

THE PRECURSOR



Vol. VIII., 10th Year MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1932 No. 11

Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

IN CANADA

MOTHER HOUSE, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, near Montreal (Founded in 1902)

Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Procure for the Missions. Workroom 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), Laval Co.

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CITY OF RIMOUSKI, P. Q., St. Germain St. (Founded in 1918)

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Diocesan Office of the Holy Childhood. Closed Retreats for ladies and young girls.

GRANBY, P. Q., 285 Main St. (Founded in 1931)

Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for young girls.

(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.

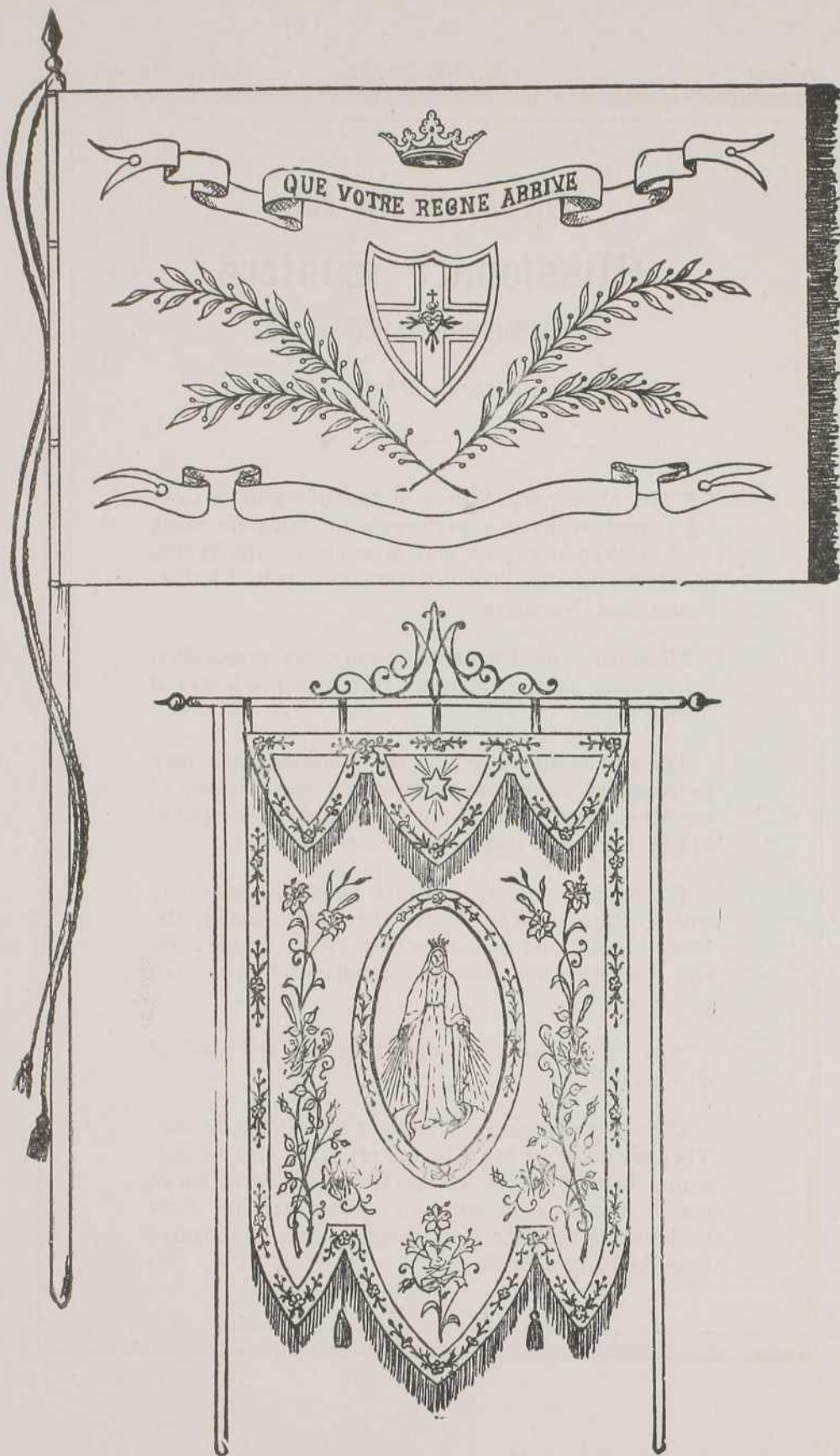
Missionaries must undergo several years' preparation before being able to commence their apostolic labors in foreign fields.

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 |
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| " 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 |
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| Tabernacle Veils, Sick Call Burses..... | 5.00 | " | " |
| Reversible Confession Stoles | 5.00 | " | " |
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| Preaching Stoles | 10.00 | " | " |
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| 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. |
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We supply Altar-breads at the following prices:

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Small | \$1.20 per 1000 |
| Large | 0.40 " 100 |

Practical Means

of helping the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

By contributing alms to:

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

By providing for the:

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

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

* * *

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





"O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS!"

THE PRECURSOR

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The Vision in the Mass

A Legend of Saint Dominic

*Before Bretagne's illustrious Duke, and all his splendid court,
The grand Cathedral nave was thronged that morn in ancient France,
When to the multitude, in words of marvellous import,
Spoke Dominic, magnetic both in gesture and in glance.*

*Amazed, the list'ners heard the Saint, with eloquence declare
That, save the Sacrifice of Mass — the Office all divine,
No homage paid to Jesus and His Mother could compare
With the Rosary, recited with a fervent, pure design.*

*Exaggerated seemed his words to simple souls sincere;
But, when the Mass was offered up by Dominic, the blest,
At Sacring of the Host, they saw our Virgin Queen appear
With the holy new-born Babe upon her tender, loving breast.*

*Prostrated in ecstatic prayer, adored the multitude,
Till, at the lifting of the Grail, behold! the Friar's hand
Upraised the bleeding, thorn-crowned Christ, nailed to the Sacred Rood
As once He hung in Calv'ry's height in old Judea's land!*

*Scarce had the Vision pass'd, when, at Communion time,
Another wondrous sight appear'd, which thrilled all hearts with awe.
The altar glowed before their eyes with dazzling light sublime,
And in the midst, the Risen Christ, the kneeling thousands saw.*

*What further need for Dominic to make the marvel clear?
The Virgin and her Child the Joyful mysteries unveil —
In Jesus, bleeding on the Cross, the Dolorous appear:
Whilst in the Glorious Vision, the Risen Christ, we hail!*

*Lo! in the Sacrifice Divine, as in the Rosary,
These mysteries are all embraced and reproduced, each day;
Christ's Incarnation, Death and Resurrection all can see,
Who, at the Mass their Beads repeat, and, childlike, homage pay.*

—Eleanor C. Donnelly.



Indulgences for the Recitation of the Rosary.



Those who piously carry their beads with them gain an indulgence of 100 years and 100 quarantines every day. (Pius X, July 31, 1906.)

A plenary indulgence may be gained by all the faithful each time, under ordinary conditions, they recite the beads before the Blessed Sacrament exposed or enclosed in the Tabernacle. (Pius XI, September 4, 1927.)

Rosary beads given to another person do not lose the indulgences attached to them. A person who uses another's beads, gains the same indulgences as the owner.

Only when a Rosary is sold or when the beads are completely broken or when a number of them are lost, does it lose the indulgences attached

to it.

Even if only one person has his beads when several are saying the rosary together, all may gain the indulgences.

The indulgences attached to Rosary beads cannot be gained all together, but only one at a time. However, the indulgences for the recitation of the Rosary may be gained at the same time as those attached to Crosier beads.

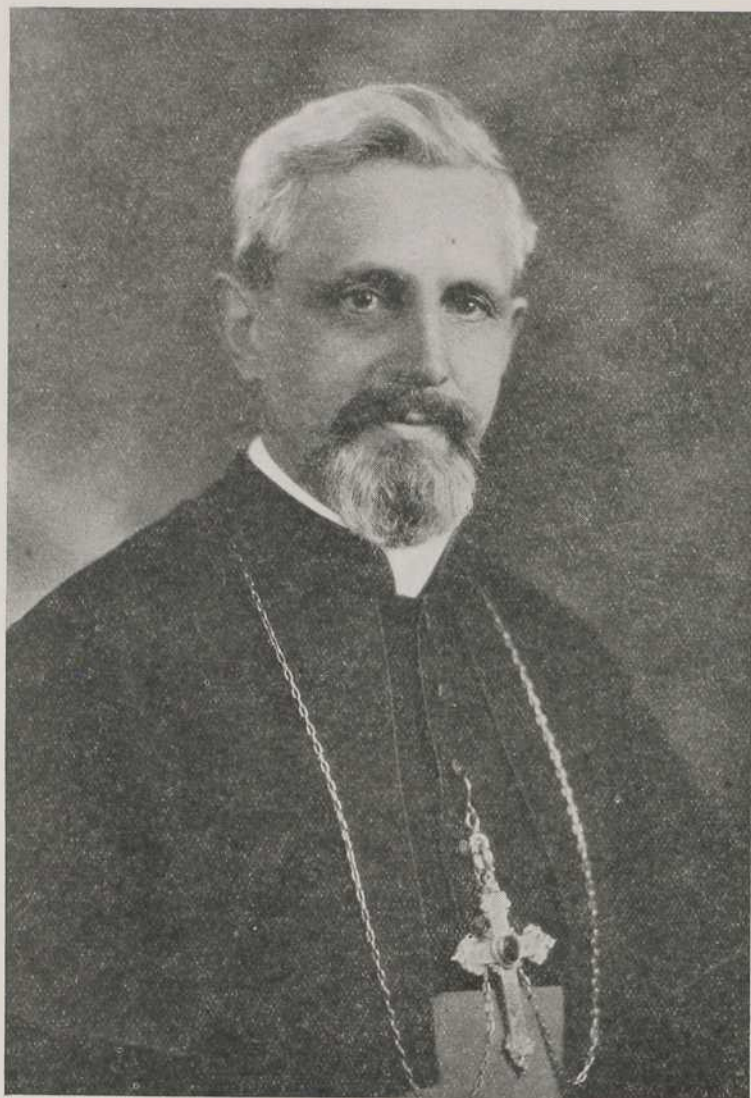
In order to gain the indulgences of the Rosary, one is obliged to finish saying the beads the same day as they have been begun and to meditate on the different mysteries. Each decade may be said separately.

As the indulgences are attached to the beads only, even if the chain be changed, the Rosary does not lose the indulgences attached to it. Such is the case also when broken beads are replaced by new ones.



The Rosary is the mystic crown which Christian people place every day upon the royal head of the Mother of God. It is certainly the most beautiful flower of human piety and the most fruitful source of heavenly graces. This prayer is perfect, because of the praise it offers, because of the lesson it imparts, because of the graces it obtains and the triumph it prepares.

Pope Benedict XV.



His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre

*First Vicar Apostolic of Szechingkai,
Manchuria, China.*

Consecration of His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre

First Vicar Apostolic of Szepingkai, Manchuria

ON August 4th, His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre of the Canadian Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau, the first Vicar Apostolic of Szepingkai, Manchuria, was raised to the episcopate by His Excellency Most Reverend G. Gauthier, Coadjutor Archbishop of Montreal. The consecrating prelate was assisted by His Excellency Mgr. Forbes, Archbishop of Ottawa and His Excellency Mgr. Limoges, Bishop of Mont Laurier.

The sermon on this occasion was delivered by His Excellency Mgr. Villeneuve, O. M. I., Archbishop of Quebec.

At the impressive ceremony were also present: His Eminence Cardinal Verdier, Archbishop of Paris, His Excellency Mgr. Andrea Cassulo, Apostolic Delegate to Canada and Newfoundland; Their Excellencies Mgr. J. H. S. Brunault, Bishop of Nicolet; Mgr. F. Z. Decelles, Bishop of St. Hyacinthe; Mgr. J. A. Papineau, Bishop of Joliette; Mgr. G. Courchesne, Bishop of Rimouski; Mgr. A. O. Gagnon, Bishop of Sherbrooke; Mgr. F. H. Ross, Bishop of Gaspé; Right Reverend P. T. Ryan, Bishop of Pembroke; Mgr. Joseph Guy, O. M. I., Vicar Apostolic of Grouard; Mgr. A. Deschamps, Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal; Mgr. A. O. Comtois Auxiliary Bishop of Three Rivers; Mgr. J. A. Desmarais, Auxiliary Bishop of St. Hyacinthe; dom Pacôme Gaboury, Oka; Very Reverend Canon J. E. Duchesne, representing His Excellency Mgr. Charles Lamarche, Bishop of Chicoutimi; Mgr. Giuseppe Bearzotti; Mgr. Egide Roy, O. F. M., of the Prefecture Apostolic of Kagoshima, Japan; Mgr. E. Dugas, P. A., V. G., of Joliette; Mgr. A. Melançon, P. A., V. G., of Chatham; Mgr. Camirand, P. D., V. G., of Nicolet; Mgr. Z. Lorrain, P. D., V. G., of Pembroke; A. V. J. Piette, P. A., Rector of the University of Montreal; J. M. Fraser, P. A., of Toronto; G. Lepailleur, P. A., of Hochelaga; L. A. Dubuc, P. D., of Montreal; J. A. Richard, P. D., of Verdun; J. C. Allard, P. D., of Valleyfield; Joseph Lebeau, P. D., of Ottawa; C. A. Parent, P. D., of Tilbury; P. Langlois, P. D., of Tecumseh.

Besides the numerous members of the clergy, there were also present representatives from different religious Communities.

"THE PRECURSOR" wishes the new Vicar Apostolic success in his missionary endeavours.

Departure of Ten Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception for the Distant Missions.

On September 4th, ten Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception left their Mother House, in Outremont, to make their way to Vancouver, whence they are to set sail on the Empress of Russia for the far-off missions.

Six of them are destined for Manchuria and are accompanying His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre of the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau, who is returning to the faithful of Szepeinghai.

The four other missionaries who are also sailing with His Excellency, will go to their respective missions in Tsung Ming, Haimen Vicariate, and Manila, Philippine Islands.

We are confident that Mary, the sweet "Star of the Sea" will guide our Missionaries across the seas, and that she will assist them in their efforts to make our holy Faith known to the poor pagans in a land in which Satan still holds sway.

Propaganda Decree Names First Prefect Apostolic of Fushun.

ROME. — By decree of April 15, 1932, of the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide the Rev. Raymond Aloysius Lane, M. M., is named first Prefect Apostolic of Fushun, Manchuria. Fushun, in charge of the Maryknoll Fathers, was detached from the Vicariate Apostolic of Mukden by decree of January 25, 1932.

Father Lane was the first Superior of the mission when it was founded in 1924. At the first General Chapter of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll) he was elected to the post of Second Assistant General and appointed Rector of the Major Seminary at Maryknoll, New York. (Fides.)

Another Secret Society in China

To the secret societies which already abound in China there has just recently been added another. This new Society, which was founded in Shanghai, already counts eight hundred members. Its two-fold object is to defend the country from being attacked by the Japanese and to put to death all traitors.

Those wishing to enroll themselves in this Society must take a solemn oath of obedience. The meetings are never held twice in the same place.

The Mentality of the Chinese

By Shin-Lou-Ti

(Continued)

DEATH AND BURIAL

A Chinaman takes great delight in setting aside a beautiful coffin for himself. When he dies, his funeral ceremony is one of great pomp.

The emperors had a great respect for their deceased parents and mourned for them for three years after accompanying them to their last resting-place. King *Ou* and his minister *Tcheou*, after decorating the graves of their ancestors each spring and autumn, offered them sacrifices. At the feast which followed this ceremony, many guests were always present.

The advice given by Confucius concerning the different ceremonies, has been put into practice. Every year, the inhabitants burn paper money on the graves of their deceased relatives, thinking that by so doing they are paying the debts contracted by the spirits in the other world!

In one of the ancient books, it is stated that if the emperors are respectful towards their dead, they will have no trouble in getting their subjects to obey them. Confucius once advised the people to honour their parents while they were still alive and to offer them sacrifices after they died. Confucius himself saw to the burying of his friends.

Mourning outfits are white, and are worn by many of the Chinese for three years after the death of one of their relatives. When a mandarin is in mourning for a friend, he ceases to perform the different duties of his office.

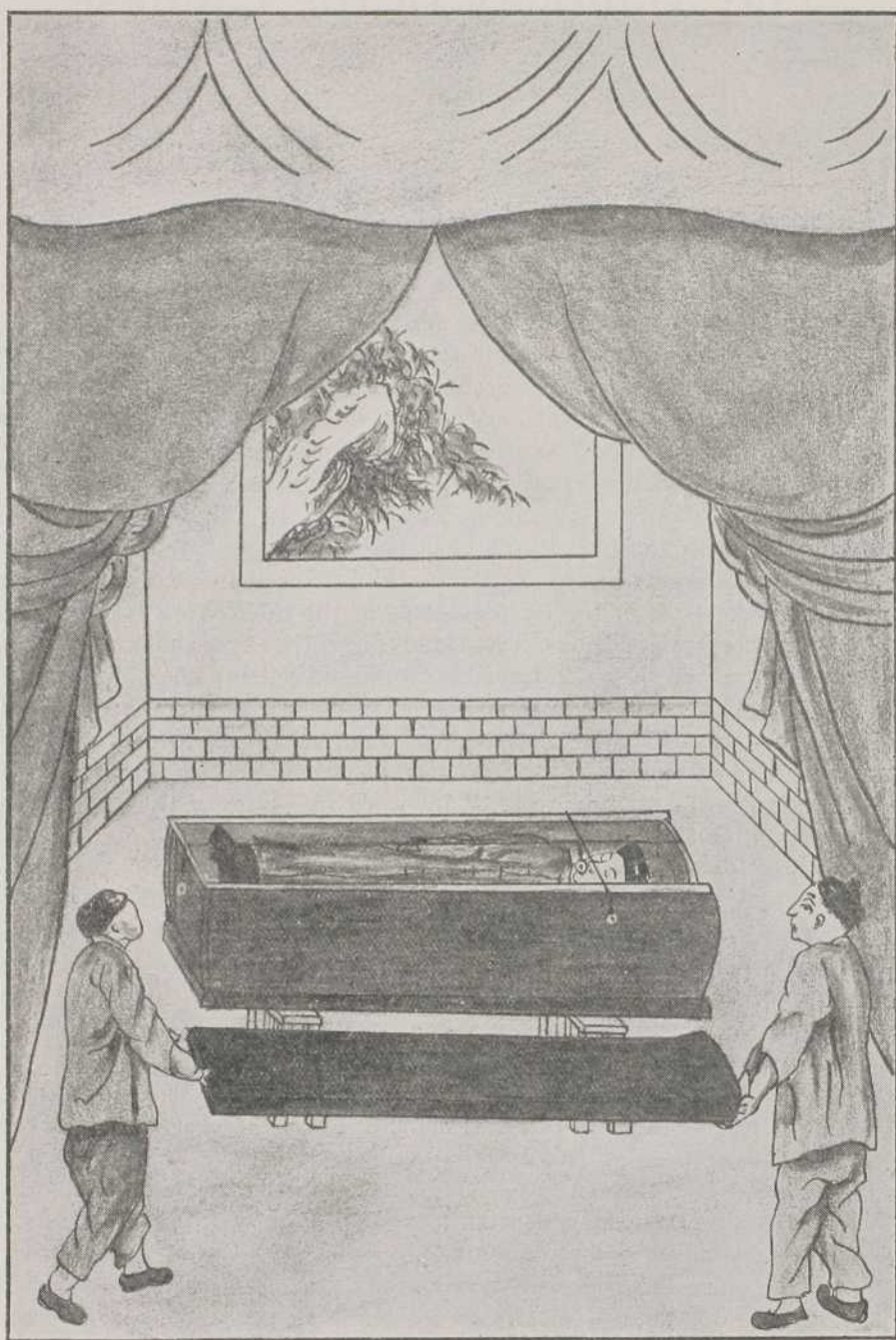
Tse-tchang once said to Confucius: "In the Annals, it is related that the emperor *Kao-tsong* did not utter a word during the three years he was in mourning. How do you account for that?" Confucius replied: "Why do you make special mention of *Kao-tsong*? All the ancestors acted thus."

To *Tsai-go* who thought that a year was long enough to mourn for his dead relatives, Confucius said: "You are heartless to forget your friends so soon. A learned man who has lost one of his relatives can neither eat nor sleep."

The Chinese find that splendid ceremonies are necessary in order to prove that they respect the ancient rites.

Mengtse travelled a long distance in order to assist at his mother's funeral. To one of his companions who found that the coffin was much too handsome, he replied: "When the emperor *Tcheou* ruled the country, he permitted our ancestors to bury their dead in coffins made of wood four inches thick. It consoles me to know that the earth will not soil the corpse after it has been buried."

Well-to-do people not only burn paper money during the funeral ceremony, but also paper horses hitched to paper carts. In India, statues of men and



A CHINESE COFFIN.

women were formerly placed around the coffin. The inhabitants of this country believed that they would be a help to the spirits of the departed.

When a courtier blamed *Mengtse* for ordering a more splendid ceremony to be performed for his deceased mother than that which had been performed for his father a few years previous, one of the friends of this great philosopher declared that it was because he had been made a mandarin since the death of his father that he was obliged to act thus.

The Chinese have always believed that in order to fittingly observe the rites, they must see that splendid ceremonies take place. As all wish to appear rich, they spend much more money on these celebrations than they can really afford.

It is very common in China to hear the bereaved members of a family weeping for the loved one whom death has robbed from them. Sometimes, even, people are paid to come to shed tears at a funeral. When one of the rulers of the kingdom of *T'en* died, his successor consulted *Mengtse*, who told him that he should mourn for three years as the people did for the emperor *Iao*.

When a king died, the country was ruled by a prime minister until the prince, who lived in seclusion for five months after the death of his father, exercised his power.

In chapter *Kou-min* of the Annals, there is an account of the last sickness, death and burial of the emperor *Tchen-ouang*. This chapter is, as it were, a summary of the different rites to be observed at all funerals.

FILIAL PIETY

A visitor in China often remarks how respectful children are towards their parents. All the emperors of the *In* dynasty frequently offered sacrifices in honour of their deceased relatives and urged the philosophers to inform the people how necessary it was to honour their parents, especially after they died.

One of the followers of Confucius, finding that without filial love the country would not be governed wisely, declared that very few men who held their parents in respect would ever criticize the emperors.

Mengtse states that the emperor *Chouen* always cried when he thought of his parents, who had no love for him. His father was very anxious to have him put to death.

It may be said that the Fourth Commandment: "Honour thy father and thy mother", is kept by nearly all the Chinese. Children are usually dutiful towards their parents.

Parents are often advised not to teach their own children, so as not to be obliged to punish them. Thus it is that a Chinese youth reaches manhood with the same faults as he had in his childhood.

It is written in an ancient book that Confucius often consulted the Annals, the Book of Poetry and the book in which the different rites were explained.

In the *Li-Ki*, there is a list of rules of etiquette, which everyone who does not wish to "lose face" is careful to observe. This list is also found in a little

manual known as the *I-li*. In order to understand these rites, a European who knows very little about Chinese life, must make a careful study of them.

All the rites are regarded as sacred. Confucius states that only the emperor has the right to establish them and to make the laws of the country.

Tch'en Kang once said to *Pe-iu*, Confucius' son: "No doubt, your father has given you special lessons." "Oh! no," was *Pe-iu's* reply, "I remember that he asked me one day if I studied texts from the Book of Odes. When I told him that I did not, he warned me that I would not know anything worth while if I did not learn by heart the different passages in this book. Soon after, on learning that I was not studying about the rites, he was quite vexed and told me that I would never be a man of discipline if I neglected learning about the various ceremonies."

All scholars may be chosen to rule the country. The art of governing is explained in the Annals.

Tch'en-t'ang honoured the spirits of his ancestors. He believed that it was in return for the esteem in which he held them that Heaven had made him the ruler of the empire.

Confucius never grew tired of speaking of *Iao* and *Chouen*. *I-in*, who was very proud, believed that besides himself, *Tch'en-t'ang* was the only virtuous man living.

Tse-Kong one day said to Confucius: "If you had a few jewels, would you keep them locked up or would you try to sell them?" Confucius replied that he would certainly try to find someone to purchase them from him. By asking this question, *Tse-Kong* wished to remind Confucius that he was not making good use of his time. The great philosopher visited the different parts of the country, but he did not receive a welcome everywhere.

The prime minister *Tcheou-kong* persuaded *Che* to remain at the court to help him to govern the people. *Ouen* governed well because he was assisted by four wise men, who explained to him everything that he did not understand. If it had not been for these men, he certainly would have been de-throned.

Ouen was faithful to worship his ancestors. He was not vain and did not wish to be praised for his good actions. *Mengtse* states that when *Ouen* was at the head of the government, peace reigned throughout the country.

THE CUSTOMS

The following is a Chinese proverb:

Houanf ho chang ieou ren a'in
Je ki ko jen ou le iuin che

The waters of the Yellow River are sometimes calm;

Why should a man not enjoy unclouded happiness from time to time?

We read in the Annals than on the first day of the year, *Chouen* dismissed *Iao*. Immediately after this, he repaired to the temple of the ancestors to inform the people of what had taken place.

The Chinese greatly enjoy themselves during their New Year celebrations. In order to appear to be wealthy, everyone leaves his work aside during these days of special rejoicing.

On New Year's morning, fireworks are exploded. All servants bow to their masters, who give them a few presents. They then visit their friends throughout the city and return home with many other gifts.

In every family, the deceased members are the first to be remembered at the opening of a new year. Lanterns are hung in front of each dwelling and sticks of incense are burned in honour of the spirits of the dead.

All the inhabitants are warned to be upright; they are reminded that there is a reward in store for them for their fair dealing.

Chinese women are slaves, who may be bought and sold in much the same way as animals. They are looked upon as bringing misfortune upon the country.

In China, the magistrates are elected for three years. This is a very ancient custom. When *Chouen* ruled the country, the magistrates were obliged to give an account of their conduct every three years. After being examined three times, those who possessed but little talent were sent away.

The numerous triumphal arches in China were erected in honor of wealthy widows who refused to marry a second time. It is a disgrace for a Chinese woman to accept another husband. The widows of *Houa-tcheou* and *Ki-lean* mourned the death of their husband for many years. So as not to "lose face", numerous young widows make their home with their mother-in-law, by whom they are generally hated.

The soldiers in China have not a good reputation. A father does all in his power to prevent his son from joining the army.

The Odes in the first part of the Book of Poetry are nothing but songs about soldiers far from home and of women who are awaiting their husbands' return.

(To be continued)



The Conversion of a Chinese Painter.

On Pentecost Sunday, the Chinese painter, Luke Tcheng, was baptized and confirmed by His Excellency Archbishop Costantini. This same day, he also made his First Communion. While the Apostolic Delegate was visiting an exhibition of Chinese painting, some time ago, the peculiar charm of Mr. Tcheng's portraits attracted his attention.

A little later on, he sent for this celebrated painter and gave him a book containing the Gospels. Mr. Tcheng, after reading it with interest, painted a number of religious pictures, one of which — a representation of the Blessed Virgin adoring the Infant Jesus — was particularly handsome. Last January, Mr. Tcheng expressed the desire of studying the Catholic doctrine. The new convert is a professor in the Catholic University of Peking.



Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels

OCTOBER 2nd.



My Guardian Angel



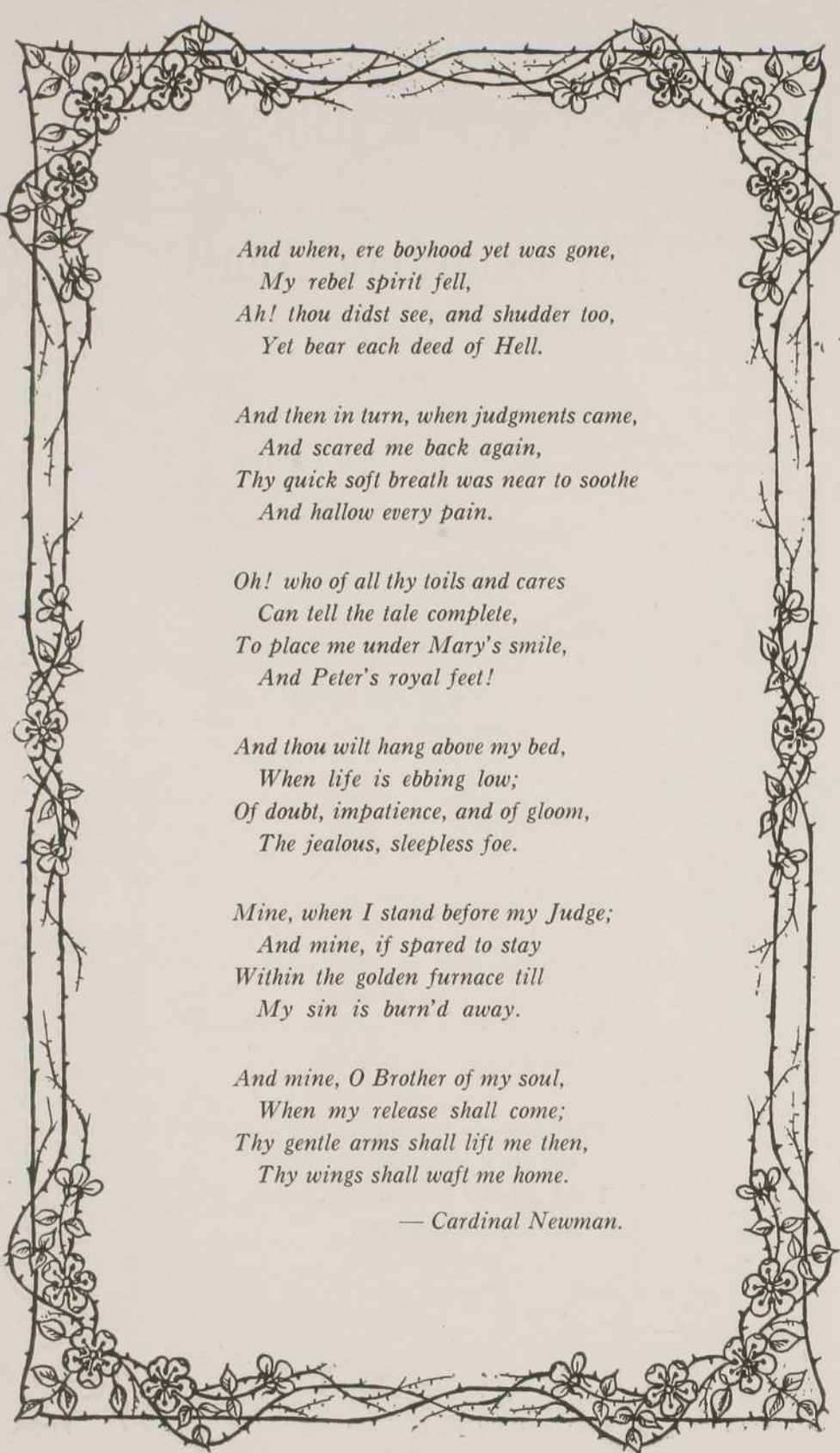
*My oldest friend, mine from the hour
When first I drew my breath;
My faithful friend, that shall be mine,
Unfailing, till my death.*

*Thou hast been ever at my side;
My Maker to thy trust
Consign'd my soul, what time He framed
The infant child of dust.*

*No beating heart in holy prayer,
No faith, inform'd aright,
Gave me to Joseph's tutelage,
Or Michael's conquering might.*

*Nor patron saint, nor Mary's love,—
The dearest and the best,—
Has known my being, as thou hast known,
And blest as thou hast blest.*

*Thou wast my sponsor at the font;
And thou, each budding year,
Didst whisper elements of truth
Into my childish ear.*



*And when, ere boyhood yet was gone,
My rebel spirit fell,
Ah! thou didst see, and shudder too,
Yet bear each deed of Hell.*

*And then in turn, when judgments came,
And scared me back again,
Thy quick soft breath was near to soothe
And hallow every pain.*

*Oh! who of all thy toils and cares
Can tell the tale complete,
To place me under Mary's smile,
And Peter's royal feet!*

*And thou wilt hang above my bed,
When life is ebbing low;
Of doubt, impatience, and of gloom,
The jealous, sleepless foe.*

*Mine, when I stand before my Judge;
And mine, if spared to stay
Within the golden furnace till
My sin is burn'd away.*

*And mine, O Brother of my soul,
When my release shall come;
Thy gentle arms shall lift me then,
Thy wings shall waft me home.*

— Cardinal Newman.

The Angel Guardians of Mission Lands

By Rev. Father Bury, Missionary in Ceylon

I FIRMLY believe that the artist who, in the portrait he has painted of the Angel Guardian, with a venomous serpent gliding along the road an innocent child is crossing, must have lived in India or Ceylon. Who knows but he may even have spent some time in Kalmunai? The number of reptiles of all kinds that I encountered here have had a good deal to do with my great devotion to the holy angels.

I must remark that the high road alone separates our presbytery from vast rice fields and the marshes that irrigate them. Serpents, loving a cool dwelling-place and fully appreciating the pleasures of a bath, haunt our premises and, after a morning bath, they always have good appetites. The priest having rice and various other sorts of provisions in his storehouse, rats, mice and insects are naturally attracted to these in the hope of getting plenty to eat, and this is a good opportunity for the reptiles to fill their stomachs. "Come along up to the Missionary's place, we will do him a good turn by thinning out the swarms that devour his rice, and have a feast ourselves in the bargain."

Reasoning thus, our visitors come gliding along towards the Catholic Mission of an evening. If they would only let us know exactly when to expect them, we would leave the way clear for them to do their very useful work without molestation; but no, they must have their own manœuvres and act in their secret ways. They are the very same cursed creatures that, from the very beginning, deceived our common mother and so caused her fall.

I cannot exactly name the various kinds of serpents I have seen since coming to Kalmunai, much less give you their scientific description. As for their degrees of wickedness, that I have learned from the frightened faces of our servants and Christians when called upon to help in killing any I have noticed hiding in a shady spot, ready to pounce upon us.

The name alone of one of these reptiles is enough to terrify anyone. This is the cobra, the capello, or spectacled reptile, so called on account of the spectacles it seems to wear upon its eyes. I have often seen it in our garden, in the hedge sand, even on the verandahs of our house, and I humbly acknowledge that I have always grown discouraged at the sight of it.

One evening, about seven o'clock, as I was going to the church, which is near my room, my attention was attracted by a significant hiss. Mr. Cobra, in taking a walk, had come across our cat, and, being rivals I suppose, signified his displeasure. When the cobra is annoyed, it rears up the fore part of its body and stretches out its head and neck, which it tosses from side to side as if selecting the best spot in which to sting its adversary. Every priest, especially when his house is infested with rats and mice, loves his cat in return for the many services it renders him. This one risked

its life to save mine, knowing that I would be sure to come to its aid. I whistled once, then twice. The cook and the boy, who know what this signal means, came running out, each armed with a stick, while I, brave as a lion, held up my lamp to give them light. But we had before us two creatures, one we wanted to kill, the other to save. What was to be done? The cook lifted his arm. The cat, which seemed to understand that we were about to destroy its enemy, retreated prudently to one side to avoid a dart from its venomous antagonist. A blow resounded, followed by a second, and a genuine cobra five feet long, lay dead upon the ground. I offered up a prayer of thanksgiving to our Guardian Angels and ordered a double ration of rice for Raminagrobis' supper.

A little before noon on Whit Monday — not the usual hour for cobras to make calls upon people — an ominous caterwauling was made by this same intrepid puss. I left my room, having exchanged my slippers for strong shoes, so as to give a venomous snake less hold for his tooth. There was a cobra in front of the door of the sacristy, making for my room which was cooler than the verandah. The cat, its paw uplifted, was darting its claws at the serpent's head, and the latter, in a rage, had its neck stretched out and was hissing and whistling like the siren of a steamer in distress. I had no stick. In fact, my servants had advised me that it was better not to do anything to excite the creature still more, for it would turn upon me in its fury and bound forward to bite me. A gun would have been preferable. Off ran my little servant boy to beg a neighbour to hurry up with his revolver.

The neighbour arrived just as the cat seemed worn out and about to give up. The first time my friend missed his aim. I seized a stake and struck the serpent which seemed to be making straight for me, and at the same moment a second shot fortunately hit it on the head. It measured over six feet in length. It was immediately burned and the ashes buried.

That day, so powerful were the emotions of that half-hour of Homeric strife that the sexton forgot to ring the Angelus. But I did not neglect to go at once to the church to recite the hymn *Custodes hominum* of the feast of the Guardian Angels.

Still another example of their protection. One evening last month, after recreation, I left the verandah to go to my room. It occurred to me to bring my lantern with me, which I do not usually do. That night there were two of us at the door of my dwelling: myself (to name the worthier of the two first), and a slender kind of snake about three feet long, the bite of which causes intense pain and almost immediate death. It is called here a *Kandan-Karnvalalei*, and is white with black stripes.

This one, ignoring all politeness, walked into my room before me and disappeared under the wardrobe. You will admit that the idea of having such a guest near you all night would not be promising for much sleep. My night prayers were short! The accustomed whistle brought my two servants, fully armed.

"But what are we to hit, whom are we to hit, Father?" the boys asked, thinking I was joking.

"There is a *karnvalalei* in the room, I have seen it with my own eyes. Find it, and don't let it spoil your *soumai*," I said.

Five or six minutes passed. No sign of the reptile.

"Father, have you looked in your waste paper basket?" I did not know that this particular viper had a fancy for reading old newspapers and official correspondence.

"No," I replied, "but it is not a bad idea. Have a look over the contents yourselves, but be careful! (Learned students don't like to be disturbed in their researches, I thought).

In that very spot, amongst old envelopes and catalogues from novelty stores in Colombo, the pretty black and white reptile was snugly coiled, fancying itself safely hidden away. Two strokes of the cane on the spine left the graceful *kandan-karnvalalei* lifeless.

I then recited: *Angelis suis mandavit de te ut custodiant te in omnibus viis tuis*, "He has commanded His angels to guard thee in all thy ways."

And how well these faithful ministers fulfil their mission. We constantly read in the papers of the island, tragic cases of the bites of serpents, but I have not yet read of a Catholic priest being a victim. *Mandavit de te*: the good angels guard us in all our ways.

As another of its unattractive curiosities, Kalmunai possesses the black scorpion, whose bite, though not mortal, according to the Indians, is extremely painful; and also the centipede, which one comes upon nearly everywhere — under a book, in a shoe, amongst the bed-clothes, in a hat — even, O mockery! in a cardboard box containing powders and drugs for the bite or sting of these same poisonous creatures. This latter fact I have reported to the vendor of these marvellous drugs. He has not, so far, recorded it amongst his advertisements!

There is also in Ceylon an immense spider which, when the legs are spread out nearly covers the palm of an ordinary-sized hand. It is armed with a long dart, slender and very hard, which it keeps rolled up spiral shape, like the bee. It appears that it benumbs the limb or member it bites. I can still see the spot in our bath-room where one was killed.

Perhaps this tale will frighten nervous folks, and some future missionaries, will perhaps turn their thoughts towards shores less exposed to such unpleasant encounters. I will acknowledge candidly, for the benefit of these latter especially, that I myself felt somewhat nervous at the sight of a reptile when first I came to Kalmunai, and that the thought of a scorpion spoiled my digestion and haunted my dreams. I never neglected at night to make a minute inspection of my room, my bed, going even so far as to sweep under every article.

Gradually, however, this nervousness quieted down, and now I simply take the precautions suggested by common prudence, leaving the rest to my Angel Guardian.

As a matter of fact, the serpent, even the cobra itself, is afraid of man; if it does sting sometimes, it is because it believes it is attacked or because some awkward person has trod on its tail. As a rule, it makes off at our approach, for it loves its life according to the instinct of self-preservation which it

has received from the Creator. So now, when I hear a centipede scratching under my bed in search of its supper at night, I just wish it good luck, knowing perfectly well that it is only hunting "small fry."

In conclusion: we have our Guardian Angels. Let us look to them for protection, invoking them with confidence and returning them grateful thanks for the many services they render us in the land of reptiles as elsewhere. Let us also beg of them to aid us in crushing the head of the infernal serpent, which is the only one really to be feared, the only one that can cause the loss of a soul among our poor pagans.

League of Prayer and Sacrifice



For the extinction of anti-religious societies

The Associates should, each day, recite one Hail Mary.

Three times the invocation: "O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee."

The prayer of His Holiness Leo XIII in honour of Saint Michael the Archangel.

And impose upon themselves a daily sacrifice.

The Associates should also wear the Miraculous Medal.

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in the battle; be our protection against the malice and snares of the devil. Rebuke him O God, we humbly pray; and do thou, O prince of the heavenly host, by the divine power, thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who roam through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

Seen and approved March 12, 1924.

(Indulgence of 100 days)

† L. N. Card. BEGIN, Arch. of Quebec.

As there is no true devotion to Christ's sacred Humanity which is not mindful of His Divinity, so there is no adequate love of the Son, which disjoins Him from His Mother, and lays her aside as a mere instrument, whom God chose as He might choose an inanimate thing, without regard to its sanctity or moral fitness.

Father Faber.

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. Teresa of the Child Jesus.



Please find enclosed a money order for six dollars. Five dollars of this amount is for the Missions in thanksgiving to the Little Flower of Jesus for a favour granted me. The other dollar is for the renewal of my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. A. P.—I am enclosing a money order for \$1.00 for a favour obtained through the Little Flower. I am praying for another favour and will send a further donation if I obtain it. Please pray that this favour may be granted me. Mrs. E. B., **Montreal**.

—Through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus I have obtained a special request. In thanksgiving, I gladly enclose \$1.00 for your missionary work. A Subscriber.—Enclosed please find \$2.00 towards the Little Flower Burse, which I promised to send for a favour received. Mrs. R. R.—Enclosed please find \$5.00 for the ransom of a pagan baby, in thanksgiving for a favour granted me through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. Mrs. A. H.—I am enclosing a small donation towards the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Miss B., **Quebec**.—I am most grateful to St. Teresa for special favours granted me through her intercession. A Subscriber.—In fulfilment of a promise made some time ago,

I am enclosing a small donation towards the Little Flower Burse. Miss L.—Enclosed please find \$5.00 for your missions in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour received. Mrs. J. B., **Montreal**. Enclosed find \$10.00 for a ten years' subscription to THE PRECURSOR. This is to fulfil a promise made to the Little Flower of Jesus. A Subscriber.—I am enclosing \$2.00 for your missions, in thanksgiving to the little Patroness

of Missionaries, who has deigned to hear my prayers. Mrs. N., **Montreal**.—Please accept the enclosed offering towards the Little Flower Burse, in thanksgiving for being restored to health. Miss E. B.—Enclosed please find \$2.50 for the missions, in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour received. Anonymous.—I wish to return heartfelt thanks to the dear little Flower of Jesus, who helped me in time of need. Mrs. E. M., **Verdun**.—Please accept the enclosed

offering of \$1.25, which I promised to send in honour of St. Teresa the Little Flower for favours obtained; I would send more money if my husband and son could find work. Please pray for us. Mrs. J. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.**—With my subscription to THE PRECURSOR I am enclosing \$1.00 for the Missions, in thanksgiving to the loving little Patroness of Missionaries, through whose intercession I have received numerous favours. Mrs. P. D.—Enclosed please find \$5.00 for the Foreign Missions, in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for favours received. Anonymous.—I wish to let you know that through the intercession of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus I received the favours I asked for. I am enclosing \$1.00 in her honour. Mrs. G.—I return sincere thanks to the Little Flower for a favour she obtained for me from Almighty God. Please publish. Mrs. P. G.—I promised, if St. Therese granted me a favour I had asked, that I would send you an offering of \$5.00 in her honour. Many thanks to this dear little Saint. Anonymous, **Montreal**.—I wish to return thanks to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, for I feel that my brother has been cured through her intercession. Mrs. J. B.—I feel very grateful to the Little Flower for her powerful intercession in my behalf. To thank her I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. J. L., **Verdun**.—I wish to express my gratitude for a great favour granted me after having recourse to St. Therese. Mrs. L.—Enclosed please find \$5.00 for your Works in thanksgiving to the little Patroness of Missionaries for a favour received. Mrs. G., **Outremont**.—Enclosed find an offering in thanksgiving to the Little Flower for the restoration to health of a very dear friend. Mrs. L.

— I am sending you \$1.00 to help you in your missionary work. This is in thanksgiving for a great favour received through the intercession of the Little Flower of Jesus. Miss A. L., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for your Works in thanksgiving to St. Therese the Little Flower. Anonymous. — I am enclosing \$2.00 for your needy missions, and \$1.00 for lights to be burned before the statue of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Mrs L. B. — I promised the Little Flower that I would send an offering of \$2.50 if she would obtain a very special favour for me. I received a favorable answer to my prayers. Mrs. A. S., **Montreal**. — Enclosed find an offering for a Low Mass in honour of the Little Flower in thanksgiving for a favour received. H. B. — I have received a very special favour and enclose a small offering in thanksgiving. M. A., **Collinsville, Mass.** — In thanksgiving for a favour granted me through the intercession of the dear little Patroness of Missionaries, I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby. Mrs. B. — Thanks to the Little Flower of Jesus, I have obtained a great favour. Please accept the enclosed offering in thanksgiving. Mrs. R., **Verdun**. — I am enclosing 50c as a thank-offering for petition granted. Anonymous. — You will find enclosed an offering for the ransom of a dying pagan baby in thanksgiving to the dear Patroness of Missionaries for a cure obtained. M. H. — Please find enclosed \$1.25, a donation towards the Burse in honour of the Little Flower of Jesus, to thank the dear Saint for a favour obtained. E. L., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — My most grateful thanks to the little Patroness of Missionaries for a favour received. Mrs. A. T., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$5.00 for the missions in thanksgiving to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus, who helped me to find a good tenant. I promise to send you an annual donation of \$5.00 if I obtain another special favour. M. R. — I cannot express how thankful I am to the Little Flower of Jesus. Kindly accept the enclosed offering in her honour. A Subscriber. — I am enclosing \$2.00 as a thank-offering to St. Therese for a favour received. M. D., **Montreal**.

Even when alone, be cheerful, remembering always that you are in the sight of the Angels.

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.

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 the **Burse** 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**.

OFFERINGS FOR THE "LITTLE FLOWER" BURSE.

We shall then receive with gratitude, any offerings, (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 May-June | 1932 | \$98.50 |
| In July-August | " | 12.25 |

We beg Almighty God to bless all those who, by their alms, help to complete the Little Flower Burse. May He reward them in heaven for having assisted His missionaries.

Echoes from our Missions

SHEK LUNG LAZARETTO

*Letter addressed by the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
of the Shek Lung Lazaretto to their Superior General*

Shek Lung Lazaretto, May 26, 1932.

BELOVED MOTHER,

God has sent us many a consolation just lately. Our happiness knows no bounds each time we have the occasion of making a few conversions among our dear lepers, or of opening heaven to those on the threshold of eternity.

During the month of March, all our patients honored St. Joseph in a special manner. As three strange priests were here a few days before Easter, all the lepers as well as ourselves had the happiness of assisting at the Holy Week Offices in our chapel.

On April 1st, we received twenty-five new patients, all of whom were much to be pitied. Oh! if we only had money enough to give a little comfort to these poor unfortunates, whose lives are so miserable!

During the month of April, three men and two women left this land of exile after being fortified by the Last Rites of the Church.

Towards the end of this same month, a leprous woman was brought to us by some soldiers. As we saw that she was heart-broken to think that her relatives did not want to keep her any longer, we did our best to console her.

On the first day of the beautiful month dedicated to our Blessed Lady, all our patients made their way to the chapel to recite the Rosary and to sing a few hymns in her honour. Dear Mother, I am sure you would be pleased if you could only see how our dear lepers love our Immaculate Mother.

On May 2nd, two poor old lepers died, and, a few days after, there were six other deaths among our patients.

On Pentecost Sunday, all our dear charges received Holy Communion for you, beloved Mother. They joined with us in praying that God might shower His choicest blessings upon you, and that He might spare you for still many years longer. These poor unfortunates, in whom you take such an interest, dear Mother, are really grateful for all that has been done for them.

Our Sisters from Canton and a few of their pupils took part in our Corpus Christi procession. The chapel, on this occasion, was prettily decorated with dainty flowers. Oh! dear Mother, how we wish you could see the graceful white, red and pink lilies that bloom on our island. If flowers are looked upon as being so many smiles from God, it may indeed be said that He has a special affection for the poor unfortunates confided to our care.

Your loving daughters of the Lazaretto.



WORKROOM CONDUCTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IN TSUNG MING, CHINA.

TSUNG MING, HAIMEN VICARIATE, CHINA

*Letter from Sister Marie de l'Epiphanie, Superior of the Missionaries
of the Immaculate Conception of Tsung Ming, China,
to her Superior General.*

Tsung Ming, April 30, 1932.



BELOVED MOTHER,

During the month of March, there were many cases of measles and influenza among our orphans, who fell sick one after the other. Their dormitories looked more like hospital wards than anything else. These diseases are very dangerous here, for they are usually followed by bronchitis, croup, hemorrhages and scurvy. A Jesuit missionary, who resided at Tsung Ming for several years, has written that children's deaths are more numerous on this island than in any other part of China. We had every reason to be afraid when we saw our little ones victims of the dreaded measles. We decided that the best thing to do was to send them to different homes, where they could be kept apart. Our good Christian women gladly took them in. We kept with us at the Orphanage, nine of the older orphans, all of whom had contracted the influenza. Despite all the trouble we went to in order to save the lives of our dear little charges, we lost as many as sixteen. Now that they are in heaven, they must very often think of the Benefactors of the Holy Childhood, who have procured them such happiness. A few who were usually in good health, left us quite suddenly. *Qoue Faunt*, five years of age, was not at all in danger a few hours before her death occurred. She smiled and said good-night as usual, to the Sister who put her to bed. During the night, the poor child choked up so quickly that the Sister in charge of the children had not time to reach her bed before her innocent little soul had flown to its Creator. This dear little orphan always had a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin. The Hail Mary was her favourite prayer. One day, while looking up at a picture of this tender Mother, she was heard to repeat: "I love you, you know." We rejoice to think how well she must have been received into heaven.

Every day, at the Foundling-Home, we have five or six new babies to care for. We hope that soon all the abandoned children will be brought to us. This year, we received nearly a thousand, a few hundred more than last year. A Jesuit has written that of the total population of Tsung Ming, which is not quite a million, nearly ten thousand babies die each year. This does not mean that all these little ones are killed, but that they do not receive the necessary care to keep them alive. The babies thrown out by their parents are brought to the Mission by beggars. In order that the harvest of little souls may be still greater, we have opened another station in a neigh-



A MISSIONARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.
ATTENDING TO HER LITTLE CHARGES.

bouring village. To those who bring us the little castaways, we give three hundred "cash" and a bowl of rice.

One day, a poor pagan woman who had heard that the Sisters received abandoned children, came to see us. She asked us if we were able to relieve her little four-year-old son, an idiot. On being told that there was no cure for the child, she offered to give him to us, but, beforehand, she was careful to tell us just how we should feed him and put him to bed. The very day of his arrival, the little invalid was carried to the church to be baptized and confirmed. But he only remained with us for a short time, for the Christian woman who had told the pagan mother about our Orphan-

age, came asking us to give her the child, as his father, through superstition, was afraid that a great misfortune would befall him if he did not have more respect for his son. Without a moment's hesitation, we gave up the little invalid, whose soul had been purified by the Sacred Waters of baptism and which we knew, would certainly not remain long in his poor miserable body. Oh! what a powerful instrument of God's mercy is the blessed Work of the Holy Childhood!

A number of our little orphans are to make their First Holy Communion on Pentecost Sunday. They study their Catechism two hours every day. It is interesting to hear them talking about their lessons. The other day, when they were learning how to confess their sins, we heard them repeating aloud: "Father, this is my first confession. Father, I have said my prayers badly. Father, I disobeyed *Mo Mo* (Sister). Father, I quarrelled with my little companions. Father, forgive me these sins and all the others that I cannot remember."

Several old women have been asking us to give them shelter. All of them are very anxious to receive the Sacraments before dying. As they realize that they have not much longer to live, they would like to serve God at least a little while before leaving this earth. We are not, however, in a position to do anything for them. The priests who founded the Mission here, had the intention of establishing a home for old people. They had even selected the site, but were unable to go through with their project. What goes by the name of "Old Folks' Home" is but a garden wherein vegetables are raised for the Mission. If we had the necessary funds, we could begin by giving shelter to twenty-five old people, who, according as they died, would be replaced by others. God must certainly love these

poor aged creatures, who long to serve Him. We are sure that if they were given hospitality, they would not fail to return Him thanks.

Oh ! dear Mother, how many souls could be saved, if we only had some kind of a refuge. I would like to meet a friend who would make us a donation of three or four thousand dollars, the sum needed to construct such a building. Every day, I entreat St. Joseph to find us a means of coming to the assistance of the numerous homeless inhabitants of the island. As yet, all we can do is to pity these wretched creatures, for it is useless to think of taking them in when we have no place to put them. We are very sorry each time we have to send them away, for it would be so easy to teach them about our holy religion and they would make themselves so useful by doing our gardening and weaving cotton for us.

We always have beggars at the door of the Orphanage. If we happen to give a little money or a bowl of rice to one, we are sure to see a number of them arrive. It is impossible for us to help them all, but we never refuse those who are suffering. A girl of seventeen, who is insane, is never without our sympathy. Each time she comes, we give her a bowl of rice. His Excellency is anxious to see some charitable institution erected here soon. We entreat St. Joseph to inspire some generous person with the thought of providing a home for the unfortunate inhabitants of Tsung Ming. These poor people would certainly remember such a benefactor for the rest of their days, and they would not fail to pray for him once they reached the heavenly abode.

The women employed in our workroom came back on Easter Monday, after being away for a few days. It was not long before they had all settled down to work again. In summer, they usually arrive at half-past seven, and, in winter, a half an hour later. Before taking their places, they always kneel to offer their work to God. Most of them make lace and embroider priests' vestments. Those unable to do this kind of work, knit stockings. Every half-hour, the little cuckoo bird in the clock we received from Sister St. Paul just before coming to Tsung Ming, reminds the happy workers that it is time to recite a Hail Mary and a few invocations to the Sacred Heart, the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph, the Guardian Angels, and the Little Flower of Jesus.

During the course of the day, they say their morning and night prayers, their beads, and the Our Father and Hail Mary six times. It is really consoling to see these young women rapidly plying the needle or crochet-hook while proclaiming God's praises. They listen



A LITTLE NATIVE OF TSUNG MING

for nearly an hour every day to the explanation of some difficult text from a Catholic book. In China, the people of the working class are not at all educated. The Christians have all they can do to learn their prayers, which are long and very difficult.

Up to the present, about forty of our Christian women have been kept busy making vestments for all the priests throughout the Vicariate. They have also done a little work for different Companies in Shanghai. His Excellency Bishop Tsu wishes these women to be given work for charity's sake, for they are very poor. A few who live some distance away bring their dinner wrapped up in a piece of newspaper. Their meal consists of a cornmeal biscuit and a few vegetables. We find it hard to keep from crying to see the little they have to eat. They are nearly always half starved, but they work just the same until six o'clock in the winter and till half-past six in the summer. When the day is over, the tired workers return to their miserable straw huts, anxious doubtlessly, to spread among all those with whom they come in contact, a little of the happiness they have experienced at the foot of the pretty statue of the Blessed Virgin set up in their workroom.

On March 14th, two of our Sisters went to Shanghai; not since the latter part of January had they ventured to take such a trip. Reverend Father Tsu advised us to lay in provisions enough for six months, as he feared that there would not be peace in the city very long. When our Sisters returned on the 17th, they told us of their surprise on finding only a few houses remaining in the section which had been attacked by the Japanese. The schools have re-opened after serving as hospitals for the wounded. The Helpers of the Holy Souls had the occasion of baptizing more than a hundred dying soldiers during the troubled period.

On April 20th, we had the happiness of baptizing a poor young woman who is suffering from a cancer. After calling in several Chinese doctors, her husband came to the Dispensary asking us if we could send a Sister to his home. We left at once and soon reached the miserable dwelling, which consists of two dingy rooms having but one door and no windows at all. We were obliged to light a candle while treating our patient, whom we found in a dying condition. For four days, our Sister infirmarian continued to dress the poor woman's wounds, and, after consulting the priest, she explained to her the principal truths of our holy religion and baptized her.

The poor people here did not suffer quite so much during the winter as they did last year. We are now enjoying spring weather and have finished planting our garden. We even have some strawberry plants. There are not many kinds of fruit here, but we shall do our best to get some to grow.

A group of the leading men of a neighboring village came to visit the Orphanage yesterday. A Christian who accompanied them, remarked to the Sister who showed them around that these gentlemen had been told that Europeans made medicine out of the eyes of dead children. They all seemed to be quite surprised to see that all the babies were so well cared for.

In the Native Novitiate and School, our Sisters have met with success.

They have far less difficulty now that they have learned the language of the country.

Beloved Mother, I shall now bring my long letter to a close. I hope we shall have news from Outremont before long. It greatly pleases us to receive letters from our dear Sisters and especially one from you, dear Mother.

Your affectionate daughter,

Sr. MARIE DE L'ÉPIPHANIE, M. I. C. (1)

* * *

CANTON, CHINA

In 1927, four hundred pupils attended our school. Since its foundation in 1910, we have trained more than fifty virgin catechists, the first fruits of our apostolate in Canton. These virgins, like the Christians of ancient Rome, have suffered much for the Faith. When the Communists threatened the country a few years ago, we were obliged to send our pupils away, but now that peace has been established, we have decided to take them back again.

During the first three terms, we had much trouble with the teachers and pupils, who were always ready to leave us. At present, however, we have as many as two hundred scholars, nearly all of whom are pagans. A few months ago, the pupils of the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades asked us to teach them Catechism. Since then, we have explained the Catholic doctrine to them twice a week. We realize that we must pray fervently that the

1. May MoQUIN, of Eastman.



SEVEN VIRGIN CATECHISTS OF CANTON, CHINA.

seeds of truth which are being sown in these young hearts may germinate. It is not an easy task to snatch from the devil the numerous pagan inhabitants of Canton.

Only one of the seven teachers in our school is a Catholic; the others are pagans, but three of them have asked to be instructed. They are all well disposed.

During the past year, several pagans have been instrumental in converting their fellow-men. The sixteen-year-old brother of Miss Anna Lao, one of our teachers, was obliged to go to the hospital some time ago. As there was no hope for his recovery, Miss Lao, who realizes how really beauti-



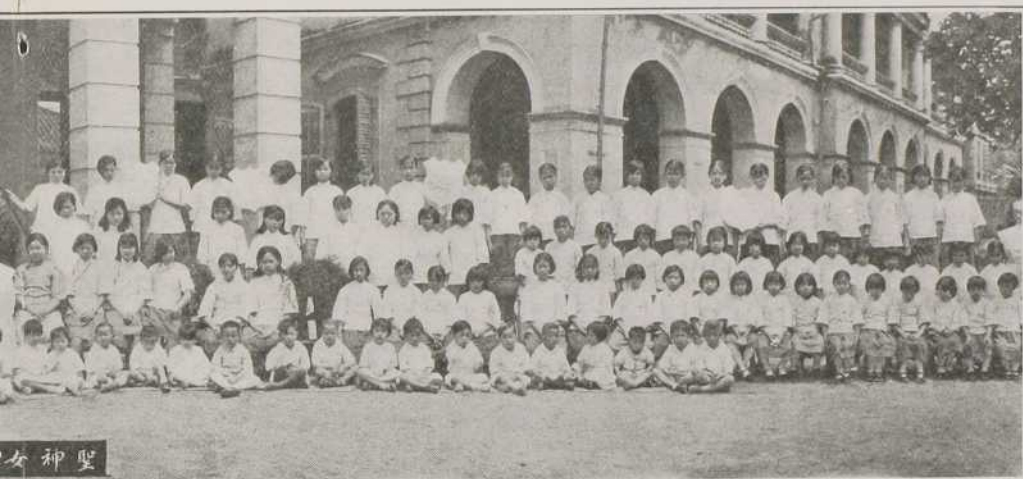
PERSONNEL OF THE HOLY GHOST SCHOOL, CANTON, CHINA, IN CHAR

ful is our holy religion, told one of the Sisters that she wanted her brother to be baptized before dying. A few days after, she informed us of the death of the young man, adding that he had been baptized on his death-bed. On making a few enquiries we learned that someone had sent for a native priest as soon as they saw that the youth was dying. Miss Lao was extremely pleased to think that her dear brother had had such a happy death. She was married, recently, to a young lawyer of the city and has just told us that she hopes that her husband and herself may soon belong to our religion.

We shall now relate to you how it happened that another Chinese lady was converted. She came here, some time ago, asking us to teach her French, as she was obliged to accompany her husband to Paris a little later on. We began at once to give her lessons, and it was not long before she asked us to teach her about our religion. She entered the Church on Easter Sunday, after being under instruction for some time. The ceremony of Baptism took place in our little chapel, which was prettily decorated for the occasion. The new neophyte, realizing what a special grace had been granted her, soon asked her husband to allow her to have her two little ones baptized. How wonderful are God's ways!

One of our former pupils, who embraced the Faith a few years ago, brought us a baby recently. Although she was obliged to give \$90.00 for it, she was glad to know that it would not be brought up a pagan. We baptized the child and gave it the name of Mary Victoria.

Shortly after New Year's, we succeeded in converting Miss Wong, a wealthy young lady. It was only after due reflection that she decided to enter the Church. She is now a fervent Christian and her one thought is to lead others into the true Fold. She has done away with all the idols that she formerly worshipped. In her room may now be seen a crucifix and a statue of the Blessed Virgin, before which there are lighted candles



LARGE OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

and bouquets of fresh flowers. Her sister Alice, who is still a pagan, seems to be religiously inclined.

We hope that in the future we shall win many other pagan souls for Christ. Canton is a large city and there is still much good to be accomplished therein. True it is that, at present, it is a veritable stronghold of Satan, but it will not always be such. Our Lady of Lourdes, who is invoked in a special manner by the Christians of Southern China, will not fail, we feel sure, to crush the head of the infernal serpent.

Dear friends across the seas, the Missionary Sisters in Canton beg you to pray that our dear Mother Mary may be known and loved in the land which they have chosen as the field of their apostolate.

On June 8, 1931, we were asked by the English and French Consuls to take charge of a school in Shameen. Children of every creed and nationality are admitted: among them are to be found Catholics, Protestants, Mohammedans, Shintoists and Buddhists. We shall give our scholars a good training while they are with us, but we do not expect to keep them very long, for their fathers, who are either consuls or bankers, intend to remain in Canton for a few years only.

SZEPINGKAI, CHINA

Extract from a Letter written by the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception of Szepingkai, Manchuria.

Szepingkai, May 24, 1932.

BELOVED MOTHER,

Since writing to you last, we have had the happiness of baptizing several pagan babies at the Orphanage. At the native Novitiate and the Dispensary, we have also met with success.

The reports for the month of March 1932, are as follows:

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 8 | | |
| Patients..... | 733 | Treatments..... | 692 | |
| Dressings..... | 318 | Homes visited..... | 51 | |

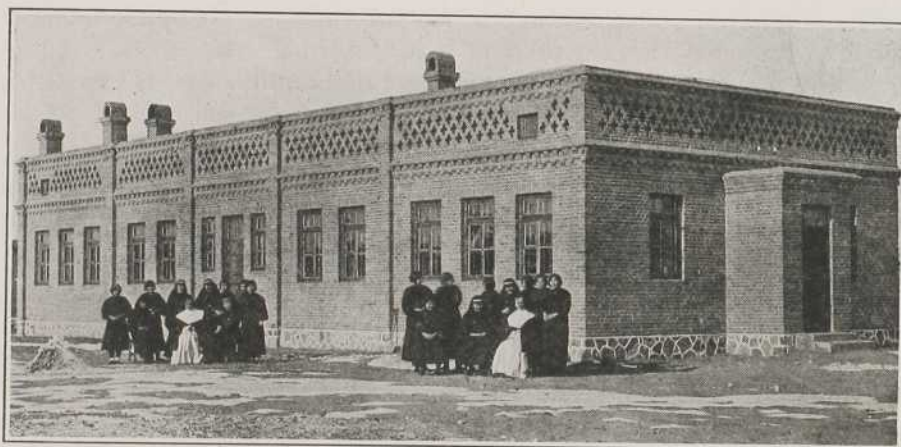
Report of the Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling, open one day each week:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 13 | | |
| Patients..... | 668 | Treatments..... | 815 | |
| Dressings..... | 221 | Homes visited..... | 2 | |

Report of the Dispensary of Peiko, open half a day each week:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|----|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 2 | | |
| Patients..... | 102 | Treatments..... | 9 | |
| Dressings..... | 15 | Homes visited..... | 26 | |

On April 4th, the day set aside by the Church for the celebration of the Feast of the Annunciation, two native postulants donned the Holy Habit,



NATIVE NOVITIATE, SZEPINGKAI, MANCHURIA, CHINA,
CONDUCTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

while each of the four others who had just arrived received a medal of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus. Reverend Father Larochelle, M. E., Superior of the Mission, presided at the pious ceremony. The new novices were overjoyed and wished their younger Sisters the same happiness.

The following day, at Koung-tchou-ling, our Sister infirmarians treated one hundred and forty-two patients, besides baptizing three dying babies. On April 11th, while visiting the same mission station, they had the happiness of baptizing ten pagan children and of witnessing the baptism of an adult by Reverend Father Lefevre, M. E., Pastor.

At the Dispensary of Szepingkai, which is open every day, we have not as yet had the occasion of treating many patients. However, we often have the privilege of opening heaven to many little pagan souls, and sometimes even to a few adults.

Reports for the month of April 1932:—

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-------|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 34 | | |
| Patients..... | 1,491 | Treatments..... | 1,186 | |
| Dressings..... | 720 | Homes visited..... | 73 | |

Report of the Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 19 | | |
| Patients..... | 586 | Treatments..... | 720 | |
| Dressings..... | 230 | Homes visited..... | 2 | |

Report of the Dispensary of Peiko:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 4 | | |
| Patients..... | 135 | Treatments..... | 145 | |
| Dressings..... | 99 | Homes visited..... | 11 | |

Towards five o'clock on May 2nd, a dying child, six years old, was brought to us. No sooner had the sacred waters of Baptism been poured over the brow of this little waif, than her pure soul winged its flight to heaven. Before closing the Dispensary in the evening, we had baptized six other pagans.

On May 17th, after treating two hundred and thirty patients at the Dispensary of Koung-tchou-ling, we had the happiness of administering seventeen baptisms. It is on such occasions that we feel the need of thanking God for having chosen us to labour for the salvation of souls in this heathen land.

In the spring, we did a little gardening. The novices and postulants are delighted to see how well the different plants are thriving. They sing all the time they are watering them and pulling up the weeds. We hope that they will always be faithful to God's grace...

YOUR HAPPY CHILDREN OF SZEPINGKAI.

LEAO YUAN SIEN, CHINA

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Leao Yuan Sien, Manchuria, China.

Sunday and Monday, 3rd and 4th of April

A very tired woman knocks at the door of the Dispensary and asks us to take in her nine-year-old child, who has contracted pneumonia. Being too poor to hire a carriage, she decided to carry her little one to us in her arms. Our new patient is now a child of God and it will not be long before she leaves this land of exile.

Saturday, April 9

Some time ago, while visiting the homes of some of our patients, a Christian woman brought us her dying baby. We baptized it at once, giving it the Chinese name of *Paulou* (Paul). The little one is now quite well and is brought to the church to-day. The mother, who has a very poor memory, tells the priest that the child is called *Lou Pao*, a word which means something altogether different.

Thursday, April 14

Today, we learn of the death of an old man of seventy, whom we baptized yesterday.

Friday, April 22

An old woman asks us to visit her little grandson, born just a week ago. As the roads are in a very bad condition, it takes us a long time to reach the pagan home. On entering, we find the child lying dead in a corner, and are told that it is soon to be thrown out. Usually, babies are cast away before they are dead. After baptizing the little one conditionally, we continue on our way and, before long, reach the village of *Sin fa pou*, where we baptize three dying children and visit a poor consumptive, who has already been treated at the Dispensary.

Saturday, April 23

Yesterday evening, the parents of a young girl who was married just lately, told us that they were going to send us some Chinese food. At dinner-time, five or six servants arrive, carrying bowls and chop-sticks, which they place on the table shown them. They have also brought with them a small cupboard containing twenty little bowls full of meat, vegetables, mushrooms, etc... We shall not need to cook any food for at least three days, that is if we do not lose our appetites before that time.

Sunday, April 24

All the members of two families of fallen-away Catholics have returned to the Faith. A number of children were baptized this afternoon.

Japanese aeroplanes continue to hover over the city. It has been rumoured that a thousand brigands are about to attack Leao Yuan Sien.

To-day, in the forenoon alone, we treat over a hundred patients, and before evening, we administer as many as six baptisms.

Thursday, April 28

One of our orphans of Pa Mien Tcheng is dead. We are inclined to rejoice rather than to grieve over the death of this dear child, for, since arriving at the Orphanage four years ago, she has been a daily communicant and has always offered her work to God, never ceasing to pray with the greatest fervour. While being treated for tubercular glands, she patiently bore all her sufferings. To-day, we assist at Mass and receive Holy Communion for the repose of her soul.

Friday, April 29

Just lately, a few Chinese pilgrims on their way to a pagan temple were advised by some Japanese soldiers to go to adore the true God in the Catholic Mission, rather than bow down before their deities. Although all these soldiers are pagans, they realize that ours is the only true religion.

Saturday, April 30

Report of the Dispensary of Leao Yuan Sien for the month of April 1932:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Baptisms..... | 124 | Dressings..... | 1,083 |
| Patients..... | 3,151 | Teeth extracted..... | 16 |
| Treatments..... | 1,620 | Homes visited..... | 57 |

Tuesday, May 3

When one of our Sisters who is taking lessons in Chinese asked her professor how long he thought it would take her to learn by heart the two hundred characters in her Chinese book, she was told that there was no hurry, that in a year she would know them all. The Chinese are just as slow in learning as they are in performing their everyday tasks. They think nothing of taking a whole year to learn a few hundred characters.

Tuesday, May 10

Ten little souls are baptized at the Dispensary during the course of the day.

Thursday, May 19

While administering Baptism for the tenth time to-day, one of our Sisters cannot help from thinking of the poor blind woman, who, while being treated

a short time ago, told her that she had drowned her two sick children because she was not able to take care of them. Every time we hear of the death of a pagan child, we are grieved to think that a little soul has been lost for all eternity.

Saturday, May 21

Yesterday, in a pagan home, we baptized a seven-year-old child in danger of death. We are surprised, to-day, to see how differently two of our patients act when we offer them each a miraculous medal. One of them angrily declares that she has no need of such a thing. Unlike her companion, who willingly accepts the medal offered her, she is impatient and is not in the least resigned.

Thursday, May 26

Although the roads are quite muddy, a woman who lives five *li* from the Mission, decides to walk here with a very sick little girl. As she has heard that we cure all the children that are brought to us, she asks us to treat her little one. She is mistaken to think that we are successful in curing all our little patients, for many of them are dying when they arrive and all we can do for them is to save their immortal souls.

* * *

PA MIEN T'CHENG, MANCHURIA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to
Pa Mien Tcheng, Manchuria, China*

Friday, March 18, 1932

After Mass, which is celebrated at half-past six this morning, the Christians renew their baptismal promises. The retreat which Father Berichon has been preaching, is then brought to a close by the singing of the *Magnificat*. We hope that all those who have made this retreat will be more fervent from now on.

Saturday, March 19

As the Feast of St. Joseph is a holy day of obligation in China, the chapel, this morning, is well filled with faithful souls anxious to testify their gratitude to their beloved Patron. During High Mass, we entreat our holy Protector to help us to save at least one soul to-day, and he does not fail to answer our prayers. While visiting one of our patients, we learn that in a neighboring house there is a dying baby. We make haste and have time to baptize the little one before it breathes its last.

We are just nicely back when a woman brings us a baby but two months old. As she wishes to get rid of the child, we are only too glad to make room for it in the Orphanage.

As we are saying our beads at noon, we are told that a three-year-old child has just been brought to the Dispensary. We go quickly to give it treatment and have the happiness of pouring the Sacred Waters of Baptism on its brow.

Wednesday, March 23

We extend a most hearty welcome to the little three-year-old orphan who arrives here to-day.

Easter Sunday, March 27

It is a beautiful bright day. All the Christians assist at Mass and approach the Holy Table with the greatest fervour. The chapel is filled to overflowing, for there are also several pagans present. We implore our dear Risen Lord to touch the hearts of these poor infidels, that they may soon enter the true Fold.

On returning to the convent, we are greatly pleased on being handed letters from home. We enjoy ourselves the whole day long.

Thursday, March 31

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------|-----|
| Baptisms..... | 17 | Dressings..... | 354 |
| Patients..... | 2,075 | Homes visited..... | 19 |
| Treatments..... | 2,675 | Teeth extracted..... | 11 |

Monday, April 4

Siao Yu (Pearl), the orphan we received two weeks ago, has already made herself quite at home. The poor child had been sold by her parents and compelled to work for a cruel-hearted woman, who intended to have her marry her young son a little later on. But the plans of our little one's new mistress were upset by the death of her three children. Not knowing what to do with Pearl, she brought her to the Catholic Mission.

Wednesday, April 6

Sister Julianne du St. Sacrement, Superior at Szeping kai, brings us another orphan. The poor child, who is fifteen years of age, is very weak. We hope that after being treated she will grow stronger. She desires to enter the Native Novitiate in Szeping kai.

Friday, April 8

While visiting a pagan home, we baptize a dying baby, whom we name Joseph Paul. We have the happiness of saving another little soul at the Dispensary.

A seven-year-old child who has just arrived at the Orphanage, is very much afraid of us, for she has never seen Sisters before. But we know that it will not be long before she will make up with us, as well as with her little companions, who are very glad every time they see a new playmate arrive.

Sunday, April 10

Mrs. Lee, the good old woman who was baptized on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, died last night. When we visited her last Monday, she was not able to speak, but she understood everything we said to her. As soon as she saw us getting ready to leave, she stretched out her hand and would have liked to have kept us a little longer. To-day, we go with the orphans, school children, and catechumens to pray beside the corpse. The pagan husband asks us to tell him just what Catholics do at a funeral. As his wife belonged to our religion, he wishes to give her a Christian burial. At four o'clock, the priest comes to bless the corpse. The numerous pagans who witness this ceremony, are deeply impressed.

Thursday, April 21

Yesterday evening, we received a healthy baby, six or seven months old. We are anxious to see the little one of an age to play with her tiny companions, who think the world and all of her.

Wednesday, April 27

A Chinese teacher has expressed the wish of becoming a catechumen. For some time past, this young lady has been interested in our religion. We hope that her parents will not hinder her from being baptized.

Saturday, April 30

Report of the Dispensary of Pa Mien Tchong for the month of April 1932:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|----|
| Baptisms..... | | 29 | |
| Patients..... | 3,082 | Teeth extracted..... | 38 |
| Treatments..... | 4,428 | Homes visited..... | 11 |
| Dressings..... | 368 | Children vaccinated..... | 3 |

Thursday, May 5

As it is Ascension Thursday, we do not give any treatments to-day. This afternoon, however, we are called to the Dispensary to baptize a dying child.

Friday, May 6

All the orphans have had slight attacks of the measles and the mumps.

Mee koui, two and a half years of age, who has been sick for a few days, is a little cranky at times. One day while Malia was combing her hair, she began to cry and called out to Sister St. Lazare: "*Zare, Zare, tung,*" (the virgin is hurting me.)

Thursday, May 10

This morning, after attending to one hundred and ten adults, we are asked to treat a three-year-old child who has been brought to the Dispensary by her grandmother. As the little one is dying, we do not give her any medicine, but hasten to baptize her.

Pentecost Sunday, May 15

As there are three priests at the Mission to-day, we have the privilege of having Mass celebrated in our little chapel. We ardently entreat the Divine Paraclete to shower abundant blessings upon our beloved Mother, whose patronal feast it is to-day. High Mass is celebrated at eight o'clock. The church, which has just been enlarged, is filled to capacity. We are pleased to see present many Christians who are not in the habit of assisting at Mass. May the Holy Spirit inflame the hearts of the numerous pagans surrounding us and lead them to embrace the Faith.

In the course of the afternoon, we have the happiness of receiving a visit from our dear Sister Julienne du St. Sacrement. After spending a most pleasant evening together, we repair to the chapel to implore special graces for our dear Mother.

Sunday, May 22

A little five-year-old orphan who was brought here recently from Lichou-sien, is baptized this afternoon. We thought it would please the pupils of the Apostolic School of Rimouski to name them as sponsors.

Thursday, May 26

We continue to learn Chinese; very soon we shall begin to study the characters in the eight volumes of the *Kouo Yu*.

We have not quite as many patients as formerly. We are told that, just lately, the devil in the form of a serpent, has been distributing medicine which cures all kinds of diseases. In another pagoda, a golden fish is supposed to be doing the same thing. This cannot possibly be true, but one thing is certain, and that is that the devil has all kind of plans to cause souls to be lost. We shall continue to pray fervently that our patients may return to the Dispensary, where, besides being treated for their bodily ills, they are taught how necessary it is to be a follower of Christ.

How many strange things happen in poor pagan China!...

There is no part of the history of Jesus but Mary has her part in it. There are those who profess to be His servants who think that her work was ended when she bore Him, and after that she had nothing to do but disappear and be forgotten. But we, O Lord, Thy children of the Catholic Church, do not so think of Thy Mother.

Cardinal Newman.

FAKOU, MANCHURIA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Fakou,
Manchuria, China*

Good Friday, March 25, 1932

Eight new catechumens arrive to-day. It must greatly console our divine Lord to know that still other souls wish to share in the fruits of the Redemption.

Easter Sunday, March 27

Yesterday, two pagans were received into the Church, and, this morning, a few Christians who have not been living up to their religion make their Easter Duty. During the day, we also have the happiness of receiving several new catechumens.

As soon as High Mass is over, we greet all the Christians, telling them how pleased we are to see them. After dinner, we pay a visit to our virgin catechists, and spend the rest of the afternoon reading the numerous letters we have received from Canada.

Monday, March 28

We baptize a little girl who is seriously ill. The many babies that are brought to the Dispensary are never quiet a minute... Some of them laugh, others sing, while most of them scream at the top of their voices. But when we stop to think that most of these poor little waifs will soon be happy angels, we do not complain of the noise they make.

Thursday, March 31

We name the two dying babies we baptize to-day, Joseph, in honour of our holy patron, whose beautiful month is quickly drawing to a close.

Report of the Dispensary of Fakou for the month of March 1932:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------|-----|
| Baptisms..... | 28 | Dressings..... | 568 |
| Patients..... | 2,690 | Teeth extracted..... | 35 |
| Treatments..... | 4,232 | Homes visited..... | 71 |

Monday, April 4

To-day, we have the consolation of pouring the sacred waters of Baptism on the brows of six dying babies, all of whom will soon wing their flight to heaven.

Tuesday, April 5

As it is "Arbor Day" for the Chinese, there is great excitement throughout the city. All the school children, who have been given a holiday, form

a procession and go to trim the trees. Unfortunately, much superstition is practised on this day of special rejoicing.

Tuesday, April 12

After a Chinese banquet, we receive fifteen little bowls of meat and vegetables and a dish of rice, but no dessert. The Chinese are not very fond of anything sweet, but they greatly relish all kinds of meat. Meat is regarded as such a luxury in China, that even people in ordinary circumstances eat it only on great festivals, while the poor have it as a special treat on New Year's Day. The people here eat only twice a day. Their meal consists of *chou-mi* and a little *pai ts'ai*, cabbage.

Wednesday, April 13

We are treating a nine-year-old orphan, who is really to be pitied. We feel quite sure that she has been ill-treated at home, for she seems to be afraid of the woman who brought her to us. After doing all we can for the unfortunate little girl, we make her a child of God.

Thursday, April 14

As the number of pupils is continually increasing, a new school is being built for the girls and an addition made to the boys' school. The contractor is Mr. Leou, who was baptized on March 19th.

Tuesday, April 19

How thankful we are for the good we have been able to do to-day! We baptized a four-year-old child in the morning, received a new catechumen in the afternoon, and, towards evening, had the happiness of baptizing a poor man sixty-one years of age.

Saturday, April 23

Three dying children are baptized at the Dispensary. One of these little ones is a cripple and has many tubercular wounds. We are very glad that her sufferings will soon be ended.

Sunday, April 24

To-day, we visit an aged woman who for some time past has been longing to become a Christian. She would like to learn all about our holy Faith before being baptized, but she has a very poor memory. After each lesson in Catechism given her by the virgin catechist, she repeats: "I am so *hou t'ou*, stupid, that I do not remember anything you have told me." Finally, the virgin realizes that her catechumen is too old and feeble to study the Catholic doctrine. She tells her that she can be baptized just the same, as long as she believes in God and is sorry for her sins. This news causes the poor old woman great joy. She willingly accepts the little medal we offer her and asks to be baptized at once.

Saturday, April 30

Report of the Dispensary for the month of April 1932:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|----------------------|-----|
| Baptisms..... | 42 | Dressings..... | 712 |
| Patients..... | 3,543 | Teeth extracted..... | 28 |
| Treatments..... | 5,026 | Homes visited..... | 56 |
| Children vaccinated..... | | 44 | |

Monday, May 2

While on our way to visit one of our patients, we meet a woman carrying a very thin little baby. We give the little one some medicine and pour



MISSIONARIES IN MANCHURIA, CHINA, SETTING OUT
ON AN APOSTOLIC JOURNEY.

the Regenerating Waters on its brow. We do not fail to thank the Blessed Virgin, for we feel that is through her intercession that we have been able to save another little soul.

Tuesday, May 3

Occasionally our patients write to us to tell us how sick they are. Yesterday, we received an amusing letter from one of them... After informing us that he has already been treated by Chinese doctors and that he has spent all his money on medicine, the poor man tells us that he is still very sick. He ends his letter as follows: 'Noble *doctor*, if you cure me, I shall again be able to earn a living for my children, who, in return, will hang your picture beside those of the pagan gods, and, every day, they will bow down before it. Moreover, two candles will be kept burning before your photograph... Needless to say, we are not anxious to be treated in the same way as the deities of the Celestial Empire. How strange are the customs of the poor pagans, who know nothing of the beauty of our holy Faith!

Thursday, May 5

We rejoice on hearing that a pagan gentleman and his two children wish to study the Catholic doctrine.

Sunday, May 8

The Christians here are in the habit of reciting aloud a chapter of their Catechism before High Mass each Sunday. All the women answer together the questions asked them by the men. In this way, they learn more about their religion.

From our flower-beds, to-day, we pluck some pretty pink flowers, the leaves of which greatly resemble those of the rose.

Thursday, May 12

The parents of a ten-year-old child who has diphtheria, have just been told by Chinese doctors that there is no hope for their little one. In their distress, these poor people look to us for assistance, but the disease has made such headway that it is useless for us to try to effect a cure. The only thing we are able to do for the little girl is to purify her immortal soul.

Friday, May 13

A young Christian woman whose husband is a pagan, asks us to baptize her dying baby. We gladly comply with her request. The poor woman has still a lively faith, despite the fact that she has been neglecting her religion.

Sunday, May, 15

Pentecost Sunday, which is looked upon as a great festival by every missionary, is a day very dear to us, for it is the patronal feast of our beloved Mother Foundress. On this happy anniversary we feel that the ties that bind us to the dear Mother House are drawn even closer together.

During Holy Mass, four newly-baptized adults receive Holy Communion. Responding to an invitation extended them by Reverend Father Barbeau, twenty-two Japanese and Chinese mandarins assist at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. In speaking to them afterwards, Father tells them that he has entreated the King of heaven to establish peace in the country and to grant them prosperity. They are greatly pleased, and, before taking their leave, offer to send eight soldiers to the Mission to accompany the priests on their apostolic journeyings.

After dinner, we go to visit the cemetery; here there are no handsome monuments such as are to be seen in Canada. Just a heap of earth marks the spot where someone lies buried. Very seldom is there even a plain slab erected over the grave. Before returning home, our guide offers to take us to a nursery of plants and shrubs a short distance away. There, we are surprised to find species of the pine, spruce and North American poplar...

Wednesday, May 18

To-day, despite the rain which has kept nearly everybody indoors, we treat a very sick child, who lives twelve *li* from the Mission. As the little fellow will certainly die before long, we hasten to baptize him. He is given the name of Joseph in honour of our beloved patron, who hardly ever fails to send us at least one dying child on the day dedicated to him.

Thursday, May 19

To-day, we are greatly disappointed on hearing an aged woman declare that she does not want to be baptized. It is on such occasions that we realize how little we are able to do without God's help. Our divine Lord sometimes takes pleasure in proving to us that we are but His useless servants who constantly need His assistance.

Sunday, May 22

Trinity Sunday, this year, coincides with the *mioa hoei*, different pagan celebrations... For three days, the Buddhists will fast and make all kinds of prostrations before their deities. We shall strive to render even greater homage to our Triune God, in order to make up for the idolatry of so many pagans who know Him not.

Thursday, May 26

All the inhabitants are busy putting fresh earth on the roofs of their dwellings. Yesterday, during the rain, the water caused much damage to nearly every earthen hut.

To-day, a young man comes to the Dispensary with a twelve-year-old boy whom he found lying on the side of the road. The poor child tells us that his mother is obliged to beg for her living and that she cannot be bothered with him. He would like to stay with us, but as we have no orphanage for little boys, we cannot think of taking him in. Before sending him away, however, we have the happiness of baptizing him. We name him John Francis Regis, and give him as godmother our dear Mistress of novices.

Monday, May 30

The little boy whom we baptized on Saturday has just been adopted by some good Christians. His foster-mother brings him to the Dispensary this morning. This woman, who is very kind, treats the child as if he were her own son. Oh ! how consoling it is to know that there are such charitable souls in pagan China.

Tuesday, May 31

Report of the Dispensary for the month of May:

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------|-----|--|
| Baptisms..... | | 25 | | |
| Patients..... | 3,485 | Dressings..... | 700 | |
| Treatments..... | 4,723 | Teeth extracted..... | 10 | |
| Homes visited..... | 77 | Children vaccinated..... | 88 | |

TAONAN, CHINA

*Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Taonan,
Manchuria, China.*

Thursday, March 17, 1932

To-day has been a very busy day for us. We were called twice to the same pagan home to treat a dying child ten years of age, and besides attending to our patients at the Dispensary, we visited four other homes. This evening, we register four baptisms. The happiness of being able every day, to save at least a few souls, is enough to cause us to overlook the sufferings we must endure as missionaries. We rejoice to think that by our labours we are advancing the glory of God.

We pay a visit to an aged gentleman, who is almost death's door. After baptizing him, we exhort him to trust in God. As the poor old man does not know anything of the value of suffering, we try to make him understand that he may lay up treasures for himself in heaven, by simply being resigned to God's Holy Will. We are confident that our Blessed Lady will not fail to assist him if he continues to wear the miraculous medal we gave him.

At the Dispensary, six babies are made children of God. Doubtlessly, before long, all will wing their flight to heaven.

Holy Saturday, March 26

A number of our pagan pupils often come to church. It is consoling to see how enthusiastically they recite the prayers they have already learned. We hope that by thus assisting at Mass they may learn to love our holy religion. A young pagan girl who attended our school last year, has been asking her mother to let her become a Christian. She has not yet obtained her parents' consent, but continues to come to the Mission just as often as she can slip away from home.

Easter Sunday, March 27

On this joyful Feast, we the three Sisters of the Mission of Taonan, are just as happy as we can be. Although the weather is dull, we nevertheless spend a very pleasant day, for the numerous letters we have received from our dear Mother House and from our beloved parents have brought with them the greatest cheer.

Thursday, March 31

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of March 1932:

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Baptisms..... | 48 | Dressings..... | 1,196 |
| Patients..... | 1,893 | Teeth extracted..... | 16 |
| Treatments..... | 3,242 | Homes visited..... | 39 |



MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND THEIR CHINESE HELPERS, IN THE DISPENSARY OF TAONAN, MANCHURIA, CHINA.

Friday, April 8

Towards half-past eight last night, we were asked to go to a pagan home to treat a dying child. As we could not think of leaving the Dispensary so late 'n the evening, Mr. Chou, our Chinese professor, went in our stead. On reaching his destination, he had just time to baptize the little one before it died.

Sunday, April 10

In the course of the forenoon, we receive word that the young man whom we visited last Friday has taken a turn for the worse. Although it is Sunday, we decide to go to see him just the same. Before we have gone very far, we meet a gentleman who tells us that it is useless to continue on our way, as the sick man is beyond recovery. However, we do not think of turning back, but walk as quickly as we can. We reach our patient before he has grown unconscious. He listens attentively to what we tell him about God and is quite willing to be baptized. After the Regenerating Waters have been poured on his brow, he repeats over and over again short acts of faith, hope, charity and contrition. Before taking our leave, we give him a little medal, which he asks us to tie on his wrist.

Before returning home, we also have the happiness of baptizing a seven-year-old child.

Wednesday, April 13

We have just learned that the Japanese of this city have opened a dispensary. Most likely, we shall lose a number of our patients. We hope that we shall at least continue to receive the sick babies. All along, we have been receiving from twenty-five to thirty daily.

Friday, April 15

General Tchang Hai P'ong assisted this morning at the Requiem High Mass which he asked to have celebrated for the repose of the soul of his friend, Su Tao Tchan, an aged Christian who died a few weeks ago. The singing was rendered by Reverend Fathers Paradis, Quenneville, Bonin, Masse, Roberge and Roch, and a few Chinese.

After breakfast, the General, accompanied by all the priests of the Mission, visited the Dispensary. We did not fail to implore Almighty God to touch the heart of this well-to-do pagan, that he might soon decide to enter the Church. He is quite friendly with all the Catholics of the district and speaks of Father Berger as if he were his brother.

Thursday, April 21

As the weather is fine to-day, many mothers bring their babies to the Dispensary to be vaccinated. Needless to say, these little ones make a great deal of noise. We have the happiness of baptizing twelve of them.

Sunday, April 24

At noon, we go to see a number of our pupils who have come to visit the virgin catechists. As these young girls intend to embrace Christianity before very long, we invite them to come to the convent to learn a few May hymns.

Tuesday, April 26

An aged woman comes to ask us to visit a dying child. Whenever there are sick children in the neighbourhood, this poor old creature, who is sick herself, always lets us know. On arriving at the pagan home, we find that our little patient is choking. We lose no time in baptizing him, as well as his little sister, who is also very sick.

Thursday, April 28

It is only little by little that our patients learn how to take the medicine we give them. They find that our pills are too small to do them any good. To-day, one poor woman, who has just been told that she must come for ten days for an injection, asks us to give her the whole ten injections together, so that she may get better sooner.

Saturday, April 30

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of April 1932:

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|--|
| Baptisms..... | | 97 | | |
| Patients..... | 2,793 | Dressings..... | 1,319 | |
| Treatments..... | 4,470 | Teeth extracted..... | 10 | |
| Children vaccinated..... | 60 | Homes visited..... | 26 | |

Tuesday, May 3

For the second time, we go to treat an old man who has a very bad sore on the back of his neck. His wife and children promise us that they will all become Christians as soon as he is cured. We give our patient a miraculous medal, assuring him that it will help him to get better if it God's Will.

Ascension Thursday, May 5

At noon, on visiting the school, we find that the walls have been artistically decorated by the pupils, nearly all of whom are studying the Catholic doctrine. One of them who was obliged to leave us just lately, wrote a touching letter to the virgins, telling them how sorry she was to be so far away and how she longed to return. We are confident that our Blessed Lady, whose miraculous medal she wears, will watch over the soul of this dear child.

Tuesday, May 10

At half-past eleven, when we were about to lock up the Dispensary, a poor mother arrived, carrying in her arms her six-year-old son, who was in a dying condition. We hastened to baptize the little fellow, to whom we gave the name of Gerard.

Monday, May 6

Shortly after opening the Dispensary this morning, we are asked to visit a sick woman. As we cannot send our patients home without treating them, it is not until eleven o'clock that we are free to leave the Dispensary. On reaching our destination, we find that we have no time to lose, for our patient is almost unconscious. After explaining to her the fundamental truths of our holy religion, we baptize her.

At the Dispensary, four babies, also, are made children of God.

Tuesday, May 17

A number of people from Kouan Li who wish to return home, are selling their children to-day, in order to procure enough money to pay their fare. It is heart-rending to think that such things happen.

Friday, May 20

We are asked to treat a bonzess, who has a sore leg. As the pagoda in which she lives is not far away, we go to see her before opening the Dispensary this morning. While there, we meet about thirty other bonzesses, who spend their time prostrating themselves before hideous brass idols.

Sunday, May 22

The grandmother of one of our pupils has asked us to accept her as a catechumen. After assisting at Benediction, she visits the virgin catechists, who give her a piece of meat pie to eat. She has belonged to a certain pagan sect for nineteen years, and during this time, out of respect for the gods, she has never touched meat. Oh! if we could only make all the poor pagans understand that ours is the only true religion !

Thursday, May 26

The old gentleman whom we have been treating for the past three weeks, is now perfectly well. He is grateful to us for the way we have treated him and tells everybody he meets that he is sure that even if he had given much money to Chinese doctors, they would not have done as much for him as we have done. We entreat our Immaculate Mother to help this poor pagan to understand why we take such an interest in him.

Monday, May 30

Yesterday, we baptized a girl of fifteen, and to-day, a young woman who had learned about our religion from one of her Christian neighbours. The latter, after accepting a miraculous medal, gazed lovingly at the crucifix saying: " I offer all my sufferings to our dear Lord and I am confident that He will take me to heaven. " While the Sacred Waters were being poured on her brow, her relatives took down all the idols that adorned the walls of her miserable dwelling.



TEACHERS AND PUPILS OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL, TAONAN, MANCHURIA, CHINA.

Tuesday, May 31

Report of the Dispensary of Taonan for the month of May 1932:

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|----|--|
| | Baptisms..... | 89 | | |
| Patients..... | 2,328 | Teeth extracted..... | 15 | |
| Treatments..... | 3,253 | Children vaccinated..... | 58 | |
| Dressings..... | 1,040 | Homes visited..... | 53 | |

Wednesday, June 1

We learn that Mrs. Li, the young lady we visited two days ago, died very soon after we left her. Another of our patients who was baptized about the same time, has also been called to her reward.

Thursday, June 2

This morning on asking one of the women who had come to the Dispensary if she felt very sick, we were quite surprised to hear her reply: "I am not sick at all, but I want to become a Catholic. Will you tell me what I should do?" We are moved to tears, and, from the bottom of our hearts, thank our Immaculate Mother for guiding this poor woman to our Dispensary.

Saturday, June 4

This week, we did a little gardening. We planted beans, peas, lettuce, tomatoes, turnips, beets, pumpkins, asparagus and different kind of flower seeds.

The old man who helps at the Mission lent us a helping hand. It was he who planted all the pumpkin seeds. Before he started, we told him that we did not think that he was able to do such work. On hearing this he was all the more eager to show us just what he was able to do.

The Sister who teaches English is quite proud of her pupils, who are all very attentive. Before each lesson they repeat the Hail Mary after her. The Blessed Virgin must look lovingly upon these dear children, and we feel sure that she will not fail to bestow on them all the precious gift of Faith.

In reviewing attentively the history of the Church, one cannot fail to see how from the very first ages of Christianity the especial care and solicitude of the Roman Pontiffs has been directed to the end that they, undeterred by difficulties and obstacles, might impart the light of the Gospel and the benefits of Christian culture and civilization to the people sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death. For the Church of Christ has no other reason for existence than by enlarging the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world to make all men participate in His salutary redemption.

Pope Pius XI.

Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

Dedicated to our dear Parents



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

Saturday, May 28

To-morrow, there will be Corpus Christi processions in every parish, that is, if the weather clears up. When we see the rain falling in torrents to-day, we pray fervently that the storm will be over to-morrow, so that our Sacramental Lord may be carried out into the open air to bestow abundant blessings on the people of our country.

Sunday, May 29

Deo Gratias ! there is not a cloud to be seen. Early in the morning, we kneel before the Tabernacle to thank our Eucharistic King, and, at nine o'clock, we march in procession with the parishioners of Pont Viau.

Every time that we have the occasion of joining in a procession of the kind, we naturally think of the courts of heaven, where we shall continually follow the Lamb, whithersoever He goes... Oh ! what happiness is awaiting us in the other life !...

Thursday, June 2

To-day, our divine Lord deigns to bless in a special manner His missionaries in the Foreign Mission Seminary and in our Novitiate.

Towards three o'clock, we take our places in front of the Seminary to bow down in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, which is carried out-of-doors by Mgr. Lapierre.

As the procession wends its way towards the Novitiate, all the workmen who are constructing our future chapel, kneel to receive the blessing of their loving Saviour, Who deigned to come upon earth to live the life of an artisan like themselves.

After assisting at Benediction in the Seminary chapel, we return to the Novitiate filled with holy joy.

Friday, June 3

This year, the Feast of the Sacred Heart coincides with the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of our dear Institute. We do not fail to offer to our loving Lord our heartfelt gratitude for the many blessings He has bestowed upon our dear Community since the day it was founded.

At noon, we read the recent Encyclical Letter of Our Holy Father, in which is stated the means that must be taken if we wish to see the end of

the world-wide period of depression. It is especially during the octave of the feast we are celebrating to-day that we are asked to repair the numerous outrages by which the Heart of our divine Lord is constantly being wounded. With the greatest fervour, we implore God's mercy upon the sin-wearied world.

Sunday, June 12

To-day, more than sixty young ladies, members of our different sewing circles in Montreal, make their annual visit to our Novitiate. It is always a great pleasure for us to extend a welcome to these devoted benefactresses.

After Holy Mass, at which they nearly all receive Holy Communion, we prepare them breakfast in the garden.

They chatter gaily for some time and then repair to the chapel, where they recite the Office of the Immaculate Conception. Towards eleven o'clock, they return home, fully resolved to come back again next year.

Tuesday, June 14

Since the new chapel is under construction, our beloved Mother comes oftener to the Novitiate. To-day, she is accompanied by our dear Sister Assistant General.

During the evening recreation, we listen attentively to the news our dear Mother gives us of our different missions. While conversing with us, she endeavours to discover in what field of apostolate we wish to labour. After nearly all have made known the land of their choice, one Sister ventures to declare that she prefers heaven. Our Mother does not approve of her idea, but tells her that she is a "*lazy little Sister*", adding that since heretics desire to live a long time in order to persecute the Church; we should be anxious to live just as long, in order to defend our holy Faith.

Wednesday, June 15

We joyfully acclaim the holiday given us by our beloved Mother, and as to-morrow is the patronal feast of our dear Mistress, we settle down to prepare a little celebration in her honour.

At half-past seven, after a few songs, piano selections and a recitation, we put on a little play in which is illustrated the merciful goodness of the Blessed Virgin towards all those who seek her intercession.

Thursday, June 16

This morning, on entering the chapel, we find the altar daintily adorned with pretty roses. We almost believe ourselves to be in a corner of the Garden of Eden. All our hymns and prayers are offered for the intentions of our dear Mistress.

There is no work for us to-day; we have nothing to do but to amuse ourselves until evening. Our Mistress invites all our elder sisters, that is all the novices who will not be at the Novitiate on "June 16th" next year,

to join in a game of "perfection". Needless to say, they are not willing to let anyone take their places.

Sunday, June 19th

During recreation this evening, our Mistress reads to us the letters she has received from the different missions on the occasion of her patronal feast. It is with the greatest interest that we listen to the account given us of the apostolic labours of our Sisters who spare no pains in making God's Holy Name known and loved in pagan lands. Oh! how happy they are! We long for the day when it will be given us to lend them a helping hand.

While awaiting our turn, we shall redouble our prayers and daily sacrifices in order to help our Sisters on the Missions to save as many souls as possible.

Friday, June 24

This is the feast of the holy Precursor of Our Lord, St. John the Baptist. It greatly amuses us this evening to see a life-like representation of our beloved saint which has been prepared as a little surprise for us. He has a copper-coloured complexion — doubtlessly on account of the burning rays of the sun in the desert — and is so thin that a few of the Sisters at once exclaim: "Oh! it can easily be seen that he only lived on locusts!"

Saturday, July 23

For some time past, we have been anxiously awaiting a visit from Mgr. Lapierre, Bishop-elect of Szepingkai. This afternoon, true to his promise, he comes to give us an account of the manners, customs and superstitious practices of the inhabitants of Manchuria.

Immense good still remains to be done among the heathens, and our distinguished visitor reminds us that it is only by being charitable that we shall succeed in leading souls to God. He endeavours to convince us of the fact that neither our life of poverty nor our talents will attract the attention of the Chinese, but that our charity alone will be admired by them.

On leaving the conference room, we are fully resolved to strive at attain this virtue which will enable us to render fruitful service in our future field of apostolate.

Thursday, August 4

In the Basilica of Montreal took place, this morning, the episcopal consecration of His Excellency Mgr. J. L. A. Lapierre of the Foreign Mission Society of Quebec, Vicar Apostolic of Szepingkai, Manchuria.

Our Reverend Mother, our Sister Bursar, the Superior of the Novitiate and a companion had the happiness of assisting at the ceremony, which was graced with the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Verdier, Archbishop of Paris, His Excellency Mgr. Cassulo, Apostolic Delegate to Canada and several bishops and prelates.

The consecrating prelate was His Excellency Mgr. Gauthier, Coadjutor Archbishop of Montreal. As soon as the touching ceremony was over, the new missionary bishop approached his ninety-year-old father to give him his blessing and the kiss of peace. At almost any time, the venerable old man may utter his "*Nunc dimittis*". Such is not our wish, however, for we hope that he will live for many years longer to implore God's blessings upon the undertakings of his missionary son.

From our grateful hearts are wafted heavenward fervent supplications in favour of the newly-consecrated prelate, who has always taken a fatherly interest in our dear Sisters labouring in the mission district confided to his care.

Friday, August 5

To-day, His Excellency Mgr. Lapierre honours us by celebrating Mass in our modest chapel.

Our annual retreat is just over, and we still have a number of visiting Sisters with us. For this reason, we enjoy the above-mentioned privilege before our Sisters of the Mother House.

His Excellency is assisted by Reverend Father Chaumont of the Foreign Mission Seminary of Pont Viau and by Reverend Father Larochelle, who arrived at the Seminary just lately from Manchuria.

During the Holy Sacrifice, we entreat Almighty God to shower His choicest blessings upon the new Bishop, whose motto is: "The Charity of Christ presseth Me".

Mass over, His Excellency gives us his blessing, and, after exhorting us to labour for God alone, he invites us all to come to Manchuria soon.

Mary is the brilliant aurora of a new day.

St. Jerome.

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.

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

Ejaculatory Prayers

The easiest means of practising vocal prayer consists in uttering fervent ejaculations. These pious outpourings of the heart need not be restricted to any particular time or place. They are in order at all times and in all places, at work, at meals, at recreation, at home or away from home. They may take the form of acts of desire, conformity, love, oblation, or self-denial; they may be acts of petition, thanksgiving, humility, confidence, and the like. The saints of God placed greater value on these little prayers than on long devotions, because the former are more apt to keep us in the presence of God.

St. John Chrysostom says that he who frequently utters ejaculations closes the door against Satan and prevents his constant annoyance with evil thoughts. It is by acts of love, conformity, and self-oblation, together with the invocation of the holy names of Jesus and Mary that we give the greatest pleasure to God. One who loves thinks constantly of the object of his love. A soul that loves God will therefore always think of Him and seek occasions by fervent sighs and ejaculations to manifest her love. Be careful on all occasions, whether alone or in company, to say frequently in your heart: "O my God, I desire only Thee and nothing else;" or, "I give myself wholly to Thee; I desire what Thou desirest; do with me according to Thy good pleasure." These few words alone are enough: "My God, I love Thee!" or, "My love, my All!" You may also, without uttering a word, raise your eyes to heaven or cast a loving glance at the tabernacle or at a crucifix. These silent acts are especially to be recommended because they require no effort, they can more frequently be made, and are often attended with greater fervor than other ejaculations.

The perfection of divine love consists in the union of our will with the will of God. Therefore we may not desire anything but that which God desires. If we do His holy will, no matter to what station in life the Lord may call us, we shall surely arrive at holiness. It will be profitable then to select choice passages from Holy Scripture and to repeat them often in order to foster a union of our will with God's will. For example, say often with the Apostle: "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts, 9, 6). In contradictions and afflictions of body and soul say with our Blessed Redeemer: "My God and my Father, be it done to me as Thou wilt" (Mt. II, 26). "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI.

Mary is more blessed in conceiving the faith of Christ in her mind than in conceiving the flesh of Christ in her body. The nearness to Christ which Mary enjoyed as His Mother would have profited her nothing had she not borne Him more gladly in her heart than in her flesh.

St. Augustine.

The First Saturday Devotion



His Holiness Pope Pius X. has granted a Plenary Indulgence to be gained the first Saturday of each month.

“In order to increase the devotion of the faithful towards the most glorious and immaculate Mother of God, and to favour the pious desire for atonement which inspires the faithful to offer some reparation for the impious blasphemies which criminal men proffer against the most august Name and the high prerogatives of the Blessed Virgin, His Holiness grants a Plenary Indulgence applicable to the souls in purgatory to all who, having gone to Confession and received Holy Communion, will, the first Saturday of each month, in a spirit of reparation perform particular exercises of devotion in honor of the Immaculate

Virgin, and who will pray for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.”

Acta Apostolicæ Sedis, September 30, 1912

There are henceforth two days for Communion, particularly recommended and specially endowed with spiritual favors: the first Friday and Saturday of each month. These two days generally follow each other. The intention of the first Saturday will be to repair the outrages committed against Our Lady.

Imprimatur: † PAUL, Arch. of Montreal
May 1, 1918

* * *

To comply, although in a modest measure, with the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff, on the first Saturday of every month, from 8 A. M. to 6 P. M. a special Guard of Honor is made before the altar of the Blessed Virgin, in the chapel of the Mother House of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Montreal.

Persons desirous of taking part in this chorus of love, gratitude, reparation and supplication will be most welcome. The only condition necessary is to choose an hour at one's convenience and to come and spend it at the feet of the Immaculate Virgin, whose hands, filled with graces, are ever ready to shower favors upon her devoted servants.

If, at times, it be impossible to perform this pious practice one may be replaced by another.

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.

I am enclosing my cheque for \$2.00 which I promised for a favour which I obtained after I had asked you to make a novena some time ago. Please pray that my brother may obtain a position. Miss R. E. R., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$5.00 as an offering in thanksgiving for a favour I have received through our Blessed Lady. I wish you would publish my thanksgiving. M. B. — I am sending you \$2.00 in thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a favor granted my husband. A Subscriber. — My heartfelt thanks to Our Lady for a great favor received. I am enclosing an offering to have a High Mass celebrated in her honour. Mrs. R. M. Enclosed please find \$2.00 for your Works, in thanksgiving for special favors. Mrs. C., **Verdun**. — Enclosed you will find the offering which I promised to send for a favor that was granted me. Mrs. J. W., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing \$10.00 for the Missions. I promised this amount to the Blessed Virgin if she granted me a very special favor. Mrs. H. B. — The enclosed offering is for a novena of lights in honor of our Blessed Lady to thank her for numerous favours granted me through her intercession. Anonymous. — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for which I wish to renew my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I am pleased to tell you that I received a very special favor through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Mrs. R., **Quebec**. — Enclosed please find a postal note for \$2.50 in thanksgiving for favours received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin and the Little Flower. You may use this money for any purpose you wish. F. F. — I wish to offer my sincere thanks to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and our Blessed Lady for having protected me in time of danger. Mrs. A., **Montreal**. — I am most grateful to the Blessed Virgin for the position she has obtained me. I am forwarding a donation to have a Mass said. This is to fulfil a promise which I made this tender Mother. M. B. — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for obtaining me a good position. M. L., **Tecumseh, Ont.** — Please find enclosed \$5.00 in thanksgiving for being restored to health. Mrs. L. C. — Please find enclosed an offering of \$5.00 and my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. If I obtain the favours that I am now praying for, I will send another offering. I thank you with all my heart for your good prayers. Anonymous. — Our Blessed Lady has favoured me by granting my request. To thank her, I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. J. R., **Montreal**. — I enclose a postal note for \$2.00, an offering in thanksgiving for a favour received. L. H. — In thanksgiving for the granting of a request, I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. T., **Rosemont**. — Find enclosed \$1.00 for favours received from Almighty God. Mrs. C., **Woodslee, Ont.** — Enclosed find \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby in thanksgiving for a cure obtained. Mrs. E. T., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights in thanksgiving to our Blessed Lady, who has deigned to hear my prayers. I desire to obtain another great favour. A Subscriber. — Please find enclosed the sum of \$5.00. It is in thanksgiving to our Immaculate Mother for numerous favours granted me through her intercession. Mrs. J. L. — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for helping my husband to find work. Anonymous. — Last January I wrote to you asking you to pray that my husband might find work. He has secured a good position. I am now asking for another special favour and promise to send an offering of \$5.00 if I obtain it. Mrs. G. C., **Timmings, Ont.** — Having obtained the favour I asked, I am sending an offering in thanksgiving. L. P. — Enclosed is an offering for a novena of lights in thanksgiving for the cure of one of my children. Mrs. H., **Montreal**. — I wish to thank our dear Lord and His Blessed Mother for a great favour granted me. Mrs. E. A. — I have received a great favour, and to fulfil my promise I am enclosing \$2.00. Please make a novena that my husband

may be successful in business, and ask the Little Flower to obtain us a very important favour very soon. Mrs. L., **Verdun**. — Please have thanksgiving published in THE PRECURSOR for great favour granted me. Mrs. L., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a very great favour received. I was seriously ill, but since I have been praying to Our Lady, I feel very much better. Mrs. P. — Enclosed is a thanksgiving offering for favour received. A Subscriber. — Thanks to Our Lady I have obtained a very special favour. Please use the enclosed offering to ransom two Chinese babies. M. D., **Montreal**. — Enclosed please find \$5.00 for a favour received from our Immaculate Mother. Mrs. E. M. — I am enclosing a small offering in thanksgiving for a favour received. M. J., **St. Johnsbury, Mass.** — I am forwarding a small donation to help along your missionary work. This is in fulfillment of a promise which I made to the Blessed Virgin. I believe I owe it to her kind intercession that I have been successful in an important undertaking. Mrs. G. — Enclosed please find a postal note for \$2.00. My requests have all been granted. M. G., **Montreal**. — I am enclosing \$5.00 to ransom a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving to Our Lady for a favour received through her intercession. A Subscriber. — I am enclosing \$2.00 for your missions, in thanksgiving for a favour received. M. G., **Westmount**. — I am very happy to state that I have received several special favours. I am enclosing an offering to have lights burned in honour of our Immaculate Mother. I have been in poor health for some time past. Please pray for me. A Subscriber. — Please find enclosed a cheque for \$3.00. It is in thanksgiving to the Virgin Mary for a great favour received. J. L. — I wish to offer my sincere thanks to our Blessed Lady for the favour which has been granted me through her intercession. I am enclosing an offering for a Mass in her honor. M. J., **Sandy Falls, Ont.** — I am enclosing 75c. I promised this amount for a novena of lights if I secured a position. M. M. — Enclosed find an offering in thanksgiving for the cure of my daughter. Mrs. T. — I enclose a small donation as a thanksgiving offering to our Blessed Lady for a favour received. Mrs. G. G. — I cannot express how grateful I am for the favour I have obtained through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin. To thank her, I am enclosing an offering for a novena of lights. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — Please find enclosed \$5.00 for the ransom of a Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a favour received. A Friend. — I return most heartfelt thanks to the Blessed Virgin for a favour granted me through her intercession. M. B. — I wrote to you some time ago asking you to have prayers said for my recovery. This favour has been granted me, thanks to Our Lady. Enclosed please find \$2.25 to help along your good work. Mrs. J., **Montreal**. — Enclosed find a small donation in thanksgiving for having been restored to health. Anonymous. — I am sending you the enclosed sum in thanksgiving for a favour which I received recently. M. D., **Adams, Mass.** — Please accept the enclosed donation. It is my thank-offering for favours granted me. M. M.

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 going to ask you if you will make a novena for me as I have had some trouble for nearly five years now and everywhere I go it seems to follow me. I am very unhappy with this going on. I wish you would also remember my sister, as she is having a little trouble with her husband on account of drink. If these favours are received, I will send you some

money for your good works. Mrs. D., **Montreal**. — Please pray for my sister's recovery to health. I promise to send you an offering for the ransom of four pagan babies if I receive this special favour. A Subscriber, **Leamington, Ont.** — Enclosed you will find \$1.00 for a Mass to be said in honour of the Blessed Virgin for a special favour. W. L., **Adams, Mass.** — I promise to continue to subscribe to the PRECURSOR if my husband has work all winter. Mrs. O'D., **Peterborough, Ont.** — Enclosed find postal note for your Missions. Please make a novena to the Little Flower for our intentions. A Friend, **Timmins, Ont.** — I am enclosing \$2.00 and ask your prayers that my daughter, who is still in the hospital, may get better. Mrs. R. F., **Point St. Charles**. — I am in a great trouble, my husband being accidentally killed two weeks ago. To add to my sorrow, I have great trouble in getting his insurance. I beg you to commence a novena that I shall not have to break up my home. If I obtain the favor I am asking I will send a generous donation. A Subscriber. — Would you kindly pray that I may obtain a position in an institution to which I have applied. Should my request be granted I promise to send you \$5.00 for your wonderful missionary work and also to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years. Miss F., **London, Ont.** — Please find enclosed \$1.00 for a novena. Kindly burn two candles for two special favors. Mrs. B. N. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 for the ransom of four dying babies. I beg you to pray for one of my sons who is not living up to his religion, and for other favors. I expect to send more money soon for your good works. Mrs. L. R., **South Manchester, Conn.** — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary that I may obtain two very special favors. I promise to send you a donation for your missions in China if my requests are granted. Miss G. W., **Montreal**. — I am asking for two favors. I want to sell my farm, but as the price of land is so low, I can't get enough for it to pay a debt that I owe. I am asking your prayers with confidence and will not forget you if my requests are granted. J. B. C. — I am enclosing a little offering in honor of the Blessed Virgin. I am praying to her for a very special intention, and I would ask you also to pray to her that my request be granted. A Subscriber, **New Carlisle, P. Q.** — I am praying for a special request. Please help me with your prayers. I am enclosing \$5.00 to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR and will send a further donation if my request is granted. Mrs. T. — Please pray to the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph that I may succeed in finding a steady position before the end of the month of August. If I am successful I will send donations in their honor. D. D., **Peterborough, Ont.** — Would you be kind enough to burn lights in honour of Our Lady for my intention. Enclosed you will find an offering. M. M., **Montreal**. — My husband has disappeared without any reason. I wish you would start a novena that he may come back to me or that I may find out where he is. I promise to send a certain sum of money to you. Would you please light some candles. Mrs. C. W. — Please pray that a young man may return to the Sacraments and that I may be successful in an important undertaking. A Subscriber. — Having a room to rent, I ask you to make a novena that I may rent it or get a good position somewhere. If I obtain either one of these favours I will send you \$1.00 as often as I can. Mrs. L. B., **Montreal**. — May I ask your prayers to assist me in winning a lawsuit which I expect to take place before the end of the month. My cause is just and I hope to win. I am sending a small donation and hope to send more if successful. C. R. — Please make a novena for me, for I seem to be losing my mind. Anonymous. — Enclosed find a postal note for \$2.00 for your Missions. Please make a novena for our intentions. Anonymous, **Timmins, Ont.** — I am taking the liberty of writing you to recommend to the kind prayers of your Community and your subscribers, an important appointment for a gentleman who is seeking the same, and for which I promise to make an offering for the different works of your Missions. E. O. H., **Montreal**. — Please pray to the Immaculate Mother of God for my recovery to health. I am the mother of four small children, and I trust to be spared to them through the intercession of Our Lady of Victory and St. Joseph. I promise a donation to your good works if I am cured. A Subscriber. — I am writing to you to ask you to help me as I am having trouble with my husband. I will send an offering if my prayers are answered. Mrs. B., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Enclosed please find \$1.00 to help you in your missionary work. I would ask your prayers for two great favours I hope to obtain. Anonymous. — Will you kindly make a novena for me that I may have a successful sale, pleasing to employers and customers. Mr. A. F., **Montreal**. — I am in great need of prayers, so I am writing to ask you to make a novena for me to the Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, and the

Little Flower. If I obtain the favours I am asking within a month I will send \$5.00 towards your good work. Mrs. F. S., **Timmins, Ont.** — Will you please remember us in your novenas to the Blessed Virgin, for we never before needed help as much as we do now. I will send an offering to help you as soon as our requests are granted. M. D., **Cleveland, Ohio.** — I beg you to pray that a bankruptcy may be averted. Anonymous. — One of my friends has requested me to send you the enclosed sum of \$1.00. She wishes to have a novena of lights burned for one dear to her who is very sick. Miss M. M., **Montreal.** — I am renewing my subscription and enclose a small offering to be used as you see fit. Kindly remember my son in your prayers that he may be successful in his examinations. Mrs. P. S., **Tecumseh, Ont.** — I am in great distress, as I had to leave my wife and children in the United States. Will you please pray to St. Anthony and the Little Flower for me that I may get a position very soon. I am making a novena, and, if granted my request, I promise \$1.00 every month in honour of these saints for the soul that has been in purgatory the longest. E. A. R. — Miss M., **Montreal,** encloses cheque for \$1.00 for a novena of lights burned for her intentions. She asks prayers for her sister and herself. — Would you be so kind as to make a novena to the Little Flower that I may be successful in my undertakings and for another special intention. Will send a substantial donation if granted. W. K., **Montreal.** — Would you please make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Blessed Virgin that I may be restored to health soon, and that my husband may find steady work, as we are in terrible difficulties and unable to pay on our home. I promise to send an offering in thanksgiving if our requests are granted. Mrs. B., **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Enclosed please find two dollars, one is for the renewal of my subscription and the other, a donation towards your mission work. May I ask you to pray that my husband and myself may both enjoy good health. Mrs. J. B. M., **Montreal.** — Please continue to pray that my daughter may return home. Mrs. A. L., **Worcester, Mass.** — Will you please make a novena to the Little Flower of Jesus and ask her to help me to obtain the favours I have been asking for for so long. N. C., **Montreal.** — I am subscribing to the PRECURSOR in order that my husband may find work before long. Mrs. C., **Peterborough, Ont.** — I wish you to pray earnestly for a special intention. My husband has sent in his application for a good position and he will get a decision within a few days. If he secures this position I will send you a substantial donation. Mrs. H. D., **Windsor, Ont.** — Please pray for some very special intentions. A Subscriber. — I am enclosing an offering and am making two requests. One of these requests is the cure of my eyes, which are in very poor condition. Please pray for me. I promise to send you \$20.00 if I obtain both of these favours, and half of this sum if I obtain even one of them. M. K., **Pickering River, Ont.** — I wish you would make a novena to our Blessed Lady for me, as I am out of work at present. I promise to publish my thanksgiving as soon as I obtain a suitable position. Mrs. McK., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing \$1.00 for lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin, that my sister's husband may find work real soon. I desire to obtain a very special favour and if my prayers are answered, I will send you an offering. I wish you would pray for me. Miss J. B., **St. Johnsbury, Vt.** — Please remember all my intentions during the month of the Sacred Heart. B. P., **Montreal.** — I have been out of work since last fall. Please make a novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our Immaculate Mother and St. Anthony that I may find employment. I am enclosing an offering, and promise to send \$5.00 more when I get a position. M. A., **Timmins, Ont.** — I beg you to pray for the speedy recovery of my husband, who had a slight stroke two weeks ago. Please pray, also, that his position may be kept open. I promise a donation as soon as he goes back to business. A Subscriber, Mrs. P. J. G., **Montreal.** — I am enclosing \$1.00 and ask you for God's sake to pray for me that I may be successful in obtaining a good position soon. I promise to send \$1.00 if my request be granted. M. K., **Sandwich, Ont.** — I am praying to our Blessed Mother for a special intention. If I obtain my favour I shall continue to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR. Please remember me in your prayers. Mrs. E. D. — Enclosed please find an offering for the ransom of a Chinese baby. Will you please pray to Our Lady for my intentions. Anonymous. — Enclosed is a small offering for lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin. I would ask your prayers for a great favour. I promise to send you \$2.00 if I obtain it. Mrs. P., **Montreal.** — Would you kindly pray for the conversion of one of my friends. I promise to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years if I obtain this great favour. Mrs. C. — I wish you would pray for me that I may be granted

a great favour. If I obtain what I am asking for, I will send you an offering to help along your work. Mrs. E. A., **Northbridge, Mass.** — I am praying that a member of my household may find work. It seems almost hopeless, as so many are out of work at the present time, but I have fostered devotion to our Blessed Lady and feel confident that she will obtain me this favour. Mrs. B., **Windsor, Ont.** — A friend of mine is seriously ill. I beg you to pray that she may soon be restored to health. Mrs. G. D. — I am asking Our Lady to intercede for me that I may soon be restored to health. Anonymous. — I have been sick for quite a long time. Please pray that I may be cured if such be the Holy Will of God. M. P., **Montreal.** I have been making a novena to our Blessed Lady for a special intention. For over a year I have been trying to obtain money coming to me from an estate. If I obtain this favour, I shall subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years, and send money for the poor pagan children. Miss R., **Windsor, Ont.** — Please pray that my brother may soon find employment. A Subscriber. — Find enclosed an offering for the ransom of dying Chinese babies. Please ask our Blessed Mother to help my son, who is in need of very special prayers. A Friend. — I am asking the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Little Flower to convert my son, to cure my husband and daughter, and to help us all to keep our positions. I promise to send \$1.00 every month as long as I can. I am a subscriber to THE PRECURSOR, and humbly thank God, the Virgin Mary and the Little Flower for past favours. Mrs. J. W., **Montreal.** — I am asking for the cure of my daughter, who has not been well for some time past. Mrs. G. **Montreal.** — Would you please make a novena for my intention. I promise to send you something for your missionary work if my request is granted. One who trusts in the Sacred Heart, **Belfast, Ireland.** — I am asking for a very special favour and shall send you an offering when my prayers are heard. Anonymous. — I am enclosing \$1.00 for lights in honour of our Immaculate Mother, asking her to cure me. M. B. — Enclosed please find a postal note for \$1.00 for a year's subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Would you kindly pray that I may soon sell my property. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal.** — My husband hasn't been working for a year. Please pray that he may get steady employment. I hope to be able to send you an offering in the near future. Mrs. F. K., **Maidstone, Ont.** — If I obtain the position for which I have applied, I shall send an offering for your Works and subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for ten years. A Subscriber. — Please pray that my daughter may soon know her vocation. Mrs. A. L. — Would you kindly offer up prayers for me. I would like to receive three favours. If my requests are granted I will forward you \$5.00 for the missions. M. B., **Montreal.** — I promise to forward you the sum of \$10.00 if I obtain two special favours through the intercession of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and our Blessed Lady. Anonymous. — Will you kindly pray for my son, who has been idle for two years. Please pray that he may find some kind of work, as he has a family to support. Mrs. R. — Enclosed please find \$1.00 to help along your missionary work. Please pray for me. A Friend. — I promise to send you a substantial donation if I secure a position. M. R., **Quebec.** — I am asking our Blessed Lady to grant me a very special favour. A Subscriber, **Verdun.** — A lady who is seriously ill promises to continue to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR if she recovers. — It is with much pleasure that I am renewing my subscription to THE PRECURSOR. I would ask you to pray for a very special intention. Mrs. J. C., **Montreal.** — Please accept my small offering. I would like you to commence a novena for a special intention. Anonymous. — Please remember us in your prayers that my husband may soon get his government insurance and compensation and that we may live where our children may attend a Catholic school next year. Mrs. M., **Barton, Vt.** — I am in great trouble. Please pray hard for me. Mrs. H. — I shall send an offering for your Works if I am successful in an important undertaking and obtain another great favour. Mrs. M., **Lowell, Mass.** — If through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin I obtain a special favour, I shall send you an offering of \$5.00 and renew my subscription. A Subscriber. — Please pray for some very special favours. Just as soon as I can see my way clear, I shall send in my renewal subscription to THE PRECURSOR. Mrs. C. L., **Billings Bridge, Ont.** — I recommend to your charitable prayers my son who is not living up to his religion. Anonymous. — Will you please ask our Blessed Mother to grant me health. M. B. — I wish you would pray that my son may return to the Sacraments and that my daughter may be restored to health. Anonymous. — I am greatly worried and entreat our Blessed Lady to help me. Miss L.



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TAONAN, Catholic Mission, Manchuria (Founded in 1931)

Dispensary.

SZEPINGKAI, Catholic Mission, Manchuria (Founded in 1931)

Dispensary. Native Novitiate "Our Lady of the Rosary".

IN JAPAN

NAZE, Kotojogakko, Kagoshima Ken (Founded in 1926)

School for young girls.

KAGOSHIMA, Kaziya cho 160

Kindergarten.

(Founded in 1928)

KORIYAMA, 96 Toramaru Koriyama Shi, Fukushima Ken

Kindergarten.

(Founded in 1930)

IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

MANILA, 286 Blumentritt St. (Founded in 1921)

Chinese General Hospital. Training School for Nurses.

IN ITALY

ROME, 20 Via Acquedotto Paolo, Monte Mario (Agenzia)

Procure for the Missions.

(Founded in 1925)

Benefactors of the Society

of the

Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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 a right to this title.

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

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

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

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

Privileges Accorded to Benefactors

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

Besides, Benefactors are entitled to the following spiritual advantages:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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