

# THE Cross

Organ of the Knights of Columbus  
in the Philippines



## GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION — Are You Responsible

# ?

**Our Strange Experience  
In Lourdes**

4 By Mariano H. de Joya, Sr.

**Father Felix Hates Confession**

**AUGUST, 1958**



# THE CROSS

Official monthly organ of the  
Knights of Columbus in the Philippines

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## TO OUR YOUNG READERS SPECIALLY

Starting September, *THE CROSS* will return to its pages the department "Heart to Heart" by our well-known counsellor Lily Marlene, together with other teen-age features.

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## BISHOP ACEBEDO

*THE CROSS* expresses most heartfelt regret over the untimely death of His Excellency, Bishop Miguel Acebedo of the Diocese of Calbayog, who was killed in a tragic fire accident. Deepest sympathy is conveyed to the bereaved family and faithful flock of the deceased prelate.

## Tourist Guide Is A Nun

A group of Sisters who wear lay garb and ride bicycles to work conduct a tourist center for non-Catholics within the show of St. Peter's basilica in Rome.

They are the Ladies of Bethany, who operate the Foyer Unitas in the Palazzo Salviati a few short blocks from the Vatican.

The center has two functions: to help non-Catholic tourists enjoy their visit to Rome and to interest Catholics in the problems of Christian reunion.

The tourist office was started during the 1950 Holy Year at the suggestion of Archbishop Giovanni B. Montini of Milan, then Vatican Pro-Secretary of State. The Archbishop had noted that more and more non-Catholic tourists were coming to Rome each year and that nothing was being done to help them.

The Ladies of Bethany began in Holland in 1919. In 1932 they received permission from the Holy See to work in civil dress. The members take religious vows as any Sisters do.

# editorial

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Once again there is much talk about corruption and graft in our government. How many of the charges are true it is hard to ascertain. How many of the rumors are merely "balitang kutsero" we do not know.

At least at the present writing, THE CROSS feels it is unable to take sides. Are the charges against the incumbent government administration well founded? Or does the present minority party have just as big if not a bigger proportion of crooks and dishonest men? Really THE CROSS feels unable to take a stand or to state an authoritative opinion in the matter.

But it would seem that there is much dishonesty among government officials, both in high and low positions. By no means do we believe that this corruption affects all government officials or even a majority of them. But from the countless rumors and pieces of information that trickle in, it does seem to be highly probable that such corruption exists. Indeed, we fear that it is almost widespread and rampant. At least such is the general belief.

Perhaps worse still, many people are disheartened. They seem to feel that frequently it is impossible to get justice from various branches of the government, unless they grease the palms of the government officials, unless they provide "pabagsak" in large or small quantities, whenever they seek not favors, but merely justice in their relations with the government.

But our question above was "ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION?" Practically all of our readers will reply with a loud and indignant NO! They will insist that this governmental corruption must be laid at the door only of the government officials themselves. That Juan de la Cruz is only the innocent victim.

We do not think so.

Although the corrupt officials of the government, be they numerous or few, possess free will like the rest of us, and although they are largely responsible for their own actions, nevertheless there is another element to be considered in the picture, namely, the widespread tolerance of dishonesty and injustice that permeates our entire civilization. We see this in our places of business. We see it in our rural areas. It exists among students and even among the directors of some schools. It is present among many capitalists and employers, but it is not absent from the employees and the laborers and the working class.

Taken altogether, this widespread toleration of and participation in dishonest and unjust dealings with our neighbor has created a poisonous atmosphere throughout our country that we feel is at least partly responsible for the present sad conditions in our government.

Is the above statement extreme? Is the charge unfounded? Is it unfair to assert that cheating and lying tactics are so widespread and prevalent?

We think not. Let us refresh your mind with a few facts that we think you will accept.

Let us take first our property owners. Perhaps they have a legal title to residences or places of business in cities or large towns. Many of them charge excessive rents by no means justified by true values. They only "get away with it", because the lessees desperately need the

**GOVERNMENT  
CORRUPTION  
— ARE YOU  
RESPONSIBLE?**

**PEOPLE ARE  
DISHEARTENED**

**BUT THE  
PEOPLE ARE  
PARTLY  
RESPONSIBLE**

**SOME  
PROPRIETORS  
ABUSE**

---

 Editorial

property. In some cases, it is acutely poor people who are being robbed of a large part of their meager income, in order to be able to live in abodes scarcely fit for animals.

Or perhaps the proprietors own rice farms and coconut plantations and sugarlands. Many of them demand an excessive share of the crops. Many thoughtlessly neglect the welfare of their tenants and laborers, paying no attention to their health and living conditions.

**USURERS—  
BLOOD-  
SUCKERS**

Then we have the usurers, that despicable class of blood-suckers who by inheritance or some other means have gotten into their hands some extra money. They lend it to their needy neighbors at such exorbitant rates of interest that it is sometimes impossible for the poor victims ever to escape from their rapacious clutches. Verily, blood-suckers.

**THE WORKING  
CLASS, TOO**

But it is not only the rich and the property owners who are contaminated with this disease. Very often, the employees and the laborers and the tenants are just as dishonest. They fail to give the required hours of labor for which they are paid. When the boss is absent, they read newspapers in the office. Or on the farms, they sleep under the shade trees instead of cultivating the crops. So widespread is this dishonesty among the working class that good employers and landowners, of whom there are many, are so discouraged that they even abandon worthwhile projects. They say they cannot continue when their workers are not cooperative even for their own good.

**PROFIT-  
HUNGRY  
SCHOOL  
OPERATORS**

Let us go further into our schools, into these respected and revered places where the youth of the land should be drawing inspiration and knowledge and preparing themselves for a noble and productive life. At least some of our "schools" are nothing but cheap diploma mills. Different from other countries, some of our "educational institutions" are largely commercial enterprises operated by their owners primarily for profits. They give only the barest minimum of instruction. They watch for every opportunity within the law to get added financial returns from their students.

**FRIVOLOUS  
AND  
DISHONEST  
STUDENTS**

And the students themselves are not without blame. Oh, we have countless numbers of our youth who still have glorious ideals and are striving manfully to prepare themselves during their school days for the battles of life to come. But countless others are passing their years in school just to obtain a piece of paper called diploma to be hung on the walls of their sala and flourished before their townmates. They waste the hard-earned money of their parents on frivolities and vices. They spend little or no time for study. Then when the quizzes or examinations come, cheating in some schools is the rule rather than the exception.

**CIVIC  
GROUPS**

Need we go further? We could speak at length of civic organizations. In some of these, the men are striving to promote their own prestige and reputation rather than the bonum commune, the welfare of the people. In some women's clubs, the "ladies" engage in ill-disguised and venomous warfare, in order to assert their superiority over others, to acquire the higher offices, to have their names and pictures in the newspapers.

Let us not continue on the byways and highways of our national life where the monsters of dishonesty and injustice and cruel treatment of our fellow men walk in broad daylight seeking whom they may devour.

(Continued on page 25)

# Tired of Tired Tire Ads ?

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One evening recently, someone told us of a talk which former Supreme Court Justice Mariano H. de Joya had made before the Quezon City Council 3781 of the Knights of Columbus, where he is a second degree member. The former jurist spoke of how he and Mrs. de Joya experienced a strange cure of their gall bladder ailment after a five-day visit to the famed shrine in France. With this information, we went to see him for the story. On this page you will read his own account of that unusual experience.

Mr. de Joya, now 70 years old, and his wife, 62 years old, had both suffered from stones in their gall bladders for quite sometime. About three months ago, Mr. de Joya's illness reached a critical point and he was brought to the U.S.T. Hospital. There he was confined for a week until he and his wife decided to go to the United States for surgical treatment, passing Europe and Lourdes on the way.

A busy private law practitioner since his retirement from the highest court of the land, Mr. de Joya said that his devotion to the Blessed Mother was that of an ordinary practical Catholic, although his wife was given to long prayers. In his austere law office on the Escolta, he has a picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and a medal of the Sacred Heart hanging on the wall in front of his big desk.

He is the father of a full dozen, eleven of whom are now all professionals, and has 13 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. As a result of his illness, he necessarily neglected his work. But now all traces of sickness is gone and he is back to his former daily routine with unusual energy for his years. In fact, he was back in harness at the office on the same day of his arrival from abroad.—Editor.

## Our Strange Experience In Lourdes

**I**N THE beginning of April, 1958, shortly after leaving the Sto. Tomas University Hospital, where I had been confined, on account of bladder trouble, our original plan was to go directly to America for surgical operation, as advised by our physicians. Mrs. de Joya was also advised to submit to a surgical operation, as, according to her physicians, she had many stones in the gall bladder.

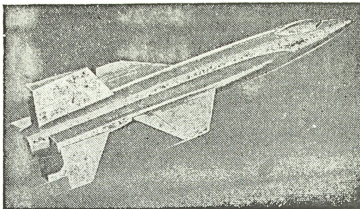
By Mariano H. de Joya, Sr.

We could have submitted to surgical operations in Manila, of course, as we have fine hospitals and very good surgeons here; but our children insisted that we should go to America and undergo the operations there, as they might have better facilities.

But having heard so much about Lourdes, we decided to go to Europe first. We stayed in Lourdes for five (5) days, attending church services morning and night, even on stormy days, and drank from the fountains nearby.

(Continued on page 25)

The tight military preparedness race is greatly felt in the field of atomic-powered missiles.



## Peace or War: The World's No. 1 Problem

# WHY IS DISARMAMENT SO ELUSIVE ?

**N**OBODY could legitimately dispute the statement that a lasting peace is desired by peoples of the world.

What, then, prevents mankind from putting a final end to war and threats of war?

Why cannot the world's governments agree on a workable system of disarmament?

Public consideration of these basic questions, unfortunately, is too often distracted by the confusing mass of disarmament proposals, rejections and counter-proposals compiled since World War II.

Stripped of its voluminous technicalities, however, the world's modern disarmament record provides a relatively simple framework of facts from which any reader can determine his own answer to the 20th century's No. 1 dilemma: which nations really want peace and which nations are obstructing its achievement?

Today, in the second half of a century which already has seen two devastating world wars and the development of nuclear weapons capable of total annihilation, all nations claim to be in agreement on the urgent need for a practical way to outlaw armed conflicts. The only missing item is world agreement on how such a solution can be brought about.

At this point, the Soviet Union's unique position as ideological spokesman for all Communist bloc nations becomes particularly significant, because no disarmament plan can succeed without Communist cooperation.

By Henry V. Burke

*(Analyst and Writer on Soviet Affairs)*

Going a step farther, it can be assumed that the Soviet Union's population, taken as a whole, would be favorably disposed toward accepting any reasonable proposition which promised to end the world's military preparedness race. Therefore, if the Soviet Union could be regarded simply as a national state in the accepted sense — a government representing the majority wishes of its people — the problems of disarmament would be greatly simplified.

The real difficulty, however, is simply this: the Soviet Union is not a national state in the accepted sense.

Since Lenin led his Bolshevik revolutionaries to power almost 41 years ago, the Soviet Communist Party has made no secret of its extra-national aims, its fundamental program of world domination under the doctrinal guise of an international proletarian dictatorship. It is this ultimate purpose which governs the Soviet Union's international policies and makes the USSR a great deal more than just one member of the family of nations. In its international relationships, to be frank, the Soviet Union-USSR complex is little more than a combination of directing forces for the world Communist movement.

*(Continued on page 24)*

## The Story Of A Vocation

# Christ Calls A Tondo Boy

I AM a Tondo boy. Ben Ulo was from Tondo. Ben Kidlat and Ben Kulani were from Tondo. My name is Ben. When I thought of becoming a priest, I didn't believe it myself. I was not as very bad as the other Bens I knew; but I was not very good either. Until I entered the seminary, I never knew what it felt to be trained in a school run by priests. My parents were not rich. Besides, the public schools were very near. I couldn't afford to spend an hour and forty centavos to school and back each day. I might as well have spent the extra hour for horsing around before class hours, and the forty centavos for the latest movie-craze in town. And I preferred double-programs with Tarzans and cowboys and Arabian Nights . . . even if I had to cut classes . . . (and pilfer from my father's pockets!).

In my school life, I was not as popular as I could have been perhaps had I grown heavier by seven pounds. My gang-mates told me that I looked like Ichabod Crane, and that smart girls hardly ever fell for chaps my size. I knew that without their telling me. But I knew too that I had a special knack of making myself tick with the girls and the campus crowd. When I was elected class vice-president once and class president twice, I made many enemies. When I was elected Mr. Sophomore, I made more enemies. This, I knew, was politico-social life in the campus. And I loved every minute of it.

In other words, I loved my school because it was my second home. There, I began to learn how to grow up away from my mother's apron-strings. But I loved my home much more because it was my second school. There I began how to learn without books. I just watched, and did what they did there. And my three brothers with me. And we just watched them live, and lived our lives their way. *They*, of course, refer to my father and mother and a pair of maiden-aunts who knew what they were doing whenever they locked me out many a night on the side-walk without supper because I drank gin. That was how they drilled us out of our horse-sense. But we were happy; boisterously happy indeed in our house which looked more like an army barracks of course, but which did not make it less a home. Because God was there.

In our home, we stuck close together. We prayed each night

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# At Your Ease With The Hierarchy

**H**IERARCHY" according to the book "At Your Ease in the Catholic Church" of Mary Perkins (Sheed & Ward, New York, 1938) "means Holy Rule, so the power of jurisdiction begins with and centers in His Holiness, the Pope, and works out and down to the youngest curate in a country parish on the other side of the world."

For the benefit of the Knights of Columbus and other lay people, our Territorial Deputy assigned to this writer the not so easy task of writing something about Ecclesiastical Titles and Forms of addressing the members of the Hierarchy and thus be "At Our Ease" with the same.

The highest authority in the Catholic Church resides in the Holy Father. The official titles of the Pope are: His Holiness the Pope; Bishop of Rome and Vicar of Jesus Christ; Successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles; Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church; Patriarch of the West; Primate of Italy; Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province; and Sovereign of the State of the Vatican City.

When a Catholic person is privileged to approach His Holiness, he has to kneel down (on two knees) and when the Pope extends his hands, he kisses the ring and does not stand up unless told so by His Holiness. The privileged person in speaking to the Pope addresses His Holiness thus: Most Holy Father or Your Holiness.

If one wants to write a letter to the Holy Father, he addresses his letter thus: His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, Vatican City, and begins his letter with this salutation: Your Holiness, or Most Holy Father. The concluding paragraph of our letters to the Pope is: Your Holiness' most humble servant.

If a Filipino wants to have an audience either general, special or private with the Holy Father, he must obtain the necessary "biglietto" or pass from the "Anti Camera Apostolica", thru the recommendation of either the Apostolic Nuncio, the Pope's Representative in the Philippines, his own Archbishop or Bishop, or thru the office of the Philippine Ambassador to the Holy See.

In general audience no special dress is

## 1. Pope

By Justo N. Lopez, K.S.O.M., K.S.S.  
(Honorary Papal Chamberlain of His  
Holiness, Pope Pius XII)

required, only that women are requested to come in modest dresses, that is, no sleeveless or neckless dresses. In special and private audiences, usually one is required to come in formal attire, and we Filipinos can use for such occasions our Barong Tagalog, with black pants, and our Filipina Dress (this one with some long sleeve undershirt).

After the Holy Father has deigned to talk to one, the person must kneel down again and kiss the Holy Father's ring asking for his blessing, which the Pope in almost all cases extends also to the family of the privileged person and to his beloved ones.

In the following issues we shall take up the manner of addressing the Cardinals, Patriarchs, Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, other minor Prelates and Priests of the Roman Catholic Church.

*To be continued*

### COMPETITION

In the window of a department store: "If you need it, we have it."

In the window of another store across the street: "If we don't have it, you don't need it."

# Knights in the NEWS

The value of "cementing U.S.-P.I. relations" was underscored during the recent state visit of the President to the United States. Along the same line, something similar took place at Clark Air Force Base recently, in which occurrence Bro. Javier F. Henson, a Knight of Holy Sepulchre Council 4278 of Angeles Pampanga, figured the most prominently. Bro. Henson designed the equipment for the television and radio stations of the CAFB, and for the job, he was cited for "sustained superior performance" by the 13th Air Force Incentive Awards Committee. In honoring our Angeles member, the Committee said he displayed "outstanding technical ability, initiative, and resourcefulness." The honor, as expected by some of such international negotiations, has a string attached. But at the end of the string, pleasantly for Bro. Henson, is a \$100 cash award.

When Dr. Adolfo O. Flores, new District Deputy of KC District 3, comes around to his initial visitation of the Councils under his jurisdiction, he will be "shooting two birds with a single stone." As district counselor of the Philippine Medical Association in Cagayan Valley, he will probably be conferring with PMA conferees as well as with Brother Knights in every place that he touches.

Members in the realty business will be glad to learn of the election of a Brother Knight to the Manila Realty Board directorate. He is Bro. Alberto Filamor of Manila Council 1000.

He started to write while he was still almost a kid and he ends up now writing for kids. That is Bro. Roman A. de la Cruz of Kalibo Council 4491, Aklan, whose work, "The Adventures of Umpag and Bonghayan" has been accepted for publication by Bookman, Inc. The book is written for grade four pupils. Bro. de la Cruz is the Aklan correspondent of the Philippine News Service. He is an English instructor, fiction writer and poet.

After giving all the answers to his group chairmen at our Lady of Loretto Council 4288 (Sampaloc, Manila) of which he is General Program Chairman, Bro. Gregorio Eloisida got on the questioning end at a recent program of the Philippine

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

I shall be absent in the United States for a few weeks to attend the Meeting of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus and also to transact some other business. During my absence Dr. Ramon F. Campos, Master of the Fourth Degree, will be the Acting Territorial Deputy. His address is: P. O. Box 510, Manila.

Rev. George J. Willmann, S.J.  
Territorial Deputy

Institute of Accountants. He was one of the interrogators during the occasion which had Secretary Manuel Lim as guest speaker. Bro. Eloisida is accountant and instructor at University of Manila.

The Squibb drug company and the Philippine Medical Association are jointly sponsoring clinical seminars in the provinces. The program calls for bringing Manila specialists to lecture before provincial practitioners. At the recent seminar in Cagayan de Oro City, Dr. Conrado Dayrit, lung specialist of the PGH and the UST hospitals, was a member of the lecturing group. He is from Manila Council 1000.

When the Jose Rizal national cultural shrine is finally realized, our Order could boast that two of its distinguished members had worked on the project actively. The chairman of the Jose Rizal National Centennial Commission is Secretary Manuel Lim, while Bro. H. B. Reyes is chairman of the building committee. The shrine is to be erected at Wallace Field.

With profuse apologies to the KC Insurance Committee, whose members have been working so hard to put up our own system and who, at this stage when things are beginning to take shape, may not exactly like propinquity to any competition, we wish to mention the recent election of Bro. Joaquin Garrido of Manila Council 1000 as vice-president of the Philippine Insurers Club. He is with the FGU insurance group.

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# Father Felix Hates Confession

LIKE almost everything in the Catholic Church except Confession."

Sometimes we hear this said by some men that we meet. And they often support the statement by adding that it is ridiculous to confess one's sins to the priest who is another man like themselves. "Why can't I just tell God directly that I am sorry for my sins?" they ask.

But one such man whom we will call Mr. Lopez was jolted to hear that a priest, too, can hate Confession. This man was expressing unpleasant opinions about the sacrament before Father Felix, our Question Box columnist. And he was amazed when the old priest unexpectedly agreed with him on the inconvenience and discomfort of Confession.

"Oh, so you hate confession," Father Felix cut in. "Well, I hate it, too. Or at least sometimes I do. Sometimes I think that Confession is very disagreeable and uncomfortable."

Mr. Lopez looked at Father Felix in amazement.

"If that is the case," he asked "if you sometimes hate Confession, Father, why do you hear so many Confessions. Yesterday afternoon, I met you in the plaza and you told me you could not stop to talk to me because you must hear Confessions. Why do you continue doing this, if you think Confession is such a bad thing?"

"Wait a minute, Mr. Lopez," Father Felix said. "Please don't misquote me. I did not say that Confession was a bad thing. I said that sometimes I hated it and found it uncomfortable and disagreeable. But I don't think that it is a bad thing. In fact, I think it is something wonderful and beautiful."

Seeing Mr. Lopez a bit puzzled, Father Felix continued.

"I think Confession is good because of the results achieved through it. But I often dislike it, because it is a hard and patience-trying work. In the Confessional you often hear so much of the seamy and sad side of life. And what's more, I don't like to go to Confession myself. I don't like to hu-

miliate myself by telling my sins to another man."

Here, Mr. Lopez nodded vigorously in agreement. The old priest went on.

"But in the end result, there is nothing more beautiful in all the world than Confession, because it brings happiness to sad souls and it brings back sinlessness to sinful souls, to make them pleasing and beautiful in the eyes of Almighty God."

Mr. Lopez was quiet and thoughtful for a little while. "You seem to have something there, Father," he said after the silence. "But still I guess I am not completely satisfied. How do we know that God wants us to go to Confession?"

"We know that," answered Father Felix, "from the Holy Bible. Here you will read that our Divine Lord once said to the Apostles, 'Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.' 'Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations whatsoever I have commanded you and behold, I will be with you for all days even unto the consummation of the world.'

"This was the institution of the sacrament of Penance or Confession. These words of our Divine Lord were uttered when He was laying the foundation for the Catholic Church. He was giving directions to His Apostles and to their successors 'for all days even unto the consummation of the world.'"

Mr. Lopez remained silent. "You know, Mr. Lopez," Father Felix said, "when the afternoon is hot and I don't want to go into the confessional, some-fleeting questions cross my mind. I ask 'why our Divine Lord instituted this sacrament? Why did He place such a burden upon the priests, forcing them to spend a large part of their priestly life hearing confessions? Why did He institute this sacrament thus forcing men to humiliate themselves by telling their sins to their own fellowmen?'"

"But I quickly dismiss the questions. I hasten to erase any doubts about the wisdom of Almighty God in this or in any of His other edicts. For surely, God knows

best what is good for man. And further, if we look at the subject with our own limited human ability, we certainly can see justification for it. We remember that God wants man to cooperate in the spreading of His Kingdom and in the salvation of the human race. He could have sent angels to help us. Or He could have provided us entirely with direct infusion of spiritual grace so necessary during the battle of life. But instead, He has made it clear that He also wants men to help. He has even made one mere man His Own Vicar, who is our Holy Father the Pope."

"But if God wants to give importance to man," asked Mr. Lopez, "why does He want man to humiliate himself?"

"Yes, confessing to a mere man is humiliating," Father Felix said. "But you and I, Mr. Lopez, are getting old and you will agree, I think, that humiliation often is good for our soul. Perhaps the greatest sin in the world is pride. It is the sin which brought Satan and the other evil spirits to hell when they tried to make gods out of themselves. It is the sin that makes hells out of happy homes and produces chaos and

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#### OUR COVER

"Feast of the Assumption" by Artist Jose O. Celestino.



#### FUTURE FINANCIER.

Father: "There you are, asking for money again. You just don't know the value of a peso."

Son: "Sure I know the value of a peso, father. That's the reason I asked for two."



#### BROKEN PLEDGE

A man working in a distillery fell into a vat of whiskey the other day and broke his pledge.

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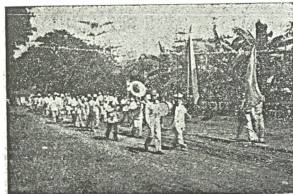
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# KC Balita

**SUPREME COUNCIL.** The 76th Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus, will take place in Cleveland, Ohio from August 17 to 21, 1958. The Philippines will be represented by Rev. George J. Willmann, S.J., Territorial Deputy. Father Willmann left the country on July 27. He expects to be away for about six weeks. Dr. Ramon F. Campos, Master of the Fourth Degree, will act as Territorial Deputy in his absence.

**NEW COUNCILS.** Three new Philippine Councils have been approved by the Supreme Board of Directors. These are Council 4639 of General Santos, Cotabato, Council 4640 of Pateros, Rizal and Council 4641 of Tanauan, Leyte.



**SOLANO, NUEVA VIZCAYA.** Members of the Solano, Fr. Villaverde Council 3749 sponsored a very successful barrio Independence Day celebration on the afternoon of July 4, 1958 in the barrio of Uddiawan. Teachers and pupils of public schools in the area participated in the successful affair. Highlights of the celebration were a parade led by the Knights, a pageant by the schools, and a program during which Bro. Elicio Acosta, senior provincial board member, spoke on the fight against communism. Pictures shows the head of the parade.

**SAN PABLO CITY.** San Pablo Council 3468 turned over its donation of an umbrella electric lamp last June 23 to the city parish church. The donation was made by Bro. Eduardo Peñaloza in behalf of the Council and it was accepted by Bishop Alejandro Olalia.

**KALIBO, AKLAN.** Kalibo Council 4491 will soon sponsor a Boy Scouts troop as a service to the youth of the local community. The Kalibo

Knights joined other parish elements in rolling out the red carpet during a recent pastoral visit of Bishop Antonio F. Frondosa, D.D. of Capiz.

**PHILAMLIFE, QUEZON CITY.** The recent Sta. Rita Council 4610 has already started a free medical clinic which treats indigent patients twice a week. Wednesdays find the clinic in Bagong Pagasa and Bago Bantay housing projects for the poor, and Saturdays in Project 6 and Balara. Anticholera shots are also given by the team. In charge of the project is physician Bro. Isidro Nuke.

**LUCENA, QUEZON.** P500.00 is the latest contribution of Lucena Council 3469 for the support of deserving seminarians. The sum was handed recently to His Excellency, Most Rev. Alfredo Ma. Obviar, D.D., Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese. At the same time, the Lucena Knights gave P100.00 to the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine to help pay catechists in the public schools.

**BAGUIO CITY.** Father Carlu Council 3363 had Senator Ambrosio Padilla as their guest speaker at Pines Hotel on June 28. The occasion was the installation of the new officers headed by GK Laureano O. Obando.

**SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION.** Austerity proved to be a boon to fraternity on July 4 in this town. On that day, members from three neighboring Councils gathered here to hold a joint inauguration of their officers. The Councils participating were Council 3712 of San Fernando, Council 3714 of Bauang and Council 4490 of Bacnotan. Archbishop Juan Sison was the guest of honor. Among the speakers at the program were Gov. Bernardo Gapuz, Faithful Navigator of the recent President Magsaysay General Assembly, and outgoing District Deputy Antonio S. Romero. Rev. George J. Willmann, S.J., Territorial Deputy, conducted a workshop for the officers of the three Councils. The ceremonies for the installation of officers were done by the new District Deputy of District No. 4, Bro. Ireneo Gacac.

**ANGELES, PAMPANGA.** Two occasions made July 27 a red-letter day for Holy Sepulchre Council 4278. On that day, Grand Knight Geromin Nepomuceno received the charter of the Council from District Deputy Augusto Hizon. The District Deputy also installed the officers of Holy Sepulchre Council for the year 1958-59.

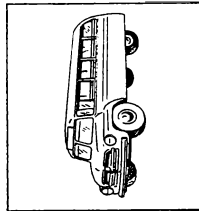
**SAN MANUEL, PANGASINAN.** Dagupan City Council 3711 would soon cease to be the lone Council in the province of Pangasinan, if the plan of a group of Knights from San Manuel town is (Continued on page 23)

DISCOVER NEW USES FOR:



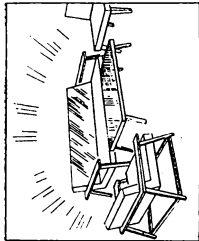
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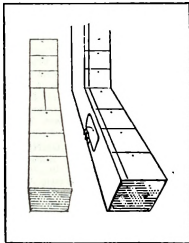
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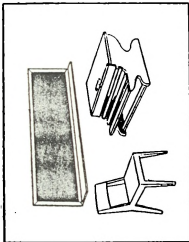
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(Based on reports received up to press time. Arranged according to Council numbers.)

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## COUNCIL NO. 3259—City of Dayao

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## COUNCIL NO. —3341—Guisuan, Samar

Rev. Fr. Bernardo Dalatran, Chap.; Gerardo Morrero, GK; Gerardo Pabello, DGK; Andres S. Abucjo, C; Nicanor A. Tubas, R; Venancio Bernardo, Treas.; Generoso A. Juaban, Adv.; Ignacio Monasterio, W; Mateo Duran, IG; Rosendo E. Pabul and Doroteo E. Arceño, OG; Finton Darang, Mateo Ayllon and Roberto O. Pimentel, Trustees; Pedro A. Leyona, L.

## COUNCIL NO. 3342—Cathalogan, Samar

Rev. Fr. Max T. Cruz, Chap.; Ricardo Tancivno, GK; Jose Arceche, DGK; Jesus Arceche, C; Pedro Ferrite, R; Cerilo Nachura, Treas.; Enrique Claudio, Adv.; Lino Donaire, W; Vicente Cinco, OG; Juca Uycoque, IG; Natario Reyes, Cator Paocol, Ramon Esperas, Trustees; Placido Quitalig, FS; Pedro Adinaas, L.

## COUNCIL NO. 3343—City of Nigan

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Report from Mambajao

## Operation "Hibok - Hibok"

About two months ago an unusual sight greeted the eyes of the townspeople of Mambajao, Camiguin Island. In a small school building under the shadows of famed Hibok-hibok volcano, 65 sturdy men filed in and out of the classroom regularly for three weeks. Inside the room where at other times tiny children noisily attended their class, the adults held their own sessions seriously.

The group were farmers of the town and nearby villages. They had come to learn how to produce more out of their land. And the class was a joint project of the College of Agriculture, Xavier University of Cagayan de Oro City and the Columbian Farmers Aid Association.

The class was conducted by Democrito K. Talian, an instructor in the College of Agriculture of Xavier University. Out of 65 who had enrolled, 34 finished the course to become definitely better farmers.

In the classroom, the farmers were taught the modern trends of farming. They learned how to increase productivity through proper land preparation, seed selection, proper weeding, fertilization, control of pests and diseases, proper storage of the harvested crop in the case of crop plants, control of diseases, scientific feeding and improvement of native livestock, and many others. From time to time, the class went out

to visit model plantations and livestock farms. Field demonstrations were conducted by the instructor.

Besides the instruction, the class offered the following services to the students: (1) Free pamphlets on farming and other subjects were distributed, (2) An improved Poland-China x Duroc-Jersey boar was made available to service native sows, (3) Six Single Comb White Leghorn layers and one New Hampshire rooster were given free to the class to upgrade their native poultry stock.

The project, conducted with the cooperation of Lt. Gov. Jose P. Neri of the Subprovince of Camiguin, Mambajao Mayor Sergio M. Lactao, and the local office of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension headed by Mr. Democrito L. Sagrado, was a definite success.

Instructor Talian reported that all the members of the class were serious and enthusiastic about the course. At graduation time, all 34 students who saw the course through had each started a new project in their farms from vegetable gardening to poultry raising.

But the greatest change came over the ways in which the farmer-students tilled their lands. In a survey conducted among the 34 members of the class, Mr. Talian

(Continued on page 22)

Special Project

## Knights Shed Light On Rural Problems

Replies thus far received from the different Knights of Columbus Councils to the appeal of Senator Oscar Ledesma are yielding helpful information about the rural needs of the country.

A month ago, Senator Ledesma, as president of the Columbian Farmers' Aid Association, asked the various KC Councils to help the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, of which he is the chairman, to gather information that will help the Committee in its intensive study of agricultural conditions and needs of the people. Questionnaires were sent out and an encouraging number of replies have been and continue to be received.

The question posed by the circular was: "What is the principal way or ways in which our Government — relying, of course, on the mutual support and cooperation of the people themselves — can help to relieve the

(Continued on next page)

agricultural needs of your municipality, province, or region?"

To this question, Knights of Columbus in different sections of the country, many of them actually engaged in agriculture and are thus qualified, are giving answers which are throwing light on the actual conditions and existing needs of their respective rural communities.

A perusal of the replies on hand disclose that irrigation, pest control, lack of adequate information about modern farming methods, and scarcity of certified palay seeds are common problems in many regions.

Other difficulties brought out by the survey among KC Councils are the need for crop loans, feeder roads, experimental rice stations and soil analysis stations, marketing information, qualified government field men, etc.

The Knights have also come up with many suggestions on how to answer some of these needs. Some of the suggestions are definitely useful, while others are of doubtful value but nevertheless reflect further the difficulties faced by the farm folk.

Solano Council 3749 in Nueva Vizcaya suggests that the farmer should be furnished with marketing information, in order to assure him profits for his crop. For instance, he should be told what crops will be in demand and what will have an oversupply. The Council is for utilizing army manpower in putting up irrigation facilities. (Another Council opines that the community should furnish labor while the government should furnish most of the materials.) And to boost production, it proposes that there should be a legislation on compulsory backyard garden, poultry or piggery for every family (with a backyard, of course).

A government pool that would rent expensive farm equipment to the farmers is proposed by two Councils, one of which is Baybay, Leyte. In this town, it is reported that the farmers are unable to control destructive plant pests effectively due to

## MAN SHORTAGE

First old maid: "I see here in the paper that a woman in New York has just had her fourth husband cremated."

Second old maid: "The shame of it. To think that some of us can't even get one man while others have husbands to burn."

lack of sprayers which they can hardly afford.

Calapan Council 4290 in Oriental Mindoro observes that farmers waste considerable time after their main crop is harvested. They should be taught crop diversification to use idle hours in growing other crops.

Newly developed ways of rice culture should be taught to the farmers, according to Concepcion Council 4318 of Tarlac. The Council recommends pilot projects as a means of thus instructing the land tillers.

San Roque Council 4349 of Cuyapo, Nueva Ecija suggests the extension of loans to tenants through their landowners, the landowners to be responsible for the collection and payment of the loans to the government. The Cuyapo Council reasons that the landowner is the one most qualified to know the needs of his tenants and their paying capacities.

Two of the questionnaires returned point to some irregularity in the appointment of government field technicians. Apparently, political interference has given rise to the appointment of incompetent fieldmen, who have little or no qualification to assist the farmers in overcoming their occupational difficulties. In addition, some of the fieldmen never visit the farmers at all.

Another anomaly was disclosed by St. John Council 4074 of Guimba, Nueva Ecija. Grand Knight Francisco Narciso related that recently he bought 60 sacks of certified palay seeds from a cooperative for the use of his tenants. Later, his tenants complained that the seeds were mixed with undeveloped seeds and foreign matter such as sand and gravel. Bro. Narciso reported that in one sack of 44 kilos, three kilos of undeveloped seeds called locally "tulipans" were taken.

More answers are expected to be received by the CFAA. The compiled replies will be forwarded to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

## PERFECT GENTLEMAN

Pastor: "You say, John, you haven't spoken to your wife all week? You should be more forgiving and charitable."

John: "Oh, I'm not mad at her. I just don't like to interrupt when she's talking."

## KNIGHTS IN....

*(Continued from page 11)*

As a religious civic group, our members are to be expected to turn up in either type of organization. In Tarlac, Tarlac, two members of the local St. Sebastian Council 3655 were recently elected to the Tarlac Rotary Club. They are Bro. Avelino Flores who won as vice-president, and former FS Bernardo Lugas who was chosen secretary. While in Quezon City, GK Jesus Espiritu of Sta. Rita Council 4610 (Philamlife Homes) has taken on another responsibility when he was elected president of the local Vicariate Council.

Two more Knights will soon be traveling abroad on study grants. Bro. Quirino Villaviza of Cabanatuan Council 3692 will leave with his wife for the United States this month on a Rockefeller grant. Bro. Mateo de Dios of Our Lady of Loreto Council 4288 of Sampaloc, Manila has been granted a Colombo scholarship.

When Bro. Carlos E. Santiago recently entered the office all dressed up (although he is usually always all dressed up), we thought it was because of his recent election as DGK of Manila Council. We found out it was because of another matter. He was just summoned by the Secretary of Justice who wanted his opinion about a proposed plan to merge the Court of Agrarian Relations and the Court of Industrial Relations. Bro. Santiago is a prominent labor lawyer and is president of the Labor Lawyers League. By the way, he is opposed to the merger, because he believes the CAR and the CIR each has a distinct and equally important jobs.

Gov. Dominador Chipeco of Laguna has started a laudable project of honoring outstanding local businessmen who have contributed to the progress of the province. The provincial executive belongs to Santa Cruz Council 4104.

Bros. Salvador Araneta and Sixto de la Costa are members of the newly formed Council of Elders of the UMNAS (Unity Movement for National Survival), a private civic group of national leaders.

Two members of Quezon City Council 3781 have recently acquired something in common. They were both elected directors of the Santa Mesa Homeowners Association. They are Bros. Roman Tusson and Aurelio Dayrit. The former is a professor at the FEU while the latter is a physician.

Another Rizalist is Prof. Francisco G. Tonogban, Grand Knight of Our Lady of Loreto Council 4288 in Sampaloc, Manila. This year he has been

## ATTRACTIVE ODDS

A husky lad entered a book store and purchased two leather-bound Bibles. "One of them," he explained, "is for myself, the other for a guy at our shop I'm trying to convert. Gambling is rampant there and this fellow is the ringleader."

As the clerk wrapped the volumes, she remarked, "I hope you succeed in converting him."

"I do, too," said the purchaser. "They've laid me five to three I can't."

made chairman of the Knights of Rizal annual oratorical contest.

It won't be surprising if the clubhouse of Capitol Council 3696 in Quezon City donned the look of a military headquarters shortly. The Grand Knight, Bro. Faustino Turla, was recently promoted to full colonel in the AFP reserve, Veterinary Corps. Bro. Pedro Vinluan was upped to full colonel in the Philippine Air Force. Bro. Dionisio Ojeda has been named commander of the 2nd Division at Camp Vicente Lim. And Bro. Rigoberto Atienza was appointed head of the Philippine panel of the Phil. American Mutual Defense Board.

Word about the death of his sister in Bangkok, Thailand was received recently by Bro. Justo N. Lopez, District Deputy of KC District 14 and member of the editorial advisory board of THE CROSS from Bro. Hilarión Pilapil of the ECAFE in Bangkok. Sister Wilhelmina, Bro. Lopez' sister, was a member of the Cross of the Congregation of St. Paul de Chartress. She passed away last July 25 after three weeks of illness.

Bro. Jesus C. Mallay, Deputy GK of Porta Vaga Council 4472 of Cavite City, recently earned a promotion to the San Miguel Brewery branch in Boac, Marinduque. He plans to transfer shortly to the local Marinduque Council 4334.

Recently returned from a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France was Very Rev. Sisenando Roda, vicar forane and parish priest of Boac, Marinduque and co-chaplain of the local Council 4334. He was received in private audience by the Holy Father in Rome.

## OPERATIONS....

*(Continued from page 19)*

found that only four were using fertilizer for their crops, only one employed the "Magasana" and "Margate" systems of rice planting, only a few used ready-mixed feeds for their poultry, and some even had superstitious beliefs and practices in their farming.

Mr. Talian reports that now these farmers are beginning to adopt the scientific techniques learned from his class. They are abandoning antiquated ways of soil cultivation and livestock raising.

The soil of Mambajao has been enriched by centuries of lava flow from towering Hibok-Hibok. With their newly learned methods, these farmers are better equipped to bring out the greatest potential of the land.

## CHRIST CALLS....

*(Continued from page 8)*

together, and went to Mass each Sunday together. We ate our meals together, and picnicked and clowned around and pillow-fought together. In Tondo, there are not many happy homes because there are so many empty houses. If it's not the parents, it's the children who run away. I never thought of running away from home — even to a place called seminary. But it was at home where Christ began to call me. Because Christ was there.

I heard the call again on a camping-hike. We were Boy Scouts. Eight in that band that day. It was a windy day. I saw one of my comrades run to chase his wind-blown cap. The next second, I saw him smashed under the heavy tires of a lumber truck. A screech, a shriek, and he was dead. It happened so quickly. I didn't even find time to think. And when I recovered from the shock, I started to think. And I thought of becoming a priest. At first, I could not quite see the connection. I shrugged it off like a silly idea, and I picked up from where I left off. I re-joined my gang and tried to have a good time.

I heard the call again in a dancing hall. Very bright and full of balloons, and plenty to eat. It was our Freshmen-Sophomore Prom. I was Mr. Sophomore, and I was dancing with Miss Sophomore. It was a funny place indeed for Mr. Sophomore in his right mind to wish to become a priest. But Mr. Sophomore in that dancing hall did wish to become a priest. And he was in his right mind.

This time, I decided to give what I

## FATHER FELIX....

*(Continued from page 13)*

confusion in despotical governments. Humiliation is good for the soul, Mr. Lopez."

"And so, when you and I go to Confession, provided only that we mention all of our mortal sins and are truly sorry for them, resolving to do our best not to sin again, through this humiliation, we can not only cleanse our souls of sin but we can also achieve peace and happiness.

"We may dislike ill-tasting medicine. But we know that it is good for our body. We know that it will bring pulsating physical health back to our diseased organs and limbs. So we take it. Similarly, through the disagreeable ordeal of sacramental confession, an ordeal instituted by Jesus Christ Himself according to the Holy Bible, we can bring pulsating life to our souls.

"Confession sometimes is disagreeable," Father Felix concluded, "but in its results, it is beautiful, it is heavenly."

thought was a silly thought a chance. I told it to my parish priest. He promised to pray over it with me. He urged me to start attending daily Mass. And I did. My folks were puzzled. And, of course, I felt awkward.

I heard the call again and again; and I knew that Christ really wanted a Tondo boy. And I felt somehow that He wanted me. It was hard to believe. But I knew that this was the beginning of the end — end of all my silly ideas like smoking cigars and drinking high-balls. For now I finally began to learn how to think sense . . . because I finally learned how to pray. And I saw everything fall into place; the cigars and high-balls and Tarzans and jazz and noise — things to which I clung most vehemently like an urchin to his paper-toys. What if the wind had blown the wrong way the day my friend died, and drove me instead chasing my own Scout-cap to my own death? Or, what if Mr. Sophomore had dropped dead in the middle of a jazz? What if . . . ? Contrary to fact conditions of course! Perhaps, it was because God wanted me to live on, and become a priest. Certainly, Tondo needs another one. Perhaps, Tondo needs me.

Not long ago, I met an old chum from Tondo. His name is Ben. He, too, wants to become a priest. He cannot believe it himself. "I feel too normal for that", he chuckled. I chuckled with him.

"I felt too normal too", I said. "Perhaps that's why Christ is calling you as He has called me. Because if priests weren't normal. He wouldn't wish to call them in the first place. Because they won't last."

## KC BALITA...

*(Continued from page 14)*

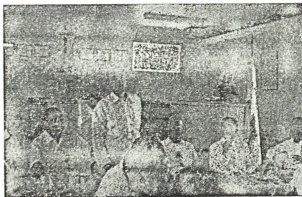
realized. The San Manuel members are expected to file soon an application for the establishment of a new Council in their place.

**SAN MIGUEL, BULACAN.** The Palayan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus (consisting of the Councils in Cabanatuan City, Gapan, Jaen and San Isidro, Nueva Ecija and San Miguel, Bulacan) held its third meeting here on June 27. Senator Gil J. Puyat was the guest speaker. Mass-Communion opened the affair.

**MANDALUYONG, RIZAL.** Archbishop Reyes Council 3696 has been sponsoring the Rosary Hour over radio station DZPI every fourth Friday for the last two years. The Council is also aiding local boy scouts to hold camps, supplying tents and cots.

**MAKATI, RIZAL.** San Pedro Council 4234 regularly aid deserving indigent seminarians as a project. Recently, it has also assisted financially the Makati parish church and the local Catholic school.

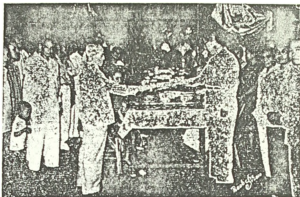
**PASAY CITY.** Members of the local Council 4267, scattered in the five parishes of the city, are reported to be active Catholic lay leaders in their respective communities. Many of them are members of parish councils.



**CAPITOL, QUEZON CITY.** Brig. Gen. Leoncio Tan, a member from Laguna, was guest speaker during the last monthly Mass-Communion and breakfast of Capitol Council 3695. From left: Bros. Jesus Perlas, past Grand Knight Francisco Tantoco, Sr., the speaker, Grand Knight Faustino Turia, Judge Juan Reyes and Col. Leopoldo Martelino.

**BAUANG, LA UNION.** Twin honors were earned recently by Archbishop Sancho Council 3714 from the Supreme Council: (1) Certificate of Honor for membership achievement and (2) Star Council Certificate for Six-Point Program accomplishment. Bauang Council has received the Honor

Certificate for three consecutive years and the Star Council award for two years, according to Grand Knight Ireneo Gacad.



**BISLIG, SURIGAO.** Inaugurated on April 13 1958 was the new Bislig Council 4431. The celebration featured the exemplification of the second and third degree by a team from Surigao Council 3418. In the picture, District Deputy Francisco Briones hands the council charter to Grand Knight Jose dos Remedios, Jr. A dinner-dance was held at the residence of the GK.

**PAGADIAN, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR.** Members of Pagadian Council 4019 always take charge of distributing relief goods to the poor. They are also active in assisting at parish activities and functions.

**LOPEZ, QUEZON.** Lopez Council 4492 has utilized various means to raise funds for the reconstruction of the local parish church. In charge of raising funds for the project as well as supervising the actual reconstruction work, the Lopez Knights have sponsored a 5-Peso-A-Plate banquet, various socials, and a pay-as-you-sit-on-the-pew drive. The last gimmick, because of its success and novelty, has been featured in the "Where in the Philippines" section of "The Manila Times." Another activity of Lopez Council is cooperation with other civic organizations in conducting educational conferences for the public.

**COTABATO, COTABATO.** Glad tidings were contained in a recent communication of the Supreme Knight to Grand Knight Vicente Capistrano. For its satisfactory implementation of the Six-Point Program, a Star Council award has been bestowed upon Cotabato Council 3504.

**KALIBO, AKLAN.** Members of the local Council 4491 echoed the sentiments of many Knights in the country when they passed a resolution urging the early adoption of the plan for a Philippine KC Insurance System. News about the plan was received enthusiastically by the Kalibo Knights. Forty of them at once expressed their intention to join the proposed system.

## WHY IS DISARMAMENT....

*(Continued from page 7)*

This one fact helps to explain why it has been so difficult for the world's nations to negotiate anything resembling a permanent disarmament agreement. While the typical Communist official functions publicly as a representative of a single state, or at most of the Sino-Soviet bloc, his real role is that of the long-term revolutionary planner who thrives on charges and counter-charges and finds international unrest and confusion the most promising atmosphere for his maneuvers.

Proof of these statements is in the Communist record.

Let's go back to the Comintern's sixth world congress in 1928. The theses and resolutions approved by this Soviet-directed international Communist organization were surprisingly frank on the matter of disarmament proposals:

"It goes without saying that not a single Communist thought for a moment that the imperialists (general Communist term for non-Communist powers) would accept the Soviet disarmament proposals.... The disarmament policy of the Soviet government must be utilized for purposes of agitation... as a means: (1) for recruiting sympathizers for the Soviet Union — the champion of peace and communism (i.e., leader of international Communism), (2) for utilizing the results of the Soviet disarmament policy and its exposure of the imperialists in the effort to eradicate all pacifist illusions and to carry on propaganda among the masses in support of the only way disarmament and abolition of war, viz., arming of the proletariat, overthrowing the bourgeoisie and establishing the proletarian dictatorship."

In other words, Communist disarmament proposals are designed to confuse the issues, create international frictions and hinder such peace efforts as do not contribute to the long-range Communist plan to create an atmosphere favorable to world revolution. The Communist view, simply expressed, is that peace is not acceptable except at the price of world Communism.

Going back to 1919, we find V. I. Lenin establishing a definite Communist policy concerning international pledges, the core of all disarmament proposals.

As the founder of Soviet Communism, Lenin made it known that he regarded peace treaties merely as stepping stones in the build-up of Communist power. "It is ridiculous," he told his followers, "not to know

## Devotion to St. JUDE

*Please publish this letter of thanks to St. Jude. I would like to thank this very powerful saint for all the favors I have received through his intercession. Recently, I got another very great favor because of his help. It was granted to me after my novena to him. I promised, too, publication of my thanks to St. Anthony and to St. Rita. — A Grateful One, Vigan, Ilocos Sur.*

*Will you please publish this letter of thanks in your column for the devotion to St. Jude? Although this letter is overdue, I still want to thank him for all his help during my past examinations in school. — A Grateful Child, J. Manila.*

*This is to fulfill a promise to thank publicly Our Mother of Perpetual Help and St. Jude. I have been the recipient of great favors because of their powerful intercession. I hope more people will turn to them for aid. — A Grateful Child, San Quintin, Abra.*

*Kindly publish my letter of thanks to our Mother of Perpetual Help, Our Lady of Fiat, St. Jude and St. Anthony, for their help in my studies. I want everybody to know of their power and kindness. I hope this letter will spread devotion to St. Jude and the others. — A Student, St. Mary's College, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya.*

that a treaty is a means of gaining strength."

Communist theory and doctrine, since Lenin's death, has abounded in speculation as to the degree of violence the overthrow of Communism's opponents will require. But at no time has the basic goal been denied; Lenin is still quoted as the ultimate authority for all Soviet Party undertakings.

Premier Nikita Khrushchev underscored this in 1955 by declaring: "We have never renounced and will not renounce our political line chartered for us by Lenin."



## EDITORIAL.....

*(Continued from page 4)*

We return to our first question. ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POISONED ATMOSPHERE IN OUR NATIONAL LIFE? Respected readers of THE CROSS, we hasten to add that we consider you among our best citizens. We are confident that many of you are innocent of many of the abuses mentioned above. But still we suggest that all make an examination of conscience. We are the fallen sons of Adam. Unless we struggle constantly against it, we are all likely to fall prey to our passion for power and riches. Unless we discipline ourselves, we are likely to be contaminated by the materialistic poison of our civilization.

Have we been outstanding as employers and fair and even generous in the treatment of our employees? Or if employees, have we always been loyal and faithful to honest employers?

As students, as organization members, as citizens of our community, have we been fair and square and unselfish in the daily routine of our lives?

If not, we have been partly responsible for creating this widespread atmosphere of injustice and corruption that seems to have poisoned our national life.

When election day comes, if we vote not for the man who is good for the country but for the man who will do something gainful for us personally, who will give us a few pesos or a job or some other favor, then we are responsible for the bad men in our government. And if we have definite evidence of the wrongdoing of a public official and fail to reveal it out of fear that by doing so we will lose some personal advantage, then we, as citizens, are partly responsible for the crooks now holding some of the reins of power.

Let us not shout indignant cries of corruption in the government, unless we can first say that we personally are doing our utmost to be honest and fair and just in our own personal lives.

EXAMINE  
OUR OWN  
CONSCIENCE

## OUR STRANGE EXPERIENCE . . .

*(Continued from page 6)*

There were also many other pilgrims there coming from other countries, like the Germans, the Dutch and the English; who, although there were more than 2,000 persons in each group, attended services from morning till night, marching and singing together, like so many soldiers.

Some Filipino pilgrims wore barong-tagalog and terno, although the weather was wintery, as a natural consequence of which, some of them got sick while in Lourdes.

After spending about two (2) weeks in Brussels, London and Amsterdam, we proceeded to America for medical checkup, either at the Walter Reed Military Hospital or at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. But we decided first to consult competent physicians in New York City, where X-ray examinations were made of both of us. And strange to say, after thorough physical examinations, X-ray and otherwise, Mrs. de Joya's physicians said that the stones in her gall bladder had disappeared, and that

her gall bladder was in its normal condition, not enlarged anymore, as it had been, before our departure from the Philippines. And in my case the big stone in my bladder, which, according to my physicians in the Philippines, was solid, was found in the process of dissolution (not solid anymore); and we were informed that there would be no necessity of any surgical operation or hospitalization. After I had been so informed, I regained courage to stand up straight and to walk fast, as I had been advised previously by some friends that I must walk slowly to avoid any possible irritation.

And strange enough, we were not given any medicine at all. We were simply advised not to eat foods that are very salty or very sweet. And I was somewhat flattered by the opinion of my physicians, after thorough examinations, that my health condition could be favorably compared with that of a healthy young man of 25. And so I am very thankful to a Most Merciful God.

FATHER FELIX'

## QUESTION BOX

Does the Church allow annulment of a marriage on the ground of insanity?

Only if it can be proved that one party was actually insane at the time of the ceremony, and therefore incapable of giving the proper consent to the contract. Subsequent insanity, after the contraction of a valid marriage, may be sufficient reason for the separation of the parties but cannot dissolve the marriage itself.

How long do the obligations of sponsors in Baptism last?

Sponsors in Baptism take upon themselves the obligation of providing for the spiritual welfare of the person baptized, should the necessity arise, because of failure or impossibility of the parents or guardians of the person baptized to do so. This obligation lasts for the life of the Godparent and the person sponsored so that at any time the obligation may become operative of providing for the baptized person's spiritual need, by advice, by counsel and direction, and above all by prayer for the spiritual child.

How can an unbaptized adult person obtain forgiveness for his sins?

If such a person is aware of the nature and necessity of Baptism and of his obligation to belong to the one true Church of Christ, he must seek admittance into the Church by Baptism. This Sacrament effects the forgiveness of original sin and all actual sins committed before its reception. If he has no knowledge of the above facts but yet is a believer in God, he must have perfect contrition to obtain the remission of his sins; that is, he must detest sin more than all other evils, for the reason that it offends God, who is all good and deserving of all our love.

How many Popes have governed the Church from St. Peter to Pope Pius XII?

According to the most reliable list, the present Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, is the 261st successor of St. Peter as Bishop of Rome and Head of the Universal Church.

: : Cross-pondence : :

Opinions expressed on the article of Mr. Elias M. Ataviado entitled "My Studies Concerning the Discovery of the Katipunan," published in the numbers of THE CROSS for February, March, and April, 1958. The letters are arranged in the order of their dates.

"I have read carefully the article of Mr. Ataviado and I find it to be a very clear presentation of the facts of the case. His arguments against Patiño having revealed the existence of the Katipunan in the confessional are solidly based on the evidence.

"I am very glad indeed that he wrote this article, and I hope he will continue his researches in Philippine history.

"H. DE LA COSTA, S.J.  
"Ateneo de Manila  
"Loyola Heights

"I wish to commend Mr. Ataviado for the painstaking and patient research which he must have done on the Katipunan discovery, and the controversy that followed the publication of various versions of the said discovery.

"On the face of the evidence which Dr. Zaide and Mr. Ataviado have presented, let those who hold the contrary view come with their refutation. That is a man's prerogative in a democracy. All we ask for is fairness.

"I congratulate Mr. Ataviado on his noble task.

"JOSE M. HERNANDEZ  
"3 Los Tamaras Drive  
"Parañaque, Rizal

"May 19, 1958."

"I have read Mr. Ataviado's article on the Discovery of the Katipunan . . . We need more pens like his to promote Philippine historiography.

"DR. G. F. ZAIDE  
"1119 Old Santa Mesa,  
"Manila

"May 20, 1958."

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Do You

DEAR MEMBER  
OF THE KC INSURANCE SYSTEM ?

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN THE PHILIPPINES  
P. O. BOX—510  
MANILA

July 18, 1958

Worthy Grand Knight:

You have already received considerable information concerning our study about the possible establishment of a Knights of Columbus Insurance System in the Philippines.

Our KC-PI Insurance Committee wishes now to provide you with further information on the points, namely:

1) The raising of funds for necessary organization expenses; and

2) The power of voting for the Board of Trustees.

Concerning the first point, your Committee has decided to request all Councils to contribute at least P500 each, which will qualify them as founder-members, represented by their Grand Knight.

Individual members of our Order are likewise urged to make similar contributions and would also thus enjoy the privilege of being founder-members.

Regarding the second point, excepting for members of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy of the Philippines, only founder-members will be qualified to vote for the Board of Trustees, which will be the governing body of the KC-PI Insurance System.

Founder-membership shall be closed thirty days after the date of incorporation. Your Committee has decided to incorporate on August 1, 1958. We will appreciate it very much if you will submit this matter to your council at your next meeting and urge your members thus to aid this enterprise for the benefit of all of our members.

Remittances may be made to Dr. Ramon F. Campos, Treasurer of the System, at the Knights of Columbus Headquarters, P. O. Box 510, Manila.

Trusting to receive your usual prompt reply, I am

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

ROMAN MABANTA  
Chairman, KC-PI Insurance Committee