

The Missionary Catechist



Volume IV

Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana, September, 1928

Number 9

What The Catechist Is And Does

Victory Noll Archives

Rt. Rev. John Noll, D.D., Bishop of Fort Wayne

THESE are many Catholic Sisterhoods, whose members dedicate their lives to the work of teaching some 2,000,000 children in parochial school, nursing the sick in hundreds of hospitals, caring for the aged, the poor, the orphans, the delinquent, both in institutions and outside of institutions. But there is only one Society of Missionary Catechists, whose members work among the hundreds of thousands of poor Mexican children in the large states of the great American Southwest.

A vocation to the religious life is answered whether the girl joins the Sisterhood or the Missionary Catechists. In either case the girl begins by entering a Novitiate in which she is grounded in true piety while she is training specially for the work to which she will devote herself.

The Missionary Catechists do not teach in school, but they instruct children who, because living remotely from a place blessed by a resident priest, could not have the advantages of Religious instruction. For the most part, the children of Spanish-American people in New Mexico, and the children of Mexican parents, who were born either on this side or the opposite side of the Rio Grande, must attend the public school for their education or schools supported by one of the Protestant denominations. Since the whites of the Southwest do not fraternize with the Mexicans, their children do not feel welcome in the public schools. On the other hand, several sects not only build separate schools for the Mexican children in which they are educated without cost, but quite frequently the Mexican parents are paid for sending their children to these schools.

The Bishops of the Missionary Dioceses of the Southwest have neither the clergy nor the Sisters, nor the funds to cope with the Protestant proselytizers. The best that they can do is to invite self-sacrificing women to gather the children at some center after school hours on week days, on Saturdays and Sundays, for Religious instruction and for the proper preparation needed preparatory to the reception of First Holy Communion.

Evidently not much could be expected from volunteer lay-workers operating with-



TO A MISSIONARY CATECHIST

The Word goeth forth, a battle cry;
Now, lift your heart to God on high!
Turn westward, amid rocky lands
The meadows ripe await your hands.

In days of old when Faith was young,
In Christ-like valorous deeds unsung,
Apostles in their sweat and blood
Established firm the reign of God.

The years went by with stealth and skill
The enemy sowed o'er vale and hill.
His cockle grew beside the wheat.
Go! Tear it out, the poisonous seed.

The Master will your guiding star.
You go to teach in fields afar.
His truth shall make the people free
Through Mary, Lady of Victory.

—Rev. J. J. Hartmann.

out any organization behind them. It was for this reason that the Society of Missionary Catechists was founded, which has been functioning in twelve or fourteen places in New Mexico, and which is extending its work this fall into the dioceses of Amarillo, Fresno, and Los Angeles. When you consider that the single state of New Mexico has an area equal to the States of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania combined, that Texas is one-tenth as large as the whole United States, and that the other southwestern states embrace vast areas, you can readily understand that there is room for one thousand Catechists. It is the old case of the "harvest being great, and the laborers few."

The Society of Missionary Catechists is only a few years old and, therefore, not sufficiently known to the Catholic body to win recruits as rapidly as it otherwise would. The work is fascinating, is most meritorious and its field is in the most interesting and romantic part of our great country.

The Catechists, understand, do not duplicate the work of School Sisters. They will go only to the places which could not support Sisters. They render their services gratis. The Bishops of the dioceses in which they work, the Priests who visit the Missions in which they labor as instructors and as social workers, are not only full of praise of the Catechists, but contend that they alone are capable of handling the problems to which they are lending themselves.

The Catechists' rule is somewhat lighter than that of the Religious Orders in that its members do not take perpetual vows. They take the same vows as do Sisters, but for one year at a time. They may visit the homes of their parents more frequently; but, they are doing a great work for God and for souls, and they should make a strong appeal to the zealous young women who have decided that they prefer not to enter one of Sisterhoods, and, to those, who would like to do the best sort of Social Service work from the highest motive. Are you, dear reader, one of these? If so, write to the Catechist Directress, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Ind., Box 109.

DAILY SAY A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE MISSIONARY LIFE!

Something Big

Agnes Parker

DOROTHY Mansfield wasn't satisfied. Not dis-satisfied, she told herself reflectively. She might not be as beautiful as Gloria Swanson but she certainly wasn't homely, as a glance at her really attractive self in her mirror proved. She had an exceptionally good position, despite the fact that she was barely twenty-three, and a cozy apartment which she shared with Betty, her best friend. She could afford to dress well, and she was popular with all the members of her set. But still, something was missing. There was an uncomfortable void somewhere in her life. She wanted it filled up, and she wanted it badly. Marriage? Last night, Robert had begged, and the remembrance of the hurt in his eyes reproached her. But although she liked him she shrank from the thought of being his wife. She wanted something BIG. DID she have a vocation? She felt resentful and revengeful when Genevieve, her beloved sister and only living relative, had joined the Society of Missionary Catechists. Genevieve's letters were so full of joy and enthusiasm, and now,—sometimes she found herself almost envying Genevieve. DID she have a vocation? Oh no, surely not! She didn't want one. She was so in love with the attractions of the world,—and, at that point in her meditation, the door flew open, and in tripped Betty.

Betty was Dorothy's opposite in every way, excepting that they were both staunch Catholics. Betty was small and blond, while Dorothy was tall and brunette. Betty was breezy, slangy and sometimes flippant, while Dorothy was inclined to be dignified and serious.

"I guess," Betty had laughed when they agreed to rent an apartment together, "It's the difference in us that attracts us to each other."

Dorothy smiled indulgently now as Betty tossed her hat on a table and greeted her with her customary airiness. "Hello, Dotty Darling. Thinking again? Don't do it. I never do; it's too much trouble," she rattled on as she fluffed out her bobbed hair before a mirror. "Oh, I nearly forgot. Here's a letter that I just brought up. Guess it's from Jenny."

The Huntington postmark showed that it was from Genevieve, and Dorothy seized and read it eagerly. She read it, read it again, and then lay back in her chair and gazed absently through the window.

"What's the trouble, Hon?" asked Betty, who had been watching her anxiously. "Little Sister sick? No?" at a shake of Dorothy's head. "Then tell your grandmother what is is," she coaxed, sitting down beside Dorothy and patting her hand.

"You know, Betty, that when Genevieve went to Victory-Noll, circumstances prevented my accompanying her, and I have never visited her. She is a White Veil now, and is soon to be made a Probationer. She wants me to come down for the ceremonies."

"Well, go then," said energetic Betty. "If your boss can do without you for a day or two, maybe he'll appreciate you more when you come back. I'm sure he'll let you go."

Betty's prophecy was correct. Dorothy's employer readily granted her petition for a few days off, and consequently, the day before investiture found Dorothy riding up the winding drive to the top of the hill where



TO THEE I COME

*Just as I am Thine own to be,
Lord of my youth who lovest me,
To consecrate myself to Thee,
O Jesus, Lord, I come.*

*In the glad morning of my day,
My life to give, my vows to pay,
With no reserve and no delay,
With all my heart I come.*

*I would ever live in Thy light,
I would ever work for the right,
I would serve Thee with all my might,
Therefore, to Thee, I come.*

*Just as I am, young, strong and free,
To be the best that I can be,
For truth, for love, for right, for Thee
Lord of my life, I come.*

stood the beautiful Victory Training Institute.

A pleasant-faced Catechist answered her ring, and in reply to her inquiry for Genevieve, told her that she was on retreat for the morrow's investiture. She was conducted to a pretty guest room, and after resting a little while, accepted with alacrity Catechist's invitation to walk outside.

"I won't show you much now," said the Catechist laughingly, "because I know Catechist Mansfield will want to do that herself." After a little stroll about the grounds, during which Dorothy's beauty-loving eyes eagerly took in every detail of the Spanish Mission style building and grounds, from the Spanish flower garden to the glittering cross at the summit of the bell tower, they came in for supper. On passing the chapel,

Dorothy happened to glance up at blue-clad figure that was just descending the chapel steps. "Genevieve," she gasped, and for a moment their eyes met and held. Then, realizing that Genevieve could not break her retreat, she moved down the corridor, her heart warmed by the radiant joy of her sister's face.

The next morning, Dorothy rose at the sound of the bell, and hastened to the chapel. Beautiful at all times, it was like a little corner of Paradise, now that it had been prepared for the investiture ceremonies. The main altar glowed with the jewel-like flames of many tall graceful tapers, artistically placed amongst a wealth of blossoms. Great hydrangeas graced the altar of Our Blessed Lady of Victory; their pure white petals clustered in exquisite profusion on the altar table, and climbed up to the very feet of the statue, yet without even a suggestion of superfluity. St. Joseph's altar, too, had its share of lights and flowers.

All through the simple but very touching ceremonies, Dorothy was an intensely interested and deeply impressed spectator. Her eyes were moist and her heart throbbed when her beloved Genevieve received the dark blue veil of a Probationer, the Rosary, and a beautiful Medal of Our Blessed Lady of Victory.

Like one in a dream she arose at the end of the ceremonies and followed the Catechists out of the chapel. Out in the corridor strong young arms caught and held her in an ecstatic embrace. "Genevieve," she breathed.

The day that followed was one that lingered long in Dorothy Mansfield's memory; a day of cloudless blue skies and gentle breezes, of peaceful walks and happy talks; and over all, permeating the very air, and sinking into the depths of one's being was the spirit of the Missionary Catechists: happiness, youthful zeal, enthusiasm, love and service!

Twilight found her sitting with Genevieve and her sister Catechists in the pretty Spanish patio. In the western sky glowed a sunset of almost unearthly beauty; a riot of gold-tipped snow banks and rosy bands that faded into the softest royal purple.

The conversation had touched on the ideals and ambitions of the Catechists. In a few more weeks, sixteen more were to leave their mother house, and enter upon their active Missionary work in the land of their dreams,—New Mexico, California, Texas. A happy silence had fallen on the little group, and each one was in spirit far away, among little brown-skinned, black-eyed children, teaching their little hearts to love their God and nursing sick souls and bodies back to health and happiness.

Dorothy watched the cars speeding up and down the road far down at the foot of the Noll. Some of them whizzed by at a dizzy speed; pleasure-seekers, she thought. She had done it too, often. She wondered if their speed would bring them any nearer to happiness. Her conscience and reason told her that pleasure-seeking was not the road to true happiness. Others slowed down, and paused for a few moments to gaze at the pleading figure of the Christ which stood half-way up the hill. Would they for-

(Continued on Page Eight)

Victory-Noll Notes

Victory Noll Archives

Catechists
Gratton and
Drexler with
the National
Officers of the
D. of I., Wash-
ington, D. C.



IF THE many thousands of young women living in the world could have been present in Our Blessed Lady of Victory Chapel on the Feast of Our Blessed Mother's Assumption they would no doubt have noted the deep spiritual joy and happiness of the young Catechists who made their Profession and became the Brides of Christ on this happy day.

The following were professed:—Catechists Margaret Campbell of Stevens Point, Wis., Catherine Brohman of Grand Forks, N. Dak., Dorothy Leahy of Davenport, Ia., and Marry Ann Sewaldt of Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Those renewing Vows on this day were: Catechists Marie Benes, Agnes Kozla, Bridget Hynes, Raphaela Mendosa and Anna Wilhelm, all of Chicago; Esther Furst of Colorado Springs, Colo., Rose Kaiser and Veronica Scheltinga of St. Louis, Mo., Susannah Michels of Palm Bay, Fla., and Mary McConnville of Philipsburg, Pa.

The following became Juniors: Catechists Margaret Aragon, Anna Gutierrez, and Monica Ulibarri, all of Dilia, New Mex., Bertina Espinosa of Ocate, New Mex., Eva Alberding of Decatur, Ind., Casimir Darbutt of Terre Haute, Ind., Loretta Bergerie of New Iberia, La., and Julia Wathen of Evansville, Ind.

Those becoming Probationers were: Catechists Gertrude Zenner of Schnectady, N. Y., and Catherine Leven of Danville, Ohio.

Catechist Margaret Dunsmore of Duluth, Minn., was made a Consecrate.

The retreat master, Father Fulgence Meyer, O.F.M., of Cincinnati, assisted by Father John J. Leven of Pontiac, Ill., and Father Jose Lara, chaplain at Victory-Noll, conducted the ceremonies and celebrated the Investiture Mass.

After the Investiture breakfast the year's appointments were announced and departure ceremonies took place for the sixteen Catechists assigned to the Southwest Mission Field. Part of the out-going Missioners left immediately after the conclusion of the departure ceremonies—the rest, on the following day. This little band of sixteen, having Victory-Mount Preparatory School at East Las Vegas, New Mex., as its point of departure scattered to their respective Mission-Centers the first of September.

Two new Missions are being opened by this band of Missionary Catechists: one in the Amarillo Diocese with Lubbock, Texas as its Center; the other in the Monterey-Fresno Diocese, with Dos Palos, Calif., as its Center.

My dear Friend:

I have your lovely letter and both it and the enclosure describing the Victory Training School and the work of the Catechists were very interesting.

I have seen much of the Southwest and of the Mexican working classes, and can appreciate their need of the ministrations of trained and devoted missionaries.

As you may imagine, there has been much discussion in the office concerning your step. Miss Wite and I agree; the others do not agree with her views. I have told them that when any person, after mature deliberation and influenced by high religious aspirations, decides to devote her life to religious service, her conduct is on such a plane that ordinary considerations of advantage or prospects of success do not apply. The act of devotion is in itself a triumph over worldly considerations—and a success in the highest sense.

Joan of Arc was not a college graduate, a person of military prowess, a militant suffragist or leader of men and women, but devotion inspired her to lead armies and made her a power through the ages.

The description of the training at Victory-Noll appeals to me very much. Should you devote your entire life to this work, ever developing and increasing your power for good, the benefits of your work will be incalculable. All who knew you in the past will be proud that they knew you; all who come within the influence of your ministrations will bless your name, and at the close of life when the dark pall of death is quickly displaced by the glorious light of Resurrection morning, your reward will come from the All-Highest: "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord!"

So far in life you have had to choose your path; you have had little help except from above; you will now receive little encouragement except from those of broad vision and lofty ideals. Continue to seek guidance where you have received it before, to consider carefully and make your own decisions, with no help or guidance except from above.

Stand fast in your faith—your faith in God and—yourself.

I earnestly pray for your divine guidance and strength, and the sweet peace that passeth all human understanding.

Sincerely your friend,

B. D. J.

Reading Something Worth While

By Rev. A. J. Blaufuss

"THE PURE OF HEART"—by Dan. A. Lord, S.J. The Queen's Work Press, St. Louis, Mo.

A very timely pamphlet for youth facing the great temptation; fathers and mothers want it to help their children through the whirls; pastors want it when they talk to the sodalists;—written in Father Lord's best style,—gripping and sublime,—blunt in parts, but some evils must be operated, not with a scalpel, but with the ax.

"ST. FRANCIS XAVIER"—By Rev. G. Schurhammer, S.H. Adapted from the German by Frank J. Ehle, M.A. Herder Book Co. Price, \$2.50.

A complete life of St. Francis Xavier is impossible in a little volume of 300 pages, however, the reader will not be disappointed with this book for the author happily seizes upon the high points in the Saint's eventful career. He leaves the miraculous and extraordinary in the background whilst he permits the more human traits to form the highlights of his picture. Love for souls and love for his dear Society shine out from every page. His joyful enthusiasm for his apostleship will continue in this book to awaken vocations to the heroic life and career of the missionary.

PUBLICITY NOTES

Mr. William Roeder and Mr. Walter Zievrink, who are whole-hearted workers for the Publicity Department of our Society, have made it possible to show our great vocational picture, "IN THE SERVICE OF THE QUEEN," in a large number of Parishes in the Dioceses of Fort Wayne and Green Bay, as well as the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and other dioceses of the Central West.

Were it not for the generous self-sacrificing efforts of these young men the work our devoted Catechists are doing in the neediest and most neglected portion of our home Mission Field would not become known to thousands of our Catholic people in the prosperous and established Parishes of the Central West.

The Missionary Catechists feel that they owe an undying debt of gratitude to these enthusiastic and devoted workers in the cause of God's neglected and abandoned poor and they feel certain that their efforts in promoting the Publicity of our Society will merit Heaven's choicest blessings.

To date, these efficient auxiliaries of the Missionary Catechists have booked 36 engagements from Sept. 9 to Oct. 19.

The Society is also deeply obligated to Mr. F. A. Meyer, for his splendid work in booking engagements in and around the city of Cincinnati.

Two little girls were comparing progress in Catechism study.

"I've got to" "Original Sin," said one. "How far have you got?"

"Me? Oh! I'm beyond 'Redemption.'"

DAILY SAY A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE MISSIONARY LIFE!

Time and Myself

Fr. Salesius Schneweis, O. M. Cap.



THIS number of "The Missionary Catechist" contains an earnest appeal for vocations from the pen of His Lordship the Bishop of Ft. Wayne. Year after year the Bishops of the Church and the heads of Religious Communities send out appeals for an increase in the number of priestly and religious vocations. These appeals are not in vain. The priesthood and the various religious communities of America have become practically self-supporting as far as recruits are concerned. Yes, we may even say that the number of vocations is on the increase. But they are still out of proportion to the number of our Catholic families, and perhaps still more inadequate to meet the demands made on the clergy and the various religious organizations. There is still room for the prayer: Pray the Lord of the Harvest that He send laborers into His Harvest, because the harvest is great and the laborers are few.

What is the reason for this insufficient supply of vocations? They are manifold and they may moreover vary with individuals. We may, nevertheless, point out two reasons of a more general nature and application.

The first reason applies more so to the parents, teachers and guides of our boys and girls. Many a vocation—and we mean a priestly or religious vocation—does not mature because it was not urged sufficiently. Well-meaning parents would consider it a great blessing, if their children would embrace a higher state, have prayed for such a grace for years, but are afraid to urge or even suggest such a step to their children. The same is true at times of the spiritual parent of the child, the priest. Parents as well as priests fear that they might unduly influence the youthful heart and deprive it of the liberty of choice so jealously safeguarded by Canon Law.

This problem doubtlessly has its difficulties. But let us not overlook the fact that one may sin against it just as well by defect as by excess. The golden mean should also be the norm in the matter of counselling a higher vocation. How can a youthful heart and mind enthuse itself for the priestly or religious state if they to whom the child looks for direction, on whom he looks as his models never show any appreciation for such a state, never inform the child that he may safely aspire to such a calling?

The liberty of choice should indeed be safeguarded. The children must always feel that the decision rests ultimately with themselves. But the parents and pastors can and should instruct children that—provided the later may have the necessary qualities—they may safely make such a decision, and that it a grand noble thing to set their ideals so high. Our Lord did not always wait till the disciples offered themselves to follow Him, He invited them to become His disciples.

The second difficulty applies to the boys and girls themselves. It is the bad habit of delaying, of putting off the decision.

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Rev. J. J. Sigstein, Spiritual Director of
The Society of Missionary Catechists
Editor

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Brevities

Vacation time is over. For most of us it passed very quickly. Soon we will return to our schools. Soon we will return to our various avocations.

Many at this time of the year are faced with the necessity of making a decision regarding their vocation. If you have not yet come to a decision in this matter of supreme importance, if you find difficulties in coming to this decision, write to the Reverend Spiritual Director of the Society of Missionary Catechists and he will be glad to advise you in this matter.

Nothing would please us more than to have all our subscribers unite with us in the daily recitation of the Rosary during the month of October.

You may be sure that Our Heavenly Mother will be most generous in granting—according to Divine Wisdom—special graces to all Her devout clients who thus honor her.

Send us your names and intentions, both spiritual and temporal, and unite with us in reciting daily the Holy Rosary.

With the opening of new Mission-Centers in California and Texas we shall need the co-operation of all our friends who are blessed with more than the ordinary necessities of life. The greater co-operation we get from our readers, the more good we can do in saving the thousands of suffering little children in the needy Missions committed to our care. If everyone of our readers would join the "2500" Club we could easily provide food, medicine and clothing for our poor children who look to us for help.

"Time and myself against any two," was the favorite saying of Philip II of Spain. But he would never act promptly, always waiting for more favorable opportunities and so despite his sterling qualities of character, despite his indefatigable labor, his reign was one endless chain of failures. General B. McClellan was a good commander, but he was also hesitating, inclined to wait for a more favorable opportunity to strike an effective blow in the Civil War, and so his splendid army melted away without having accomplished anything.

Thus it is also with the habit of delaying a decision in the matter of a higher vocation. It will result in a decision for some lower walk of life. It shows a lack of generosity to co-operate with God's unmerited grace and this will cause Him to withdraw His offer by degrees.

This indecision is mostly caused by the fear that we might regret the decision later on, might not find the happiness that we looked for. This is a vain and foolish fear. Our happiness should not be made dependent on "Mights and Perhapses." We have every assurance that we can be happy in this state, at least fifty percent more assurance than for any other walk of life. We have, moreover, the assurance of numberless men and women who have dared to make the choice and who with one voice proclaim that they have made a happy one and have found more than they ever dared to hope for. Hence, why fear? Be magnanimous towards the Lord that He may be a generous and bountiful God towards yourself.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

THE REVERBERATING INVITATION OF THE FIRST GREAT Missionary, "Come Follow Me?" He desires your heart, your life. You can do no greater injury to Him and to yourself than by turning a deaf ear to the impulse of grace which inspires you to leave the world and its pompous vanity to enlist under His banner.

Why Should You Become a Missionary Catechist?

1. That you may please Jesus Who invites you.
2. That He may sanctify your soul.
3. That you may thank Him for all good.
4. That you may petition Him, by a life of prayer and missionary labor for yourself and others.
5. That you may console Him for the insults offered Him.
6. That you may bring the light of Faith to His poor little children in neglected missions.
7. That you may nurse His poor who are without medical attention of any kind.
8. That you may comfort the sorrowful.
9. That you may cloth the needy.
10. That you may render more devotional the services of Holy Mother, the Church, by beautifying and adorning His neglected Mission Chapels.
11. That you may co-operate with the heavily - burdened Missionary Priest, train altar boys, play the organ and sing for Mass, Benediction and the other solemn functions of the Church, and, Because Jesus is your All in All in life and in death.

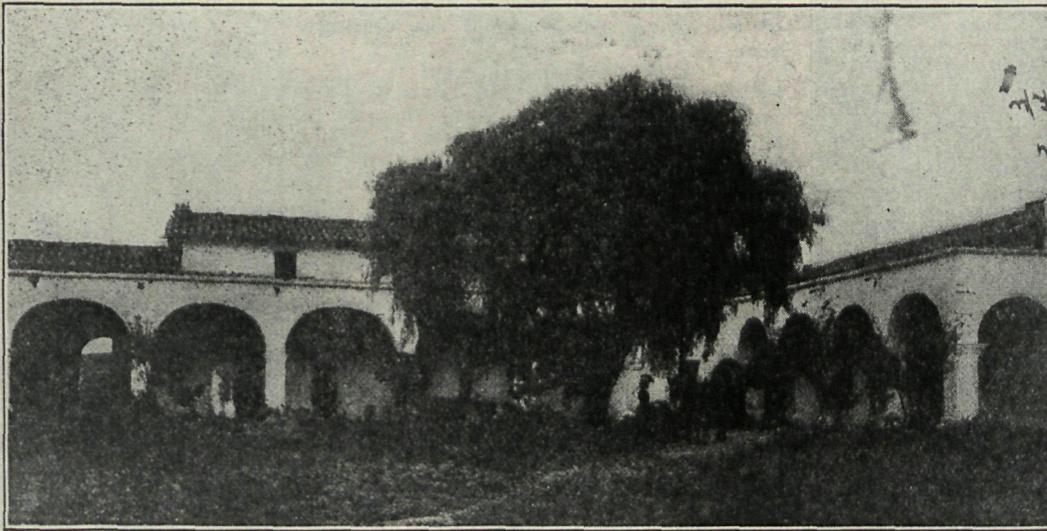
Will you not enter? Where there is a will, there's a way.

Love makes all things easy.

AVAIL YOURSELF OF THE ADVANTAGES OFFERED BY OUR "ANNUITY PLAN"

The Missionary Catechists In The Land Of Fr. Junipero Serra O. F. M.

Fr. Zephyrin Engelhardt, O.F.M.



"On his return trip from the West," comes the word from Victory-Noll, "Father Rudolph Bonner, O.F.M., paid us a short visit. We were pleased to learn through him of your continued interest in the work of our devoted Catechists and the service they are trying to render the Franciscan Fathers in the different Mission fields. We are sure, dear Father, that you will be pleased to know that we are soon to extend our work into San Joaquin Valley, California, where the harvest is ripe and the laborers all too few. Now, as we are going into this new field we wish to make the readers of our little magazine, THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST, aware of this great State of yours. We wonder, Father, if it would be possible to move you to write a short article dealing with the work of the holy Franciscan Father Junipero Serra, etc."

There is no resisting such an appeal, particularly when one is already in full sympathy with the noble Catechist movement for reclaiming the Mexican children, and their elders as well. Very few will appreciate the arrival of the first Catechists in the land of Father Serra more than the writer. God speed their coming! Instruction, instruction for the thousands of poor people driven from Mexico is urgently needed. Satan, through misinformation and deception, is securing far too many souls that belong to our dear Lord. Only motherly treatment like that of the Catechists will win them back to the fold.

Father Serra and his brethren in their time, and in the case of the natives made the same observation. His heart bled for them. He, therefore, hastened to free the helpless Indians from the degrading thralldom of the Evil One. He and his brethren succeeded, too, wonderfully so. Considering the superhuman obstacles in the way, I, who know their history and have myself labored among Indians, often wonder how they did it. More than 80,000 names of Indians were entered in the Baptismal Registers of the twenty-one Missions from San

Diego to Sonoma during the period of sixty-five years of their existence. A result unparalleled in American history. How did they do it?

After the publication of the first volume of my "Missions and Missionaries of California," the late Rt. Rev. Bishop Conaty, D.D., of Los Angeles, one day asked me: "What were you driving at in writing that book?" "Why, nothing, Bishop, except to bring out the truth," I replied. "Well," said the Bishop, (God rest his soul!) "one thing stands out clear—the unselfishness of those missionaries." Now, I had not thought of that. Yet, there was the solution of the puzzle.

It appears to me that this very unselfishness, forgetfulness of self, is the characteristic which the good Catechists have in common with the Missionary Fathers in early California. Hence the success, under God, of both. The Missionaries among the Indians received no worldly compensation whatever, save the food they ate. That was prepared by youths whose elders but a few years before raised absolutely nothing, and subsisted upon wild seeds or wild fruits or on anything that ran or crawled over the earth. They would consume it uncooked. Often enough, I daresay, the poor, tired Missionary would retire to the "dining room", and with a wry face contemplate what his boy cook had contrived to secure for the table. Doubtless, the missionary, for he was hungry indeed, (laboring all day leading at work those who had never learned to work, who indeed, despised it in their pagan state) would make a virtue of necessity, and with an act of resignation to the Crucifix, close his eyes and imagine himself in the Desert with the Israelites eating the Manna fallen that day.

That was the whole visible compensation for their arduous labors; but the invisible compensation was rich, though they never realized it till the Lord in Person with a smile of heavenly satisfaction handed it to them. Yet, there was an apparent com-

ensation, too,—the hundreds and thousands of immortal souls whom they had gathered around them in the Missions, where they, who had never heard of their Heavenly Father nor of their celestial Mother Mary, sang the Alabado before the altar where dwelt their Lord, and in the processions in honor of their Madre Santisima. From all I have heard and read, those happy, fortunate Catechists, besides the food which benefactors will supply plentifully and which they can happily cook for themselves, want no other compensation than to gather around their Lord and their Heavenly Mother the children in whose company it is the delight of the Divine Master to be. That will grip the surprised Mexican mothers like nothing else, and they will soon with delight and wonder noise it abroad: "Como es posible! Esas Catequistas. Americanas son las verdaderas madres de amor para nosotros." (Is it possible, that these American Catechists are truly loving mothers to us?) After that the sectarian emissaries of Satan may as well pack up all their finery and money and leave by air-line.

Please ship all items intended for the needy missions direct to our mission centers. Address: "Society of Missionary Catechists" at:

1. Holman, New Mexico.
2. Anton Chico, New Mexico.
3. Los Cerrillos, New Mexico.
4. Box 30, Montezuma Route, East Las Vegas, New Mexico.
5. 620 W. Fifteenth Street, Gary, Indiana.
6. Catechist Blanche Richardson, Supervisor of Archconfraternity of Christian Doctrine, Victory Mount, East Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Express and freight shipments for Holman and Anton Chico are sent via Las Vegas, New Mexico.

DAILY SAY A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE MISSIONARY LIFE!

The Associate Catechists of Mary



Mrs. C. Service, Chief Promoter of Chicago.

Extracts from a Letter Written by Mrs. C. Service, Chief-Promoter of Chicago

IS IT wrong for the Associate Catechists of Mary to bet? I want to know, because I just bet a hat with Mrs. Wainwright, Promoter of Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Band, that her band will not support a Catechist in the field this year. But when she showed me her last year's record, I told her to pick out her hat, for I know I'll lose the bet.

Mrs. Hanson, Promoter of one of our oldest bands, St. Mary's, says that she may give up many pleasures in this life, but she will never give up her work for the Catechists, because it would mean the loss of too many Heavenly blessings for herself and her loved ones.

While calling on Mrs. Kennedy, who is the Promoter of Our Lady's Band, and also the mother of eight children, I said, "How can you find so much time to give to your Mission work?" Her answer is worth remembering. She said, "Well, while I am working for God's poor, He is taking care of my loved ones." And it's true, isn't it?

Mrs. Scheuer and her band are the hardest workers of all my bunch. Did anyone ever tell you about the Mission box they sent to New Mexico? It weighed over 500 pounds, and contained the very best of things to eat, wear, and use. Catechist C., who witnessed the opening of the surprize box, said that her one desire was to get a snap-shot of it. With all the Catechists, a few stray youngsters, and two big dogs watching Mr. F. manipulate a hammer, it would have made a worth-while picture.

May God send your Society many more such loyal and generous friends as these!

ADVERTIZE

the work of our Society. Since ours is a new Missionary Society of the Church, we need publicity more than anything else. Members of the Associate Catechists of Mary can promote this publicity by putting our magazines and pamphlets in the literature racks of the churches. We are sure that your pastor will approve of this method of aiding our work among the destitute poor.

And Advertize Again

by wearing an A. C. M. pin. These pins are made of sterling silver in the shape of a shield, stamped with the letters A. C. M., and surmounted with the Crown of Our Blessed Lady of Victory. These attractive little club emblems cost but fifty cents apiece.

Junior Associate Catechists of Mary

School Days

"Yoo hoo, Ma-a-ry," sang Jane as she stopped before Mary's gate.

"Oh Janey, it seems like I've been waiting for you for hours," said Mary as she skipped down the walk. "We must hurry," she went on, as the two fluffy figures went down the street with their arms around each other. "You know Sister told us yesterday that every one who wasn't tardy would receive a prize at the end of the month. I wonder what it will be? My, doesn't it seem good to be back at school again?"

"I don't know what the prize will be, but it's the fun of working for it that counts the most," said wise Jane. "It surely does seem good to be back at school again. And just think of all the poor, children, right here in our own country, who cannot go to school, nor even to church, lots of times."

"You mean the little Spanish and Mexican boys and girls that the Missionary Catechists take care of," said Mary. "That is another reason why I am glad that school has started, because it seems easier to get together, and I think our band of Junior Associate Catechists of Mary can do more. Of course, we did quite a bit this summer, but I think we can do a lot more now, don't you?"

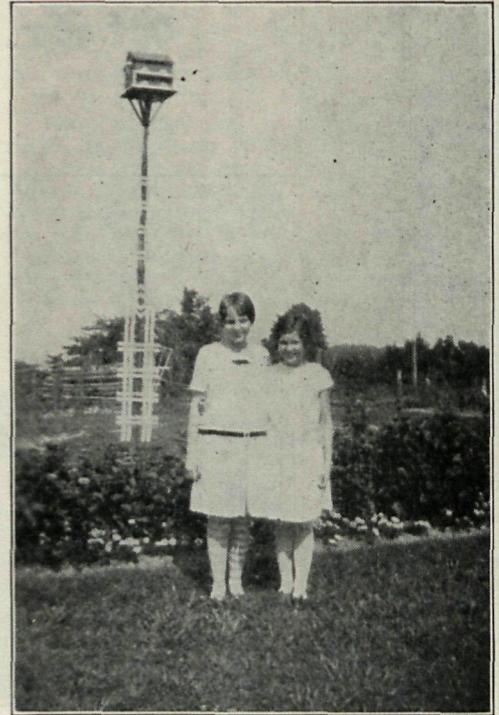
"I'm sure we can, Mary, and I'll tell you what," said Jane earnestly, "we must try as hard as ever we can to get all the rest of our class, and other classes too, to join our band, or start one of their own. You remember that the last time Catechist Supervisor wrote to us, she told us that we children can do a great deal to help the Catechists, and she said that they really need our help. Doesn't it make you feel good?"

So the two little friends chattered on, and the faster their tongues went, the slower went their feet. When they were still several blocks from the school, they heard a bell ring.

"Oh! oh!" they gasped, looking at each other in dismay. "We must run, or we'll be late," cried Jane.

"Oh, Jane," gasped Mary, almost crying, "Let's stop and kneel down and ask Our Blessed Mother not to let us be late."

"No, Mary," Jane panted, "Let's run like



Two Jr. A.C.M. Members,—Agnes Gates and Marie Reifenrath of Lafayette, Ind.

everything, and PRAY WHILE WE RUN!"

That's what they did, and sure enough, they reached the school building, just in time! And at the end of the month, they both received as prizes a pretty picture of Our Blessed Mother.

Dear Juniors:

There are two ways in which you must be like Jane and Mary if you want to please Jesus and His Blessed Mother, and to be real helpers for the Missionary Catechists. First, you must be really in earnest about wanting to do all you can.

Secondly, you must be like Jane when she said, "Let's run like everything, and pray while we run." You must work like everything and pray while you work. If you just pray and don't do anything to show Jesus and Mary that you love Them and want others to love Them too, They may think you don't mean what you say. And if you don't pray and just work, They won't bless what you do, and even if it seems successful to you, They may not be pleased with it. And the great big idea behind the Junior Associate Catechists of Mary is to please Jesus and Mary, isn't it? So let your motto during the new school year be, "Let's work like everything, and pray while we work!"

Missionarily yours,

Junior Auxiliary Catechist.

SEND IN A NAME!

Some of our good friends think that the name, "Junior Associate Catechists of Mary" is too long for children to say, and we think they are right. So, how would you like to have a new name? I'm going to ask every boy and girl to send in the name they would like to have, then I'll choose the best one; and I'll send a medal of Our Blessed Lady of Victory to every one who sends in a suggestion.

AVAIL YOURSELF OF THE ADVANTAGES OFFERED BY OUR "ANNUITY PLAN"

Mission Echoes



Clinic at Anton Chico Mission Center.

Victory-Mount Preparatory School, East Las Vegas, New Mex.

The usual August Retreat this year was conducted by Father Romuald, O.F.M., concluded with the renewal of vows by a number of the professed Catechists.

Shortly after, the arrival of a band of sixteen Missionary Catechists from the East, headed by Head Catechist Olberding, caused a ripple of excitement for a few moments. Victory-Mount opened its doors and arms to these additional laborers in the vast vineyard of souls in the Southwest. While the field was not unknown to some, many Catechists were entering it for the first time. From this point, Catechists will leave shortly for three New Mexican, one Texan and one California Mission Centers.

Victory-Mount was highly privileged with a large number of priestly visitors this month. His Grace, the Most Reverend Archbishop Daeger of Santa Fe visited with us a few moments the day after the Feast of the Assumption. Other visitors were the Reverend A. Filliung of San Antonio, Texas, Reverend Paul Halley of Springer, New Mex., and Reverend J. A. Coutourier of Dawson, New Mexico, all Oblates of Mary Immaculate. At the same time Reverend J. Toujas of Gonzales, Texas, paid us a visit. Most of these Fathers are pioneer Missionaries. It was interesting to hear these self-sacrificing priests speak of their expansive parishes. One had a parish so large that the neighboring parish priest to the north was 200 miles distant, while his neighbors to the east, west and south were at least 175 miles distant.

Another of the priests enjoys the unique distinction of caring for an entire County. It is needless to remind our readers of the toil and privation necessarily encountered in these places, but a more cheerful group of priests could not be found in any part of the world.

Anton Chico Mission Center, Anton Chico, New Mexico.

This morning we had Mass in Anton Chico. Our good Missionary Father had promised to say Masses here every first Friday for nine months in order to give the people an opportunity of making the First Fridays. For the last number of years he has been giving each of his out-missions this opportunity, and now it is Anton Chico's turn. Yesterday afternoon after Catechism we took all the children

to church to teach them a hymn in honor of the Sacred Heart. They were to sing it this morning at Mass, but late last evening Father stopped over to tell us this morning would be the only morning he could sing our High Mass in honor of Our Lady of the Snows in thanksgiving for the arrival of the first band of Catechists ni Santa Fe, New Mexico. The children were quite disappointed, but next month we will try again.

Cerrillos Mission Center, Los Cerrillos, New Mexico.

We are very happy to think that our classes are keeping up so beautifully during this warm weather, and vacation time, too. We have around three hundred and fifty children every week. While the heat is so extreme Wednesday classes have been disbanded with the exception of Choir Practice and class for the Altar Boys at Madrid.

Last Wednesday we had a picnic, or rather Father Oliver had it and we helped. It was for our choir girls and the altar boys. At one o'clock a large truck took the girls out to our famous rocks and Father Oliver took the boys while we followed in our car. We had two exciting ball games, also a few sideline games of bean bag when it began raining,—then we had rain, rain and more rain. This doesn't sound much like New Mexico, does it? We all ran for the cars and went home. As the house is large we continued the picnic indoors.

You have probably not heard about our Fiesta in Madrid. It was a big success. The weather was ideal. Fires aren't permitted on account of the mines so red signal lights were set off along the line of Procession and the effect was very beautiful. We had some exciting experiences going over to Madrid for practice. The Galisteo River is about a square from our house. We had always thought that it was very mild until one afternoon we came back from Madrid to find our little stream of a few feet turned into a rushing torrent and filling the arroyo from one bank to the other. We discovered that we could get home by way of Waldo, so we walked three miles over the hills to the railroad trestle at Waldo and two miles back on the track to Cerrillos. You see missionary life offers much variety.

Holman Mission Center, Holman, New Mex.

Just now at Chacon, seven miles from our Mission-Center, we are trying to do the work of our original foundation,—not that we have gotten away from the original plan,—but the weather favored us, and we travelled far into the canoncito (little canyon) and came to the people who never see a priest as it is too far for them to come over the bad roads. These people live the "simple life"—a wooden shack, adobe floor, not a chair or picture in the place. One could see the dark skin through the rents in their threadbare garments.

We have been having class for the larger boys and girls at Chacon. Some from up this canyon rode in on horseback, but the larger number got an early start and walked to Chacon for a morning class. We had several sessions before noon. At lunch-time the children regaled themselves with dry bread. Afterwards we had more Catechism.

The problems of the rich are not the problems of the mamas of these children. But when these dear mothers look at faded cotton dresses hanging in strips around the knees of the tall girls, then they too have a problem akin to the rich as to what to wear for the occasion. At this psychological moment, thanks to our dear good Mission friends, we can step in and hand the poor mother nice dresses for their darlings, and how happy they are.

No doubt many of our readers have Government or Municipal Bonds which net them only 3 per cent or 4 per cent interest. Why not dispose of these Bonds or turn them into the Society of Missionary Catechists and we will pay you 6 per cent on our Annuity Plan.



A sewing class—Anton Chico.

DAILY SAY A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE MISSIONARY LIFE!

SOMETHING BIG—Con't from Page Two

get Him and put Him out of their lives in their mad quest for excitement and amusement? She told herself that now she never could forget Him. She really had fallen in love with Victory-Noll, its happy group of Catechists, its ideals, its mission, its spirit. DID she have a vocation? The question danced in her brain. She stirred restlessly.

The sound of the bell summoned them in to Benediction and night prayers.

"I'll say good-night now, Dot," whispered Catechist Mansfield, as hand-in-hand, they neared the chapel. With a smile and tight handclasp, they separated.

Kneeling, Dorothy fixed her eyes on Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament raised to bless her; she never prayed more fervently. All the treasured things that the world offered her rose up before her mind and marched in procession between her and the Monstrance. Like bubbles, that break and are gone, they disappeared, and the little white Host alone remained. Silent and motionless, her Christ was watching her. In the depths of her soul she heard His Voice calling her: "My child, give Me thy heart. Come and follow Me."

The great desire to give herself unreservedly and lovingly to the Service of the Divine Master filled her heart and took complete possession of her being.

"Dear Lord, I am not worthy. You know I am not worthy, but, if You want me, I am Thine."

Once back in her room and left alone no longer could Dorothy restrain her tears. Not tears of sorrow and regret, she told herself, but, tears of joy and happiness that she had heard the Divine Call—and, in her soul had answered, "yes."

On returning to Chicago, Dorothy lost no time in calling on her good pastor, Father Baker, who advised her to pray and if the same strong desire continued to permit nothing to prevent her from following her vocation.

Of course it was impossible to avoid meeting her friends who were quick to note the change which had come over her. She tried her best to be affectionate, kind and agreeable to all, but, movies, dances, and theatre parties no longer held forth any attraction for her. Her friends said everything there was to say in opposition to her plans but Dorothy was deaf alike to criticism, entreaties and arguments. Her decision was made. The Master had come and had called and now she had found happiness and peace such as the world had never been able to offer her.

Six months quickly passed. During this time she was left pretty much to herself as Betty had been called home by the sudden

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illness and death of her mother who lived in a little town in Ohio.

At the end of this time Dorothy again visited Victory-Noll and this time asked to be admitted and was accepted.

A farmer in Arkansas, hearing that the candidates for the ministry of his church were given a course in Latin and Greek, wrote to the authorities protesting against

this new-fangled method of making preachers. "I understand," he wrote, "that you are making our students for the ministry study Latin and Greek. Now I want to say that if English was good enough for Jesus, it is good enough for me."

Address all A. C. M. or Jr. A. C. M. communications to:
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Associate Catechists of Mary,
Victory-Noll
Huntington, Ind.

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