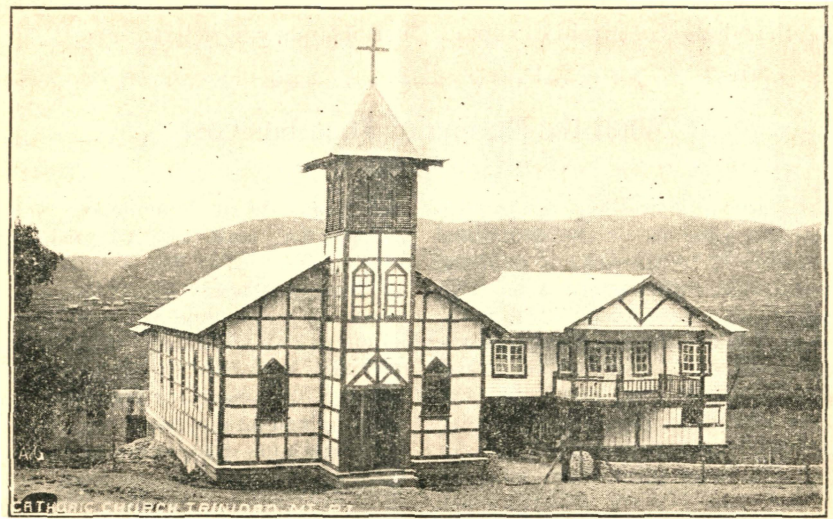


A LETTER from

Father De Brabandere, Trinidad, Benguet



Church and Convent of Trinidad, Benguet.

TRINIDAD! A nice name, eh? But a nice mission too, indeed. Not only do we attend the well known valley near Baguio, but Father Deldaele and myself visit the whole eastern part of the Benguet Province.

You know Tublay, 15 Kilometers from here, with its 2000 inhabitants. Last year a wave of conversions passed over the place. Actually 168, nearly all adults, have been baptized, and believe me: they are good christians. Providence is with us. We have received some help from here and there, and we have started the building of a nice chapel. No doubt we shall inaugurate it next

Christmas, giving to God a house when 1900 years ago He choose a stable for His birthplace (if I could only receive some ₱400 more to finish the chapel).

You ought to see these new Christians, how they consider it a point of honor to attend Mass regularly, which we offer now and then in one of the biggest shacks of the town. How seriously they pray not only at Mass, but also in their regular Sunday-meetings, when the priest does not visit them. What faith they have in God's goodness. Of course the devil shows his tail as much as possible. He will not give up the place without a fight. But I hope

in God's help and grace and before very long Tublay will be one of the finest mission places of Trinidad, and of the whole Benguet province.

Even Trinidad, where old Christians dwell among neophytes and unbaptized, deserves this year a special applause. More and more people come to Mass on Sundays. 248 made their Easter-duty this year. The few Ilocanos of the place have constituted a society approved by the Bishop of the diocese and called: the Defenders of Liberty. Of the 30 Ilocano families 63 persons are active members. Only 5 heads of families until now have not been initiated, but they have sent in their application, so this makes Trinidad count more members of the named society than even towns in the lowlands with 10,000 and more Catholics.

Of course we had to celebrate this success. On the first of July we had a High Mass and a solemn procession to commemorate the anniversary of the establishment of the Defenders' society. The whole feast was set on foot mostly by Mr. Doro-teo Flores K. o. C. and Mr. Vicente Sales, the president of the society, together with the board of Directors. After the "Te Deum" the feast was closed by a meeting in which mutual support as well as our Holy Religion found the warmest defenders among the several speakers. This example of the Catholics of Trinidad will greatly help in the conversion of the Pagans of this valley of Trinidad.

About 30 Kilometers from here, at Atok, we suffered a temporal reverse, lately, due to the attacks of some Scientists. People had been told that the religion of the Scientists would cure all their sicknesses and even prevent them from dying. But the opposite results have stopped further progress of Scientism. Scientists die as other people: so the deceived have opened their eyes. Each time I visit Atok I hear of more and more who have forsaken Scientism and come back to the Church they had abandoned for a while.

Our catholic school at Atok is full to its utmost. Never did so many attend it as this year. At my last visit, the most important people of the place asked me for one more teacher. "Well, I said, it is very easy to find you one more teacher, but to pay him . . . I can not . . . can you?" And the old people kept silence for a while. Then one of the eldest looked at me and said: "Father, perhaps you can not pay one teacher more, perhaps you can". "How is that, my friend?" "See Father, we believe you do all you can and more and we know you have not got the means to pay one teacher more. But we are the brothers of the Catholic rich Filipinos of our country. They send their children to Catholic schools. These Catholic schools and colleges might perhaps help you to pay for one teacher more, just to help their ignorant brothers and sisters of Atok. You Father, you can write. Ask the Catholic schools and colleges to

keep together to help you. A little offering from each child would make a big sum every month, more than enough to give us one extra teacher. And then our children would study one year longer, and more of them will become Catholics". A general approval followed the impromptu speech. Sure nobody among my old friends in the audience doubted the truth of their leader. I said to myself: should I doubt? Is not his speech an inspiration from Provi-

dence? Anyway I will try "The Little Apostle" and so it came I wrote this long letter. The next time I visit Atok I will tell my people whether they can have or not one teacher more, but of course my answer lies with . . . well read once again what the old man said and... well... make a prophet of him.

Maurice De Brabandere.

Note: Father De Brabandere has just received from the United States a gift of \$100. Thus ₱200 more, and he has enough to complete his chapel at Tublay.



Receipts of the Propagation of Faith

from different Countries in 1922

EUROPE		Lira	ASIA	Lira
Albany		75.00	Divers	45,687.90
Austria: 9,000,000 crowns			AFRICA	
Belgium	868,690.50		Divers	77,632.85
Bulgaria	820.00		AMERICA	
Tcheco-Slovaquia	24,085.40		Canada	224,248.55
Denmark	3,359.10		Mexico	282,595.70
France	5,144,263.95		United States	10,496,766.00
Germany: 14,528.093 marks			Tierra del Fuego	10,670.10
Greece	810.30		West Indies	11,436.45
England	1,663,359.40		Central America	47,052.75
Ireland	521,268.40		Argentina	1,040,955.35
Italy	871,178.95		Bolivia	15,231.15
Yougo-Slavia	580.00		Brazil	111,083.85
Luxemburg	41.10		Chile	152,654.55
Monaco	6,165.00		Colombia	24,316.10
Norway	1,651.05		Ecuador	274.00
Holland	580,000.00		Guiana	356.20
Poland	9,458.45		Paraguay	2,153.25
Portugal	8,340.70		Peru	26,322.15
Russia	61.00		Uruguay	94,532.25
Spain	603,082.45		AUSTRALIA	
Sweden	137.00		Divers	129,661.95
Switzerland	493,667.55			
Turkey	4,554.10			
Hungary	1,500.00			