

June 1947



The
Missionary
Centerists

June 1947

The Cardinal's Coat of Arms

Copied from *The Hour*

THE coat-of-arms, or seal, which His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, uses as a member of the Sacred College, differs in two details from that which he employed as Archbishop of Detroit. The outstanding change is the use of the red hat—the special mark of the cardinalate—surmounting the shield in place of the green hat of bishops and archbishops. The use of fifteen tassels on each side of the shield, hanging from the red hat, is also a privilege of a cardinal. Archbishops use ten tassels, while bishops use six.

THE shield itself is a combination of the seal of the Archdiocese of Detroit and the Cardinal's personal heraldic design. On the left are the arms of the archdiocesan seal, based chiefly on the insignia of St. Isaac Jogues, but also incorporating part of the arms appearing on the shield of Le Sieur Antonie de la Mothe Cadillac and of the seal of the State of Michigan.

THE archdiocesan part of the shield is divided by a black cross, embellished with three gold stars, into four gold cantons, upon which are designed in black a pair of antlers and three mythical birds. The predominant gold and black of St. Isaac Jogues' arms were chosen for the colors of this section.

IN the upper left canton is found a pair of black antlers on a gold background. These antlers were taken from the shield of St. Isaac Jogues and also from the State seal of Michigan upon which, however, appear not only the antlers but also stag heads.

IN the remaining three cantons appear black martlets, each on a gold background. They are mythical birds, purely heraldic inventions and are taken from the Cadillac coat of arms.

THREE gold stars are centrally placed on the black horizontal bars of the cross, and have been taken from the arms of St. Isaac Jogues. In ecclesiastical heraldry, three similar figures, centrally placed, honor the Blessed Trinity.

THE meaning of the archdiocesan half of the shield is derived from the figures placed on it which have both a spiritual and historical significance. The Cross proclaims the Catholic faith in Michigan, the antlers indicating the State. The historical fact that Michigan owes its Catholic origin to St. Isaac Jogues and his companions is indicated by the devices borrowed from his shield. The three martlets indirectly symbolize the City of Detroit, because they are taken from Cadillac's arms, and he is honored as the founder of the City.

FINALLY, the seal is surmounted by a mitre of heraldic form, which has been generally used on archdiocesan and diocesan shields since 1500.

THE other half of the cardinal's shield contains his personal insignia. In the lower compartment appears a green holly tree on a silver background. This was taken from the arms of the Mooney family, which dates back to 1638, when a grant of arms was made in Ireland to Thomas Mooney. In the upper compartment is a red rose on a gold background, a device taken from the arms of the Orsini, one of the famous Roman families. This emblem was placed on the seal because Archbishop Mooney, when visiting in Rome in an official capacity, made his headquarters in the Orsini palace.

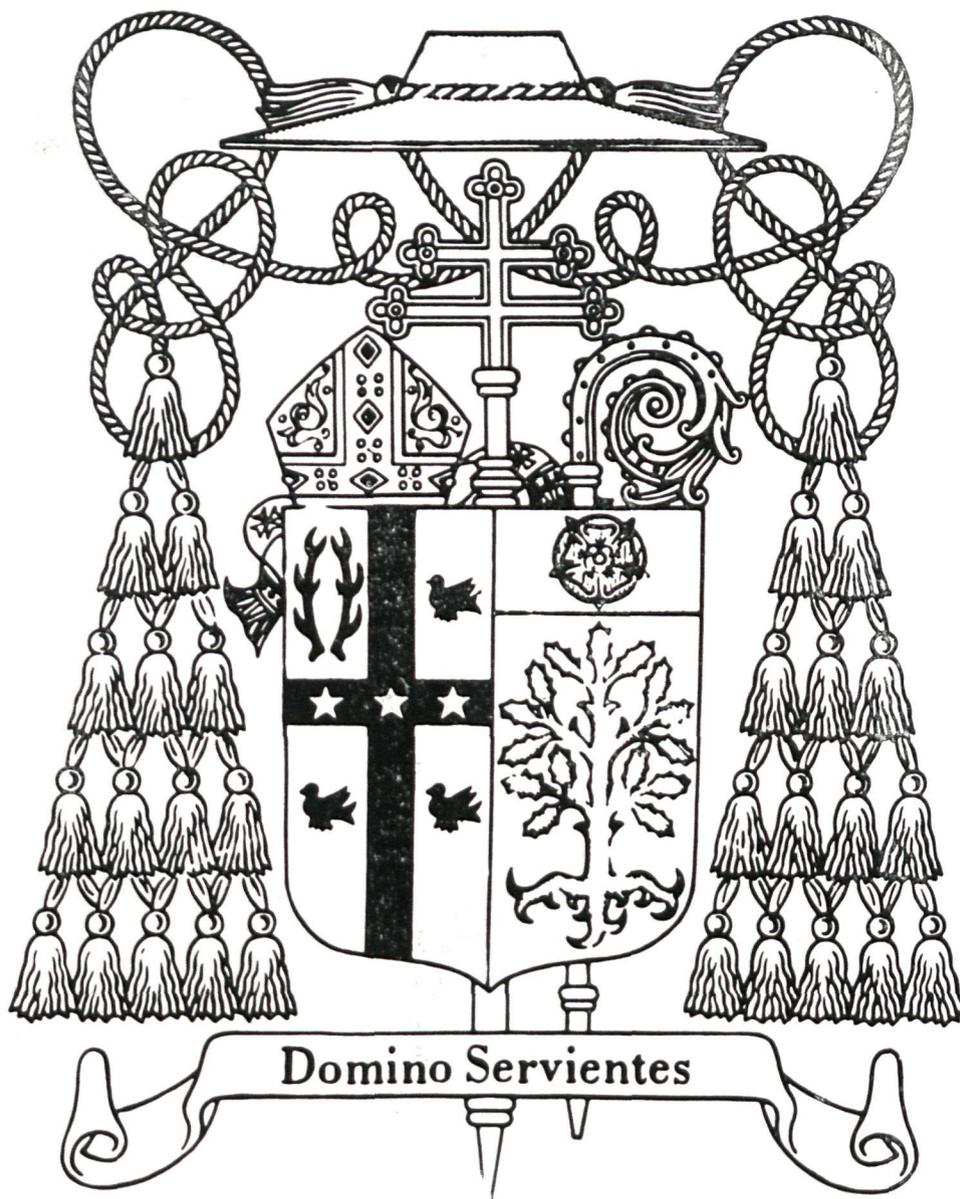
THE usual ornaments, indicative of the archiepiscopal rank, are retained in the Cardinal's seal, as he continues to be Archbishop of Detroit. These symbols are the cross with the double arms of an archbishop, the mitre, and the crosier or shepherd's staff, all in gold.

The Missionary Catechist

Volume XXIII

June, 1947

Number 7



Coat of Arms of His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney.

THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST is a monthly magazine published with ecclesiastical approbation by the Society of Missionary Catechists, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana. Subscription rates: \$1 a year; \$2.50 for 3 years; \$4 for 5 years; \$25 for life, payable in monthly installments; \$1.50, Canada and Foreign. Entered as second class matter December 30, 1924, at the post office at Huntington, Indiana, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Archbishop of Detroit



His Eminence

Edward Cardinal Mooney

Archbishop of Detroit

The Confraternity at Work in Detroit

by Reverend John C. Ryan

Director of Religion, Archdiocese of Detroit

THE work of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the Archdiocese of Detroit is part of the Religion Department of the Archdiocese. Organized in 1937, the Confraternity took up and extended the work begun by the Catholic Instruction League under the leadership of the late Josephine Van Dyke Brownson. Centers of instruction were opened in every parish of the Archdiocese, as well as in forty-four public school buildings after school hours.

THE Director of Religion has charge of the preparation and editing of the "Parochial School Graded Course in Religion," which is in use in many archdioceses and dioceses throughout the country. The same department has charge of the preparation and editing of a graded course of study for the public school children—a course that is simple to read and to understand; one that is within the purchasing power of the poorest child. Thus it is possible for every child to have a book, and for every year of instruction to accomplish a definite amount of work.

DURING the year 1945-1946, 53,024 public school children were taught by 744 Sisters, 236 priests, and 377 lay teachers, in 276 centers of religion. Vast as these figures are, they do not represent, by any means, all the Catholic children attending public schools.

THE second division of the Religion program is the Home Visiting program. Seven Sisters of Our Lady of Victory, six Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, and two Dominican Sisters from the Adrian community assist in the program. This program includes census taking as a necessary preliminary to the establishment of new parishes; also the recruiting of children for religion classes and—where possible—for enrollment in parochial schools.

THE Confraternity Director assigns the territories for visitation, and the results of the visitation are filed with him for redistribution to the present pastor, or to the pastor to be appointed if it is a new area. If classes are to be opened, the Sisters follow up the children until they are enrolled in their proper classes, and thus a new foundation is made.

RESULTS have been gratifying. In ten years, thousands of children have been enrolled in religion classes, thirteen new parishes and missions have been established, and a host of adults have returned to the Church.

THE Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Victory and the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart are financed directly by the Confraternity Office; the Dominican Sisters by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

THE last division of work is Special Education. A part of this program consists in the Apostolate to the deaf, both for children and adults. A full-time priest is provided for this Apostolate. A full-time Missionary cares for the migrant Mexicans. Two mission churches for the Colored have been opened. Classes are likewise provided for children in institutions.

THE success of the Confraternity in the Detroit Archdiocese has been due to the excellent co-operation of priests, Sisters and laity. Every parish has its priest-director. Each teaching order in the Archdiocese conducts classes in the parish in which the Sisters teach school, in parishes without schools, and in vacation schools.

THE Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Victory have shared generously in the program. Their religion classes and home visiting have been part of the general plan to have every Catholic child under religious instruction—in a parochial school, if possible, but at least in week day classes.

THE work of instruction is the responsibility of the clergy. The job of teaching is an opportunity given to Sisters. Though the work is hard and without glamour, though it is difficult and often discouraging, it carries a number one priority in the work of the Church. It is Christ's command, and so is carried out.



Our Cover: With the aid of the map of the City of Detroit, the Sisters plan the day's work.

In the Hands of Each Child

by Sister Marcella

IN Detroit it is possible to have the *ideal* textbook in the hands of every child during religious instruction classes. This ideal textbook, adapted to the child's age and grade, has been made possible by the Reverend John C. Ryan, Director of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

IN the textbooks, Father Ryan does not attempt to have the children cover the entire catechism in one year, but he does try to give them a complete and thorough knowledge of a given portion of the catechism each semester. Then, too, the texts are graduated and adapted to the abilities of the children.

WITH this type of textbook, it is possible to give every pupil two books a year, one for each semester. The second book completes the first, and gives the added quality of freshness. Children eagerly welcome a new book, and a religion class with a new text each semester takes on renewed and lively interest.

THE first textbook in the series, entitled "God's Little Ones," is used in the prayer class. Here the children meet Our Divine Lord and His Blessed Mother—perhaps for the first time—in the appealing pictures contained in this little book.

IN the second grade text the boys and girls study the Commandments and become familiar with the Old Testament stories. After the third and fourth grade children have studied the Sacraments, the life of Our Lord, and reviewed the Commandments, they are ready to receive their First Holy Communion. The following year the fifth grade studies the chief truths of our faith in the texts entitled "The Apostles Creed." The sixth grade studies in detail the Commandments; the seventh grade the Seven Sacraments. The eighth grade studies the Mass during the first semester, and in the second semester they use the text "I am a Catholic," which reviews the chief truths of our religion, those truths which every Catholic boy and girl

Religious instruction classes become much more interesting when one has his own textbook. This has been made possible in Detroit by Father Ryan, who has prepared the texts, adapting them to the age and grade of the child.



should know.

THE texts are easily understood by the children, as the Old or New Testament story, the doctrine, and the explanation are given in a narrative form in each lesson. Father Ryan suggests that the class read the lesson silently as given in their texts after it has been given orally by the teacher. Then a class recitation should follow, and the children tell in their own words what they have read. At the end of each lesson in the text there is a study guide and questions which are very helpful in clearing up any doubts in the child's mind.

BESIDES presenting the subject matter in an attractive way, the texts are made even more appealing through the use of appropriate and selected pictures. Each lesson is illustrated with one or more of these pictures, remarkable for the instruction they convey and the stories they tell.

IN addition to the excellent material contained in the textbooks, slides which follow lesson for lesson through the various catechisms are also available. The slides for the Sacraments and the Mass are actual photographs taken in and about the churches of Detroit. These slides are suited to the texts with which they correspond.

BUT this excellent material is not all that helps the Confraternity classes to function smoothly and efficiently. Before her first class the teacher has already met her pupils! She has become acquainted with them through a card file which contains a card for each pupil, complete with name, address, age, parish, religion of parents, sacraments the child has received, and his actual class attendance each year. Each pupil enrolled in religion classes in Detroit has a permanent card covering a five year period, and these cards are available to all teachers.

DUE to this well-organized Confraternity setup, religion classes in Detroit are most enjoyable.

In the Detroit Archdiocese.

Our work in the great Archdiocese of Detroit was begun in 1941 at Ida, Michigan, where we now have 240 children enrolled. In 1943 a second house was opened in the City of Detroit. In addition to an intensive visiting program carried on here, we have 636 children enrolled in religious instruction classes.

A Tiny Apostle

by Sister Mary Agatha



Marilyn and her pupils.

If the proverb, "Well begun is half done," be a fact, then little Marilyn Ward is well on the way to doing worth-while good in the vineyard of the Lord.

Proudly she comes to class on Saturday morning bringing with her two of her "own pupils" and their little cousin. Marilyn made sure her charges were prepared to stand their ground, giving them a sense of security at religion class, before she formally introduced Mary Ann and Karen to us. Her face all a-glow, Marylyn took her place beside her little students the first time she brought them to the small church at South Lyon. She listened quietly as her charges answered the questions Sister asked them. But it seemed they were going to fail her on one question. She turned to them quickly, "Now, you know that. Don't you remember what I told you?" she asked. Just that much, and the correct answer was forthcoming. Never before have I met such enthusiasm in a child of five years.

Three years ago we started classes in Lyon, and not a more sincere group of children could be found anywhere. They are now looking forward to the renovation of their church and even the smallest of the children can give details of the proposed plans.



His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, on way from rectory to Our Lady of Consolation Church for the dedication. Accompanying His Eminence are, Very Reverend Charles Melchoir, O.S.A., Provincial Augustinian Fathers, and Very Reverend Joseph E. Heney, O.S.A. In front of the Cardinal are Reverend Joseph Brietenbeck and Reverend John C. Ryan.

In the Service of Detroit

by Reverend John C. Ryan

Director of Religion, Archdiocese of Detroit

IN 1943 the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Victory accepted an invitation to open a mission in the city of Detroit. Unlike other missions, this foundation was not attached to a particular parish, but was set up by the Archdiocese directly as an essential work of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

THE first assignment of the new Community was to a changing section of Detroit where, because of lack of school facilities, many Catholic children were in the public schools. The neighborhood was composed of at least fourteen different nationalities, of all ages and spiritual needs. An increasingly large Negro floating population further complicated the religious and educational program. A community house operated by the League of Catholic women provided

some classes, and Sunday Mass was offered in the house auditorium.

THE Sisters made an immediate survey of that neighborhood. They visited 2,092 families and found a discouraging total of Catholic children who were not receiving religious instruction. Classes were established at once in a public school after school hours. Three hundred and fifty-seven children were enrolled. A definite plan was devised whereby the homes of absentee children were visited as soon as classes were over. The results were amazing. Careless parents gradually became aware of the necessity of sending their children for religious instruction. When they saw "them nuns" at the door, the parents knew something had happened and that they would have to correct it.

Church of Our Lady of Consolation, formerly St. Rita community center, which was dedicated by His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, two hours after he had been officially notified of his appointment as a prince of the Church.



THE second year classes opened with an enrollment of 560 children. Every home was again visited, and the necessity of religious instruction for their children was again discussed with the parents. Sister John's fluent Croatian, Italian, Spanish, and Polish enabled her to enter homes that no one else could or dared approach.

THIS district was placed under the care of the Augustinian Fathers, and the first Confirmation classes of the mission were held in St. Augustine's church.

IN the fall of 1945, the St. Rita community house was purchased, with the help of the Archdiocese. On December 23, 1945, a never-to-be-forgotten date, His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Mooney, dedicated the chapel of "Our Lady of Consolation" two hours after he had been officially notified of his appointment as a prince of the Church. The writer, on this occasion, preached the dedication sermon, recalling in the words of the Liturgy how the community house had at long last become "a house of God and gate of Heaven."

THE chapel is crowded now at each of the two Sunday Masses, and there is a good attendance at daily Mass and evening devotions.

OTHER centers of instruction have been opened in the area with a total of 608 under weekly instruction. The homes have been visited, and parents and teachers alike know the necessity of inculcating in the minds and hearts of the children a knowledge of the truths and practices of our holy religion.

THE next move is "Our Lady of Consolation" school. When that becomes a reality, it will be the fruit of the daily visiting and patient

teaching of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Victory. While much must still be done in this area, the results of the sowing are in evidence.

WEEKLY classes are conducted for 160 children at Milford and South Lyon, Michigan. This means a 90 mile round trip, but Father Foley, the genial pastor, says, "How did we ever get along without the Sisters?" Belleville and Romulus have become parishes because of the home visiting of the Sisters, and new fields will be conquered as each successive Vacation School period begins.

THESE projects, worked by patient effort, prayed for by Sisters and children, fulfill the words of the Liturgy:

"Send forth thy spirit and they shall be created,
And thou shalt renew the face of the earth."

ESSENTIALS

It was early in May, but the sun was very hot. Rosie wanted to be out playing in the bright sunshine, but Mother thought she ought to play in the shade, as First Communion Day was only two weeks away. "With your pretty little white dress and veil, you want a white face, don't you dear? You surely wouldn't want a tanned face, with a red nose all peeling from sunburn, would you?"

"Well, Mummy," Rosie informed her, "it really isn't my face that counts; it is my heart and soul that need to be white."

Sister Martha
Brighton, Colorado



Children enjoy a treat at Religious Vacation School.

In the Home Field

we are taking the Catholic census. "No Catholics live here," we are told, and the door is slammed in our face.

ANOTHER woman welcomes us, "Come in, Sisters, come in." In answer to our explanation that we are taking the Catholic census, she says, "No, we are not Catholic. But we have very dear friends who are."

THEN there was the fine Catholic woman who saw us across the street on a very cold afternoon. She hurried to the kitchen, and by the time we arrived at her home she had hot coffee, bread, butter, jelly, and cake ready for us. At another home a woman was sweeping the side walk in her back yard. We went to the back yard instead of the front door. When she saw us she gave the broom an angry swish, as she said, "You get out of here!"

BUT whether we are received graciously, or have doors slammed in our face, or brooms swished at us, we know it is not we but what we represent that makes people welcome or reject



Typing and filing census cards.

us. We are God's instruments. Those who love Him, respect those who serve Him; those who deny Him do not wish to be reminded of Him by those who represent Him.

MAY God bless those who give us a pleasant welcome. But most of all may He bless those who turn away from us. These latter are the ones who need your prayers as well as mine.

The Lord's Surveyors

by Sister Vivian

WE like to take census. It is not only an interesting, but a very necessary part of the work of Holy Mother Church.

THE reasons for taking census in the districts appointed us are various. It may be simply a question of finding out the number of Catholics living in a given district; again it may be a question of establishing a new mission, or a new parish; it may be for the purpose of seeking out the Catholic children who are attending public schools and not receiving religious instruction; or it may be that the Pastor of a new parish wishes to use the census as a quick means of becoming acquainted with his flock.

CENSUS taking is not as monotonous as one might be inclined to think. Often we are able to help others over difficult places by advice, encouragement, a comforting word or two. Or it may be that those whom we visit are all but overwhelmed with the trials and troubles confronting them, and we are able to bring them

relief by directing them to someone who is in a position to help them. Sometimes after finishing a census, we have the happiness of seeing a new church and school set up; or it may be that teaching Sisters or lay teachers are appointed to teach religion to the children of the district who up to this time have not been receiving religious instruction; or again it may be that a Pastor calls us to tell us of the various visits he has received from people in the district who wish to become Catholic or who wish to have their marriage validated. These are the consolations that accompany the work of census taking—a work which we are convinced is a very necessary part of Catholic Action.

THE receptions we receive as we go from door to door are varied. There is the case of the very friendly Protestant woman who tells us that the family upstairs is Catholic. We knock very expectantly on the upstairs door. It opens a little. The woman's expression of welcome changes quickly when she sees us. We tell her



First Communion group at Religious Vacation School, Belleville, Michigan.

Associate Catechists



Dear Associates:

On a steep bluff, high above the constant stream of traffic on Highway 24 stands this beautiful image of the Sacred Heart at Victory-Noll. Our Divine Lord appears as if inviting all "to mind the things which are above." Let us heed His invitation, especially during this month dedicated to His honor.

ACM SUPERVISOR

ST. JOSEPH BAND (Chicago, Ill.)

THE originator of this Band was Mrs. Catherine Service, recently deceased. For five years or more, *Miss Anna M. Knusman*, a devoted friend of the former, has been serving as Promoter.

WHENEVER we receive a check from St. Joseph's Band that day becomes a red letter day and an occasion of rejoicing for the contribution seldom amounts to less than fifty dollars.

WE pray that God may continue to shower special graces and blessings on this group who have been such faithful friends.

ST. GEORGE BAND (Chicago, Ill.)

AT least fourteen years of service may be credited to St. George Band, which is headed by *Miss Lucille M. Dea*. All of the original twelve still belong and two or three members were added to the membership later. These Associates, together with their spiritual director, Reverend Father George B. Lescher, have always followed our missionary work among God's poor with the keenest interest.

Who has the time and inclination to run up some Sunshine Bags for us? We will send a pattern and materials.

GOOD SHEPHERD CLUB (Chicago, Ill.)

THE president of this Club, *Mrs. Mary R. Staley*, attributes its successful record to two things—the prayers offered up in behalf of their undertakings and the capable women who serve as chairmen or members of the various committees when a big party is on. Last but not least, there is hearty co-operation on the part of all.

THEIR last big affair was held at Columbus Park Recreation Center where the rental fee was low. This insured the greater part of the money raised being given to our Sisters, as the ladies desired.

CONGRATULATIONS, dear Associates, and may God continue to bless with great fruitfulness all your efforts in behalf of our Missionary Sisters, in particular for Sister Juliana whom your Band sponsors.

ST. IRENE AUXILIARY BAND (Chicago, Ill.)

THIS Band, which began operations in 1941, is composed of eight members. The Promoter, *Miss Madeleine Sebraska*, also belongs to another Band. We are sure to hear from these Associates with a generous check at Christmas and Easter.



Mrs. Mathias Lichter of Infant of Prague Band and Miss Mary O'Donnell, both of Chicago, are snapped by Catherine Lichter as they visit with one of our Sisters at Victory-Noll.

of Mary

OUR WISCONSIN BANDS

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Band, Appleton, Wis. This Band, headed by *Miss Helen R. Arens*, knows no half-measures in their efforts in behalf of our Sisters. A check for \$100.00, recently received from the members, is ample proof of their devotion to our missions and missionaries.

St. Jude Band, West Allis, Wis., Mrs. E. J. Polakowski, Promoter, seems to have adopted the slogan, "Say it with money orders." We seldom receive letters from these workers but the large donations they send us from time to time reveal their interest and sympathy in our soul-saving works.

St. Margaret Mary Band, Marshfield, Wis. Not content with an annual contribution of \$185.00, *Mrs. Earle Leu*, Promoter, took time out this year to visit Victory-Noll and give demonstrations to our Sisters in the newer crafts. Her classes which dealt with modelling useful articles out of sheet plastic were especially interesting.

St. Rose Band, Marshfield, Wis. Mrs. J. J. Huebl and her Band members can be justly proud of their 1946 contributions which amounted to \$207.00. These Associates work for two of our Sisters—Sisters Adelle and Adriana, whose relatives reside in the Badger State.

St. Mary Philomena Band, Stevens Point, Wis. When last we heard from *Mrs. Philomena Levenduske* she was hard at work finishing two hand-pieced quilts to be disposed of for the benefit of our Sisters. God bless all our Wisconsin mission helpers.

ADRIAN CLUB (*Chicago, Ill*)

FOR twelve or thirteen years, *Miss Florence Dietz* and her Band of seven have been very regular in sending us yearly donations. It was good to see this faithful Promoter at the luncheon and card party sponsored by our Chicago Associates.



ACM BAND CONTRIBUTIONS

March 22 to April 16, 1947, inclusive

Adrian Mission Club, Chicago, Florence Dietz	2.00
Charitina Club, Chicago, Catherine Hennigan	7.00
Good Shepherd Club, Chicago, Mrs. Mary Staley	52.00
Our Lady, Queen of Angels, Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. C. J. Sauthier	10.00
Poor Souls Band, Chicago, Mrs. J. V. McGovern	20.00
St. Anthony Mission Club, Chicago, Mrs. A. F. Beck	147.25
St. Bridget Band, Bellevue, Ky., Miss Grace Kern	2.00
St. Catherine Band, Los Angeles, Mrs. M. McMannamy	25.00
St. Helen Band, Dayton, O., Miss Helen Melke	52.25
St. Joseph Band, Chicago, Miss Anna Knusman	35.00
St. Joseph Mission Club, Baldwinsville, N. Y., Mrs. M. Williamson	17.00
St. Jude Band, West Allis, Wis., Mrs. E. J. Polakowski	26.00
St. Katherine Band, Chicago, Mrs. Katherine Hammer	80.00
St. Margaret Mary Band, Omaha, Mrs. A. Wichert	5.00
St. Mary Band, Chicago, Mrs. Annie Hansen	60.00
St. Mary Mission Club, Maywood, Ill., Mrs. Forest Lehman	9.00
St. Mary Sodality Circle, Detroit, Miss Ann Huhn	10.00
St. Philomena Band, Chicago, Miss Mary Schaefer	20.00
St. Rose Band, Marshfield, Wis., Mrs. J. J. Hubel	55.25
Via Matris Band, Chicago, Miss Dorothy O'Brien	25.00

Home

by Sister Vivian

THERE is one address in this vast metropolis which is more than a number to seven of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters. To these seven Sisters, 290 Arden Park is *home*. It is the convent where our loving Saviour dwells night and day; it is the place where they are welcomed with a cheery, "All for Jesus through Mary," as they return from a day's work of visiting or teaching.

everyone disappears, some to write letters, others to study, to pray, or to rest. All is quiet. Then suddenly about five minutes to three, things begin to happen. There is a hustle and bustle, laughter and excitement reign.

"What's happening?" asks someone, emerging from her room.

"Oh, didn't you hear? We are having a



Our convent at Detroit.

OUR convent is a large two story residence. When at home we spend much time on the first floor. The most important room is, of course, the Chapel. This room was formerly the library, but it now houses the King of Kings. It is easily accessible for frequent visits during the day. Each time before we leave the convent, we stop a moment in the Chapel and ask our Eucharistic God to bless us, our work, and the people with whom we will come into contact during the day.

ADJOINING the chapel is a large living room with an open fireplace. We use this room especially on Sunday afternoons and evenings during the winter. After dinner on Sunday

party?"

"What are we celebrating?"

"We don't know . . . we haven't figured that out yet! But we're celebrating anyway! The admission is one log to be carried to the fireplace."

In ten minutes there is a cheery fire in the fireplace, and an impromptu party is in progress.

THE sun porch makes a delightful recreation room and it is here that we usually spend our evening recreations. Most of us have a hobby: knitting, crocheting, tatting, or making posters and charts for class work. Our evening recreations give us ample time to relax and to

work on our hobbies.

WE have a good collection of plants and ferns on the sun porch. Most of these we have acquired when visiting the homes. It takes a little while until one learns not to admire the plants on the porches or in the homes where we are taking census. And invariably when one of the Sisters remarks enthusiastically, "Oh, what a beautiful fern!" or "Isn't that a gorgeous plant?" the proud owner insists that she take the fern or the plant (or one that is going to be just like the admired one) home with her. Now we have ferns, African violets, shamrocks and several other varieties. Whenever we hear a cry of delight coming from the sun porch, we know that someone's favorite plant has sprouted a new shoot.

OUR dining room is, of course, a very necessary room. The well planned and well cooked meals served here give us the strength and energy we need for our work. It is here, too, that we talk over the cases we meet with during the day, discuss the problems that come up in the classes, and relate the humorous incidents and stories of the day.

THE bright kitchen is not the least important room in our home. In fact, it is very important at times. There we are always welcomed with a big smile and a happy: "All for Jesus through Mary" by Sister Mary Cecilia. If for some reason we have to go to the side door and let ourselves in when we return from visiting or teaching, the first thing we do is call, "Sister



The center of our convent home.

Mary Cecilia, where are you? We're home!" And soon we are telling her the main events of the day: our classes increased; it rained and many children were missing; the roads were muddy and we slid into a ditch; and so on.

EVEN our yard is an important place. One day Sister asked me to put a little parsley on the platter of meat. I went to the refrigerator, looked in vain, and finally had to admit that I couldn't find any. "Oh, no," Sister said, "it isn't there. It is out in my flower box." We have planned our garden this year and hope to have flowers all summer for our Chapel.



The sun porch makes a delightful recreation room.

Dear Loyal Helpers:

VACATION days are here again. Perhaps most of you will spend the summer months right at home. It will be a welcome change, though, to lay aside your school books and help perform tasks about the home, field, and garden. Some of you will join scout camping expeditions. I don't believe it is necessary for me to remind you never to get so far away from church as not to be able to attend Sunday Mass and receive Holy Communion at least once a week. And I urge all Mary's Loyal Helpers (I am now speaking to the *girls* who make up our organization) to be "cover girls"—decently attired at all times whether out for a walk or a swim.

WE are happy to announce that *Dorothy Anne Schoell* of Monroe, Michigan, won first prize in our recent essay contest. *Anna Marie Baker* of Maria Stein, Ohio, won second; and *Maureen Sherlock* of Worthington, Iowa, third prize. We regret that space does not permit us to reproduce their compositions, as they contained many solidly Christian maxims and counsels.

Mary-ly yours,

SUNSHINE SECRETARY

HELPER WINS FIRST PRIZE

We are pleased to show you *Dorothy Ann Schoell's* picture. She is the winner of first prize



in our recent contest on the subject: "Lent—What it is and how a Catholic student should keep it."

Mary's Loyal

A CHICAGO HELPER

YOU'VE heard a lot about the boys of Holy Innocents School, Chicago, who are helping



our Missions. Somehow the girls didn't get much mention. Therefore we are glad to make you acquainted with *Theresa Wojtanowska*, who also belongs to Sister M. Patricia's mission team. In fact, Theresa was the very first of these pupils to join us—about three years ago.

LAST CALL TO JUNE PICNIC

THIS is a last reminder of *Mary's Loyal Helpers Day* to be held for all members who can join us on the grounds of Victory Noll, Sunday, June 22nd. The day opens at 10 A.M. with a tour of the buildings. After a picnic dinner in the woods there will be games and contests. The day ends at 4 P.M. with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in Victory Noll chapel.

WE ask that those who plan to come notify us not later than June 15th.

Helpers Pages

A PHILADELPHIA HELPER

WE are happy to introduce *Mary Frances Callan*, a senior in Mater Misericordia Academy



of Merion, Pa. Recently, our Helper sent us a donation and requested Sunshine bags and coin cards for her classmates. She wrote us in part, "Helping such a good and necessary organization by my prayers and small offerings affords me much pleasure. Since Philadelphia has one of the best Catholic school systems in the world I can just imagine how shameful it would be not to have a Catholic education."

JUNE PUZZLE

Do you use a missal at Mass, or do you have a Catholic calendar in your home? Then it should not be difficult to identify the following Feastdays in the month of June. Give the name of the Feast and the date it is celebrated this year.

1. A Feast in honor of the Three Divine Persons.
2. A Feast in honor of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

June, 1947

3. A Feast in which we render homage to the Divine Heart of Our Blessed Lord.

4. A Feast in honor of the patron saint of students.

5. A Feastday in honor of Our Blessed Mother.

6. The Feastday of him of whom Our Blessed Lord said that among those born of women there has not risen a greater.

7. An English Bishop and Martyr who was canonized in 1935.

ANOTHER MICHIGAN HELPER

ALL the Shea girls have been Mary's Loyal Helpers. *Rose Ann Shea*, here pictured, is a sophomore at Gladwin, Michigan, which is eight miles distant from their farm. Rose Ann's aunt—a Sister at Mercy High School, Detroit—was very ill last winter. When her parents went to Detroit to be at the aunt's bedside, Rose Ann, her sister, and brother said the Rosary every



night during their parents' absence for the aunt's recovery.

ROSE works in the fields in haymaking time—and likes it!

CAN YOU WRITE POETRY?

We will print your poem on our MLH page if it is well written.

La Virgen de San Juan

de los Lagos

by Sister Michael

A FAMILIAR sight in Texas homes is the statue of *La Virgen de San Juan de los Lagos*. The image is small, picturing Our Blessed Mother as a princess dressed in an elaborate gown. Although the statue shows the influence of Mexican art, there is a distinctly Spanish cast to the features.

The history of this devotion can be traced back to the year 1623 to a town named San Juan Bautista Mezquititlan, now called San Juan de los Lagos, located in the state of Jalisco, in Mexico. Ancient accounts vary in details, but all agree on the main facts of the story.



The Virgin of St. John of the Lakes

A group of acrobats, composed of a man, his wife, and two daughters, stopped in the town enroute to Guadalajara. During their stay they performed for the inhabitants, executing difficult tricks on a tight rope, below which was a plank containing various daggers. In the midst of the performance, the younger daughter, a child of about seven, fell on one of the daggers and died. The parents were overcome with grief, and the townspeople accused them of unnecessarily risking the child's life.

A group of people carried the corpse to the hermitage where they met the sacristan, Pedro Andres, and his wife, Ana Lucia. Ana Lucia took an old image of Our Blessed Mother and gave it to the parents, telling them to place it on the

breast of the dead child. The parents did as the Indian directed, and the child came back to life.

Numerous miracles followed, and by 1634 devotion to the *Virgen de San Juan* had spread so widely that the Bishop, the Most Reverend Cervantes Carbajal, after an investigation, authorized this devotion. In 1904 Pope Pius XI gave permission for the solemn coronation of the statue.

It was only natural that when Mexican families migrated to the United States they should bring their favorite devotions with them. In this way *La Virgen de San Juan de los Lagos* has been transplanted to American soil, and she now reigns over the homes of many of her children in Texas.

WAR BRIDES

Census taking is an important phase of our work in and around Detroit. Each morning as we leave home we secretly wonder what new experience will present itself to us. We are never disappointed; no two days can be classified as identical. Many and varied, pathetic and humorous, are the responses to our inquiries.

Noticeable among the contacts made during this year's work is the number of war brides. These good souls consider themselves fortunate even though their home in America consists of one room. Often what they call home is the fruit of the labor of the husband, who, after overcoming many obstacles, managed to construct four walls and a roof.

On one occasion, as we were making house to house visits, a young woman opened the door and in answer to our greeting merely shook her head. Sister John took in the situation at a glance. "Sposa di guerra?" she asked. There was no more shaking of the head. We were welcome visitors to that home and we left with the satisfaction of having imparted to this Italian war bride a sense of security in her most cherished possession—her Faith.

And so we meet them, from Italy, Ireland, England, Belgium, and Germany.

Sister Mary Agatha
Detroit, Michigan

God has placed the Heart of Jesus in the hands of Mary, that she may take care to make It loved by men.—St. Alphonsus Liguori.

The Missionary Catechist



Sister John with group of students from Cleveland Intermediate High School, Detroit.

Faithful Students

by Sister John

THE boys pictured above are a very fine group of Cleveland Intermediate High School students. They walk a mile to the Davison Elementary School each week for their religion class.

WE have the use of a third grade classroom for this class, but, of course, the seats and desks are much too small. As a result, the front of the room is graced with extended feet. On one occasion, having nearly fallen over a pair of feet, I asked the boy in the front seat to kindly draw back his feet. He looked over the top of the little desk and said, "Those are not my feet, Sister. I have brown shoes on and those are black." The feet in question belonged to Henry, who was sitting or trying to sit in the third seat.

FIFTEEN minutes before class begins our room looks like a sub station of the "Detroit Times." Several boys have paper routes and they pick up their papers on the way to Catechism. As soon as they arrive, each boy in the class folds three or four of the papers, thus enabling the carriers to start their routes as soon as class is dismissed, without having to stop to fold their papers.

MANY of these boys pass their own homes on the way to class and sometimes there is a strong desire to forget catechism class. However, their attendance record would gladden the heart of any teacher. This is quite surprising since not a few of them come from families that are indifferent, negligent, or antagonistic to religion.

CASIMIR, the only practicing Catholic in his home, said, "I pray and pray so hard for my mother and beg her every Sunday to come to Mass with me, but she only says, 'Tend to your own business.'"

WHEN Paul made his First Communion he had the happiness of having his mother accompany him—the first time she had attended Mass or received the Sacraments for twenty-five years.

IN this group we have a zealous apostle, James Smith, who is ever on the lookout for stray sheep whom he may interest in our class. James is now responsible for the regular attendance at class of three boys who, without his persuasion, would never have thought of such a thing as attending religion classes.

Out of some cold figures, came a story to warm merica's heart

NOT LONG AGO, the Secretary of the United States Treasury studied a figure-covered sheet of paper.

The figures revealed a steady, powerful upswing in the sale of U. S. Savings Bonds, and an equally steady decrease in Bond redemptions.

But to the Secretary, they revealed a good deal more than that, and Mr. Snyder spoke his mind:

"After the Victory Loan, sales of U. S. Savings Bonds went down—redemptions went up. And that was only natural and human.

"It was natural and human—but it was also dangerous. For suppose this trend had continued. Suppose that, in this period of reconversion, some 80 million Americans had decided not only to stop saving, but to spend the \$40 billion which they had *already* put aside in Series E, F & G Savings Bonds. The picture which *that* conjures up is not a pretty one!

"But the trend did NOT continue.

"Early last fall, the magazines of this country—nearly a thousand of them, acting together—started an advertising campaign on Bonds. This, added to the continuing support of other media and advertisers, gave the American people the facts . . . told them why it was important to buy and hold U. S. Savings Bonds.

"The figures on this sheet tell how the Ameri-

can people responded—and mighty good reading it makes.

"Once more, it has been clearly proved that when you give Americans the facts, you can then ask them for action—and *you'll get it!*"

What do the figures show?

On Mr. Snyder's sheet were some very interesting figures.

They showed that sales of Savings Bonds went from \$494 million in last September to \$519 million in October and kept climbing steadily until, in January of this year, they reached a new postwar high: **In January, 1947, Americans put nearly a billion dollars in Savings Bonds. And that trend is continuing.**

In the same way, redemptions have been going just as steadily downward. Here, too, the trend continues.

Moreover, there has been, since the first of the year, an increase not only in the volume of Bonds bought through Payroll Savings, but in the number of buyers.

How about you?

The figures show that millions of Americans have realized this fact: there is no safer, surer way on earth to get the things you want than by buying U. S. Savings Bonds regularly.

They are the safest investment in the world. Buy them regularly through the Payroll Plan, or ask your banker about the Bond-a-Month Plan.

Save the easy, automatic way—with U.S. Savings Bonds

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