

The Missionary Catechist



Volume V

Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana, January, 1929

Number 2

A Great Field For Labor ^{Victory Noll Archives}

Very Rev. Msgr. John J. Crowley, D.D., Chancellor of the Diocese of Monterey-Fresno

IN November, 1542, Don Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo discovered the Bay of Monterey in California. He had sailed from Navidad Mexico, in June with instruction to explore this northwest coast of America and after a stormy voyage of five months attempted to anchor in this beautiful harbor, where the pine-clad hills, coming down to the water's edge, made such a deep impression upon him that he named the harbor the Bay of Pines and all others who thereafter sought the port, looked for the wooded slopes as a distinguishing landmark. The rough water forbade his anchoring, however, and it was not until 1602 that Sebastian Vizcaino, sailing under orders from the Viceroy of Mexico, Don Gaspar de Zuniga, Count of Monterey, found the harbor and named it after his patron, Monterey. On December 16, 1602, he anchored near the mouth of the river and called it El Rio Carmelo, a name probably suggested by the three Carmelite friars who were on board. On the following morning Mass was said for the first time in Monterey, under the branches of the great oak that stood close to the shore, and the bell suspended from its branches sent forth the tidings to the savages and to all that might hear that Christ had come to California.

In his letter to King Philip the Third of Spain Vizcaino emphasized the great advantages possessed by the harbor, the beauty of the surrounding country, the wild grains and game and the good disposition of the Indians. It was not, however, until 168 years later that a white man again set foot in Monterey and then it was not recognized by Don Gaspar de Portola, Governor of California, who had come north to re-discover this very spot. The difference in the aspect of the harbor as seen from the land was the reason for his failure to recognize it. It was left for the saintly Fray Junipero Serra, the Father of California, to perceive that this bay was the real Monterey of Cabrillo and the Bay of Pines of Vizcaino when on May 31, 1770, he sailed into the harbor on the packet boat San Antonio. Upon June 2nd he celebrated Mass upon the same spot on which the Carmelites had first offered the Holy Sacrifice and the bells again rang out their glad tidings, save that now their echoes would never die, for from

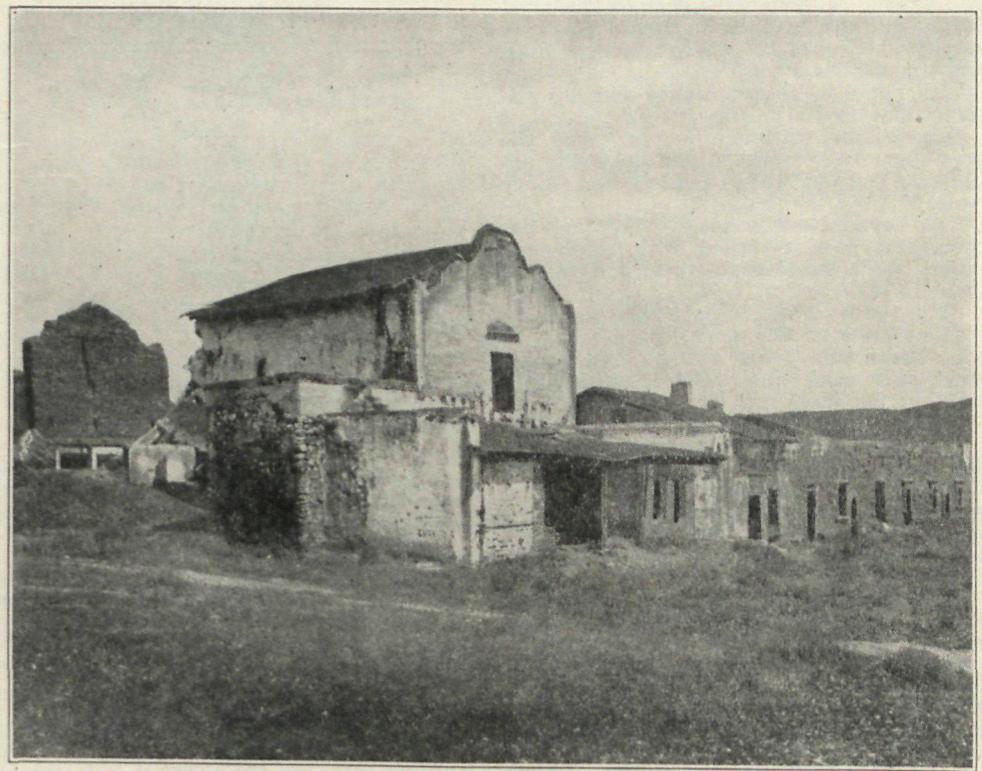
this day forward, Monterey was the home of the civil and ecclesiastical government of California for well-nigh a century.

The old oak still stands in the courtyard of the Mission at Monterey, mute witness to the unchanging faith. Above it in the tower the bells still call to the Holy Sacrifice, and the descendants of Serra's party mingle with the children of the Gentiles whom he converted and the heirs of the Americans who followed upon their footsteps in the stream of worshippers that gather neath the cross at this cradle of the Faith in California.

Eight of the twenty-one Missions founded

by Serra and his companions lie within the boundaries of the present diocese of Monterey-Fresno. Five of them are still used as parish churches, three are partially or totally destroyed. Serra himself sleeps within the walls of the most beautiful of them all, fair Carmel by the sea, where amid his beloved Indians he stretched his pain-racked frame for the last time upon the floor and said: "Now I will go to sleep." After the secularization or spoliation of the Missions the Indians gradually moved away, often to find death from starvation in the hills, and little by little the Missions themselves fell into ruin.

(Continued on Page 8)



Mission San Diego—Founded by Fray of Junipero Serra in 1769

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT BY JOINING THE "2500" CLUB



The Ladrona



Constance Edgerton

It was Christmas day, 1863. The Francisco Peaks were white with snow but in the valley the heat of noon day was intense. The senora Josepha Moreno stood in the door of her palatial home and looked out toward the pear orchard where her twelve-year-old daughter, Inez, was decorating the little grotto of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Senora was the daughter of Don Jose de Baca, of old and honored name. Her husband, Colonel John Moreno, was now off quieting border warfare. Somewhere, away to the eastward, was being fought a great war. As the senora stood in the doorway she saw two figures coming afoot along the trail. This was an unusual sight. No one walked in New Mexico. Mayhap they were the children of the herders coming to the great house for their Christmas present. The senora went into the orchard and sat upon the bench while lovingly she watched Inez twine a garland about Our Lady. Soon the little girl spoke: "Mamma, here are two children."

The senora looked at the children entering the gate—a tall boy in rags and tatters, holding by the hand an immaculately dressed little girl of mayhap nine years.

"Good afternoon, madam, and miss," As the boy spoke he saluted as the Colonel ever did.

"Buenas tardes. Como se llama?" (Good afternoon. What is your name?)

"We do not speak Spanish," answered the boy. "We have come far—from Nauvoo, Illinois. May we stop and rest?"

"Of a certainty," spoke the senora in English. Although she deemed it a language unfit for such as she, of necessity she spoke it. "What is thy name, and thy sister's name?"

"My name is Thomas Joyce and my sister's name is Mary Ann Joyce."

"Unchristian, common names," said the good dame to herself. Aloud she spoke politely: "Meanest thou Tomoso and Mary Anita?"

The boy did not answer. Inez had left them and soon returned with cakes and milk. She hovered about them and pressed them to eat.

"Thou goest where?" asked the senora.

"I am looking for work," said Tom. "I am sixteen and I am strong. Mary Ann must go to school. I promised ma I would look out for Mary Ann."

"Where is thy mother?"

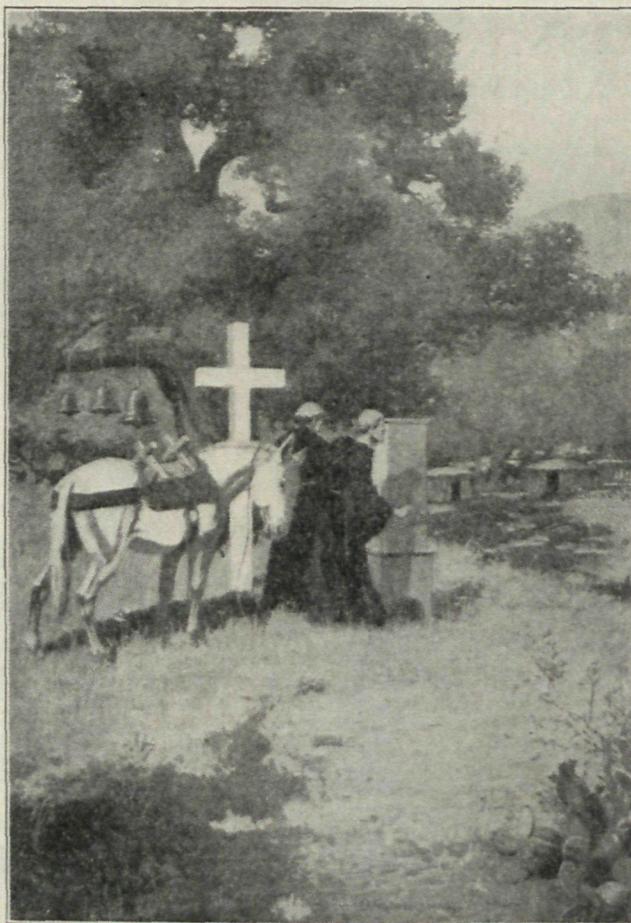
"In heaven. So is Pa. He was killed in the battle of Chickamauga. When Ma died I sold everything and came west to grow up with the country. Could you tell me a good school—a convent school—where I might send Mary while I work?"

"Yes."

"I have two hundred dollars. That would keep Mary at school until I earned more. I would like to have her a teacher."

In the blue eyes of the little girl the senora caught the expression that had been in her own little Maria's eyes—her little Maria who slept under the spruce trees she had loved.

"Stay with us," said the senora. "When the holidays are over Inez returns to Loretta Academy. Mary can accompany her.



The Early Friars

The New Year

What shall I ask for the coming year,
What shall my watchword be?
What wouldst Thou do for me, dear Lord,
What can I do for Thee?

Lord, I would ask for a holy year,
Spent in Thy perfect will;
Help me to walk in Thy very steps
Help me to please Thee still.

Lord, I would ask for a year of love.
Oh, let me love Thee best!
Give me the love that faileth not
Beneath the hardest test.

Lord, I would ask for a busy year
Filled up with service true,
Doing with all Thy Spirit's might
Whate'er I find to do.

Lord, I would ask for a heavenly year,
Humble and yet so high;
Help me to sink at Thy blessed feet
And yet on Thy bosom lie.

Lord, I would ask for a year of joy,
Thy grace, Thy joy divine,
Springing undimmed through all the days,
Be they days of shade or shine.

Lord, I would ask for a year of hope,
Looking for Thee to come,
And hastening on that year of years
That brings us Christ and home.

Thou also should go to school. My husband could send—"

"No! No!" said the boy. "I thank you but I must work. I can read and write. I am strong. I cannot afford to go to school. I will work for you ma'am."

A June day, 1883. Senor Thomas Joyce, his wife, Inez, and the old senora, sat on the veranda of the Moreno homestead and tried to figure it all out—why and how this land was not theirs. Ten miles square Colonel Moreno owned. He died but last year and there had now been coal found on their land. These Americanos, who owned all New Spain, had a clause about the mineral rights. The Moreno acres were American land, held by government, and registered in the U. S. land office. Rich veins of coal were in the Moreno estates. The old senora did not understand. She would be patient with these Americanos.

So, for sixteen years the coal veins were not worked. The Morenos had the use of the land, or the most of it, and the old senora, who had been born and reared in the land of "poco tiempo" marvelled at the slowness of the Americanos in working the mines.

To the day of her death, in the late fall of 1902, she lived in luxury, still confident the government had made a mistake in thinking her acres were theirs.

Vast holdings they were in a sparsely settled mountain region just over the New Mexican state line, extending from what is now Yankee mining camp away into the south.

When the Santa Fe railroad built a fourteen-mile extension from Raton to the Yankee mining camp, it brought civilization almost to the doors of the old Moreno homestead. Inez Moreno Joyce resented this and withdrew further into her shell of haughty reserve. True the Senor Thomas, her husband, was not Spanish. But Inez was. Fat cattle, thoroughbred horses, and sheep were Tom's chief concern—handsome, dashing Tom Joyce, who trafficked with Americanos, used the American's brand on his cattle, and whose last crime in the eyes of his wife was selling the land on which the ruins of the first Moreno chapel stood, to these same heretics.

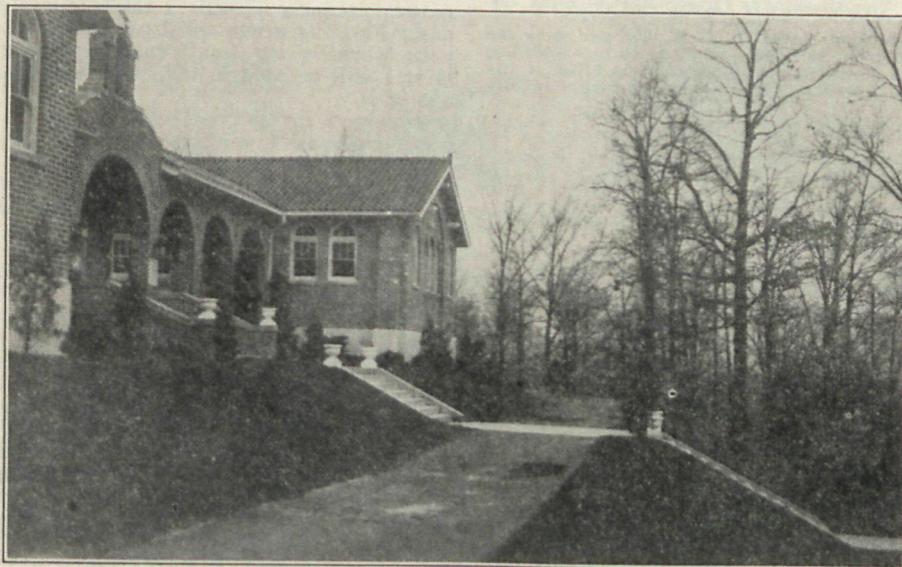
Evil days would fall upon them surely. Inez placed her faith in God and subjected herself to severe penances. Year followed year. Antonio Joyce, her first born was in the seminary; Enrico and Tom, Jr., were in San Miguel; Maria was at Loretto. Dolores and Concha were playing in the pear orchard at home, it being their pre-school days. No harm came to the house of Joyce. Year rolled upon year and brought them only God's choicest gifts.

There had been a welfare conference in Yankee community hall on a September day in 1920. Now, as we wound up our work, there came to us the sound of the bells of Senora Inez's new chapel. It was the hour of sunset. Like a great, glorious golden ball the sun rested on the far edge of the rim rock. Above were clouds of pink, purple, deepest blue. As I watched

(Continued on Page 3)

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL:—A CIRCULATION OF 50,000

Her First Christmas in the Missions



Victory-Noll

Victory-Mount, Dec. 28, 1928.

Dearest Mother:

May the Sweet Infant Jesus have blessed you with much joy and happiness on Christmas morn!

I am sure that you will believe me your most forgetful child, since I haven't written you a single line for three weeks, excepting a Christmas greeting. But, mother, dearest, you will remember my writing that we were to begin our Solemn Christmas Novena on Dec. 15th, in which the intentions of all our relatives, benefactors and friends are included. This Solemn Novena consists of the singing of those beautiful Psalms and Prophecies foretelling the birth of the Saviour in Bethlehem and is concluded with the Magnificat. The verses were sung alternately by the chanters and the choir during Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The short recreation periods each evening were spent in preparing for our many Christmas parties in the Missions. The fact that we have two more large Missions this year increased the demands on Santa Claus. Thanks to Our Dear Lord and Our Blessed Mother and the generosity of many kind benefactors, we received loads of toys, games, candy and clothing for our poor children. The locomotives pulling the train thru' the steep Pass at Raton and over the flat mesa towards Las Vegas, must have groaned with their added burden of huge parcels, destined to spread Yuletide cheer in the surrounding mountains. There were hundreds of stockings to fill and into each went a toy, a game, candy and some useful article if there were space. Sometimes we made separate packages of toys and clothing. Many of the gifts were thoughtfully tied with Christmas colors by their donors. The toys and dolls were just wonderful, mother. There were celluloid dolls for the little ones, Dutch dolls from Holland, wearing real wooden shoes, cute little Chinese ones and dolls of many other nationalities.

I shall now tell you about our Christmas party for the children at Los Vigiles, our poorest mission. 'Twas the day before Christmas and we spent the morning packing more gifts. Two o'clock in the afternoon found us ready and eager to be on our way.

Newly fallen snow covered the narrow mountain road, while green pines waved loftily above us in the frosty breeze. This vast region of silence seemed to whisper the coming of the "Noche Buena" (Holy Night) and to re-echo the Angelic message: "Gloria a Dios en las alturas y en la tierra, paz a los hombres de buena voluntad" (Glory to God in the Highest and peace on earth to men of good will.) On our arrival at the Church, we found the children assembled for class as usual, and, wishing to carry out our "Surprise," one of the Catechists entertained them with stories of the Nativity. Our little Spanish children love stories, just as we did when we were children, mother, especially those telling of the Infant Jesus and Our Blessed Mother.

It was now time for action, so we hurried the gifts and other things into the large adobe room selected for the party. How we worked putting up those lovely decorations sent us by kind friends! The tree itself was a splendid native pine from the mountain side and proudly bore its myriad trimmings, making room in its wide branches for the dozens of gifts. At last all was in readiness for Santa's coming. While stealing a parting glance at the scene before going to call the children I suddenly remembered the poem of our childhood days:

'Twas the night before Christmas
When all thru' the house
Not a creature was stirring,
Not even a mouse.

Yes, all was quiet, but soon many little hearts would be gladdened by the coming of dear old Saint Nicholas. With these and other reminiscent thoughts filling our minds, we found the children singing "Vamos todos a Belen" (Let us all go to Bethlehem) as they marched toward the little side altar where the twinkling of tiny lights and the sweet smelling hay bespoke the presence of the Manger of Bethlehem. There was a note of expectation in their voices as they sang their ancient pastoral hymn and again, after their visit of adoration when they sang, "Noche de Paz, Noche de Amor," (Silent Night, Holy Night.)

The door was opened by Santa himself,

with snowy beard and twinkly eyes, inviting all good children to his party. Shouts of joy greeted him from all sides whilst a few stood silent with wonderment, their eyes slowly filling with tears. To many of these dear little folk, it was Santa's first visit. Amid laughter and merriment, this jolly old elf went straight to his work, opening his pack and taking gifts from the tree. Not a child was disappointed, and, oh, how I wish you could have been with us, mother dearest, when we told them they might open their gifts. Little Juan, auburn-haired and freckled, had a gun, candy, a stocking cap and gloves. Jose, who is always in rags, possessed a new overcoat. He will be quite warm and comfy now while tending his herd of goats on the mountain side. Noberto called everyone's attention to the huge teddy bear in his arms and tiny Endelecia drew near to show me her "muneca" (doll). Suddenly Mariquita exclaimed: "Hermanita, don't you think we ought to pray for Santa Claus? He is so good to us." All the children joined in her petition and I told them that they must certainly remember Santa Claus in their prayers and thank him for his goodness. Mother, isn't it wonderful to know that all the good friends and benefactors of these poor neglected little children will be remembered by them in their prayers? I could not help thinking how much Our Dear Lord must love them and how many blessings will He not bestow upon those whose charity had made possible this occasion of good cheer and happiness for them.

After bidding one and all "Feliz Crismis" (Happy Christmas), we returned home tired but happy. Once more I gave thanks to Jesus and Mary for having permitted me to be an humble instrument in Their Hands for the work among the poor in these scattered Missions.

Promising to write frequently in the future to the dearest of mothers and praying Jesus and Mary to bless her, I remain ever
Lovingly your child in O. B. L. V.,
CATECHIST MARY.

The Ladrona

(Continued from page 2)

they turned to a dull toneless gray, and ever rang the bells.

"Come, senorita," said the chairman to me, "to meet the train. Antonio, my nephew, is coming home from three years as chaplain in the army. I must be there to welcome him."

"Your nephew? Padre Antonio?"

"Surely. I am Mary Joyce, his father's sister."

Mary Joyce! The woman whom Senora Inez caled the ladrona (the thief) because she claimed Mary had stolen the children from the doctrines of Spain. She had taught school in New Mexico for thirty years, and not in a town, but in the most isolated spots—mining camps, all-Mexican villages, ranchlands. And ever as she taught she catechized; smiling, hearty, looking joyously at life; serving, cheering, making her labor a glorious thing. A woman rich in experience and wisdom. Possessing infinite patience, and holding a teacher's certificate that entitled her to teach in any graded school, yet she spent her life in mountain regions indescribably lonely, to bring back to the Mexicans the Faith that is theirs.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT BY JOINING THE "2500" CLUB

"THE NEW YEAR"

To all the devoted friends and loyal subscribers of THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST, its Editors extend their heartfelt wishes for a Happy and Most Blessed New Year.

We feel that we could be justly accused of ingratitude if we failed at this blessed time to thank each and every one of our subscribers for the many encouraging letters received from them during the past year. These letters,—mostly of a personal nature,—proved not only a great pleasure to us, but were at the same time a source of encouragement to make THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST a better magazine during the coming year.

During the year 1929, THE MISSIONARY CATECHIST will come to you in much the same form as you have received it during the past four years. The character of its contents will remain pretty much the same, but we hope to make them more interesting than ever before.

In addition to our very interesting stories of the romantic missions of the Southwest; the quaint customs of its people, and the missionary labors of our Catechists among them, we shall try to tell many things that will prove entertaining, as well as instructive to our large circle of readers. We shall add a number of Catholic writers of national reputation to our list of regular and special contributors. We have in store for our readers a number of excellent articles on the Southwest by Dr. Charles F. Lummis, the very author who gave this title to the five States of New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Arizona and California. From time to time we shall publish special editions treating exclusively of each one of the above named States.

Through the recommendation of our very dear sponsor, The Right Reverend Bishop Noll, the Society of Missionary Catechists has been affiliated with the Arch-Confraternity of Mary, Queen of Hearts, in Rome. This Society is devoted to the spreading of "The True Devotion of Blessed De Montfort." We shall devote a column every month in propagating this true devotion so dear to the heart of our Immaculate Queen and Mother.

Since the scope of our work has recently been extended to embrace the poorest missions in California and Texas, we promise our readers many interesting letters, stories and anecdotes from our devoted Catechists laboring in these missions, as well as a continuation of the mission stories from New Mexico.

It is our earnest wish and prayer that our Heavenly Queen, the Patroness of our Society and its magazine, may abundantly bless all our subscribers during the coming year.

Knowing well the purpose for which this magazine is published, we feel confident that every one will endeavor to get us at least two new subscribers during the coming year, in order that we may double our present circulation.

ANOTHER VIEW

The well-dressed man in the front pew grunted when the plate came around.

"I'm not giving anything," he said irritably. "I'll contribute to my own parish—that's all. I don't believe in these special collections for missions."

But the other man only pushed the plate nearer.

"Take something, then," he whispered encouragingly. "This collection is for the heathen."
—New World.

The Missionary Catechist
Huntington, Indiana

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

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Huntington, Indiana.

CHEER-O-GRAMS

Dear Father Sigstein and Society Workers:
Attached is my check for \$100.00 among papers properly signed. I think your "Annuity Plan" is great and I am glad to help your work in my small way, hoping that later I will be able to take further advantage of it.

You have my prayers for the success of your work as I realize something of its needs and your many hardships.

Yours truly,
C. A. M.

Our Lady of Victory Rectory,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Society of Missionary Catechists,
Huntington, Ind.,

My "Missionary Catechist" arrived just in time!

I had written out a check to help the Democratic National Committee make up its deficit in the campaign expenses.

Before mailing it, your little magazine came, and I tore up the check, and made it out for you, where I feel it will do more good.

Sincerely,
Rev. T. J. O'Brien, Pastor.

Dear Catechists:

The little Mexican boy received a hearty welcome in our school. The children enjoyed his visit, though they expected a "real one." The little ones tried to make his Christmas happy by filling up his pockets with a \$5.00 bill.

Wishing you an abundance of graces from the Infant Jesus, and His blessings in the New Year, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
Sister S. M.,
Sisters of Nazareth.

(The above letter perhaps need a little explanation. It is a good illustration of the spirit in which people received and answered the Christmas Appeal sent out by the Gary Catechists.)

Portersville, Pa.

Society of Missionary Catechists:

I am enclosing one dollar which will help a little on your "Christmas Appeal." I don't get money very fast as I am ninety-six years old and money comes in a little slow.

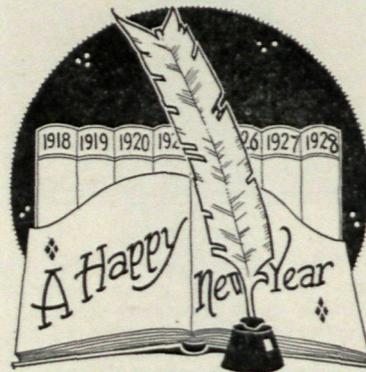
J. M.

(This is a splendid testimonial to the good-will which backed every dollar sent to our Society in response to our Christmas Appeal for Mission aid. May Our Dear Savior fittingly reward each one who answered it!)

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, Las Vegas, New Mexico.
5. 620 W. Fifteenth Ave., Gary, Indiana.
6. Dos Palos, Calif.
7. Lubbock, Texas. Box 1658.
8. Catechist Blanche Richardson, Supervisor of Archconfraternity of Christian Doctrine, Victory-Mount, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

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



REMEMBERS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Lida L. Coghlan

Remember that it is a good thing to begin the New Year well. Hear Mass; if possible receive Holy Communion; then whisper your good resolutions to Him who gives you the grace to keep them.

Remember that it is hard to keep a number of good resolutions. Take the correction of your faults singly, beginning with the greatest.

Remember that we receive each day the grace and strength necessary for that day. Make your good resolutions for a day at a time; renewing them with your morning prayers. When Our Dear Lord taught us to say "Give us this day our daily bread," He meant not only material bread but all things necessary for soul and body.

Remember that we can do nothing without God's help. He who depends upon his "will power" to keep his good resolutions will soon break them.

Remember that a broken resolution need not be mended. Make a new one, make it stronger and God will help you to keep it.

Society of Missionary Catechists,
Box 109, Huntington, Indiana

Reverend dear Father:

In honor of the Holy Family

I am enclosing \$_____ to be applied to the Holy Family Burse.

Name _____

Address _____

A Haven of Peace and Happiness

Rev. Fr. Basil, O. M. Cap.

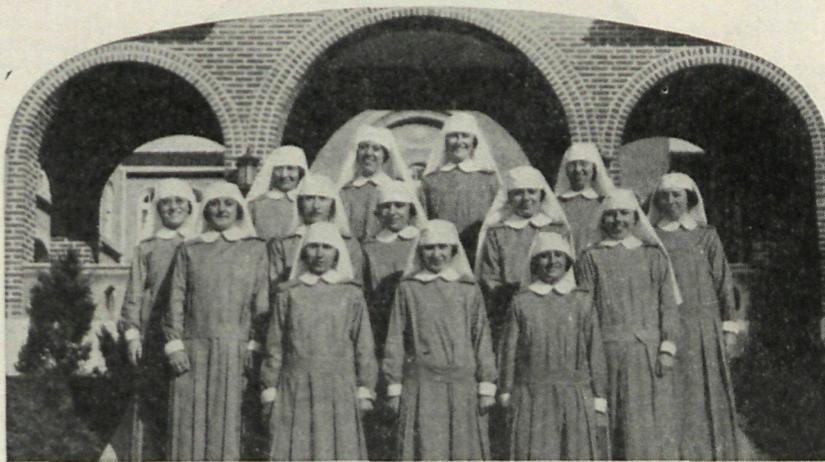
MY presence at Victory-Noll with the Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory is one of those so-called accidents of our lives, which we frequently cannot understand, but which are special favors of Divine Providence, real blessings in disguise. My visit to Victory-Noll exerted a decided influence upon my views and priestly endeavors. From that time on I considered it a matter of conscience, at every opportunity, to bring to the notice of our people the splendid work these noble-minded and self-sacrificing young women are doing for the spread and preservation of the Faith, and to assist them by encouraging vocations and soliciting in their behalf spiritual and material aid.

Victory-Noll gently but irresistibly reminded me of our sweet Saviour, so charmingly human and so majestically Divine.

A resident of the city of Huntington remarked to me: "Victory-Noll is one of our beauty spots. Whenever we show visitors our city, we take them out there." Outside of Huntington, Indiana, it is claimed by the citizens as their own. On a terraced elevation, made attractive by trees, shrubs, flowers, an artistic Way of the Cross, and a grotto of the Holy Sepulchre, it is inviting and restful, and commands a magnificent view of the picturesque Wabash Valley. The large building with its lovely chapel, erected in the Spanish Mission style, is an architectural gem. Here the Catechists spend two years, being trained as Religious, Teachers of Religion to poor and ignorant children, and as Nurses and Social Workers.

They are a pretty and happy set. The dress is comfortable and appropriate. The blue uniform and veil, the white collar and cuffs, and the silver medal of Our Blessed Lady of Victory on a chain of the same material indicate a wise regard for health and chaste reserve, and point to work in the world and a life not of the world. The appearance has an agreeable touch of the modern, but fully preserves the religious character. It is both pleasing and edifying.

The recreations, taken in the open air whenever the weather permits, are delightfully seasoned with youthful mirth, tact and charity. They strengthen the body, divert the mind and invigorate the heart. At work a cheerful team spirit predominates, and all get a chance at the necessary occupations of the house. One naively said: "In the Missions we have to cook for ourselves or starve." In the classroom the attention and eagerness of the scholars render the teacher's task a most enjoyable one. Many notes are jotted down. The last question put to me was: "Father, how do you explain the life of grace to the little ones?" The chapel is the dearest place of all, and much time is spent before the Tabernacle and the altars of Our Lady and St. Joseph. It is inspiring to watch them at



Our New Consecrates—Feast of the Immaculate Conception

their public and private devotions. The daily routine is a pleasant mixture of devotional exercises, study, work, and relaxation.

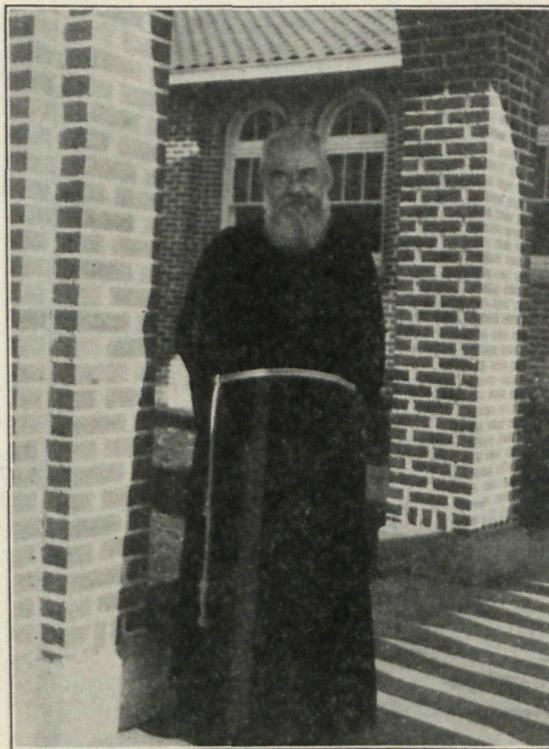
An excellent spirit prevails. The piety is deep and healthy, free from sentimentality and based on the imitation of the Interior of Our Blessed Mother. The motto of the Society, "All for Jesus through Mary," is well realized. In order to be constantly reminded of their sublime office of teaching Religion to Christ's unfortunate favorites, they address one another as "Catechist." Genuine sisterly love binds the Catechists to one another. They seem to have implicit confidence in each other. Christian charity is the great motive power. A smile greets one everywhere. A "Thanks to Jesus and Mary" rewards the slightest

service or favor. The saying of St. Francis of Sales: "A sad Saint is a sorry Saint," is surely understood and appreciated in this institute. Repeatedly I thought of the virgin Asella, of whom St. Jerome wrote: "There is nothing more amiable than this austere virgin, at once serious and gay, merry and grave." Holy simplicity and the joy of God's children radiate from the countenances of all. The relations between superiors and inferiors are cordial and natural. I could hardly perceive any distinction. A Candidate exclaimed in a familiar talk: "What a difference between the institutions where I worked and Victory-Noll: there commands, here requests!" No doubt it is principally the fine family spirit which renders the Society so dear to the members and fills them with such enthusiasm for its purpose. Exquisite courtesy and lavish hospitality win the hearts of the visitors and make them feel at home. The Victory Training Institute is a haven of peace and happiness.

The Mission ideal prominently reveals itself. The beautiful chapel windows represent missionaries of the Faith and of charity. In the prayers frequently recurs the petition for a strong and active love of religiously neglected children. From the lively interest shown in those who are out in the Missions of the Southwest, from the intense desire to save the poorest little ones of Christ's flock and to succor the needy and forsaken sufferers, and from the zeal which time and talents are used in acquiring solid virtue and useful knowledge, it is evident that the charity of Christ urges them, that they are real Missionary Catechists, and that they fully realize the responsibility of their grand vocation. When in an exceptional case a Junior was sent to New Mexico, a Probationer said: "Is she not lucky, Father? Not that I am jealous, but think how much she can do for Our Dear Lord?"

The Society of Missionary Catechists differs in certain respects from the Religious Orders. The members take vows of Obedience, Chastity and Poverty only for one year at a time; maintain a closer union with their relatives; enjoy greater personal liberty, and go out into the world in small bands. The Constitutions have due regard for the missionary activities. These energetic and progressive young women appear to be exposed to dangers and hardships of which Sisters ordinarily know little, but the Society, like a solicitous and affectionate mother, surrounds them with every possible safeguard to insure their spiritual and physical well-being. They receive the most tender care until the Lord calls them to their reward.

At Victory-Noll I saw what seems to me to be an eminently practical application of the Gospel precepts and counsels and of the old conventual rules and practices to modern conditions, to the needs of our home Missions, and to the work and circumstances of women Missionary Catechists.



Rev. Fr. Basil, O. M. Cap.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT BY JOINING THE "2500" CLUB

The Associate Catechists of Mary

ONCE again the curtain of time is closing upon another year fruitful in good works to be recorded in the annals of the A. C. M., a year spent in charity towards others and in forgetfulness of self.

Looking back we can easily see the progress made by the Associates during the past year. Five new Bands have been organized and are proving themselves real friends by the great interest and zeal they are manifesting in their work. The older bands have worked harder than ever and have made a wonderful record. Many cash donations have been received for the support of our Catechists and for the necessary food, clothing, and medicine for our poor in the missions. Numerous boxes of clothing, toys, medals, holy cards, etc., have been sent to our various missions. With this splendid record before us we are certain that every Associate Catechist of Mary will enter upon the New Year with increased enthusiasm in the share of the work in which Our Blessed Saviour was engaged while here upon earth.

In the past we have consecrated ourselves and all our efforts to Jesus and Mary, so in beginning this year let us again renew our consecration to Jesus and Mary, confident that They will bless us in all that we do to relieve the sufferings of the poor Whom They love so tenderly. All the Catechists shall pray most fervently to Our Dear Lord,— Our Infant King in the arms of Our Holy Mother Mary that your zealous, self-sacrificing labors will be rewarded during the coming year and that you will have the consolation of interesting more of your neighbors in the real Christ-child work which the Catechists are doing in both Gary and the missions.



START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT
by joining the Victory-Noll Mission Circle of the Associate Catechists of Mary.

Pledge yourself to Contribute Regularly toward the support of a Missionary Catechist.

It doesn't take much to keep a Catechist in the Mission Field—a dollar a day, that's all—yet consider what a vast amount of good she can do in even one day in relieving the necessities of the poor and saving the neglected little ones from spiritual starvation.

- Enlist in our "Dollar Squadron"
- A dollar a day
 - A dollar a week
 - A dollar a month, or
 - Just a dollar when you can spare it
- Benefits Attached to Membership**
- 1 Members share in the spiritual benefits of the Society of Missionary Catechists, in the missionary labors, merits and good works of the Catechist they help to support, and in the prayers of the "mission" children under her care.
 - 2 Their intentions are included in the Masses offered every day for the Society.
 - 3 A special Mass in honor of Our Blessed Lady of Victory is offered for their intentions every Saturday.
- Nominal Membership Dues are 50c a Year

Associate Catechists of Mary, Victory-Noll, Huntington, Ind.

Dear Catechist Supervisor:

I herewith apply for membership in the VICTORY-NOLL MISSION CIRCLE. Please enroll me in your "DOLLAR SQUADRON." I pledge myself to contribute:

- A dollar a day
- A dollar a week
- A dollar a month
- A dollar when I can spare it

I am enclosing fifty cents to cover my membership dues for one year.

Name

Address

Dear Little Helpers,

A Happy New Year to all, and may Jesus and Mary help you make this one of the happiest years of your life.

You have all had a very Happy and Holy Christmas, I know because you have tried so hard to make others happy. Mary's Little Helpers at DeLand, have sent a large Christmas box to the missions, which they started during their summer vacation. One of the many articles it contained was a large quilt, all pieced by the Little Helpers, even the boys sewed on it.

Our Blessed Lady of Victory Band has made a splendid record for itself. They worked so hard selling chances on their raffle,—why one little girl alone sold over five dollars of chances,—altogether they made eighty dollars. Besides this raffle several huge boxes were sent to Gary. These boxes were, as one Catechist said, "like a STORE coming to us."

Not only have the large bands been busy, but also the members of the Home Band. Mary Halfpenny filled her mite box several times. Then she got some of her little friends together and they sent two boxes of very nice clothing to the Catechists at Gary.

This and the many other donations have given our poor little children in the missions a very Happy Christmas. And are they grateful to you for all your kindness? Indeed they are, and have written Santa to thank him for being so good to them. I

Mary's Little Helpers

CONGRATULATIONS

to MISS MARGARET B. FLEMING, of Youngstown, Ohio, the LUCKY WINNER of the beautiful set of sheet and pillow cases trimmed with exquisite crocheted lace which was raffled by Our Blessed Lady of Victory Band of Little Helpers at Lafayette, Ind., shortly before Christmas.

wish you could read all the letters they wrote, but as that is impossible I will have to let you read at least one. Here it is:

*Dear Santa Claus
I would like to
thank you for the
fine presents you brought
me for Christmas time
The pocket knife is fine
the warm sweater is
fine and my little sister
likes her new doll
very much
Antonio Lucero*

Some of Mary's Little Helpers have written me that this year they are going to work with all their "Might and Main" for the Catechists and the poor under their care, and I am sure that this is also the New Year resolution of all of our Little Helpers. And with Mary's help and that of Her Infant Son they will do even better than they have during this past year.

Missionarily yours,
Catechist Supervisor,
Mary's Little Helpers.

KINDNESS

Speak a shade more kindly than the year before,
Pray a little oftener, love a trifle more,
Cling a little closer to the Saviour's love,
Then life below will daily grow more like the life above.

Address all A. C. M., or Little Helpers communications to:

CATECHIST SUPERVISOR,
Associate Catechists of Mary,

Victory-Noll

Huntington, Ind

Mission Echoes



A Little Mission Near Las Vegas

MUCHAS MIL GRACIAS!

As our Mexicans say, "Muchas mil gracias" (Many thousand thanks) to those who so generously assisted us in giving the poor children in Gary and Indiana Harbor a Merry Christmas! When the little Mexican boy dolls who went visiting among our many friends returned from their travels, what a joyous Welcome Home they received! With all our hearts we thank those who filled their pockets with checks, bills and silver to be used in purchasing Christmas cheer for the poor, and also to those who assisted us so generously and so practically by sending Christmas boxes filled with all kinds of gifts. The three splendid boxes sent by the Victory Circle, No. 1, under the supervision of Mrs. John Kline, Promoter, of Huntington, Ind., the one sent by Miss Loretta Penning of Dubuque, Ia., and the ones sent by the Catherine Tegewitha and Ave Maria Clubs of Chicago, deserve special mention. The beautiful altar linen sent by Miss Stella O'Brien of Huntington, Ind., were used in the little Mexican church at Indiana Harbor in the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and their snowy white loveliness would have brought joy to the heart of their donor, could she have seen them.

By closing the old year with such acts of charity for the poor, surely those who have responded so readily to our appeals for aid will merit the blessings of Heaven during the new year, and the eternal reward promised to those who do works of mercy in the name of Jesus.

AND YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE!

We hear so much of the Spirit of Christmas: whole pages of countless magazines are filled with its exposition,—and then there is more to tell! However, the whole matter may be epitomized into a single phrase: joyous receiving and joyous giving: the joyous receiving of the Infant of Bethlehem into our hearts, not for the day only, but for all our life through, and joyous giving: the joyous giving of happiness to those we love—and to those who have no one to give to them.

And isn't joyous giving the surest way to win happiness?

You have given so much to make our Christmas happy, that we are sure your own must have been all of that.

Ever seen the beginning of Advent we Catechists at Anton Chico have been preparing for Christmas, preparing with the generous assistance of all you wonderful Santa Clauses of the Mission poor, to bring happy lights into our children's eyes, and thankfulness into the eyes of the older folk.

Of course, Santa visited our farthest missions first. Over the plains and mountains he went in our trusty "Chev," loaded with packages and Christmas trinkets and toys. Into every holiday package we contrived to put some plaything, something warm to wear, and some—"Dulcis." What is dulcis? Candy! Couldn't you guess?

There's no use trying to tell you how much the children and even the older folk, enjoyed their Christmas. Words cannot do it: it is so far above human descriptions of thankfulness and happiness.

Here in Anton Chico some of the little ones remembered last year's Christmas gifts and came to us weeks before the Holy Night to inquire couldn't they have their Christmas now? and wasn't it time for Christmas yet? Well, that made us work the harder in our Christmas shop.

And now it is over for another year. May the Lord bless you, and Our Dear Mother love you for all its joy and gladness!—and all its poverty-relieving helpfulness too!

NOT ONE SLIGHTED

No doubt our readers are interested in the Christmas parties given for our many little ones at Holman and its out missions. Thanks to Jesus and Mary, Santa slighted not even one Mission but in each he provided a beautiful pine tree laden with tartan stockings, candy, popcorn, and many brightly-colored toys, along with at least one article of clothing for each child. If the good friends who made each visit of Santa possible, could have been present at the different parties and witnessed the joy and happiness which their gifts brought, their hearts would have overflowed with gratitude to the Divine Infant that He had inspired them to help create so much Christmas joy.

In some Missions we made house to house visits to those who were unable to attend the parties. Carmelita, aged nineteen, an invalid for the past four years due to typhoid, was most delighted with the nice warm bathrobe Santa brought her. You remember that sometime ago we told you about the sick man whom we took to the doctor. Well, his family is very poor so we fixed up a nice basket of food for the ten of them, outfitted them with clothing, and even had shoes for each member. Maybe they didn't appreciate the things they received!

ALL ORDERS WELL-FILLED

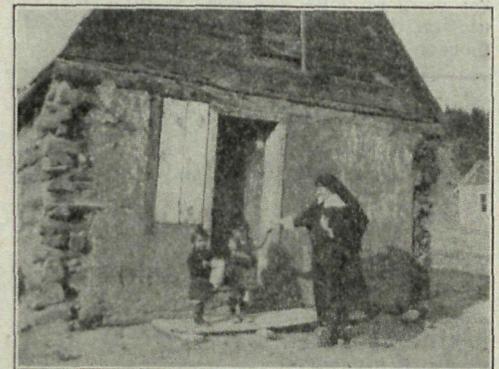
Cerrillos has been a very active mission for the past month. First, we had Profession here on Dec. 8th when Catechist Ida Kuntz of Batesville, Ind., and Catechist Agnes Rauschenbach of LaPorte, Ind., pronounced their Holy Vows. The ceremonies were open to the public, and, to say the least, they made a profound impression upon the large number of people present for the occasion. Our Missionary Padre, Father Oliver, conducted the Retreat, officiated at the ceremonies, and celebrated the Mass. We were so pleased to have nearly one hundred Communion that morning and we feel that much good will come from having had these religious ceremonies here.

From the eighth until the time we had our Christmas parties our days were filled with classes, visits, and all the preparations necessary to make Christmas a never-to-be-forgotten day in all our missions. For weeks the children had been looking forward to the holiday events, wondering if Santa would visit them and what he might be going to bring each one if he did come. Indirectly the boys suggested that he have his pack filled with games, while the girls preferred something to wear. And we can say that "Santa" in the person of our kind benefactors very well filled all orders.

We had Midnight Mass here in Cerrillos, and on Christmas High Masses at Madrid, three miles away, and San Pedro, about twenty miles distant. So, you see our days have been well-filled, but, we have been most happy to be able to do a little to bring happiness to these poor people.

"Why don't you and your mummie go to the church that me and my mummie go to?"

"Cause we belong to a different abomination."



A Christmas Call

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT BY JOINING THE "2500" CLUB

A Great Field for Labor

(Continued from Page 1)

The work of the Padres was taken up by a new generation of the clergy, and from Ireland and Spain came Priests to minister to the thousands that flocked to California in the days of '49. The first see of Monterey was divided into the archdiocese of San Francisco and the diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles. Later the diocese of Sacramento was carved out of the northern part of California, and on December 3, 1922, our Holy Father formed the new diocese of Monterey-Fresno from ten counties of the old diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles and one county each from San Francisco and Sacramento.

Upon July 31, 1924, Right Reverend John B. MacGinley was installed as the first Bishop of the new see, bringing to it the fruit of his experience of sixteen years in the Philippine Islands, fourteen of which were spent in the episcopate. One of his first official acts was to place his new diocese under the protection of the saint whose canonization he attended, the Little Flower of Jesus, and to set up at Carmel a monastery of her Sisters, thus at once linking the old and new and placing his many problems at the feet of her who said that she would spend her heaven doing good upon earth.

Monterey-Fresno is a missionary diocese in the true sense of the word. There is an average of one and one-half Priests for every thousand square miles of territory, and many pastors have three or four churches under their jurisdiction. Some of them ride sixty miles between Masses Sunday after Sunday, sunshine or snow. In all the diocese there are but six assistants. What could be done for these little mission churches if each one could be provided with a Priest and he could be supported, at least for a while. God alone knows, for experience has shown that each mission in turn becomes itself a center for other missions. To secure Priests for these poor places and to provide them with the necessities of life is one of the pressing problems of Bishop MacGinley.

Since coming to his diocese he has opened two new Catholic schools each year but there are scores of places where no school is possible and yet where hundreds of children are absolutely without Christian instruction. The list of Catholic names which are borne by fallen-aways or by outright Protestants is positively disheartening.

The greatest field for labor, however, is the work amongst the floating Mexican population that lives within the borders of the diocese for seven or eight months of the

year, camping in the fields, by the roadsides and in miserable quarters, furnished by the ranch owners.

To meet this need the Missionary Catechists have been brought from Indiana and established in Fresno. These Catechists were founded exclusively for the teaching of Religion and go out in bands to those those places that have no Catholic schools to gather the children after public school hours or on Saturdays and Sundays and prepare them for the Sacraments and for Catholic manhood and womanhood. They drive their own cars and their work is limited only by their numbers.

Their influence has already been felt far and wide for in the little time that they have worked they have endeared themselves to all who know them.

The future of California and particularly of this diocese depends upon the care taken now not only of these poor people but of those who have heretofore been neglected through their distance from priest and school. May the Little Flower of Carmel continue to shower her roses upon this her garden and inspire others to help in the gathering of the fragments that have fallen away and may good Father Junipero remember his promise that in heaven he would not forget the Indians he had come to save nor the work which he began in California.

St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Rev. Father:

This little gift to the Missionary Catechists is a little token of thanks for a special favor obtained from Our Blessed Lady of Victory.

Wishing your dear Society the greatest blessings and asking a little prayer of them, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

C. W.

PUBLICITY NOTES

"IN THE SERVICE OF THE QUEEN" has just completed its four months' tour of parts of Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio. With ninety two booked engagements and a large number of extra showings, this vocational film has fairly well established itself as a picture of unusual merit. Where ever shown it has met with the enthusiastic approval of its audiences and many are the commendatory letters which have been received at Victory-Noll.

For the benefit of our readers we are publishing an article concerning the picture which appeared in "THE TOWER."

"The fondness of our present generation for movies received a thrilling gratification as far as the students of St. Lawrence College and Mt. Calvary inhabitants are concerned. On the date of the showing we swarmed to the St. Thomas Hall to witness "IN THE SERVICE OF THE QUEEN," a picture presented by the Mid-West Catholic Production Company. The film was one of those whirlwinds of varying emotions,—laughter, love, idealism, pathos,—that storm the inmost heart of the soul and bring out the better man. Many were moved to tears in some particularly pathetic scenes portraying the education and missionary labors of the Catechists of the Victory-Noll Institution at Huntington, Ind."

The Society owes its deepest thanks to its Publicity Agents, Mr. Roeder and Mr. Zieverink, assisted by Mr. F. A. Meyer of St. Bernard, Ohio, for their untiring efforts in booking and showing this picture, as well as to those who gave their whole-hearted co-operation wherever it was shown.

Any information regarding bookings, charges, etc., for "IN THE SERVICE OF THE QUEEN" will be gladly furnished upon application to the Publicity Department of the Society of Missionary Catechists.

Benson Bros. WOOLENS

126 North 13th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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Victory-Noll, Huntington, Indiana.

Please enter my name on your subscription list for The Missionary Catechist. I am enclosing 50c for one year's subscription. **ONLY \$10.00 for a Life Subscription.**

Name _____ Address _____

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL:—A CIRCULATION OF 50,000