

THE LITTLE APOSTLE of the MOUNTAIN PROVINCE



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THE LITTLE APOSTLE OF THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE

*The organ of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Scheutveit Fathers
in the Mountain Province of the Philippines.*

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Editor . . REV. O. VANDEWALLE, P. O. Box 1393, Manila, Phil. Is.

Business Manager . . . REV. V. FANIEL, P. O. Box 1393, Manila P. I.

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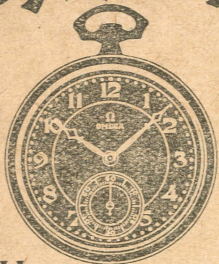
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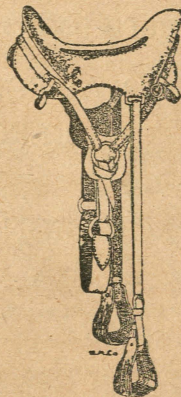
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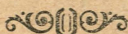
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In shops whose names I've seen
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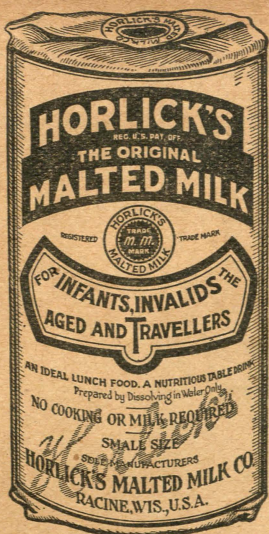


*It helps the paper give me news
About the missions to me dear;
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A Soldier Makes the Stations of the Cross

IT WAS on a Friday afternoon, towards evening. I was alone in the church of... in a corner rather dark.... I can pray better when I feel alone in a deserted corner. All at once I was distracted by the regular bumping of a pair of heavy shoes which betrayed a stout and energetic man. A soldier entered, advanced, went to the middle of the altar rails, knelt down before the Blessed Sacrament and turned to the left towards the first station of the Via Crucis. Again he knelt down, stood up and he began to make the stations of the Cross. He had no book in his hands, he spoke from his heart and, probably thinking he was alone in the church, he said his prayers loud enough to be heard by any one who might be near. At first I tried to shut my ears, but he was so near without seeing me, that I could not help hear his soldierly prayers, and, I confess, they did

me good, so, I wrote them down afterwards and I am glad to publish them here.

I Station: Jesus sentenced to death.

What a rabble! What scum! To bring a man before the martial court, because he cured the sick.... And that scoundrel of a governor, Pilate, who listens to their cackling.... Shame to them all.... Our Father. etc.

II Station. Jesus takes up His Cross.

—By Jove, that's too much. Not only do they sentence an innocent man to death, but they force Him carry His cross. If I had been there....How bad people were at that time....But anyway they are not much better now.... they do not even permit a cross in their schools. Poor Jesus, how they turture you....Our Father. etc....

III Station. Jesus falls the first time.

That's clear...with such a heavy cross on his shoulders.... over such streets, worse than a freshly plowed field, who would not stumble!

How much does that cross weigh? Surely two hundred pounds. My God! and you have been fasting since the day before! Ah! If I had been in his place, I would have thrown that cross away and I would have told them: "ye bunch of scoundrels, if you want to crucify me on that beam, you can do it here!..." they would have carried that cross, but not I, even if they would have shot me on the spot! Yes. Our Father! etc....

IV Station. Jesus meets His Mother.

That passes all limits. If my poor mother came to meet me when I was on my way to Bagumbayan to be shot, no, I would not have the heart to look at her. I would tell her to leave the place it is too much that Jesus has to face His Mother....Our Father. etc.

V Station. Simon the Cyrenean helps Jesus to carry His Cross.

Three cheers for that man. He at least is a man. But in his place, I would not have caught that end of the cross. I would have done better. I would have given that end to God and I would have placed the heaviest side on my own shoulders....no....I would have taken and carried the whole of it....Our Father. etc....

VI Station. Veronica sweeps the sacred face of Jesus.

Another one that is not afraid....and a woman. Three cheers for such women. That's like the Sisters of St. Paul at Culion, who laugh at the danger of contracting leprosy. That's what I like....a cross of honor for such....and to say that some governments chase the sisters away....they are just like the masons at the time of Jesus....and yet, they pretend to do it for the good of the people. Woe to them! Our Father. etc....

VII Station. Jesus falls the second time.

Believe me, man over there, who are kicking at Jesus, if I had been near you, you would soon have felt what it means to be kicked, and I tell you, you would not have tried that again and again as you are doing now. Our Father. etc....

VIII Station. Jesus meets the holy women.

That's true Jesus, we should weep over our sins. But wouldn't it be better that we men now and then took your rights and the law into our hands to prevent sins.... Take for instance those scandalous pictures....if we tore them to pieces, they would not spoil our children. Our Father. etc....

IX Station. Jesus falls a third time.

And not single one who even moves a finger to help you My Lord! Well, those who do not have a cent for charity are not

much better than those scoundrels....here and there a little help to the poor, would lighten many a cross. By the way, I will give something to the missions tomorrow. Those poor fathers I have seen in the Mountain Province toiling over the mountains, they also have a heavy cross to carry and that only to lift up the poor Igorrotes from under the deadly cross of their ignorance. Our Father. etc....

X Station. Jesus denuded.

Shame to you all, ye scum! That's devil's work you are doing. What wrong did He do to you? If He had poisoned a whole regiment, we soldiers would not do that. That dress does not belong to you. Now there are people today who ought to have been with you, I mean those who are living on the blood of the poor people... And to say that Jesus had done only good. Our Father. etc.

XI Station. Jesus crucified.

Bandits!...just look at that. Like mad dogs they find pleasure in hammering those nails through His hands and feet....you ought to be nailed on that cross....Oh my Jesus, I pity you....and to say that I sometimes feel lazy to do something for you! Our Father etc.

XII Station: Jesus cries on the Cross.

That's the greatest injustice I

have ever seen....He has not done anything against those savages. If I had been in His place, things would not have finished like that... I was taught that He died for our sins....Sins must be awfully bad... He is God. He could have delivered Himself....He must have loved us greatly, no doubt about that! Our Father etc.

XIII Station. Jesus descended from the Cross.

Poor woman! How can she stand that sorrow! If they brought me dead like that to my loving mother, sure, she would die. Anyone who kills Jesus by sin, ought to be courtmartialed right away. He is guilty of double murder. Our Father etc.

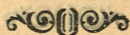
XIV Station. Jesus laid in His grave.

That's the last of it. If it is because of our sins, then, sin is a very bad thing...Anyway my Lord, with me at your place, those scoundrels would have had to face a firesquad.

And now, my boy, you'll have to be on the lookout....no more of those sins that caused the death of Jesus! Our Father etc.

And the soldier, kneeling once more before the Blessed Sacrament, left the church without knowing he had been observed.

SAVONAROLA.



November 2 All souls

The Catholic Church teaches us that the souls of the just who left this world soiled with the stain of venial sin remain for a certain time in a place of expiation, called Purgatory, where they suffer such punishment as may be due their offenses.

It is matter a faith that these suffering souls are relieved from Purgatory by the intercession of the Saints in Heaven and the prayers and the indulgences of the faithful upon earth.

To pray for the dead is, then, an act of charity, an act of piety, and sometimes an act of justice towards those who were our benefactors on earth.

We read in Holy Scripture "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins."

And when our Lord inspired St Odilo, Abbot of Cluny, towards the close of the tenth century, to establish in his Order a general Commemoration of all the faithful departed, it was soon adopted by the whole western Church, and has been continued unceasingly to our day.

Let us then ever bear in mind the souls of the beloved ones who left this earth and offer up pray-

ers for them.

By showing this mercy to the suffering souls of purgatory we shall prove our love towards them not only by mere words but by real deeds, and we shall be particularly entitled to be treated with mercy at our own departure from this world.

Suppose we could save one soul from the sufferings of Purgatory, then we will have a powerful protector in Heaven.

And not only on November 2nd will we offer our prayers for the departed but during the whole month we will remember that there exists in the Catholic Church "the communion of the Saints."

The Communion of Saints means that the three branches of the Church—the Church militant, the Church suffering and the Church triumphant—can help one another.

We, the Church militant, i.e. all those who are on earth trying to save their souls, can help the Church suffering by our prayers, by our good works. Placing candles on the graves, bringing flowers to the tombs is of no avail to the souls. The souls need the mercy of God, and this mercy will be obtained thru our intercession.



*So Speak the Wise....
and the Young Heed the Lesson!*

436. *A full belly neither fights nor flies away.*
437. *The taste of kitchen is better than the smell.*
438. *I see now which leg you are lame of.*
439. *Little boats must keep the shore, larger ships
may venture more.*
440. *Like a lamb's tail going all day and nothing
done at night.*
441. *He is a fool that makes a wedge of his fist.*
442. *One had as good be nibbled to death by
ducks as pecked to death by hens.*
443. *Put not thy hand between the bark and the
tree.*
444. *The belly hates a long sermon.*
445. *He blushes like a black dog.*
446. *Cheat me in the price, but not in the goods.*
447. *What a dust have I raised, quoth the fly
upon the coach.*
448. *A good archer is not known by his arrows
but his aim.*
449. *It is a great pity to see a woman weep as
to see a goose go barefoot.*
450. *The first breath is the beginning of death.*

THE MISSION

Mission News & Notes

No wonder that the feast of Little Flower has been a day of extraordinary blessings for the mission She cares so tenderly for.

Letters expressing heartfelt thanks poured in from all sides.

So Rev. Father Claerhoudt, at the mission of *Bokod*, writes:

I had the immense pleasure of baptizing five adults and solemnizing 2 marriages. And when I say "solemnize" I lay stress upon the word, for the Misa de Angelis was sung by our young choristers, who deserved congratulations for the beautiful performance. The future dawns bright, he continues, for on the feast of the Immaculate Conception I expect not less than sixty baptisms. Yet allow me to add that there is a little gloomy speck on that bright horizon. It goes without saying that on that most glorious day they should come to church neatly dressed. They are so poor that they themselves cannot afford to buy the cloth. Dear Readers, no doubt that some among you will help solve this dress-problem.

Rev. Father De Pauw writes from *Pugo*: "A wave of extraordinary piety swept over Little Flower's Mission. Enough to say that during the novena hundreds of Holy Communions were received everyday.

The same exulting notes reach us from *Cervantes*: Reverend Father J. Portelange informs us that on the eve of the feast he baptized 14 children from *Pilipil* and on the feast day of Little Flower he had the pleasure of offering a nosegay of thirty cleansed souls to Our Dear Redeemer. Is that not a splendid close to a Novena during which the church was filled to its capacity everyday.

A fine spirit of enthusiasm is manifest in the communication from Rev. F. M. Vanoverbergh: *Allakayan* (Cabugao) Sept. 29, 1928: Most hearty thanks for dresses, baptisms, etc. I went to Tawit and Allakayan. Almost 5,000 souls! I had no rest for the whole time I stayed among them



Father Portelange of Cervantes preparing the children of Pilipil for Baptism.

and parents beseeched me to baptize their children. They wanted me to build 3 chapels and willy nilly I had to promise them a catechist. But....

You understand the "but", Dear Readers. If through your instrumentality, a single soul should be brought nearer to Our Lord, what graces His loving Heart will shower upon you in return. What then of thousands you would help to save?

At the beginning of November His Lordship Msgr. S. Sancho, Bishop of Nueva Segovia will set out for his pastoral visit to Cervantes, Kayan, Bauco, Bontoc and Talubin. The missionaries are preparing their christians for

the reception of the sacrament of confirmation, and it is consoling for them to see how these christians are taking this preparation at heart.

On September 25 *Father O. Vandewalle* left for Belgium. After 20 years of hard labor in the Islands a much needed rest was granted to him. His many friends hope that his absence will not be very long and that soon he will come back with rejuvenated forces.

On October 13 *Father Carlu*, the parish priest of Baguio, *Father Deldaele* formerly missionary at La Trinidad (Benguet) Brother *Pierre* the builder of



Such type of men will meet Msgr. Sancho at his arrival in Bauco on the occasion of his pastoral visit.

many churches in the Mountain Province and Br. Van Harten a newcomer returned from Belgium. The stay in the home-country improved the health of the valiant missionaries very much; Happy to be back in their beloved Philippines they resumed their apostolic labors for the greater glory of God and the welfare of the people.

A few weeks ago a new book came from the *Baguio School*

Press "Alagaden ti Panangisuro ti Doctrina Cristiana" Useless to say it was printed with the utmost care.

This explanation of christian doctrine by *Rev. Father G. Declerck* of Tagudin will be of great help to both teachers and catechists. With the help of this book there is no difficulty that remains unsolved.

The book is for sale at the Catholic School Press Baguio. Price: P1.50.



COUNTRY AND PEOPLE

The Songs of a People

Igorrote Customs in East Benguet

by Rev. Father Claerhoudt Missionary, Bokod, Benguet

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Continuation

XVII.

Pasang and Abasang

SOME TIME ago, Palsied and Bagista were on the point of divorcing.

In fact they loved each other, but they had been married a long time and as yet, they had no children.

They lived a quiet life, cultivated four small rice paddies around Bokod and some fine camotefields on Kolong, fattened a couple of pigs for some rich man, and Palsied was taking care of the cattle of Pilo, in the meadows of Mooking.

One evening, some friends of the Kabayan country arrived: they were on their way to Pampang to till their ricefields. Of course they were invited by Palsied and Bagista to pass the night

at their house, so that the next morning, very early, they could proceed farther on the winding trail over Ambajek.

Palsied and Bagista naturally exposed their sorrow of having no children thus far; at which Karina, the old Karina of the Kabayan country, a kind of witch or mambunung, gave them her advice and some hope....

—"Children" she said, "Anusijo, have patience. As soon as the next moon rises, I will come back from Pampang and in the meantime you prepare tapoei, make ricewine....I will exorcise you both, for there is something wrong with you."

The time of the new moon came and Karina, according to

her word, started from Pampang and reached the hut of Palsied and Bagista on her way home.

—"We, in Kabayan," so spoke Karina to the sorry couple, "we have the Pansangkaniaw....against the sterility of women. Listen to what the old men and the mambunung told me.

Kabigat of the earth was also childless. He had no children.

"And Kabigat, who is living in the sky, Kabigat tchi nai-kajang, had pity on Kabigat of the earth and he spoke to him: 'Boil tapoei, he said, and the third day of the fermentation of that tapoei, I will come down to make the Pansangkaniaw, that you may have children.' Thus the tapoei had fermented for three days, and Kabigat, who is living in the sky, came down, and Kabigat of the earth brought him the pitcher full of the fermented tapoei, and he brought him also two chickens and two coins of silver and two blankets for the night, and Kabigat, who is dwelling in the sky, made the Pansangkaniaw.

You see, Pansang of the sky had stolen the soul of Kabigat who dwells on earth, and now, that he received ricewine and chickens and coins of silver and blankets, he set the stolen soul free and gave her back to Kabigat who dwells on earth."

At this, Karina got hold of the chicken which Palsied had given her while she was talking, and she brought the chicken near the

pitcher full of ricewine and she said:

—"Come down, soul of Bagista, for we offer now the pasang, which Kabigat of the sky ordered Kabigat of the earth to make, so that Palsied and Bagista hence may rejoice in children."

Then, Karina kept silence for awhile, as if she had been listening to some unvisible being that conversed with her, and, all of a sudden, she nodded and said: "Yes!".

Palsied killed the chicken, feathered it and Karina remained for the rest of the day near Palsied and Bagista.

The next day, she took her basket and, beating her "pakong", her bamboo tube whose beatings and music enlivened her march, she left early in the morning.

~*~

Would a day dawn on which Bagista might laughingly look into the peeping little eyes of a baby, a little baby that she would lift up high above her head to smile at it, and to nod at it, and to call it by all kinds of funny names of chance and good luck? ...a little baby, that she would pet and caress and rear and care for?

Would a day arrive when Palsied might climb the mountain under heavy sighing but with a light heart....a day when, while chopping wood in the forest, he might sing with all his might that toward evening he will speed home, bending under a big load of firewood, but in a hurry at the

thought of having to cradle a little baby in his arms or on his back, while Bagista pounds the rice, fetches water and cooks the meal?

There came a day when the women of the village said to each

—“Imanak si Bagista. Bagista got a baby.”

—“Ai! Ngaranto i anakto? Oh! What is her baby?”

—“Dakei kwantcha....A boy, they say.”

—“Anchi bii kwan nan Oseia... No, it is a girl, said Oseia.”

Palsied was out of his mind from pure joy when his wife, Bagista, gave birth to her first child, a little boy....

Sunia, Bagista's mother, had come for the occasion. She knew well the ways and customs and she would see that the “Abusang” were well performed.

The Abusang is nothing else but the customs and practices prescribed by the elders and the mambunungs.

—“Bagista, my daughter, listen well: for ten days don't eat any camotes, — sweet potatoes—, nor sili-pepper, nor meat of a water-buffel or of a horse,” said Sunia.

“Only ten days my child,” she said again “but in the meantime you can eat pork, and chicken.”

And Sunia picked up the little baby just born and laid it in basket of straw, in a bwadieken” and

she lifted the basket up high above her head and she shouted:

—“Pankaleposmoi Keijo!”

—“Mount and climb the trees!”

Sunia was now sure that later the little baby would not fear to climb the trees and chop wood on the mountains. If the baby had been a little girl, she would have shouted:

—“Patangankakmoi Keles!

“Patangankakmoi okan ni nangmoi!

—“Look upwards to the sky

“Look upwards to what your mother cooks, my child!”

And the mambunung, out of respect and confidence, had been invited, and he came and he took the cocoaspoon from the rice-pitcher and he touched with it several times the belly of the little tot, not forgetting to utter some wishes of luck and bliss.

Bagista wrapped the little creature in a bunch of rags and looked as if another woman in her motherhood.

Her whole heart with all its tenderness went to the little baby that she would rear in much poverty but with all possible care; but Palsied was near her, and now she knew his happiness and joy because Kabunian had granted him a child: the sight of the baby, both whose life it was, was to Palsied and Bagista a born consolation and a relief to their miserable existence.

(To be continued)

GERARD GERRITS. 16.



Catholic Chronicle

Rome.

The construction of the new Russian Seminary in Rome has begun. Monseñor d'Herbigny, who delivered an address at the placing of the first stone of the new edifice concluded his discourse by saying "To save the world, we must first save Russian". There are 140,000,000 souls scattered over the area between the Baltic and the Black Sea, where the priests will be sent after their ordination.

Holland.

A court decision in favor a Catholic newspaper, "The Residentiebode" recognizing the papers right to criticize stage productions, and to advise boycott-

ing shows offensive to morals and religious sentiments; occasioned a movement amongs Catholics to take a decided stand against questionable films and plays.

The said newspaper referred to a stage production as "filth" and warned its readers to remain away from the theater. The paper was sued for damages; but the court dismissed the complaint.

Supporting the attitude of the newspaper, the Catholics of the Hague (the Capital) organized a silent protest against the play, marching up and down before the theater at the beginning at each performance; and they also presented a written protest to the mayor. The immediate results of the criticism and of the peoples stand were that the play was modified, and that very many remained away. Not once during the time that the play was on the stage was the house half sold out.

Austria.

Several hundred Catholic writers assembled in Vienna to discuss plans for the warfare against the diffusion of indecent productions on the stage, in the Cinema and in the press.

Monseñor Seipel, first minister of Austria in a letter to the conference, recalled the fundamental truth that literary talent is given by God, and intended for the betterment and ennoblement of humanity and that its possessor is responsible to God for its use.

France.

By a recent order of the Paris Municipal government a statue of St. Genevieve, the patroness of Paris will guard the new bridge across the Seine to the Island of the Cite, on the site where the saint is said to have guarded the same island from the Huns in the year 451.

—An unidentified priest went to the police headquarters of Paris, last month and drew from his pocket a ring worth about 200,000 francs, which he turned over to the police, with the request that they restore it to its owner. He reported that the ring had been stolen from a rich American woman at Nice about two months ago.

When the thief told the priest that he had committed the theft, the priest refused him absolution until he made restitution of the stolen ring. The next day the ring was turned over to the priest.

The proverb "Silence is gold" suffers sometimes an exception. This appears once more from the action of the 15,000 members of the League of the French Catholic women of the diocese of Strasbourg. The League adopted a resolution at their meeting at Kayserberg, condemning "the abominable conspiracy of silence that surrounds the bloody martyrdom of Mexican Catholics and the imprisonment by the president of Mexican Catholic women."

League of Nations.

In a recent book published by Father Ives de la Briere, the learned Jesuit, is information regarding the Pope and the League of Nations. Pius XI, says the author, is of opinion that the Pope cannot become a member of the League, nor even perhaps be permanently represented at Geneva, but he would wish to be in official relations with the League for all questions of international order that particularly interest the Church. This is quite in accordance with the insistence laid by the the recent popes on the traditional distinction between matters which concern the temporal and those which concern the spiritual power, or in which the spiritual power is interested.

Philippine Islands.

Once more it is proved that the Pearl of the Orient can glory in its moral value.

Just as the women in Bavaria, in France and in Belgium have done, the Catholic women, s league in the Philippines voiced a strong protest against the persecution of the Mexican Catholics.

Thru the whole protest runs a feeling of sublime indignation that betrays nobility of mind, a clear sense of justice, and an undestructible loyalty to the laws of God and the rights of man.

"Mexico", says the protest "is the sister nation of the Philip-

pinis. And so in this critical period of her history we can not banish from our hearts that brotherly affection and sympathy, that tender concern towards the welfare of Mexico. We voice from far off Philippines our protest at such brutal injustices committed on our afflicted Mexican brothers and sisters."

This magnanimous, and at the same time so finely styled protest, should be read by the whole Filipino people, especially the youth will have great moral benefit by analyzing it.

Palestine.

The new church of our Lady of Palestine, on the ceiling of which the first words of the "Hail Mary" are reproduced in more than 200 different languages, has been solemnly blessed by the Latin patriarch of Jerusalem.

United States.

Father Charles M. Smith secretary of the Catholic Truth Society of Oregon admitting that a great number of Catholics are losing their faith, investigated recently the subject and tried to ascertain the actual causes of this dreadful leakage.

Here are the causes responsible for the leakage, and it must said that these causes are not restricted to the country were Father Smith lives.

1) Mixed marriages, between catholics and non-catholics;

2) The 20th century indifference to religion

3) The Catholic position on divorce and birth control; the Catholic church fighting against these moral evils is no longer in favor with lukewarm Catholics

4) Bigotry and lies as propagated by the Protestants

5) Distance from the Catholic church

6) Rare, or at least, insufficient religious instruction of the children.



—Some people think that the number of Catholics in the United

States is very small and that the Protestants present a very strong united front. To correct their error we give here the recent statistics of the census bureau.

The largest religious body is that of the Catholics numbering 18,605,000. Second is the Jewish with 4,087,357 members, third the Methodist Episcopal church with a total of 4,080,777.

Those who do not belong to the Roman Catholic church are divided in 213 sects. After that, who could say that the mark of unity is to be found among the Protestants?



Russia.

Hatred against religion leads always to nonsense.

Not even the kings and queens of chess are tolerated under the Bolshevik regime. The Soviet government recently ordered a state factory to invent new pieces that would be more in keeping with the principles of Bolshevism.

The result is that in the new game, the opponents represent capital and labor. On one side the king is replaced by a workman armed with a hammer, and the queen is a proletarian, while the two bishops become officers of the red army, with the pawns as their soldiers. In the other camp the king becomes an aristocrat armed with a cane and wearing a high silk hat and long tailed coat, whereas the queen is from the bourgeoisie. The bishops and pawns represent the czarist army. And for the castles-on

the side of labor they become anvils, while the capital has churches.

Catholicism and Protestantism in America

Some people are thinking that there are only a few Catholics in America; and besides that they think that the Protestants make up one big body, just as the Catholics are united in the one Holy Roman Catholic Church.

To convince these persons of the contrary we give here the official statement of the American census.

—The census bureau reported today that there were 213 religious bodies in the United States as of 1926.

The largest single body was the Catholics, numbering 18,605,000. Second was the Jewish, 4,087,357. Third was the Methodist Episcopal church, with a total of 4,080,777.

We think that this statement does not need any explanation.

CURRENT EVENTS

Philippines

Politics.

On September 27 a dinner was offered by Senate-president Quezon to the Governor General, at the end of which dinner the Senate-president promised his cooperation with the administration of Governor General Stimson. He said:

"As for myself, I have no hesitancy in stating all earnestness that I have absolute faith in our present Governor-General, and that I sincerely believe that he can be of great assistance to us in our up-hill struggle to become a free and prosperous nation. Hence I have offered him my support wholeheartedly and have advised my party to cooperate with his administration.

But he also gave to the Governor General the opportunity of bringing his economic policies before the public in the proper light.

In answer to the speech of Senate-president Quezon, Governor General Stimson gave a straightforward and to the point reply: "Never" he said "would he allow the establishment in Mindanao of enormous plantations permanently owned in fee by foreign corporations as landlords, and tilled either by hired employees or tenant farmers. The advantages of large holdings of land can be obtained by a number of independent free owners of separate parcels of land combining temporarily for purposes of produc-

tion and marketing. I believe that with mutual confidence with intelligence and with patience a system of economic development on democratic principles can be worked out in these Islands. The progress which the Filipino has made in the field of commercial and economic development has not kept pace with his great progress in education in public affairs. Some of the unnecessary obstacles which now prevent the Philippines from obtaining capital on easy and reasonable terms ought to be removed. Besides there must come more swiftness of administration and more certainty of application in the matter of public lands." Concluding his speech governor Stimson said: "I believe that with the requisite financial assistance and leadership in those realms of economics the modern Filipino will achieve a position in the world of business which will assure him of his economic welfare."

Both speeches had immediate consequences.

Hearing senate-president Quezon promise support to the Governor General, people surmised that he was bound to speak so after his voyage to the United States.

But senate-president denied emphatically such accusation and declared that the members of the special legislative mission not only made no

promises but they were at liberty to act as they wished.

And when told that his present policy was in contradiction with his past—some years ago senator declared: "I prefer a government run like hell by Filipinos to a government run like heaven by Americans"—he gave the following reply: "Precisely because I believe in a government of Filipinos as being preferable to any government by foreigners, I have given my loyal support to the present administration, and I am whole-heartedly cooperating with it.... My statement on a government run like hell etc. can be reconciled with present conditions."

And the consequence of the speech of Governor Stimson is, that the legislature is studying the amendment of the corporation law.

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce however is not in favor of any amendment that would liberalize the law in such a way that foreign capital would find unrestricted entrance into the Islands, because then local capitalist would not be able to compete with foreign capitalists.

On the other hand the Governor General appointed a committee, including Secretary Rafael Alunan of agriculture and natural resources, Secretary Ventura of the Interior, and Secretary Perez of commerce and communications. The main aim of the committee is to draw up a real constructive plan for the economic development of Mindanao.

Divorce.

In the present session of the legislature a new effort is made to make divorce easy in the Philippines. The effort is made at each session; beaten until now at each round of the fight, the advocates of divorce, disregarding the feelings and the wishes of the big majority of the Filipino people, renew

yearly their fierce attacks against the sanctity of matrimony; trying to prove the need for a liberalization of the divorce law by new arguments. One of these arguments runs as follows: "It is about time that this country, in matters of marriage, be abreast of the time as it is now in all other problems." Did you ever hear such nonsense?

Because in our modern times some countries adopted in their law-system a liberal divorce law, which law has brought these same countries on the brim of cataclysm, therefore the Philippines have to follow such a nefarious precedent.

Because other nations committed suicide, the Filipino people are bound to perpetrate the same crime.

Such nonsense will not deceive the Filipino people.

Let us hope that a strong reaction inside and outside the legislature, will vindicate the unprescriptible rights of Matrimony.

Emigration.

The question of the emigration is of vital importance for the Philippino people, and it is a problem which asks the close attention of the leaders. There is the recruiting which leads, sometimes, to great abuses; then comes the voyage during which the treatment of the laborers is not always what it ought to be; finally the stay of the Philipinos in foreign countries where their interests are not cared for in the proper way.

Now and then we hear about partial remedies, proposed by one or other member of the legislature; it is a proof of good will, but the problem must be studied and solved thoroughly. Governor General Stimson is in favor of the creation of a separate office of emigration, to be known as the Emigration Commission. He said however that the creation of the commission would depend upon the finances

of the government and the will of the legislature. The proposed office may be included in the 1929 budget of the insular government.

Financial Situation of the Bureau of Post.

It was alleged by some that the operation of the telegraph, cable and radio services resulted in the loss of several thousands pesos.

The director of posts Mr. Topacio has protested against these rumors and proved by the annual reports, submitted and certified correct by the insular auditor that his bureau is making money instead of losing.

Years	Net Operating Profits
1923	P136,879.04
1924	280,321.01
1925	358,076.13
1926	410,030.30
1927	379,093.68

General McIntyre visits the Philippines.

Major General Frank McIntyre Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs arrived in Manila on October 1. General McIntyre has been Chief of the Bureau of which has jurisdiction over the Philippines for more than 16 years. He is known to be the best informed man on Philippine affairs. The General had several confidence with Governor General Stimson and also with senate-president Quezon, but nothing is known about what has been discussed.

It was rumored that General Frank McIntyre, whose term of office in Washington expires next January, would engaged as trade commissioner for the Philippines in Washington. The idea was heartily endorsed by senator Osmeña, who declared that if General McIntyre could be induced to accept he would probably the best available man for the position. But Senator, doubted whether in fact the

position had been offered to general McIntyre. And the general himself said that if the position of trade commissioner for the Philippines had been offered to him, or if he had announced his intention to accept such a position, he knew nothing of it.

The General has consented to prolong his stay in the Philippines to November 15 at the instance of the leaders of the government. His original intention was to stay in the Islands for one month; leaving for the United States on October 31.

The general is a fervent Catholic; so the committee who is preparing the feast of Christ, the King will ask him to take part in the solemn act of devotion that will be held on the last Sunday of October.

Legislature.

The house of representatives spent several sessions in hearing the heads of the institutes of Private Education bringing forth their complaints against the Commission Private Schools.

The members of the legislature were impressed by the seriousness of the objections, and even Mr. Buckish was unable to refute them. His only answer was that he was carrying out the law.

The conclusion of these hearings was that the law on private education is deficient.

It is to be hoped that this discussion will bring forth some practical results and that the amendment of the law on private education will be brought before the house as soon as possible.

—A bill presented by representative Varona was passed by the lower house, by which power should be given to the Governor General to fix the maximum prices for rice.

But it is said that the Governor General is not in favor of such a measure, he does not like to interfere with private business such an intervention

would constitute a violation of the trade laws.

The Chinese rice dealers declare that the bill if enacted into law would have no effect whatsoever on the Chinese, but on the contrary it would do much harm to the producers who are mostly Philipino-farmers. It would simply remove the opportunities of the farmers to make more money on their product.

Meteor hits the Philippines.

The third meteor ever recorded to

have fallen in the Philippines fell on Bohol a few weeks ago. The meteor was of huge proportions and exploded with a detonation similar to that of thunder. The exact location has not yet been ascertained.

The first meteor to have fallen in the Philippines was the one which fell on Mexico in Pampanga on April 5, 1859.

The second fell on the town of Calivo, Capiz in 1911 and fragments of it are kept in the Manila Observatory.

Foreign

United States.

Quite a number of American citizens are opposed to Al Smith as president, on account of his Catholic faith. Even a letter was circulated with the following contents "We must save the United States from becoming Romanized."

But the candidate of the Republicans repudiated this letter and Mr. Hoover stated that the Republican party does not want support on this basis.

In American politics the principles seems to be: "It is just as serious a sin against good citizenship to support a man because of his faith, as to oppose him for the same reason. The real test in the campaign is the candidate's fitness for the office he seeks, and the political principles for which he stands. Beware of the man who appeals for your votes on the score of religion, or who asks you to vote against another man because his religion is not yours. Such men are dangerous citizens."

In the meantime Governor Al Smith has made known his stand on prohibition. He said that the different states should be given the right to modify the prohibition law, or to keep

it within their respective borders. "But it must be borne in mind" he added "that under my presidency Federal prohibition would be preserved in its entirety for states that desire to remain dry."

Mr. Hoover speaking on the same topic made the following statement: "The purpose of the prohibition law is to protect the home. A sacred obligation is imposed upon the president to secure its honest enforcement and eliminate abuses which have grown around it. I wish it to succeed."

Both parties are believing in the victory of their candidate. The fight will be a close one.

Now that the election for the presidency in the U.S. is very near, it might be useful to give some details on the election.

It is a wrong idea that the president of the U.S. is elected by the direct vote of the people.

Infact the president is elected by a body of electors. The number of electors for each state is equal to the whole number of senators and representatives, to which the state is entitled, in the Congress of the U.S.

The electors are selected by the various political parties and their na-

mes appear on the ballots in their proper party columns beneath the name of the party nominee for president. It is for these electors that the people casts the vote and not for the presidential nominee directly.

The present law provide that the electors shall be chosen the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, the day of the general election; and the electors shall meet to ballot for the President on the second Monday the following January.

So the President is not officially declared elected until after the second Monday in January.

The electoral college has the power to change the decision of the people but it has never used that power, being merely a ratifying body. The American government is essentially a two-party government. Sometimes more than two parties are in the field, but these never had a steadfast national policy to keep them into life.

The Democratic party traces its origin back to Jefferson and claims to stand for the principles of Jefferson: defence of the rights of the different states, and tariff for revenue only.

The Republican party traces its origin back to Abraham Lincoln, and stands for strong central government and high protection tariff.

Following the Spanish-American War the Democratic party became "Anti-imperialist, urging the independence of the Philippines.

But at present the political barrier which once separated the two parties seems to be levelled, and they are separated by their different stand and view on the vital questions of the hour.



Treasury records show that Americans are 96 cents poorer per capita this year than they were last year, but they are \$5.60 richer than they were

in 1914. At least this country was impoverished by the great world war.

Albania.

The Assembly of Albania proclaimed Ahmed Zogu "King of Albania, on August the 25. The republic thus passed out of existence. The ruler is to be known by the name of Scanderberg, III, a name dear to the Albanians because Scanderberg I was the King who delivered his people from Turkish tyranny. At the time of the election demonstrations were held in all parts of the country, but at present troubles arose especially in the north of the country. The opposition seems to come from the catholic part of the population, who are dissatisfied with the fact that Ahmed Zogu is a mohamedan.

Belgium.

The Catholic Action-youth section, is in its full swing in Belgium. Last year the youth of the southern part of Belgium held its meeting in the city of Liege and it was a day of triumph never to be forgotten.

On August 26 the youth section of the northern part of Belgium gathered in the city of Antwerp.

125,000 students, young laborers, marched past the tribune were Cardinal Van Roye and the bishops of Belgium reviewed the battalions of young catholic soldiers. Many placards were carried in the parade; some of which ran as follows "Christ! our people belongs to you." "Christ! we love You", "Christ! for your sake we will fight and die," "Christ! many of us wish to become our priests and your missionaries."

Canada.

Condemnation of moving picture films; especially American ones: a demand that the provincial government follow the example of Great

Britain in limiting the use of foreign films; the divorce question; the moral welfare of children, all figured in a piquant debate in the Quebec Legislative assembly, at the end of which it was decided by a vote of 57 to 5 to exclude children less than 16 years old from moving picture shows, whether accompanied by their parents or not.

Member after member arose to denounce American films as harmful to the morals of children and no voice was raised in their defense.

Czechoslovakia.

The Slovaks in the eastern part of their republic are congratulating themselves on the recent appointment of Dr. Droby, a Slovak Catholic, as administrative president of their section. In his installation speech Dr. Droby announced that he should make St. Cyril and St. Methodius his models (the two saints are the missionaries of this country, who not only brought christianism to the people but composed the language of the Slovaks," and prayed God to support him in his aim.

This is a striking departure from the usual political utterances, as most officials fail to make clear their christian viewpoint.

England.

Circulation figures just published by the Daily Express tend to show that it pays the press to print Catholic News.

The Daily Express is the paper which sent a special correspondent into Mexico to find out the facts of the persecution of Calles, and which on the evidence thus obtained at first-hand, condemned the tyranny of the Calles government.

The circulation of the paper (it is not a Catholic paper) have been mounting steadily for a long time, but the biggest increase in any month occurred

during last April when the Mexican articles were printed.

During that month the daily average increased by 66,500 copies, while the average monthly increase during the year was only 25,000 copies.

Greece.

With the last elections, the Royalists were entirely defeated by the party of the government, headed by premier Venizelos. The government got 228 of the 250 seats. The success of the premier far exceeded the hopes of even his most zealous supporters.

No Communists were sent back to the parliament.

The victory is considered as a blow to Italian influence, since Venizelos is believed to be Pro-French.

Germany.

The ninth anniversary of the adoption of the Weimar constitution proved once more that the republic is firmly established in Germany. The black red and gold colors were everywhere in evidence.

Only Munich and other Bavarian cities failed to take much notice of the anniversary.

The most enthusiastic celebration was in Berlin where President von Hinderburg was hailed as the old reich's first soldier, and the new republic's first citizen.

Japan.

On October 1 an essentially Anglo-American institution was incorporated in Japanese law: the trial by jury. Heretofore Japan has draw almost entirely on China for its juristic patterns.

Mexico.

A joint session of congress elected Emilio Gil provisional president of the Mexican republic on September 25.

The vote was 277 for Gil, none a-

gainst him.

Congress ordered that an election be held in November 1929. The induction of Gil's successor will be in February 1930.

Previous to this election Emilio Gil, governor of Tamaulipas had been appointed Secretary of the Interior on August 18.

Gil has said that he will follow the policy of Calles. This means that he will continue the persecution against the Catholic church.

On October 4 the eldest son of the assassinated General Obregon was brought to an hospital, suffering from a bullet-wound in his left breast. The policy explained that young Obregon was shot accidentally when his pistol dropped to the ground and discharged.

But there is another versions. Some of his friends say that he tried to commit suicide.

Palestine.

The Zionist movement, which has brought to Jerusalem large numbers Jewish girls and women dressed (or rather undressed) in modern European fashions, which are scandalous to the Arabs, threatens to ruin the traditional public reserve of the native population of the Holy City. The city has witnessed a series of mortifying insults to public good manners.

Spain.

Thanks to the skill and the perseverance of the French and the Spanish engineers the first trans-Pyrenean railroad from Pau (France) to Saragossa (Spain) is an accomplished fact. It has received its official consecration at the hands of the president of the French republic, Mr. Doumergue, and of King

Alfonso of Spain and normal service has started. The opening represents an economic revolution for the French province of Bearn and the Spanish province of Aragon. Hitherto the two provinces were separated for seven month of the year since the only means of communication between was a trail over the mountains. Now they are joined by an electric railroad, which is equipped in the most modern fashion. The railroad is held to be a remarkable engineering feat. There are 16 tunnels, and 12 bridges in the last 20 miles.

This fact proves once more that Spain is on the way of its full economic development.

If we had to believe the news items sent out by some press agencies, we should have very wrong ideas on the present condition of Spain. Tales of coolness between the King and Premier de Rivera, tales of conspirations against the royal family, tales of dissatisfaction among all ranks of the Spanish people are regularly sent to the four corners of the world. But in the meantime the country remains tranquil, and the work of national reconstruction is going on. It will appear to us that the troubles exist only in the imagination of a class of men, who do not bear a good heart towards Catholic Spain. Spain is a Catholic country, the rulers are staunch Catholics. Some weeks ago the queen christened at Seville the aeroplane "Jesus the All-Powerfull." Catholic Spain has never hesitated to give Catholic names to places and things.

In spite of the misrepresentation of its present situation, Spain may look with confidence in the future.



QUESTION BOX

Questions unsigned will not be answered. Anonymous letters must find their way into the waste paper basket. We will not publish the names of those who send questions.

Question No. 41.—A reader asks us “What is the difference between a High Mass and a Low Mass? And do the souls of Purgatory benefit more from a High Mass than from a Low Mass?”

Answer.—All Masses are essentially the same; they are an offering of infinite value to God. So a High Mass and Low Mass in suffrage for the poor souls of Purgatory have essentially the same effect; but a High Mass has more external rites, and so may increase the external glory of God, and may obtain from Him a larger refreshment for the poor Souls.

A Crusader who certainly tries to be a good girl sends us the following question.—“If I go to confession on Friday and before Sunday I quarrel with my friend and say hateful things may I receive Holy Communion on Sunday morning? I went, being sorry for having displeased God, not for what I had said to my friend.”

Answer.—The essential disposition of the soul for the worthy reception of Holy Communion is

the state of sanctifying grace. Quarrels and saying “hateful things” are sins indeed, but usually of venial character. Therefore one guilty of such sins can receive worthily Holy Communion without going to confession. But the dignity of the sacrament urges to repent heartily before God by a good act of contrition, and if opportunity permits to ask pardon of the offended friend.

But we can not understand how one could be sorry for his conduct before God, without repenting for the injury done to the neighbor. Is not God Himself offended in the person of the neighbor?

Our Lord told his disciples that if they wish to give him a present on the altar and they remember that their brother has anything against them, they should go first and be reconciled to him, and *Then*, coming offer their gift. For all the greater reason a girl that likes to receive Holy Communion should be reconciled with her friend.

A High School student asks the following question.—“What does

the inscription I.H.S. on Catholic vestments and on books of devotion mean? Do these letters stand for the Latin words (Jesus Hominum Salvator) Jesus Savior of Men?"

I.H.S. is the monogram of the name of Jesus Christ. From the third century on, it was customary to abbreviate the name of our savior in Christian inscriptions. These letters (in a somewhat modernized orthography) are the first three of the name of Jesus in

Greek. In themselves they do not signify "Jesus savior of men" nor "I Have Suffered" which is another popular explanation. The three letters stand simply for the name of Jesus, of course the name of Jesus implies the office of savior of mankind, for when the angel announced the birth of Jesus, he said that the child would be called "Jesus, for he would save His people from their sins." (Matt. I: 21).

Smiles

Pacita came home, after her first day at school, crying as if her heart would break. Her mother asked the reason for it.

"Teacher promised me a present, but she didn't give it to me," sobbed Pacita.

"Teacher promised you a present?" marveled her mother. "That's funny. First time I ever heard of such a thing."

"Well," explained Pacita, "she was giving out seats, and she called me and said, 'Pacita, you sit here for the present.'"

Upon being told to run upstairs and wash his face so he could go driving with Grandma in case that she wished to go; Willie said, "Mother, we better find out for sure if Grandma is going. It would be too bad to wash for nothing."

Tommie was told to make a sentence containing the words "handsome" and "ransom." Here it is:

A tomcat sat on the sewing machine,
So sweet and fine and handsome;

Till he got ten stitches in his tail,
Then, believe me, folks, he ran some.

Mrs. Brown-Grocer, do you really
think sardines are healthy?

Grocer—Well, ma'am, I've had a
lot of 'em in here in the last twenty
years, and I never heard one of 'em
complain.

Absent-minded Professor: "Constable,
I've lost my umbrella".

Constable: "Why, it's hanging on
your arm".

Professor: "Dear me, so it is. If
you had not told me, I should have
gone home without it".

"Tell me, what does 'hereditary'
mean?"

"It means something that descends
from father to son."

"Then these clothes of mine are
hereditary."



MAILBAG OF THE LITTLE APOSTLE



For all correspondence with "THE LITTLE APOSTLE" send your letter to "THE LITTLE APOSTLE" BOX 1393, MANILA

Manila, November 1, 1928

Dear Readers,

From a very clever and good girl we received the following letter:

Dear Father:

Inclosed you will find two new subscriptions to "The Little Apostle"; I am so happy in helping the valient missionaries of the Mountain Province. But dear Father let me tell you how I got the subscriptions, for this time I had to suffer for it.

It was during the lesson of doctrine. Our parish priest explained the second commandment; and as I knew everything and as I never would commit any sin against this commandment I took my copy of the "Little Apostle" and showed it to my companions. They were much interested in it, perhaps to much for the moment.

All at once the father came to our bench, took the "Little Apostle" out of my hands and said "It is not the time now to read magazines." And after the class I received a good scolding from the teacher.

Yes Father, now I understand that one has to suffer for the good cause. I will be do my best father, but from now on I will stop my propaganda during class.

We thank our dear little friend for bringing in so many subscriptions. If

all the Catholic girls of the Philippines followed the example of zeal set by Miss X.... the Lord would be so pleased, their souls would receive many blessings, and the missionaries of the Mountain Province would be so thankful.

Nevertheless we can not criticize the parish priest who took "The Little Apostle" during the lesson of Doctrine. We know your parish priest, dear girl, and he is much interested in the work carried on by the missionaries. He is one of their most faithful friends. But being a zealous priest, and knowing his sacred duty to impart to the youth the knowledge of our holy religion, he is right in obliging you and your companions to apply your whole attention to that lesson.

The better we know our religion, the more we will appreciate it; and the more we will do our very best to bring this same religion to our unfortunate brethren, who still are in the fetters of paganism.

And the little scolding from the teacher was also given with a good meaning. Perhaps she told you that you have to pay respect to the representative of God and to the Word that the priest is explaining.

But we are convinced that the little trouble you had will not diminish your zeal.

Make propaganda for your magazine outside of the class, and then your parish priest and your teacher will praise and even encourage you.

From so many crusaders we received reports on the celebrations held in honor of the Little Flower. Especially the feast organized by the crusaders of Albay was splendid. The most prominent ladies of the town vied with each other in generosity. This is a very good omen for the coming Self Denial Week.

Many readers answered the appeal made in the last issue for mass stipends. It seems that people understood that the greatest of the support of the the missionaries of the Mountain Province must come from the sti-

pends they receive. And as during the month of November many masses will be said for the souls of purgatory, once more we ask you to remember your friends the missioraries. Send the stipends to the Office of the Little Apostle P. O. Box 1393, or to very Reverend Father Aldenhuysen, provincial, P.O. Box 42, Baguio, Mountain Province.

Reverend Father O. Vandewalle wrote that all is right on board. He sends his best greetings to all the readers of Little Apostle and El Misionero, and asks a prayer for his intention.

Very respectfully
The Little Apostle.



In Memoriam

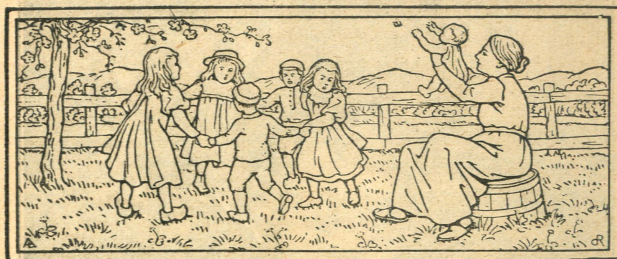


ABSOLVE, we beseech Thee, Lord, the souls of thy servants: Teofista Bahia, Legaspi, Albay; Adelaida Cagamang, Lingayen, Pang.; Pilar Avergonzado, Dipolog, Zamboanga; Simplecia Gonzales, Manuela Batucan, Danao, Cebu; Civila Esconde, Pagsanjan, Laguna; Josefa Arana, Maria Bensaro, Naga, Cam. Sur; Melitona Cabalan, Cebu, Cebu; Luis Alquero, Francisca Visda, Floridablanca, Pamp.; Fernando Florendo, Clemente Barril, Vigan, Ilocos; from every sin, that in glory resurrection among Thy saints and elect they may arise in the newness of life, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



In the obituary list of last month the name of Miss Angelita Moret was made mention of. We regret sincerely that erroneous information led us into error. We beg the distinguished Moret family to excuse us for the publishing of a notice which entailed such deplorable consequences.

For the Little Tots



A Little Life of the Little Flower for Little Children

Continuation

XXVI. — Her Zeal for Souls

A FRIEND of a friend is a friend; who loves God most sincerely needs loves God's friends and endeavors to make others beloved by God. To love is to procure the good of the beloved. It is to bestow upon the friend whatsoever he desires, if it is only good to him. Now, God loves all men; He became man and died to save them all: such was His love for them. Unhappily, not all men know God and not all those who know Him, do serve Him: in this case they are lost to God, however He may desire their salvation. Judge of the sorrow of Jesus in Gethsemani when He foresaw the many millions of pagans and sinners thus to be lost to Him. How He must love those who procure Him the conversion of those sinners and pagans!

Do you love God? Work for the conversion of sinners and pagans! Do you wish to be loved by God? Bring sinners and pagans to God. Each soul thus converted represents the price of Jesus' blood. What more can you give to God?

Therese understood this from her most tender age. Hence all her zeal to give souls to God. But Saints, who, while on earth, excelled in some particular virtue, later in heaven have a special power to continue the practice of that same virtue as well as to obtain it for others upon earth. Hence the many conversions she operates to-day and the reason why she became the Patroness of all the Missionaries: she still wants to give souls of sinners and pagans to God.



Little Primo Malusa, Miraculously cured by the Little Flower.

See: El Misionero of Sept. 15.

But what did she do while still a little child to bring people back to God?

She never missed an occasion to speak of Jesus and His love to those who did not love Him because they did not know Him.

It happened that a certain impious woman now and then visit-

ed the "Buissonnets". Little Therese decided to convert that woman. She prayed for her, offered some mortifications and spoke to her of the danger of dying in state of sin, but it seemed to be all in vain. Then, one day, she took a medal of the Blessed Virgin she was wearing and presented it to

the woman, asking her to promise that she in turn would wear it until her last moment. As the woman promised this, Therese was convinced that before her death, the impious woman, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, would make her peace with God.

The little Missionary took much interest in two poor little girls.

As they were only beggars, they knew nothing about God and our Holy Faith. Little by little, Therese instructed them and within a short time the two little girls were able to make their First Communion and they became fervent Christians.

Therese did not speak to them of blessings upon earth, but explained the eternal reward Jesus reserves for those who faithfully serve Him. She showed how the slightest little act of virtue means an increase of Sanctifying Grace and of glory and happiness in heaven, and the slightest happiness in God's Paradise, Therese added, is worth infinitely more than all the joys of all men upon earth, even if these joys were bestowed upon a single human being from the beginning until the end of the world. And the little children, deprived of all earthly comfort, endured their daily sufferings with patience for God, to the great delight of the little Apostle that converted them.

Love makes one ingenious. Therese secretly placed medals in

the dresses of poor, ignorant laborers: "The Blessed Virgin will protect them" she thought. She liked to attend the dying. The last moments before death are dangerous, for the sworn enemy of men doubles all his efforts against the dying, because he then sees a last chance of robbing their souls. Little Therese at the side of a deathbed suggested good thoughts, spoke of Jesus and His love, whispered ejaculatory prayers, especially those that expressed contrition, told the person to offer his life and death to the Father in Heaven as an act of complete submission to His holy will and a last penance, and, by so doing, helped the sick to chase away temptations and win merits.

What do we do for our dying neighbors? Do we pray every day for the dying? Only God knows the merits little Therese gathered by this work of charity.

It once happened that she converted an assassin, not on his deathbed, but on the very scaffold on which he had to be decapitated. His name was Pranzini. Born in Egypt, he had been educated in the Catholic religion by his pious mother. He had been a clever student, could speak eight languages and served as interpreter on the boats.

Unhappily, he became perverted and, through his scandalous life, he lost his job. He came to France without any money. Once in Paris, pressed by hunger, he

entered a house to steal and killed three persons, one of them a little boy of eleven years. The whole nation was stirred up by the horror of his crime. The murderer escaped from Paris but was arrested at the moment to embarked to fly to Egypt.

Brought back to Paris, he spent his time in prison translating bad books. He denied his crime and refused to see the chaplain, except to ask him for some tobacco.

However strange it may seem, this monster had still some devotion to the Blessed Virgin. On Assumption day, he asked permission to hear Mass. He told the chaplain that he was accustomed to visit the Blessed Virgin's statue in any church he happened to see on his way and that, while young, he had carried the banner of Mary in several processions. This was his only confidence to the chaplain of his prison.

On the eve of his execution, he refused to see a priest, continually cursed those who had sentenced him to die, and swore that he was innocent of the crime imputed.

Pranzini's impiety was universally known; he had asked that after his death his skin be tanned and used to make purses of. Everybody thought he would die impenitent. It happened that little Therese heard of this murderer; immediately she decided to convert him. What would the timid girl do? Would she go to Paris to exhort him to confess?

No; she used a far easier means, but no less efficacious; she multiplied her sacrifices, and, seeing that these were insufficient, she had a holy Mass said for the conversion of Pranzini.

Nevertheless, the news of the assassin's behaviour became more and more alarming; but little Therese, always confident, prayed the Lord saying: "Oh, my God, I am sure You will forgive that miserable Pranzini, because I ask You this with full confidence. Even if he did not give a single sign of contrition before he mounts the scaffold, yet I would be assured You forgave him. Nevertheless, I beg You, give me the consolation of an exterior sign of his conversion."

It was August 31 of 1887. That same early morning, Pranzini was to be beheaded. More than 30,000 persons were anxiously waiting to see the murderer pay his crime with his head and blood.

At the last moment, Pranzini had refused the assistance of a priest. Near the scaffold he was standing, tied and manacled. The executioner and his helpers were about to fasten him under the enormous knife, when all of a sudden, he turned around and shouted:

"Reverened Father, please, give me a crucifix."

And kissing the sacred feet of the Savior, he shed hot tears and sighed one word:

—"I have sinned!"

And the priest, in the name of the Lord, answered:

—"I absolve thee."

A few moments later, Pranzini's head fell down: it was the end of him, but it was the end of the good thief on the cross at the side of Jesus. When the news of Pranzini's conversion reached little Therese, she was profoundly emotioned, by so far that she had to fly to hide her feelings of inner joy. How she thanked the Lord for this evident proof of the grace He had given to a murderer at her asking. Hence, she would continue this kind of apostolate more than ever; God had evidently approved it.

This story contains a double lesson. First: who has a devotion to the Blessed Virgin will not lose his soul. Second: how good and merciful must God be, seen the great grace He granted little The-

rese for her mortifications.

Pranzini, during his former years, had been devote to the Blessed Virgin. Mary remembered this to save him. For the sake of him, she inspired a little girl with the desire of doing penance and praying to obtain his conversion. The result was that the bad man, before his last moment, made his peace with God, and secured heaven.

Now, little children who have read this story, imitate the little Flower: Pray to the Blessed Virgin every day of your life, and be generous like little Therese; this means make some mortifications which you offer to the Blessed Virgin: then, you too, may become the chosen ones to obtain the conversion of even great sinners.

(To be continued)



IN MEMORIAM

Very Reverend Mother Marie Louise foundress of the congregation of the Canonesses of Saint Augustine died in Louvain, Belgium on October 10.

Very Reverend Mother Marie Louise was born April 8, 1857 at Roulers, Belgium. In 1879 she entered the convent of the Dames de Ruysbroec, who devoted themselves to the work of education. But called by God to found a new congregation of missionaries, she laid the foundation of it in India December 8, 1897. Since then, this congregation has grown beyond all expectation. In addition to the numerous houses in India, the mission of the Philippines was established in 1910; the mission in the United States and in the West Indies in 1912; the mission of Congo (Africa) in 1920; and the mission in China was opened in 1923. At this time the congregation numbers more than



Reverend Mother Marie Louise.

500 members scattered over the five continents; out of these 500, more than one hundred are working in the Philippines.

The readers of *The Little Apostle* have read several times of the wonderful missionary work done by the Canonesses in the Mountain Province. They have their missions in Cervantes, Bontoc, Lubuagan, Baguio.

In Manila, Carcar (Cebu), Tagudin, Tubao, Pugo, they devote themselves to different works of mercy, instruction of the youth, orphanages, care of the sick at home, teaching of the catechism, etc. Four of these houses were founded by very Reverend Mother Marie Louise; Tagudin, Bontoc, Baguio, and Tondo.

Four times she visited the Philippines, which is very good proof of how much she loved the Filipino people.

Very Reverend Mother Marie Louise has been one of these virile and magnanimous souls, whose riches increase in the same proportion as they consecrate their life to sacrifice.

From Heaven, where at present she enjoys the reward of a life of love, and self-sacrifice, she will protect the missionary work that she originated and brought to such a glorious extension.—

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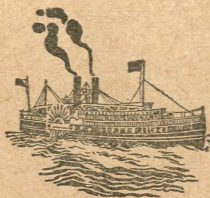
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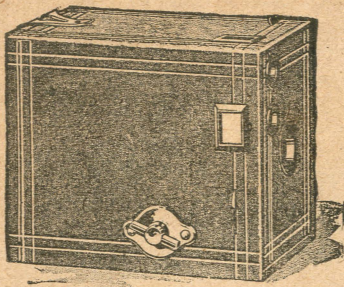
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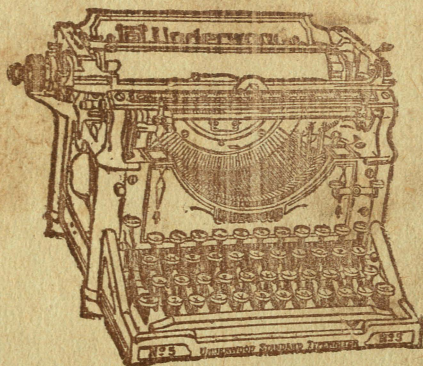
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