

Salesian Bulletin



THE APOSTOLIC CIRCLES OF MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

1. The Apostolic Circles of Mary Help of Christians, are groups of Salesian Co-operators (each group consisting of twelve members representing the twelve Apostoles) who band themselves together for the object of helping a Missionary Vocation.

2. The Apostolic Circles are under the special protection of Mary, Help of Christians, who revealed to St. John Bosco that there is no work so dear to Her maternal heart and so urgent in the Church to-day as that of saving vocations.

3. Each Circle undertakes to raise the sum of £ 120 during the period of four years, each member collecting or subscribing yearly £ 2.10s. The subscriptions should be handed to the Chief Collector of the Circle, or, if found more convenient, sent direct to the Rector of the Missionary College where the boy is being trained. Whenever a new Circle is formed, a candidate is immediately accepted.

4. The members of the Circle are urged to promote devotion to Mary, Help of Christians, to make known as far as they can the apostolic work of saving vocations, to pray often for the increase of religious vocations and particularly for the perseverance of the candidate who has been adopted by them. It is suggested that they should add to their daily prayers the ejaculation: *Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us, or, Queen of Apostles, pray for us*, both enriched with an Indulgence of 300 days.

5. SPIRITUAL ADVANTAGES.

a) The members of the Apostolic Circles are inscribed on the roll of the Salesian Co-operators, and enjoy their privileges.

b) They are enrolled in the Association of the Sacred Heart (Rome), which entitles them to a share in six daily Masses in perpetuity.

c) They have a share in a Mass said every Tuesday in honour of St. John Bosco, and a Mass said every 24th of the month at Blaisdon, Shrigley, Cowley, and Pallaskenry, where special devotions are held in honour of Mary, Help of Christians.

Petitions can be sent to the above mentioned Houses for the monthly Novena in honour of Mary, Help of Christians commencing on the 16th, when special prayers are said for benefactors every Tuesday

In 1932, His Holiness Pius XI sent a special Blessing for the Apostolic Circles, written with his own hand, "*Perlibenter in Domino*". - "*With all my heart*".

To join an Apostolic Circle one should communicate with:

THE RECTOR,

SALESIAN MISSIONARY COLLEGE

SHRIGLEY PARK NR. MACCLESFIELD.

or with:

THE RECTOR,

COPSEWOOD COLLEGE, PALLASKENRY, Co. LIMERICK.

ORGAN OF THE
ASSOCIATION
OF SALESIAN
CO-OPERATORS

SALESIAN BULLETIN

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SUMMARY: The Salesians in the Missions. - Notes and comments. - S. John Bosco at Carfin. - Across the Salesian World. - News from our Missions: West Point, Hong Kong. - Graces and favours received. - Obituary. - Index for 1936.



A Festive Oratory in Ecuador.

The Salesians in the Missions.

The missions confided to the Salesian Congregation, although badly hit by the economic crisis which has been felt much more in the Far East and in South America than in Europe, continue to develop and make good progress. Each year sees big increases in the numbers of Catholics in these parts as the Faith gradually makes its way into the darkest corners of ignorance and superstition. In certain districts, in Assam for instance, the Salesian mission in north-west India, and in Katanga, in the Bel-

gian Congo, the advances are among the best reported to the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith at Rome.

What is the method that produces these results? In the following article we have tried to examine it very briefly. The ideas that are presented have been collected from books and pamphlets written by the missionaries themselves, from their lectures and from conversations with them.

We shall try to show how these missionaries

have carried out, and are still carrying out, the same programme that S. John Bosco gave to his first band of missionaries in 1875.

* * *

The Salesian Society was not 'born' missionary; its work is essentially educative; to educate especially the people of the poor and of the lower middle classes. If during the last sixty years it has been placed among the ten or twelve great missionary societies, it is for three reasons.

In the first place its Founder throughout the whole of his life had an eye on the missions; secondly circumstances were in a peculiar way favourable to his first beginnings in missionary territory; and finally the Salesian vocation finds its natural subjects in men who are active, enthusiastic, optimistic, happy and ready for any adventure that may present itself. These natural qualities greatly help missionary enterprises.

What more does the Salesian need to succeed in this work?

He has only to remain what he is, essentially an educator. It is a principle expressed dozens of times by his Founder, that the salvation of society at large depends on the Christian education of the young, especially of those children who belong to what are known as the poorest classes.

Transplanted to the heart of the forests of Brazil or to the banks of the Brahmaputra or into the middle of the African jungle, the Salesians have not changed by one atom the principles learned from Don Bosco. To succeed quickly and surely in converting the pagan, it is above all necessary to win the young to Christ.

It is for this reason that the Salesian missionary opens, as soon as he possibly can, sometimes even before he has got his chapel, festive oratories, schools, workshops. The festive Oratory, as we tried to show in the last number of the *Bulletin*, is the most successful of all methods of contact. All over Assam it flourishes, at Hong Kong it attracts over 400 little Chinese pagans, at Tokio too and, farther south in Japan, at Miyasaki; at Taracues on the banks of the Rio Negro in Brazil, in Siam... we could fill a page with the names alone of these Oratories.

Understanding that the doctrine of Jesus Christ penetrates better where education has already cleared the ground of superstition, the missionary busies himself with opening schools,

elementary, technical and agricultural. The last two classes complete the educative work of the former by making of the native a skilled workman and lift him out of the disastrous idleness which is one of the chief elements militating against any work of the missionary to build up the moral character of the people.

Time and again it has been found — and this fact alone justifies the method used — that from these institutes have come out an élite of fervent Christians who, when they have returned to their own districts have become as a leaven in the mass, working in it and fermenting the whole. Many of them work as catechists among their own people; some, the best of the bunch, have even gone to be the foundation stones of minor seminaries, or juniorates as we call them, in the residences of the missionaries themselves. Already the Salesians in the Congo, in Siam, in Japan, in India, in Brazil and in China are helping to form the native clergy for which the voice of Rome has so insistently called of late.

* * *

The method of evangelising by way of the children was once expressed by Don Bosco himself in a sentence that has become a formula, a principle of action. *Let us concern ourselves above all with the children; it is they who will open for us the way to their parents.* His words have been verified hundreds of times. By a thousand ingenious ways that their apostolic devotion suggests, the priests attract the children to themselves; the children, in their turn, go home, singing the praises of the Fathers who give them such a good time. Their curiosity aroused, parents will one day risk a peep into the missionaries' home, later on they will come boldly in; visits will be exchanged and finally the day is won.

Twice in his prophetic dreams, Don Bosco seemed to see and understand the value of such methods.

The first time, in 1872, in a field which a few moments previously had been the scene of a ghastly slaughter, he saw his Sons advance towards some groups of Redskins. The priests were preceded by a crowd of children singing hymns. The savages who had just torn an army of priests to pieces, lowered their arms and seemed to change altogether.

They became as meek as the children themselves and received the missionaries with joy.

A second time in 1876 he seemed to be



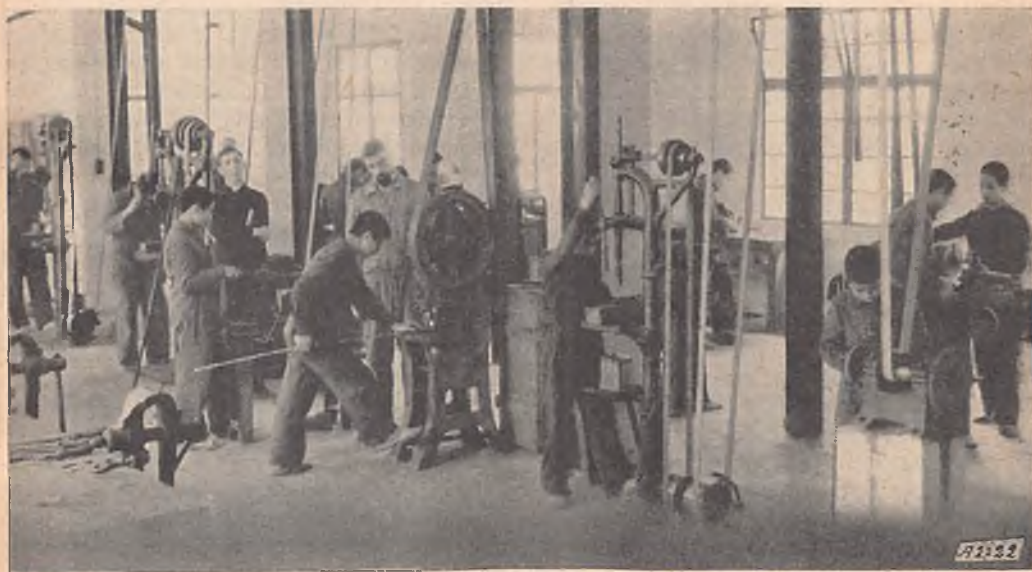
Siam. - Mgr. Pasotti S. C. entertains the authorities at Rajaburi.

watching, from a high hill which commanded the view of an immense plain, a crowd of people who were being led towards him from every direction by his Sons.

The strange thing about it was that the order in which these crowds came was always

the same: first the Salesians surrounded by groups of children, then after them an immense crowd of people.

The meaning, at least for Don Bosco, was crystal clear. To get to the parents it was necessary to pass by way of the children.



China. - The mechanic's shop in a Salesian School.

Among the numerous workshops that the Salesians open in missionary countries, preference is always given to the press. The reason is fairly obvious; from these presses go out pamphlets, brochures, leaflets, books, reviews, all of which help on the work of conversion. Written in the native tongue this propaganda is, after the work of the catechist, the most powerful auxiliary of the missionary.

To prepare the way for the teaching of the missionary, to dispose the hearts of the people and create a favourable atmosphere, nothing is so useful as an interesting book. On the other hand to clinch the work done, to ensure that the teaching is not forgotten, there are small books which contain a résumé of all that the missionary has taught.

Like his Founder the Salesian is eager to develop the apostolate of the press. Where he goes the rotative will surely follow him. At Elizabethville they print in Kimbemba, at Calcutta in Indi at Macau in Chinese.

* * *

These multiple enterprises presuppose, of course, an abundant personnel, men to reinforce those already hard at work, men to relieve those who are worn out by fatigue and need rest: that is one of the biggest problems that has to be faced. To solve it, at least to some extent, the Sons of Don Bosco have adopted two means. In several countries they have opened missionary schools (1) exclusively reserved to Salesian missionary vocations. The pension is as low as possible, and, in cases where a boy, who gives every hope of success, has no one to pay his fees, it is free.

In four years these boys and young men — among them there are quite a number of late vocations — cover the ground of their secondary studies and are ready to enter the novitiate.

Side by side with these schools there are, in Italy especially, schools of arts and trades and of agriculture. There are formed future missionary lay-brothers, who will take their places as heads of the workshops opened in the missions. Printers, joiners, electricians, shoemakers, blacksmiths, mechanics: all are formed in these missionary schools; observatories, even are to be found here where future meteorologists are prepared for the missions.

This double team of missionaries-in-embryo, laymen and clerics, usually leave their native land to make their novitiate in the country of

(1) At Shrigley, Nr. Macclesfield for vocations from Gt. Britain and Ireland.

their future apostolate. This method also has its advantages. The future missionaries being young, they become more easily and more quickly acclimatised, both mentally and physically. They adapt themselves with less difficulty to oriental civilisation, to manners, customs, food, and they pick up the language with less difficulty than older men.

All this is necessary since the primary formula for the apostle is the *all things to all men* of S. Paul; to become Chinese in China, Japanese in Japan and Congolese in the Congo.

A Salesian mission in China or India or South America is thus supplied with young missionaries from all over Europe. Save in an exceptional case no mission is confided to the Salesians of one particular country. They grow up together and by a natural law that communicates the water from the full vessel to another that is less full, they pass on to one another their virtues and help one another to rub off the awkward corners.

* * *

It is also part of the method of these missionaries to open up and cultivate cordial relations with the local constituted authorities and to bring them into contact as far as possible with the work of the missionaries. They never let slip an opportunity of inviting them to their manifestations whether they be religious, academic or merely sports.

This attitude is the more easy since these missionaries never meddle with politics and, on the other hand, they encourage in their young charges the virtue of patriotism. Whoever, then, happens to be in authority at the moment or whatever visitors ask to see the home of the missionaries they are received with deference and alacrity. It is an old tradition inherited from Don Bosco himself who, far from running away from the great ones of this world, the leaders of the people, would rather have sought them out had his leisure permitted it. In the first place he had need of them in order to maintain and extend his work, and then because he dreamed of bringing them gradually and without any force to a Christian conception of their own role.

By this show of friendliness, by this readiness to open the door to the visitor, to take him round his own little field of labour, to explain to him its organisation, the Salesian missionary makes his guest feel at home. The men who entered as a curious, perhaps a suspicious official, goes out a confirmed friend.

At the house of Don Bosco there is always

free entry. No one could imagine how much sympathy how much friendship how much real support for the missionary and his work, this confidence begets.

But this spirit does not finish at establishing contacts, it is a spirit of enthusiasm, an adventurous spirit we have said.

The Salesian missionary is always on the look-out for the latest development that may help him push his work forward; he wants always to be a little ahead.

In 1926 at Turin, he opened a missionary exhibition in the grounds of the Mother-House. There were 600,000 visitors in six months.

He has started missionary magazines in various languages, especially to captivate the imagination of young people.

At his request also, cinematograph operators have gone out to his missions and made films for which his natives have provided the *dramatis personae*.

The *Baby-Pathé* has nowhere a more ardent user than our missionary in Siam or Japan.

To carry on his apostolate in the vast treeless plains of Patagonia or in Brazil, he uses a motor-lorry that serves at once as chapel, house, and means of travel.

Over the driver's seat he erects his altar and there he says his Mass which is attended by the natives from miles around. Mass over, the altar is put away and the missionary is off again, multiplying himself as far as possible throughout a parish of hundreds of thousands of square miles so as to multiply the results of his apostolate.

* * *

That after all is always his chief aim. If he tries out new ways, if he adapts the latest in-

ventions of human industry, if, contrary to that modest spirit of reticence which some good folk think ought to inform all Catholic activity, he makes himself heard by way of the press, the films, exhibitions, it is because, shocked, as are all his fellow-missionaries, by the immensity of what remains to be done, he wishes to call everybody to help him so that in these lands of darkness Christ may be at last known, loved and served.



The missionary must 'have a way' even with snakes.

Will all those who have to correspond with the *English Salesian Bulletin* in Italy please note that the correct postage for all ordinary letters is: From England 2½ d. and Colonies 3d. — From the Irish Free State 3d. From the U. S. A. 5c.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Missionaries.

On October 4 our annual missionary departure ceremony was held in the Basilica of Mary, Help of Christians at Turin. This year the Salesian Society has sent out no less than 234 missionaries to reinforce their confrères already at work throughout the Salesian missionary world.

Together with the Salesians have gone some forty Daughters of Our Lady Help of Christians.

At the ceremony crucifixes were blessed and distributed to each of the missionaries by Bishop Coppo S. C., and Father Righetti S. C., Vicar General of the diocese of Krishnagar, preached. Pontifical Benediction was then given by the Bishop after which each missionary was embraced and bidden god-speed by

the various members of the Superior Chapter of the Salesian Society.

The number of missionaries actually present for this ceremony was comparatively small since, in order to facilitate the departure of the expeditions, many batches were already on their way to the missions. Before each group left the Mother House, however, a ceremony similar to that of October 4 was held.

Our contribution.

This year as in previous years, the English-Irish province has contributed its quota of missionaries to the main body. Nine young brothers who, after passing through one or the other of our two missionary houses — Shrigley and Pallaskerry — completed their novitiate



A batch of missionaries photographed with Father Ricaldone.



This year's missionaries from the English-Irish province.

in Cowley last year, have been chosen from among the applicants to be sent on the missions.

Four have gone to India, two — Bros. J. Cosgrave and P. Walsh — to Assam and two, Bros. T. O'Shea and J. McFerran to Madras. Two more — Bros. J. McKenna and W. Joyce — have gone to China. Two — Bros. M. Curran and F. Drohan — will help to swell Mgr. Cimatti's gallant little band in Japan, and Bro. J. Cockshoot will join two of our last year's missionaries in Siam.

All nine missionaries had the pleasure of visiting Turin, where, for a few brief days, they explored "Don Bosco Country".

On the day they left they were able — through the kindness of Father Tornquist, who is very well known at Shrigley — to visit Don Bosco's birthplace at Becchi. On the way back a halt was made at Chieri in order to visit the seminary where Don Bosco studied for the priesthood and also to venerate Chieri's

most precious relic, the girdle with which Angels are said to have girded S. Thomas Aquinas. Before leaving for Venice the brothers dined with Father Ricaldone and the other members of the Superior Chapter.

To all our young missionaries — of whom we are, frankly, very proud — we offer the prayers of our Co-operators who, we are sure, will not forget them.

Visits and visitors.

For obvious reasons visits from Great Britain and Ireland to Italy, and therefore to the Basilica and to Don Bosco's shrine, have been limited during the past year. On October 2 English Pilgrims led by Bishop Amigo of Southwark broke their journey to Rome, whither they were going for the closing of the Catholic Press exhibition, to come to pray before the shrine of Mary, Help of Christians and of her apostle.

His Lordship, Monsignor O'Reilly, Bishop of Scranton (U. S. A.) also took advantage of a visit to Rome, to come to Turin and offer the Holy Sacrifice at the altar of S. John Bosco.

Before leaving the Oratory he wote the following memento in the Visitors' Book:

"May the sons of St. Don Bosco continue to



Bishop O'Reilly at the Oratory.

bring blessings to the children of Italy and spread them in all countries where they labour and especially in our land of opportunity the United States of America — to which they are called by our hierarchy with a fraternal welcome and a cordial blessing».

Other pilgrimages include several French groups — mostly of boys who had come to salute their great patron — a group from Algiers and a group from Austria. This latter was led by the secretary of His Eminence Cardinal Innitzer.

On Sunday September 27 a very distinguished member of the Society of Jesus, Cardinal Boetto, whom Pius XI raised to the Sacred College in the last concistory, honoured the Oratory by a visit. His Eminence, who was once provincial of the Society of Jesus in Turin, expressed his pleasure at being able to take advantage of a visit to his former confrères, to visit also the shrine of S. John Bosco to whom he has a special devotion.

Another Salesian Film.

Encouraged by the enthusiastic reception given to the film of Don Bosco's life, our film bureau has returned once more to the attack.

This time it has translated to the screen the epic poetry of our missions.

The audience are shown the young Don Bosco at the bedside of the dying boy, John Cagliero; they hear the priest tell the boy that he will not die, that he will go far, amongst pagans to baptise and to draw to Christ.

Then, in a series of episodes based on actual happenings which our missionaries themselves have related in their letters, the story of the missions is told. Labour, sacrifice, zeal, tragedy, comedy all are there confused as life alone confuses them.

We feel sure that this second Salesian contribution to Catholic films will be not less successful than its predecessor.

Spain.

As we write there is little further news of our confrères in Spain or of the fate of their houses. Occasionally the secular press reports some new act of desecration against one or the other of our churches, the slaughter of one more of our priests or nuns. We are now certain of the deaths of 22 Salesians and 2 Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians. Until we have more definite and sure news we shall not attempt to provide our Co-operators with any



Spain. - The theatre of our school at Barcelona burnt down by 'Reds' in October 1934.



A little girl whom Don Bosco cured. An actual event that has been narrated in the film.



Onas Indians who appear in the film.



French Scouts renewing their promise before Don Bosco's statue at the Oratory.

kind of complete account of the progress of the war as it concerns us.

We hope to give a full account of the sufferings of our Spanish Salesians when the present unhappy conditions are at an end. Meanwhile we urge all our readers to redouble their prayers and especially their acts of sacrifice on behalf of the people of Spain.

Fr. Sacchetti S. C.

Congratulations to Father Sacchetti S. C. who has been invited by the High Commissioner for Palestine to join the Government's Standing Committee for Commerce and Industry. Father Sacchetti is rector of the Salesian agricultural school in Beitgemal, Palestine. He has for some time been a member of the General Agricultural Council and this invitation is a further tribute to his wide experience of agricultural matters in Palestine.

Thanks.

In our last issue we published an account of the disastrous effects of a water-spout upon our mission in the Belgian Congo. We wish to thank on behalf of the missionaries those co-operators who have so generously sent offerings to be forwarded to La Kafubu.

Don Bosco and the Scouts.

An English Jesuit Father who, recently, whilst on his way to Rome, visited our Mother House in Turin, recalled with evident pleasure that he himself had suggested Don Bosco as the model of all Catholic Boy Scouts.

The occasion was the Catholic Scouts rally held in the grounds of our missionary college at Shrigley nearly eighteen months ago. The suggestion was taken up and Don Bosco has been officially declared patron of certain sections of Catholic Scouts in England.

We were further reminded of this recently when we came across a speech made in the presence of some Boy Scouts by Mgr. Beckman, Archbishop of Dubuque (U. S. A.).

His Lordship is a great lover of Don Bosco and his methods, and an appreciative admirer also of Catholic Scouting. Unfortunately we have mislaid the text of the speech but the substance is more or less as follows.

In regard to chosing friends, I would like you to follow the rule which Don Bosco laid down for himself as a boy. He divided his fellow pupils into three divisions: good, bad, indifferent With the good he made friends; with the indifferent he made friends only when necessity demanded; the bad he left severely alone.

Quite recently I expressed the wish that his

teaching should be taken as so many lessons for the young, and his principles as so many rules of conduct for all who belong to the scout movement.

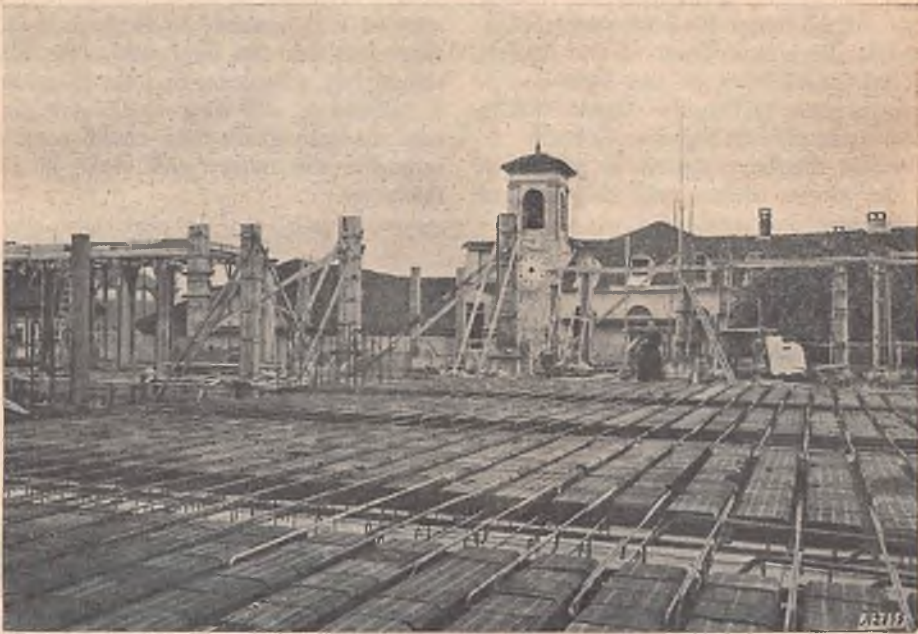
One article in your programme provides for an annual retreat in camp. Many of you have already taken part in it and I am sure they have profited immensely. I approve wholeheartedly of these periods of recollection and I hope that very soon the day will come when clergy, parents and scouts themselves will realise that retreats constitute an essential element of Catholic scouting.

Thus we have erected amongst the youth of our diocese a valuable powerhouse of spiritual and religious activity; the results have been so consoling that in future these camp-retreats will form an integral part of our diocesan programme of Catholic Action. Other dioceses are imitating

our example and in a very short time the camp-retreat will be everywhere the order of the day.

The series of exercises to be made during these periods of recollection, has been drawn up under my own directions and I feel quite sure that they conform to the temperament and needs of young people of your age. Games and practises of piety both have their place, that is to say, those things which in the mind of our patron, S. John Bosco, are especially adapted to the formation of the character of the young.

In France many scout troops have been placed under Don Bosco's protection but Mgr. Beckam is the first bishop to extend an official invitation to the scouts of his diocese to follow wholeheartedly Don Bosco's "way".



Turin. - A recent photograph showing the progress of the basilica which has now reached its 'third floor'.

OFFERINGS MAY BE SENT TO:

The Very Rev. Superior General

Oratorio Salesiano - Via Cottolengo, 32

TORINO (Italy).

S. JOHN BOSCO AT CARFIN

Mainly due to Father Taylor of Carfin, devotion to Don Bosco is spreading rapidly throughout Scotland. Two guilds of teachers have already chosen him as patron. He is patron of the Catholic Times the official Catholic newspaper for Scotland, he is enthroned at the famous Carfin shrine as well as in the hearts of thousands who have come to know and love him.

Below we give accounts of two 'Don Bosco' days at Carfin which show how this love for Don Bosco is being propagated.

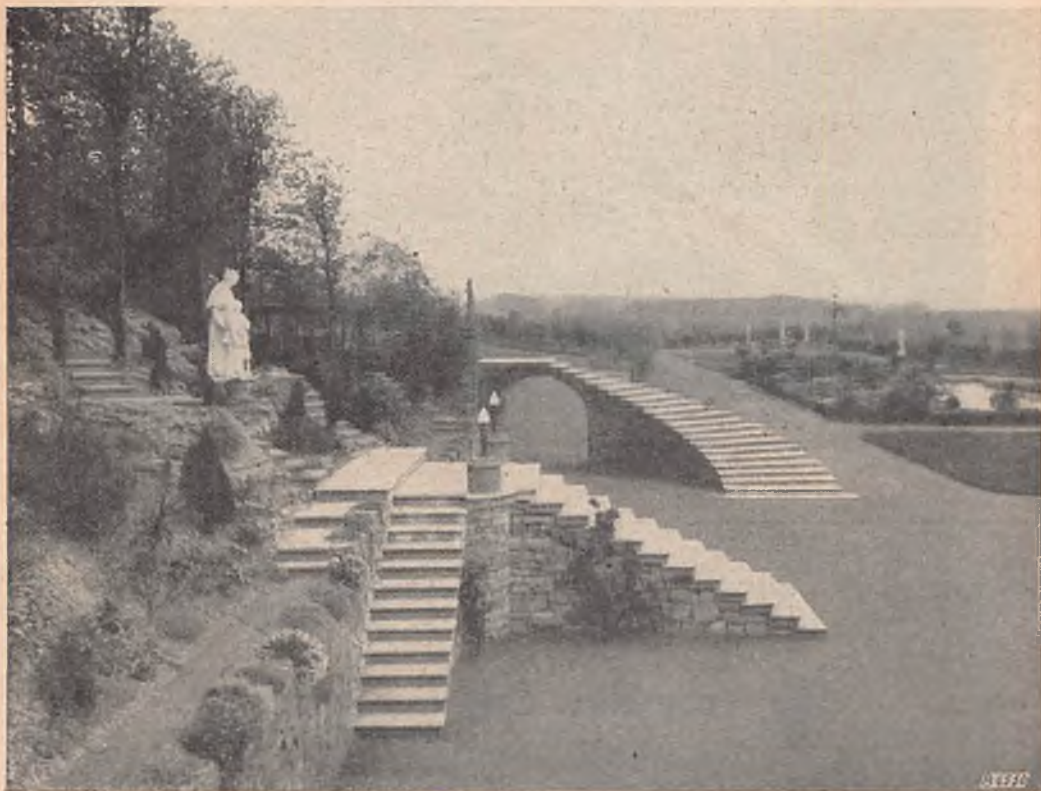
On Sunday about 7,000 members of the Boys' Guild attended the annual pilgrimage at Carfin arranged by the S. Vincent de Paul Society. At the outset the boys were accommodated in the area in front of Our Lady's statue and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by Very Rev. Canon Mullin, chaplain of the S.V.P. Superior Council.

Thereafter the boys moved in procession round the various shrines until they reached

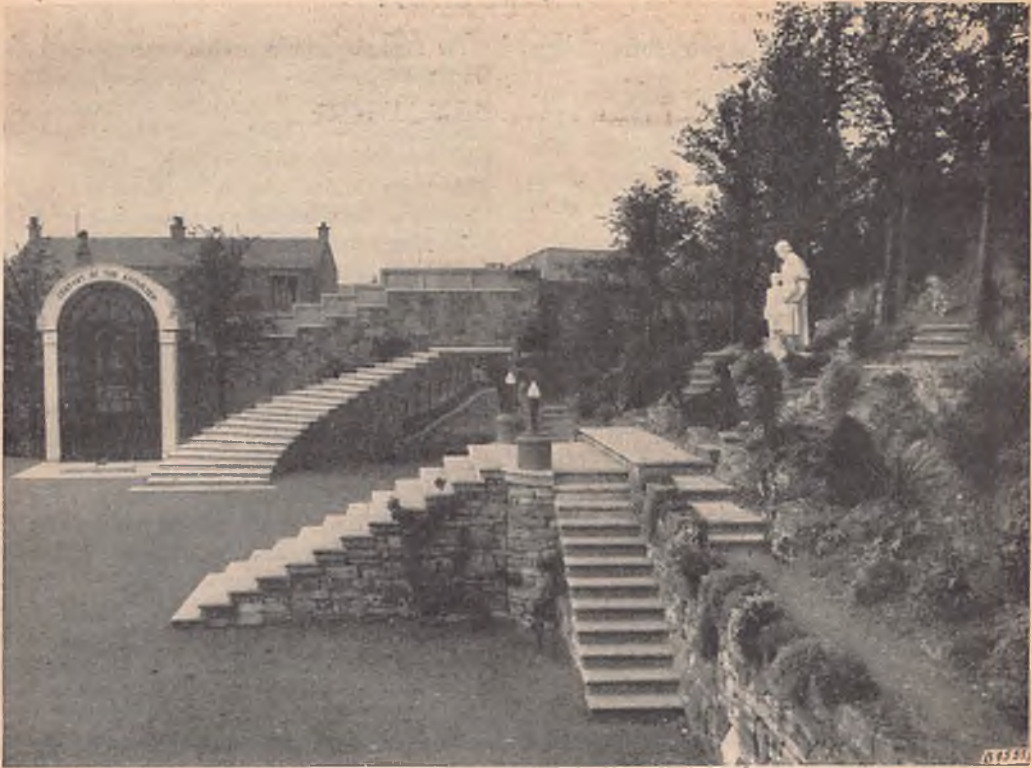
the Don Bosco Square where they were once more arranged in mass formation. Prominently in front were two pipe bands and Boy Scouts.

A Boys' Patron.

Father Taylor welcomed the boys to the Carfin Grotto and especially to the shrine of a saint canonised by our Holy Father the Pope on Easter Sunday. It was unusual to canonise anyone on a Easter Sunday, but the present Pope knew S. John Bosco and made an exception in his case. Father Taylor thought that after the Little Flower, whom the Pope dearly loved, the favourite with his Holiness is he whom the Pope called a "gigantic saint". If there be any to whom John Bosco appeals, it is certainly to Catholic boys. He suggested that the boys who were listening should buy a book on S. John Bosco costing a half-crown. If they could not get that sum as individuals they could combine to subscribe the money and share in reading the story.



Don Bosco's shrine at Carfin.



Carfin. - Another view.

The book he recommended was the cheapest, best and freshest and was by a Scottish nun in Edinburgh. All should get it and read it. It might bring tears to their eyes as it had done to the eyes of their elders. It was a wonderful book of a wonderful man.

Six Trades.

It was the story of a poor boy hunted from his home by the persecution of a step-brother who was angered that John Bosco should want to become a priest and do no work whilst he had to work in the fields. This brother made things so hot that one day his mother made up a packet and told John Bosco to go away and make his own living. He went from place to place and from one master to another until before he was a priest he had learned six different trades. He did not know that God was training him to teach other boys.

Since then hundreds of thousands of lads had been saved through the spiritual sons of Don Bosco.

One of his boys was Dominic Savio who died at the age of 15. This boy appeared to him in a vision and showed the saint a vast multitude of boys and said: "You have saved all these boys". Then that boy dared to

say: "And if you had had more faith, Don Bosco, you would have saved more".

The Imp.

Don Bosco began with a few boys in Turin and they became hundreds. He made them decent citizens and some of them he made saints. There was another famous boy who was not a saint. He was an imp. He was not bad, but there was no practical joke or trick played by boys that he did not attempt. Teachers tried again and again to get him out of the school, but Don Bosco always advised patience. The boy became a great musician and a great missionary and the Pope made him a Cardinal. It was that cardinal who closed the eyes of the dying Don Bosco. The worst punishment that the Saint administered was a look, and it was always enough.

The Saint was now looking down on this army of boys at Carfin. He knew the boys were there. In lifetime he used to appear a thousand miles away to give messages. He told a rector to put away four boys who were working mischief. The rector thought he must have been dreaming, but a few days later he received a letter asking, "Have you sent those boys away?"

Mysterious Dogs.

During his life a mysterious grey dog appeared from nowhere to defend him and it saved him several times when his life was in danger. Like all who perform good work, the Saint had enemies who sought to destroy him.

In South America an addition was being built to a convent. When the back walls were taken down the convent was open to the four winds. Thieves climbed over the walls and roamed round the grounds. The nuns could not sleep for terror. Next morning they said: "Don Bosco, if you would only send us your dog!" That night they heard the strangers and then they heard the howling of dogs. They found there were six dogs exactly like Don Bosco's dog. They were friendly with the nuns but they would not eat anything, no matter how tempting. That went on for two months. The dogs guarded the convent at night and disappeared during the day. When the last stone was placed in position the dogs disappeared altogether.

Father Taylor concluded by asking for prayers in honour of John Bosco, St Vincent de Paul, Our Lady of Lourdes, and the Little Flower.

Teachers' Guild and C. O. M. Carfin Pilgrimage.

A bitterly cold wind and threatening clouds failed to damp the fervour of the Children of Mary and the St John Bosco Guild of Catholic Teachers at their annual rally at Carfin on Sunday.

Many scholars accompanied the Sisters of Charity from Lanark, Smyllum, Tollcross, Glasgow, Rutherglen, St Peter's Edinburgh; and St Anne's, George Square, Edinburgh. Contingents were brought by the Sisters of Mercy from St Patrick's, Edinburgh, and the Sacred Heart, Lauriston. Franciscan Sisters from Meryllee Convent were also present and Brother Germanus, headmaster of St Mungo's Academy, had charge of over 200 pupils....

The Children of Mary in their blue cloaks lent a colourful picture to Masabielle as they lined the balconies and filled the grotto. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by Rev. Dr Grimley before the procession moved off round the various shrines. A halt was made at the Don Bosco Square where a sermon was delivered to the Don Bosco Guild by Rev. Dr. Grimley.

Dr Grimley chose as his text words taken from the salutation of St Elizabeth to Our Lady at the Visitation: "And blessed art thou that has believed". The glory of Mary, said the preacher, is that she is the Mother of God. The truer understanding is that she was a worthy mother because she was full of faith.

As Our Lord preached to the multitude one day, there was a woman in the crowd who womanlike said: "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee and the breasts that gave Thee suck". He answered for our benefit: "More blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it" — more blessed therefore is Mary my Mother. What a consolation! Mary took the child in her arms and said: "My Lord and my God". She believed with a faith which makes ours almost puny and tiny.

Mary was the first to believe that God would become man; more, that He would become her baby, her child. "How shall this be done because I know not man? Be it done unto me according to Thy word". She believed with a faith that never failed.

Don Bosco and Our Lady.

We live in countries that do not know the warmth of God because man and the coldness of their atmosphere will so easily chill the faith that was given to us. If that statue (pointing to that of St John Bosco) could come to life, he would say: "Imitate the virtues of Mary, especially her faith".

Remember your great patron, who loved Mary, Help of Christians. Time after time he got pardoned sinners to come into the church with him and say one Hail Mary. You have great work before you. You have to instruct the young. Do you look upon it as a tremendously sacred trust to have anything to do with the young? "If anyone scandalise the least of these my little ones, it were better for him that a millstone were tied round his neck and he were cast into the depths of the sea". So jealous is God of the souls of the young.

Duty to the Children.

These souls are given to you through the hands of the parents to mould by your words and by the way you live. Your knowledge is regarded as perfect; they look to you to see what to practise. You should not have chosen so jealous a teacher of the young as your patron, if you did not mean to live like him. All I ask you is to remember the confidence with which you can approach Mary.

Across the Salesian World

Madras. - Sacred Heart Seminary.

Scenes of great enthusiasm marked the opening of the Sacred Heart Seminary at Poona-mallee by His Grace Archbishop Mathias on Tuesday. The extensive grounds of the institution were gaily decorated with flags, festoons and bunting and presented an animated appearance. Long before the time fixed for the formal opening, cars and 'buses poured into the compound with hundreds of Catholics from almost every parish in the city. A bronze statue of the Sacred Heart surmounted on a graceful and artistic fountain — the design of which was given by His Grace — attracted considerable attention. The statue stands on a globe of the world arranged tier above tier, seven lambs, symbol of the seven sacraments surrounding the globe. The priesthood is symbolised by the first tier, that of the chosen souls and Catholics the next, and the last the world. The idea is that the Sacred Heart, the source of all blessings, bestows grace on souls through the channels of the seven sacraments. The priests are the instruments chosen by God for the diffusion of grace among souls and through these on the world.

The visitors inspected the buildings with keen interest. The seminary buildings, the class rooms, the quarters of the staff, the Archbishop's villa and other cottages all looked spick and span, thoroughly renovated at considerable expense and fitted with electricity and flush out and water taps, for which an engine and a dynamo have been installed. What four months ago looked an old and dilapidated building — though strong and solid, having originally served the purposes of a military hospital — has put on a bright and attractive appearance. The names of the donors of columns, doors, windows and benches were engraved on little marble slabs or brass plates and affixed in various parts of the building reminding the seminarians of their benefactors and testifying to the generosity of Catholics. The amount hitherto received in the country is only Rs. 10,680; if the whole amount promised in instalments is received, a total of Rs. 18,000 will be reached. The cost of the buildings will come up to Rs. 80,000, when the repairs and alterations are completed. The work is

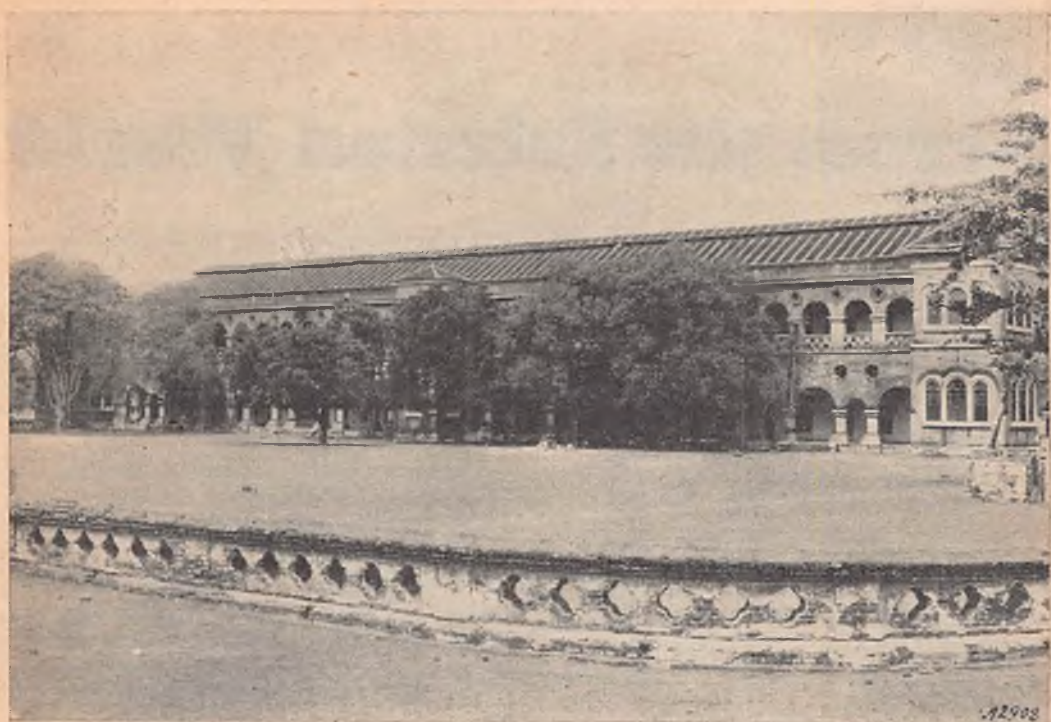
still proceeding and may be finished by the end of next month.

On Tuesday morning at 8-30, His Grace sang a Pontifical High Mass, the Salesian novices and scholastics from Tiruppattur rendering the music. Almost all the priests from North Arcot were present and assisted at the Mass.

The Rector of the Seminary entertained His Grace the Archbishop and the clergy, both secular and religious, the Salesian scholastics and the seminarists to lunch at noon. Mgr. P. Thomas speaking on behalf of the secular clergy thanked His Grace for providing the Archdiocese with such a magnificent seminary for training a diocesan clergy. Fr. Carreno, S. C., Rector of the Salesian Scholasticate at Tiruppattur, expressed his gratitude to His Grace for inviting the Salesians for the memorable functions of the day. Archbishop Mathias in reply taking advantage of the observations of the two previous speakers emphasised the need for closer unity among all the clergy, religious and secular, to whatever society or nationality they might belong as the two strong arms of the body of the Church.

The main function was held in the afternoon at 4 p.m. Almost all the priests of the Archdiocese were present besides the Right Rev. F. H. Franco, Frs. E. Charroin, S. J., Rector of Loyola College, Frs. L. D. Murphy, F. Basenach and Gilmore, the Patrician Brothers from the Adyar, nuns from various convents and many of the leading and representative Catholics of the city. There was also a large gathering of Catholic young men and women representing the various sodalities and associations. After some musical items, His Grace delivered an address extracts from which are published below. His Grace then called upon Mgr. Franco to unveil the commemoration stone. Mgr. Franco pressed an electric button and the white and yellow cloth, indicating papal colours, at once fell down disclosing a beautiful stone of white marble with the striking inscription in Latin, the text of which and a translation appear in the Archbishop's address.

The guests were then entertained to tea and music and drill by the Salesian choir and the



The new seminary at Madras.



Another view of the new seminary.

Vellore school boys. With the procession of the Blessed Sacrament round the lengthy and spacious corridors of the building and open air Benediction the function was brought to a close. The band of S. Patrick's Orphanage, Adyar, and of the Vellore school played during intervals.

The Right Rev. Mgr. G. Mora, S. C., V. G., who has been in charge of the small Seminary at the Cathedral and the students of which have now gone to the major Seminary, has been appointed Rector.

Extract from the address of Archbishop Mathias.

In a few brief words, the Holy Gospel with simplicity and profundity limns a full history. In one simple sentence we find the synthesis of the work we are inaugurating to-day. "From the fruits shall you know the tree". Do we not find here a compendium of the scope, the necessity, the greatness, the life, the results of this work? The fruits that will shoot from the seed we are planting to-day will relate the beauty and the excellence of this work of works for a Diocese. God, man, the earth, the skies, all ought to combine with us in blessing this work which rises to the glory of God, to the salvation of souls, this work which shall be a sustainer of the earth, the glory of heaven.

For one soul that will be formed here, a hundred, a thousand souls will be benefited, for one heart that will be moulded here, a hundred, a thousand hearts will be moulded; for one conscience that will be guided here, a hundred, a thousand consciences will be guided, placed on the road that lies to well-doing.

Education.

Some think that a formation merely catechetical or biblical is a sufficient preparation for one who wishes to give himself to the service of God, whereas His Holiness, Pius XI, in the encyclical just quoted, lays down: "It is of great importance that priests should have a learning adequate to the requirements of the age". And especially in these days is such a learning necessary, when some ignorantly call the Church "obscurantist" and glibly talk of the ignorance of the clergy. Only those who do not know our priests, and thus do not know what they are talking about, can speak in this way. This is neither the time nor the place to prove that if the Church had not existed Science and Letters would not hold the position they occupy to-day, nevertheless a little thought will make all realise the immense debt that the world owes the Church in the arena of secular science.

In addition to religion, sacred science, philosophy, and theology, the seminaries teach mathematics, history, literature, etc. etc.; in fine all that knowledge which will help the priest in his contact with the people. Learned priests can be counted to-day by the thousand; holy and learned priests, in the course of the twenty centuries of Catholicism, in thousands. Christ is the Light, and hence His ministers too should be light: light in the realms of science, light in the practical life, light to the intellect, to the heart, to the soul, to all.

A Power Station.

And to give to Madras, to our dear Archdiocese, a Power Station, a centre of Light, of Heat, and of Energy we have solemnly inaugurated and blessed to-day this Seminary which must be a true Nursery; the security of life, of longevity of our Diocese. May it be acceptable to God. We pray that the benediction we have given to-day to this beautiful edifice may embrace also all those who have contributed in any way to its restoration and revival.

Pope's Blessing.

It gives me great consolation before concluding to read the telegram we have received from Rome: "Archbishop Mathias, Madras".

"Holy Father sends Apostolic Blessing superiors, students new Seminary, Madras, auguring cenacle generous apostles, praying abundant graces Your Excellency, all benefactors".

FUMASONI-BIONDI
Cardinal Prefect.

Before calling on Mgr. Franco to unveil the stone, I will read the text and the translation:

Pio PP XI
Cleri indigenae sollerti fautore
Feliciter regnante
Hanc molem augustam
In Seminarium Madraspolitanae Archidioecesis
Divina Providentia decretam
DD Ludovicus Mathias
Ejusdem Civitatis Antistes
Aedibus instauratis
Anno Salutis MXMXXXVI
VI Idus Septembris
Qua die Almae Deiparae terris ortae
Solemnia aguntur
Clero et populo gestientibus
Jesu Cordi Sacratissimo
Laeto animo solemniter Lustrans
Dedicavit

In the happy reign of Pius XI, strenuous promotor of the indigenous clergy, the Most Revd.



Monsignor Mathias taken before the main portico of the new seminary

Louis Mathias, Archbishop of Madras, in the year of grace 1936, on the 8th September, the day on which we commemorate the birth on earth of the mother of God, amidst the applause of clergy and laity, joyfully and solemnly blessed and dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, this magnificent building, repaired, decreed by divine Providence to be the Seminary of the Archdiocese of Madras.

Now I officially declare the Sacred Heart Seminary open, and I ask the Rt. Rev. Mgr. F. H. Franco to unveil the Commemoration stone.

Watsonville (California). - Visit of the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon.

One of the most glorious pages in the annals of Saint Francis School and of the Parish Church of Our Lady, Help of Christians, in Watsonville was certainly the visit of His Eminence the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, Portugal, Manuel Gonsalves Cerejiera, on August 20.

His Eminence arrived at the School at 3:30 p.m., accompanied by his Secretary, Rt. Rev. Monsignor Mesquita, and a host of clergymen. The reception took place in the

spacious and artistically decorated gymnasium. On the centre of the stage was a throne chair, draped with a covering of bright crimson silk, the colour of the regalia worn by a Cardinal. To the right of the throne stood an American flag and to the left the Portuguese flag. Ferns and flowers were arranged about the stage and the footlights. Chairs for the guests were placed in a semicircle from the Cardinal's throne. Seated on the stage were the Rev. Henry Ferreira, S. C., the Rev. Joseph Galli, S. C., Pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church, San Francisco, Mr. J. C. Valim, Supreme Secretary of the I. D. E. S., William J. Espindola of Watsonville, the Rev. Arthur Cantwell, brother of His Excellency the Most Rev. Bishop of Los Angeles, and others.

Father Bergamo opened the reception by extending a welcome to the Cardinal, expressing the gratitude of the Portuguese people and Catholics of Pajaro Valley for his visit. Then he introduced as speakers, Dr. Lopes, Fr. L. Galli, S. C., Fr. Joseph Galli, S. C., and Mr. J. C. Valim. At the end the Cardinal himself spoke.

In his paternal address he told the audience of his extreme pleasure in visiting his countrymen in California. He told them of their

proud traditions as Catholics, as a race, which has given to the world mighty explorers.

Between addresses the St. Francis School and Richmond choirs sang under the direction of Rev. Joseph Romani, S. C., and Rev. G. Zavattaro, S. C.

Pontifical Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was given by His Eminence, followed by the taking of photographs of the crowd that attended the reception.

About fifty guests met at seven p.m. to attend a banquet given in honour of His Eminence in the dining room of St. Francis School.

Addresses in four different languages were read at this remarkable gathering.

His Eminence remained a guest of St. Francis School for the night. The following morning he celebrated Mass at 8 o'clock, when a great number flocked to the pretty Valley Church to receive the Bread of Life at his hands.

At Communion the Cardinal spoke again words that seemed really to be inspired by the Holy Spirit Himself.

At ten o'clock His Eminence left us amid clamorous applause.

U. S. A. Paterson and Clifton.

The Salesian Cooperators of both Paterson and Clifton, New Jersey, held their Annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of The Blessed Friend

of Youth at Newton, New Jersey on August 16 1936.

For weeks in advance these zealous cooperators invited their friends to join them in this beautiful and impressive pilgrimage to the Altar of St. John Bosco at the Salesian Seminary at Newton, N. J.

August 16 was a bright and happy day for them. Six Public Services buses were filled to capacity with these good devotees of the saint of modern times.

Upon their immediate arrival a solemn High Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of the Seminary — during which a sermon on the life of St. John Bosco was delivered by the Spiritual Director of the Cooperators in Paterson and Clifton — The Rev. D. W. Cecere, S. C. Father Cecere touched and laid particular stress on the formation of that important part of the vast Salesian Family — the Cooperators.

Lunch was enjoyed by the cooperators in the gymnasium during which the Seminary band entertained them.

At 4 o'clock all gathered once again in the Seminary chapel where Solemn Vespers were chanted by the Seminarians. A sermon was then delivered by the Rev. F. M. Alvin, S. C. and the service was brought to a close with the Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The relic of St. John Bosco was venerated by the faithful at the end of the services



Cardinal Gonsalves Cerejiera at Watsonville.

NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONS



A 'general stores' in Hong Kong.

West Point, Hong Kong.

China has been called the heroic mission. In addition to the ordinary difficulties that any missionary finds when he goes amongst a primitive people the Chinese missionary has to combat all the difficulties bred by overwhelming poverty.

Misery is the seed-bed for irreligion, for communism. The success of the Russians was greater in China than anywhere outside their own unhappy country, just because China was so poor and abandoned.

Our Salesian missionaries have reason to expect a great harvest in China; have not two of their number — Monsignor Versiglia and Father Caravario — already given their lives for this end? But little or nothing can be done without your help now, at once. We recommend the Chinese mission to your prayers and generosity.

West End or, as it is more commonly called, West Point, Hong Kong, is the poorest quarter of the Colony, with the exception perhaps of Shaukiwan, a fishing village noteworthy because our Missionary House is there. The good Spirit of the Island — the dollar — rarely visits either place.

West Point has no religion to alleviate its

misery save one of superstition and fear. A certain cult is rendered to placate those spirits who, the people believe, can do them harm.

Housing conditions are of the most miserable. The flat system is most popular.

What complicates matters, however, is when the tenant of a single flat starts doing business by letting out the four corners of his tiny room. Some are too poor to pay even for this shelter; they sleep out under shop porticos. Late one wet night I had occasion to pass under these porticos. In my haste I stumbled over something that grunted. On looking closer, I distinguished a family — father, mother and baby — lying under a heap of dirty sacks. There they lay at the mercy of passing feet, Exposed to the rain that a few steps away poured down in torrents.

Then there is the small matter of overcrowding. The following incident is an example of what has already happened and can still happen at West Point. Last year a gasometer burst, shooting a jet of gas broadside on at a block of flats. The flats took fire and before that fire was under control it had burnt to death thirty-five persons. This block incidentally has since been repaired but is still

empty and will remain so. It is possessed by the "evil one".

No-one is to blame; Hong Kong is a free port. Thousands of Chinese workers come in from all parts, hopelessly overcrowding the place.

Moreover, when these workers do arrive they can be subjected to a most heartless system of "sweated labour". As yet the local Chinese have not thought of Trade Unions. The employers, for the most part "small" men, are not troubled by the thought that their money is gained by "sweating" others. Moreover as long as the work is clean it is not so bad. It is when you consider smithing, to take one example, that you get some idea of what goes on.

Go down to West Point in the evening (any time up to ten or eleven o'clock they work as late as that) peer into the depths of a smithy, low, ill-lit and smoke-filled, you can see the dark forms of men and boys working together, and hear the creaking handbellows coughing into the air hot flames that intermittently illumine the place. Suffocating fumes belch forth to reach the air by means of the one ventilator — the door. Only here do you realise the lot of West Point's poor.

Why they ever left their home in the country to gain a miserable pittance under such murderous conditions, God alone knows. Pallid faces, shrunken bodies and consumptive coughs are the physical results, the moral effect can more easily be imagined than described.

I hope this does not sound like "uplift". It is nothing of the sort. It is an attempt to give you an idea of the surroundings in which we are working in S. Louis Industrial school. As you see there is plenty to do. We try to get some of it done, knowing well that our greatest efforts will make little or no impression.

Salesian activities at West Point comprise the Parish, the school and the Festive Oratory.

Christians in the parish number 300. There is real fervour in them if one is to judge from their attendance at Mass on Sundays. Many come to Mass daily and receive Holy Communion. To attract visitors, Catholic lectures are given weekly in a hall built for that purpose — a venture which produces good fruit in the shape of 15 baptisms yearly.

At the school we have accepted as many boys as we possibly could, both in the Elements and in the Trades Section. This year the number had to be reduced almost by half because of reconstruction work in the older part of the building. At present we have 60

interns and 20 externs at the Trades Section. The Elementary Section where the boys receive a good elementary education according to Chinese standards, with a roll of 350 boys is quite full.

Naturally our Festive Oratory is flourishing. The attendance is such that the playing space at our disposal is utterly inadequate. Much extra ground could be cleared, but that would mean additional expense and we have yet to pay the costs of the recent alterations.

Sunday is the big day of the week at the Oratory — a day well filled with games, catechism and a theatre show or cinema.

After games follows catechism. Not catechism with "nut breakers" to memorise; something up-to-date instead. Explanation by a Catechist — one of themselves trained to the work — then the point is discussed amicably.

At times the poor Catechist is asked some very odd questions. Here only his wit saves him. Laughs are plentiful and that keeps the sleepy ones awake and interested. Catechism over, a rush is made for the door. Not however, if it happens to be a feast-day, for then we distribute tickets for the evening's theatre. Our theatre is a minor social event. Members of the boys' families come along, ostensibly to see where the boys spend their time. Hours before, the boys themselves have collected at the gate making more mischief than a cage of monkeys.

Doors open, they troop in to take possession of the best seats until they are gently but firmly removed to make way for the "elders".

If the occasion is an important one, an interval occurs during which sweets are distributed and the school band renders selections. You can imagine what a pleasure it is for some of the parents.

When there is nothing more to amuse us and everybody feels like bedtime, our guests troop off home; but not until a few prayers have been said to plant in those hearts, young and old, a thought of Almighty God.

* * *

As you see we do very little compared to what we might do if...

P. LAPPIN
Salesian Missionary.

Correspondence may be addressed to:

Rev. Father Rector
St. Louis Ind. School

West Point. HONG KONG (China).



GRACES AND FAVOURS RECEIVED

THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF
MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS AND
SAINT JOHN BOSCO

Mr. George — Thanks for special favours received from Mary Help of Christians, Saint John Bosco and other Servants of God.

Macroom Co. Cork — In thanksgiving to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary for favours received through the intercession of Mamma Margaret Bosco.

O B I T U A R Y

Our readers are asked to pray for the eternal repose of the souls of the following Co-operators who have died recently.

Rev. D. Humphreys. Killenaule. Co. Tipperary Ireland.

Rev. R. Grant. Ingatestone. Essex. England.

Rev. E. Brennan. Mountrath. Queen's Co. Ireland.

Sister Mary of Mercy (O'Connor). Carlow. Ireland.

Mr. M. O'Hara. Dumbarton. Scotland.

Mr. Holland. Battersea Park (London). England.

Mrs. M. A. Sheehan. Tralee. Ireland.

Sister Rose Gallo, Superior of the Battersea Convent of the Daughters of Our Lady, Help of Christians, founded by St. John Bosco, died recently. She was born at Cambiano, Turin, Italy, in 1876, and had spent 39 years in religion. For the last 13 years she was Superior in succession at Farnborough and Battersea.

She was a real mother in her community. Her solid piety shone forth even greater during her last illness which constrained her to an almost continuous inactivity for nearly 18 months.

Ellen Reed. Imparting knowledge of the divine truths through teaching catechism to our public school children is assuredly furthering the lifelong labour of Saint John Bosco to bring boys to the joyful and virile profession and practice of our Holy Faith. In the United States many lay persons have been assisting the Salesians to enlighten the minds of our young American Catholics with the verities revealed by Christ. On November 13th occurs the anniversary of the death of Miss Reed, who for twenty years with capacity, sacrifice and enthusiasm strove successfully to infuse a knowledge and love of Our Lord and His Blessed Mother in the minds and hearts of the promising boys of the two fine parishes in New York City confided to the guidance of the Salesian Fathers, Transfiguration at 29 Mott Street, and Mary Help of Christians, 440 East 12th Street. Miss Reed is gratefully remembered by the Salesians in both parishes and the boys and young men who benefited by her teaching and example will not fail to pray for their departed friend.