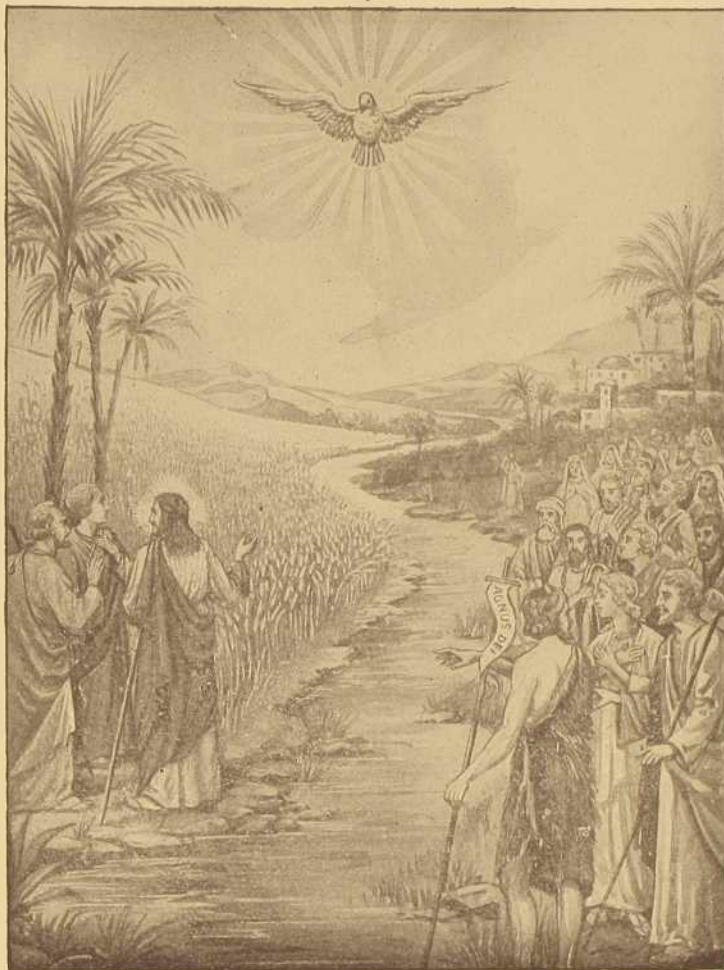


THE PRECURSOR



Vol. XI., 15th Year

MONTREAL, September-October, 1937

No. 5

Works of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

IN CANADA

MOTHER HOUSE, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que. (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 girls. Diffusion of a Missionary Review: *THE PRECURSOR*. Free Missionary Library.

NOVITIATE, Pont Viau (near Montreal), Laval Co.

CHINESE HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY, 112 Lagauchetiere St. West, Montreal, (Founded in 1918)

Teaching of Catechism to the Chinese.

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception also visit Chinese patients in Catholic or Protestant hospitals when requested to do so.

NOMININGUE, Que., (Bethany) (Founded in 1914)

RIMOUSKI, Que., St. Germain St. (Founded in 1918)

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VANCOUVER, B. C., 236 Campbell Ave. (Founded in 1921)

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TROIS RIVIERES, QUE., 466 Bonaventure St. (Founded in 1926)

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GRANBY, Que., 35 Dufferin St. (Founded in 1930)

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CHICOUTIMI, Que., 61 Jacques Cartier St. (Founded in 1930)

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GRANBY, Que., 285 Main St. (Founded in 1931)

Hostel "The Immaculate Conception" for girls.

STE. MARIE, Co. Beauce (Founded in 1932) Apostolic School.

RIMOUSKI, Que., St. Jean Baptiste St. (Founded in 1932)

Closed Retreats for ladies and girls. Kindergarten.

ST. JOHNS, Que., 430 Champlain St. (Founded in 1935)

Closed Retreats for ladies and 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 workroom in which are made church vestments and altar linens, the profit from which is destined to support their Mother House and Novitiate.

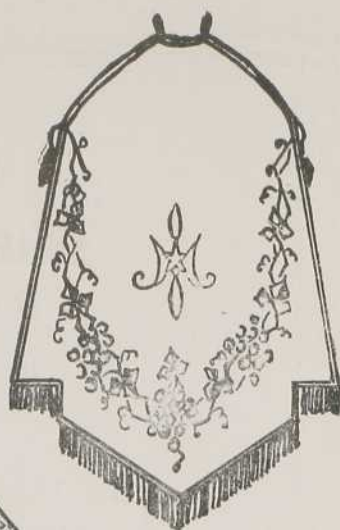
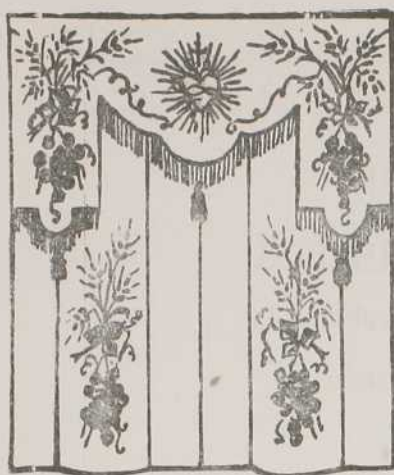
Missionaries must train for several years before being able to commence their apostolic work in foreign fields.

The articles mentioned on the page entitled "By Patronizing our Workroom", may be procured, on reasonable terms, at the workroom of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Que.

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

We also make wax infants for Christmas Cribs, all sizes.

Chinese embroidery and lace are on sale. The work is done by our Chinese orphans. By encouraging these sales you co-operate in the salvation of many young pagan girls who, while earning their living in Catholic workshops, receive at the same time the light of Faith.



By Patronizing Our Workroom, You Help Our Missions.

Chasuble, damask silk, silk braid	\$ 17.00	and \$ 25.00
“ moire-antique, with beautiful emblem....	25.00	“ 35.00
“ moire-antique, very richly embroidered in gold	75.00	“ 100.00
“ velvet, gold braid and emblem	35.00	“ 40.00
“ fine gold cloth, with or without very rich hand-embroidery	50.00	“ 90.00
Benediction Veil	7.00	“ upwards
Cope, damask silk, silk or gold braid	30.00	“ 50.00
“ moire-antique, very richly embroidered in gold	70.00	“ 90.00
“ gold cloth, with beautiful emblem and raised hand-embroidery in gold	100.00	“ 150.00
Alb with guipure lace	8.00	“ upwards
Linen surplices with lace	5.00	“ “
Felt Altar Covers, green or red	5.00	“ “
Tabernacle Veil	5.00	“ “
Ciborium Cover	4.00	“ “
Breviary Marks, hand-painted	1.00	“ “
Collar for “ Sacred Heart League ”	8.00	“ “

A large variety of banners and canopies made in our workroom.

Silk flags, hand-painted and hand-embroidered. Staff is of oak and comprises a detachable holder and lance of gold-enamelled brass. Finished with fringe of half-fine gold.

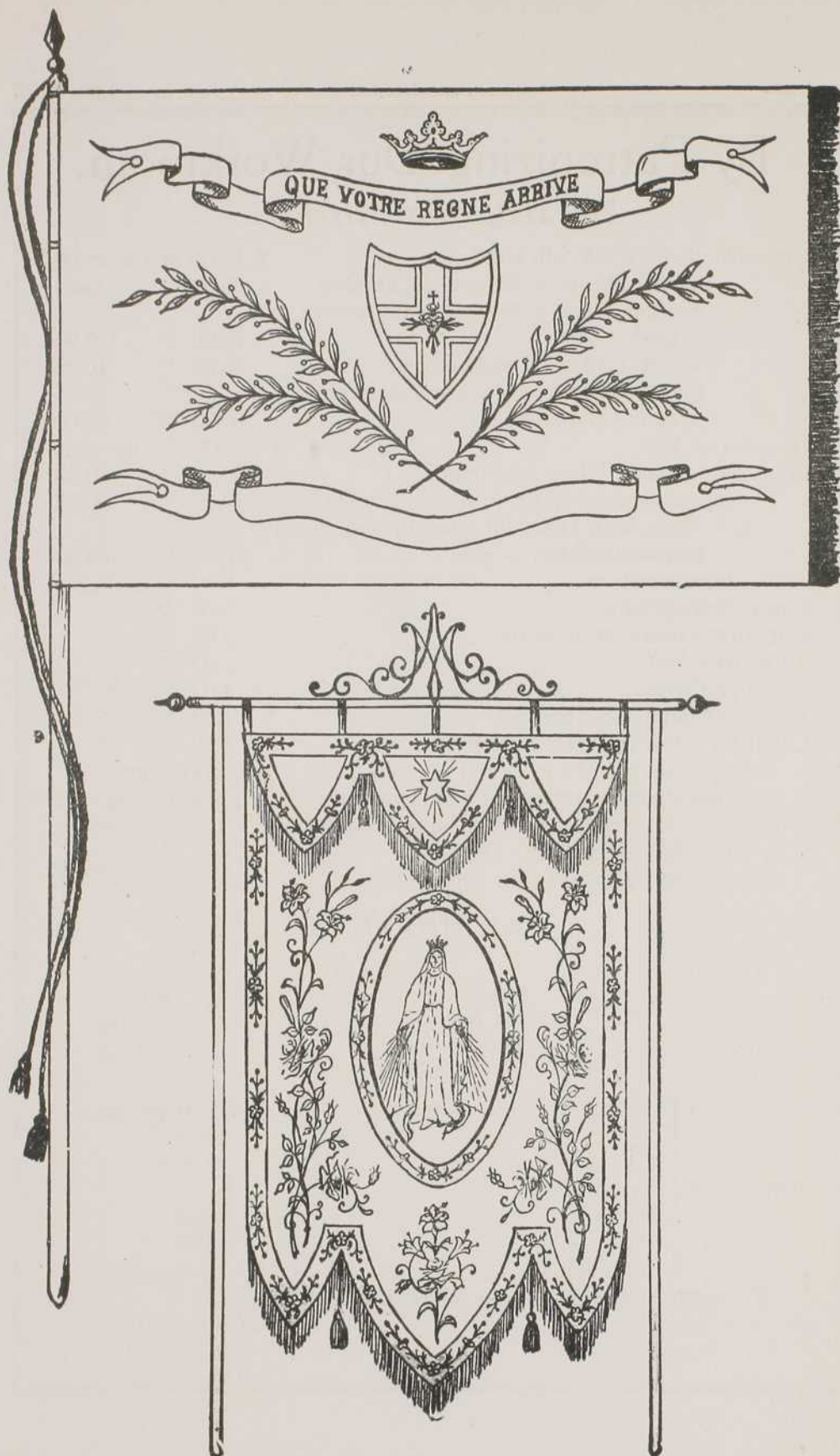
Description and prices given on request.

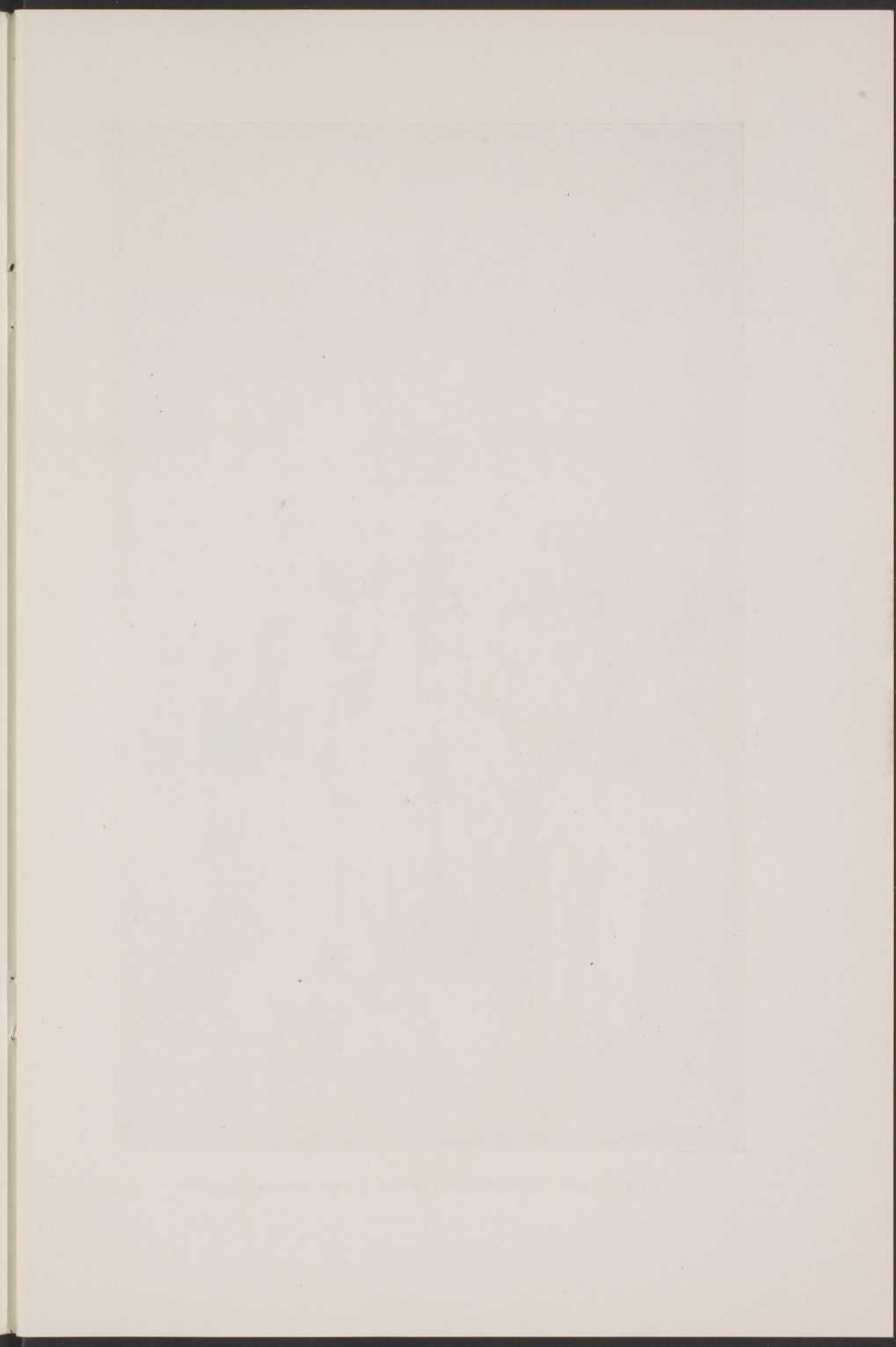
WAX INFANTS

Length		Length	
5 inches	\$ 2.50	14 inches	\$16.00
7 “	4.00	17 “	25.00
9 “	7.00	22 “	35.00
12 “	14.00		
Altar Linens {	Amices	\$12.00	per doz.
	“ linen, second quality	10.80	“ “
	Corporals	8.50	“ “
	Finger-towels	4.50	“ “
	Purificators	5.00	“ “
	Palls	4.00	“ “
	Altar cloths	6.00	each

We supply *altar-breads* at the following prices:

Small	\$1.20	per 1000
Large40	“ 100







" O IMMACULATE MOTHER, PROTECT OUR BENEFACTORS! "

THE PRECURSOR

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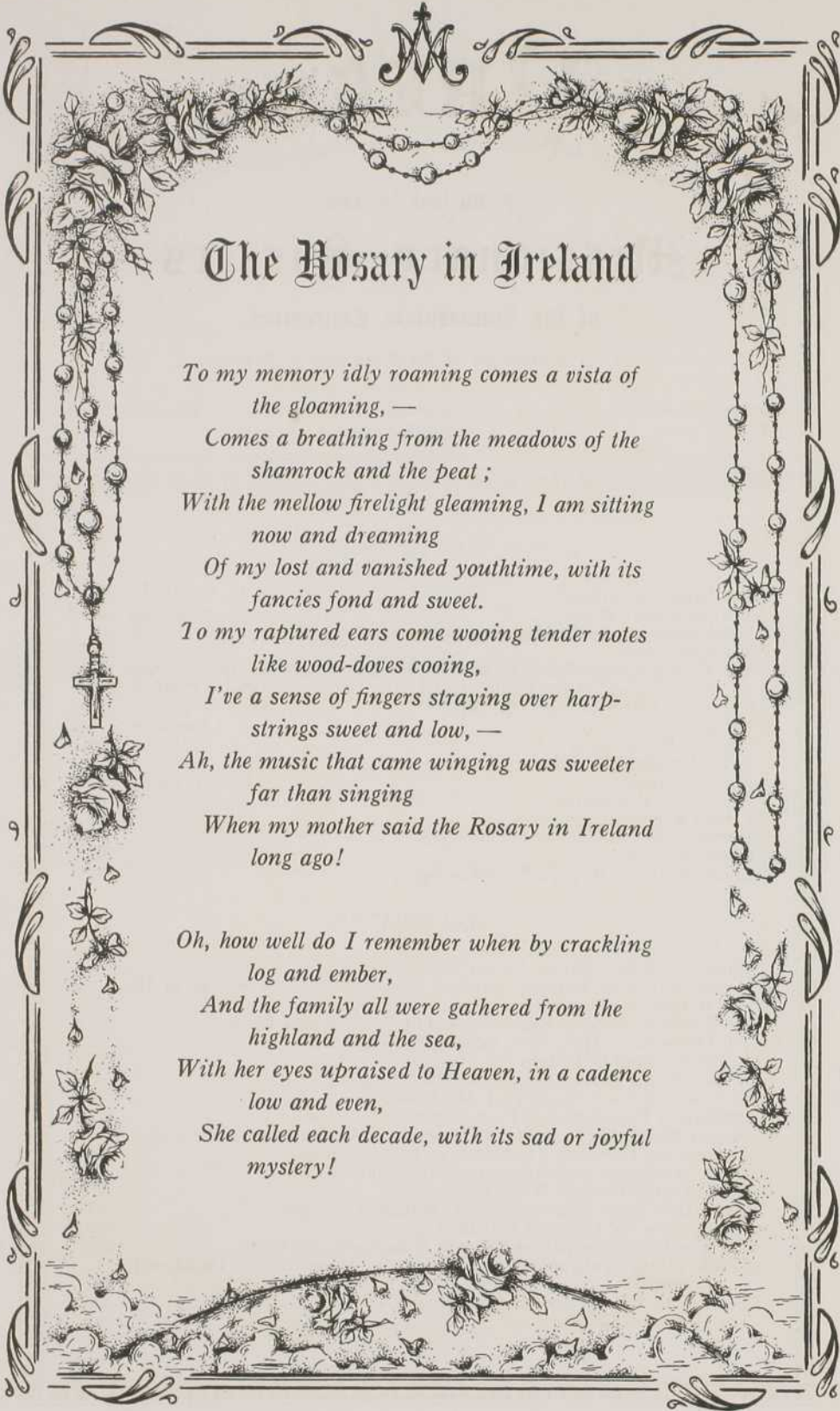
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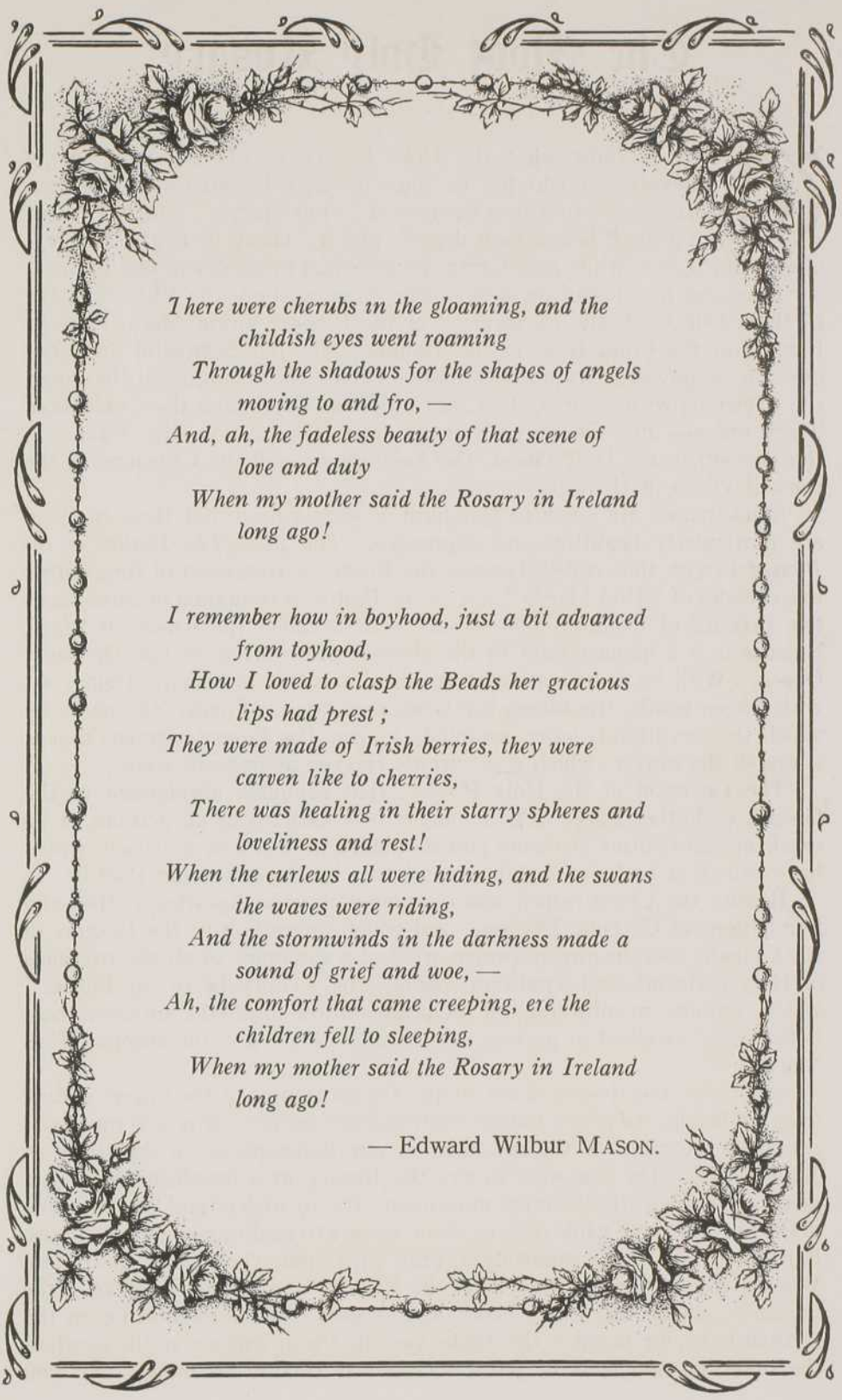
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The Rosary in Ireland

*To my memory idly roaming comes a vista of
the gloaming, —
Comes a breathing from the meadows of the
shamrock and the peat ;
With the mellow firelight gleaming, I am sitting
now and dreaming
Of my lost and vanished youthtime, with its
fancies fond and sweet.
To my raptured ears come wooing tender notes
like wood-doves cooing,
I've a sense of fingers straying over harp-
strings sweet and low, —
Ah, the music that came winging was sweeter
far than singing
When my mother said the Rosary in Ireland
long ago!*

*Oh, how well do I remember when by crackling
log and ember,
And the family all were gathered from the
highland and the sea,
With her eyes upraised to Heaven, in a cadence
low and even,
She called each decade, with its sad or joyful
mystery!*



*There were cherubs in the gloaming, and the
childish eyes went roaming
Through the shadows for the shapes of angels
moving to and fro, —
And, ah, the fadeless beauty of that scene of
love and duty
When my mother said the Rosary in Ireland
long ago!*

*I remember how in boyhood, just a bit advanced
from toyhood,
How I loved to clasp the Beads her gracious
lips had prest ;
They were made of Irish berries, they were
carven like to cherries,
There was healing in their starry spheres and
loveliness and rest!
When the curlews all were hiding, and the swans
the waves were riding,
And the stormwinds in the darkness made a
sound of grief and woe, —
Ah, the comfort that came creeping, ere the
children fell to sleeping,
When my mother said the Rosary in Ireland
long ago!*

— Edward Wilbur MASON.

The Most Holy Rosary

ALLE know what the Holy Rosary is. It is a practice of devotion taught by the Blessed Virgin herself to St. Dominic. It consists of fifteen decades of "Hail Marys", with one "Our Father" before each decade, and a "Glory be to the Father" after each, recited while meditating the principal mysteries of our Faith.

There are five Joyful mysteries: The Annunciation, the Visitation, the Birth of Our Lord, the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple. The five Sorrowful mysteries are: The Agony of Jesus in the Garden of Olives, the Scourging at the Pillar, the Crowning with Thorns, the Carrying of the Cross, and the Crucifixion. There are also five Glorious mysteries: The Resurrection, the Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Ghost, the Assumption, and the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin in Heaven.

Many names are given to this form of supplication, but three of them are particularly beautiful and expressive. The first, *The Psalter of the Blessed Virgin*, thus called, because the Rosary is composed of three times five decades of "Hail Marys" just as the Psalter is composed of three times five decades of Psalms. The Rosary is also called the *Crown of Mary*, because it is a homage paid to the glorious prerogatives of our Heavenly Queen. With its praises added to praises, it is like a diadem of glory set with fifteen pearls, the fifteen mysteries meditated. Finally, the name by which this devotion is more commonly known, the *Rosary*, signifies that it is one of the prayers which rise towards Heaven as fragrant roses.

The Devotion of the Holy Rosary, that complete abridgment of the Gospel, as Father Faber calls it, ought to be dear to us on account of its excellent constitutive elements and its abundant fruits of salvation, which have caused it to be so *highly recommended* by the Sovereign Pontiffs.

Besides the Creed, which was established by the Apostles as the solid foundations of Catholic Doctrine, and which, according to the Doctors of the Church, contains, in its twelve articles, a summary of all the treasures of Holy Scripture and Tradition; besides the "Glory be to the Father" which contains, in substance, all the praises of the inspired Canticles; there is that most excellent of prayers, the "Our Father" and the angelic "Hail Mary".

Moreover, the Rosary is not simply the movement of the fingers gliding over the beads, nor of the tongue reciting a few prayers; it is also the application of the mind to the mysteries of our Redemption, to the study of Jesus Christ. Do you wish to say the Rosary in a beneficial way? Let piety accompany the exterior movement; try to understand the meaning of the prayers; and, while reciting them, be sure to meditate on the mysteries. Faithful to St. Paul's exhortation, pray with your whole heart and mind. When a true servant of Mary says the Rosary, he analyses, as it were, the mysteries, considering every little circumstance. While meditating on the birth of Jesus, for instance, the stable, the crib, the inclemency of the weather, the sufferings and tears of Jesus, successively occupy his mind. Oh! you

who, in reciting the beads, meditate on the mysteries of our Redemption, tell us what fruit you draw from this devotion; what sentiments of love and gratitude rise in your heart, while contemplating the wonders of the childhood of Jesus, in the Joyful mysteries; what sorrow you conceive for your sins, while considering that they have caused the death of Christ, whose sufferings you meditate in the Sorrowful mysteries; what a longing for the eternal treasures you derive from the meditation of the Glorious mysteries.

When the Rosary is thus recited, it is not surprising that God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, rewards this devotion by according most precious graces to the public in general, as well as to each individual.

Father C. Rolland.

Indulgences Attached to the Recitation of the Rosary

To gain the Indulgences of the Most Holy Rosary, it is necessary, first of all, to fulfill the conditions prescribed for the gaining of indulgences in general. These are as follows:—

1. One must have the virtual intention of gaining these indulgences; that is to say, have the intention, at least once for all. Even though it is not necessary to think of it each time that we wish to gain an indulgence, it is an excellent habit to renew, every morning, the intention of gaining all the indulgences possible in the course of the day.

2. One must be in the state of grace. It is for this reason that Confession and Communion are prescribed for the gaining of Plenary Indulgences.

3. The good work required for the gaining of the indulgence, must be accomplished completely, spontaneously, and in the time and place prescribed. It must be a work of supererogation; that is to say, it must not be one already required for the accomplishment of some other duty or obligation, except if it has been imposed in the Sacrament of Penance. It seems, however, that one who is obliged to recite the Rosary in fulfilment of a private vow would not lose the indulgences; for he certainly had the intention of gaining them, in making the vow. Perhaps, he even made the vow purposely to have the souls in Purgatory benefit by the indulgences.

*
* *

However, to gain all the indulgences of the Rosary, it is necessary, moreover, to recite the Rosary properly, using beads blessed by a Dominican Father or any priest having faculties from the Master General of the Dominican Order.

The Rosary consists of the recitation of the decades (body of the Rosary), accompanied by the meditation of the mysteries (soul of the Rosary). He who deprives the Rosary of its soul, destroys it. *The Rosary does not exist* (and consequently no Rosary indulgences are gained) *when one has not the intention of thinking of the mysteries according to the prescriptions of the Church; but it is sufficient for each one to strive to do so to the best of his ability.* In the private recitation of the Rosary, it is not necessary to name each mystery, although this practice is highly recommended and of great utility. In the public recitation of the Rosary, however, it is obligatory. How many indulgences are lost because the person directing the prayers, instead of naming the mysteries, begins thus: "We shall say this decade for such an intention. Our Father, etc."

Using beads blessed by a Dominican Father or by any priest having special faculties distinct from those of imparting the apostolic indulgences, assures the gaining of all the indulgences of the Holy Rosary. The Bridgetine and Apostolic indulgences may also be attached to the ordinary chaplet; but one cannot accumulate the indulgences, that is, he cannot gain all the indulgences, in reciting the chaplet only once. The Bridgetine indulgences (100 days for each bead) and the Crozier indulgences (500 days for each bead) can very seldom be gained

with those of the Rosary. Only the beads of five, ten, or fifteen decades may have the Rosary indulgences attached to them. The material of which they are composed is of no importance, provided it be durable. They can be lent or given. They lose their indulgences only when sold or notably altered.

When the Rosary is recited in common, it is sufficient for one person to have the beads in his hands. According to a recent decree published by the Sacred Congregation, one may, when reciting the Rosary alone, gain the indulgences by simply having his beads with him, if, for some good reason, he is hindered from holding them in his hands.

*
* *

The following is a summary of the principal indulgences of the Most Holy Rosary:

FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL

FOR THE RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

A Plenary Indulgence once a year, for the daily recitation of the chaplet (a third part of the Rosary), when using beads blessed by a Dominican Father, as explained above.

A Plenary Indulgence, on the last Sunday of the month, for those who recite the Chaplet in common, three times a week.

A Plenary Indulgence every day, for the recitation of the Chaplet (*tertiam Beatæ Mariæ Virginis Rosarii partem*) before the Blessed Sacrament, either exposed for public veneration or reserved in the tabernacle (Pius XI., Sept. 4, 1927). This precious indulgence is lost, when, in public recitation, the mysteries are not announced.

100 days for each *Pater* and each *Ave* of a Rosary or of a chaplet, recited when using beads blessed by a Dominican Father or by a priest having faculties from the Pope or from the Master General of the Dominican Order.

5 years and 5 quarantines, each time one recites the chaplet.

10 years and 10 quarantines, once a day, for the recitation of the chaplet in common.

A Plenary Indulgence (on the usual conditions), on any one day during a novena in honour of the Queen of the Rosary.

300 days, on the other days of the novena.

FOR THE FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

A Plenary Indulgence (on the usual conditions), for *each visit* made in honour of the Victory of Lepanto, from twelve o'clock of the day preceding, until midnight of the Feast of the Most Holy Rosary, to an altar of the Confraternity, *wherever it may be erected*, reciting six *Paters*, *Aves*, and *Glorias* for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.

A Plenary Indulgence (on the same conditions), on any one day during the Octave.

A Plenary Indulgence (on the usual conditions), on the day of the Feast or during the Octave, for the daily recitation of the chaplet during these eight days.

A Plenary Indulgence, on any one day during the month of October, after the Octave of the Feast, for those who have recited the chaplet ten times during the month.

7 years and 7 quarantines, for the recitation of the chaplet on the other days of the month.

FOR ROSARIANS OR MEMBERS OF THE CONFRATERNITY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

Two Plenary Indulgences, on the day of one's reception into the Confraternity, when receiving Communion in the chapel of the Confraternity and reciting the chaplet.

A Plenary Indulgence, once a day, for reciting the entire Rosary for the triumph of Our Holy Mother the Church, and visiting a church. (It is permitted to separate the decades).

A Plenary Indulgence, once in a lifetime, for having regularly fulfilled the obligation of the Confraternity: one Rosary a week.

The Indulgences both plenary and partial granted to those reciting the Spanish Chaplet, provided the entire Rosary is recited within a natural day.

5 years and 5 quarantines, each time the name of Jesus is pronounced devoutly.

A Plenary Indulgence, for reciting the entire Rosary on the Feast of the Annunciation.

Three Plenary Indulgences, on the first Sunday of the month, for attending the procession of the Most Holy Rosary, visiting a chapel of the Confraternity, assisting at Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and praying for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff.

A Plenary Indulgence, for assisting at the procession of the following feasts: Purification, Annunciation, Visitation, Assumption, Nativity, Presentation, and Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin.

A Plenary Indulgence, for visiting a chapel of the Confraternity and praying for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff, on the following occasions:

The feasts of Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost;

The feasts of the Immaculate Conception, Nativity, Presentation, Annunciation, Visitation, Purification, Assumption, and the Compassion of the Blessed Virgin (Friday in Passion Week).

All Saints' Day, once within the Octave of All Souls' Day, any two Fridays of Lent, Sunday within the Octave of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, and the third Sunday in April.

The Indulgences of the Stations of Rome, for visiting five altars of any church, on the days of the Stations.

A *Plenary Indulgence*, once a month, for those who meditate, at least a quarter of an hour daily.

7 years and 7 quarantines, each time they meditate during half an hour; 100 days for meditating during a quarter of an hour.

3 years and 3 quarantines, for each visit paid to a sick member of the Confraternity of the Holy Rosary.

All the above mentioned indulgences are applicable to the Souls in Purgatory.

Five Plenary Indulgences at the hour of death.

Considering that there are many other Indulgences, both Plenary and Partial, which have not been enumerated, it is quite evident that the Rosary is the "Queen of Indulged Devotions".

Fr. D. de S.

(Translated from *La Semaine Religieuse de Paris*)

THE DEVIL'S AVOWAL

One day, St. Dominic, the devoted servant of Mary and zealous propagator of the Rosary, was pronouncing an exorcism at Carcassone. There was a considerable crowd present; and the Saint, wishing to profit by the occasion to spread confidence in the Blessed Virgin, commanded the devil to publish Mary's power and mercy, before leaving the possessed person. Obligated to obey, Satan made this avowal:

"We have no power over servants of Mary. Many, despite their little merit, are saved at the hour of death by invoking her. We are obliged to admit that none of all those who persevere in devotion to the Mother of God, are damned, because she obtains true contrition for sinners before their death."

Votive Lights in Honour 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 at the Mother House, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, Montreal, in thanksgiving or to obtain some favor from this tender Mother.

Float or candle	10 cents each.
	75 cents for a novena.
	\$20.00 for one year.

The Lost Beads

ONE fine, cloudless morning in the month of August, as the joyous warbling of the birds among the branches swaying gently in the breeze, seemed to invite the citizens to a cool pleasant spot on the downy moss along the sparkling brook, yonder in the depths of the woods, two young fellows, humming a popular air, plunged merrily into the thicket. Suddenly, one of them stopped and picked up something half-hidden in the grass.

"Beads!" cried he, scornfully.

He was on the point of throwing them into the bushes, when his companion snatched them from his hands.

"No, Arthur, don't do that. Give them to me."

.....

Many years have gone by since this incident in the woods. Once again we meet Charles; not on a vacation trip this time, but in a hospital, exercising his Sacred Ministry among the sick and the dying — poor unfortunates of all kinds. See him in the vast ward, going from bed to bed and pausing for a few moments to say a word of consolation to those who are willing to listen to him. He soon sits down at the bedside of a sick man, who turns and looks at him.

"You again?" he utters impatiently.

"Yes, I again," answers Charles, with great kindness. "How are you to-day?"

"No better, and with no hope of recovery, as you well know. Can't you let me die in peace, without all your prayers and sermons?"

"My prayers surely cannot annoy you," replies the priest. "You do not hear me reciting them. As for the sermons, you do not give me a chance to preach one, even if I wished to."

There is a moment of silence; then Charles continues, with the same calm expression, "Are we going to recite together a decade of the beads? That will not tire you."

"Don't speak to me of beads," angrily gasps the invalid. "If it were not for beads, I would not be here to-day. It is to them that I owe all my misfortunes."

"All your misfortunes — to the beads? What do you mean?"

"Listen," continues the other. "Many years ago, I had a great devotion to the beads. Every evening, I recited them with my father and mother. Then, after my father's death, I began to go with evil companions, and it was not long before I had abandoned all my religious practices. My poor mother, heart-broken, did everything in her power to bring me back to the path of duty, but all in vain. Going from bad to worse, I finally left my native village to go and wander throughout the world."

At the moment of my departure, my mother gave me her blessing and placed her beads in my hands, begging me to recite at least a decade of

them each day. To rid myself of her importunity, I promised her to do so; but as soon as I was out of her sight, I drew the beads from my pocket, threw them on the ground, and continued on my way. From that day forth, I had no longer any peace, I succeeded in nothing, and here I am, still quite young, on the threshold of Eternity, while the malediction continues to pursue me unintermittingly and pitilessly. The links of those beads have formed a chain which is dragging me to the very lowest depths of hell. No, never shall I forget that day," cried he, trembling with terror. "Oh! that cursed day, August the 23rd, 1867! It was in Abelles Woods, not far from the city of R —".

This is quite a revelation for the priest. It was, indeed, on that same date and on that very spot, that he had found the beads, which he kept so preciously and to which he believed himself indebted for his vocation.

"I, too," says he, deeply moved, "I have reasons for recalling this date—and for beads, also! Oh! what a happy coincidence! Look," he adds, showing the beads, "they are yours? Are they not—the ones that your pious mother gave you the day of your departure?"

The poor invalid, with a haggard look and trembling hands, examines the beads.

"Yes, they are, indeed, my mother's beads, the very ones that I threw far away from me in Abelles Woods!" And big tears of sorrow and repentance flow copiously from the poor man's eyes.

"Cheer up, dear friend," continues the priest. "God placed your beads on my path. I owe my priestly vocation to them. You see, the Blessed Virgin did not wish to lose either what belonged to her or the prodigal child who despised her maternal protection. She has chosen someone to conserve the beads to which a mother's blessing and tears had given an inestimable value. To-day, for the first time, I know to whom I am indebted for the favour which has wrought such a great change in my existence.

Then, placing the beads in the invalid's hands, he added, smiling: "You know that it is a sacred duty for every man to make restitution. I return to you, therefore, that which belongs to you, and you must no longer say that the links of the beads have formed a chain which has dragged you into all kinds of misfortunes on earth and even to your eternal perdition. No, no, dear friend, for it is the Blessed Virgin, who offers you a helping hand to draw you up towards Heaven."

He paused for a few minutes on account of the invalid's excessive emotion, and then proceeded: "Each day, I have prayed for you, the unknown owner of these beads—of our beads, I should say rather. God, in His goodness, has granted me the grace of finding His beloved prodigal. Now, dear friend, dear brother, let us complete the good work that we have begun together, and by virtue of the power that the Sacred Ministry gives me, let me relieve you of the burden which weighs upon your soul and alienates you from your Heavenly Father."

The invalid affectionately takes the priest's hand; then, with a contrite heart, he commences the humble confession of his past life. The absolution

restores peace to his soul and gives him the assurance of his reconciliation with God, Who loves him so dearly.

The following morning, as he receives his Saviour in Holy Communion, while holding tightly in his hands the beads so providentially found again, tears of peace and joy stream down his pale cheeks.

"It seems to me," says he to the priest, "that it is the Blessed Virgin's hand that I am clasping in mine; I feel that she is drawing me towards that Blessed Abode that I came near losing forever! I do not dare look back on the past, which seems so gloomy; but, with Our Heavenly Mother's help, I fear nothing, for she will not fail me."

This very evening he dies, calm and happy, holding devoutly between his fingers the beads so miraculously recovered.

Charles, the priest who assists him in his last moments, the providential messenger who restores faith and hope to his soul purified and repentant, kneels down beside the death-bed and prays the Guardian Angel of this prodigal child to introduce him into Paradise; close to Mary, his good, holy Mother.

Ah! how happy is Charles, now a priest of Jesus Christ, to have treasured the beads found in the grass of Abelles Woods!

(Treasury of Stories about the Blessed Virgin)

Guard of Honour to the Blessed Virgin

On the first Saturday of every month, from 8 A. M. to 6 P. M., a special Guard of Honour 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 before the Immaculate Virgin, whose hands are filled with graces, which she is ever ready to shower upon her devoted servants.

In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, an instruction on the prerogatives of the Mother of God is given, after which there is Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

A Perpetual Light for the First Saturday of the Month

You may assure for yourself a perpetual light, by contributing the sum of twenty-four dollars which, invested at 5% interest, will yearly supply the price of twelve lights (one light costing ten cents). These lights will burn before the statue of the Blessed Virgin, in the chapel of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, 314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont, during the whole day of the first Saturday of each month.

The Foreign Mission Society of the Province of Quebec Opens a New Mission Field in the Philippine Islands

THE YEAR 1937 will mark an era for the Foreign Mission Society of the Province of Quebec. Until now, we had but one Vicariate, that of Szeping kai, in Manchukuo, and leaving for the Missions always meant leaving for Szeping kai. This will no longer be the case.

On the 16th of last May, Rome detached, from the Vicariate of Szeping kai, a section which had been added to it in 1932, and which has now become the Prefecture of Lintong. Moreover, on June 7th, the Foreign Mission Seminary accepted the new mission field of Davao, in the Diocese of Zamboanga, in Mindanao, one of the Philippine Islands. It was then decided that five priests would leave for that post in September. Three mission territories will henceforth be open to our Missionaries: Szeping kai, Lintong, and Davao.

Ten of our Missionaries will leave from Pont Viau, on September 14th, and will set sail on the "Empress of Asia", on September 18th. Reverend Fathers Laurent Beaudoin, Paul Guilbault and Alexandre Gauvreau, destined for the Vicariate of Szeping kai; and two others, Reverend Fathers Eustache Dumais and Philippe Vincent, destined for the Prefecture of Lintong, will leave the steamer at Kobe, Japan; while the remaining five, Reverend Fathers Clovis Rondeau, Clovis Thibault, Conrad Cote, Omer Leblanc and Leo Lamy, will continue as far as Manila, where the steamer is due on October 9th. Thence, they will proceed to Davao, at a distance of 700 miles farther on, towards the Southern extremity of the Philippines.

It is in response to the pressing appeal personally made to us in November, 1934, by His Excellency Bishop Luis Del Rosario, S. J., of Zamboanga, that this first departure is to take place; and it has been highly encouraged and facilitated by His Holiness Pope Pius XI., and by His Excellency Bishop Piani, Apostolic Delegate to the Philippine Islands.

During the Eucharistic Congress of Manila, at which His Excellency Bishop Lapierre assisted, the project was applauded; and in a recent letter, His Excellency himself expressed his approbation of it.

Alexandre PARADIS, P. M. E.

A New Prefect Apostolic

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception are happy to offer, through the *Precursor*, their congratulations and best wishes to Msgr. Edgar Laroche, P. M. E., who has been recently named Prefect Apostolic of Lintong, Manchukuo.

Encyclical Letter On Atheistic Communism

(DIVINI REDEMPTORIS)

*To the Patriarchs, Primates, Archbishops, Bishops, and other Ordinaries
in peace and communion with the Apostolic See.*

(Continued.)

Logical Result of System

21. Nor can it be said that these atrocities are a transitory phenomenon, the usual accompaniment of all great revolutions, the isolated excesses common to every war. No, they are the natural fruit of a system which lacks all inner restraint. Some restraint is necessary for man considered either as an individual or in society. Even the barbaric peoples had this inner check in the natural law written by God in the heart of every man. And, where this natural law was held in higher esteem, ancient nations rose to a grandeur that still fascinates — more than it should! — certain superficial students of human history. But tear the very idea of God from the hearts of men, and they are necessarily urged by their passions to the most atrocious barbarity.

Struggle Against All that is Divine

22. This, unfortunately, is what we now behold. For the first time in history we are witnessing a struggle, cold-blooded in purpose and mapped out to the least detail, between man and "all that is called God". Communism is by its nature antireligious. It considers religion as "the opiate of the people", because the principles of religion which speak of a life beyond the grave dissuade the proletariat from the dream of a Soviet paradise which is of this world.

Terrorism

23. But the law of nature and its Author cannot be flouted with impunity. Communism has not been able, and will not be able, to achieve its objectives even in the merely economic sphere. It is true that in Russia it has been a contributing factor in rousing men and materials from the inertia of centuries, and in obtaining by all manner of means, often without scruple, some measure of material success. Nevertheless, We know, from reliable and even very recent testimony, that not even there, in spite of slavery imposed on millions of men, has Communism reached its promised goal. After all, even the sphere of economics needs some morality, some moral sense of responsibility, which can find no place in a system so thoroughly materialistic as Communism. Terrorism is the only possible substitute, and it is terrorism that reigns to-day in Russia, where former comrades in revolution are exterminating each other. Terrorism, having failed despite all, to stem the tide of moral corruption, can not even prevent the dissolution of society itself.

Fatherly Concern for Oppressed Russians

24. In making these observations, it is no part of Our intention to condemn *en masse* the peoples of the Soviet Union. For them We cherish the

warmest paternal affection. We are well aware that not a few of them groan beneath the yoke imposed on them by men who in very large part are strangers to the real interests of the country. We recognize that many others were deceived by fallacious hopes. We blame only the system, with its authors and abettors, who considered Russia the best-prepared field for experimenting with a plan elaborated decades ago, and who from there continue to spread it from one end of the world to the other.

III

DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH IN CONTRAST

25. We have exposed the errors and the violent, deceptive tactics of Bolshevistic and Atheistic Communism. It is now time, Venerable Brethren, to contrast with it the true notion, already familiar to you, of the *civitas humana*, or human society, as taught by reason and revelation through the mouth of the Church, *Magistra Gentium*.

God the Supreme Reality

26. Above all other reality there exists one supreme Being — God, the omnipotent Creator of all things, the all-wise and just Judge of all men. The supreme reality, God, is the absolute condemnation of the impudent falsehoods of Communism. In truth, it is not because men believe in God that He exists; rather because He exists do all men whose eyes are not deliberately closed to the truth believe in Him and pray to Him.

Man and Family According to Reason and Faith

27. In the Encyclical on *Christian Education* We explained the fundamental doctrine concerning man, as it may be gathered from reason and Faith. Man has a spiritual and immortal soul. He is a person, marvelously endowed by his Creator with gifts of body and mind. He is a true "microcosm", as the ancients said, a world in miniature, with a value far surpassing that of the vast inanimate cosmos. God alone is his last end in this life and in the next. By sanctifying grace he is raised to the dignity of a son of God, and incorporated into the kingdom of God in the mystical body of Christ. In consequence he has been endowed by God with many and varied prerogatives: the right to life, to bodily integrity, to the necessary means of existence; the right to tend towards his ultimate goal in the path marked out for him by God; the right of association and the right to possess and use property.

28. Just as matrimony and the right to its natural use are of divine origin, so likewise are the constitution and fundamental prerogatives of the family fixed and determined by the Creator. In the Encyclical on *Christian Marriage* and in Our other Encyclical on *Education*, cited above, we have treated these topics at considerable length.

(To be continued.)



HOUSE FOR CLOSED RETREATS, DIRECTED BY THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.
"BETHANY", NOMININGUE, LABELLE CO., QUE.

Bethany

ON the hill-top, isolated from the agitation of the world, stands a white building, surrounded by green meadows. Yes, all white is this quiet and peaceful abode, the mere sight of which inspires joy and serenity. As a brilliant vision on a marvellous horizon, surmounted by the Cross and protected by the Virgin, is Bethany, house of rest, like that other Bethany in the little town of Judea, mentioned in the Holy Scriptures.

House of rest! House also of peace, of happiness, of forgiveness, add the privileged ones who have spent some time in Bethany, the attractive solitude where the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception devote themselves to the Work of Closed Retreats.

Bethany! name that recalls the intimacy which reigned in that household at whose door the Divine Master knocked many a time; name that recalls the beneficent halts after the long days of apostolic labour. Bethany, where the souvenir of Mary Magdalen seems ever to hover. Could a house for closed retreats be better named?

It is necessary to have enjoyed the genial solitude of this "Bethany" in the Laurentides, it is necessary to have felt the blessed tranquillity found therein, to know what is true joy, pure and efficacious joy, that is to be sought in its very Source, perfect and ardent joy, which overcomes every lassitude, renews all the energies and transforms the whole life, the great joy of certitudes that nothing can shake, of immolations that are accepted in silence.

To enter Bethany means to penetrate into a haven of silence and peace, into a privileged sanctuary where the noise and the turmoil of the world

have no access, where the daily cares do not attain us, where the anxieties and worries left at the threshold cannot rejoin us.

The atmosphere of Bethany is serene and calm. Everything inspires perfect security. Within its walls, only one duty seems to impose itself upon us, that of being happy — happy with a happiness unknown to the world; happy, because all the flickering lights, which sometimes blind us are dimmed and the Great Light only is shining; happy, because the deafening noises, the tumult of idle words, are hushed and only the persuasive voice of the Master resounds in our soul; happy, because, in the place of our utter weakness, God has put His own strength; happy, because He reveals Himself to us, His love enlightens our way, fills our heart, and transforms it; happy, because He is quite near, He speaks, and is listened to.

Bethany, house of rest, may your beneficent rays be propagated far and wide, and may you open your solitude to an ever-increasing number of privileged souls.

A RETREATANT.

In Grateful Remembrance

Reverend Father Joseph Alfred Roy, C. S. V., Pastor of St. Viator's Church, Outremont, passed away at Notre Dame Hospital, on Saturday, June 19th, in his sixty-ninth year.

The Reverend Pastor was born at Lauzon, Levis County, on July 14th, 1868. He made his primary and commercial studies at St. Joseph's College, Lauzon, and entered the Novitiate of the Clerics of St. Viator, Joliette, on October 21st, 1884. On July 31st, 1886, he pronounced his first vows and, on July 31st, 1891, his final vows. He was ordained at Montreal, by His Excellency Archbishop Bruchesi, May 28th, 1904.

He taught at St. Louis' School, Montreal, at Vaudreuil, at Lanoraie, and at St. John the Baptist's Academy, Montreal, where he spent ten years. He was then transferred to St. Remi and, later on, to Beauharnois. In 1900, he became Director of the Holy Angels' Juvenile, Outremont, and, in 1902, professor of literature in the Joliette Seminary. In 1908, he was named Provincial Visitor, with residence at Outremont. On Sept. 1st, 1914, he was named curate at St. Viator's Parish and, on March 9th, 1930, he became its Pastor.

The funeral service of the lamented deceased was held on Tuesday, June 22nd, in St. Viator's Church, whence his remains were taken to Joliette and buried in the Community cemetery.

Reverend Father Roy was a true Pastor of souls and was remarkable for his charity and devotedness especially to the afflicted, the sick, and the dying.

He took a paternal interest in the Community of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, ever since the early days of its existence. His counsels and encouragement are a precious treasure, for which its members will retain a perpetual and grateful remembrance in their prayers.

Why not Make Friends for Ourselves

WHO is not eager to be loved? Who is indifferent to other people's affection? No person, certainly. Every one is quite happy to feel herself sincerely loved; and, nevertheless, how many hearts here below have no true friend. Why? because they are not charitable.

The egoistic heart who thinks only of her personal interests, who cannot deprive herself, devote herself, give herself, joyfully for others, cannot love nor be loved. On the contrary, how many selfish hearts flatter themselves with having many friends, because they form many relations for motives which are altogether material, egoistic, and sometimes even culpable; but it is of such friends as these, that is said: "To-day they are for you, but to-morrow they will be against you." It is thus for all friendships which are not founded on something stronger than earthly considerations. But friendship which has its source in God, which is inspired by charity, survives the grave and continues to exercise its beneficent influence throughout Eternity.

"Make unto you friends of the mammon of iniquity," says Our Lord Jesus Christ, "that when you shall fail they may receive you into everlasting dwellings."

These friends will be the poor whom we shall have relieved, fed, clothed, and sheltered; the sick whom we shall have attended; the afflicted whom we shall have comforted. They will also be the souls that we shall have saved by our spiritual works of mercy. These true friends, after having sincerely loved us, blessed us, and prayed for us, on earth, will be our advocates before the Sovereign Judge when, at the close of our life, we shall appear in His Divine Presence. Then, with outstretched arms, Our Lord, who considers done to Himself the good, even the least, done to the poor and unfortunate, will say to us, according to His promise: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, for I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; naked, and you covered me; sick, and you visited me; I was a stranger, and you took me in; come and possess the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

HOMAGE OF GRATITUDE

The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, through the *Precursor*, express their heartfelt gratitude to all the charitable members of the various sewing-circles, who consecrate the fruit of their labours to the benefit of the works confided to these Sisters in the Foreign Missions.

These articles, carefully packed, will be sent to the missions, where they will bring happiness to many, and make friends of them — bring happiness to them, in relieving their needs; make friends of them, because the missionaries teach their protégés to love their benefactors beyond the seas, and to pray for them daily.

Grateful thanks to all the ladies and young girls who devote themselves to this beneficent apostolate!

CORDIAL INVITATION

With the months of September and October; the pleasant weekly reunions interrupted during the vacation, will begin again. Welcome to the former members; welcome also to the new ones who desire to consecrate their leisure time to this good work.

All information concerning these charitable reunions held at the convents of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, may be obtained at any one of the following addresses:

314 St. Catherine Road, Outremont

4 Simard Street, Quebec

61 Jacques-Cartier St., Chicoutimi

100 St. Louis St., Joliette

St. Jean-Baptiste St., Rimouski

466 Bonaventure St., Three Rivers

35 Dufferin St., Granby

279 Main Street, Granby

430 Champlain St., St. John, Que.

ECHOES FROM THREE RIVERS

On the 26th and 27th of last May, was held at our convent of Three Rivers, an exposition of the work done during the year by the devoted ladies and young girls of our Mission sewing-circle.

Doubtlessly, the Divine Master has precious graces reserved for these generous benefactresses who, this year especially, have excelled in zeal and ardour to relieve, by their work, the greatest number possible of poor abandoned creatures.

One of them, especially, besides contributing a number of articles which she had made at the sewing-circle reunions to which she was always very assiduous, succeeded, by various contrivances, in donating also four hundred other pieces, such as: sweaters, stockings, dresses, aprons, coats, quilts, etc., etc., made either by herself or by some of her friends, happy to participate in her generous enterprise. From others who did not know how to sew, she begged the alms of ten cents, twenty-five cents, etc., for the purchase of goods, wool, thread, etc.

God must look with complacency upon these devoted souls who, after accomplishing their family duties, consecrate their talents and their leisure moments to the salvation of pagan children. If these charitable women have not the happiness of reaping on the distant mission fields, like the missionaries, they have the honour of providing them with these powerful means which will help them to more easily win souls to Christ. To them also can be applied this assertion: "He who helps the apostle, has a right to the apostle's recompense."

With deep gratitude, we thank them for their benevolent collaboration in our missionary work, and we beg them to kindly continue to lend us their assistance in bringing an ever-increasing number of souls into the True Fold.

Father Damien

The Apostle of the Lepers of Molokai

BY MRS. AUGUSTUS CRAVEN, NEE LA FERRONNAYS

(Continued.)

While he was carrying out little by little his charitable plans and before distant visitors had come to encourage them, Father Damien received an important and unexpected visit — the Queen Regent of the Sandwich Islands, who came to Molokai to see her relative, the leper of whom we have previously spoken.

At the sight of the poor sufferer's disfigured features, she burst into tears. The patient herself reassured her and told her that she was not so much to be pitied; that, owing to the various means employed by Father Damien to console her in her misfortune and relieve her in her sufferings, she was now very happy and, for nothing in the world, would she leave this place, for which she had formerly so much horror and repugnance. All the other lepers, her companions, eagerly confirmed her assertion. The queen was so surprised and touched by it that, on her return to the Capital, she wished to give Father Damien a public proof of her admiration and gratitude. She wrote him a touching letter in which she thanked him for the "boundless charity" with which he consecrated himself to the relief of the most unfortunate of her subjects, adding:

"I know that you are not expecting, for your labours and sacrifices, any other recompense than those reserved for you by God, the Sovereign Lord, Who directs and inspires you; however, in accordance with my desires, I beg you to accept the decoration of the Knights of the Royal Order of Kalakua, in token of my sincere admiration of the efforts by which you have succeeded in alleviating the sufferings of my afflicted people!"

This letter was signed: "Your friend, Lilinokalani, regent."

V

Among so many various facts collected by the journalists of Paris, those that we have just related have been overlooked. Only the readers of our Mission Annals have noticed them, and it must be admitted that even these were more edified than surprised by them because, in our minds, the idea of foreign missions seems to be naturally associated with that of martyrdom. Those who have assisted at the ceremony which precedes the departure of missionaries, know that this prospect is as vivid in the thoughts of those who are leaving, as it is poignant to the spirit of those who remain; and it is even on this account that such departures are so solemn. This feeling cannot seem strange to us if we recall all the cruel facts by which it has been confirmed at the present time. It even explains to a certain extent why the public, on learning that Father Damien had sacrificed his health and his life, was not more astonished than it would have been if he had been martyred.

After a few years, when the results of Father Damien's efforts became evident, when travellers who had come from time to time and cast a glance of terror upon the colony of Molokai, ascertained the great change that

had been wrought there by the influence of one man alone, the news began to spread and, quite unknown to this humble missionary, his name was published very far from the spot, where he was accomplishing his self-imposed task with that simplicity which is ever found in the lives of those who consider heroism as one of the ordinary duties of their vocation. We are sure, and all those who visited him before or after he had contracted the disease, testify, that never had the thought crossed Father Damien's mind, that he was doing something extraordinary in thus devoting himself; and, perhaps, we either should not consider so, a sacrifice which is accomplished under other forms by such a great number of those whose names are the riches and the glory of the Catholic Church. But the material regeneration, as well as the moral one, accomplished at Molokai, presented, however, an exceptional character and excited the interest of those who were the first to have knowledge of them. This interest became almost general when some of the facts that we have just briefly related were known.

As soon as the travellers' accounts had given to understand that it was possible to help the apostle of the lepers in his good work, means of doing so were eagerly resorted to. Perhaps, it must be once again admitted here that the practical advantages evidently resulting from Father Damien's sacrifice — the material welfare as well as the moral progress of the lepers — without rendering it less heroic, made it more comprehensible to those to whom other forms of sacrifice — none the less sublime in our opinion — usually seem too mystical.

At all events, the sympathy aroused was effective and, what is worthy of notice, one of the first ones to manifest it was an Anglican minister, rector of a poor parish of London, situated at Camberwell, far from the aristocratic section, and in a centre where, more than elsewhere, some of the past prejudices against Catholics might have been expected to be found still existing. It was there, however, that the rector of St. Luke's, Reverend H. B. Chapman, speaking from the pulpit to his parishioners, did not hesitate to announce publicly to them that a rare and sublime example of charity was being given at that moment to Christians of the whole world by a Catholic priest; and after relating to them all that had taken place at Molokai during the past few years through Father Damien's influence, he invited them to co-operate in his work of mercy by a subscription destined to enable him to put into execution all that his zeal and ingenuity might suggest to him for the relief of the lepers.

Considering the poverty of the parish and the religion professed by him to whose work they were invited to contribute, the response to this appeal surpassed all expectations. In less than a week, the subscription had amounted to 650 pounds sterling, and Mr. Chapman, wishing to forward the sum without delay, addressed the following circular to his parishioners:

I inform you that, the sum collected amounting now to 650 pounds sterling, we shall close this first list of subscriptions next Saturday. I thank you respectfully for having so kindly contributed to the small offering that we shall have the happiness of forwarding to this holy priest. All discussion about his sublime charity would simply be an irreverence. Such a life as his shows up

the indolence and egoism of the one that we are leading, and I consider it a great honour for us to be able to deposit even the least tribute at the feet of a man courageous enough to have embraced that one. As for those who are raising objections, they are more to be pitied than the priest of the lepers could ever be.

I am,

Your humble servant,

H. B. CHAPMAN.

177 Camden Grove, North Pecklam,

November 10, 1885.

The objections of those whom Mr. Chapman found more to be pitied than Father Damien, were expressed in a letter addressed to him by the honorary-secretary of a Protestant league which, as can be seen here below, seemed destined to conserve, in a corner of the United Kingdom, a specimen of the outrages and hatred of times gone by forever.

To the Reverend H. B. Chapman.

October 22, 1886.

REVEREND SIR,

I am charged to inform you of the surprise that it has been to several to see a minister of the Anglican church seeking to inspire sympathy for an idolatrous priest belonging to that abominable system that you, more than any other, both as minister of the Gospel and as an Englishman, lover of freedom, should combat.

Father Damien's devotedness and abnegation are not more worthy of admiration than those of the priests of Baal who cut themselves with knives till they were covered with blood (I Kings, XVIII., 23) or of those who threw themselves under the wheels of the car of Juggernaut. All that Father Damien can do, as priest of Antechrist, is to make his proselytes children of hell twofold more than himself (Matth., XXIII., 15).

It is also condemnable that you should give to Doctor Manning the title he possesses as representing the papacy, that a minister of Christ thus helps an adherent of antechrist to unlawfully obtain a social position which has been a cause of so much suffering for England, and that you seek to rivet upon her once again, the chains of idolatry and sacerdotal imposture.

Instead of erecting insurmountable barriers between us and Rome, you are removing the former lines of demarcation. You are dimming the protecting beacon-lights and, fascinated by the faint lustre (ignis factus) of a false charity, you are persuading the people that we are the brothers of Antechrist. I am, Sir,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas MACCLURE.

The answer to this letter was brief:

DEAR SIR,

Your letter is very wicked and has no other excuse than its extreme foolishness.

GO AND DO LIKEWISE.

Yours sincerely,

H. B. CHAPMAN.

(To be continued.)

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 will shower them upon earth."

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus.



Please accept this little offering for a novena of candles or votive lamps in front of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour obtained and also for my mother. Mrs. N. M. Fowler, **North Troy, Vt.** — Lively gratitude towards St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for favours received. I solicit anew her intercession to obtain a cure and a conversion that I desire very much. Mrs. A. Boily, **Long Point.** — Kindly publish my lively gratitude towards St. Teresa of Lisieux for the cure of my little girl. Mrs. E. S.,

Montreal. — The dear Patron of Missionaries has obtained for me the cure requested. A thousand thanks to her! Mrs. A. D., **Sorel.** — Homage of gratitude towards the Little Flower of Carmel for favour received. Mrs. A. L. D., **Outremont.** — I acquit myself of a debt of gratitude towards St. Teresa and I beg of her my perfect cure. G. Giguere, **Long Point.** — Thanks to St. Teresa for favour obtained. Mrs. P. Lamarche, **Thetford.** — Sincere thanks to the Little Flower of Carmel for favours received by her intercession. Mrs. E. T., **L'Islet.** — Lively gratitude to the Patron of the Missionaries for favour obtained. I beg her to obtain positions for my two sons. Mrs. A. R., **Louiseville.** — St. Teresa has answered my prayers, kindly thank her with me. Miss M. B., **St. Roch de l'Achigan.** — I desire to thank the loving St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a great favour obtained by her intercession. Miss E. Bouchard, **Brownsburg.** — I am fulfilling my promise in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. J. B., **Stafford Springs, Conn.** — Thanksgiving in honour of the Little Flower of Carmel for graces received. J. A. G., **Williamstown, Mass.** — St. Teresa of Lisieux has obtained for me what I asked of her. I thank her sincerely and I beg her to accord me again her protection in obtaining for me my cure. L. V., **Thetford.** — Heartfelt thanks to the Patron of the Missionaries. Miss R. C., **St. Madeleine, St. Hyacinthe.** — Gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for favour obtained. Mrs. A. C., **Rosemont.** — Thanksgiving to the dear St. Teresa for benefit received by her intercession. L. H., **Keene, N. H.** — Homage of gratitude towards St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for cure obtained after promise of publishing. Mrs. Ludger Desilets, **St. Silvere.** — Sincere thanks to the dear St. Teresa for benefits received. A Subscriber, **St. Remi.** — My lively gratitude to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a favour obtained by my son. Mrs. A. G. R., **Montreal.**

OFFERINGS FOR THE LITTLE FLOWER BURSE.

We shall therefore receive with gratitude, any offerings, (thanksgivings for favours obtained or requests for new ones) for the complete formation of the Burse in honor of St. Teresa 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!

September-October 1935.....	\$ 29.50	September-October 1936.....	16.50
November-December ".....	7.00	November-December ".....	6.00
January-February 1936.....	159.42	January-February 1937.....	162.80
March-April ".....	45.70	March-April ".....	4.50
May-June ".....	\$ 37.60	May-June ".....	48.10
July-August ".....	152.25	July-August ".....	29.75



HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP ZANIN, APOSTOLIC DELEGATE TO CHINA, VISITS HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL, CANTON, CHINA.

From left to right: Reverend Fathers NARBAIS, VEYRES, FAVREAU; Their Excellencies Bishops YU PIN, of Nankin; FORD, Vicar Apostolic of Yeung Chow; VOGEL, of Swatow; CARLOS, Vicar Apostolic of Lanlong; FOURQUET, Bishop of Canton; ZANIN, Apostolic Delegate to China; NUNES, Bishop of Macao; VALTORTA, Vicar Apostolic of Hong Kong; ALBOUY, Bishop of Nanning; DE JONGHE, of Yunanfu; PENICAUD, of Pakhoi; CANEZEI, Salesian, of Shui Chow; YEUNG, Auxiliary of Canton. Standing: Reverend Father FABRE, Monsignor JULIOTTE, Prefect Apostolic of Hainam; Reverend Father JARREAU.

In front: The members of the orchestra dressed as pages and the personages of the dialogue.

Behind: The Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception with their pupils and orphans.



Echoes from our Missions

CHINA

*His Excellency Most Reverend Marius Zanin, Apostolic Delegate to China,
visits Holy Spirit School at Canton.*

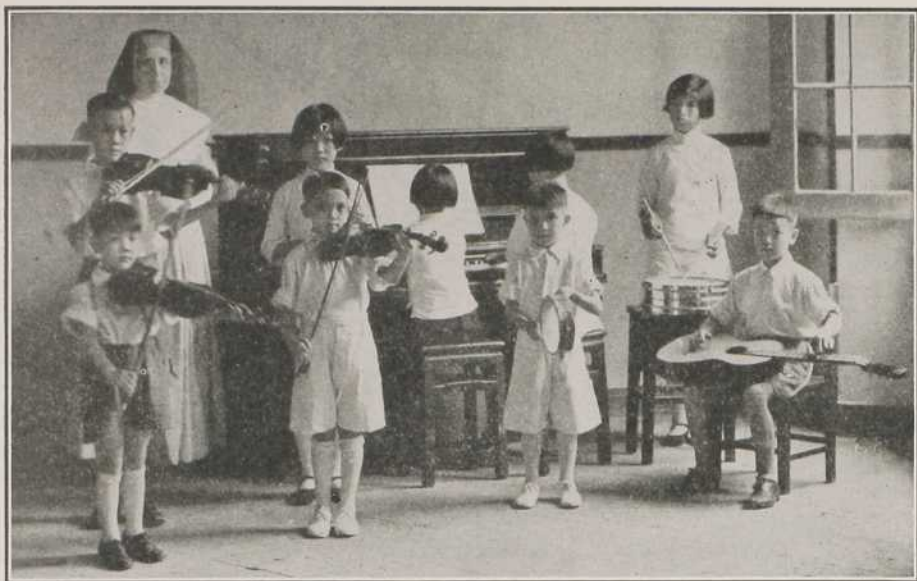
There was great rejoicing at our convent on the 22nd of January, when we had the honour of receiving His Excellency Most Reverend Marius Zanin, Apostolic Delegate to China. A week of Catholic Action united under the presidency of this illustrious representative of the Holy See, an imposing number of prelates and dignitaries from several provinces.

His Excellency, passing through the cordon of honour formed by the Sisters, to whom he gave a paternal blessing and his ring to kiss, entered the reception hall of our school and occupied the seat of honour on the platform, while, on either side of him, the following bishops and priests took their places: Their Excellencies, Bishop Nunes of Macao; Bishop Fourquet of Canton; Bishop Carlos, Vicar Apostolic of Lanlong; Bishop Yeung, Auxiliary of Canton; Bishop Albouy, Vicar Apostolic of Nanning; Bishop Valtorta, Vicar Apostolic of Hong Kong; Bishop Penicaud, Vicar Apostolic of Pakhoi; Bishop Canezei, Vicar Apostolic of Shui Chow; Bishop Ford, Vicar Apostolic of Yeung Chow; Bishop de Jonghe, Vicar Apostolic of Yunnanfou; Bishop Vogel, Vicar Apostolic of Swatow; Bishop Yu Pin of Nankin; Msgr. Meyer, Prefect Apostolic of Ping Nam; Msgr. Juliotte, Prefect Apostolic of Hainam; and Reverend Fathers Jarreau, Favreau, Fabre, Veyres and Narbais-Jaureguy, all from the Mission of Canton.

The sight of this venerable assembly was very impressive. The background of the platform was decorated for the occasion with an elegant red drapery. Escutcheons, here and there on the walls, spoke of our Immaculate Mother, of Rome, and of China.

After a duet, the pupils sang a song of welcome; then, the school orchestra executed a piece from its repertory. His Excellency nodded approval several times and expressed his appreciation of the little girl who acted as leader of the band. Music, it seems, is Bishop Zanin's favourite art.

Between the ranks of the pupils, advanced two characters, one of which, wearing the national costume, represented the Chinese People; the other, draped in the folds of the flag, and bearing on her breast the star with twelve points, personified Young China, full of enthusiasm and noble aspirations.



THE ORCHESTRA OF HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL, WITH ITS DIRECTRESS SISTER MARIE IMMACULEE (ALICE VANCHESTEIN, OF ST. MICHEL DE NAPIERVILLE).

A dialogue, thrilling with actuality, was carried on between them. The Nation complaining, said, "I suffer, I am not happy!" — "But," replied young China, "why do you speak thus? I understand that, formerly, times were very hard for you, your situation was distressing, the taxes were very high and oppressive; but, since my coming, have not things changed? I have distributed the work more uniformly; I have abolished slavery and opium — those two plagues which ravaged the country; I have opened roads and facilitated commerce. I have not forgotten your future. For that reason, I have created centres of amusement; and above all, I have generalized the education of your sons and daughters. And what not? Is that not enough to make you happy?" — "Oh! dear Country," answered the Chinese Nation, "I know all that, and I appreciate the opportunity that you have given to our children; but I dare say that, despite all that, I am not yet really happy; the body and mind benefit by all these advantages; but I am still lacking something which I cannot define, something which is indispensable to the most intimate part of myself." Young China, truly benevolent, was wondering what else she could do for her Nation, when there appeared on the scene, a third character clad in yellow and mauve, with a large golden cross on her bosom. It was Religion, who having heard the dialogue, came forward to inquire the cause of the Nation's sadness and to tell her that she possessed the key to happiness for her. Immediately, Young China implored her to reveal her secret and, first of all, to tell her her name. "I am called Catholic Religion," she answered. "My laws and benefits can slake Humanity's thirst for true happiness. The Pope, my head, represented here to-day by His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, is the Dispenser of my treasures." Upon these words, Young China declared that, having her Nation's comfort and happiness so much at heart,

she welcomed Religion with great joy. As a token of her perfect sincerity, she advanced towards the Prince of the Church and, kneeling at his feet, she respectfully kissed his pastoral ring. His Excellency blessed Young China and asked if the pupil was a Christian. "No, not yet," answered Sister Superior, "but she will soon be." Turning towards the pupil who represented the Catholic Religion, "This one," said His Excellency, "is a Catholic; I recognize her." (This pupil was a catechumen when Bishop Zanin came to Canton for the first time.) She also received a very special blessing from the Delegate.

The group having withdrawn, another piece was played by the orchestra. Then, Young China, accompanied by a pupil and an orphan, reappeared to read an address and offer a basket of flowers to His Excellency. The latter then spoke in Latin, which Bishop Yeung, Auxiliary of Canton, translated into Chinese. "Obey and Work" summarizes the precious words of the good Delegate. Numerous voices solemnly and piously intoned the *Pater* in Chinese, and a last blessing descended upon the assistance.

Our distinguished guests visited the different rooms where the pupils' and orphans' work was exhibited. His Excellency greatly admired the embroidery-work on a banner of the Blessed Virgin in the orphans' department. Sister Superior expressed her wish to have him bless it and, as a kind father, he acquiesced heartily. The ceremony was decided for the following morning.

Before their departure, the distinguished group, consenting to leave us a souvenir of this memorable day, assembled in the garden to be photographed.



SISTER MARIE DE LOYOLA, M. I. C. (ORPHISE BOULAY, OF COATICOOK), SISTER MARIE CELINA, (GRACIA BLANCHETTE, OF DRUMMONDVILLE), WITH A GROUP OF NEOPHYTES, BAPTIZED ON PENTECOST, 1937.

*Extracts from letters of Sister Claire de Jesus,
Missionary Sister of the Immaculate Conception, Hospitaller at the Lazaretto
of Shek Lung, to her Superior General.*



SISTER ST. RAPHAEL (MALVINA BIRON OF COTEAU
LANDING), HOSPITALLER AT THE LAZARETTO
OF SHEK LUNG, CONDUCTING A POOR
LEPER IN AN INVALID'S CHAIR.

On April 13, 1937, we received a group of twenty-five patients from Hong Kong. Each day of the three hundred and sixty-five of every year, it is, for those who replace the fathers and mothers of this large family living on the Island of Shek Lung, a problem how to procure the rice, salt fish and vegetables required for over seven hundred patients. Rice sells for thirteen cents a pound and yet, as substitute for bread for these poor Chinese people, a pound for each, daily, is quite a meagre portion. Salt, coarse salt, cannot be had for less than forty cents a pound, so that, although the Chinese are very fond of it, we cannot afford to give them more than a pinch of it now and again. Calculate the sum required yearly to feed, clothe and give medical care to this population! The competition is open to all generous souls feeling capable of solving the problem, wholly or partial-

ly. The premium — it is promised in the Gospel: "A cup of cold water given in My Name will not go without its recompense."

On the Patronage of St. Joseph, which is the patronal feast of our lazaretto, and that also of Reverend Father Marsigny, its director, eighteen lepers, who are here since last year, six women and twelve men, were baptized. Among the latter was a Protestant minister or catechist, whose first concern, after his admission to the Leper Hospital, was to make proselytes. His zeal, altogether too active, finished by attracting our attention. We warned him that such was not permitted here. He hastened to apologize and promised not only to discontinue propagating his doctrines, but also to apply himself to the study of the Catholic Religion, that which he did in a very edifying manner. He took, in Baptism, the name Paul, and is desirous of walking in the footsteps of his illustrious patron.

The day after her admission, a pagan woman said to us with conviction: "Luckily, I have this disease; otherwise, never would I have known God." We sometimes hear similar reflections coming from the lips of our patients; but, as a rule, not before they have studied the Doctrine for several years. Leprosy inspires so much horror, that a very strong faith is required for such a joyful acceptance of this humiliating affliction. When this patient's

husband came to see her, she advised her *poor defunct* (as some of these good old women call their husbands) to seek another companion for the rest of his days, as she did not wish to leave here. But her faithful consort did not look at it in that way: "I want nobody else but you," said he, "you'll be cured and I'll come back to get you."

Our patients are very keen on taking the injections of chaumoogra oil, which are given, twice a week, to an average of a hundred and twenty women and a hundred and eighty men. We are obliged to buy three hundred pounds of this oil at a time. The treatment is very effective. Of all those who have been following it for four years, only one young man has died. Before we began giving these injections, the majority of the patients had ulcers which were very repulsive even to those who were in continual contact with them. It is to be hoped that, with scientific discoveries, leprosy may be cured like every other disease.

Doctor Wellington from Hong Kong and his wife, an English convert, before leaving for England, via Canada, visited each of the wards of our poor lepers, to whom they manifested the most heartfelt sympathy. The doctor was quite surprised by the improvement in the health of the majority of the lepers since his last visit. He deplores the fact that no doctor makes a periodical report of the results of these injections.

The French gun-boat, the *Argus*, that came to visit Shek Lung last year, paid the same honour to our isle this year again towards the end of April. In gratitude for the inestimable services rendered to us, as also to our Sisters in Canton, by the commander, we sent him a bouquet of flowers from our garden. As it was composed especially of lilies, he exclaimed, before the crew assembled in admiration, "Oh! the magnificent lilies, our beautiful flower of France!" This charitable Frenchman paid us a farewell visit, as he is returning definitively to his country. It is with regret that we see this devoted benefactor leaving China.

On the 11th of May, our family was increased by sixty patients, three women and fifty-seven men, sent to us by the Board of Health of Canton. It is true that, at this time of the year especially, a few of them will abandon the mortal remains of their poor infected bodies to don, we hope, the nuptial robe of Heavenly glory; but it is, still, none the less true that we must find food, clothing and medicine for more than seven hundred of these poor people, with a cash-box which is often empty. The patients, however, have never lacked rice. We invite all those who have doubts about Divine Providence to come to Shek Lung.

On account of the continual increase of our population, Reverend Father Marsigny sometimes refuses to admit new patients; but, if someone pleads for the new-comer, he, not displeased at letting himself be vanquished, says: "Well, alright for this time, but don't ask me again, I shall not accept another one." It is, nevertheless, worth while seeing how, on the first occasion, this charitable priest yields once again to the entreaties.

On May 17th, we assisted at the blessing of the new chapel of Seurng Ping by His Excellency Bishop Fourquet of Canton. The first little church there was falling into ruins, eaten away by white ants, which cause real

disasters in China by slyly boring their way through the beams of timber structures.

A good number of Christians went to the station where, to welcome the visitors, they exploded fireworks for about twenty minutes. All were in their finest clothes for this solemn occasion, and the little groups dispersed here and there along the road greeted us with graceful *Tin tsu po yaos*.

Nine missionaries from neighbouring stations assisted at the blessing of the church. Among them was a venerable Chinese priest, eighty-five years of age, who has just celebrated his Golden Jubilee, and is still in charge of a district.

After the religious ceremony came the killing of the fatted calf! All the pagans of the surrounding villages were attracted to Seurng Ping. As the calf did not suffice, it was necessary to kill a pig also.

Knowing that Divine Providence often utilizes human means to bring souls into the Fold, the missionary father replied to his Christians, who feared to spend too much, "Go on, give, give!" They did not need to be told twice.

After the banquet, there was Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; then came the moment of departure. The rain, that had been falling all day, did not spare us on our return home. We had to walk several miles in the downpour and on a muddy path, where we could hardly put one foot in front of the other without risking to fall into the stream which bordered it. In fact, two persons who were walking arm in arm, did tumble in; but we were careful not to imitate Lot's wife, and went straight ahead without looking behind.

We arrived at the convent, exhausted but gladdened by the hopes that the erection of this new chapel gives for the Seurng Ping Mission.

Sr. CLAIRE DE JESUS, M. I. C.¹

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* * *

MANCHUKUO

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Szepingkai.

Thursday, April 29, 1937

Last Tuesday, a telegram from Linsi informed us of the death of Han Maliya, professed Sister of the Manchu Community of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. Her companions were very deeply afflicted by this news; it was the first time that death had visited their Society. Han Maliya has a younger sister in the same congregation of native religious. A few weeks ago, both of them and some companions formerly from Linsi, made a trip to their home-village. Han Maliya's parents, hoping to improve their daughter's failing health, gave her Chinese medicine which, far from ameliorating her condition, only resulted in hastening the fatal hour. It was not even possible for her to return to the convent; she died at Linsi. The priests of the Mission assisted her during the last days of her illness. Though

1. Exilda COTE, of Montreal.

she was not deprived of the consolations of our Holy Religion, it was, nevertheless, a sacrifice for her to die far from her companions and her convent.

This morning, a funeral service is sung in our chapel by His Excellency Bishop Lapierre. We offer a week of prayers and good works for the repose of the soul of the regretted deceased, as we do for our own Sisters on the occasion of their death. In the person of Han Maliya, the little Manchu Congregation has its first representative in Heaven, we hope.

We receive a bank-note bearing the characters of ten thousand Chinese dollars; it is a fictitious value, for the note is worthless. When a person dies, it is a custom among the pagans to burn this kind of papers on the



AN OPEN-AIR STORE IN A STREET OF SZEPINGKAI, MANCHUKUO.

coffin of the deceased, the which, so it is believed, provides the departed one with a sum of money, which will allow him to procure for himself all that he will need in the next world. There are merchants who sell these false bills; a package of a hundred is generally sold for fifteen cents. As there are none made here, the merchants import them. We have been told that, in the city of Szepingkai alone, an average of six car-loads is burnt yearly. It is by these ridiculous and extravagant superstitions that the devil takes advantage of these poor people, living in poverty and suffering from hunger.

When a mother notices that her child has a bad temper, she makes a bamboo-doll, the size of her son or daughter, clothes it in a silk dress, and takes it to a pagoda where she burns it at Buddha's feet and, with excessive lamentations, begs him, in consideration of this consumption, to rid her child of its bad character. She also burns two dollars' worth of incense. If the child does not improve, the mother blames herself for it and, believing that she has omitted some details in making her offering, she recommences the ceremonial after some time.

One of the pagans' great apprehensions is that of being changed into a hare after their death. This animal is a symbol of vice; through pudency, therefore, they avoid even mentioning it. Every person who has led a good life will be born again, so they think, in another person who is rich,

powerful, etc. Others will return upon earth in the form of certain animals, more or less perfect according to the degree of their merits. On seeing a cripple, it is not rare to hear the remark: "It is not his fault; it is due to the other person who is incarnated in him." This is a proof that all men, even the most uncivilized and those most ignorant of the Christian Doctrine, have the intuition of a Just Judge Who will reward or punish all men after the trial of life.

Whitsunday, May 16

At the dawn of this beautiful day, we return in thought to dear Outremont, to join our religious family in offering to our venerable Mother our most affectionate wishes. After a low Mass in our chapel, we assist at a Pontifical Mass celebrated at the Cathedral, with pomp heretofore unknown in Szeping kai. There is a numerous attendance, as many Christians from distant country-places are at the Mission since yesterday and the day before; they come here as to their home. Besides the march which accompanies the processional entry of the people into the church, the orchestra plays also during the Offertory, the Elevation and the Communion of the Mass. The sermon is preached by Reverend Father Damase Bouchard, P. M. E.

An hour later, the bell recalls the Christians for the confirmation of a hundred and five neophytes, the majority of whom are adults. His Excellency Bishop Lapierre delivers an impressive sermon to the new soldiers of Christ. He urges them to keep ever in mind the obligations imposed upon them by the Catholic Faith and the duty of defending their Holy Religion. The forenoon so piously spent is terminated by Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Saturday, May 22

At supper-time, a Chinese girl comes and asks us to pay a visit to her mother who, as she says, is seriously ill. She lives very far from the convent and it is already quite late. Hesitating to undertake the journey which has to be made on foot for lack of a vehicle, we propose giving her medicine for her mother and promise to go and see her to-morrow morning; but, as she insists, we decide to go with her.

The Sister-Nurse and the Chinese virgin accompanying her take their turns in carrying the medicine-satchel which, nevertheless, finishes by becoming heavy. At last, on reaching our destination, we find, not the sick woman described to us, but a healthy person suffering only from a slight illness. A few minutes later, we are on our way home, thinking that our trip at dusk has been almost useless when, all of a sudden, somebody coming out of the next yard calls us, saying: "Please come and see my baby that is dying." "Willingly," we answer, and we follow her to her house, hoping that this visit may be more useful than the one which has occasioned our journey. In fact the poor little one is dying; it seems only to be waiting for us to open the gates of Heaven for it; so we baptize it immediately. How admirable is Divine Providence! If we were only wise enough to abandon ourselves unreservedly to His care!

Wednesday, May 26

The population of Manchukuo already counts many Japanese immigrants, and their number is continually increasing. In the schools, the teaching of the Japanese language is obligatory. The missionaries also are obliged to learn it as well as Chinese. It is not very easy, at our age, to set ourselves to the study of another foreign language. We are encouraged by the thought that the perfect knowledge of languages will enable us to win a greater number of souls to Christ.

People are inclined to think that the Japanese and the Chinese have almost the same customs and the same way of living; nevertheless, if they resemble each other in certain points, they differ in a great number of others. The following are a few examples taken from domestic life: The Manchu likes food prepared with oil and lard; the Japanese, on the contrary, prefers plain food, which foreigners find tasteless. The Manchu is usually dressed in black or in blue, while the Japanese prefer, for the national kimono, chatoyant fabrics having various designs. The Japanese are all horticulturists. However small their gardens may be, they find means of cultivating therein a few rare plants, at least. The Manchu, on the other hand, prefers devoting his leisure moments to aviculture. The Japanese consider the turtle as a talisman, while their neighbours have an extreme horror for it. The worst insult that can be offered to a Manchu is to call him: "turtle's egg."

Odd numbers, in Japan, are regarded as lucky ones; for that reason, the third, fifth or seventh anniversary never goes unnoticed, and the third, fifth and seventh are dates chosen for the beginning of an important work. To the Manchu, the even numbers promise success.

The Manchu proves his good manners and manifests great interest in you by asking you questions like the following: "How old are you? What wages do you get? Where are you going? Where do you come from?" But the Japanese look upon such questions as being very impolite. On the other hand, they know that, on meeting a friend, they will please him by asking him news of his wife. This way of acting is considered, by the Manchu, quite ill-mannered.

The customs of the Occident also differ very much from those of the Orient; for instance, table utensils used indistinctly by the ones and the others are not considered hygienic by the Orientals, who prefer the chopsticks reserved to each one's personal use. When these compare their small dishes to those used in the Occident, it seems to them that the Europeans must consume enormous portions of food. Customs like tastes are not to be discussed.

Report of the Dispensary of Szepingkai, from January to April, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	41	Patients.....	9,908	
Treatments.....	14,070	Dressings.....	2,002	Teeth extracted.... 43
Injections.....	246	Homes visited....	183	Vaccinations.....570

Extracts from the letters of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of Pamientcheng to their Sisters of the Mother House.

Pamientcheng, May 1937.

VERY DEAR SISTERS,

The most charming of our protégés are the little girls of the Orphanage; the variety of their ages and characters adds interest to their daily sayings and doings. About fifteen of them are now going to school. Awakened at five o'clock by the Mission-bell, they all rise and dress; then, the oldest



THE ORPHANS OF PAMIENTCHENG PREPARING FOR CLASS.
SISTER ST. LAZARE (JULIETTE RAINVILLE, OF BEAUPORT) EXAMINES THEIR HANDS
AND INQUIRES IF EACH HAS HER HANDKERCHIEF.

girls, under the direction of a guardian, prepare breakfast, while those a little younger set the tables in the same room that has served as dormitory. At 5.45 A. M., the entire personnel goes to the church for morning prayer, which is followed by Mass and Thanksgiving. On their return to the convent, the big girls serve the little ones, then take their own breakfast and put everything in order again. At eight o'clock, the bell reminds our little folks that it is time to go to school. Immediately, according to the customs of the country, basins of water are placed on the floor for the ablutions, after which, each one of the pupils goes and shows her hands to Sister St. Lazare¹ who, at the same time, inquires if each has her handkerchief; then comes the moment to leave.

We teach these dear orphans different kinds of needle-work, crocheting, dress-making and shoe-making.

The patients of the Dispensary, as they pass through the yard where the little ones are playing, are wont to exclaim: "How clean these children are and how healthy-looking! Who takes care of them? Six, ten, all of the same size," etc. etc. They must sometimes be called to order, otherwise they

1. Juliette RAINVILLE, of Beauport.

enter the Orphanage and give utterance to further exclamations, amazed, as they are, by the skill of the bigger girls busy at different kinds of work, or charmed by some babies lying on the kang, or drinking their cup of milk which they hold tightly in their awkward hands.

It must be said that the Manchus make exclamations and compliments on every occasion. The Reverend Father Rector has just had a well dug and a pump installed. All the neighbourhood comes to see it. Among the admirers is an old man of eighty.

"How do you like our new well?" he is asked.

"*Ting Hao*" (There could be nothing better), replies he, and continues the conversation on other subjects. To enquiries made about his health and his eyes, he answers, "I no longer see."

"Well then, how can you say that the well is nice?"

"Ah! — it's the custom."

The bright coloured tulips are beginning to bloom, adding a new charm to our mission of Pamientcheng. These flowers remind us of our homes, where we had such pleasure helping our mammas to cultivate the flower-beds and watch for the first flowers. We are now cultivating other flowers in the Manchu land — the immortal flowers confided to our care at the Orphanage or at the Dispensary.

From time to time, since the 20th of March, we have been visiting Yu Yeoulin, one of the pupils of the Mission-school, whose case seemed at



SISTER ST. JEAN D'EPHESE (LAURETTE MORAN, OF ST. BONIFACE, MANITOBA)
TREATING YU YEOLIN, SHELTERED AT PAMIENTCHENG MISSION.

first a hopeless one. On account of the poor harvest last fall, his parents were reduced to extreme poverty. On the evening of April 11th, touched with compassion, Reverend Father Gilbert had the child brought to the Catholic Mission and gave him a place on the *kang* at the catechumenate. As his condition was becoming worse, he received the Sacraments of Baptism and Extreme-Unction and, every morning, the priest brought him Holy Communion. Abundance followed famine.

One day, he refused to take the medicine that was offered to him. The Sister Infirmarian did not insist for fear of tiring him. After her departure the sick child cried for part of the afternoon. "I displeased the *Doctor*",



A CORNER OF THE REFECTORY OF PAMIENTCHENG ORPHANAGE.
TWO MISSIONARIES OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SISTER ST. LAZARE (JULIETTE RAINVILLE
OF BEAUPORT) AND SISTER BLANDINE DE JESUS (BLANDINE SIMARD OF ROBERVAL)
PRESIDE AT THE BREAKFAST OF THEIR LITTLE PROTEGÉES.

he said repeatedly to his mother, begging her to take him to the Sister, so that he might ask her to pardon him.

On Corpus Christi Sunday, towards three o'clock in the afternoon, the procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place on the Mission grounds. After Mass, we set to work to prepare the repository, and decorate the yards with flowers, flags and banderoles. The canopy, of unusual style, was covered with white cotton garnished with lace and gold. The Christians and catechumens escorted Our Lord. Some pagans, attracted by the prayers and hymns, said to one another, "These people must be praying their god to obtain rain." It is generally for this intention that processions are made at the pagodas. We are longing for the day when Our Lord may be carried through the streets of Pamientcheng as a king in his domain.

YOUR HAPPY SISTERS OF PAMIENTCHENG.

Report of the Dispensary of Pamientcheng from February to May, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	25	Patients.....	8,849
Treatments.....	10,692	Dressings.....	6,294
Homes visited.....	154	Teeth extracted....	47
		Injections.....	342
		Vaccinations.....	166

If it is not in our power, perhaps, in the present economic crisis, to render any great financial assistance to the foreign missionaries, it is in our power to provide them with the nourishment of prayer. *Archbishop Downey.*

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Paitchengtze.

RECREATION HOUR AT THE WORKROOM

The recreation-bell has just rung. The disagreeable weather and especially the violent wind prevent the pupils from going out to play. The youngest ones sit around the tables to play parchesi or other games, while the older girls, Christians and pagans, prefer chatting with their teacher. All are anxious-looking; they have just learnt that one of their work-mates, in perfect health a few days ago, is dying. Each one expresses her reflections: "Ah! I'd like to die in her place," says a pagan pupil. "I also," adds a second, "the sooner we die, the sooner shall we feel the happy effects of our transformation." It is known that pagans believe in metempsychosis.

"It might happen that you will be changed into a horse, you are so fond of running," retorts a mischievous one. "But what happens to those who have lived honestly, and to those who, on the contrary, have been wicked?" asks Sister St. Denise,¹ in order to know each one's idea. "Oh! that is easy to say," answers one of them, "the first go to the abode of hope, while the others go to the prison place."

Sister profits by this favourable occasion to speak to her little audience of the Ethereal Abode of which every human soul has a presage and even a certainty; of the Goodness of God, Who has created Heaven, and of His Justice, which has made hell. "It is to make known to you this mighty God so loving and so powerful, that your teacher has left her home and

1. Odile MALBŒUF, of Sudbury, Ont.



SISTER ST ANGELE DE MERICI (MARIE JEANNE L'HEUREUX OF LORETTEVILLE) AND SISTER MARIE DE L'ASSOMPTION (ALICE LAROUCHE OF SWEETSBURG, P. Q.) DIRECTING THE WORK OF THE YOUNG GIRLS OF THE WORKROOM OF PAITCHENG TZE.

country." The youngest pupil who has not yet said a word since the beginning of recreation, risks the following remark: "*Lao che* (Teacher) must be very lonesome for her father and mother?" — "Your teacher did not leave her parents without regret; but the thought that these rejoice in seeing their child devote her life to making known the true God, Whom they also love very dearly, renders her happy."

The bell rings — the young workers take their knitting or sewing in silence and, bent over their work, they are doubtlessly reflecting. Who knows if the last words of the conversation will not produce salutary results.

A PAGAN'S VISION

One day, our Sister-Nurse made the following suggestion to an old woman: "It would be a good thing for you to become a Christian. You are not young, you must soon appear before the Sovereign Judge, the God of the Christians."

Animated by this sudden remark, the old lady related the following incident: "One night, twenty years ago, while I was alone in the house with my four children, we had just gone to bed, when the wind rose and it began to rain. I got up immediately and went out to put the next day's fuel in a dry place. I was about to enter with an armful of *chou kai* (sorghum stalks) when, all of a sudden, the sky, so dark until then, became very bright, and I saw, in the place of the clouds, countless persons draped in various colours. I also saw all kinds of animals and flowers. It was so beautiful that I could not turn my eyes away from it. Alas! a moment later, everything had disappeared. Very deeply impressed, I went back to bed. Those to whom I related this phenomenon, assured me that it was but a nice dream; I was not dreaming, however. This scene has remained engraved in my memory and, for twenty years, the thought of it has given me courage and confidence, despite all the sufferings that I have had to endure. 'These buddhas that I adore,' have I often said to myself, 'certainly have not made all that I saw.' I believe what you have told me of your God. It is indeed that One that I have been loving during these past twenty years."

Our Sister put a miraculous medal of the Immaculate Conception on her patient's neck and taught her to repeat: "My God, Thou lovest me, I also love Thee!" This real or imaginary vision has directed her towards the Catholic Church and also, we hope, towards Paradise.

HOW DWELLINGS ARE REPAIRED

In the early days of Spring, we see the Manchus busy repairing their dwellings and their garden-walls. It is understood that earthen constructions are not *tie che* (lasting). In the inclosed photograph, you see two men busy at this work. In a hole in the ground, they mix earth and chopped straw with water. When this mixture has the required consistency, the masons take it in pails and, by means of trowels, spread it on the damaged parts.

Moreover, every year, a fresh coat is added to the top of the wall, thus making it more solid and giving it a finishing border.

These high walls do not permit us a very wide view of nature, but, in compensation, they protect us from marauders.

A MARRIAGE

Reverend Father Fortin has just blessed the marriage of Miss Soeun, who gave us our first lessons in Chinese, after our arrival at the Mission. In the beginning, the young lady used to give the lesson and then hasten to return home. One day, she manifested the desire to visit the church and assist at Mass. Shortly afterwards, having contracted a contagious disease, she was obliged to interrupt her lessons; but, as soon as she had recovered, she returned with the intention of becoming a Christian. Her grandmother was opposed to this; but, becoming seriously ill, she herself consented to be baptized before dying. Thus, one obstacle to Miss Soeun's conversion was removed; but she then met with opposition on the part of her fiancé's family, all the members of which were pagans. Finally, these also became converted, and the wedding took place in the Mission-church. After the Mass, the catechist conducted the newly-married couple to the Catechumenate where, before a large crucifix, that had been adorned for the occasion by the pious Christian, they made a profound Chinese prostration; then, bowing to each other, they took their places in a Russian carriage and returned home.

We beg the Blessed Virgin to protect the Faith of these new Christians, so that all their descendants may be adorers of the True God.

Report of the Dispensary of Paitchengtze for 1936:

Baptisms.....	92	Patients.....	10,830	Dressings.....	5,556
Treatments.....	20,982	Teeth extracted..	50	Homes visited....	293
Consultations....	6,632	Injections.....	334	Vaccinations.....	34

Report of the Dispensary of Paitchengtze from January to May, 1937, inclusive:

Baptisms.....	17	Patients.....	5,514	Dressings.....	3,369
Treatments.....	6,559	Teeth extracted..	29	Homes visited....	133
Consultations....	2,989	Injections.....	107	Vaccinations.....	56



IN THE SPRING, THE EARTHEN WALLS ARE REPAIRED.
MISSION OF PAITCHENG TZE.

JAPAN

Gleanings from the Diary of our Sisters, Missionaries to Wakamatsu.

Tuesday, February 23, 1937

This forenoon, we had a reunion of the parents whose children are to come to school next April. For a long time, the mammas have been desirous of seeing our little ones at their daily work; to-day, their desire has been satisfied. The work exposed made them smile. Each class had prepared something special; the smallest ones, a winter landscape; the bigger ones, a miniature kindergarten and a street with a dozen well-furnished stores. Automobiles, carriages with slices of turnips for wheels, business men, etc., were circulating in the street.

The aim of this work, which takes up most of the time in the kindergarten classes, is the development of the children's initiative and observative faculties.

Assembled afterwards in the parlor, the parents, while drinking the traditional cup of tea, deliberated on offering a souvenir-gift, as is customary in the schools. The proposition made by the ladies the most devoted to this custom was eagerly accepted, and all were of the opinion that a phonograph would be an agreeable amusement for the pupils.

Sunday, February 28

To-day, we have the happiness of seeing among the little Christians several children, still pagans, who assist, with their parents' permission at the Catechism lesson. This is a great consolation for us; it is also a proof that our kindergarten is attaining its aim: the attraction of pagan families to the Catholic Mission, by overcoming their prejudices and exciting in them the desire to embrace the true Faith.

Saturday, March 20

This afternoon, we have the pleasure of distributing Kindergarten certificates to twenty-four of our young pupils, in presence of their parents assembled for the entertainment. The distribution is followed by a concert. One of the bigger ones, in the name of all, delivers a speech to thank the Sisters and teachers. A little girl then comes forward and wishes success in their studies, to the older pupils who are about to leave the Kindergarten.

The parents have really been very generous in donating to the school the beautiful phonograph promised and ten disks of our choice. We profit by this occasion to thank them for this gift, as also for the benevolence that they manifest towards us.

We have organized a little association for our former pupils; these must have the written consent of their parents to belong to it. We shall assemble them every Wednesday afternoon for an hour, during which we shall amuse them by edifying stories, songs, language lessons and games. Our motive is to keep in touch with the different families; and we dare hope that, in this way, some of them will become definitively attached to the Catholic Mission.



UNDER THE CHERRY-TREES IN BLOSSOM.
SISTER DE L'ENFANT JESUS (FLORENTINE DANSEREAU, OF VERCHERES) AND SISTER ST. JUSTINE
(CLEONA ROBITAILLE OF GLENADA, ST. MAURICE CO.) WITH THEIR PUPILS OF THE WAKAMATSU
KINDERGARTEN, AND THEIR TWO ASSISTANTS.

Monday, April 5

As there are only fifteen days of vacation here, fifty-five little Japs return to us to-day. We had requested fifty of St. Joseph, but this zealous propagandist puts five more into the bargain. At the opening ceremony, we become acquainted with our new pupils' parents, who accompany their children, as is the custom.

The first days of class are not equally bright and cheerful for all. The bigger ones find the program amusing; but the four or five-year-old tots who have scarcely left their mothers' arms—or backs, as we should say—are not as enthusiastic, and this well-known refrain is repeatedly heard: "*Oka San inai—uchi ni kaeru*, mamma is not here, I am going home." We are very often obliged to wipe away the tears; and, when the parents do not give in, we are not long in winning the little ones over. But alas, it is not natural for Japanese mammas to force very young children to obey; they depend upon the teachers to accustom these to obedience.

This year, among our kindergarten pupils, we have five little Christians and *Ryo ko san*, whose mother, a catechumen, wishes us to teach her child also the prayers and catechism. We assemble these little ones after class for this lesson. Several little pagans would like to imitate them, and we should be ever so happy to teach them all how to make the Sign of the Cross, etc., but we must be very prudent and wait till the Blessed Virgin inspires the parents with the desire of knowing her Divine Son.

Tuesday, April 20

A young girl invites us to go and see the flowers of her garden. Profiting by this occasion to get in touch with her family, we accept her invitation. The plum-trees are covered with beautiful dark-pink flowers and velvet buds attached to apparently dry branches. Among numerous trees skilfully

trimmed and azaleas in the form of balls, we notice a creeping-pine whose trunk is not more than two feet high. Its branches extend in all directions among the moss-covered stones, at a distance of only a few inches from the ground.

Another young lady who takes English lessons here, has been kind enough to offer us a bouquet of flowers. She herself has arranged it in Japanese style. Five pretty red lilies held in a vase, a few inches high, by wire network hidden under a tuft of moss, stand out against pretty white chrysanthemums, forming in all a perfect triangle. This is one of the secrets of Japanese florists, who make an art of arranging flowers.

The love of flowers and of all nature is deeply rooted in the Japanese soul. The philosopher Kaibara Ekiken, in the 17th century, wrote: "Sweet are the pleasures that we derive from the love of flowers and of the moon, from the contemplation of hills and streams, from our singing accompanied by the wind, or from our sight eagerly following the flight of the birds. All day long, we can find delights therein, without taking any harm." This love of nature makes the Japanese one of the most happy nations, and it is one of the elements of their patriotism.

Monday, April 26

The cherry-trees are all in blossom, the which occasions public rejoicings. People from the country and all parts of the city, come to admire these trees that border the roads leading to the old castle, which is a place of amusement during the cherry-season. In the evening, electric lanterns illuminate the roads, and there is not a single family that does not take the



SISTER MARIE DE LA REDEMPTION (BASILISSE MAILLET OF WEST BATHURST, N. B.)
AND SISTER DE L'ENFANT JESUS (FLORENTINE DANSEREAU, OF VERCHERES),
WITH THE PUPILS OF THE KINDERGARTEN NEAR THE RUINS OF THE OLD CASTLE OF WAKAMATSU.

pleasure of a walk under the *sakuras* in blossom. The street-venders are there with their display of sweet or salted biscuits, fruit in season, games, postal cards, and nick-nacks of all kinds. In order not to expose our little folks to being crushed or lost in the crowd thronging to the castle, and not wishing, either, to deprive them of a walk during this blossom-time, we accompany them to the industrial-school, where the cherry-trees are most beautiful, and there, we have their picture taken. We promise them that, if they are good, they will go to the castle when the visitors are less numerous. In the ruins of this old monument can be seen the height of the foundations, which consist of enormous stones without cement. In the photograph, only a very small part of it is seen. The building was demolished because its upkeep was too expensive. Its ruins give an idea of the magnificence of this castle, which was one of the three most beautiful ones of Japan.

Monday, May 10

The High Schools for girls, as well as those for boys, organize every year a study trip for their graduates. The expenses of it are defrayed by the pupils themselves, who put an offering aside every month during their course for this purpose. Each likes to have a souvenir for his parents and friends; this gift is usually something peculiar to the place visited. Even the most common object is received with complacency, if it is presented as a *myage*. One of our pupils of the English class, having returned yesterday from her study trip, brings us to-day a box of delicious cakes.

A young girl who has been taking private lessons here for two years, now seems completely transformed. Up to the present, though very polite, she has been absolutely indifferent towards us, never having a word to say concerning anything else but the lesson. To-day, having confided to us a very great grief which has been weighing upon her, to our great surprise, she expresses the wish to be instructed in our Religion. It is decided that, after the music lesson, we shall explain the Catechism to her. May we often have such pleasant surprises!

Monday, May 17

The weather is most beautiful; it is the day chosen for our little ones' picnic. The mammas, who accompany them, have slipped many goodies into the lunch-boxes, that the children carry on their backs. Towards half-past nine, all are ready, and we set out for the station. A ride in *kisha poppo* (the train) is not an insignificant pleasure; it is the worthy prelude of a day of amusements. A fifteen minutes' trip through the country brings us to Hongo Station, which arrives too quickly to suit the children. Nevertheless, putting them in line, we conduct them to the mountain, by the road bordered with blooming azaleas. It is almost noon when we reach the summit. After the lunch, which is most appetizing, the little ones go picking flowers; the farthest ones always seem the prettiest, and all the little tots run at pleasure among the flowering bushes, gathering armfuls. The mountain, however, remains just as magnificent as ever in its rich mantle of red flowers, which stand out so beautifully against the green background of the ferns and pines.



GROUP OF CHILDREN OF THE WAKAMATSU KINDERGARTEN, ON PICNIC, ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR MAMMAS
AND BY SISTER DE L'ENFANT JESUS (FLORENTINE DANSEREAU, OF VERCHERES).
THE LITTLE ONES CARRY THEIR LUNCH-BOXES ON THEIR BACKS.

Before the departure, the children play some games, and we then return to the station, by a roundabout road. A little shrine of the Blessed Virgin would be an appropriate crown for this pretty mountain which dominates the surrounding country, do we think. But, unfortunately, the summit is already occupied by a very peculiar temple.

Unaware of it, our picnic coincides with Buddha's birthday, the day chosen in Hongo for the yearly pilgrimage of all the racers of the district. On this day, the Japanese conduct these horses to this temple. Arriving in front of it, the horse eats a little of the food which is placed in a tub at the entrance. The bonze recites some prayers, after which the horseman rings the enormous bell hanging at the temple-door, and then he returns to his dwelling, confident that his horse will be preserved from all accidents during the year. The bonze, as well as the horseman, would be at a loss to give the origin of this ceremony; it is the custom, and it is observed blindly.



Report of St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital of Vancouver

1936

Baptisms.....	25	Fluroscopies.....	720
Communions.....	540	Pneumo-thorax.....	664
Extreme-Unctions.....	15	Electrotherapy.....	1,038
Patients received.....	74	X-Rays.....	160
Ordinary treatments.....	10,057	Injections.....	1,958
Dressings.....	3,729	Medicine administered.....	36,105
Days spent in the Hospital.....			20,597

Extracts FROM THE Novitiate Chronicles

Dedicated to our dear Parents



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

St. Bernard.

Wednesday, May 12, 1937

Last Sunday, at the end of High Mass, according to the desire of His Excellency the Archbishop, we sang the *Te Deum* in honour of the Coronation of our new British Sovereign, which takes place to-day and which we are celebrating by a joyful holiday.

On this solemn occasion, we offer most fervent prayers for His Majesty George VI., so that his reign may be blest with peace, justice, and prosperity, and that all his subjects may be united in respectful submission to his authority.

Sunday, May 16

We have been praying so fervently, for the past nine days, that it seems to us that the Holy Ghost, unable to remain deaf to our supplications, must have renewed, in our chapel this morning, some of the wonders wrought in the Cenacle on the first Pentecost.

Prompted by the sentiments of filial love which animate all the members of our Institute for our venerable Mother Foundress, whose patronal feast we celebrate to-day, we redouble our prayers for her intentions and renew our most fervent wishes for her welfare. Knowing that a little trip to the Mother House on this occasion would cause great joy to everyone, and being unable to grant it to all, Sister Superior drew lots to know to which of the professed Sisters this pleasure was destined. As novices, not being permitted to go and render personally the tribute of our gratitude and love to our dear Mother, we confide our messages to these privileged ones.

On their return this evening, we crowd around them to hear about our beloved Mother and the entertainment that was given in her honour.

Monday, May 17

Our joyful holiday is brought to a close by the traditional Pentecost Entertainment, which was postponed to this evening on account of yesterday being visiting and correspondence day. Besides several musical numbers, a drama is executed. It is entitled "The Triumph of the Cross" and shows how the sacred instrument of our Saviour's death, which was found by St. Helen, enlightens souls, heals the sick, dispels the darkness of error, triumphs over the Roman emperors and becomes a universal sign of salvation.

Sunday, May 23

During recreation-hour, Sister Superior, in the name of our dear Mother, distributes to each one of us souvenir-pictures of the beautiful Feast of Pentecost, which we have just celebrated.

After the distribution, there still remains on the table, a little box from Japan, which, so we are told, is destined to try our vocation. Many a time, in meditating on the sublimity of the life to which we are called, we have confronted in thought the numerous sacrifices which we may have to make; but we cannot imagine now what this one is going to be. What in the world is there in this mysterious box?

Would you believe it? It contains stewed grass-hoppers. This Japanese treat, so little relished by Canadian palates, does not, however, disgust us. We are even quite ready to taste them, when we learn that it is only a joke. Thus, our dreams of sacrifice have all vanished for the present.

Sunday, May 30

We take part this morning, in the Corpus Christi procession of St. Christopher's Parish. Thanks to the beautiful weather, very numerous are the attendants.

The triumph of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is an occasion of great joy and gratitude. When, at the repository, the Pastor invites the crowd to sing the *Magnificat* in thanksgiving for the success of the procession, we also respond with enthusiasm to his appeal and mingle our voices to those of the faithful.

Thursday, June 3

This date which commemorates the foundation of our dear Institute, has been chosen for the Blessing of the Corner-Stone of our new Mother House, at Cote des Neiges. Though very modest, it will be, however, a memorable event in the Annals of our Society.

This ceremony, which is quite private, is presided over by Very Reverend Canon Roch, Superior of the Foreign Mission Seminary. A few priests and friends of the Community are present. Reverend Father Rondeau, P. M. E., gives a short historical account of the Society since its foundation, June 3rd, 1902. We, herein, insert the text of his allocution.

"The Blessing of this Corner-Stone, which is a homage paid to God and an acknowledgment of His Sovereign Dominion, denotes another step in the expansion and development of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. Thirty years ago to-day, she who was to govern for so many years this praiseworthy Congregation, consecrated herself with her companions to the Blessed Virgin before the same little statue that you can see here to-day, and chose this Heavenly Mother for her Guardian and Patroness. Such was the origin of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field. Which is indeed the least of all seeds: but when it is grown up, it is greater than any herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come, and dwell in the branches thereof. (Matth. XIII., 31.)

"This is, of course, a figure of the Church which, begun on Ascension Day with eleven apostles and some five hundred disciples, has developed throughout the centuries and has so greatly expanded that it counts among its members people from every point of the globe.

"It is, also, a figure of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. Commencing on June 3rd, 1902, at

Notre Dame des Neiges, under the benevolent patronage of His Excellency Most Reverend Paul Bruchesi, and the direction of the late Reverend Gustave Bourassa, Pastor of St. Louis de France Parish, this mustard seed has grown. Blessed by the Church and guided by prudent and enlightened directors, how marvellously has it developed!

"While in Rome in 1904, His Excellency Archbishop Bruchesi, whose name is particularly dear to the Institute, consulted His Holiness Pope Pius X., on the opportuneness of such a foundation. "Found it, Your Grace, found it," answered the August Pontiff, "and all the blessings of Heaven will descend upon the new Institute, to which you will give the name, Society of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception." The following year, 1905, was to be one of the most important for the new Institute, whose existence was then positively determined. On the 8th of August, the eighth anniversary of his Episcopal Consecration, His Excellency Archbishop Bruchesi received the vows of the first two Sisters, and gave the Religious Habit to three postulants.

"The aim of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception is the propagation of the Faith among infidel nations by the practice of all spiritual and corporal works of mercy; as, the instruction of native children and catechumens, the training of native religious and virgin-catechists, the assistance of the dying, and the direction of foundling-homes, lazarettoes, orphanages and similar works.

"In Catholic countries, this Institute devotes itself to the diffusion of the Associations of the Holy Childhood and the Propagation of the Faith. It exercises its zeal especially among the school children by teaching them to love the missions, and also among adults, by means of "The Precursor" which, every second month, keeps them informed of the apostolic work accomplished by this Institute and the Congregations among which they labour. In 1909, the first recruits of this glorious Society left for China,



CRADLE OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, COTE DES NEIGES, MONTREAL.

the most unfortunate of all pagan countries. Very shortly afterwards, works capable of exciting the admiration of the pagans themselves, were confided to their care: the direction of a Foundling-Home in Canton and of the Shek Lung Lazaretto. Since that time, fifteen other houses have been founded in pagan countries. China, Japan, the Philippine Islands and Manchukuo actually benefit by the apostolic activities of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. Everywhere, they spread the love of their Holy Religion and make known by their works, the great Charity of Christ.

"With the grace of God, the seed thrown into the soil thirty-five years ago, has wonderfully developed. Seventeen houses have been opened in Canada. The Congregation actually counts five hundred and fifty Sisters, while seventy-seven novices and thirty-five postulants are preparing, in prayerful seclusion, for their future life of apostolate.

"The Blessing of the Corner-Stone of this new house, the future Mother House, is another gem added to the crown of this Institute, already so prosperous.

"On this solemn occasion, it is indeed just to intone the *Te Deum* in gratitude for the countless favours which have been bestowed upon this Community: gratitude first of all towards God, the Author of all things, the Giver of every perfect gift; for all the blessings of Heaven have descended upon this young Institute, according to the words of His Holiness Pope Pius X.

"Gratitude towards the Ecclesiastical Authorities, who have watched over it with solicitude ever since its foundation, never ceasing to manifest towards it sympathy and benevolence.

"Gratitude towards all its Benefactors, spiritual as well as temporal; towards those who have favoured it with their counsels and encouragement, and those who have assisted it by their generous alms.

"But the Institute is just beginning. What are thirty-five years in the existence of a society, or of a nation? May it, therefore, grow and prosper until it becomes like the tree spoken of in the Gospel, capable of sheltering numerous generations of zealous religious, who do not fear to devote themselves for the love of God and go to the end of the world to make Him known."

Before sealing the little box containing the documents relating to this ceremony, the Sisters present recite an Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin, before the little white statue which, thirty-five years ago, on that very date, had witnessed our Reverend Mother Foundress kneeling with her companions at its feet, to offer their life and that of future generations, as well as all the good which would be accomplished in process of time. At that moment, we novices of 1937 existed only in the thought of God; but it is good to think that Our Heavenly Father and the Immaculate Virgin had already assigned our places in the humble Institute which was beginning.

Our beloved Mother is now unable to leave her invalid's chair, but she is the first one to renew with her whole heart and soul, the offering of her numerous and prosperous family. We are convinced that the abundant

blessings showered upon the thirty-five convents which shelter the humble Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, are due to her physical and mental sufferings, to her labour and her merits. It is with deep emotion at the close of this day, that we beg Our Immaculate Mother to lend us her heart, her words, her praises, to glorify in us the mercies of the Lord, to chant in our souls her canticle of humility and thanksgiving: *Magnificat anima mea Dominum!*

Sunday, June 13

The annual pilgrimage of the members of our sewing-circles of Montreal affords us the occasion of receiving almost a hundred and fifty young ladies, to whom we are pleased to give a most hearty welcome, in token of our gratitude.

Reverend Father Gagnon, C. SS. R., after celebrating Mass in our chapel, for their intentions, delivers an impressive allocution on the Apostolic Vocation of all Christians.

In commenting on the words of Our Lord: "Go and Teach all Nations," he shows them that the work of evangelization is not restricted to priests and missionaries only, but is incumbent on all the disciples of Christ. It is the desire of Our Divine Saviour, who wishes all men to be saved. It is also the desire of the Sovereign Pontiff, the Common Father of all Catholics. Now, catholic means universal; therefore, every child of Our Holy Mother the Church should extend his zeal to the whole world.

The eloquence of figures shows clearly enough the immense work to be accomplished: two thirds of humanity do not yet know the true religion; over a thousand millions of pagans are still sitting in the shadow of death. If these were to pass before us, four abreast, in an uninterrupted procession, it would require six years, four months, twenty-two hours and twenty-seven minutes for them to defile. Is that not something to reflect upon? We are not saved alone, as we are not lost alone. Each of us is responsible for the salvation of a certain number of souls, and this responsibility cannot be thrown off.

The reverend preacher urges his hearers to renew their resolution to devote themselves to mission work, in union with the Passion of Christ and with the labours of missionaries.

After Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the young ladies are invited to the garden, where they take their breakfast, talking and laughing heartily. After taking some snapshots, they continue enjoying the pleasant weather and admiring the beauties of Nature until towards the end of the forenoon, when they repair to the chapel to recite, before the statue of the Blessed Virgin, the little Office of the Immaculate Conception. Then, quite pleased with their pilgrimage, they take their leave.

Tuesday, June 15

Every year, the month of June sees the return of a beautiful day which is indelible in the memory of our former companions and which we are celebrating now with enthusiasm and filial love. It is the feast of our dear Mistress, which we anticipate this evening by a little entertainment.

After a duet and a cantata, is executed a charming little play, which reveals to us some of the work that St. Teresa of the Child Jesus has accomplished since she is in Heaven.

Admitted to the Heavenly Abode, this untiring apostle asks and obtains the favour of "spending her Heaven in doing good upon earth," and we see her again here below in quest of souls who have gone astray. She is assisted by St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael, the archangels who have been chosen to co-operate in her work of mercy until that last day when, amid thunder and lightning, the angel will have announced that time is no more.

We then express our heartfelt wishes to our dear Mistress; and the presenting of natural flowers, symbol of the spiritual bouquet which we have offered for her, brings the program to a close.

After a word of thanks, Sister Superior says with deep emotion: "I have good news which will be more pleasing to you than all my thanks. Our Mother is coming to the Novitiate to-morrow!" At these words, our hearts leap with joy, and we burst forth in exclamations of surprise and gratitude. At a bound, we are all around our kind Mistress to assure ourselves of the reality of what seems to us but a dream — the most beautiful of all dreams! It is quite true! Our dear Mother herself told Sister Superior, who spent the afternoon with her, that she is coming to the Novitiate to-morrow.

The bell for night prayer interrupts our joyful expressions, but all kinds of emotions continue to fill our hearts. We are like children wishing that a powerful fairy might change into seconds, the hours that separate us from an event eagerly awaited.

Wednesday, June 16

We sing the Mass of St. John Francis Regis this morning, and we beg our Heavenly Father, through the intercession of this great Saint, to shower upon our beloved Mistress countless graces and blessings in return for her devotedness and solicitude towards us. We also pray that our Reverend Mother Foundress may not be overfatigued by her visit, and that, on the contrary, our filial love may obtain for her an increase of strength and health.

The weather is not very pleasant and the clouded sky disturbs our serenity. Will this not prevent our Mother's coming? Little by little, the clouds disperse, the sun becomes radiant and, while brightening up all nature, it gives rise to new hopes in our hearts.

Towards half-past ten, a message from Outremont informs us that our dear Mother is on her way, and that, soon after a short stop at our new Mother House, she will be with her children of the Novitiate. We are beside ourselves with joy — at last, we shall see this beloved Mother who has been God's instrument in the foundation of our dear Institute.

To give the Novitiate a greater appearance of rejoicing, Sister Superior has the flags hoisted; and we, holding little ones in our hands, assemble at the main entrance and eagerly watch for her arrival. The moments seem

long to us. At last we distinguish an automobile crossing the bridge and coming slowly towards us. As we are so numerous, we strive to repress our emotions lest an unrestrained outburst of enthusiasm be too tiresome for our Mother. Waving joyfully our little flags, we look lovingly and respectfully at her, as she smiles kindly upon us, expressing her grief in being unable to speak to us as she would like to. She is accompanied by our good Sister Assistant General and by her devoted infirmarians. She is carefully taken out of the auto and, for the first time after three long years, she crosses our threshold. The novices and postulants who enjoyed her last visit, have already taken their places in the Master's Vineyard, but they have been replaced by others who, ever since their arrival, have been longing for the happiness of this day.

After a few minutes, at a sign from our Mistress, we all withdraw to let our Mother take a little rest; but we cherish the hope of seeing her again in the afternoon. What an agreeable surprise we have at dinner time when, through the wide-open refectory doors, we perceive, in her invalid's chair, our dear Mother, who has wished to come and preside at the community meal. After dinner, she accompanies us to the chapel for the visit to the Blessed Sacrament. She then stops to see the different apartments on the second floor and, after a short rest, she is taken to the community, where the professed Sisters gather around her with reverence and joy. At her request, we repeat the little play executed last night. Our Beloved Mother assists at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Then, after taking a little supper, she prepares to return to Outremont, leaving us confident of seeing her soon again.

After her departure, it is impossible for us to think of anything else but this visit, which has been, indeed, an incomparable gift bestowed by Heaven upon our dear Mistress for her feast-day; and we shall certainly not fail to insert every incident of this memorable event in our Annals.

To give expression to the gratitude which fills our hearts at the close of this beautiful day, we have recourse to the Cantic of Our Immaculate Mother, the *Magnificat*!

Saturday, June 19

Beautiful oil paintings representing the different scenes of the Passion have been added to the simple wooden crosses which, till now, constituted our Stations of the Cross.

Some of our Sisters from the Mother House, who have been here for a few weeks doing this work, are adding the finishing touches to it to-day.

May the contemplation of these scenes in union with our Blessed Mother, ever inspire us with lively sentiments of compassion and love.

Monday, June 21

At the beginning of his weekly instruction, Father Rondeau tells us that, in September next, the Foreign Mission Society will open a new Mission Field in the Philippine Islands and that he himself will be leaving in the first group.

It is with deep regret that we learn this news, for, during the past five years, Father Rondeau has been unsparing in his efforts to impart to us the knowledge of the Divine Word.

Knowing that the most precious token of gratitude that we could offer to him, would be to conform our lives to his doctrine, we shall endeavour to put into practice the evangelical principles which he has never ceased to teach us and which he recalls to us to-day for the last time; that is, to continually strive, here below, to be supernatural, to acknowledge God's Sovereign Dominion and Will in all things, to act only for Him, and to follow Him with love on the Royal Road of the Holy Cross.

We shall not fail to assist these new apostles in their labours by our prayers.

Wednesday, June 23

Doubtless, we are the first, this year, to celebrate our national feast; for, instead of waiting till the 24th, we are having the procession of St. John the Baptist this evening. The typical personages are the postulants and some little children of the neighbourhood.

Towards seven o'clock, the parade begins to defile. The march is opened by the President of the Society of St. John the Baptist, bowing and smiling most benevolently, accompanied by the band playing patriotic airs. Then come the floats in the following order:

1. *The Canadians' Homage to Their New Sovereigns.* — His Majesty King George VI., Queen Elizabeth and the two little Princesses attract sympathetic applauses.

2. *The Patriots of St. Eustache, 1837.* — This second float denotes the centenary of the warlike exploits of these patriots. Protected only by a weak enceinte and armed with fowling-pieces, pitch-forks, and sticks, they are ready to defend their rights, at the cost of their lives. Despite the season, they are clad in the winter costume of the early Canadians, which is, no doubt, more representative: red tuques and heavy over-coats with sashes. Having no cartridges, they have taken the precaution to provide themselves with inflated bags, which they burst at the right moment, to imitate the detonation of firearms.

3. *Little Red Riding-hood.* — This heroine, known to all the little ones, is quite in her place here, for she recalls to us the happy remembrances of our childhood. Near her, "Prince", our dog, represents the wolf. He has, however, none of its cruelty; and if he is insinuating and fawning, it is but to have a share of the precious cookies that little Red Riding-hood is taking to her granny.

4. *The First Mass at Ville-Marie.* — The scene is represented by children only. A little priest wearing the sacred vestments is at the altar. Mr. de Maisonneuve in his velvet suit and lace doublet, and two noble ladies, stylish-looking in their costume of the 17th century, assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The military element then predominating in the country is represented by three steel-clad soldiers. When they will learn of the ambushes usual

in Indian warfare, they will most probably find their heavy breast-plates not very practical and will seek to replace them by lighter ones.

5. *Jeanne Mance lavishing care upon Chicot scalped by the Iroquois.* — The unfortunate victim of Indian cruelty, covered with blood, excites our pity and anxiety; but the tender and compassionate look and the intelligent care of his devoted infirmarian reassure us. Poor Chicot is in good hands!

6. *Levis burning his flags.* — Levis, noble and proud, burns, himself, the flags, which he cannot decide to abandon into the hands of the enemy. As he passes before us, it is the fleur-de-lis flag that he is throwing into the crepitating flames; and his whole appearance reveals how heart-sick he is in accomplishing this mournful execution.

7. *Haying.* — It is the haying-season! After a hard day's work, our good farmers in their broad straw hats are coming back from the fields. A young cow harnessed to the cart replaces the horse, or the ox, which is lacking; but her sudden swerves and her stubbornness clearly denote that she is taking part very reluctantly in this game. The farmer with his heavy boots, seated in front, holding the reins, seems somewhat worried by the cow's capricious manoeuvres. Behind him, on the sweet-smelling hay, sits the mother with the baby of the family, who is heartily devouring thick slices of bread and jam, while two young lads trot along behind the cart, with their fishing-lines in their hands, claiming, now and then, their share of the luscious lunch, which they gobble down with an appetite common to their age. Their costumes are typical and the scene is most amusing.

8. *The Patron of French Canadians.* — Our little six-year-old St. John the Baptist looks apprehensively at the charming lambkin lying at his feet. It is not an artificial lamb like those of preceding years, but a real live one, with a pure white, curly fleece. It seems quite shy to find itself in this parade, and is evidently longing for the green grass and the tranquillity of the meadow.

9. *Stella Matutina.* — This graceful and artistic float which closes the procession, is draped in white and blue and adorned with lilies. From a back-ground of sky-blue tulle bespangled with silver stars, rises a throne from which the Blessed Virgin, Queen and Mistress of our country, presides over our national rejoicings.

In the features of a twelve-year-old child, Our Blessed Mother appears to us so amiable and modest that our hearts are drawn towards her in a rapture of love. Oh! Mother, be always our Guiding Star. Purify and sanctify all our joys. Watch over us and our countrymen and lead us all to the Eternal Felicity for which we have been created.

Thursday, July 1

Despite the rain, the devoted members of our sewing-circle of St. John, Que., have come on their excursion to the Novitiate, whence they will proceed to the Mother House and then, to St. Joseph's Oratory.

In gratitude for the interest they take in our work, we try to give them a hearty welcome.

At half-past ten, we have Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a hymn to Our Heavenly Mother.

At the moment of their departure, in the beginning of the afternoon, we cordially invite them to come again to our Novitiate, where they are ever most welcome.

Tuesday, July 6

We had to evacuate our large hall yesterday, in order to have some repairing done. The chairs have been piled up on both sides of the passage, and the sewing-machines, which had not taken such a trip for a long time, have been transported to the corridor near the refectory. To find a place for us to stay while allowing the newly-repaired floor time to dry, was a real problem. Our beloved Mistress soon solved it to everybody's satisfaction. "We shall go to the Point, to-morrow," she said, "if it is fine."

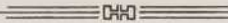
This morning, therefore, as the weather could not be more pleasant, we finish making the sandwiches and, towards half-past ten, we start out on our picnic.

The preceding years, we always took a picture of the Blessed Virgin with us; but, this time, Our Immaculate Mother is awaiting her children at the Point, where her statue has been erected. Our first visit is to her in the grotto, where she is smiling at Bernadette in ecstasy. We lovingly offer her our day and promise to come back at recreation-time to ask her blessing upon our games and pleasures.

At noontime, the sound of the bell interrupts our sports and reduces us to silence. After reciting the Angelus, we place ourselves in groups on the grass or around the tables under the trees, to take our appetizing dinner, which is followed by the reading of letters from our dear Sisters in the Missions. What pleasant moments are these, spent in the land of our desires!

Returning to the Point after this long trip, we go and recite the beads before the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes; then, the games begin again with animation.

At meditation-hour, we gather around Sister Superior, who reads to us letters formerly received from our beloved Mother Foundress. These pages, filled with precious counsels and imbued with the spirit of our dear Community, furnish us with abundant matter for the most salutary reflections. Absorbed in the pure and intimate joy derived therefrom, we are unconscious of the flight of time — it is already half-past six. We take our supper; and then, as the sun is sinking gradually below the horizon, bringing to a close our happy day, we direct our steps once again towards the grotto, to recite the last part of the Rosary and sing the *Magnificat* in union with Our Blessed Mother, whose sweet smile seems to invite us to come again.



Happiness is one of those goods that we can give to others without losing anything ourselves. Each one has it at the bottom of his heart like a provision in reserve.

It can never be exhausted, if we were to give forever; and by this alms, given with a good intention, we enrich both ourselves and others.



The Children's Page

DEAR CHILDREN,

The schools are open once more; enthusiastically, like busy bees, you have all set yourselves to work again, rivalling one another in sucking the nectar of science and good education. Bravo! But, before the return of the winter blasts and snow-storms, let us profit by this holiday to make a last trip to the woods, where we have such good chats.

I love the wild wood,
With the soft, refreshing shade
Of its branches, gently swayed
In the breeze, so good.

I love the wild wood,
With the murmur, so soothing,
Of its silver streams flowing,
By the sunbeams, woo'ed.

I love the wild wood,
With its charming, mossy bowers,
Full of fragrant-scented flowers,
For the wild-bee's food.

I love the green wood because of its attraction, but I love it also, because there, is a solitude; and the solitude reposes us after the noise of the world, makes us reflect, and brings us nearer to God. « O happy solitude! O only abode of happiness!" exclaimed St. Bernard, returning, after his long apostolic journeys, to his dear monastery of Clairvaux, in the heart of the forest.

But how many men, dear Children, avoid the solitude, because they are afraid of confronting themselves, of feeling the remorse of their conscience, of hearing the gentle reproofs and good counsels of their Guardian Angels. After their hours of labour, they spend their time in sports, in promenades and, what is worse, in theatres, taverns, etc. They sometimes pretend to be happy; but, in reality, they are very unhappy, because happiness is not found elsewhere than in peace with God and with self.

I love the solitude of some hidden spot,
Where no distraction vain interrupts prayerful thought —
The soul's beatitude,
Where, contemplating all the virtues sublime,
The Heavenly joys and the attributes Divine,
Fills us with gratitude.

I love the solitude of the verdant hills,
 With their downy slopes, and their many rippling rills
 All sparkling in the sun.
 I love the solitude of the prairies wide,
 As nature sinks to rest in the calm eventide,
 And the day's work is done.

I love the solitude of a quiet room,
 Where the Rosary, told in the gathering gloom,
 Is music to the ear;
 But the solitude which I really love best,
 Is in the silent church, where the little light blest
 Whispers: "Jesus is here!"

YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL

A little while ago, I spoke of the Guardian Angel. Let us speak of him again. You know, dear Children, that God has given to each of us one of His beautiful angels to protect and counsel us, and guide us to Heaven. From the cradle to the grave, he accompanies us, rejoiced by our acts of virtue and grieved by our faults.

In order to inspire all the faithful with devotion to the Guardian Angels, Our Holy Mother the Church has established a feast in their honour, October 2nd, and has consecrated a whole month, the month of October, to them. She has attached indulgences to several beautiful prayers addressed to them.

It remains to be known, my dear Children, if each of you is faithful in rendering to your Angelic Guardian the homage which is due to him. This is how the good child fulfills his duties:

On awaking in the morning, joyfully and piously, he greets his Heavenly Friend, thanks him for having watched over him during the night, and begs his protection for the day which is beginning. The Angel, smiling, inscribes this act with golden letters in the Book of Eternity.



In his difficulties, the good child has recourse to his Guardian Angel who immediately comes to his help.

During the day, when, assailed by difficulties and temptations, he feels his courage about to fail him, quickly, this child has recourse to his powerful Protector, who immediately comes to his help, chases the devil, revives his courage, enlightens his mind, guides his hand, directs his steps, and fills his soul with consolation. Then, smiling, he dips his pen again into the golden ink.

In the evening, when, with the gathering gloom, the songs of nature have ceased, when the birds, returned to their nests, have hidden their heads under their wings, when the hour of rest has come, the faithful child, before retiring, kneels down and raises his heart towards Heaven, in prayer. Then, recommending himself anew to his Angelic Companion and thanking him, he falls asleep under his watchful care. The Faithful Angel, smiling, before becoming absorbed in Heavenly contemplation, in the eternal face to face with God, terminates this day's page with his golden pen.

Angel of God, my Guardian dear
To whom His love commits me here,
Ever this day be at my side,
To light and guard, to rule and guide.

BUT DO YOU KNOW?

From your early childhood, dear Children, you have learned to love and invoke your Guardian Angels; but do you know that there are, throughout the world, millions of children who have never heard of them. Never, either, have they learned to love God, the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph or the other saints; never have the Saving Waters of Baptism flowed upon their brows; never have they received in their hearts, Jesus our Sacramental Lord. Why? — for two principal reasons:

1. Because their parents themselves are ignorant of these great truths; and they are ignorant of them, because they have not been taught them; and they have not been taught them, because the messengers of the Gospel are not numerous enough. The multitude of those who do not know their Creator, forms the greater part of the inhabitants of the earth. Remember well, dear Children, that, of the 2,053 millions of human beings on the face of the globe, 374 millions only are Catholics, 607 millions belong to dissenting sects, and more than a billion are pagans. What a heart-rending reality for a Catholic, solicitous for the glory of God and the salvation of souls!

2. A great number of children do not know God, because their parents or teachers have lost the Faith — the terrible punishment inflicted by Divine Justice upon the proud who refuse to submit to the Supreme Being. These haughty minds, filled with a high opinion of themselves, believe themselves invulnerable; but, some day, they will be reduced to dust by the All Powerful and their souls will be cast into the eternal flames.

One day, one of these sceptics, who pretended to have lost all notion of Christianity, was chatting with his little son.

"Papa," said the child, "Who made the first man?"

"The monkey, my son."

"How did it happen? I do not understand very well."

"Man, my child, is an improved monkey; from generation to generation, he has gradually lost his animal nature and has become the man of to-day."

"Then, I am less a monkey than you, Papa?"

This candid reply threw the father into confusion. Could he admit that he was inferior to his child, he who considered himself superior to all?



THE HARVEST IS GREAT!

Certainly not; and he began to reflect. Here again, reflection produced its fruit. He fell on his knees, as he had been accustomed to do in his childhood, and exclaimed: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator etc.

FEW IN NUMBER

Few indeed are the true apostles of the Gospel. Our Lord foresaw this great penury, when He said to His disciples: "The harvest indeed is great, but the labourers are few. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He send forth labourers into His harvest."

Unfortunately, many souls do not respond to the Divine Master's call. Unfaithful to their vocation, for fear of the sacrifice it may impose, they choose a state of life for themselves; but, outside of their vocation, they meet only difficulties, afflictions and disappointments. Pray, then, dear Children, that God may grant many

religious, sacerdotal and missionary vocations; and pray also fervently that all those who are called to devote themselves unreservedly to the salvation of souls, may be faithful to their vocation.

But do not forget that it will soon be your turn to choose a state of life — the years pass so quickly! An excellent means to know your vocation and to follow it, is to offer, each day, a little prayer for this intention; for example, a Hail Mary, followed by the words: "O Mary, my good Mother, obtain for me the grace to know my vocation and to be faithful to it; and, when the time has come, this good Mother will inspire you and guide you safely and lovingly in the path traced out for you by your Heavenly Father.

Your Great Friend,

THE PRECURSOR.

The small change of happiness — coin which the poorest possess, and with which we can give alms at any time — is this: A kindly way of receiving a request, or a contradiction; a pleasant expression, which, without effort draws a smile to the lips of others; a favor graciously granted, or, sometimes simply asked; thanks uttered sincerely and without affectation; a word of approbation given in an affectionate tone to one who has worked near us, or with us. It is very little, all this; do not refuse it. God will repay it to you even in this life.

Thanksgivings to the Blessed Virgin for favours 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.

Enclosed, please find donation previously promised, for favours received. Mrs. Robert Laing, **Rosemont, P. Q.** — Enclosed, please find an offering in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of our Immaculate Mother. C. Larwill, **Cornwall, Ont.** — Please find enclosed the ransom price of a dying baby, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Mrs. J. S., **Limestone, Me.** — The Blessed Virgin has granted my request, please unite with me in thanking her for her kindness. Mrs. F. J., **Alexandria, Ont.** — Please help me to thank the Blessed Virgin for favour received. Mrs. W. B., **Windsor, Ont.** — Inclosed, find an offering for your good works. I requested prayers for the restoration of my husband's health; since, his condition has improved amazingly. I thank you most sincerely and ask you to continue praying for him, that he may receive spiritual blessings, and for his complete recovery, if it is God's holy Will. Mrs. L. B. D., **Kenogami, P. Q.** — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for having restored my health, and I would like you to pray for my boy, that he may stop drinking, keep from bad company and go to church. Mrs. J. B., **Fort Kent, Me.** — A few weeks ago, I wrote asking for prayers, I have been fortunate in securing a position for next year. I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin. Please pray particularly for my two sisters, that they both may obtain work. Miss K. D., **Mitchell, Ont.** — Would you kindly help us to thank the Blessed Virgin. My two grandsons have succeeded in their examinations. I would like you to remember the graduate boy in your prayers that he may find a position. Mrs. M. M., **Viauville.** — Thanks for a favor received. Please pray for another favor and for my family. Mrs. W. B., **Windsor, Ont.** — Inclosed, please find the ransom price of four dying babies. My brother has obtained a three months' position. Pray that it may last longer. Please pray the Blessed Virgin and St. Teresa for another favor also. Mrs. O. St. M., **Worcester, Mass.** — I have obtained a favour, and am sending my renewal subscription, as promised. May I ask you to pray for me again. Mrs. J. C. M., **Mc. Kinnons Hill, N. B.** — As promised, I am sending the ransom price for eight dying babes, in thanksgiving for favours received. Mrs. S. P., **Springfield, Mass.** — Enclosed please find an offering in thanksgiving for favor received. Kindly pray for Miss L. I. C., **Delson Village, Que.** — I am sending an offering in honor of our Most Holy Mother, as I promised, for a favor received. Please pray for me. Mrs. R. S., **Massena, N. Y.** — I enclose an offering for the ransom of four dying Chinese babies. This offering is made in thanksgiving for a favor received. Miss R. M., **Caribou, Me.** — In recognition of a great favour obtained from Our dear Lord, I wish a mention of it in *THE PRECURSOR* to which I have subscribed. Margaret, **Montreal.** — I am sending an offering in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Mrs. R. Barrett. — I am sending an offering in thanksgiving for two favours received from the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Blessed Virgin. A. P., **Westmount.** — Find enclosed an offering for two low Masses in honour of Our Heavenly Mother that was promised if my ears got better and also for my mother's health. Please make a novena or two for our intentions. Miss K. M. R., **Hemmingford, Que.** — Enclosed please find the ransom price of four dying babies which I promised if my eye was cured. I would like you to pray so that I may not be laid off. If I keep my position, I shall send another offering. Miss A. R. Gardella, **West Springfield, Mass.** — I am sure Our Blessed Mother has heard our prayers because I am feeling much better and so is Nona. I am enclosing a small offering. Will you please continue to remember us in your prayers. Mrs. H. R. H., **Ingersoll, Ont.** — I received my wish, therefore I want to fulfill my promise. Please continue praying for me. Mrs. A. B., **Dover, N. J.** — I am enclosing an offering for votive lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin in thanksgiving for favours received. Please pray that two other requests may be granted. Mrs. H. DeG., **Springfield, Mass.** — I am renewing my subscription to *THE PRECURSOR* as a thanksgiving for the favours I have received. I asked for six graces and five have been granted. Perhaps the sixth will be granted in God's good time. Please continue praying for all my other intentions. Mrs. W. H. B., **Oldtown, Me.** — I am sending a money order for the ransom of four dying babies, which I promised if an insurance adjustment was settled without any trouble, and thanks to Our Lady of the Miraculous medal, my favor was granted. Will you pray for other intentions. Mr. J. M. V., **So. Brewer, Me.** — I wish to thank the Blessed Virgin for favours received I am enclosing a postal note. Will you please pray for me. Mrs. A. — I am enclosing an offering for the ransom of eight dying babies, in thanksgiving for a favour obtained. Would you please make a novena to the Holy Family that my husband may be promptly restored to health and find a position. A. A. P., **San Antonio, Texas.** — We are enclosing postal note for the ransom of Chinese babies in fulfilment of promises in

thanksgiving for favours received. Please pray for all our other intentions. Mrs. T. J. B., **North Bay, Ont.** — I am very grateful to Our Immaculate Mother for the cure she obtained my husband without him being obliged to undergo an operation and as I promised to subscribe to THE PRECURSOR for five years, I am enclosing the amount promised. Please ask Our Blessed Mother to grant us the other requests we stand in need of. Mrs. L. C., **Southbridge, Mass.** — I wish to thank St. Anthony for favour received. Mrs. M. M. — Sincere thanks to the Blessed Virgin for favour received. Mrs. O. L., **Swanton, Vt.** — I thank Our Heavenly Mother for a grace received through her intercession. Miss B. Parent, **Montreal.** — Lively gratitude for a great favour obtained. Mrs. C. E. Rheame, **Tilbury, Ont.** — Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin who has found work for my son. Mrs. A. D., **Montreal.** — Thanks to Mary for a grace obtained. Mrs. E. C., **Montreal.** — Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin for a position obtained. Mrs. Thomas Poulin, **Beauceville.** — My heartfelt thanks to Mary Immaculate for a favour obtained. May she continue protecting me. Mrs. L. C. — Kindly thank the Blessed Virgin with me; my two sons have found a position. Mrs. G. B., **Montreal.** — Thanksgiving for a position obtained. Mrs. Lafontaine, **Westmount.** — Homage of gratitude for favour obtained. Miss Dolores Desrochers, **Montreal.** — Thanksgiving for a position obtained. Mrs. N. Haide, **Indian Orchard, Mass.** — Lively gratitude towards the Blessed Virgin for favour obtained. I beg her to continue to protect me. Miss I. B., **Montreal.** — Homage of gratitude for graces received. Mrs. Bergeron — I am happy to thank the Blessed Virgin for the favour that she has obtained for me. Mrs. A. Gastonguay, **Lisbon, Me.** — Gratitude towards Our Lady of Lourdes for the cure of my daughter Jeannette, after promise to publish. Mrs. August Dionne, **St. Pascal.** — I accomplish my promise of gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for the cure of my child. Mrs. G. Dion, **St. Claire.** — Gratitude to the Blessed Virgin for the success of an operation. A Subscriber. — Thanks to the Blessed Virgin for success obtained in an examination. A Normal School student. **St. Hyacinthe.** — I thank the Blessed Virgin for the grace that I have received from her. Mrs. J. B. B., **Quebec.** — Gratitude to our good Heavenly Mother for favour obtained. Mrs. R. M., **Marlboro, Mass.** — Sincere thanks for favour obtained. Mrs. A. Godmaire, **Montreal.** — I have obtained the grace that I desired. Please thank the Blessed Virgin with me. Y. B., **Taftville, Conn.** — Gratitude for two favours received. Miss E. G., **Biddeford, Me.**

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."

Would you please pray for my mother who is sick. If she is relieved of her condition, I will make a donation for your works. Mrs. E. E. F., **Houlton, Me.** — Please make a novena for me. I should like to have a position in an office. I asked for another favour a while ago; please keep that in mind also. I am forwarding a small offering which I promised to send to the missionaries. Mrs. A. G., **Holyoke, Mass.** — Will you please make a novena to Our Blessed Mother for two very special favours. One is for a very dear friend, that he may, this month, obtain the position he has been trying to get for a long time. If his request is granted he promises an offering out of each pay for the next five years. The other is for myself. I promise to send an offering as soon as it is granted. Miss M., **Tilbury, Ont.** — Would you please make a novena for me to get well. I will send a donation as often as I can, if I recover at least a little of my health. Mrs. E. C., **Houlton, Me.** — I enclose my renewal subscription. Please pray that I may sell my property. If your prayer is answered, I promise to be a life subscriber to THE PRECURSOR. R. B., **Ville Lasalle.** — Will you please pray the Little Flower for two special intentions. A Friend, **North Bay.** — Will you please offer prayers to Our Blessed Mother, to St. Joseph and St. Teresa that my daughter may recover from a nervous break-down. If she is cured, I will send a donation. Mrs. McC., **Lachine.** — Will you please pray for a special intention and if granted, I will give a donation. Miss S. J., **Walkerville.** — I hope it is not too much to ask of you, to remember my husband in your prayers that he will be appointed permanently in his new position if it is God's Will. Mrs. G. G., **Worcester, Mass.** — I beg your prayers for two special intentions. Miss M. R., **Cleveland, Ohio.** — Please pray that my family and myself may receive the favours we are asking, and that one of my daughters, who wishes to be a nurse, may be accepted in a Catholic Hospital. If my favours are granted, I will send an offering. Mrs. Wm. B., **Windsor, Ont.** — I am sending my renewal subscription. Kindly say a little prayer for me. Mrs. M. T. D.,

Bathurst, N. B. — I am not feeling well and have a very lonely time. Kindly say a prayer so that we may sell our home and go to live near our children. **Mrs. A. LaM., Chichester, Que.** — Enclosed, please find the ransom price of a dying Chinese baby, in thanksgiving for a favour received. Kindly ask the Blessed Virgin to obtain me another favour. **R. S., Limestone, Maine.** — Enclosed please find an offering for a novena of votive lights in honour of the Blessed Virgin, and the ransom price of a dying baby. Kindly make a novena to the Blessed Virgin, asking her to obtain me a favour that I have been asking for a period of five years. If my request is granted I will send an offering. **Mrs. R. F. S., North Adams, Mass.** — Would you kindly make a novena to St. Teresa of the Child Jesus for a request, I will send an offering as soon as I obtain it. **G. L., Cornwall, Ont.** — Would you kindly ask the Sacred Heart, through His most Blessed Mother, to help me regain my health without an operation, for which I promise to ransom at least four dying babies. **Mrs. S. A., Holyoke, Mass.** — Please find inclosed a donation for the help of your missions. Please keep on praying for my mother that she may recover her health. **K. M. R., Hemmingford, Que.** — Would you please make a novena so that I may receive a special favour that I am hoping for in October. I would also like you to pray for another very special intention. **Mrs. A. C., Salem, Mass.** — Please let me come back to you for a novena to the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph, that I may obtain the favor I am asking. **Miss L. B., St. Justine de Newton, Vaud.** — Will you kindly say a special prayer for me. I suffer greatly from nervousness, and I am afraid if it continues, I will be obliged to leave my position. Also would you kindly remember my deceased mother in your prayers. **Miss L. Mc A., Montreal.** — Will you help us to pray the Blessed Virgin for a very special favour. **Mrs. S. B., Easthampton, Mass.** — Enclosed order is for the rescue of eight dying babes. I am nurse, I cannot take every kind of case. Please pray that I may get such as I can do. **M. H. D., Albany, N. Y.** — Will you please make two novenas to the Blessed Virgin and the Sacred Heart of Jesus for two special favors. I promise the ransom price of two Chinese babies likely to live, if favors are granted. **Miss A. L., Holyoke, Mass.** — Please make two novenas for special intentions. **A Friend, North Bay.** — Would you kindly pray for us that we may obtain the favors we stand in need of and which we so much desire. **H. M., Lucknow, Ont.** — Will you please help us to pray the Blessed Virgin, that my husband may get a new position which will be less harmful for his health. **Mrs. R. P., Southbridge, Mass.** — Please utter some prayers in my behalf that my request may be answered in good time. I will send an offering and publish Our Blessed Mother's work, if I obtain the favour I desire. **Mrs. A. D., Tilbury, Ont.** — Please pray for all my intentions. I should like you to recommend me to Our Blessed Lady, to St. Joseph and St. Ann. **Mr. F. A. K., Montreal.** — Would you please include in your novenas three special intentions. **R. C. S., Maidstone.** — Would you please make a novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help that I may be cured and that my son may get a better position. **Mrs. P. M. P., Windsor, Ont.** — Please make a novena that we may save our home. I will send an offering if my request is granted. **Mrs. J. J. L., Tecumseh, Ont.** — Would you be kind enough to make a novena for two special intentions. **Mrs. N. F., Notre Dame de Grace.** — Please start a novena to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary for me. I am hoping Our Lady will grant my request. **Miss A. G., Holyoke, Mass.** — Please pray that I may be granted a desired favour. **M. P., Bourget, Ont.** — Would you kindly make a novena to our Immaculate Mother that I may receive work soon. If my request is granted, I will send a small offering each month. **C. L., Cornwall, Ont.** — Would you kindly make a novena to our Blessed Mother for me. If my request is granted, I will send a substantial offering. **Mrs. R. T. B., Springfield, Mass.** — I am sending the price of a novena of candles to be lit before Our Lady to obtain a steady position. I promise a donation out of my first pay, if my request is granted. **Miss V. Donnelly, Windsor, Ont.** — Will you please pray for my little son who is sick, that he may recover, and also that we may all enjoy a perfect health. **Mrs. M. D. M., Fort Kent, Me.** — Will you begin a novena to our Immaculate Mother at once. If my request is granted, I will send an offering. **Mrs. J. O'C., N. D. G., Montreal.** — Please pray that I may obtain two special favours this month. Should they be granted, I shall send a donation in the fall. **A Friend, Holyoke, Mass.** — Please pray hard for a conversion. **L. L., Holyoke, Mass.** — Kindly make a novena to the Blessed Mother for my husband and family. Please pray that my sister may find a good position and that I also may be able to help my parents. Kindly remember all my loved ones. A sincere believer in the Blessed Mother. **Marlboro, Mass.** — Please make a novena to our Immaculate Mother for me that I may obtain a special favor. Enclosed, please find a small offering. **Mrs. J. T., Valleyfield.** — Will you please make a novena to the Blessed Virgin that my husband may obtain a permanent place. I also wish for another special favor. **Mrs. A. C., Salem, Mass.** — Would you please make a novena for me that I may break away from a bad habit I have got into. A Petitioner. — Please remember my family in your kind prayers. **Mrs. C. S., Montreal.** — Will you please pray for me that I may obtain a spiritual favour. **R. P., Presque Isle, Me.** — Will you pray for my elder brother, who supports the family. In return I shall remember your missions in my prayers and I shall try to spread THE PRECURSOR. **A. L. Mc R., Dalhousie, Que.** — Will you please pray for us, asking St. Ann that my husband may get work and better wages than in the past. **Mrs. A. L., Cornwall, Ont.** — We would appreciate it, if you would keep us in your prayers. An Afflicted Family. — Will you please join me in another novena to the Blessed Virgin, as I am very discouraged. I will send a substantial offering, if my requests are granted, and I will also publish my thanksgiving. **Mrs. R. S., North Adams, Mass.** —

Would you please pray for me that I may recover my health. Mrs. J. S., **Belle River**. — Please pray to the Blessed Mother for the return of my health and that I may be able to pay our bills. I promise a donation. Mrs. J. H., **Pittsfield, Mass.** — Would you kindly pray to the Blessed Virgin for a very special favour. A Friend. — I wish to ask the help of your prayers that my son and myself may obtain very important favours. Mrs. A. L., **Millbury, Mass.** — Please pray that I may recover. If I do, I will take and keep the subscription to THE PRECURSOR as long as I live. Mrs. J. A. B., **Livermore Falls, Me.** — I am asking the Blessed Virgin to restore my health. Miss M. Hebert, **Westbrook, Me.** — My Sister has had two serious operations. Please pray to the Immaculate Motner that she may be spared to her four children. Mrs. Ferd. Jeaurond, **Alexandria, Ont.** — I have some work now, but I am not having big pay. I would appreciate it, if you would say a few prayers to that effect. C. E. S., **Campbellton, N. B.** — Enclosed, please find my renewal subscription. Please pray for me that I may recover from a serious illness and remember my husband that he have better health and that we may be protected from our enemies. Mr. and Mrs. J. C., **Watford, Ont.**

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



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of the

Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception

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

2. — **Protectors**, those who by a 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 given 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 a 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 Granted 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 labours, as also in the prayers and sufferings of all the poor 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 and Sunday 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 placed on the Altar of Exposition).

4. — For the same intentions, the members of the Community make, every day, the Guard of Honour to Mary, which consists in the continual recitation of the Rosary before the altar of the Blessed Virgn. This Guard of Honour is also made at the Shek Lung Lazaretto. There, the poor leper women, in successive groups of fifteen, continue the 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 granted to deceased Benefactors.