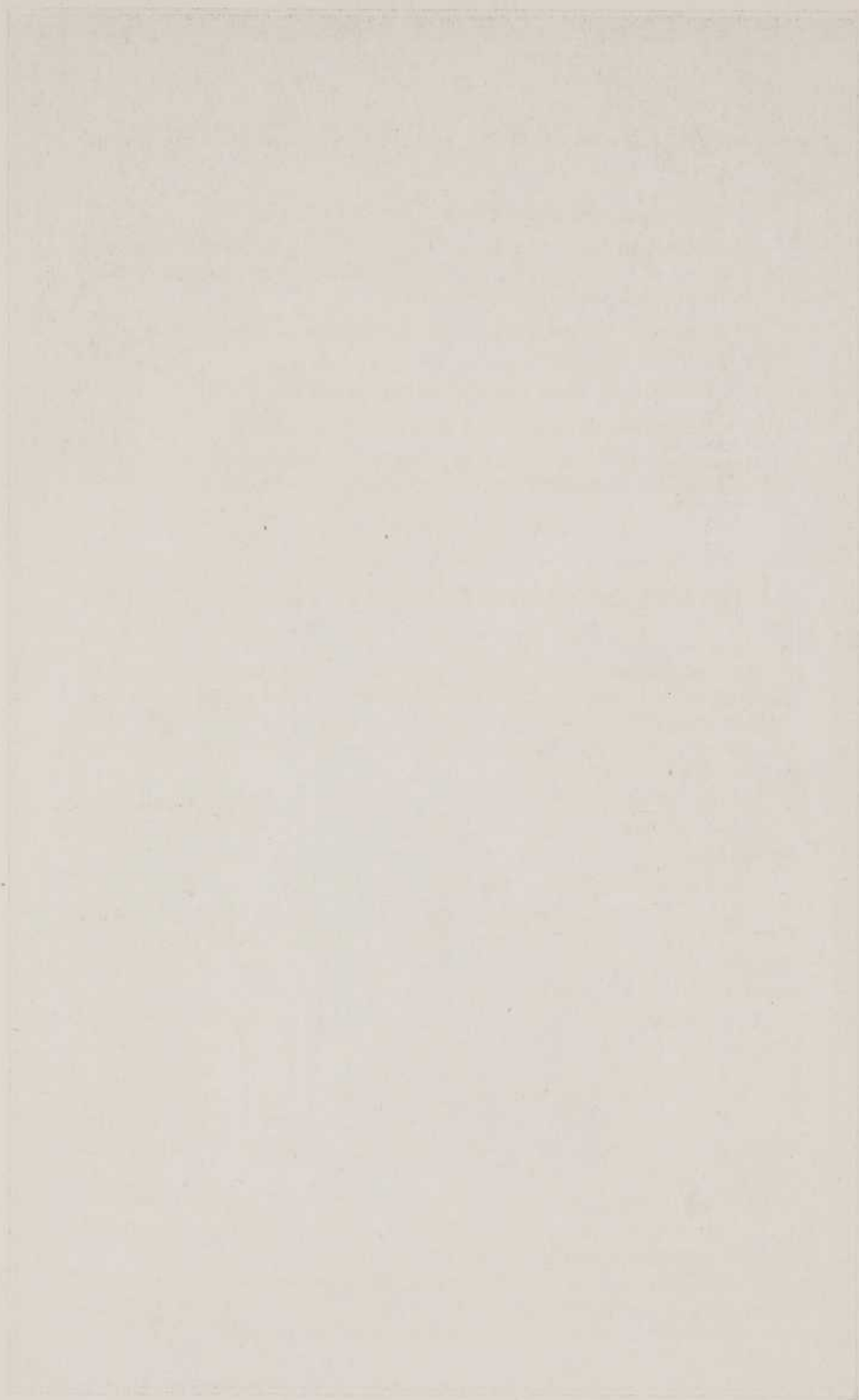
3. — Every Friday in the year, the Sisters offer, for their Benefactors' intentions, their hours of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the chapel of the Mother-House. (The names of Founders and Protectors are deposited on the Altar of Exposition).

4. — For the same intentions, the member 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 Lazeretto 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

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Missionary Sisters
of the Immaculate Conception

with the approbation of the Archbishop of Montreal

VOL. VII, 8th Year

MONTREAL, March-April 1930

No. 2

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His Holiness Pius IX. His Holiness Pius XI.

September 19th, 1870 — December 20th, 1929.

ON September 19th, 1870, the Sovereign Pontiff mounted to the Latran for the last time.

From the Vatican Pope Pius IX. went to the Scala Santa, ascended it, following the example of the Divine Master who had crimsoned it with His blood. Arrived at its summit he recited amidst sobs, a spontaneous and eloquent prayer which sprang from his magnanimous heart. This happened shortly before the events which were to have their providential epilogue this year only. It was a sad hour for everyone, but perhaps it was also the foreboding of a happier day.

"Have pity on me, my Lord, said Pius IX., have pity, I beseech Thee; but in so far as future events are concerned. Thy Will be ever done."

The assistants as well as the crowd which had assembled, were filled with the most profound emotion. Every anxiety was completely abandoned to God's Will, and it is in this adorable Will that fresh hope takes its source.

On leaving the church, Pius IX. entered the Vatican amidst loud acclamations. Fifty-nine years later, a Pope, another Pius, was to climb the blessed Hill to commemorate the Fiftieth anniversary of his sacerdotal

ordination. God's Will had been accomplished in him and by him, by changing the painful hour into days of joy for the Church and for Italy, adorning them with halos of light and a jubilee crown.

And, amid a solemn silence, Christ's Vicar, again prayed for the Church, for Italy and for all Christian nations.

Translated from the *Osservatore Romano*

Jubilee Mass of His Holiness Pius XI. at Rome, December 20, 1929

THE Vatican Basilica was filled with people of every tongue and from all countries of the world. At 9.30 A. M. the viewpoint in the temple was magnificent: the whole apse was illuminated by the thousand lights from the countless suspended lamps, and in the glory of the Bannin appeared the fresco of the Blessed Trinity. On the various tribunes could be seen members of the family of Our Holy Father the Pope, the Diplomatic Body, representatives from the Maltese Order, of the Patricians and of the nobility of Rome. A large number of archbishops, bishops, prelates and other illustrious personages took their places in the special stalls.

Pius XI. entered the Basilica by means of the royal stairway on the "Sedia Gestaria" accompanied by his noble, ecclesiastical and lay attendants and at 9.55 A. M. as the triumphant notes of the Longhi March were heard, he entered the temple where he was received by the Cardinal Archpriest and the members of the Chapter, and joyously acclaimed by the people. The August Pontiff responded to the enthusiastic and ever-increasing demonstrations of filial attachment of so many of his sons, by repeated blessings. A large number of Cardinals followed him. The Noble, the Swiss and the Palatine guards wore the gala uniform. Having arrived at the altar of the Confession, the Holy Father descended from the *Sedia* and knelt down in preparation for Mass. The "*Tu es Petrus*" by Perosi was rendered at the organ, and the "*Ave Maria*" from Vittoria was then sung. His Holiness began the celebration of the Jubilee Mass amidst a pious and profoundly recollected assembly. During Mass, "*La Capella Musicale*" sang: at the Offertory the "*Oremus pro Pontifico nostro Pio*," after the Elevation, the "*Benedictus*," at Communion time the "*Cantate Dominum*" of Palestrina; and again the "*Tu es Petrus*" which was followed by the hymn "*Te Deum*". At the Elevation, from the cupola the melodious notes of the March by Silveri resounded while the armed body-guard, surrounding the altar, presented arms. Sixty thousand heads inclined to adore our Eucharistic Lord. The silence was so impressive that it seemed as if the Basilica was empty.

After Mass, the Cardinal Archpriest of the Patriarchal Basilica offered to the Sovereign Pontiff as a remembrance of his "Jubilee Mass", a very rich chalice. The Holy Father warmly thanked them for the magnificent gift.

Whilst the joyful notes of the organ vibrated throughout the immense naves His Holiness gave the Apostolic blessing to the assistants, paid a short visit to the Blessed Sacrament and to the papal altar to venerate the relics of the Apostles and then directed his steps towards the Apostolic Palace. There he stopped to admire with great contentment a marble and bronze plate which the Latran Chapter had erected to commemorate the jubilee feasts of his sacerdotal ordination. Vibrant acclamations accompanied the August Pontiff until he disappeared from sight. Slowly, the immense crowd dispersed as the chimes from the Cathedral sent forth their joyful notes, symbol of the joy which overflowed from all hearts on this thrice happy day of the Sacerdotal Jubilee of the common Father of the faithful.

Communicated



Answer given by His Holiness Pope Pius XI. to His Eminence Cardinal R. M. Rouleau, O. P.

We still remember the important conference of the Episcopate of Canada and of Newfoundland held at Quebec early last October.

At the very first session the Archbishop and Bishops present transmitted to the Pope gloriously reigning, a message of filial piety and of respectful submission towards the Holy See.

His Holiness Pope Pius XI. vouch safed to answer personally this proof of fidelity to the Vicar of Christ, in the following terms:

To the Most Eminent Raymond Marie Rouleau, Cardinal-Priest of the title of St. Peter in Montorio, Archbishop of Quebec, and to the other Most Reverend Archbishops and Bishops of Canada and of Newfoundland, in answer to their letter sent during their assembly at Quebec.

PIUS XI. POPE.

DEAR SONS AND VENERATED BROTHERS,

Greeting and Apostolic Blessing

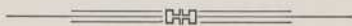
We have learned through your recent letter, that you have assembled at Quebec to deliberate together upon the needs of your dioceses, and that you did not wish to open the meeting before testifying your piety and respect towards Us and towards the Apostolic See. In so doing you have given Us a fresh proof of your pastoral zeal and this happy news greatly rejoices Us. What other wish could We make you than this, that all pastors diligently see to the preservation of Catholic Doctrine and to the salvation of

souls which the Eternal Pastor has confided to their keeping. We know that such a procedure is always fruitful and at the same time in conformity with the discipline of the Church, and particularly salutary, even a necessity in these hard times. And so it is expedient that the pastors become more vigilant and more closely united according as the faith of Christian nations becomes more and more exposed to the penetration of spreading errors and to the seduction of vice. For this reason We highly congratulate you for the wisdom you have manifested in coming from distant regions to deliberate on the means to be taken to obtain the complete triumph of the Church militant. May the day soon dawn when, as you have written, truth will conquer over error and charity over the spirit of discord, and that finally the peace which Our Lord Jesus Christ brought down from heaven be restored to the nations who have been ill-treated for such a long time. This is why, as you desire, We willingly and ardently beg God to grant you favorable assistance that you may execute with the co-operation of the docile clergy and faithful, the decisions that you have made together. Therefore it is with a fatherly heart and comforted by your sentiments of piety that as a forboding of favors from on High and as a proof of our good-will We lovingly grant you, beloved Sons and venerable Brothers, as well as the flock confided to each one of you, the Apostolic Blessing.

Given at Rome, near St. Peter's, the thirtieth day of November of the year 1928, the seventh of Our Pontificate.

Pius PP. XI.

Translated from the French "Action Catholique"



The missionaries do in their own name for God the most they can, and they do for us, vicariously, what we are not privileged to do ourselves.

Mgr. J. T. Mc Nicholas, Archbishop of Cincinnati, U. S. A.



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



Saint Joseph's Jewels

Thy zealous care, Saint Joseph,
Where pagan realms lay;
God's noble Will continues
Beneath thy watchful sway,
Well nourish with thy power
Each glorious Mission far
Where hearts and hands are loyal —
To thee — their Guiding Star!

The world, and friends, and kindred,
They freely left behind,
To further Heaven's Kingdom;
Far gems of Grace to find!
As thou, once warned to Egypt—
Our Saviour sweet to save—
So Heaven's Voice is calling,
Far pagan lands to lave!

Then bless with rich abundance
These noble workers true;
Find lavish hearts to rally—
Their Harvest Fields bestrew;
Most glad to give and render
Apostles on their way;
To hasten Heaven's Mission
And speed God's Golden Day.

Thy love lies there, Saint Joseph—
Like Nazareth of old—
Till every name and nation
Are found within the Fold.
Send strength to souls of splendor;
Give aid in every need;
Their patron in each problem—
God's Suzerain decreed!

Unceasing, thou art spreading
To every darkened land,
The Light Eternal's Beauty
Through Heaven's chosen band;
God's noble Will continues
Beneath thy zealous sway—
Those are thy precious jewels—
God's gems beyond decay!

—RONALD STEPHEN MACDONALD.

Great Missionary Celebration in Montreal, next July

HIS Holiness Pope Pius XI. will be known in history as the "Pope of the Missions." This title is already his, and the Encyclical letter *Rerum Ecclesiæ*, of February 28, 1926, will ever remain the great charter of the Catholic Missions.

The Jubilee Year of the Sovereign Pontiff will close next July. How could we show our filial demonstrations and devotedness towards His August person in a more practical way than by organizing a series of celebrations in honor of the "Pope of the Missions?"

This is what the Diocesan Council of the Missionary Union, of Montreal, has proposed to do: render homage to His Holiness the Pope and stimulate the zeal of our people in favor of the Missions. The question that has been studied for a few months has just been solved: the outlined programme has received the approval of His Grace our Coadjutor-Archbishop who takes such a great interest in all the pontifical works whose aim is to help the Missions, and an enthusiastic welcome from all interested missionary societies.

In a first meeting the Diocesan Council of the Missionary Union of the Clergy, together with the directors of the Works of the Propagation of the Faith, the Holy Childhood and of St. Peter the Apostle, and representatives of some missionary Institutions, passed the resolution to organize for July 1930 a great missionary demonstration, if the ecclesiastical authorities and the missionary societies approved of it.

The project was exposed to His Grace our Coadjutor-Archbishop who answered by this kind letter:

Archbishop's Palace, Montreal, November 8, 1929

Reverend Joseph Geoffroy,

Director of the Missionary Union of the Clergy,
Foreign Mission Seminary, Pont Viau.

Dear Father Geoffroy,

I am pleased to learn from your letter of October 25th that the Diocesan Council of the Missionary Union of the Clergy has formed the project of holding in Montreal, during the course of next year, a great missionary exposition. This project answers my greatest desire. Accompanied by adapted conferences and instructions, days of prayers, this exposition will furnish us the occasion of a useful propaganda in favor of the missions; it will spread in our midst the desire to help, in a more efficient way, the great Catholic works of the propagation of the Faith. There is no doubt that in the Archdiocese of Montreal, during the course of these latter years, a praiseworthy effort has been made in this aim. We can do much better



His Grace Most Reverend George Gauthier

Coadjutor-Archbishop of Montreal

*Honorable President of the Organizing Committee of the
Missionary Exposition*

without contestation. The *Missionary Week* which you are preparing will powerfully help us. We can thus close the Jubilee Year of His Holiness Pius XI. "*the Pope of the Missions*", and nothing else could rejoice his paternal heart more.

Yours very devotedly,

GEORGES, *Coadjutor-Archbishop of Montreal*

The religious and missionary Institutions consulted have looked favorably upon the project accepted. On December 12, 1929, the delegates of more than twenty Congregations, Orders of Missionary Institutions, including the directors of the Association of the Propagation of the Faith, St. Peter the Apostle, and the Holy Childhood, formed a programme that comprises an exposition, conferences, days of instructions and of prayers in favor of the missions. Committees have been formed to see to the organizing in detail of that which the meeting could only form the outline.

The Central Council of the Missionary Union seconds the movement taken by the Council of the Archdiocese of Montreal and is ready to help if needed. That is to say that all the members of this pious Union established in almost every diocese of Canada will take an interest in the missionary manifestation.

We hope that the results of these great celebrations the preparation of which is not yet commenced will be to the honor of our country and a powerful stimulant in favor of the works of the propagation of the Faith, as well as an expression of our most generous devotedness to Our Holy Father, the *Pope of the Missions*.

J. GEOFFROY,

President of the Committee

The Committee of organization for the Missionary Exposition of Montreal is composed of the following members:

HONORABLE PRES.—His Grace Archbishop George Gauthier, Montreal.

PRESIDENT — Reverend J. Geoffroy, President of the Missionary Union of the Clergy.

VICE-PRES. — Reverend Canon J.-A. Mousseau, Director of the Propagation of the Faith and the Holy Childhood.

SECRETARY — Reverend Henry Jeannotte, Director of the Association of St. Peter the Apostle.

COUNCILLORS — Reverend C. Decarries, Pastor of Point St. Charles.

" Reverend U. Demers, Pastor of Ste. Rose de Laval.

" Reverend Father Martin, O. F. M.

" Reverend Father Rosario Leclerc, O. M. I.

" Reverend Father L. J. Lavoie, S. J.,

" Reverend Father Albert Montplaisir, C. S. C.

The Missionary Exposition of Montreal will be held in the middle of July, at the Drill Hall on Craig St.

Centenary of the Miraculous Medal

(November 27th) 1830 — 1930



On November 27th next it will be a hundred years since the Blessed Virgin appeared in the chapel of the Daughters of Charity at Paris.

It was towards 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Sister Catherine Laboure was profoundly silent in meditation. Suddenly she heard a sound as of the rustling of a silken garment on the epistle side of the altar. She raised her eyes and saw our Blessed Lady beaming with light, dressed in a white robe and golden mantle. She stood on a half globe and in her hands held another globe of a smaller size which she offered to Our Lord with an ineffable expression of supplication and love. But suddenly the living tableau was sensibly modified presenting the aspect which is since represented on the Miraculous Medal. Mary's hands filled with graces which the radiant rings symbolize, emit numberless luminous rays upon the earth.

Listen to the simple account given by the pious girl. "As I was contemplating her, the Blessed Virgin gazed upon me, and in the depths of my heart, I heard these words: *"This globe which you see represents the entire world."*

Here, I cannot express how beautiful and luminous the rays became.

And the Blessed Virgin added: *Behold the symbol of graces I shed upon those who ask for them*, giving me to understand how generous she is towards the persons who invoke her help... the numberless graces she grants to those who ask her for them!...

Then an oval frame encircled the Blessed Virgin and I read in letters of gold: O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

A voice then said to me: *Have a medal struck after this model. Persons who wear it piously will receive great graces especially if they wear it around their neck. Abundant graces will be granted those who have confidence.*

The medal has been struck, and its marvellous and world-wide circulation testifies that it has been everywhere an instrument of mercy, a terrible weapon against the devil, a cure for many evils, a simple and prodigious means of conversion and sanctification.

Departure for Japan



In the month of March five of our Sisters will leave to open a mission in Koriyama, Japan, in the diocese of Kakodate which the Reverend Canadian Dominican Fathers have had as field of apostolate since January 1928.

They are: Sister du Saint Cœur de Marie (Agnes Lavallée, Winnipeg); Sister St. Marc (Alida Talbot, Cacouna); Sister Joseph de la Sainte Famille (Jeannette Delisle, Worcester, Mass.); Sister St. Hedwidge (Blanche Ross, Fall River, Mass.); Sister Marie de Fourviere (Lucie Paradis, Tingwick).

The first work that our Missionaries will undertake most probably will be a dispensary, a work which while easing bodily suffering will at the same time facilitate the converting of souls.

As we lack everything necessary to commence this new establishment and the means to defray the expenses of the voyage, we shall be most grateful for any alms, money or different articles, that you should like to offer to us for this purpose.

Charitable persons desirous of coming to our assistance are requested to send their offerings to:

The Mother-House of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception

314 St. Catherine Road,

Outremont, Montreal.

May we solicit from you a prayer that our dear Missionaries may cross safely and that they may perform a fruitful apostolate among the numerous pagans of Japan.



Closed Retreats at Rimouski

During the months of June, July, August and September closed retreats for ladies and young girls will take place as in the past, at the Convent of the Immaculate Conception, Rimouski. The dates of these retreats will be given in the next issue of The Precursor.

For any information write to the Superior of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception, Rimouski.



AT THE HOLY CHILDHOOD HOME, CANTON, CHINA.

Echoes from our Missions

REPORT

of the Holy Childhood Home
CANTON, CHINA

Catholic personnel.....	76
Virgin catechists.....	1
Pupils.....	68
Babies received at the Foundling-Home.....	1502
Babies given out to be nursed.....	18
Embroidery workers in the Work-room.....	28
Persons who received temporary hospitality.....	17
Crippled people at the refuge.....	2
Wounds dressed at the dispensary.....	1040
Chinese helpers.....	9
Babies baptized at the Foundling-Home of Canton.....	1502
" " " " " " " Sy-Kwan.....	841
" " " " " " " Tic-Tac.....	1016
Adults baptized.....	1

Visit to the Leper Island of Shek Lung

December 1, 1929

VERY DEAR MOTHER,

I went to Shek Lung last Saturday for the first time since my arrival in China. Really I was delighted when I stepped into the boat that was to bring us to the lazaretto island, I felt that I was in China... Four lepers rowed us to their home. We landed at noon. All that we saw at first were the woods, water and the roofs of the houses. The island is embanked owing to frequent floods. While we were going, men were busy cutting down trees which had grown in the dikes as these trees constantly being shaken by the wind gradually weaken the dike. The lepers had sawed and piled this wood each taking his own share as each one has his own boiler. It is to be used for fuel. Not a branch, not even a leaf was wasted. Each one owns a little plot of ground at the farm wherein he places all his ambition. It is a blessing that they are thus able to busy themselves. A portion of

the fields is reserved for the cultivation of rice which nourishes 650 persons for one month... Another portion is kept for the growing of mulberry trees the leaves of which serve as food for the silk-worm. Many of the lepers are employed in this industry. A Mulberry Company has been formed and those who are members share the labor and the profits. There is also a shoemaker shop. Others work wood. When we were passing we noticed that some of them were making some candlesticks for the men's chapel.

It is most consoling to think that our dear Lord deigns to dwell in three tabernacles on this isolated and dreaded island. When there are visiting



REVEREND FATHER CONRARDY, FOUNDER OF THE SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

priests, there are sometimes as many as five or six Masses. When the chaplain is alone on Sunday he is obliged to say two. The Rosary is chanted the entire day by the women lepers. It is most touching to hear the continual murmur of "Hail Mary full of grace." In the morning, from my window, I watched the lepers going to Mass. They must needs cross a little bridge that is quite near the church. This bridge is made of small steps about three inches high which greatly accommodates their poor stumpy feet. Our Sisters tell us of one poor patient who was unable to come to church alone, so she would place herself at the door of her room so as to hear the singing of the prayers as she could not say them alone without making a mistake. When the other lepers would go by talking or making a noise, she would tell them to go easy as they hindered her from following the prayers. This poor soul has now gone to God.

During the course of the afternoon we had Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament sung by the little leprous girls. I was powerless to restrain my tears when I heard the *O Salutaris* and the *Tantum Ergo* sung with such expression by these poor patients, on this island where one believes himself to be in another world, so separated are we from everything. Dear Mother may I mention that your infirmarian daughters are to be envied. They refused to show me all their patients even in spite of my entreaties and of the fact that I had spent a considerable time in the hospital of Manila and that I had seen the worst cases. Oh! how terrible, how repugnant must be the wounds of these poor patients. It is in their midst that one must needs work for God and for God alone.

The life of Reverend Father Conrardy, founder of the Shek Lung Lazaretto who died August 24, 1914, was related to me in detail. I shall resume it in a few words. Being beside Father Damien⁽¹⁾ who was dying, he conceived the idea of devoting his life to the lepers. He was a priest, he wished to be a doctor to help them more efficaciously. He came to America to take up this branch and amid scorn and mockery finally acquired the desired knowledge. He then returned to Canton to there commence at the age of sixty-seven years the sublime work which had been his dream for so many years. First of all he bought a part of a small island situated in the East River, not far from the Shek Lung Market. There he built a pavilion for the men, one for the women, a house for the religious whom he was expecting, a little oratory and a place of shelter for himself. In his poor hovel, on one side was a table which he used for an altar, on the other, three buffaloes were sheltered. We saw his little house which is still standing. Sister St. François d'Assise told us that the lepers prepared his food and that he was continually surrounded by them while he was teaching Christian Doctrine. His body rests in a little plot just behind the men's chapel. On a modest monument over his tomb he is named "The Good Samaritan." Beside him lie the mortal remains of Father Tsao, a Chinese priest who also gave his life for the lepers. There also lies the body of Father Huberdeau who died at the lazaretto after meeting with an accident.

Now I would like to say a word about Sister Marie Bernadette's dispensary where the *deaf are given their hearing* and the *blind especially their sight*. And these poor people, to prove their gratitude bring her two or three eggs. It is most touching.

All the priests love the leper island and never go by without visiting it. Even while we were there, two called. They asked us when we should be going to labor in their districts. One of them tells us that there are twenty thousand souls in his territory and out of this number there are only ten Christians... and they have fallen away from the Faith!... There is certainly work to be accomplished there!...

Sister Marie des Victoires⁽²⁾

1. He died of leprosy, at Molokai, victim of his charity.

2. Josephine Bolduc, St. Victor de Tring.

MANCHURIA, CHINA

Gleanings form the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Leao Yuan Sien

Wednesday, July 31

The number of baptisms have been doubled during this month, we count about a hundred. Number of dressings and divers treatments: 2,300.

Friday, August 2

The Holy Hour for the First Friday of the month takes place at 6 o'clock. It was offered for a young man twenty years of age suffering from tuberculosis and whose days are numbered. This patient lives at a distance of about fifty lis. He came with his mother to Leao Yuan Sien hoping to find there the long-desired remedy. From our very first visit we realized his serious state, there was no time to be lost. The next day we sent a catechist of the mission to bring him some medicine but especially to speak to him about Holy Baptism, for he had manifested, on the eve, his admiration for Catholicity. But it is one thing to admire a doctrine and another thing to embrace it. The patient refused to become a Christian.

Two days had elapsed when a certain event brought us to this part of the city. We went to his residence to dress his wounds which cause him much pain. The mother anxiously inquired if there was a change for the better since our last visit. We thought it better this time to tell her the truth. We told her that the patient was rapidly declining, and that there was absolutely no hope. The young man understood but did not say a word. While I was seeing to other patients who had come to the house, drawn by our visit the Chinese virgin approached the dying man and spoke to him lengthily about the mercy of God and of the happiness of dying a Christian. When I heard her I was moved to tears. She spoke in words that alone could be suggested by the heart of an apostle animated with zeal for the salvation of poor pagan souls. The young man listened attentively and was more touched than he wished to let on. The dressings over we made preparations to leave. When bidding him Good-Bye we wonder if he will be alive at our next visit. The poor moribund who, most probably had the same thought, could no longer restrain his tears and burst into sobs. In a supplicating tone he articulated these words, "O Sister"... I turned away to hide my tears which were falling in spite of myself, while the Chinese virgin tried to make him understand the difference between the death of a Christian and that of a pagan. These words he understands but he wishes to be cured despite every hope, so he puts off his conversion. "I do not want to die I am afraid of death. When I shall be better I shall study and become a Catholic." He then asked when we would return to see him. "The day after to-morrow," did we answer. "O that is too long, come to-morrow."

He kept the Miraculous Medal which we gave him at our first visit pinned to his clothing. May our good heavenly Mother convince him

of the seriousness of his condition and inspire him with the desire for Holy Baptism before taking the supreme voyage.

Saturday, August 3

The oldest son of Professor Tch'ang, a seminary student, is in a dying condition. It makes one's heart ache to see the grief of the father and mother. What beautiful hopes had they built on this son endowed with so lovely a disposition. They looked forward to the day when mounting the altar-steps he would bestow on them a filial and sacerdotal blessing. On the part of the patient it is the same sacrifice. He clings to life as though he were twenty years of age. "If God spares my life I shall work with all my strength for the Catholic Church and I shall give myself to the Seminary of the Canadian Missionary Priests."

The family lives on the mission compound. Twenty times a day he asks his mother to call the Sisters. The latter tells him that the two infirmarians are very busy that one of them is busy at the dispensary while the other is visiting patients in the homes. He is deeply grieved.

As soon as the dispensary is closed we go to see him. "As soon as the Sisters come," does he say naively, while placing his hand on his chest, "there is no more pain here." While we recite the rosary he seems to grow drowsy. Our prayers over, thinking that he was sleeping we prepared to take our leave, but with a supplicating sign he begged us to stay. For the hundredth time he asked, "*Ieou fa tse mee ieou?* Is there any hope?" Reading the answer in our eyes he said to his mother, "If I die to-night will the priest and sisters be here to pray for me." The mother having expressed the same desire two Sisters and two Chinese virgins spend the night beside the poor man's death-bed.

Reverend Father Superior and Fathers Berger, Charest and P'ang come to recite the prayers for the dying and give him a last blessing. They were as deeply touched as if they had assisted a dearly beloved brother. Nearly every ten minutes he reminded us that Father Charest promised to bring him Holy Viaticum at midnight. With what gratitude and love did he receive his Lord and God for the last time.

Towards four o'clock he asked his father to show him his shroud. (This is the Chinese custom). The father brings it to him. The dress is of blue silk and the little coat of black serge, both are of first quality. "That is not according to our rule," says the pious dying man, "I must be clothed in my seminarian's habit. Then you will encircle the rosary in my joined hands." He asked his father not to cry at his death adding that he will be very happy in heaven. I do not ask for anything else but the holy will of God."

Sunday, August 4

At this morning's early dawn, God culls two young flowers from among the personnel of the Mission. A few minutes after Mass the bell announces the death of the seminary student and that of a little invalid of the Orphanage, Marie Germaine.

Saturday, August 24

Four prisoners escorted by a police officer come to us for treatment. Since they are not permitted to come oftener than once a week they ask to bring some ointment with them so as to soothe their wounds. It is with happiness that this favor is granted them.

The poor receive free treatment. Scarcely have these poor unfortunates left the dispensary than they collect their few remaining coppers and return to offer them to the Sister infirmarian. Seeing that the latter hesitates in accepting the "poor man's mite" they place it on the table regretting not to be able to give more. Many such scenes take place at our dispensary.

Tuesday, August 27

A woman twenty-eight years of age was baptized in "*articulo mortis*." We learn that in a family living some distance from the convent there is a dying pagan Chinese. Being acquainted with one of his relatives we immediately foresee the difficulties that will arise before we shall be able to baptize the patient. And in reality on reaching his home did we not find the relative who is not sympathetic towards our religion, standing at the head of the dying man's bed spying our every movement. So that he might withdraw from the room I asked him to bring me some boiling water as I wished to prepare some medicine. Without losing any time the Chinese virgin prepared the patient, who already had had a few Catechism lessons, to receive Holy Baptism. As he was no longer able to speak he gave us to understand by signs that he believed everything and raising his hand to his forehead manifested his desire of being baptized. Another relative, thinking that he was complaining of a headache, asked if we could not relieve him. His request could not have been more appropriate and greatly facilitated the great act that we were about to accomplish. We answered that we had an excellent remedy with which to wash his forehead. The medicine had a two-fold effect... The patient immediately became quite calm. The entire assistance, numbering about twenty believed in the efficacy of the remedy. As for ourselves a grateful thanks is voiced from our hearts towards the Immaculate Virgin who once again lent us her maternal assistance.

Saturday, August 31

Dressings and divers treatments during the month of August: 2,278.
Number of baptisms: 93

Tuesday, September 3

The virgin from Tong Liao named Mong comes to live at the Orphanage. She is accompanied by a young girl seventeen years of age, both are ill and ask to be treated here. They also bring a six-months-old baby with them. Father Larochelle of Tong Leao bought it for \$12.00 (Mexican money). The child's father who is a pagan has also sold his wife to another pagan,

and his little five-year-old boy to a pagan family. Thus the two children will be separated from their mother. This shows what poverty will lead pagans to do.

Wednesday, September 4

A little baby six months old has just been brought to the Orphanage by its mother. This family is in very poor circumstances as the father has been sick for several years and has not been able to provide for them. The little one is baptized this afternoon and is given the name of Mary Claire.

Tuesday, September 10

One hundred and four patients are received at the dispensary to-day. Out of this number five have been made children of God and of the Church.

Friday, September 13

We have learned of a battle that has just taken place at about 150 lis from here between the soldiers and the Chinese bandits. It seems that many soldiers have been killed and wounded. Some bandits were even captured and God alone knows what is reserved for them. Some of them have been brought to the dispensary, with chains on their ankles, to have their wounds dressed. On their side, the bandits will not be any more indulgent to the soldiers who have fallen into their hands. Like the Indians of America in the first years of the colony, the conquerors cut out the hearts of their victims who manifest bravery and eat them while they are still hot so that they may have the same courage. They tear off the skin in strips and torture them in a thousand ways. It would be impossible to believe such things had we not heard them from the lips of reliable persons. The country-places are overrun by bandits. It is very dangerous to go beyond the city until the sorgho stalks are cut. The bandits hide by troupes and attack the passers-by. Many a time the missionaries have narrowly escaped being struck by the bullets. They have even tried to penetrate into the cities, but this is not very easy since every habitation is protected by a high earthen wall and each family has two or three watch-dogs. The richer families have night-watchmen who make their rounds every hour while beating the *tam tam*.

Tuesday, September 17

We learn that Miss Miao died six days ago. We visited her every week since her baptism. During our last visit she asked if she could not take her beads and Miraculous Medal to her grave. The Chinese virgin asked her if she were afraid to die. "Oh! no," did she answer, "I am not afraid since my heart is pure." A cancer caused her much pain which she endured with wonderful resignation.

Five little newcomers have been enrolled on the baptismal register.

Friday, September 20

A letter from Father Berger to his Superior tells him that he and his companion, Father Bouchard, were seized by the Chinese bandits and despoiled of all their belongings. They were imprisoned for two days and were set at liberty only after they had paid a handsome sum of money. Father Berger is pleading the case with the mandarins of Taonan and he in turn is claiming a heavy indemnity. If the priest wins the case the missionaries will be able to travel without any fear of being molested by the brigands.

Wednesday, October 30

Our little Malea breathes her last this afternoon at four o'clock. She was conscious to the very last moment continuing to repeat aspirations to the Blessed Virgin. The mother, though a pagan, had the mortal remains brought to the Mission Church so that prayers might be recited for her poor child. The coffin was then borne to the cemetery. We have the firm confidence that she already enjoys the beatific vision. May our Lady of the Rosary hearken to the supplications of this humble child by granting to her entire family the grace of conversion.

Thursday, October 31

Dressings and divers treatments during the month: 1,683. Baptisms at the dispensary and at the homes: 60.

Wednesday, November 6

Sister Marie de la Protection to-day presents herself for the first time at the dispensary. She has the happiness of opening Heaven to three little angels.

While we are caring for a poor patient suffering from a cancer and who for twenty days has not taken a morsel of food, a virgin summarily instructs him in the principal truths of our holy religion, and asks him if he wishes to be baptized. "But I am a Christian," does he answer while showing her the Miraculous Medal which he had accepted the evening before. Upon his consent, he is baptized and receives the name of Marie Joseph. May these holy protectors assist him in the *great voyage* that he will soon make.

Six other souls were also purified on the same day.

Tuesday, November 12

In a certain family an adult fifty-three years of age has been baptized. He is a poor tubercular patient who has grown very weak owing to frequent hemorrhages. Despite the difficulty he has in speaking, he manifests his gratitude for our visit, and already knowing something about our holy religion consents to be baptized. May he soon enjoy the happiness that is awaiting him.

Saturday, November 23

The good Master takes pleasure in culling lilies in the mission of Leao Yuan Sien. Yesterday six dying patients were baptized and to-day the youngest of the orphans takes her flight to Heaven. She was baptized the 30th of October by Reverend Father Charest. For the ceremony we dressed her in a little baptismal outfit kindly sent us by a Canadian benefactress. On the parcel which had been prepared with motherly solicitude could be read these words: "For a little Alexandra." The dear child now enjoys the happiness of Heaven. May she remember her charitable benefactress and draw upon her the choicest of favors.

Saturday, November 30

As is the custom in our Community, the entire day is offered in a spirit of thanksgiving..

Dressings and treatments during the month: 1,700. Number of baptisms, children and adults: 70.

Tuesday, December 3

Feast of St. Francis Xavier. We address our humble supplications to this great saint asking for the conversion of the vast Chinese Empire which his dying eyes gazed upon and which he longed to conquer for the true God.

* * *

Letter from Sister St. Anne, (1) Missionary of the Immaculate Conception in Manchuria, to her former Superior

Leao Yuan Sien, December 1, 1929

BELOVED SISTER,

You know a little of the details concerning our arrival here, for you must have received my preceding letters. We did not long enjoy the happiness of living together, "the twelve apostles." On November 13th the first separation took place. Four of our group: Sister St. Mathias, (2) Sister St. Jeanne de Chantal, (3) Sister Marie de la Protection (4) and Sister St. Elizabeth (5) left us to open a dispensary at Pa Mien Tch'eng where Reverend Father Berichon is pastor. Eight of us remain, happy to be together while awaiting the opening of the Fa K'ou Mission to which three or four of us are destined.

I imagine that it will interest you to know just what work the Sisters are doing. Sister Superior and Sister St. Luc spend most of their time at the dispensary. They have sometimes the happiness of baptizing as many as ten dying persons in one day. Patients are never lacking. They

1. Marie Louise Gosselin, St. Sophie d'Halifax
2. Ida Vincent, Gananoque, Ont.
3. Jeanne Caron, Montreal.

4. Cecile Roberge, Quebec.
5. Blanche Ménard, St. Elizabeth.

also visit the homes, often three or four a day which are not always close at hand. In order to visit a patient Sister Superior travelled a distance of thirty li in a cart drawn by oxen!... Besides the dispensary, the correspondence and the daily unforeseen tasks, this dear Sister finds time to help with the sewing and mending, she is everywhere, she is a real mother. Sister St. Luc has been given the titles of *doctor*, pharmacist, secretary, and organist since Sister St. Jeanne de Chantal has left us. What shall I tell you of Sister St. Gerard? We do not know what title to give her as she helps with all the work. Sister St. Vincent de Paul is cook and unawaringly prepares us all kinds of good things. As she lacks many ingredients which



AT THE DISPENSARY OF LEAO YUAN SIEN, MANCHURIA, CHINA

it is impossible to procure in China she is able to show her skill in the art of cooking. Our dear cook is the *baker* at the same time. Sister St. Lazare is sacristan and also does some sewing. Her talent for music won for her the title of *music teacher* of the Mission. Sister St. Denis goes occasionally to the dispensary but most of the time she does sewing on the machine. Sister Marie de la Charité makes herself useful everywhere. She *scolds* a little because the Chinese brooms are not very convenient for tall persons.. Sister St. Anne also goes to the dispensary. I seize every opportunity of making use of my knowledge as pharmacist and nurse. Sometimes also I am obliged to act as surgeon. I learn something new every day. This is the best way to become perfect in one's profession. There are some quite embarrassing cases. At such times the *doctors* hold a consultation and decide upon the best treatment to be given. Our remedies must be as efficacious as those of the Chinese doctors who have a strange way of acting. It seems that they mix together thirty different kinds of powder with which they make an infusion for their patients. They are certain that one of the thirty kinds of powder will cure the disease. Thus the patient has one chance of being cured and twenty-nine chances of being poisoned. Having just arrived what I find the most puzzling is to understand my

patients. When after repeated signs they believe that I have understood I venture to give them the medicine they have asked for but they draw back. It is because they have been telling me of a disease of another person at home. I have been caught so often that now I am always on my guard... On this occasion I learned two words in Chinese: *pieti jen*, meaning another person.

We also have a small hospital wherein we may shelter a few very sick patients.

My letter would not be finished if I did not say a word about our little ones at the Orphanage, three lovely little girls, three, five and eight months of age. The youngest of them who was brought to us a few days after our arrival in Manchuria was baptized the eve of All Saints' Day. Sister St. Gerard unwound the rags in which it was wrapped, and after washing the little one, she dressed it in the nice clothing found in the cases from the Mother-House. Reverend Father Charest who baptized it said after the ceremony, "Really the child did not look Chinese. If we thought she was so beautiful in her long white dress how much more beautiful must her soul have been in the eyes of God after having being purified by the saving waters of Baptism."

It was quite amusing to see the orphans when Sister Superior came to give each one of them a gift from Canada. The older ones received a pair of thick stockings, the others, a warm *scarf*, a *tam*, etc. It is impossible to describe the extreme happiness of all these little folks. The next day one of them came to church wearing her bonnet which she had put on backwards, the other with her little fur coat turned inside out...in China the fur must be worn not on the outside but on the inside. The Chinese are dressed very modestly. The men and the women are dressed alike. The only way the women can be recognized is by their hair and ear-rings.

Friday, November 22nd, we had Mass for the first time in our little chapel. Needless to say that everything therein was very plain. The altar over which we had placed the statue of the Immaculate Conception was decorated with the artificial flowers brought from the Mother-House. On one side of the altar we placed a statue of the Sacred Heart and on the other the statue of St. Joseph. We have moreover a beautiful Infant for Christmas. Ah! dear Sister Superior, we cannot express our happiness to think that God is dwelling with us.

May we beg a share in your prayers, that God's grace upon which we solely depend, will be showered upon us and that we may learn to speak this language as well as elder sisters speak it.

At present what good are we able to do these poor pagans? And there is so much good to be done... Ah! if the Tower of Babel had never existed... and consequently there had been no confusion of tongues, we could begin at once to teach these poor people about God and Our Immaculate Mother.

Your loving Sister of Manchuria,
Sister St. Anne, M. I. C.

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to
Pa Mien Tch'eng, Manchuria*

Wednesday, November 13, 1929

It is on this day dedicated to St. Joseph that we four, Sister St. Mathias, Sister Jeanne de Chantal, Sister Marie de la Protection and Sister St. Elizabeth leave Leao Yuan Sien for Pa Mien Tch'eng to there open a new mission.

This morning at half past nine after having received Reverend Father Lapierre's blessing and paid a visit to the Blessed Sacrament so as to place our trip under the protection of our Heavenly Mother we mount the carriages which are to take us to the station. The separation was most painful since we had enjoyed so much happiness in being the twelve of us together, but since God calls us elsewhere, we go confidently to our new home certain that divine assistance will never fail us. We are conducted thither by Reverend Father Berichon, Pastor of Pa Mien Tch'eng, and Reverend Father Gill who arrived this year. Therefore there will be two priests at the mission.

The train being a good three quarters of an hour late, during this interval, we are objects of curiosity for the numerous throngs at the station. Still we are now quite known here and the remarks are not unfriendly.

For more than an hour and a half, the Chinese country-places present to us beautiful sceneries which, at this time of the year resemble those of Canada. The land despoiled of its crop of "kao leang" now prepares to take its wintry rest. The weather is mild, the sun radiant. We cross the Leao River on a bridge made of strong supports, this is something very remarkable since the Chinese are generally not very scrupulous on this point. A little farther on the train slows up and we are told that we are approaching another bridge, but this time it is not a solid one. We are quite nervous going over it, and even though the river is not very deep we would rather not take a cold bath.

The river beds change yearly, therefore new bridges must be built each time.

We reach Pa Mien Tch'eng at 12.35 P. M. Father Berichon's business-man is awaiting us. After a five minutes' ride in the carriage, we finally reach the mission.

A Chinese virgin, the only one here at present, as well as a Christian, come to welcome us. We then repair to the chapel to there greet our Prisoner of Love. After our visit Father brings us to our new house which we find very nice. It has only one storey and is sixty feet long and twenty feet wide.

During the day a former Christian family composed of the father, mother and three children, who for years have not practised their religion, come to see the Fathers to be instructed in the Christian Doctrine and to resume their religious duties. The oldest child who is thirteen years of age is not baptized. They come to welcome us; we find them very charming. This

event is a cause of great joy for Father and we on our side thank Almighty God for having reserved this happiness for the day of our arrival.

Towards three o'clock the priest's cook brings us our dinner, which we greatly enjoy. We then see to the arrangement of our dormitory. After the spiritual reading this evening we unite at the feet of the statue of the Blessed Virgin to there recite with all possible fervor, our act of consecration. How we implore this good Mother to bless and protect our labors in this land of Pa Mien Tch'eng. Then happy and confident we go to take our night's rest.

Thursday November 14

After having spent a good night we go to hear Mass in the chapel of the Mission. The exterior resembles our own house. The interior is very clean. Repairs were made scarcely two months ago. The altar is very pretty, the walls are white and the windows dark red. The floor is made of brick. As the chapel of the Mission is not heated we are obliged to dress in consequence.

After breakfast Sister Superior gives us "*Deo Gratias*" and we continue to arrange our furniture. Father places at our disposal a good Chinese, very handy, who brings us water, wood and coal and who goes all our messages. As one of our cases was damaged on the way, he repairs it and brings it back to us well arranged. It will serve as a bread-box.

We have also seen what a Chinese cellar is like. To preserve the vegetables the Chinese dig a hole from ten to twelve feet deep in which the vegetables are placed. They make a few trap-doors and reach the cellar by means of a ladder. They are careful to close them every night and cover them with a *chou kai*.

Friday, November 15

The sight of the beautiful snow which is falling this morning greatly rejoices our Canadian hearts and it reminds us of the happy days we spent long ago in our native land. We are told that we shall often have the pleasure of seeing snow, but it does not last.

An old Christian who is visiting here asks which one of us is the "doctor". The poor old woman is sick. So Sister Superior holds her *first consultation*.

Saturday, November 16

This morning we hasten to get settled. When all is finished, Father Berichon accompanied by Father Gill comes to bless the house.

After dinner, Sister Superior and Sister Ste. Jeanne de Chantal, accompanied by a Chinese virgin go to the city to buy curtains. We shall sew them by hand as we have no machine. During the trip they are subjects of public curiosity. The natives have never seen religious, but as a priest is stationed here since the last few months, they are taken for the *chen fou* (Fathers) and they are called thus. The virgin is asked what country

they are from, why they have come, etc. etc. She answers all these questions politely but briefly.

This afternoon, under the auspices of the Blessed Virgin, we begin the study of the Chinese characters. It is rather confusing but we hope that with the help of our Immaculate Mother and in doing our very best we shall finally learn this interesting language.

Wednesday, December 4

Reverend Father Lapierre who is on his way to Leao Yuan Sien stops at Pa Mien Tch'eng. He goes to the dispensary and towards four o'clock comes to pay us a little visit.

Saint Joseph sends us seven patients to-day.

Thursday, December 5

We commence the triduum preparatory to the feast of the Immaculate Conception. On this occasion Father Berichon comes to give us a conference.

We register eight patients the majority of whom are soldiers who live in a house facing the dispensary. All the soldiers wounded this summer by the brigands have been placed there.

Saturday, December 7

The number of patients increase to-day, they number eleven. One of them who came to see us the very first day returns to-day to thank us, he is cured.

Sunday, December 8

With what joy have our missionary hearts of the Immaculate Virgin awaited this beautiful day! We prepared ourselves by making with all possible fervor the triduum of silence and recollection prescribed by our Constitutions.

According to the desire of our Reverend Pastor we have a first High Mass sung at 8.15 A. M. in the little chapel of the Mission. It is also the first that Father has celebrated one since his arrival in China four years ago. The officiating priest was assisted by a master of ceremonies, a censer-bearer and acolytes. Never since our arrival in the missions had we assisted at a Mass celebrated with such pomp. It was most touching and pious. There was a sermon on the day's feast. The Pastor exhorted the faithful to have great confidence in the Blessed Virgin. The congregation was composed of about twenty Christians, recollected and attentive to all the liturgical ceremonies. There has not been a residing priest here for the past ten years owing to the dearth of missionaries. A priest would come once a year and during a few days would baptize, preach, hear confessions and visit the sick. It is evident that under such conditions the Christians could not remain very fervent, they were plunged as it were in the pagan

mass which surrounded them and without apostatizing directly, finally neglected their religion.

Towards two o'clock in the afternoon, Father Berichon brings us with his festal greetings, a lovely clock. What a surprise!... Sister Superior longed to have one and just the other day she said, "If we only had a clock that strikes we would be able to say the prayer for the hour just as at the Mother-House." And to-day, feast of the Immaculate Conception we receive one! We profer a grateful thanks to this good Mother who spoils her little missionaries and to our good Pastor who is most happy to see us so well pleased.

Monday, December 18

Father Berichon goes to Mukden for medicine. We hasten to make the necessary preparations so that upon his return we shall be able to open the dispensary.

Sister Superior repairs the roses which Father received this year from Canada and which were crushed on the way. This interests the Chinese virgin as she has charge of the sacristy. She asks that we tell her when we are about to make flowers as she wishes to know how we go about it.

A Christian who has a sore finger comes to the house to be treated. Thus Sister Superior dresses a wound for the first time.

Wednesday, December 20

We are making tiny lilies to-day with which we shall adorn the statue of the Blessed Virgin to-morrow. Not having the necessary material we use for the corollas, the blank sheets found in pamphlets; for the pistils, the wire used for the tags of our valises. We have more difficulty in procuring the green paper for the leaves and stems. We are obliged to use very common circular paper which tears almost as soon as it is looked at...

Our statue of the Blessed Virgin is six feet high, and our lilies, very small. With childlike happiness, we place them in the vases (two empty spools) covered with white paper. To-morrow the Virgin of the Temple will receive the homages of her little family of Pa Mien Tch'eng.

* * *

TSONGMING, HAIMEN VICARIATE, CHINA

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Tsongming

Thursday, September 12, 1929

After breakfast two poor little dying babies dressed in rags are brought to the dispensary. Sister Marie de Sion baptizes them, and before she returns to the house they have taken their flight heavenward. At ten

o'clock nine others arrive. Sister is delighted, she wished to receive " twelve stars " in honor of Mary.

Sister Ste-Helene speaks about the older orphans at recreation. It is said that we all have in us the germ of every vice and that it is in childhood especially that it is manifest. Our little cherubims of the Holy Childhood are *greedy*... A child three years of age arrived at the foundling-home not long ago, its foster-parents no longer wished to keep it. He took the habit of sitting on the door-step as soon as breakfast was over to await the dinner, and no sooner was dinner over than he would sit down again to await the supper. Whenever he would see a Sister passing he would lament and cry saying: *yao che*, I want to eat. It is worth while seeing his glee when the meal is being served. It does not take him long to empty his bowl of rice once it is placed before him. After a few lessons Sister Ste. Helene succeeds in making him lower his chop sticks and make the Sign of the Cross before beginning to eat. Another, a little older, he is at least five years of age, is a little capricious after being sick. Not wishing to eat rice we gave him a piece of bread. Now when he wants to eat bread he places himself near the Sisters' apartments and cries *loud enough to be heard*. She knows full well that the piece of bread will come. Poor children! We must admit that they are not spoiled in the same manner as our little brothers and sisters of Canada. How many would take pity on them were they to see them devour a miserable piece of bread or a dry potato. Such food is a treat for them, and we have the pleasure of being able to give it to them sometimes. They genarelly eat rice and salted fish and eggs once in awhile.

This evening we register fifteen babies at the Foundling-Home. Mary has more than the twelve coveted stars.

Monday, September 16

A poor old man suffering from more than one infirmity brings a baby to the foundling-home and as usual asks for the twenty cents. He is not able to work. Most probably the twenty cents will be spent for rice. He sees Sister Marie de Sion dressing wounds at the dispensary and asks if she would see to an abcess on one of his feet. Sister willingly sets to work and even completely removes the abcess. He wishes to reward her and asks her to keep the baby for nothing. Sister says that she has never before received such a beautiful recompense...

Wednesday, September 25

To-day and next Saturday are the days chosen for the fast-days of the Jubilee. Everybody wishes to gain the indulgences: teachers, pupils and domestics. There is no breakfast, the first meal is at noon. Instead of the alms of the Jubilee the Way of the Cross is made immediately after dinner. There is very much fervor, these poor people devoid of earthly wealth find it much easier to serve God.

The repairs are still going on, there is always something to be arranged and the workmen are often delayed. We are in a land where the holy virtue

of patience must be practised. For the beginning we must let the good Chinese have their own way, perhaps later on they will let us have our way. I do not wish to insinuate that our laborers are indolent. They work very hard and use their strength where in Canada we would spare ours by means of machines or at least by means of beasts of burden. They are more to be pitied than blamed.

Monday, September 30

Babies received at the foundling-home during the month	84
“ baptized at the foundling-home and at the dispensary	41
Dressings at the dispensary	142
Remedies given	18
Teeth extracted	7

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* *

Manila, Philippine Islands

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

Friday, July 26 1929

A patient seventy-four years of age has been at the Charity Ward for some time past. He was baptized and even lead a good christian life as long as his wife was living, but once she was gone this old man thought no longer of his Easter Duty nor of any of his religious practices, and it is thirty years since his wife died!... He was obliged to refresh his memory in order to make a good confession... But as he had the good-will to do so, God came to his assistance...

Yesterday evening while passing close to his bed, the Sister infirmarian said to him, "The priest is going to come to-morrow, think of your Confession, of your sins, and above all excite yourself to contrition." "I have no need of exciting myself to contrition," does he answer "for when I do something wrong I regret it right away..."

At the end of this month we find that in the private rooms and wards several marriages were rehabilitated, that a number of patients, returned to God's grace at the moment of death after not having practised their religion for years and that there were twelve persons baptized, babies and adults.

Saturday, July 27

In a letter from our beloved Mother we learn that our dear little Sister St. Lucy has passed away. Although we expected her death, this news breaks our hearts... This little Sister was so good! We can still see her kind and loving smile, this smile which was the expression of her thoughtful and charitable soul... With the greatest of affection we offer the prayers prescribed by our Rule, and we do not fail to ask our little Sister to assist us in our apostolic labors. What will she not do for us, this little Sister

A l'hôpital
Chinois
Manille, P. I.
Elèves
Gardiennes-malades
1ère Année



Elèves
Gardiennes-malades
reçues dans la
Congrégation
des Enfants de
Marie

Groupe de
1er Communiquants
du 1er nov. 1929.
à l'hôpital
Chinois
Manille, P. I.



AT THE CHINESE HOSPITAL, MANILA, P. I. NURSES-IN-TRAINING, 1ST YEAR
NURSES-IN-TRAINING RECEIVED AS MEMBERS OF THE SODALITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN
THE FIRST COMMUNION CLASS AT THE CHINESE HOSPITAL, MANILA, P. I., NOVEMBER 1ST, 1929

who was so desirous of going to the Missions! One of our Sisters recalls that her eyes were filled with tears when she left her last year at Nominig. "How happy and blessed you are, Sister," did she exclaim, "every day I shall thank God for the great grace He has granted you, that of going to the Missions... How beautiful are the Missions!... How sublime it is to go to save souls! It is worth while living when we have such a beautiful vocation!..." And just to think that there are so many healthy girls who lead useless if not guilty lives...

Thursday, August 1

This morning we were awakened by the moans of a poor Chinese mother whose sixteen-year-old daughter, Anaisse, had just died. This young girl came to the Hospital a few days ago for an operation which at first did not appear serious but later complications set in leaving her in a most critical condition. One of our Sisters on night duty asks the father if he is willing to have the child baptized. (The members of this family have great confidence in us. We knew that the poor father would give his consent for he is fully persuaded that we wish naught else but the good of his children.) "But is my little girl going to die?" he asks sobbingly. "I do not know, but she is very sick. Holy Baptism will not make her die, and if she dies, it will lead her to heaven, to God, where she will enjoy untold happiness forever..." "Alright, baptize her," he answers. Sister adds, "Will you be my interpreter, your little Anaisse will understand you better than she will understand me..." He willingly agreed to do so and needless to say Anaisse accepted everything that was asked of her. After giving her a brief instruction concerning the principal truths of our holy religion and having her recite the Act of Contrition Sister Marie des Victoires pours the saving waters on the child's brow. Hardly twenty minutes had elapsed when she grew worse. The mother was called for at once and arrived crying bitterly. The father tried to console her by telling her that Sister had given their child some holy water which was going to make her happy... oh! so happy... And picking up the miraculous medal that Sister had placed on the child and which had slipped down, he said to his wife, "Pin this medal on Anaisse's clothing, it will bring her good fortune..." The mother did so, sobbing as bitterly as before. In despair she kept calling to her child to try to hold back the life which was slowly ebbing away. Poor mother! if we could only give her christian hope!...

Sunday, August 4

If the Chinese Hospital of Manila does not bear the official title of a Catholic hospital, it certainly has a good reputation as such. A proof of this is that a patient comes this morning, not for treatment but to go to confession and receive Holy Communion!... Poor old man!... He is not one who has been pampered in his life judging by the care he is given in his old age. Sister Superior who receives him asks the people who accompany him this question, "Is your father able to walk. Do you wish him

to be placed on a stretcher?" "No, no," they reply, "he is able to walk!" He could hardly put one foot in front of the other. He was almost at death's door! "What doctor shall we call?" do we inquire. They reply, "There is no need of a doctor. He has only come to go to confession and receive Holy Communion. He will then die!" We sent for a priest who heard his confession and gave him Holy Viaticum... While the priest recited the prayers the good old man gratefully kissed the blessed stole. He was beaming with happiness.

Sunday, August 11

Occasionally Sister Marie des Victoires has little tribulations with "her parishioners" of the Charity Ward, but they are *real good* just the same and let no one say or think anything bad about them!

Last night she invited one of her new neophytes to come to Mass this morning. After breakfast while on her rounds, expecting to hear exclamations of joy from this old man she instead heard him calling in an angry voice, "Come in, come in Sister!" (the only words he knows in English). "But what is the matter?" asks our Sister. He replies, "You asked me to go to Mass but you did not tell me how to behave. What did I look like this morning among the others? Like a person who knows nothing. You told Las Bias (one of his companions) to kneel and bow down his head at the elevation of the Sacred Host who is the Great Master of Heaven. But you did not tell me anything, and when it was all over I still remained in the same position. Oh! but I was ashamed, yes really ashamed!"

During this unexpected fit of anger Sister Marie des Victoires remained stupefied, not without remarking that her *parishioner* holds a little spite... To crown misfortune, Bernardo, the oldest Christian in the Charity Ward comes also to say a word which is not of a nature to improve matters. "When I go to Mass," he says with pride, "I am placed in a wheel-chair, one of the Sisters lends me a prayer book and marks the places where I am to read..."

It took a long time to pacify our aged neophyte. In the afternoon when Sister Marie des Victoires passed by his door he still muttered: *Yao tsan!* (Oh, but I was ashamed!...) *Yao tsan!* Oh! these poor old Chinese!

Monday, August 12

Just lately a little Chinese girl wrapped up in a dirty rag was brought to us. She was so frail and miserable that we immediately made her an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven. We named her Cecilia. May she obtain from her holy patroness the same grace for a goodly number of her compatriots.

Wednesday August 14

This afternoon five of our nurses-in-training are baptized in our chapel by Reverend Father Becke, S. V. D. Upon their arrival here in May these young girls belonged to the so-called Aglipayan religion. It was not a

difficult matter to turn them from this absurd religion of which they were not very fervent members, which is the case with a considerable number of the Filipinos. If I were to tell you of the misfortune caused by this strange sect you would hardly believe it. Let us praise our Immaculate Mother for having snatched five new victims from it.

Thursday, August 15

We have a beautiful festal bouquet to offer to our Blessed Lady — six new living tabernacles, the five baptized yesterday and another of our pupils who had never practised her religion. The First Communion ceremony as that of Holy Baptism is quite simple but very pious. Our chapel is adorned with white lilies, ferns and sky-blue lights. To-day's chosen ones wear their white and blue costumes and on their necks is hung a blue ribbon bearing the medal of the Immaculate Conception. Their faces beamed with the calm joy of the souls who possess Him who is their All.

After Holy Mass they make their thanksgiving in common. Our Holy Father the Pope, the pastors of the Church, all missionaries, the poor sinners the infidels, the Poor Souls in Purgatory, all are remembered in the prayers of our dear pupils to whom the Divine Master can refuse nothing to-day. Beloved Mother, be assured that they prayed for you with all their hearts.

Saturday, October 19

A few days ago Bernardo, our aged patient died in the Charity Ward. Reverend Father Becke after hearing his confession exclaimed, "Oh! what a beautiful soul!" It may be this good old man who is scattering flowers on the Charity Ward for since his death there has been a real change. All the patients desire to be instructed and to be baptized... "Did you see," asked one of his companions, "the priest, the Sisters, and nurses praying beside Bernardo's body? It is nice to die a Catholic. Is it not?..." One of them whom Sister Marie des Victoires had baptized while in a dying condition became quite well, but did not wish to hear of the Catholic religion. But now he also has completely changed. We begin to instruct him in the truths of our holy religion and the priest comes to confer Solemn Baptism upon him, hears his confession and has him make his First Communion. His happiness cannot be expressed. He who is usually sad, smiles to-day and continually repeats, "Oh, how happy I am!" On noticing the white flowers with which Sister St. Gabriel decorated his tray he is overjoyed and exclaims, "Oh, the Sisters are so nice!..." And how often did he kiss the Crucifix at the head of his bed which he had abandoned for such a long time.

Thursday, October 24

This evening two of our Sisters arrive from Canada, Sister St. Pierre Apotre and Sister St. Dominique. How overjoyed we are to hear them

speak of our beloved Mother, of our dear Sisters, of our relatives, of our country!

Friday, November 1

During the first Mass which is said at 5.30 we sing the triumphs of the saints. At the 7 o'clock Mass seven little girls and three little boys, Filipinos, make their First Holy Communion. There is nothing more touching than to hear these pure voices calling Jesus into their hearts. The priest who celebrated Holy Mass, a young missionary, has been one of our patients for the past few weeks but is now recuperating. He tells us that since he has come to the Missions he has never seen a more touching ceremony than that of this morning.

Two of our houseboys, Joventio and Julian also have the happiness of receiving Holy Communion for the first time.

The renewal of the baptismal vows and the receiving of the Scapular of the Sacred Heart take place this evening after Benediction. Joventio, who received Holy Communion for the first time this morning remains close beside his brother Beato who made his First Holy Communion a few months ago. Sister Assistant notices that instead of singing the hymn in honor of the Sacred Heart as the others he bows his head. After the ceremony she meets him. He is all in tears and tries to escape the notice of his companions. "What is the matter?" she asks. "You have been quarrelling again?" (He has a very quick temper). "No Sister," he replies, "I am crying because I am so happy. My brother and I are real Christians now. It is our Grandmother who has merited us such happiness..." And he again bursts into tears.

Monday, November 4

Sister St. Dominique who arrived in Manila on October 24th is overjoyed. For the first time she baptizes a dying baby... May it be followed by many others!

Tuesday, November 5

On October 30th a child three years of age, suffering from pneumonia, was brought to the hospital. It was a serious case, but we had hopes of obtaining this cure. This morning we find that meningitis has set in. The father is grief-stricken for already one of his children has died of this same sickness, and this little one is the only boy. We watch the child closely so as not to let it die without being baptized. After a short consultation the doctor declares that no hope remains. Upon hearing this declaration Sister St. Jean de l'Eucharistie comes immediately to the child. The dejected pagan father silently remains by the bedside of his dying son. Sister says, "Your little boy is called Tiburce. That is a saint's name. Was he baptized in the Catholic Church?" "No," he replies. Sister continues, "Do you want me to baptize your child? This will not make him die any sooner and he will be sure to have a beautiful place in heaven..." "No

Sister, do not baptize him," he answers. Sister St. Jean de l'Eucharistie begged the Blessed Virgin to inspire her the means she should take to baptize him just the same when the father said all of a sudden, "Alright Sister, baptize him. The regenerating waters were poured making the little one a child of God and of the Church. He received the name of Jean Marie Tiburce and at five o'clock he left for heaven.

Thursday, November 21. The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin.

This morning at Holy Mass we have a special remembrance for our dear little Sister novices whose patronal feast we celebrate. May the holy little Virgin of the Temple make their hearts like unto her own, that the Holy Ghost may delight to dwell therein.

We also pray for our nurses on probation who receive their uniform today. Twenty-three of them receive it at two o'clock this afternoon from the hands of Sister Superior. Sister Assistant then speaks to them of the noble role they are to fill as Catholic nurses. Then these young girls go processionally to the chapel to consecrate their new costume, their studies and their entire nursing career to Mary, their Queen and Mother. Our little Filipinos are delighted... like the novices when they take Holy Habit!...

Sunday, November 24

A young Chinese suffering from pneumonia was admitted to Ward 25 a few days ago. His is in a very serious condition and since yesterday has become quite homesick. "The air of my native land," he says, "will certainly do me good." The doctor tells him that if he attempts to make the voyage he will certainly die. But despite this warning he feels that he must leave. As he is well disposed and desires to be baptized we give him his passport for heaven before he leaves the Hospital. This evening while we are at supper we receive a telephone message in which we learn that our poor man died upon reaching the boat. How we thank God for having inspired us to baptize him before his departure. It is not his earthly but his heavenly home that the good Master wished him to reach.

Monday, November 25

In Ward 22 a Filipino sixty years of age is in the last stages of tuberculosis. The morning of the 20th as he grew worse, we spoke to him of confession. "It is a long time since I have been to confession," he replied, "leave me alone..." We offered him a miraculous medal of the Blessed Virgin which he refused saying, "Keep your medal..." A little later the medal was secretly sewn under his pillow and on the Feast of the Presentation we asked the Blessed Virgin to give us this soul. The priest having come on the 22nd to see other patients we invited him to visit this poor man. Our Blessed Lady had accomplished her task. Gladly did he welcome him. He was at supper but left everything aside so as to go to confession. The next day he received Holy Communion and was anointed.

Wednesday, November 27

Feast of the Miraculous Medal. It is our day of gratitude to Mary for the numerous favors she obtains for us by means of the miraculous medal.

Friday, November 29

On the 26th a Filipino suffering from an attack of pleurisy was brought to the Hospital. The poor unfortunate was married outside of the Church seven years ago and has since practised no religion. We send for the priest who visits him, hears his confession, and as he is in danger of death gives him Holy Communion and anoints him after having him promise that he will be married by a priest as soon as his wife can come. She arrived the next day. He asked for a priest and before his arrival he enquired very often if he had come, so much was he afraid of dying in this state. How one must feel at the hour of death the need of being in accordance with the law of God...

Tuesday, December 3

A woman comes this morning carrying a candle decorated with little blue and white flowers. She asks for Doctor Tantoco. Upon his arrival she gracefully presents the candle to him saying that the baby of whom he is the godfather has died. At first the doctor does not understand what she is talking about but he soon recalls that a dying baby was brought to the clinic last week. Sister baptized it and as the doctor was there attending to it, the mother thought that he acted as sponsor and it is the custom here to give the godfather, after the death of the child, the candle which is supposed to have burnt during the baptism ceremony. Sister inherited the candle which she lighted and placed before the statue of the Blessed Virgin in thanksgiving for the grace accorded to this happy little one.

Friday, December 6

Last night two dying adults were baptized and this morning after being made a child of God a little one-year-old baby left this land of exile.

Sunday, December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Yesterday was a day of recollection for our pupils and ourselves. And this morning with what love do we sing the praises of our Immaculate Patroness. Oh! if we could but make this pure and beautiful Virgin loved and praised by all hearts!

This afternoon His Grace Archbishop Finneman comes to confirm five of our pupils, three children from the neighborhood and our little Theresa who is but two and a half years of age. (Here the children are confirmed before making their First Communion). It was really charming to see this little tot, dressed all in white and wearing a long white veil, kneeling before His Grace to receive the Holy Chrism. And this she did with such sedateness... Really she made us think of the little Virgin of the Temple...

After this ceremony twenty-four of our pupils were received as members of the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin. In fatherly accents His Grace exhorted them to remain true daughters of the Immaculate Virgin, to seek counsel from her in all things and to ever take her as their model. Then Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament took place. We implored the Divine Master in blessing us to make us ever more and more true missionaries of the Immaculate Conception.

A little Chinese girl receives Baptism and is given the name of Marie-Ange. Shortly after she leaves for heaven. We offer this little soul to Our Immaculate Mother.

* * *

VANCOUVER

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

Tuesday, October 8, 1929

What happiness does Sister Marie de la Visitation to-day enjoy! She has the signal privilege of giving a soul to God. Since the 14th of last month Miss Masuyama, a young Japanese lady, has been wasting away with consumption. She does not realize the serious condition she is in, but the doctor who is treating her declares that she will not live longer than six weeks. This person so delicate in health has also a very delicate way about her. Since her very first days at our hospital she has received the Sisters most favorably. While conversing with her the Sister infirmarian soon discovers that she is a candid and good little soul. We discreetly speak to her about God and gladly does she listen to us. We give her a miraculous medal and upon accepting it she asks while pointing to a Crucifix on the wall of her room, "Is that His Mother?" The Mother and Son watched over this soul confided to their care. One day she asked the Sister infirmarian to place the picture of the Sacred Heart near her bed while she was saying her grace which to all appearances consisted merely in joining her hands.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon we learn that our dear patient is to be taken to the sanatorium. We immediately think of her soul. As she will leave us in half an hour we have no time to lose. The priest who comes to see the patients is absent and as we cannot wait until the last minute to baptize her as her pagan parents will have arrived, Sister Marie de la Visitation goes to her room, gives her a lesson in Catechism and pours the regenerating waters on her brow. She names her Marie Theresa. Words fail to express the happiness of this new child of God. Our Sister infirmarian leaves her for a few moments in intimate conversation with her Heavenly Father and then returns to give her a picture of the Blessed Virgin.

Monday, October 14

Yesterday evening Sister Superior baptized two dying patients, two more souls for God. Oh! how we would like to cast throngs of these poor

dear souls into the loving and merciful arms of their Heavenly Father! One of the patients baptized last night has died. How grace has transformed these souls, yesterday in the bonds of paganism, to-day joyous and free...

Monday, October 21

"I baptized two dying patients," does Sister Superior joyfully exclaim at recreation. This news greatly rejoices us. She gives us a few details of the death of these poor Chinese whom she had made two Christians. One of them, sixty-four years of age came to our hospital Saturday evening, suffering from ulcers and in a very critical condition. Fearing that he would not last over night, Sister Superior did not delay in visiting him in order to give him a few instructions in the truths of our holy religion. Showing him the crucifix she explained to him the mystery of the Redemption. What was her happiness on seeing that this poor patient found it quite interesting to hear tell of *Ye so* (Jesus) who had loved him so much. But he was still very much afraid. "Am I not too old? Will he accept me?" "Oh yes, replied Sister Superior, Jesus has a special love for old people and children." It greatly pleased him to hear this and he said to Sister, "By and by." Sister Superior left him imploring life for his soul as well as for his body. Her prayers were heard. The patient lived all day yesterday and at 8 o'clock in the evening when she came again to speak to him about God he was quite willing to be baptized, and not venturing to wait for a priest as death was fast approaching she baptized him immediately. With happiness he repeated, "Jesus, Oh! I love Him!... Will He come for me to-morrow?" And a soft light shone in his dying eyes. A few hours later this soul took its flight to its peaceful heavenly abode.

The other baptism was that of a poor Chinese who was brought to us in an ambulance a little after midnight. There was not the least movement in the poor moribund's body save a gentle heaving of the breast indicating that some life still remained. On the threshold of eternity he received his passport for heaven. What acts of virtue merited him the grace of predestination. God alone knows. But how fortunate is this poor Chinese disinherited of all earthly goods! And how happy are we the little laborers of the Immaculate Virgin!...

Wednesday, October 23

Towards half past ten Mrs. Leblanc brings us some nice little herrings. This will make a good meal for our personnel. A little later a benefactor

sends us some meat for our old people and patients. Our good Father St. Joseph has also inspired other generous persons to send us some clothing for our old people. Oh, how grateful we are, for so much clothes are needed! Every old person who dies must have a burial outfit and what would we do if we did not have gifts such as these from time to time? Moreover for the patients with contagious diseases we need much cotton for bandages and lint which we must throw away each time we dress a wound. But God sees to our needs. In what distress should we find ourselves if we did not rely on His Providence!

Wednesday, October 30

Every Wednesday we receive some gift from St. Joseph. To-day Mr. R. P. Lamontagne sends us a supply of apples.

Report of St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital, Vancouver YEAR 1929

Patients received.....	162
Operations.....	30
Wounds dressed	1,664
Solemn baptisms	15
Baptisms in articulo mortis	66



Mary is always ready to assist the sinner.

The Blessed Virgin has a Mother's interest in each one of her children.

May we who remain at home not ask ourselves: "What is our duty to those who in a certain way are our own flesh and blood, who have made, and will make in the future, the sacrifice of their lives in the mission fields? To what extent can we help them?.."

Mgr. J. T. Mc Nicholas, Archbishop of Cincinnati, U. S. A.

It is late perhaps for many, life's day is declining, but instead of giving away to sadness, dear friends of the Missions, rejoice and be glad, for on departing from this world, you will behold all the souls whom you have saved and helped by your alms; they will come to meet yours to conduct it to the celestial court promised to the merciful.

Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

Dedicated to our dear Parents

Wednesday, November 20, 1929



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

St. Bernard.

'Tis the vigil of the Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin in the Temple and also the vigil of the novices' feast!... How mysterious is everything!... However, so as not give way to too many distractions and as a preparation for this beautiful feast, we recite the Rosary, repeat many ejaculations in honor of our admirable little Patroness and sing pious hymns whilst our needles ply through wool or through linen. From time to time a few little sisters "in black" upon a given signal leave the work-room. Where are they going? To their charges!... Hardly, they have left us all

the work on the first floor and have cancelled all our music lessons for to-day. They therefore have the second floor all to themselves... so much the better for them and for ourselves also!... At a certain hour almost all our dear little sisters disappear... Their liveliness and serious countenances cause us to smile. We also have been postulants and how happy we then were to give our big sisters a surprise!...

The clock strikes seven! The solemn moment has come!... We are invited to assemble in the music room where under the tender gaze of our loving little Patroness, the Virgin of the Temple, we assist at a pious and most pleasant concert given by our dear postulants. The prelude consists of a beautiful duet. Next on the programme is a song entitled "Peace and Joy" wherein are enumerated the joys of Mary's Dovecot and in which is wished to the happy Doves of the Immaculate the realization of their most cherished hopes. Needless to say that the first and foremost is to make profession. "Mary as a Child" (in three acts) places before our eyes the beautiful virtues of the humble little Virgin when she unawaringly prepared herself for the sublime mission of Mother of God and coredemptrix of the whole human race. Oh! what a model for Our Lord's betrothed, for the future missionaries to pagan lands...

Between the acts, a pretty piece of music is played on the piano and then an eloquent recitation is given, entitled: "Jesus preaches to the little Birds" and it so happens that the Divine Preacher shows a special preference for the "dove". Its purity, candor and simplicity doubtlessly remind Him of the virtues which He admires in His Blessed Mother, the masterpiece of His power and goodness. We do not fail to draw a lesson from each piece and we count upon the Blessed Virgin to help us to put it into practice.

The last song, "Convent Bells," is also to the glory of our Blessed Mother. To crown this beautiful feast "Offices" are distributed to Mary's Court. One will be the Angel of Humility, one the Angel of good-will and others Angels of work, gratitude, kindness, etc., etc., In order that our loving Queen may be satisfied with her "pages of honor" we place the functions confided to us under her tender care.

But this is not all, for our Mistress tells us that she has kept the best part of the celebration for dessert. She shows us a very pretty little azure blue box tied with silver cord from which she takes out tiny cards on which there is a picture of the Blessed Virgin, all adorned with golden designs. On each card is denoted a virtue to be practised in order to please Mary. This precious gift comes from our dear Mother. Being at the moment with our dear sick Sisters of Nomining, she is unable to be with us as in former years, but for all this she does not forget her little ones of the Dovecot. Her thoughtful present which deeply touches us is a proof of it. Yes, despite her numerous occupations, she thinks of everything that may please each one of her children. Really, we wonder how she can see to so many things at once... It is indeed true that God places in a mother's heart a capacity of love and devotedness which may be found nowhere else.

Uniting in our hearts the cherished names of those who procure us such happiness, we implore the sweet Child Mary to kindly pay herself our immense debt of gratitude, while with our whole hearts we repeat after her: Magnificat! Magnificat!

Tuesday, November 21

The feast whose prelude we so enjoyed yesterday, continues with the same filial piety. How sweet it is to celebrate the feast of our Mother and Queen!... On reaching the chapel we imagine that we are about to enter into a garden of lilies in the midst of which the little Virgin appears radiant in her gentle modesty and loving candor.

Reverend Father Derome, Pastor of the parish, kindly comes to celebrate Holy Mass in our chapel for the novices' intentions!... While the Adorable Victim is offered especially for us we avail ourselves of the opportunity of formulating our requests. To-day as nothing is refused us here below we think that in heaven we are treated the same since the Blessed Virgin deigns to be herself our Mediatrix.

After breakfast, our Reverend Pastor comes to give us a holiday. Following the example of the Good Shepherd the zealous priest speaks to us on spiritual subjects, gives us good advice and arouses our ardor for our sanctification. After this little serious conversation he begins joking and tells us stories which make us laugh heartily... Towards the middle of the forenoon he leaves us after having given us his blessing and wishing us a happy holiday.

We spend one of the most joyful days. We have the privilege of spending a great part of it before the Blessed Sacrament exposed and before our little Patroness, for to-day only the novices make the Guard of Honour. Groups

of four replace each other every half hour. Since morning our younger sisters have filled all our charges while we are assigned the duty of amusing ourselves and of praying fervently.

It is thus that our lives glide happily away beneath the loving gaze of the Immaculate and surrounded by tender devoted superiors and loving sisters. O most loving Lord, how true it is that Thy yoke is sweet and Thy burden light. And how we appreciate the hundred-fold which Thou hast promised and which Thou givest unceasingly!...

Sunday, November 24

Immediately after the nine o'clock exercises the bell rings to announce a holiday in honor of St. Cecilia whose feast we have delayed in celebrating and of St. Catherine whose feast we anticipate... This is because we are able to celebrate the feasts better on Sunday and you would have to see how the postulants and novices amuse themselves to-day to know that the time is well employed.

To honor the patroness of musicians we play a long list of preludes, nocturnes, duets and marches on the pianos and other musical instruments. Dissonant and false notes are played occasionally. These must cause the celestial artist to smile pitifully but dear St. Cecilia certainly must be lenient.. And we are encouraged by the thought that one day in the heavenly courts we shall assist at the most melodious concerts. In waiting let us not forget that our souls are the instruments which, touched by divine grace, are capable of producing melodies which will be all the more exquisite when their fibres have been in constant harmony with the Holy Will of God.

As to the virgin St. Catherine we ask her to give us a little of her philosophy in religious matters in order that one day we may be able to convince the poor pagans of the truths of our holy religion by the efficacy of our explanations and reasonings.

Well did we think that the solemnness of St. Catherine's Day ended with this but a delicious aroma coming from the kitchen tells us that at the novitiate as in our homes the least details which may give the children pleasure are observed. We have a real treat of delicious toffy. How we thank God for His delicate thoughtfulness towards those who believed that they had *renounced everything* to follow Him!

Thursday, November 27

The Feast of the Miraculous Medal is most dear to the hearts of the children of the Immaculate Conception. What favors do we not owe to it?... It is thanks to this precious talisman that our Sisters see such marvellous physical and moral cures accomplished, especially in the distant missions. And to-day we feel the need of unceasingly repeating our grateful thanks to the Immaculate Virgin for the miracles wrought by the wearing of this little medal.

Our Miraculous Medal!... It is almost as dear to us as our Rosary!... With respect and filial love do we press it to our hearts just as the exile prizes the portrait of his beloved mother who awaits him in the homeland.

Monday, December 2

At noon our Mistress says, "The Blessed Virgin has come for our little sister Blain, she died at the hospital... Pray very fervently for her so that if she has to spend a short while in Purgatory she will be in heaven for the feast of the Immaculate Conception!..." How fleeting is life and how unwise we should be to become attached to it! Quite naturally do we pass this reflection when thinking of our dear little sister who left us hardly ten days ago. She had the firm hope of soon returning to the Dovecot. It was this lively confidence that gave her the courage to leave the Novitiate. She generously made the sacrifice just as she did four months previous when she left her home and dear ones. She was determined to become a missionary. And was not this also the Holy Will of God in leading her into a dwelling other than that of her parents to prepare her for the great voyage to eternity and to give her a little of the merit of the apostle dying far from his native land?... How unknown are the designs of Divine Providence?.. We shall ever keep a sweet remembrance of the little sister snatched from our fraternal affection. Her piety, love of duty, submission, good humor and admirable charity greatly edified us. While offering her our pious suffrages we beg her to protect from above, her humble little sisters here below.

Tuesday, December 3

Kneeling before the image of St. Francis Xavier we offer him our homages and implore his assistance certain that he will listen to our prayers. Should he not help in a special manner those who following his example wish to give their lives for the salvation of souls. We beg him to ask the Immaculate Virgin to enroll under her white banner an ever-increasing number of truly apostolic missionaries.

Sunday, December 8. Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The moment the bell awakens us we repeat this customary prayer, "Behold me, O Lord to accomplish Thy Holy Will!"... And immediately realizing that it is the 8th of December it is with joy that we feel the love of this Divine Will which to-day invites us to celebrate with an ardent and filial piety the feast of Our Mother who prefers the glorious title of "the Immaculate Conception" to those of the Queen of Heaven and Mistress of Earth.

On entering the chapel we imagine that the blue skies have opened and a little corner of our heavenly home is being revealed to us. The altar is decked with beautiful white lilies and in the midst of this pure efflorescence softly glitter numerous little blue lights. To the right, the statue of Our Mother is surrounded by lilies, ferns and pretty white and blue lights. "Thou art all fair, O Mary!" With all our hearts do we sing to-day these words of praise which the sacred liturgy places on our lips. Oh! yes, thou art all fair... Thou art purer than the large white snowflakes that fall at this moment. Purer art thou than the lily. And when we try to picture

to ourselves what thou must be in the eyes of all the angels and saints, in the eyes of God Himself who contemplates His master-piece in thee, we are overjoyed to think that thou art also our Mother... that we are thy children, consecrated in a special manner to thy Immaculate Conception, particularly vowed to make thee "known from Pole to Pole!"

How happy we are throughout the entire day. In the course of the afternoon, the sun comes out in all its brightness, and the snow which continues to fall sparkles as diamonds in its rays appearing to us as particles of our good Mother's festal bouquet which she lets fall upon earth in order to rejoice the hearts of her children. And the pureness of these flakes which slowly descend from the celestial spheres, the white coverings they make on the neighboring houses, the graceful little flowers of frost that appear on the branches of the trees, all this speaks to our souls of innocence, purity and candor.

After having spent a pleasant evening all to the glory of the Immaculate Virgin, we repair to the chapel a few minutes earlier than usual for the night prayer and there in our little azure sanctuary we again voice one of our pious hymns to our Queen and Mother.

Wednesday, December 11

Upon an invitation from our officiating sister a whole flight of doves mount to the newly-constructed storey of our house to do a little cleaning during the absence of the workmen. There is much lime, mortar and wood lying everywhere. We immediately take our brooms and set to work with such zeal that our dear sister is obliged to restrain us for fear that we become asphyxiated by the clouds of cement and dust which we raise.

At the other end of the room other little sisters solemnly carry small boards... "This continual travelling back and forth, these serious countenances remind me," said one of them, *of the days of my childhood!*... We are anxious to hear what she is going to tell us... "Oh! yes," she continues, "it makes me think of the building of the Tower of Babel...!" But she soon explains herself... She is thinking of a picture that she saw long ago in her illustrated Catechism!... And in truth we find the resemblance quite striking... and there is something even more real. We are even given to hear the "confusion of tongues!..." The loud chirping of the Doves!... But during recreation this is pardonable!...

Christmas 1929

In the silence of the night the peaceful dormitories of the Novitiate as formerly the plains of Bethlehem, are suddenly illuminated and filled with harmonious strains. Immediately voices which appear to us as being angelical sing in the distance sweet Christmas melodies. The blue curtains are drawn back, the voices come nearer and soon we see our sisters defile in their long white costumes. Smiling at our astonishment they continue to invite us to the Crib of the Infant King. With joyful hearts we hasten to join the mirthful messengers to go to adore the Divine Infant Saviour who has just been born in His poor stable.

How we would like to describe the beauty of the ceremonies which then took place but words fail to express what we really felt at this blessed hour. Our little chapel resplendent with lights and roses is filled with an atmosphere of pious joy. To the left of the altar can be seen the touching scene which took place twenty centuries ago... How happy do Mary and Joseph appear kneeling with love before their God who has become a little child. What a joyful look of surprise beams on the faces of the shepherds who contemplate the wonder of all wonders, how gentle do the little lambs appear in their arms, but what is more touching is to see the Adorable Child whose little outstretched arms seem to say to us, "Come to me, I am little, but I can do everything... Come lighten the burden of the treasures with which my little arms are filled." And during the three Masses when the most beautiful hymns are sung we hasten to respond to this tender appeal. Copiously do we draw the divine treasures for ourselves and for all those dear to us.

The divine banquet is followed by the revel wherein we once again experience the thoughtfulness and devotedness of our good Superiors. And with hearts overflowing with joy we go to take a good rest so as to enjoy the more the beautiful feast of Christmas.

Tuesday, December 11

As is customary in our Community we spend the last day of the year in silence and recollection. At half-past eleven we repair to the chapel to spend the last moments of the fleeting year before our loving Master and to receive from His paternal hands the gift of the New Year which is soon to dawn. There is nothing more impressive than this blessed hour. How we understand the value of time when we see it engulfed in eternity. We begin the Holy Hour by the recitation of the Rosary. Then we sing the *Miserere*, recite an act of reparation to our Eucharistic Lord and finish by singing the *Te Deum* and a last hymn before the closing of the old year. After a few moments of the most profound silence the clock announces to us that the year 1929 has fled from us...

Prostrated, making but one heart and one soul we implore our Heavenly Father's blessing. We do not doubt that this paternal blessing is abundantly bestowed upon us, upon our parents, upon all those for whom we solicit it. We then offer our wishes to the Almighty by paraphrasing the Our Father. After having given the first fruits to God we entreat our Immaculate Mother to accept our humble homages by repeating to her the words of the Angelical Salutation, and the Holy Hour is terminated by the singing of the Magnificat.

From the chapel we go to the assembly hall where our good Superior transmits to us the wishes of our beloved Mother! "I have nothing to add to Our Mother's wishes," does she say, "except that they be realized and that each and every one of her children be a source of consolation and happiness to her."

We then fraternally embrace one another which is most touching in this first hour of the New Year. How we feel the affection by which we are united together, for even though not a word is uttered so as not to break the silence of the night on all faces may be read the thoughts which fill our hearts.

Wednesday, January 1, 1930

The most joyous thoughts occupy our minds since early this morning. It is New Year's. On this day what blessings and happiness does the Infant Jesus bestow on us. At each moment He scatters upon our pathway new joys which incite us to gratitude.

Several little sisters have the happiness of spending *an hour* with their parents and receive the paternal blessing. For those whose parents live a distance away, letters full of the tenderest love come from home give them an illusion of a visit. Moreover, our Superiors have reserved surprises for these feast days. The first was the distribution of the presents sent by our dear Mother. After unwrapping the precious packages, upon an invitation from our Mistress we all go up to the telephone room... Our Mother quickly recognizes the "regiment" and is overjoyed to know that we are so happy... She wishes us a thousand good things and in fine,... wisdom!" She promises us to come to see us soon, which is not a of nature to sadden us as you may well guess!...

Sunday, January 5

His Lordship Bishop LePailleur of Chittagong, Bengal comes to give us his blessing. This venerable missionary is not a stranger to us for he has already shown us much kindness. He greets us with these words, "I wish you dear children, a year of holiness for in order to sanctify others you must first sanctify yourselves." To bring about the realization of this wish of his apostolic soul, he promises us the help of his prayers, and in return, asks us to pray for him, for the success of his apostolic works, for his dear Bengalese to whom he will return next March. "I shall be in Bengal," he adds with a smile, "yes I shall be there to sing the Easter Alleluia!..."

Tuesday, January 14

As we have already mentioned, our good Mother has brought our nest nearer to heaven by having a new storey constructed as there was not enough room for the *birds* who are to arrive next March. Before taking possession of this floor we decided, in order to comply with the desire of several young girls who frequently ask to come to make a closed retreat in our convent, to receive a group of them from the 14th to the 18th of this month. So this evening we find forty young girls ready to benefit by these days of special grace and recollection. Reverend Father Ménard, S. J., preaches the retreat. May the Virgin of the Cenacle obtain for these souls full of good-will a superabundance of light and strength which will give them fresh courage in the path of life that they may choose.

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



Please accept my offering of \$10.00 in thanksgiving to the Little Flower of Jesus for a favor received. E. B., **Montreal**. — The enclosed offering of \$1.00 is in honor of the Little Flower for favors granted. Mrs. B., **Outremont**. — Enclosed please find \$5.00 in thanksgiving to St. Therese for the cure of my nephew. E. B. — Through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus I have obtained a favor. The enclosed offering of \$1.00 is in thanksgiving to this little Saint. Mrs. E. A. E., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Please find enclosed a Money-order for \$2.00 for the Missions in China. This is my thank-offering in honor of St. Therese for a favor received through her intercession. L. A., **Norwich, Conn.** — I am enclosing a Money-order to have a Mass said in thanksgiving to the Little Flower and St. Jude Thaddeus for favor received. Mrs. C. V., **Ingersoll, Ont.** — I have obtained a great favor so I am sending you \$1.00 in honor of St. Therese of the Child Jesus. A Subscriber. — Would you kindly publish in "THE PRECURSOR" my thanksgiving to St. Theresa for favor received. I humbly ask your prayers to St. Theresa that she may grant me another favor. Mrs. H. K., **Verdun**. — Please find enclosed \$2.00 which I had promised for your Works. My child who was ailing is now in perfect health, thanks to the powerful intercession of St. Therese. I beg our dear little Saint to continue to protect him. Mrs. R. S. A., **Senneterre**. — I had promised to donate \$25.00 in honor of St. Therese hoping that I should obtain a grace. I am happy to fulfil my promise. Anonymous. — Please accept my offering of \$1.00 in thanksgiving to St. Therese and the Blessed Canadian Martyrs for having cured me. M. V., **Laconia**. — I am sending you \$1.00 for the ransom of dying babies in token of gratitude to St. Therese for graces she has obtained for me. Please unite your prayers with mine that I may obtain other graces. Mrs. X., **Cap Chat**. — The dear little Patroness of Missionaries has heard my prayers. To thank her I am sending you a cheque for \$12.00. Anonymous. — My most grateful thanks to the Little Flower of Jesus for the success of an operation which I greatly dreaded. Please accept my offering of \$5.00. Mrs. C., **Redmondville, N. B.** — Enclosed please find my cheque for two dollars which I am happy to send for the Little Flower Burse. Heartfelt thanks to our beloved little Saint for the protection she so graciously gives us. A. C., **Lachine**. — In token of gratitude to St. Therese of the Child Jesus I am sending an offering for a novena of lights. Mrs. H. F. **Shawinigan Falls**. — To fulfil a promise made to St. Theresa for the conversion of a sinner, I am sending \$5.00 for the ransom of a baby in your missions. F. L., **Montreal**. — My prayers having been heard, I am sending you a Money-order for \$25.00 after promise made to the Patroness of missionaries, for your missions. H. P., **Montreal**. — You will find enclosed one dollar in thanksgiving to St. Theresa for a cure obtained after promising to publish in "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. C. L., **Notre Dame de Grace**. — In token of gratitude to our dear little Patroness for a favor received. I am forwarding \$2.00 for your missions. I ask her to continue her protection. Mrs. J. P., **Chicopee, Mass.** — Offering of fifty cents for the cure of my little daughter through the intercession of St. Theresa. Mrs. E. V., **Chambord**. — I am sending \$8.00, together with my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" for three favors obtained through the intercession of the powerful Little Flower. Heartfelt thanks to this dear Saint. **Hartford, Conn.** — My offering of \$5.00 for the ransom of a little Chinese "Theresa", in thanksgiving for a favor obtained. Mrs. F. M., **Rimouski**. — I have obtained my request and in token of gratitude, I am sending an offering of \$1.00 in favor of the missions. Mrs. A. R. — Enclosed find \$2.00 of which \$1.00 is for my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and the other \$1.00 is to thank our good St. Therese for a favor obtained. Mrs. D., **Fabre**. — Heartfelt thanks to the little Sister of missionaries for a favor obtained. Please accept my offering of fifty cents. Mrs. J. C., **Ile St. Ignace**.

Love attracts love, mine rushes forth unto Thee, it would fain fill up the abyss which attracts it; but alas! it is not even as one drop of dew lost in the Ocean. To love Thee as Thou lovest me I must borrow Thy very love—then only, can I find rest.

Hist. d'une âme.

What do you think of all the graces which have been poured down upon you?

"I think that the *Spirit of God breatheth where He will.*"

Counsels and reminiscences

O my well-beloved! I understand to what combats Thou hast destined me; it is not on the battle-field that I shall fight... I am prisoner of Thy Love; freely have I riveted the chain which unites me to Thee and separates me forever from the world. My sword is love; with it *I shall chase the stranger from the kingdom, I shall make Thee to be proclaimed King* in the souls of men.

Hist. d'une âme, Appendix

The Angelical Salutation is always very pleasing to the Blessed Virgin, for it seems to renew, as it were, the joy that she experienced when Gabriel announced to her that she was to be the Mother of God.

St. Alph. Liguori

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 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 offerings, even trifling, (thanksgivings 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!

In September-October	1929.....	\$ 54.00
In November-December	"	149.25
In January-February	1930.....	310.00

Pauline Marie Jaricot

Foundress of the Association of the Propagation of the Faith.

(Continued)

The procession continued on until the church of St. Just was reached, where a Requiem Low Mass was said, followed by general absolution. Then the body was borne to the cemetery of Loyasse.

During this journey, many felt in their hearts something of what the friends of Jesus felt, when after having taken down His body from the Cross, they transported it to the tomb.

.....
Having reached the last resting-place, the cortege halted before the sepulchre of Anthony Jaricot. The precious remains of his beloved daughter were silently lowered into the family vault, where already, while awaiting the blessed resurrection, slept Pauline's young brother, her mother and father, Very Reverend Canon Betemps and holy Father Wurtz, whose bones must have shaken with celestial joy upon the arrival of the virginal remains of her who had so heroically suffered *the martyrdom of the heart...* which he had predicted.

The ingratitude of men remained silent before this tomb, where the terrestrial covering of the generous soul *whose charity had never ceased* and whom the apostles and virgins greeted with the names of Mother, Benefactress and Sister!

BEYOND THE GRAVE

All is ended for her in this world... She no longer suffers. I am writing to you from her little room where I saw her shed big tears and where I heard her repeat each time that her sufferings were increased: *O God, grant them pardon and shower blessings upon them accordingly as they become more bitter against me.*

These lines are written by the most cherished of her daughters who has just accompanied her to the grave.

Yes, *all* is indeed ended for her!... Her enemies rejoice in seeing her wrapped in humiliation, a hundred times more destructive than death. They themselves have formed the impenetrable tissue of this covering...

The seal of oblivion has just been fixed upon her tomb, and nothing more remains of her, not even the remembrance of her works, of her virtues and devotedness, still more admirable than her works...

All is effaced and her enemies resume her holy life in these words, which the angels and men interpret *in an altogether different way:*

Ambitious... miserly... imprudent... insolvent!...

And those who cast them to the four winds of heaven, *are not mistaken while wishing to deceive the others...*

Ambitious... Yes, for her zeal and charity embraced the entire universe.

Miserly... Yes, for more than half a century she heaped treasure upon treasure for up above by unreservedly despoiling herself of this world's wealth.

Imprudent... Yes, as he who from the shore seeing those whom he loves in peril unhesitatingly seizes the first bark within his reach and attempts to save at least a few of those about to perish!

Insolvent... Oh! yes again... This word resumes the most cruel and most meritorious tortures of her slow death, for it is again her enemies who have pitilessly condemned her to die insolvent. Have they not, one after the other, snatched from her all resources, so laboriously and courageously sought and discovered by her, and which certainly would have permitted her to accomplish all justice for which she had such a burning thirst !

These means were:

The regular working of the blast furnaces of Our Lady of Angels, which treason and infamous despoiling rendered impossible.

The general subscription, everywhere accepted and everywhere hindered as we have seen.

The income from the stairs at St. Philomena, of which a disloyal concurrence deprived her of the revenue...

The sale — at its just value — of Loretto, a sale rendered equally impossible by the disappreciation of this property made before strangers disposed to purchase it, disappreciation persistent and disloyal having as aim to compel the unfortunate woman to deliver up this wreck of her fortune for a derisory price.

Once again, *all, yes all is ended for her*, and one dared on another Calvary, to utter the stinging irony: *Thou who hast saved others, save Thyself.* And there was *more than one Longin*, to drive in, turn and return the lance of insolvability, love of justice with the love of equity.....

Nothing more! no nothing more! but humiliation, in the deepest shadows of death, instead of the glorious realization of the divine work of which her soul had conceived the plan: The Preservation of the Faith

But, he who had through her, saved and upheld the feeble and the afflicted, who acted and suffered with her, is always living, always a Saviour and Creator. His eye sees and counts the tears of the oppressed, and His ear hears the sighs of the humble despised soul.

Human passions, embittered against His loved ones, are like unto the tornadoes of sand or insects, precipitated by the hurricane against the solid mass of mountains whose all powerful-hand has consolidated the base.

Wait awhile!.....

While sorrow and humiliation overwhelmed Loretto, things worthy to be noted occurred at Paris, where *the beggar of Christ* met with so much fatigue and rejection.

During the first days of January 1862, when *this beggar* endured with heroic love the last phases of her martyrdom, the mountain of Lure destined by her to receive apostolic laborers was to be sold and shared among several persons each one having a different view. However, at the hour set for the auction difficulties so great arose among the buyers and sellers (Mr.

Gavot alone excepted) that it was impossible to make further proceedings.

The absent buyer went during these disputes to place everything under the protection of Our Lady of Victory...

Upon his return, his partners said ironically to him, "You have faith in Providence... But despite your Providence you will lose with us."

"I have not spoken to you of Providence," replied Mr. Gavot, "but since you defy me, I accept it and shall succeed."

Within an hour he had triumphed over all obstacles and two years later became the sole proprietor of the mountain, "over which," he wrote, "the soul of your holy friend doubtlessly soared," and upon which also, hearkening to the prayer of her humble servant, the Queen of Angels appeared to have fixed her merciful gaze. This charitable possessor of the immense estate comprising fifteen townships in its perimeter, had a burning desire to consecrate it to God's glory, and only awaited the arrival of a government *at least honest* under which one would regain the liberty of founding something solid, magnificent and christian in France!...

The first of the *providential treaties* which placed the mountain of *Lure in such hands* bears the date of *January 11, 1862*. The victim was still upon her death-bed when God began to answer the cries of confidence which she unceasingly raised to Him on seeing all human impossibilities rear up against the realization of her cherished design in favor of the laboring class.

In the month of July of this sorrowful year (1862), Marie Melquiond, with whom our readers are already acquainted, was sent to Rome to ask Pius IX. to deign to name Cardinal Villecourt as the Protector of the Living Rosary to replace Cardinal Recanati whose death had just occurred, and to relate to the august supporters of Pauline, what she had been during her last moments.

A long letter written by the messenger from the Eternal City soothed the anguish of her two companions, in revealing to them the veneration with which Reverend Mother Makrena, this martyr of Poland, Cardinal Villecourt and Pius IX. spoke of their Mother.

Among the remarkable things Marie wrote thus: "Our Holy Pontiff said to me, 'Miss Jaricot has lost all her fortune. Earthly things are as nothing... This beautiful soul in in heaven'."

Hardly had Cardinal Villecourt been named Protector of the Living Rosary than he wrote to his poor orphans of Loretto, lines which sketch the crown of glory of the blessed, upon the virginal brow so long crowned by thorns!

On reading these lines, the hearts oppressed by the unfathomable humiliations of the virgin could again throb with joy and hope! (1)

(1) All the testimonies which the Prince of the Church has highly rendered his holy compatriot will be most important if Pauline Marie Jaricot's cause be one day introduced at Rome. This is why from this moment we insist on confiding to the memory of the Christians, the last magnificent affirmations of this illustrious servant of God and of the *Immaculate Queen*.

Rome, July 23, 1864

MY BELOVED DAUGHTERS,

Our Holy Father the Pope deigned on the 12th of the present month to bestow on me the title of Protector of the Living Rosary. Consequently I have placed you among my daughters, and I am persuaded that you will never degenerate from the solid piety which our holy deceased doubtlessly recognized in you when she assembled you around her.

I do not doubt that the Lord has given her a place in His blessed Paradise, *to reward her for the zeal with which her noble soul was filled when she founded the forever marvellous work of the Propagation of the Faith, as well as that of the Living Rosary*, inspired by her ardent love for the Immaculate Virgin, by her admirable devotedness to the holy Roman Church and to its Head, the Representative and Vicar of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

I know that Miss Pauline Marie Jaricot has had great trials and tribulations... But this is the perpetual characteristic of the elect: and on this account should it not now inspire us with more veneration and confidence.

From the abode of glory, where we do not doubt that she has been received, you, dear daughters, will certainly be the objects of all her tenderness, still more than when she was with you upon earth... Act in such a way as to be always the object of her affection and complacency.

But, for this, I instantly recommend you to ever remain in a state of profound humility and perfect charity towards everyone, *even with regard to those who have proved themselves the enemies and persecutors of the holy deceased and of her works*.

If God permitted that even the *good Christians* had not a good opinion of her while living, treating her so harshly, it was only to increase the merits and reward of His faithful servant... Who knows?... Her most bitter enemies will perhaps soon become her most zealous protectors, choosing her for their advocate before God...

I recommend myself especially to your good prayers, I am no longer young, and for a long time I have been thinking of death. My only desire is to go to join your holy Mother in heaven.

I bless you all together, dear daughters and each one in particular, in the love of Jesus, and Mary our Immaculate Mother.

Clement Villecourt,

"Protector of the Living Rosary."

At this same time, the holy old man remitted to Marie Melquiond three letters which we have read in Chapter XXX. and the notes also written and signed by him and which are of great importance.

God permitted neither the letter addressed by His Eminence, the Cardinal Vicar, to be communicated to the members of the Council of the Propagation of the Faith nor mine to produce any effect. It was even permitted to go by the short road leading to Fourviere, to the prejudice of Miss Jaricot.

Servant of the Lord, you were obliged to find in this complete abandonment another mark of resemblance with our divine Master... Now that you are in heaven will the unjust actions committed against you be atoned?

Fiat! Fiat!

.....

It was in spite of myself that I ceded to the demands of Miss Pauline, when she came to solicit me to intervene in her favor before the General Council. I had, it is true, all confidence in the immense charity and exquisite judgment of the Sovereign Pontiff. I soon felt the certitude that I had not been mistaken. He highly favored my proceedings, and considered it a duty of justice on the part of the Council of the Propagation of the Faith to indemnify Miss Jaricot's losses, at least, by relieving her of the enormous weight of her debts, if not restoring to her the money which she had previously enjoyed.

"But I admit, in all sincerity that I did not expect such kindness on the part of the General Council. I do not say this to blame the directors of the Work: they could have easily been lead into error by the rumors that were so quickly spread against Miss Pauline as soon as these disgraces commenced. *It was then that she who up until then had been proclaimed the Foundress of the Association in the four parts of the world, when one had never thought of assigning another source... It was then, do I say, that others sought to replace her by one or several other persons.*

The authors of these false reports should greatly reproach themselves for the wrong that they have done to a most humble foundress who never asked that her work be accepted, but placed its success in the hands of God. Moreover, it may be remarked that those who so basely spied were determined to have her regard herself as incapable of conceiving a design as the one executed by her, for in reducing her to dire necessity, they cast upon her incapacity the ruin of which they alone were the authors.

"But a day will come when He who judges justice itself will cause them to suffer the terrible consequences of their iniquity, if they have not made amends for it, as much as in their power before the end of their career.

BEYOND THE GRAVE

Whatever be the case with the latter whom I sincerely recommend to God that they may see their wrong, restitute all stolen goods and repair all other evils which have followed, *it is certain that all the proceedings that I have made in trying to soothe the anguishes of Miss Jaricot have been fruitless. A report was made to the Holy Father which, if not accusing Miss Jaricot of every evil, at least it charged her with endangering the Association of the Propagation of the Faith. It was even desired that she be looked upon as a STRANGER in the origin of this Work and boldly was I notified of it at Lyons, I who was there when Miss Jaricot founded it to the great admiration of the entire city.*

Now to express my opinion of this sad occurrence, I am inclined to believe that God permitted this faithful servant to undergo such trials only to reward her afterwards with a crown of glory, which would slightly differ from the palm of martyrdom.

Perhaps she will obtain in heaven the conversion of several of her enemies, I was about to call them her murderers! *for they caused her to suffer a long death.*

If they are informed of what I have just said, they may well know that they may only hope to obtain pardon for their injustice in as much as they will have made reparation by a restitution as complete as they are able to accomplish. It is time and more than time to undertake this reparation, on which their eternal salvation depends...

As for those who have taken no part in this iniquity, but who have not deemed it a duty to assist the poor victim even in the least way, I shall take great care not to condemn them... But I entreat them to bear in mind that to accomplish this duty towards Miss Jaricot cost me much because of the fact that I knew that they had been inspired with certain prejudices, and I repeat that it has cost me dearly to implore their kindness. In doing so, I heeded only the voice of conscience. If I have not succeeded in obtaining human esteem, I hope that I am at least in God's favor and that I shall have as a powerful protectress in Heaven this soul whose great sorrows I tried to soothe upon earth.

Clement, Cardinal Villecourt.

A little later, in one of his writings to which in his ardent piety he consecrated the leisure moments permitted him by his high office in Rome, the servant of Mary whose advanced age respected all intellectual faculties, said after having related the story of Pauline's works: "We are filled with sorrow on seeing this generous soul, who from her childhood, had no other aim in view than the procuring of God's glory and the salvation of her brethren, spend the last years of her life in the deepest distress, lacking everything, after having been the providence of hosts of apostles whom she assisted and upheld in the midst of idolatrous nations. She was even looked down upon by those who had highly praised her!..."

We do not hesitate to state that such was the destiny of the greatest saints: *for the very reason* that they were pleasing to God, they were obliged to pass through the flames of tribulation.

Several, it is true, saw them end before their life came to a close, but several also suffered until death. The Apostle shows us these admirable servants of God plunged in mortal anguish and in an ocean of affliction. He desires especially that we cast our eyes upon the Author and Consummator of our faith, who instead of reserving for Himself all the pleasures of life, preferred the cross and the opprobrium which accompanied it. This testimony is due to a soul, faithful and dear to Jesus Christ... I have known her from her childhood: I have therefore been able to admire her virtues, which have never belied themselves."

Moreover, if like assertions given by such a man, are erroneous, from what human lips may we seek the truth concerning the world?

Pauline's daughters remained for three years in their seclusion, living from hand to mouth and never certain of the morrow. The Loretto estate, so coveted, and so skilfully depreciated by those who did not wish to pay the valued price, was, on account of straitened circumstances to which they were reduced, sold at a low price, so mean that Pauline believed herself bound in conscience to refuse it (1863).

Truly indeed the rudest poverty had since long invaded this blessed dwelling; there they lived in absolute penury. However, hardly had it fallen into the hands of strangers than it was besieged by a throng of public salesmen, real birds of prey pouncing upon a retreat of timid doves!... The rapacious hands of these brokers had no respect in the least for anything, ever for that which had been sanctified by thirty years of suffering, prayer and charity.

Everything was delivered into their hands even to the last piece of cloth, even to their poor rags, even to Pauline's old books, inestimable relics for her children but really nothing of value for the Jews of Brotteaux...

And who sent them?

Where is the need of knowing? God wished to humiliate even the memory of His servant, so that until the day when she would retake her place in the memory of Christians, it be more evident that it is *He* and *He alone who exalts the humble...*

We shall not attempt to tell of the sorrow of Maria Dubouis and of her companions facing such indignities. Poor, without resource, they immediately bought back what they could of the objects which really belonged to them, although the most useless and worn and hardly worth anything, but for which they were obliged to give their last farthing in payment.

These details are hard to relate since they took place in this city of Lyons for which Pauline had such an extraordinary love.

Powerless to inculcate a little respect into those who had no respect for anything, they saw themselves in the twinkling of an eye brutally despoiled of all, so that, according to the popular expression, nothing was left them but their eyes to cry with, yes, to cry, not so much on account of being without resources as to not have been able to keep these poor objects so precious to them that to have them back they would have given gold if they had possessed any.

The days following this third devastation of Loretto, Marie Dubouis *made the way of the cross in a new way*, as she thus related in her naïve language: that is to say, in order to find with the help of a few friends, the books and the poor clothing of her holy Mother, she traversed from morning till night, the quarters inhabited by public salesmen, there seeking *her treasures*. She recognized the clothing by the mending which she had done herself, and the old books by the notes which a cherished hand had traced therein.

After taking great pains she succeeded in her undertakings to buy for seventy francs from these Jews that for which they had paid but fifteen

or twenty francs at the most, but which for her filial heart was priceless.

"I was so happy," does she tell us, "to bring back all these precious objects with me that I ran rather than walked. I seemed to think that I was to be again robbed of that which I would not have exchanged for all the money in the world. The fear of not seeing it again caused me to pay very quickly, without bargaining, all that these men asked". (1)

Marie Melquiond had just terminated her beautiful life; Marie Dubouis and Sophie Germain, the sole remaining companions of Pauline, were finally forced to leave Loretto.

Life had become so bitter for them, in this place which Mgr. de Pins had formerly so justly named *their earthly paradise* that they were reduced to the experiencing of a painful joy on receiving the order to leave it.

Reverend Father Rousselon, chaplain at Loretto, unconscious of Pauline's inconceivable trials adding thereto the rigors of an extreme severity must also think of leaving this house which had been his own for nearly thirty years.

At this moment which completed the breaking of all past ties, Maria Dubouis, accustomed to act in all simplicity said to the venerable priest already weighed down by age, "Father if infirmity comes to you one day, and you lack devotedness and care, come to me, I shall give this to you with my whole heart!... I say nothing more... Only remember that I neither deceive nor change..."

And truly indeed, a little later, assailed by great physical sufferings, the aged man asked the worthy daughter of so charitable a Mother, to care for him in his infirmity, to console him in his last days and to close his eyes, a mission which she filled as she had filled many others, with unbounded devotedness.

On her way to Lyons in search of shelter, she thus addressed her Guardian Angel: "Here we are homeless... deign to conduct me and permit me to find close by a church, a little dwelling, quite modest, a little sombre and... not expensive, where I may peacefully spend with my sister Sophia, the remainder of my days here below."

(1) The precious relics and other sacred souvenirs belonging to the Roman Court: having been deposited in the chapel: together with its papers, were preserved from this odious sale. Reverend Father Rousselon had, shortly after the disaster of Our Lady of Angels, bought for the 'servant of God the chapel furnishings, with that of the precious library of the Living Rosary, formed by the Foundress of this association and by Madame Perrin.

(To be continued)

Do you know the poorest of the poor? They are those unfortunates who, ignorant of the true Faith, live in darkness and the shadow of death. And why are these the poorest of the poor? Precisely because their misery affects both body and soul, for time and eternity.

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin

for favors obtained



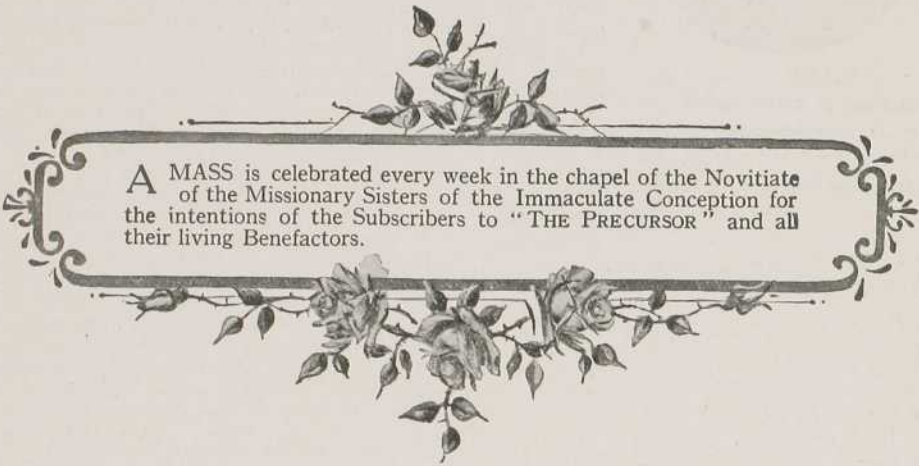
"O MARY, the entire universe would perish before you refuse your assistance to those who, with all their heart, implore your help and protection."

BL. HENRY SUZO.

My husband being out of work I promised \$5.00 in honor of the Blessed Virgin for the support of a missionary if he obtained a position. My prayers have been heard and I am most happy to fulfil my promise. Mrs. J. V., **Loretteville**. — I am sending stipends for a Mass in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin and also an offering of \$1.00 for your missions in gratitude for a favor received. M. A. Q., **New Bedford, Mass.** — In fulfilment of my promise I am sending \$1.00 to thank the Blessed Virgin and St. Therese of the Child Jesus for their special protection in time of sickness. Anonymous. — Please accept my offering of \$2.00 for your good works in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favor obtained. A subscriber, **Montreal**. — My grateful thanks for a grace that has been granted me after promising publication. Mrs. A. B., **Lauzon**. — Inclosed please find an offering of \$5.00 towards your missions in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for favor obtained after promise of publication. Mrs. I. D., **Hull**. — It is with pleasure that I am renewing my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" and send \$1.00 towards your missions to thank Our Blessed Lady who has cured my little girl from eczema. Mrs. J. C. E., **Levis, P. Q.** — For the ransom of a little infidel I am sending \$1.00 in token of gratitude to the Blessed Virgin.

for a great favor accorded me. Miss J. P., **Valleyfield**. — I have obtained a special grace through the all-powerful intercession of our heavenly Mother after promising to make publication in her honor and to renew my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. H. B., **North Adams, Mass.** — I am sending you the sum of \$1.50 for the ransom of little infidels. I promised this offering during the illness of one of my children and as my prayers have been heard I make it my duty to fulfil my promise. Mrs. A. F., **Ottawa, Ont.** — My heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for success in music. A. M., **St. Thomas**. — Please publish in "THE PRECURSOR": "Grateful thanks to Mary Immaculate for two favors attributed to her intercession. Offering of \$10.00 as token of my gratitude. Miss L. A., **West Framp-ton**. — I have obtained a favor from Our Blessed Lady through the miraculous medal. I am sending \$1.00 in thanksgiving and entreat this good Mother to continue to protect us. A subscriber. — We have received two important graces and it is to thank the Blessed Virgin and the Patroness of Missionaries that we are sending an offering of \$7.00 for your missions. Mr. and Mrs. O. A., **Montreal**. — Offering of \$5.00 towards your works in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin. Anonymous, **Kapuskasing, Ont.** — I am herein enclosing \$5.00 in favor of your good works in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. Mrs. J. D., **Woonsocket, R. I.** — A thousand thanks to Our Blessed Lady for having cured one of my children who was often obliged to remain home from school on account of a very sore throat. For several weeks he has attended school regularly. The sum of \$5.00 which I am enclosing is my thank-offering in favor of your good works. Mrs. C., **New Richmond, P. Q.** — My heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a great favor obtained through her intercession. Mrs. A. R., **Levis**. — Thanks to our heavenly Mother's intercession I have obtained the object of my request. In thanksgiving I am sending \$10.00 in favor of the Missions. A subscriber, **Montreal**. I am sending an offering of \$3.00 in honor of the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower in thanksgiving for favors granted me. Mrs. A. V., **New Braintree, Mass.** — \$1.00 for your missions in thanksgiving for a favor received. A subscriber, **Montreal**. — With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am sending an offering of \$1.00 as token of my gratitude to Mary Immaculate and St. Anthony for favors attributed to their intercession. Anonymous. — My offering for a novena of lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin to thank her for a favor granted me. — L. D., **Scott Junction**. With my regular monthly dollar which I promised to send to the Missions I am sending an additional dollar in thanksgiving to our dear Blessed Lady for a favor received. Please continue to pray that I may have good health. I. M., **Montreal**. — I am sending you \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby. L. D., **Hebronville, Mass.** — Enclosed you will find a Money Order for \$10.00 which I promised for the ransom of two babies likely to live if I received a favor. Thanks to Our Blessed Mother the favor was granted. M. T. L., **East Windsor, Ont.** — Please accept my cheque for \$5.00 to buy a Chinese baby. Will you please continue your prayers for me that I may overcome nervousness. L. B., **Webster, Mass.** — I am enclosing \$1.00 for your good works in thanksgiving for favors obtained, also \$1.00

for the Chinese babies. Please pray that a lump on my lip may disappear. M. M., **Montreal**. — Please accept this Money Order for \$5.00 which I am sending for the poor children in the Japanese Mission. Mrs. J. S., **New Bedford, Mass.** — Please find enclosed my offering of three dollars, one dollar in thanksgiving to the Immaculate Conception and one for a Mass for the Holy Souls in Purgatory in thanksgiving for favors received. The other dollar is an offering in favor of my Sacrifice Day. Anonymous. — I am enclosing \$2.00 in thanksgiving to Our Blessed Mother and the Little Flower of Jesus for a favor received through their intercession. I. M. C., **Ottawa, Ont.** — With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am enclosing \$2.00 for your missions in return for graces and blessings received. Mrs. J. K., **Sandwich, Ont.** — Enclosed please find \$2.00 to help the Missionary Sisters in their good works. M. A. D., **Wrightville, P. Q.** — Please accept my thank-offering of \$2.00 for your Mission Work in honor of the Blessed Virgin and good St. Joseph for a favor received. Mrs. K. W., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing \$1.00 in thanksgiving for success with my summer's work. J. B., **Douglastown, P. Q.** — Please find enclosed three dollars one in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, one in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and the other in honor of the Little Flower for favors granted. J. O. D., **St. Henri**. — Kindly accept my offering of \$1.00 in thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart and Our Blessed Lady for a favor obtained. Please pray for my intention. L. R., **Ottawa, Ont.**



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".

I am enclosing two dollars, one for my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR", the other for a novena of lights in honor of Our Immaculate Mother. Please pray for my very special intention. If it is God's Holy Will that my favor be granted I shall send \$5.00 in thanksgiving for the ransom of a Chinese baby. Miss M. M., **Chatham, N.B.** — I beg you to pray for us and also that my husband may find steady work. Mrs. J. A. K., **Cleveland, Ohio**. — I am enclosing \$1.00 in payment of my annual subscription and .75 for a novena of lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin and St. Theresa of the Child Jesus that I may obtain a very great favor. I also promise an offering if granted and to remain a lifelong subscriber to "THE PRECURSOR" if this favor is granted. Miss N. M., **Orms town, P. Q.** — Please find enclosed Postal Note for \$2.00 for the ransom of dying babies. Please pray for my intentions. Mrs. M. W., **Toronto, Ont.** — Enclosed please find a Money Order for two dollars. One is an offering for a Mass for the Souls in Purgatory for a very special intention and the other for your work. Please remember us in your prayers. A. W., — With my subscription I am sending \$1.00 in honor of the Blessed Virgin and St. Therese that my son may return to his faith and come home to stay. If my prayers are heard I promise to take another subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Mrs. E. M., **Lachine, P. Q.** — May I ask your prayers to Our Blessed Lady and St. Therese that I may be cured of an ulcer. I am sending you \$1.00 for

your works and promise to send another offering to help the missionaries if I am cured. R. M. O., **Douglastown, P. Q.** — Please find enclosed a cheque for \$15.00 for which kindly have fifteen Low Masses said in honor of St. Joseph and St. Teresa for our intentions. M. A. L., **North Bay, Ont.** — I am renewing my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". I have not been well for some time past. Please pray for me. Mrs. M. D., **Lawrence, Mass.** — My offering of \$1.00 for your works. Please pray for my son who is in grave mental danger. Mrs. I. D., **Westmount.** — I am a subscriber to "THE PRECURSOR" and beg your prayers to the Blessed Virgin, St. Theresa and St. Anthony for a special favor. If this request is granted me I shall donate \$50.00 towards your good work. Mrs. J. M., **North Cobalt, Ont.** — Please ask the Little Flower of Jesus that my friend may obtain work. I promise an offering of \$1.00 if this request be granted. Miss B. B., **Ottawa, Ont.** — I would like very much if you would pray to Our Blessed Lady for my intentions. I promise to send you a donation for your works as soon as I have the money to spare. H. F. R. — Will you kindly commence a novena to the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower for my many special intentions. I am enclosing an offering to have lights burned. I promise to renew my subscription and to send an offering every little while if I receive my favors. Mrs. C., **Outremont.** — My offering of \$1.00 for your works. Please say a prayer that I may be granted a special favor. I. G., **New York, N. Y.** Please accept my offering of \$1.00. I am asking a special favor and beg your prayers for my intentions. A. S., **Chatham, Ont.** — I am sending you \$5.00 for your works. I beg your kind prayers for my deceased wife and daughter and also for myself. R. G., **Stratford, Ont.** — Please pray that I may regain my health. I also recommend to your prayers all the members of my family especially one of my sisters who is not practising her religion, I fear. I. C., **Ottawa, Ont.** — I would like you to make a novena for two spiritual and temporal favors for two of my boys. If these favors are obtained I shall send \$2.00 for a Mass in thanksgiving. Mrs. C. V., **Ingersoll, Ont.** — The following persons ask for health: Mrs. F. L., **Verdun, P. Q.** — Mrs. G. P. S., **Notre Dame de Graces.** — M. L., **Mezieres, Manitoba.** — J. V. S., **Cleveland, Ohio.** — Mrs. H. T., **Sturgeon Falls, Ont.** — Mrs. M. O., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Mrs. L. R., **Willimansett, Mass.** — I am sending you \$15.00 for your Works. Please pray for me. G. R., **Westmount.** — Please accept my offering of \$1.00 in payment of my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". Please pray for me as I am very poor and obliged to depend on others. Mrs. E. S., **Chatham, Ont.** — You will find enclosed \$1.00 for a novena of lights. Kindly pray for the conversion of a friend. J. H., **Stratford, Ont.** — Please find enclosed my offering of \$10.00. Would you be so kind as to have a Low Mass said for my intentions. J. K., **Verdun, P. Q.** — I am sending a small offering for your Works. Kindly pray for me. D. M., **Lachine, P. Q.** — The enclosed offering is in payment of my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR". I beg you to pray for a mother that she may convert. Mrs. J. L., **Disraeli, P. Q.** — Again I am begging prayers from you for my two daughters. Kindly accept my small donation in favor of your Works. Mrs. E. H., **Toronto, Ont.** — Kindly make a novena for my husband that he may obtain a desired position. I am sending \$1.00 to help in your Works. If I obtain the favor I am asking I shall have a Vigil Light burned in honor of the Blessed Virgin. C. M., **Verdun, P. Q.** — Enclosed you will find \$1.00 for a novena of lights in honor of the Blessed Virgin that my husband may stop drinking. Mrs. M. V., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Will you kindly offer prayers for me that a growth which I fear is a cancer may disappear. I am sending \$1.00 for your work and promise another offering if I obtain this favor. Mrs. A. C., **Fitchburg, Mass.** — I should be pleased if you would pray that we may be able to collect a sum of money and that my husband may obtain a position at once. I promise to donate \$10.00 to the Little Flower Bursary. Mrs. H. S. K., **La Sarre, P. Q.** — I am enclosing \$5.00 for the ransom of a baby likely to live. I am in great need of prayer and hope that God will grant me what I ask. Mrs. D. H., **Hawkesbury, Ont.** — This offering of \$1.00 is for a novena of lights and for the ransom of a dying baby that my mother may be cured of a cancer and that my brother may be restored to health. Mrs. J. H., **Burnetts Rapids, Ont.** — Will you please make a novena in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary that my brother, sister and myself may soon obtain good permanent positions. I am enclosing an offering of \$1.00 and if these favors are granted us I shall send \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby. Mrs. R. S., **Chicago Ill.** — Special favors are asked for by the following persons: Mrs. J. N., **Lachine, P. Q.** — J. W., **Montreal.** — C. D., **Aylmer, P. Q.** — Mrs. F. S., **Toronto, Ont.** — A lonesome girl, **East Windsor, Ont.** — Mrs. G. M., **Kapuskasing, Ont.** — I R., **Grand Cascapedia.** — S. M., **Crestwood, N. Y.** — Miss A. S., **Lebret, Sask.** — H. B., **Hebronville, Mass.** — Mrs. R. H., **Hawkesbury, Ont.** — Mrs. C. H., **Naugatuck, Conn.** — Mrs. D. O., **Carp, Ont.** — A. W., **Bridgeport, Conn.** — Mrs. T. P., **South Porcupine, Ont.** — Mrs. H. M. S., **Taftville, Conn.** — Mrs. M., **Montreal.** — Mrs. G. M., **Kapuskasing, Ont.** — Miss C. M., **Montreal.** — Will you please remember us in your prayers that my husband may obtain a steady position. Mrs. W. B., **Windsor, Ont.** — Enclosed you will find \$1.00 for which I would like a novena of lights burned in honor of our Blessed Mother for a special favor. If granted I shall send \$10.00 for missionary work. M. T. L., **East Windsor, Ont.** — Please accept my offering of twenty cents for a taper to be burned on Our Lady's altar. I would ask you to kindly pray that my husband may find work at once also please pray that I may obtain another favor. I promise to send \$2.00 each pay day. Mrs. H. K., **La Sarre, P. Q.** — Kindly pray that I

may obtain a good position soon. Miss R. B., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Enclosed please find Postal Note for \$2.00 for the ransom of eight dying babies. Please pray for our intentions. Miss J. S., **Toronto, Ont.** — With my subscription to "THE PRECURSOR" I am sending \$1.00 to have lights burned in honor of the Blessed Virgin that my brother may give up his bad habits. Miss C. D., **Montreal.** — My offering of \$1.00 for a novena of lights in honor of Our Lady that she may grant my mother better health. L. H. M. — Please pray that God will give me the grace to lead a better life. Miss V. F., **Pawtucket, R. I.** — Enclosed please find \$2.00 to have two Masses said for three special intentions. If I obtain these favors I shall forward you \$5.00 to help your Missions in China. M. M. **Long Island, N. Y.** — I beg you to pray to the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower that I may secure a position shortly. Please pray also for another special intention. I promise \$5.00 for the ransom of a baby if I obtain this favor. G. G. T., **Montreal.** — Please accept my offering of \$1.00 for your good works. May I ask you to pray that I may obtain a special favor. I promise another donation if this grace is granted me. Mrs. P. M. T., **Ottawa, Ont.** — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph that I may soon obtain a position. B. P., **Montreal.** — Please pray for me that I may have better health and find work. Miss M. H., **Almonte, Ont.** — I ask your prayers for health for myself and baby and for another special intention. Mrs. E. O., **Chatham, Ont.**



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



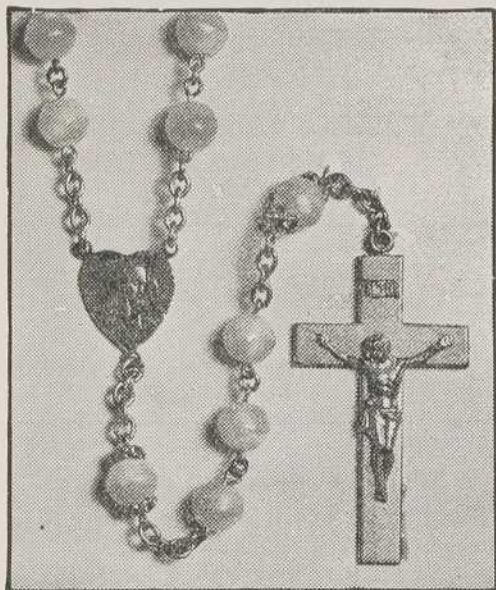
NECROLOGY

Mr. Albert CADIEUX, St. Henri, P. Q., father of our Sister St. Henri; Laurette BLAIN, postulant, sister of our Sister Ste. Claire; Mr. Robert WHITE. Mrs. John MCGOVERN, Mrs. Aloysius KELZ, Mrs. Catherine MURDICH, Mr. James McNICHOL, Mrs. Grace CLEARY, Mrs. James KELLY, Mr. Joseph LAVERTY, Mr. and Mrs. BALL, Montreal; Mrs. Richard GORDON and daughter, Stratford, Ont.; Mrs. M. HARCKANS, Cleveland, Ohio; Mr. B. RAYMOND, Montreal; Mr. O. LAMBERT, St. Paulin; Mrs. I. MIRON, MONTREAL; Mrs. Wilfrid BLAIS, Buckingham; Mrs. E. HUDON, Quebec.

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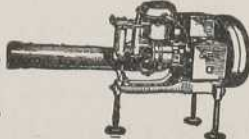
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