

MARIA LEGIONIS



**“Saint John the Baptist in the Wilderness”
by Guercino (Giovanni Francesco Barbieri).**

Reproduced by permission of H. F. J. Leggatt, Esq.

The picture is on loan to the National Gallery of Ireland.

Maria Legionis

From the Editor

The Voice of the Legion of Mary

Vol. 21 No. 4 of 1973

7p



CONTENTS

RELIABILITY	1
WOULD YOU HELP ME PLANT A SEED?	5
BONNIE HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND	6
THE LEGION VOCATION	10
DOING THINGS JOYFULLY ON THE ISLAND OF GOD	11
PRaises OF MARY	13
VISIT TO ISRAEL	14
NOR IRON BARS A CAGE	17
ANGEL IN THE UNIVERSE	19
FROM THE LEGIONARY WORLD	23

Dear Readers:

In this final issue for 1973 we wish to express sincere thanks for your co-operation during the year. To all who subscribed to *Maria Legionis*, to those who sent in news items and literary contributions we are most grateful. Many letters of appreciation received have given us encouragement and with the help of your continued support we look forward to a wider expansion in 1974.

We rely on each of you to share in our efforts by helping to increase the circulation of our journal. We would like to hear from those who have devised ways and means of building up readership. Tell us how you do it and we will pass on the good news. Perhaps we would also suggest that each of you might like to send an acceptable gift to a friend in the form of a year's subscription. If you send name and address with 50p to: **MARIA LEGIONIS**, 2 Hardwicke Street, Dublin 1, we shall be happy to dispatch our journal quarterly. We look forward to your order and to sharing with you in the apostolate of the press for 1974.

OUR COVER

It is time that we have a Cover Picture of St. John the Baptist. Nearly all the other Legion patrons have been thus presented. So we give you a painting of him, one on which the imagination can rest with satisfaction as representing that noble figure worthily. He is correctly depicted in regard to age, manly, graceful, handsome, like unto Our Lord himself in these respects—as we might expect from the facts that he was Our Lord's kinsman and likewise full of wisdom and of grace, having been prepared for his work by none other than the Mother of Jesus herself.

Believing that the Saints who played a special part in regard to Our Lord's mission continue to fulfil the same role in regard to the Mystical Body, the Legion chose those Saints to be its patrons. Only one of them forms an exception; it is St. Louis Marie de Montfort whose inclusion was due to other compelling reasons.

If those Saints were necessary to Jesus, they are similarly necessary to us. But it is the rule that devotion be given to them by way of invocation and gratitude.

The article on page 1 of this issue terminates on the note of St. John as a particular exemplification of strength of character and reliability, and therefore a special model for legionaries whose work depends on those qualities. He goes before the Lord, to make plain their ways and make straight their paths.



On his recent visit to Ireland, Cardinal Juan Landazuri Ricketts, O.F.M., Archbishop of Lima and Primate of Peru, is seen here at the Legion Headquarters, with on his right, Mr. Frank Duff, on left, Mr. Brian Boyd, former Viator in Peru, Mr. James Cummins, President of Concilium, and Miss Patricia Kavanagh, correspondent with Lima.

Nihil Obstat : THOMAS O'FLYNN, C.M., *Censor Deputatus*.
Imprimi Potest : ✠DERMITIUS, *Archiep. Dublinen., Hiberniae Primas*
Dublini die 30^o Decembris 1973.

RELIABILITY

by Frank Duff

I DISCUSS with you the question of reliability. The Handbook has something to the effect that without courage all the other virtues do not amount to much; for without courage they could not stand up to adverse pressure or hold firm when they are most required, that is at the moment of temptation and crisis. Presumably the very same could be said of the quality of reliability. What use is anything if it cannot be depended on? Unreliable virtue is a contradiction in terms. We might as well speak of an unbelieving faith.

Strange to say, this idea of reliability always bulked large in my own mind because it figured in a phrase which my mother used in regard to me when I was young. I repeat it to you, not indeed by way of a boast for I am always nervous in regard to that truthful saying that pride goes before a fall. I quote it because it is so close to my mind. Occasionally she used to call me "Old Reliability" because I was always there, she said, when I was needed. She spoke casually and could never have imagined the extent to which her words sank in and gave my thoughts an inclination. I valued that commendation and tried to act up to it.

We talk of the tail which wags the dog in order to express the notion of something which appears to be a mere appendage, or something minor, but which nevertheless can control the entire body of which it forms part. That image of the tail of the dog applies universally in human affairs, and we should always beware of disregarding lesser things on the grounds that they do not count.

If we judged everything by its visible size or strength, we would end up by being usually wrong. We could suppose the elephant to be more important than the man, or the stars to be more important than the soul. In this connection Pascal has said that all the stars and the entire material creation are less important than a single human thought. This seems pretty drastic but of course it is true.

Therefore it is essential that we do not allow our attention to be monopolised by what we imagine at first sight to be the main factor. Do not neglect details, for one of them may really be the centre from which proceeds the motive power. For example, the prodigious modern oil tanker is driven

by engines which represent a negligible proportion of the total ship. Remember too the old saying: Take care of the pence and the pounds will look after themselves. And above all, the soul, which is the chief part of a man, is invisible so that it is possible to deny its existence.

It is into that general setting of the things that may seem to be minor but which may in fact be predominating circumstances that I place my present subject of reliability.

The scheme of the Legion may be said to rest on this element of reliability in its members. If you examine the Handbook you will find that reliability is presumed as a necessity. It is the connecting link between the member and the system. The Doctrine of the Mystical Body depends on the inter-association of the Head and all its parts. So much is the Legion an expression of every aspect of that Doctrine that the Handbook could be called a Manual of the Mystical Body. Legionary efficiency depends on faithful working in every particular; not deeming the superiority of the spiritual to justify the ignoring of the lesser items. In fact the higher and the lower may be so closely bound together as to be virtually one; the spiritual may depend on the other. The soul depends on the body.

Again and again in the Handbook it is stressed that we must not pick and choose in the system; that successful membership is to be estimated from the aspect of fulfilling every duty which is laid down, irrespective of their apparent importance. This is common sense. If persons could assign their own values to items of the Legion system, and then neglect what they do not value, the next thing is that there would be no system at all. It would have reduced itself to a go-as-you-please. This fact has been made painfully evident by the would-be Church reformers of the day whose proposals would leave nothing intact and whose special inclination has been to exalt the humanistic at the expense of the spiritual, and to go on from that to despise all rules on the pretext that these fetter the individual initiative and genius. You might as well say: Take all the bones out of the human body and it will be more flexible.



"The TRAFFIC—whatever that means..."

Incredible though it may seem, that outlook has been dictating the course of the general Apostolate. It has been esteemed a virtue to have no rules or regulations, and in fact to encourage each one to pursue his aims in the manner he thinks fit.

The latest is that from an International Conference proceeds the recommendation that the future of the Rosary should be entrusted to a guided diversity. What sort of diversity, and who is to guide it? Guided diversity sounds very like controlled chaos, and chaos has gone beyond guidance.

I sum up for you the final results of this school of thought in the words of a very eminent authority. He has just stated that the Legion of Mary is about to receive its full opportunity by reason of the total disintegration of world Catholic Action. He ascribed this collapse to the prevalent modern contempt for "structure", in other words for all system and rules. It is an extreme tragedy that forty-six years of good intention and effort under the banner of Catholic Action should end so unprofitably because of want of method and good sense.

So from that sad contemplation and salutary lesson let us return to the question of reliability as not only the very characteristic and binding of the Legion system, but as occupying the same vital role in all human affairs. Reliability is the big word in all advertising. They are trying to persuade you that the product they are boosting is reliable. It will not let you down. You can depend your life on it. It is reliable.

So I discuss that central characteristic of reliability.

As we look around us in the Legion we realise that we can make a very rough division of our members into two camps, those who are reliable and those who are less so. One finds oneself viewing the latter with perplexity. What is the matter with them, and what is the value of their membership to themselves and to the Legion? If one is tempted to think

that the Legion would be better without them by reason of the bad example which they set, the counter-reflection presents itself that they would fall asunder if deprived of the Legion. And so one swings between those poles of thought, undecided, and permitting the harm to go on.

That instability is the feature and phenomenon of the day. Engagements do not mean a pledge of any kind; people only mean to keep them if nothing more attractive offers. Punctuality has no footing at all. Is a meeting or function ever held with all present at its beginning? In the case of the legionaries this assumes a particular gravity by reason of the fact that they are late for an appointment with Our Lady and that the prayers are being despoised. Then inconsistently they pray at the end of the meeting for constancy and steadfastness.

Why do so many Presidents keep a watch before them on the table when they do not let it govern the proceedings?

Admittedly—and we may take pleasure from it—the Legion performs better in those respects than the world at large. For example: one week-end when a bomb scare was on in Dublin, only thirty of a booking of one hundred and sixty in the Four Courts Hotel turned up. The following evening a similar Legion booking realised its full number. But the Legion is not usually that good. We keep each other waiting at street corners and when we turn up, the excuse trips lightly off our tongue: "The traffic"—whatever that means. Did they expect the streets to be empty of traffic? Or did they make no allowance for it? A miscalculation can always be pardoned but when the traffic is always pleaded, one sees that it is but a pretext.

Legionaries take on the duty of corresponding with a Curia somewhere. This entails the maintenance of an exchange of letters with it, and also some other obligations. Frequent examples of neglect of this duty show that some had assumed it

lightheartedly, and those Curiae are suffering. So do not make promises without reasonable determination to fulfil them.

It is related of the great Duke of Wellington that a little girl of eight asked him to tell her about the Battle of Waterloo. He looked at his watch and said to her: "I have an appointment in ten minutes and that would be too little time to give you what you want. But I will come to you this day week and I will give you a full account." He kept that promise, but it transpired that in order to do so he had to decline a very important invitation.

Surely we owe it to our own character, as much as Wellington did to his, to honour our obligations. The additional ingredient enters in that if we are steering according to spiritual principles, our promises and appointments are made with the Queen of Heaven.

Legionaries make much of Chapter 25 of the Gospel of St. Matthew in which Our Lord enunciates a consequence of the Doctrine of the Mystical Body: What you do unto others you do unto Me. According to what you so do, you shall receive eternal life. This is a double-edged sword. What if He says to one of us in that final judging: "You were always unreliable towards Me; why do you now rely on Me?"

It is not usually a guilty business when people show themselves unreliable. It is rather that their ideas are in complete disorder. They have no priorities. They have no proper method of weighing one thing against another. Emotions have too much play and duty has too little. What happens when this mental mix-up tries to sort out a situation? Well, it is only an accident if the right thing happens. I give you an example.

At a Reunion of the Russian P.P.C. one girl described the awful fear which took possession of her as they were about to enter Russia. It was such that but for the fact that she was in a party which carried her along she would have turned and fled.

In this there are some valuable lessons. First, that the ordinary person requires discipline or the team spirit to hold him firm. A man on his own is a prey to conflicting ideas and it is not certain that the right will prevail. The emotions, like the waves and the wind, can sweep the ship off its course and perhaps on to a rocky shore.

That could have happened to the girl on the Moscow party. She had abandoned herself so much to fear that she had become irrational. Under the influence of panic her brain had ceased to act; she had allowed herself to be swept into a purely animal condition. Immediately after she had spoken, another girl stated that she too had felt the onset of that fear, but that she had at once said to herself:

What am I afraid of? What is the worst that can happen to me? Then she recalled some briefing which the party had received before setting out in which it had been pointed out that they were not facing real danger; that the worst which could befall would be to be sent home—and that this would only follow on some serious misdemeanour. At once that unreasoning fear vanished. A logical argument had restored the mind to balance.

But the mind must always be kept on balance. It should never be allowed to fall under the influence of pure emotion.

At the same time we must not reduce reliability to a mere psychological process. It is correct to use all means to urge us along the path of duty, but the way we walk is a way of faith, and faith must govern our steps. A purely logical approach to a problem might banish emotions like fear but might replace it by a cold self-interest which could just as much send us on a wrong course. Our weighing up of any situation must be on spiritual scales. We must apply our spiritual principles. We must refer everything to Jesus and Mary.

The effect of doing this can be remarkable. What was confused is seen clearly. What was intimidating becomes very attractive. This simplification is not a miraculous display. We have merely put things into right relation with each other. The perplexities were due to the fact that the ingredients of the situation were being given incorrect values in our mind. Nothing was in proper adjustment and the emotions were running riot. But—like throwing in the right gear in a car—we turn to Jesus and Mary and all is transformed. It is like the case of stumbling around an unfamiliar room in total darkness; it becomes



Never any flinching in Mary.

like a nightmare. But our hand encounters the electric switch. Then what a transformation.

The Handbook draws your attention to the fact that Mary is the very symbol and embodiment of courage. The Liturgy calls her the Valiant Woman. This must not be held to apply only to the peak point of Calvary but to every episode of her life; it was her characteristic. The Lord had said to Satan: "I will set enmities between you and the Woman," that is in every possible respect she was different from him. Along with her Child she had been appointed from all eternity to be Satan's adversary. In every quality and in every event—or rather as a continuous sequence—she would be the opposite to him and on the opposite side.

In other words she is the authentic model of reliability. While utterly gentle and feminine, no force, no terror, could cause her to deviate from her path of destiny. There was never any flinching in her, not even at the foot of the Cross where she endured everything with Jesus except the act of dying itself. Through all that unspeakable torment her resolution never failed, so that the Church has disapproved pictures which show her in a state of prostration.

But the same sort of dependability would mark her every act. You can discern that in her tremendous interview with the Angel Gabriel. He speaks words to her which are humanly impossible of belief and devastating in their implications. She, though unwed, is to have a child and the Child is to be the Lord. What vistas of complication with St. Joseph and everyone else this calls up before her! But there she is: the one on whom God could rely. Out of all mankind, past, present, and to come, she is the only one who possesses the immensity of faith and the universal valour which is required for the Incarnation.

Then there is the Visitation: The Scripture tells us that she went with haste, which does not mean that she worked herself into a flurry, leaving everything in a disarray behind her. No, it means that she put everything into order and set out at the first possible moment. St. Elizabeth needed her. She was there.

Or the Flight into Egypt—a time of terror but not on her own account. The Babe depended completely on her and so did St. Joseph. It was no trembling, shivery, weeping creature that set out with him in the dead of night to traverse the cliff paths. We know that she had not to be comforted and petted. She was a source of strength. If Joseph had faltered for a moment—which we cannot think—he had but to glance at her and all was well again. She was agony within but she was calm without.

Or that worst of all the Mysteries, the loss of Jesus in Jerusalem. Oh who could tell what woe she

felt in those three days of separation. To that event likewise we could apply those words: "All ye who pass, look and see if there is any sorrow like unto my sorrow."

We could continue with those episodes. Every one of her Mysteries and Dolours tells the same story. In each one of them she is manifested in the same guise of sweet strength. She will not fail. Everything is safe in her hands.

Perhaps a final picture may be taken which exhibits her in a simpler, more commonplace role, but where things are made to depend on her. I speak of the Marriage Feast of Cana. She was the one who had her eyes open, who was watchful in regard to every detail. She saw what others missed and she came to the rescue. Then, as is the way in divine transactions, the great was caused to pivot on the small. The marriage feast opened up the mission of Our Lord. The making of the wine was His first public miracle. His Disciples were made to believe in Him. Mary was the Mediatrix of those mighty events of salvation. Mary can always be relied upon.

When Our Lord wished to commend in an expressive way the spirit of St. John the Baptist, He described him as no reed shaken by the wind (St. Luke 7, 25). Far more would He apply the same image to His own mother. What a sorrow it would be if the category in His mind for any legionaries would be that of reeds shaken by the wind.



At the marriage feast "Mary had her eyes open."

WOULD YOU HELP ME PLANT A SEED?

Berenice Krause

From Yeadon, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., has come this urgent call about which Mrs. Berenice Krause feels deeply. The proud mother of four grown sons and a nine year old daughter she still has time for active legionary service and herein issues a challenge.

SEVERAL weeks ago I sent a news item about my praesidium to MARIA LEGIONIS. Accompanying same was my suggestion that our magazine do an article on St. Michael, the Archangel. I recommended that they encourage a campaign by legionaries to invoke the help of this mighty warrior against the snares Satan was employing in our midst today.

I explained that during my tenure with the Legion I had bumped into many individuals, fellow legionaries and contacts, priests included, who expressed regret at the removal of the St. Michael prayer after Holy Mass. It was the general consensus of these people that they always felt a pulse of extra protection for the oncoming day's battle with Satan every time they said this prayer. They also felt a wave of relief that their wayward brothers would merit some assurance of assistance against this common foe.

Good old MARIA LEGIONIS! It passed the buck right back to me. It invited me to submit a short article outlining the project. I darn near fainted when I received that Dublin letterhead.

In as much as this would be my first try at getting the attention of such a large audience I decided to do some research on Saint Michael. In my neighbourhood's public library I failed to locate any specific data on this Archangel. However, on the shelves I saw two books which I have always wanted to read but never got around to. I returned home that afternoon carrying "The Imitation of Christ" by Thomas à Kempis and "No Man Is An Island" by Thomas Merton. Since I was embarking on a two weeks vacation to Wildwood, New Jersey, poor Saint Michael had to take a vacation too.

Returning from my holidays I decided to refer to the Legion Handbook on the subject of Angels. I have read through this unique guide many times, yet can you please tell me why it seems to always have new knowledge on repeat readings? Pages 48 through 50 plus give a vivid and detailed account of these Spirits. Let me just recall some thoughts.

From the early beginning angels have helped in the main struggle against Satan and his minions. The Handbook tells us:— "In a sense that battle means more to the Angel than to the legionary, for the Angel perceives vividly the issues at stake: God's glory and the value of the immortal soul." God's



Archangel Michael

providence has afforded a guardian angel to every soul on this earth. I am rather lax about asking this special helpmate for aid. How about you? Do you suppose together we might stimulate more attention their way? While honouring our own guardian angel, might we ask the guardian angel of one of our wayward brothers to please prod his charge a little more aggressively, so that he might be shocked further away from Satan's traps.

Let us ask the Queen of Angels to co-ordinate our little campaign by bidding the service of Saint Michael, Archangel, to spearhead our offensive.

Phase one would involve our guardian angels. Phase two would be to distribute as many copies as possible of the familiar Saint Michael prayer. The words of same are printed below:

Saint Michael, Archangel, defend us in our battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of Lucifer. Rebuke Satan, oh God, we humbly implore you. And do you, Saint Michael, prince of heavenly hosts, drive into hell, Satan, and all the evil spirits, who roam through this world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Why not reproduce this prayer many times over and distribute the copies to your Legion contacts urging them to utter the prayer often, daily if possible?

Phase three is left to Mary and Saint Michael. May our little efforts see some wayward souls being conducted into the safe harbour of Heaven, where depending on God's mercy you and I may some day join them.

Bonnie Highlands of Scotland

—here we come

by Aileen McSweeney — team leader of this novel expedition

GLENFINNAN is a magnificently picturesque mountainous area in the Western Highlands of Scotland. With only a few tiny villages there, most of the inhabitants live in small farmsteads scattered far and wide throughout the parish which covers an area of 627 square miles.

This was the area assigned to the intermediates of the Thurles comitium plus three "outside" legionaries, who proved a tremendous asset to the team.

Consisting of seven seniors, eight intermediates and our spiritual director, we had a total of sixteen adventurous legionaries equipped with sleeping bags, small gas cookers, food supplies—and a fair amount of determination.

The first car load set out on Wednesday 22nd August, the second car load on Thursday 23rd and the remainder of the team travelled by plane on Saturday morning.

Glenfinnan was just another world. Accommodation-wise, the only one to suffer was "Gorm", the parish priest's Kerry-blue dog. "Gorm" was ousted from his little timber hut to make way for the four girls on our team and their sleeping bags. The men went a step higher in the world: they got sleeping accommodation in a loft nearby. It was great really. We felt sorry for our spiritual director. He had to sleep in a bed in the presbytery!

Father McShane, the parish priest, gave us a great welcome and facilitated us in every possible way, as well as giving us encouragement.

Our mission was to visit everybody including the Presbyterians and those who belonged to the Church of Scotland, and explain to them the Catholic religion. Fr. McShane suggested that if the people received us well and showed an interest in what we had to tell them, we might gently put to them the all important question: "did it ever cross your mind to become a Catholic?"

After Mass and breakfast each morning we had our Legion meeting—usually in the open air under a "lean-to" roof. Then we set out on the day's work. The distances to be covered posed a big problem. Sometimes we had to travel 35 miles to begin visitation. Nevertheless with two cars we managed reasonably well, even though "Julia"—that was the name given to one of the cars—spluttered her protest on a number of occasions, particularly when she saw the hills she was expected to



Aileen McSweeney.

mount. "Julia", by the way, defied all guesses at her age, but it was certified that she had travelled 150,000 miles—in her day! In fact the previous week "Julia" had mislaid a rear door, a carburettor, and portion of the floor. However, a 100 per cent effort was put into making it roadworthy. The rest was left to Providence.

The reception we got from the people (including the Presbyterians and Church of Scotland) was simply fantastic. I do not mean to imply, of course, that they were all in a hurry to become Catholics or that they looked on us as angels from heaven. By no means. But they were extremely courteous and kind to us (apart from a few exceptions). In most cases they were prepared to give us a hearing when we introduced ourselves as Catholics and legionaries and asked their permission to tell them about the Catholic religion. In many houses we were given tea. It was a wonderful experience for us to explain the doctrine of the Eucharist over a cup of tea. It was mainly the Eucharist we spoke about, but we also explained the Catholic teaching on the Church, on Our Lady and on a wide range of topics.

One of our intermediate girls, Mary, gave a most

dramatic report of one of the houses visited. She said:—

“We visited this lady and she was very friendly; she welcomed us in. She told us she was of the Church of Scotland. After a while she made tea for us. We were telling her about our religion and then I asked, ‘did it ever cross your mind to become a Catholic?’ She was stunned and after a pause she said, ‘Yes, I have often thought of becoming a Catholic’. Then she became real excited and she said: ‘Actually I would love to become a Catholic.’ I needn’t tell you my partner and I were thrilled to hear that, and then we arranged for the priest to give her instructions.”

Thirty miles away in a different part of the parish, another of our team was having a somewhat similar experience with another householder. He reported: “We found that the Presbyterians were very willing to discuss religion and they were surprised that there was not more discussion between the two groups (i.e. Catholics and Presbyterians). We found that the Presbyterians were especially interested in the question of the Eucharist. In one house we met a Church of Scotland lady who was married to a lapsed Catholic. She asked us from A to Z about the Catholic Church. She kept us there and did not want us to go away. She gave us tea and biscuits. We became very good friends. When we were leaving she shook hands with us and she put every ounce of sincerity and warmth into that handshake. She said she felt her husband who was lapsed was missing

something and she would love to see him practising again. Before we left she mentioned she herself would like to learn more about the Catholic Church. She invited us to call again.”

Looking back now, it seems funny we had been so nervous of approaching the Presbyterians in the first instance. But I suppose it is only human to be nervous of the unknown, especially as in some cases the Presbyterians had been hesitant and maybe puzzled when we initially approached them. Anyhow it had this good effect; it made us pray. Oh yes, in fact we prayed quite a lot, though I am sure that sometimes we just prayed more out of fear—and to gain a bit of time!—than out of sheer devotion.

Then that funny little feeling inside us when we were coming away from each house—a feeling of great relief that our original fears had been unfounded, a tremendous feeling of great joy that we had been received in the name of the Lord and that the Lord Himself had actually used our lips to preach His Gospel—even though admittedly in a more tin-pot way than He would have preached. It was great. We even felt we had *earned* our lunch. And boy, did we enjoy our breaks and our snacks. Just sitting peacefully on a gorgeous mountainside overlooking some beautiful lakes or streams. Out came the flasks and the buttered bread and the bananas—and sometimes even a bit of cake. It was not exactly de luxe, but to joyous hearts and hungry mouths it was paradise. And we giggled and joked and you would think that we had never even known



Glenfinnan — picturesque setting of the PPC in the Highlands of Scotland



Group of peregrini in front of Father McShane's house in Glenfinnan.

the meaning of fear. And of course we talked about the kind lady's invitation to call back.

This calling back for a second or third visit had been part of our original plan for all the houses. And these revisits were certainly fruitful. One such case worth mentioning was that of an elderly man, a lapsed Catholic. He was courteous when our legionaries first visited him but he would make no promises to return to the sacraments. After they had visited him a second and a third time, the old man still showed no signs of returning to the fold. We were desperate because we were due to return to Ireland the following morning. A last effort *had* to be made. It was decided that one more visit would be made. One of the legionaries who had been calling suggested that this time our most experienced legionary should be sent. That suggestion, however, brought the reminder that the Lord can use any person in His own way—provided there is willingness on the part of the instrument. And so the same legionary found himself allocated to call for the fourth and last time to the old man.

His subsequent report was most moving: "Well," he said, "the perseverance paid off; the old man is now quite willing to receive Confession and Communion." That same evening in the beautiful little church that overlooks Loch Shiel the rest of the team wondered why the priest was late for the eight o'clock evening Mass. Well, at just that time the priest was hurrying along with two legionaries to visit the old man. There was a note of haste in their steps, silence on their lips and hope in their hearts.

The priest had the Blessed Eucharist with him in a tiny pyx. A very short while later the legionary—the one who protested about his inexperience!—had the great joy of kneeling in the room, a lighted candle in his hand, as one humble old man received the Body of the Lord. The man's words of gratitude were stifled by the tears that came unashamedly to his eyes. If the truth be told, there were tears in everybody's eyes. And back in the little church, the rest of the legionaries were waiting patiently for Mass.

You know it is funny sometimes the way the Lord teaches us legionaries some lessons when we are on peregrinatio. We were reminded that the Legion Handbook says something like "It doesn't matter if you have no courage provided you act as if you had". Well, we decided to try this out. After all we had nothing to lose—and maybe souls to gain! One day two of our team met an old man who was lapsed for fifty years. They told him that he *must* come back to his religion. Imagine us "nippers" talking to our elders like that! To their astonishment he agreed to go to confession and communion the very next Sunday. When he was revisited later he showed that he was wearing the medal the legionaries had given him and said since he had put it on he felt a complete change in his life and was now eating and sleeping well for the first time in years.

I suppose one of our most interesting assignments was the Island of Eigg. This island forms part of the parish of Glenfinnan although it is one and a half hours' boat journey from the mainland. Four of our team were assigned to go—sleeping bags, flasks, grub and the lot—to the Isle of Eigg. It was the one and only time, incidentally, that the girls were left out of the picture. For this venture it was men only (even if some of them were only sixteen years!). For they might have to rough it.

It was a fresh sunny morning when they embarked on this sturdy, beautifully painted, little boat. There was not enough seating accommodation for all the passengers on board, so our little gang spread out their ruck-sacks and sleeping bags on the clean timber deck and squatted contentedly. Then smooth sailing as the boat glided over the shimmering seas, northwards at first and then rounding the Isle of Skye until at last the beautiful Isle of Eigg was sighted, rising majestically out of the blue waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

The boat journey, however, was the smoothest part of it. After that it was walking, over hills and through dales, visiting practically every house on that lovely island. The population there comprises about thirty Presbyterians or Church of Scotland and about twenty Catholics. The welcome at almost every home was just tremendous. Late that

night it was a group of tired but happy legionaries who spread out their sleeping bags and settled down in the porch of the tiny island church. They were really very tired. And yet the burden of their mission seemed so light when compared with the privilege.

One breathtaking memory of our stay in the parish is that of the "great collapse" as we called it. One morning the train pounded heavily along the tracks high up on the hillside. The passengers had a magnificent view—towering mountains, deep sweeping valleys, glistening lakes. And what a climax! As the train thundered along the viaduct high above a mountain river, the bridge collapsed. The heavy rains of the previous night had, it seems, undermined the structure. The weight and power of the train completed the demolition. Now all that was visible was a frightening, awesome gap and some dangling railway planks suspended over the waters. Providentially, the last of the carriages had passed over just before the bridge gave way. In fact it was only when the train reached its destination, the village of Mallaig, that the passengers discovered what a narrow escape they had.

Four of our legionaries had travelled by that very train that eventful morning. They were unperturbed. "After all," they said, "weren't we told to be prepared for *anything* on Peregrinatio?" One of them, however, admits he was tempted to complain about having to walk the ten miles back to base until he overheard the president remark: "People should be grateful for small mercies." And when he thought it over, he decided she was right. "It's good to be alive. And it's really great to be on Peregrinatio."

Well, these are only snatches, really, from our Peregrinatio venture to Glenfinnan. There are many other memories, too, that we shall long cherish, as for instance, the pleasant surprise we got at the readiness with which most of the Presbyterians accepted the "Miraculous" medal; their obvious reverence and respect when we sought and were granted permission to say prayers in some of the houses;—the entire rosary was recited by two of our legionaries in one Presbyterian home. Then there was the wonderful hoolie in the O'Byrne home with a real feast of Scottish music. And of course there are memories, also, of the nights when the rain leaked through the little holes in the roof of our hut, and the night we saw the spider, and the time the parish priest's dog ate the gorgeous mackerel which we had cooked specially for our spiritual director.

But I suppose our happiest moment of all was the Thursday night when we knelt down in a room, side by side with those wonderful people, the Catholics of Glenfinnan, men and women of great faith. Together we said the Legion rosary. A new praesidium had just begun that night. For us it was a

moving occasion. Soon we would be leaving the parish. It was consoling for us to realise that Our Blessed Lady had used us. But the real burden would fall on the new praesidium. They would take up where we left off. In fact they had already taken up. A young man of 25, had travelled 20 miles from his home to be present at the meeting. He was now in the president's chair. A new chapter was being written in Legion history.

We were lonesome leaving Glenfinnan, very lonesome. Perhaps as a team we shall never have the pleasure of all being together again. Three of the boys have since entered seminaries to study for the priesthood; two more are going to South America to give their services to the Legion there for two years. But one thing is certain, we shall never forget the people we met. Just this morning, Pauline, one of our intermediates got a lovely letter from one of the people she had met on "crowd contact". He was a young man of 24. I quote some of his letter to her:

"Dear Pauline,

How lucky for me that you and Owen came up to talk to me that day in the village street. I was surprised actually. As I told you, I am not a Catholic but you were so kind about it. I was very impressed by what you told me. I am not good at talking and so I wasn't able to tell you at the time. I find it easier to write to express my sincere thanks to you now. Do you know that that meeting with you has changed my whole life? I read the handbook every day (Pauline had given him a Legion handbook) and I find it a great help. Since I met you, I have written to a priest and I have arranged to meet him. I do hope that I will get the gift of faith. My girl-friend is a catholic. Thank you again . . . Pray for me . . ."

Well, we will pray for him and for all the other wonderful people we met. And if Fr. McShane reads this, we want him to know that we will pray for his great work. "And, Father, we are deeply grateful to you. You made a great act of faith when you agreed to have us in your parish. Next time we come back we promise to compose a little song in your honour, and to mend the little leaks in the roof of the hut, and to feed your little dog 'Gorm' better—so that he won't have to steal our mackerel. And by the way, Father, you'll be relieved to hear that 'Julia' arrived home safely, even though the back door is getting loose again and the floor is falling out. But please God we hope to have her in good working condition for our next trip to Glenfinnan. And say a prayer for us, too, Father. We are still very young and life—like the roads of Glenfinnan—stretches out a long, long way ahead of us."

THE LEGION VOCATION:

What is it all about?

By Very Rev. Francis J. Ripley, P.P., V.F.

SPEAKING at a Legion Congress about 30 years ago Archbishop Downey said that he sometimes thought that it would be good if all organisations within the Church could be suppressed after they had worked for 50 years or so because they then begin to lose their verve and enthusiasm. If they were suppressed, he said, they could be replaced by other bodies which might be filled with a new spirit to tackle the work with fresh zeal.

Of course, the Archbishop did not mean his words to be taken literally. But he had a point and it is a point which we ought to be applying to ourselves.

In his introduction to that wonderful book, *Miracles On Tap*, Fr. Denis McAuliffe speaks of the early works of the Legion as being like "acts of the apostles", lay apostles, legionary apostles, destined to fulfil in our own times and, in part, even in ourselves the words of St. Peter, "It shall come to pass, as the prophet Joel had said, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh. Your young men shall see visions. Upon my servants and handmaids I shall pour forth my Spirit. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs in the earth beneath."

"Those first legionaries", Fr. McAuliffe says, "were very ordinary Catholic lay people like yourself who simply set to work with faith and love, with courage and with trust in Mary their Mother. Surrendering to her they found themselves one with her in her fruitful union with the Holy Spirit. They set themselves to walk upon the waters, and lo, they felt the waters grow solid beneath their feet."

It may be that those who have joined the Legion fairly recently know nothing about its beginnings and its miraculous spread throughout the Church. If they do not, they can hardly know much about the authentic spirit which was the source of those wonders.

The first works of the Legion were branded as folly by more conservative people in the Church—but is not the storming of the gates of hell always folly, holy folly and should not we legionaries always be bent on holy folly?

The first works of the Legion were works of courage. If we want to do worthwhile work for Jesus and Mary we have to choose between the way of comfort and convenience and the way of hardship and heroic effort.

The first works of the Legion were works of faith. True faith is miracle-working, all-conquering, as we



say in our concluding prayer. But does my legionary life, my praesidium, reflect that all-conquering, miracle-seeking faith?

Frank Duff once said this: "I wonder if the dearth of miracles today is not principally due to the cowardice of good people who will not go all the way with Christ because they fear getting out of step with the conventional, timid, worldly prudence of their associates and so run the risk of being thought odd or fanatical or just not quite nice and safe, not very comfortable to have around." Think about that !!!

The early works of the Legion and some of the more outstanding successes elsewhere are evidence of the miracles which follow loving surrender to Mary's motherhood. The vocation of the Legion—that is of every legionary—is to extend the wonders of Mary's motherhood to every soul. Again listen to Frank Duff: "When we discovered that we had to consecrate ourselves to Mary," he said, "it was as though we had suddenly thrown a switch, plugged into a great electric current. Our little group at once became vibrant with light and love. We seemed to be charged with a power from on high, and at once remarkable things began to happen; wonderful fruits were born in our work for souls."

One of the best, surest way of understanding the spirit of the Legion of Mary, of getting to know what the Legion is really all about, is to read *Miracles On Tap*, the thrilling story of those early beginnings. I suggest that you make it the spiritual reading at your praesidium meetings. Have a copy always available. Recommend new members to read it and pray that they, and all of us, will not only acquire but grow from day to day in the authentic spirit of those first heroes and heroines who succeeded in setting the Legion on its way simply because they took God at his word and then entrusted everything to his Mother.

(*Miracles on Tap*—published by Montfort Publications, Bay Shore, New York, U.S.A.)

Doing Things Joyfully on the "Island of God"

By DICK CURRIE

Dick Currie is Treasurer of the Senatus of Philadelphia. He has contributed previously to the Legion Journal both as an artist and a poet. Now he presents us with a most interesting account of a Peregrinatio venture to an Indian reservation.



Some of the team pictured on Manitoulin Island on the evening the Chief was invited to dinner. Chief Roy is in the centre. Father Klitsch and Sister Rosemary are to his right. Gertrude Corrigan, Assistant, and Richard Currie (kneeling), Team Leader, are to the left of the Chief. Mary, Ed and Joanne Urciuoli are in front.

MANITOULIN ISLAND (Ontario, Canada), an Indian name which means the "Island of God", was the scene of a Peregrinatio pro Christo, sponsored by the Philadelphia Senatus, which took place July 14th to 28th, 1973.

Twenty senior legionaries, four juniors and two spiritual directors took part. Among the group were two out-of-town legionaries, one from Alexandria, Va., and one from Miami, Florida.

Our mission was inaugurated with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, offered by Father Klitsch in the Legion building on the morning of our departure. The five cars then wended their way to the St. Ignatius Retreat House in Clarence, N.Y., for the first lap of the two-day journey. In spite of a tyre blow-out and an overhead camper that blew off in the wind, there were no major calamities.

We arrived on Manitoulin Island at 2 a.m. Monday morning, after a three-hour ferry ride from Tobermory. We were greeted by Father Bernard Mayhew and several Indian parishioners, who guided us to Holy Cross Mission in Wikwemikong.

On the day of our arrival, Fr. Klitsch celebrated a noonday Mass. Thereafter, we followed a regular schedule of 8 o'clock Mass, followed by breakfast; 2 hours of work; lunch; 3 more hours of work; supper and our regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Fr. Mayhew, the pastor, requested that we work in four areas of his parish; Wikwemikong, Rabbit Island, Murray Hill and Buzwah. During the second

week, we also worked in Kaboni and South Bay. Since most of the people we would be visiting were Catholic, we were simply to make a friendly call and ascertain whether the family was attending Mass regularly, receiving the parish bulletin or had any suggestions for the improvement of the parish. We also invited them to attend a Patrician meeting, which was organised by us, on the topic of "Devotion to Our Lady".

Armed with Miraculous medals, Rosaries, scapulars and Blessed John Neumann holy cards, we divided into four teams, with local legionaries serving as guides for each team. The area was rural, with a good distance between homes. We saw many haystacks, cornfields and other signs of farm life. Most of the people spoke English, except for the older ones who spoke in the Indian language. It was here that our Indian guides were especially valuable.

One of our most interesting visits was to the home of a former legionary who had become a Jehovah's Witness. She had eleven children, seven of whom were still living at home. After leaving the Church, her husband, who was an alcoholic, had been killed in an automobile accident. We talked to her for an hour about the Bible and she relished the opportunity of explaining her interpretation of it. Finally, we told her that the Bible was the property of the Catholic Church and could only be interpreted correctly by the successors of St. Peter. We left her on a friendly note. She accepted a leaflet from us and we accepted a booklet from her. Before leaving the Island, we made a return visit. Although no one was home, we left an envelope full of Miraculous medals for the children. We hope that Our Lady will make use of them to bring this prodigal family back to her Divine Son.

Another interesting visit was made to a woman who had nine children. Her husband was an alcoholic, and it was this problem that she wanted to discuss with us. She asked us to come back in the evening when her husband would be home. We returned to find that the children were watching television, the father was asleep and the mother was out. The oldest son simply said that his mother had gone to Sudbury. Thinking that she would return soon, we suggested that we all kneel down and say the Rosary, to which they agreed. After finishing the Rosary, the son explained that his mother had gone to the hospital to stay with their grandfather, who

was dying. The next morning at Mass, it was announced that he had died. We could not but think that this was Our Lady's way of preparing this man for death, by having the Rosary recited by his nine grandchildren.

Altogether, we visited 350 homes, and spoke to 750 people. We distributed 400 Miraculous medals, 25 Rosaries and 500 Blessed John Neumann cards. We also distributed 75 leaflets on alcoholism, which we found to be a widespread problem. As a result of our efforts, we recruited 42 new Auxiliaries, two potential active members, and discovered requests for two marriage validations and six children to be baptised.

In addition to home visitation, we visited a nursing home for aged Indians, attended sessions of the Indian Folk School, helped to serve ice cream at the parish bazaar and made miscellaneous street contacts. We attended a parish funeral and afterwards, two of our members helped to fill in the grave. Several members attended meetings of the Junior and Senior praesidia, four members attended a meeting of the Sudbury Curia, several members attended prayer meetings in the Rectory and one member attended an A.A. meeting.

On the lighter side, we spent a day of relaxation at Providence Bay, a tourist resort, where we had a picnic lunch, basked in the sun and went for a swim in the clear, cold waters of Lake Huron.

One of the highlights of our trip was the evening we entertained the Indian chief for dinner. After one of our better menus of hamburger, mashed potatoes and ice cream, he gave a little speech, thanking us for coming to work among his people and expressing the hope that we would return again.

On the last day of our stay, Fr. Klitsch led us in a Holy Hour of Thanksgiving for all the graces we had received during our visit. Many of the Indian people attended. That evening, the local legionaries invited us to a home-cooked dinner in the community hall. After dinner, we were presented with an array of gifts: Indian moccasins for Fr. Klitsch, a porcupine quill box for Sr. Rosemary, and birch bark canoes for everyone. To express our thanks, Sr. Corrigan and several others sang a selection of Legion songs. It was a very heart-warming occasion.

The next day, after a 7 o'clock Mass, Fr. Mayhew served us breakfast in the Rectory. There were handshakes and embraces and a few tear-filled eyes as we said goodbye on the steps of the Holy Cross Mission. We took our last look at the Bay and waved goodbye to our friends, wondering if we would ever see them again.

In conclusion, you might ask, what did we, as legionaries, gain from our Canadian adventure? Perhaps each one of us would have a different

Maria Legionis loses a Pioneer Member

AMONG the many fine women I have known over a lifetime, in and out of the Legion, Peg Harrison was quite remarkable. Industry and efficiency were the first things one would notice about her. In an office, in a business situation, her work was outstanding: she could be relied upon to think of the best way of doing things and, more importantly, to see to it personally that decisions, whatever they were, were carried out. Over the course of her life she held many jobs, small and big, in the advertising and newspaper fields—she was never without one—and in all of them she was successful because she never spared herself, and was recognised as an utterly loyal colleague.

In her family it was the same. She was its centre-piece, bringing affectionate devotion to the performance of whatever had to be done, and gladly carrying more than her share of the daily burdens.

She came into the Legion some forty years ago, and worked without ceasing in the praesidium engaged in the production of MARIA LEGIONIS up to her sudden death on October 5th, 1973. Her business qualities were of the utmost value. She negotiated with top publishing executives, and displayed quite unusual ingenuity in surmounting crises. When, during the War, a grievous paper shortage threatened the life of the Journal, she pioneered a monster collection of wastepaper which was to be turned into newsprint, ran a collecting kiosk in the centre of Dublin, and even pushed a handcart through the streets in the same project. In later years she often said, with her unshakeable faith, "Our Lady has never let us get 'into the red', and She never will."

Peg had an extraordinary sense of humour, was never seen to be ruffled, and had no enemies—only friends whom she made by the hundred and kept. She will be sorely missed by all of them. But she was a holy soul, and the knowledge that she was, now brings deep consolation to her family, and to all who worked with her in the Legion of Mary.

LEON O'BROIN,
(First Editor of MARIA LEGIONIS).

answer. But if I were to generalise, I think I would say that we have learned how to make sacrifices more joyfully. We learned that we could live without showers, that we could sleep without beds, that we could even eat without a refrigerator. And, with the help of your prayers, we learned that we could do these things joyfully. Perhaps this was the most valuable lesson to be learned from our Peregrinatio to the "Island of God".

Praises of Mary

IN no other way can that which is tied be untied unless the very windings of the knot are gone through in reverse. Thus then the knot of the disobedience of Eve was untied through the obedience of Mary.—St. Irenaeus.

* * *

Fatima was the only daughter of Mohammed. When she died, the prophet said: "She has the highest place in heaven after the Virgin Mary." Mohammedans therefore have a great reverence for Our Lady and particularly for Our Lady of Fatima. This leads to one of the few contradictions in the Koran—which names Mohammed as the greatest of prophets. The Koran says that Fatima has the second place in heaven after Mary. Therefore Jesus must be the greatest in heaven. This contradiction has already begun to cause Mohammedans to re-evaluate the claims of Christianity. One might call it the revealed loophole to unity.—*Soul Magazine*.

* * *

Sometimes we must correct mistaken notions. For example we now see Joseph as the young vigorous man, likely about eighteen, that he must have been to care for Mary and her Son, with his wife hardly more than fourteen according to the marriage notions of that day. Indeed Mary's being "betrothed to Joseph" can be called the main piece of historical detail the Gospels give about her.—Eamon Carroll, O.Carm.

* * *

O true humility which brought God to mankind, brought purification to the world, brought life to mortals, which opened heaven and liberated men from the dominion of Satan! The humility of Mary is the mystic ladder whereby God again descends to earth.—Hogan, O.P.

Page Thirteen



What was it that first brought consolation to Zachary when he was bearing his punishment of dumbness? Surely it was Mary who changed his darkness into light. Her visit, bringing with it the sanctification of Zachary's son, was a prefiguring of what God's visit incarnate would be to the world. What the coming of Jesus within Mary did for Zachary and Elizabeth He would do for the whole race. Through Mary He came, like the dawning of the morning, bringing light and peace to men.—Father F. J. Ripley.

* * *

The Church gave us the living bread
For that unleavened bread which Egypt gave,
Mary gave us the bread of refreshment
For the bread of weariness which Eve gave.
—St. Ephrem.

* * *

If ever there came a crisis in Mariology, this crisis could not be limited to Mariology but would cause a revolution in the total doctrine of the Church.—Gerrit Berkouwer.

* * *

Like the Virgin herself, the study of the Virgin ought to have a function of service towards theology as a whole, not merely a relationship of using theology.—Laurentin.

Visit to Israel

By Fr. P. J. O'Hanlon



Social gathering with Nazareth Legionaries.

IN May last two teams of legionaries—23 members in all—went to Israel on Peregrinatio. The group which included two priests, was under the leadership of Michael McGauran and the team leaders were Eva McGorisk and Kathleen Frawley. It was the first P.P.C. to Israel and the apostolic aim was to make contact with Jews and seek to interest them in the Catholic religion. The teams were to spend one week in Nazareth and one week in Jerusalem. On the morning of May 5th the group gathered at Dublin Airport Church for Mass—the Votive Mass “For the Evangelisation of Peoples”, and as light was failing that evening we touched down at Tel Aviv airport. Here we were joined by Fr. Michael Brennan of St. Patrick’s Missionary Society, who broke his journey home on holiday from Kenya to take part in the project.

An hour’s journey by coach brought us to Nazareth where we were met by Marina Bishouty, secretary of the Nazareth Curia, who helped us to sort ourselves out and saw us comfortably billeted in two small hospices attached to St. Joseph’s Greek Catholic Seminary. Next morning we saw that we were high up on the side of one of the hills surrounding Nazareth which spread out through the valleys and rocky hills beneath us, more like a series of villages than a town. After breakfast Marina Bishouty was at hand—she managed to be at hand for some time every day to help with advice and direction—although busy with her teaching. She took us to the Basilica of the Annunciation where we had a concelebrated Mass in the Grotto of the Annunciation. A meeting followed and after lunch both teams were at work.

Nazareth, we discovered, is almost entirely Arab, about half are Moslems, and half Christians—Greek Orthodox, Greek Catholic Latin rite, Copts, Maronites, and a small number of Protestants. To meet Jews we would have to travel out. On the outskirts of the town—a short bus ride—there was a modern housing estate and shopping complex which was entirely Jewish, and the towns of Afula, down in the Valley of Jezreel, the seaport of Haifa and Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee were within reasonable distance by bus. So it was decided to work on two fronts—mainly outwards towards the Jews, and also amongst the Arabs in Nazareth, where there was great scope for an apostolate.

We were all a bit nervous about facing the Jews, and this plan was so admirably suited to breaking us in gradually that I have no doubt Our Lady had a guiding hand in it—in her own home town too. The Arabs, both Moslem and Christian, were very hospitable and friendly, not only willing to talk but to walk along and talk. By the end of the week I think everybody knew that the Irish legionaries were in town and appreciated their apostolate. The responsiveness was more than heartening. At the same time good progress was being made in contacting Jews and discussing with them Jewish Shekoun just outside Nazareth, and in the towns round about. Confidence and courage were built up—or should I say Faith! Sami, a young Greek Catholic, was rather bitter about the Church, blaming all his frustrations on it, especially his failure to get a job. On being befriended and listened to sympathetically and talked with, Sami asked if he might come to Mass next morning. He was in the church well before Mass,

asked for Confession and received Holy Communion.

The journeys to the different towns provided opportunities for the apostolate that were used to the full. A certain bond conducive to communication seems to arise between two people sitting together in a bus seat, and it was not unusual to see one of the communicators stepping out of the bus with a Miraculous Medal in his hand. One contact who had responded very interestedly to the apostolic attention bestowed on him said smilingly as he got up to leave the bus: "Thank you very much. I am a priest from Spain."

The Friday night before we left for Jerusalem we were received by the Bishop of Nazareth, Bishop Kaldany, and also met the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, who was staying with him—a man with great devotion to Mary. He told us that he had issued a Pastoral letter for the Month of May on Devotion to our Lady. He was pleased to say that he had the Legion in Jerusalem, and that what he liked about it was that it was active—"they do work; others meet and talk but do no work." When Michael McGauran told him that we were going to Jerusalem for a week to contact the Jews and to speak to them about the Catholic Church he said: "That is Christian witness", and gave the work his blessing.

In the Gospels we find the expression "Going up to Jerusalem from Galilee". Jerusalem, is in fact 80 miles down south from Nazareth. As our coach travelled on we saw how natural and how real it was to say "going up to Jerusalem". As we passed out of Samaria, the road began a tortuous climb up through the wild, barren rocky hill country of Judea up to Jerusalem, about 2,500 feet above sea level. In the new city of Jerusalem we were really

among Jews—Israeli-born Jews and Jews who had come to live in Israel from all parts of the world, Jews of little or no religion, and strict Orthodox Jews, easily recognisable in their black frock coats, black flat hats and curly locks down over their ears. Any hope of talking with these may be gauged from the reply of one who was approached. "Go away. I will not talk with you. Go back to your own country"!

The great majority approached, however, responded in a positive way, some more, some less. A Roumanian Jew whom we had contacted in Haifa and with whom we had an interesting discussion, told us: "One may be a Communist and a Jew, an atheist and a Jew, but one cannot be a Christian and a Jew." On thinking it over how true that is! The next logical step for a Jew is to become a Christian, to go along with Christ into the New Testament. But the religious Jew prefers to remain "locked into" the Old Testament: bound by its rules and regulations but blind to its message. As one lady, well educated and working for the British Council for Cultural Relations, put it: "You follow the teaching of Jesus Christ, to turn the other cheek, but I follow the teaching of the Old Testament 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth!'"

The younger people in general are free from this blind attachment to the Old Testament, and are open to discussion, and indeed welcome it. There was the university student who said he would like to learn more about the Catholic religion, and was given a Catholic Enquiry card and also accepted a Miraculous Medal; the Jewish girl who invited two legionaries to her house for further discussion; the lad who asked: "How can I pray?", and had the Lord's prayer written out for him; the two girls who gave up their lunch hour for a discussion on

Our picture shows from left Father O'Hanlon, Michael McGauran, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Bishop Kaldany of Nazareth, Fr. Brennan; in front are Eva McGorisk and Kathleen Frawley.



A POPE'S PRAYER TO MARY.

Hail, Mary, hail! to hear that word what pleasure,
Hail, Mary, hail! to sing the strain what rest.

It is the gold of Araby the blest—

O, my fair Hope, chaste Love, enchanting
Treasure,

O, my sure Guard—when troubles leave not
leisure.

If, as time wanes, my spirit sinks oppressed,
Crushed under cares that know not change, nor
measure,

Thou soothe my sorrows on thy mother's breast.
And oh, when near my time for homeward fleeing,
And my frail vessel almost sights the land,
And my tired eyes their last of earth are seeing,
Thou gently close them with Thy holy hand.

Then, as I tread the vale with staff and rod,
Commend my spirit to the hands of God.

From the Latin of Pope Leo XIII.

the Catholic religion; and then, there was the sergeant-major retired. He was sitting on a bench in one of the side-walks in the city. Did he speak English? Yes, he did; he had served in a Jewish regiment in the British Army. Yes, he would like to learn more about the Catholic religion, and he folded his newspaper. We did our best, with special emphasis on the Jewish origins of Christianity starting right here in Jerusalem. He was very interested, and very grateful. He told us he had made application for the post of official tourist guide, and would have to sit an examination for it and felt he was not too well up in Christianity! The "crash course" we had given him would be of great help. He was very grateful. He felt happier now, and began to unfold his paper. We took the hint. I wonder did he pass!

Jews who had lived outside Israel were more open and more responsive. Two of whom I think in particular: Mike Thal in the Jewish housing estate at Nazareth. He invited us to his house for lunch in order to continue the discussion, and said he would have liked to go on with the discussion for the rest of the day, but he had to go back to his business. And there was the man who had come to Israel from the United States and was now farming outside Jerusalem. Two members were studying their map of the city when they heard: "Do you speak English?" They looked around, surprised to hear their own opening question addressed to themselves. He thought they were tourists trying to get their bearings in the city and wanted to help. When they explained who they were and what they were doing he was most interested. He told them he had studied at University College, Dublin. A practising



At the Church of the Visitation, Ain Karem—the full group.

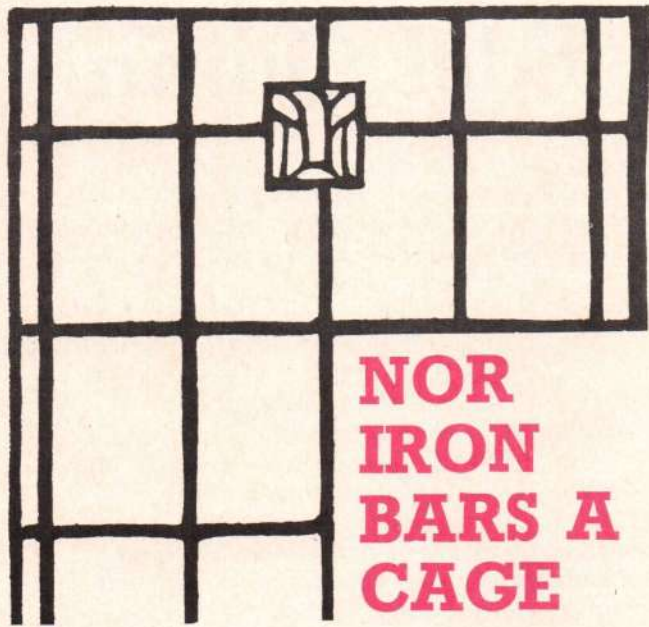
Jew, he was, nevertheless, very keen on the idea of religious discussion, and stayed talking for quite a while, but had to leave to collect his two daughters from school.

During the week in Jerusalem we had the opportunity of visiting the Holy Places and of having Mass in them. Here, where our Saviour suffered and died to save all men and where the young Church founded by Him began its mission under the impulse of the Holy Spirit, one got a clearer realisation and a deeper understanding of the vital importance of the P.P.C. Its apostolate is essentially a living act of faith in the continued presence and working of the Holy Spirit in the Church; and an effective expression of that faith in obedience to the command of Christ: "Go . . . to all peoples."

P.P.C.?

The initials P.P.C.—so often occurring in our pages—stand for *Peregrinatio pro Christo* which means adventuring for Christ, or in the practical terms of the Legion of Mary apostolate, going forth for short periods to foreign lands to bring the message of Christ and the teaching of His Church to all the people of their visitation. The great majority of the legionaries who take part in this challenging work give up all or part of their annual holidays and travel at their own expense to many far away places searching for souls. Unanimous verdict of all participants—"a wonderful experience".

How about you legionaries who read this? Would you like to share the joy of a *Peregrinatio pro Christo* project? Why not apply for particulars to your local curia or to the *Peregrinatio pro Christo* Committee, 49 North Great Geogre's St., Dublin.



By Mavis Eves

(Correspondent for the Senatus of Perth, Western Australia.)

“ . . . Our fathers chained in prisons dark! ” so run the words of an old and well-known hymn. Yet, although today's Church in Australia is not under persecution even remotely similar to that which inspired the writing of those lyrics, there is nevertheless some comparison to the spiritual work being carried out by a Legion praesidium in the district of Wooroloo which lies among the hills overlooking Perth in Western Australia. This praesidium, Our Lady of Linley Valley, was founded in 1972 with seven members and is indeed unique in its composition for all are inmates of a prison, the Wooroloo Correction Centre.

Because Wooroloo is not a maximum security prison inmates enjoy certain privileges not permitted in the stricter institutions. They are allowed, for instance, to move outside the confines of the gaol in organised groups and for specific purposes, a situation which motivated local legionaries into taking some action. This they did with reassuring results. It follows, therefore, that much of the credit for the success of Our Lady of Linley Valley praesidium belongs to its sister praesidium, Our Lady of the Hills, in the Mundaring parish.

In the very early stages of its existence members of the prison praesidium were advised through Curia not to worry too much about numerical strength but rather endeavour to establish a praesidium that could exist under conditions peculiar to its environment and habitat. It would, of necessity, have to be a viable praesidium.

It was decided a policy of continuous recruitment should be adopted to off-set the constant movement

of personnel because of discharge or transfer to other establishments so the praesidium is operated rather along seminary lines. Fluctuating membership is an intrinsic problem and since the praesidium's establishment membership ranged from as low as three to as many as fifteen members and the average attendance at weekly meetings was between six and eleven.

One of the first things Our Lady of Linley Valley did once it became functional was to set up a book barrow in the Correction Centre with the praesidium secretary as librarian. The book barrow contains a predominance of religious literature for use by members and by any other parties who may show interest.

Legion work of the praesidium members has consisted of carrying out renovations and repairs to the local parish churches at Chidlow and Mundaring and because these buildings are quite old and badly in need of repair this work has been extensive. Perhaps its greatest value has been the splendid example given to the local parishioners, for this has surely validated the principle that care of church property has spiritual significance when undertaken simply in the spirit of Christian charity.

The praesidium president who is also the gaol superintendent, made attempts some time ago to have the Legion extended to other Correction Centres and although the initial reaction was not encouraging approval has now been given to have a praesidium established in the larger and stricter Freemantle Prison. The Spiritual Director of Our Lady of Linley Valley is Rev. Father Hesse and his interest and dedication frequently goes far beyond the call of his normal duties and he is now working in conjunction with the Freemantle Prison Chaplain to establish this praesidium.

By October, 1972, attendance at Sunday Mass reached the point where sufficient inmates were attending and were able to provide music and singing by their own group—an innovation and performance which drew favourable comments from parishioners.

It is interesting to record that about this period repair work on the Chidlow church reached completion and when it did a non-Catholic inmate who had joined the Legion work party, enquired about taking instructions in the Catholic faith.

For various reasons, not the least of which must have been the result of Legion activity, religious interest within the gaol began to revive as Christmas approached and the Superintendent arranged, in response to numerous requests, for non-Catholics to attend their own denominational services. It is claimed by practically everyone associated with the gaol at the time that an unusual peace pervaded the entire Correction Centre over the Christmas period.

The Grave of Edel Quinn



In a covering note to the Editor Father Redmond offers this poem as "a gesture of respect to Edel Quinn and to the Legion," to which he says, "I owe a great deal over many years in Dublin; and it might remind my Legion friends that I have not forgotten them!

My first Mass in Africa two years ago was for the Legion and one of my first visits was to the grave. I've been in Lusaka, Zambia since."

We thank you, Father, for so lovely a reminder and wish you every blessing on your road.—Ed.

*IT'S quiet, quiet here : soft greenery,
two colleges, historic mission ground,
a cardinal's house, a church, and, edging round,
the villas of Nairobi brash and free.*

*Kanturk and Dublin. "Join the Legion? Me?"
—She dreamt of praying, cloistered, with Saint
Clare—*

*An even nobler Lady bade her share
another heroism in gaiety.*

*Africa, Africa! "Don't go, you're ill."
"It's only visitation." Grace and art
and lovely sound of music filled her heart :
"Climb every mountain for you, every hill."*

*Sing it on feast-day, beat it on the drum :
She was a Chief, a Simba in her love !
The giving again, again—what else did it prove ?—
until she cried in wonder : "Has He come ?"*

*The avenues, suburban trees and grass :
Too affluent for one who loved the poor?
And yet, she'd love the green, I'm certain sure,
and folk will bless her on their way to Mass.*

STEPHEN REDMOND, S.J.,
Jesuit Novitiate, Lusaka, Zambia.

NOR IRON BARS A CAGE (Contd.)

On December 8th, 1972, members of Our Lady of Linley Valley praesidium began a Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the Mundaring church. The Novena had purposely been planned to end on the 2nd February, 1973, the first birthday of the prison praesidium. The Novena prayers were led by an inmate legionary and a sermonette preached by one of his colleagues.

So impressed were the parishioners at Mundaring that an increasing number joined as the Novena progressed. Perhaps the finest outward sign of achievement was the reception into the church on the day the Novena ended of the non-Catholic inmate who had earlier made approach to be given instructions in the Catholic faith.

Father Hesse donated unframed pictures each depicting a station of the Cross to the praesidium. Work promptly began on the glazing and framing

of them in the prison workshop so that they could be used as Stations of the Cross during Lent.

So this Legion of Mary work goes on despite the ebb and flow of its prison praesidium membership. The struggle to replace losses because of discharge or transfer never relaxes. From the material angle the churches at Mundaring and Chidlow have both received extensive and complete face-lifts. The grounds around both have been levelled and landscaped. From the Spiritual aspect parishioners at both parishes have perhaps been given a new awakening to their faith by the silent impact of example and from those who are considered outcasts of our society.

The fact that the prison praesidium, Our Lady of Linley Valley, continues to flourish despite its intrinsic problems is reward enough to legionaries and proof once more that, despite restrictions and troubles of prison life and relevant personal anxieties, inmates can . . . "live in heart and conscience free."

ANGELS IN THE UNIVERSE

By
Valentine Long



This article by Father Valentine Long, O.F.M., of Butler, New Jersey, is a reprint from "Friar" Magazine. We are indebted to the author for allowing us to reproduce it here. It is destined to form a chapter in a forthcoming book by the same author who has already to his credit in addition to the Holy Angels, booklets on Our Lady of Lourdes and St Bernadette.

EDMUND FULLER, who does not customarily indulge in flippancy, nevertheless did, for once, in his review of *A Dictionary of Angels*. It was uncharacteristic of him. It was even an understandable deviation from the judicious tenor of his style. But it occurred.

What provoked the gibe was St. Augustine's proposal, from *Eight Questions*, that "every visible thing is put under the charge of an angel".

The reviewer could only say of the quoted theologian, by way of exposing his hypothesis as an absurdity, that he "had some bad counsel in his day". But is it so bad to have heeded the high-minded reasonings of such great Biblicists as St. Clement and other Fathers of the Alexandrian school? Did not in fact a near unanimity of Fathers, both of the East and the West, draw the same conclusion? And before them, did not the ancient exegetes of the Torah?

St. Thomas cites the hypothesis in his *Summa Theologica* in order to agree with it. "St. Gregory says," says the angelic doctor, "that in this visible world nothing occurs without the agency of invisible creatures." St. Jerome could hardly have outwritten Aquinas in their mutual contention that Scripture convincingly implies, if it does not openly state, the delegated power of the angels to run the universe: to carry out for God the laws of nature and, in whatever emergency He so wills, to interrupt those laws. One might think from the journalistic snub, that St. Augustine kept no respectable company in

his ambivalent view of the universe. But anyone who has read deeply in the subject would not. Johannes Kepler, a rather respectable student of the stars, concludes from the complicated but harmonious traffic of the spheres: that they are "pushed around by angels".

Even an atheist, a foremost nuclear physicist, bears indirect testimony. Dr. Boris P. Dotsenko, now a converted Christian, would not find Kepler's statement at all preposterous. He made one of his own which, if not openly assertive of an angelic engineering of the universe, implies it. This former ingrained communist, the head of nuclear research in Kiev University, learnt his lesson from the laboratory. He learnt it from the scientific law of entropy which awakened him to the fallacy of materialism, so that he could no longer with conviction deny the spiritual world. He defected to the West, from the Soviet espionage service no less.

In Canada this year he issued his statement to the press. According to the law of entropy, he insists, "all the material world should have turned into a cloud of chaotic dust a long, long time ago," since the particles that form its many bodies "have a tendency to run wild". Why do they not? "I thought about this," Dr. Dotsenko concludes, "and it dawned upon me that the world is being held in existence by a non-material power that is capable of overruling the destructive entropy."

And here curiosity raises a question. How would Mr. Fuller, who acknowledges the angels as God's ministers of grace, go about disproving the possibility of their being the providential agents behind the operation of nature's laws as well? Surely not from Scripture. "Who makes His angels winds and His servants flames of fire" is what the inspired text says of God's agents, identifying them metonymously with the physical effects they produce (Heb.1:7; Ps.104(3):4).

Their power over nature has an impressive record. An angel kept a shipwrecked St. Paul from drowning by not letting the turbulent waters sink the boat. An angel prevented the fire from so much as touching the three youths in the raging furnace. The angel, who would roll back the boulder from Christ's sepulchre, announced his flight to earth by having it quake. There seemed to be nothing of physics, or of chemistry, or of anatomy, that the angels of Scripture did not know. An angel by just touching Jacob's thigh threw it out of joint. One angel after another, sometimes more than one, even "a company of destroying angels," could bend the laws of nature to their purpose of wreaking God's vengeance on the guilty. Thus of a sudden in Israel, from the northernmost city of Dan to the southern extremity of Chanaan, seventy thousand



Tobias and the Archangel Raphael

died of a pestilence and when the Lord "said to the angel who was working destruction among the people, 'It is enough, stay your hand,'" the angel did. And the pestilence was gone. (Acts 27:18-24; Dan. 3:26-27; Mt. 28:2; Gen. 32:25; Ps. 78(7):49; 2 Sam. 24:15-16:)

It is by no means a doctrine of faith that the angels have been given the physical governance of the universe. However, in the words of Paul Hallett, "it is a legitimate as well as a fascinating hypothesis." Cardinal Newman goes further. In his *Apologia* he suggests that the implicit supposition of Holy Writ might well graduate in due time to an explicit dogma. "The visible world," runs the argument, "still remains without its divine interpretation." This great advocate of the angels "viewed them, not only as the ministers employed by the Creator in the Jewish and Christian dispensations, as we find on the face of Scripture, but as carrying out, as Scripture also implies, the Economy of the Visible World." He firmly believed that, behind the phenomena of the natural world, such as motion, light, sentient life, inanimate matter, abides the hidden domain of superior creatures who cause the phenomena. A later poet has caught the idea in his quotable lines:

The angels keep their ancient places;
Turn but a stone and start a wing!
Nothing better reveals the angels' power over

matter than their ability to assemble for their own use a human body, bringing together its component elements after finding the particles wherever they can, and then in that bodily shape appearing to whomever God has chosen for the honour. The angel Gabriel looked like a man to the prophet Daniel, however resplendent, and with adaptable ease spoke as man to man in the latter's native language (Dan. 9:21; 10:5). St. Teresa of Avila saw as well as felt an embodied seraph pierce her heart with a lance. She went deeper into ecstasy from this mystical wound of love, much as St. Francis had done under similar circumstances on Mount Alverna. The wound did not heal. It remains discernible in her incorrupt heart, after four centuries, to certify the event.

The angels in all their known apparitions are never at a loss what to do in our world. Its materiality does not mystify them. They feel at home with it. They behave as if they are its masters. If they should need a lance, as Teresa's particular angel did, they'll suddenly have one in hand. If they desire for their purpose a staff in hand, as did the angel who conversed with Gideon under the oak tree, it somehow materialises (Judg. 6:19-21). And into whatever environment they come they understand their way about: it holds no secrets from them. The angel who awakened Catherine Labouré from her sleep on the night of July 18, 1830, knew just where her convent was in Paris and just where her room was in that convent. The young novice did not have to direct him. He directed her. The radiant guide led the saint into the chapel, knowing exactly where it was, and then vanished. He had fulfilled his mission. The brighter apparition of our Lady of the Miraculous Medal awaited the enraptured visionary.

We speak of this world as ours. But as His creation it is God's, and His angels roam it. Not that their sphere of activity is illimitable; only God enjoys ubiquity; but within their widespread range of endeavour they can rely on a resource of energy, of knowledge, and an agility, which baffles the imagination. The weakest angel could outfight an army, the least intelligent outwit a university, the slowest outspeed the velocity of light which travels a mere 186,000 miles a second. It is a feature of their astonishing endowment that, in attending to their interests on earth, these spirits of heaven do not abandon their eternal preoccupation. Raphael made that clear to his earthly charge when they walked together and talked together all the while the angel was enjoying the Beatific Vision (Tob. 5:4-6; 12:11-15). Another has told us, too. "Their angels" is what He said of the children's dedicated guardians, "always behold the face of my Father who is in heaven" (Mt. 18:10).

Where heaven is the angels are, who do not on that account neglect their ministrations to the material world. A school of theologians are therefore inclined to think the invisible domain of the blessed may underlie and overlies and enclose the visible universe, of which the earth since the Annunciation is no insignificant planet. They may be right. We do not know from divine revelation. That heaven *is*, not *where* it is, constitutes the article of faith. Newman who would be the first to admit so much still favours the idea of the same location for both worlds. He indeed holds it with a conviction that has no doubts. Typically and with finality he asserts: "Heaven at present is out of sight, but in due time, as snow melts and discovers what it lay upon, so will this visible creation fade away before the greater splendours which are behind it, and on which at present it depends."

The material world, as we now know it, is of a truth to undergo a dreadful disappearance. We have the truth from an unimpeachable Source: "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken" (Mt. 21:25-28). Having heard that prediction in person from his Lord, St. Peter relates in further detail: "The day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up." (2 Pet. 3:10). The most obdurate atheist should find the prophecy none too difficult to accept when he cannot but know of the hidden reserves of nuclear bombs and weapons that could prove quite capable of carrying it out in so far as it involves the earth. "The earth shall be utterly laid waste and utterly despoiled, for the Lord has spoken this word," announces the prophet Isaiah, and in a concurrent passage, "the heavens shall vanish like smoke" (Is. 24:3; 51:6). The Psalmist even interrupts a beautiful prayer to insert the same dire prophecy:

"Of old Thou didst lay the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands.

They will perish, but Thou shalt endure" (Ps. 102(1):25-26).

It will be the depravity of mankind under the domination of Antichrist that is to provoke such vengeance on the world; but his satanic domination, thank God, will end with the world; and "for the sake of the elect," thank God again, "those days will be shortened" (Mt. 24:22). Even so, what percent-

The Association of the Friends of the Angels, "PHILANGELI", founded in England in 1947 and approved by His Eminence, Cardinal Godfrey in 1959 has spread to every continent. Canonically erected in Australia by His Eminence, Cardinal Gilroy and in the United States by His Eminence, Cardinal Stritch, and by Bishops in Austria, Uganda, Mexico, Thailand, India, and in Bethlehem where the Angels brought "the good news" to the shepherds, PHILANGELI now numbers 500,000 members in 60 countries.

Information about the Association may be obtained from:—

Mount Carmel, 14 Hindes Road, Harrow, Middlesex, England; Father Emmett M. Walsh, C.S.V., 1212 East Euclid St., Arlington Heights, Illinois, U.S.A., and from Father Valentine Long, O.F.M., St. Anthony Friary, 63 Bartoldi Avenue, Butler, N.J., U.S.A.

age of the total population will the elect then number? The seduction of the faithful under the fury of Satan's final attempt, away from their doctrines into error, away from the divine code of law, is in Scripture a sign of the times. "When the Son of man comes, will He find faith on earth?" is not an idle question relevant to those last days, but one He Himself has spoken (Lk. 18:8).

The Church, having to bear the brunt of the all-out assault, must be expected to have her membership enormously depleted. St. Paul, knowing whose agent the detestable Antichrist is, diagnoses the situation. He speaks of "the lawless one by the activity of Satan" working pretended wonders to deceive "those who are to perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. Therefore God sends upon them a strong delusion, to make them believe what is false, so that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thess. 2:8-12).

The day of reckoning, when "the Son of man comes in His glory, and all His angels with Him," will terminate the long reign of evil on earth (Mt. 25:3; 24:29:31). Satan will have done his worst, but now a look of command from the triumphant Christ will force him to the confines of hell, which never again can he leave. It will be his additional frustration to see the world he had seduced only destroyed to be renewed. Since it will indeed be transformed to an immortal grandeur, of which its present beauties are but a faint reminder in advance, there are some who prefer not to speak of the world's flaming end as a destruction. Whether the whole universe will undergo the consuming wrath of God is not so clear on the face of Scripture as that the part of it known to man certainly will be.

WEST INDIES

TRINIDAD

Port of Spain: The comitium reports—one mixed praesidium at Curepe has 87 Auxiliaries attached. During the weekly home visitation seven non-catholics were instructed and received into the Church. Confirmation followed. Many lapsed Catholics returned to Mass and the Sacraments; one marriage was rectified. Apostleship of Prayer leaflets are distributed. Special attention at San Juan is given to the Rosary by a praesidium. Ideas of how to spread devotion to Mary included encouraging people to go to Church on the Feast Days of Our Lady and public recitation of the Rosary.

ST. LUCIA



The Praesidium is from Babonneau, Castries, St. Lucia. Active membership is 30. It is an outstanding example of courage, persistence and determination. After suffering from lack of members and support for a long time, the few remaining with the assistance of the Comitium's extension committee, dedicated themselves to attain the present membership of 30. They were photographed on the day when many of the members who had become eligible took the Legion Promise.

The curse implied in the words, "the stars will fall from heaven," need not from the context include those in the outer reaches of space (Mt. 24:29). Then again, it may.

The very voices that have predicted the world's end (however much of it, if not all) predict the renewal. Thus the prophet Isaiah quotes the Lord as saying: "The new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me" (Is. 66:22). The Incarnate Son of God certainly foretells the indestructibility of "the new world" over which He will forever reign to the total exclusion of evil (Mt. 19:28). The prince of the apostles, remembering his Master's words, writes that "according to His promise we wait for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (2 Pet. 3:13). Conveniently St. John puts the double prophecy into a single sentence. After watching the firmament and the earth vanish, he reports of his vision: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away" (Rev. 21:1).

The English pen that has so generously enriched theology with its treatment of the spiritual universe deserves a final quoting. But there arises a dilemma between two equally good possibilities. It is somewhat the dilemma of the fictitious mule who starved to death because the beast, standing between two equally tempting bales of hay, could not decide which way to turn. Let there be no such polarisation here. Let both statements be promptly chosen.

"All that we see," says Newman in the first, "is destined one day to burst forth into a heavenly bloom, and be transfigured into immortal glory." In the second the idea remains under a different phrasing, though not altogether different. The meticulous stylist didn't seem to mind repeating himself on a subject which held for him an abiding charm. The

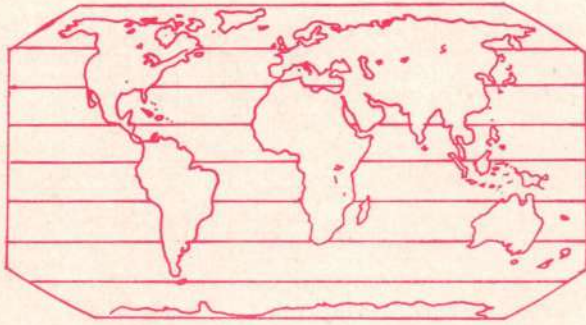
key words return: "This earth, which now buds forth in leaves and blossoms, will one day burst forth into a new world of light and glory"—a glory, the author goes on to say, visibly alive with angels.

They are there now, already present to the world before its glorious transmutation, swarms of them, coming and going, doing their assignments from the Most High. Only, we do not see them. The poet who could visualise in the London night the shining traffic of Jacob's ladder between Heaven and Charing Cross, has given the sentiment its classic form. He has set it, the conviction of saint and sage, into this perfect stanza of a worthy poem:

O World invisible, we view thee,
O World intangible, we touch thee,
O World unknowable, we know thee,
Inapprehensible, we clutch thee!



The Angel at the Tomb.



FROM THE



WORLD

IRELAND



In his allocutio at a recent meeting of Thurles Comitium, His Grace, Most Rev. Dr. Morris, Archbishop of Cashel, urged the legionaries to make themselves familiar with the Bible. Numerous areas throughout the country report special efforts to extend the Legion to parishes in which praesidia are not yet established, some having notable success. But one report states that the Legion exists in below 40 per cent of the parishes in the diocese. There are some very good accounts of Patrician groups in various centres.

Dundalk Curia plans to operate groups in flats and Kilkenny Comitium has undertaken to form groups throughout the diocese. A two-day Rosary Rally conducted by Rev. Gabriel Harty O.P. is reported by South Elphin Curia.

"STOP PRESS"

Agnes Carroll of Dundalk writes on behalf of Sister Toale, President of the Praesidium of Mother of Fair Love. "On page 21 of the last edition of *Maria Legionis* the Secretary of the Houma Curia reports that one of their attached Praesidia has 6 grandmothers amongst its active members. She wishes you to know that she has 16 very active grandmothers in hers and the total number of grandchildren is 151. This letter was delayed as we were waiting for the arrival of the last two infants."

Praesidia scattered throughout the country render valuable services to emigrants through staffing of Information Centres, organising of reunions (both at home and abroad) and preparation and despatching of newsletters. Specially mentioned in this connection are Cork Comitium and South Cloyne Curia.

Much appreciated was a Mass specially arranged

by Armagh Curia for the sick, elderly, wheelchair and stretcher cases, many of whom had not been able to attend Mass for long periods. Many Councils report the holding of splendidly attended vigils of prayer for peace and for the success of *Peregrinatio Pro Christo*. Successfully organised pilgrimages to Our Lady's shrine at Knock also feature in reports.

Arising out of discussion on the Whit Conference, each praesidium in Ardagh Curia undertook to organise six successive weekly meetings on the headings for study in "Good News for Ireland" (St. Luke's Gospel). Cork Comitium held a meeting to discuss putting into effect the ideas of the Conference. Derry Comitium and Mullingar Curia have been moving along the same lines.

Promotion of devotion to the Sacred Heart, recruiting for the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association, organising public recitation of the Rosary, formation of groups for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, visitation of hospitals and homes, and organising of retreats, are some of the activities featured in the reports from the 21 Dublin senior Curiae. During the year 2300 seamen were contacted on 500 ships in the Port of Dublin by legionaries.

Our Comment: One diocese above is shown as having nearly two-thirds of the parishes without the Legion. Plainly that shows a lack of realisation of the gravity of the present day position in Ireland. The Legion is a necessity. Keeping it out represents another case of fiddling while Rome burns.

SCOTLAND



In September last year the Senatus, in honour of the Golden Jubilee set a target of 50 new praesidia for the current year. After eight months 31 new praesidia have been set up. One of the works of Coatbridge Curia is organising House Masses. The legionaries compile a list of the elderly and sick who are unable to attend Mass. These and their friends attend Mass in the homes. A junior praesidium in St. Peter's, Glasgow was responsible for



OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRAESIDIUM, BLACKBURN, WEST LOTHIAN.

Praesidium Meeting :

Front : Fr. Hennessey, Armadale, Bishop Monaghan, Br. Coyne, Fr. McNulty, Brs. Whelan, McKenna, Telfer and McGrath. *Back :* Sr. Flannigan (P.P.C.), Br. J. McGuicken (P. curia), Br. Boyle (T.) Br. Lawson, Fr. McMahon, Addiewell. Br. O'Para, Br. T. McGuicken, Addiewell, Br. Feeney (V.P.).

Twenty years ago the Rev. Michael McNulty, S.D., of the above praesidium, paid a visit to the dentist during his annual holiday to his home in Tyrone.

The dentist was an active legionary and he took full advantage of the time at his disposal. Surely this is the ideal occupation for the legion extension worker ! In Fr. McNulty, he found a willing listener.

On his return to his parish he contacted his friend and near neighbour, Fr. Tom Gallagher, and passed on the good news. Contact was made with senatus and soon two praesidia were set up. Shortly after-

bringing many lapsed catholics back to the Sacraments.

Our Comment : There is displayed another wonderful achievement. Thirty-one new praesidia established by the Senatus in eight months. Such a result suggests that the crisis of the Church is being surmounted. If this rate of progress is maintained, it will become possible to present the Faith to the people of Scotland.

ENGLAND



London : So far this year 73 legionaries from the Senatus have volunteered for Peregrinatio projects. Thirteen have been to Malta where they arranged a Day of Recollection for the non-Catholic residents. A small team went to Jersey. Others have gone to Alderney, Sweden, Newry, Islay and Scotland. Two long-termers are going to Amsterdam. Portsmouth and Slough Curiae held recruiting drives. An all-night vigil for vocations was organised by Camden Curia.

Liverpool : Newcastle Comitium reported that a room had been obtained in the Salvation Army Hostel where the legionaries hold a public Rosary for the men. A praesidium in the same Comitium

wards a curia was formed under the spiritual direction of Fr. Gallagher, lately deceased, R.I.P. Unfortunately his praesidium has fallen by the wayside and so the senior praesidium in Curia is that in Blackburn. Fr. Michael is now the Spiritual Director of the curia and he has maintained the same enthusiasm with which he first approached the legion.

The praesidium celebrated its 1,000th meeting on 15 June, 1973—by happy coincidence the 37th anniversary of the date on which the Spiritual Director celebrated his first mass.

His excellency, Bishop James Monaghan, Auxiliary to Cardinal Gordon Gray, delivered the allocutio and conveyed the Cardinal's congratulations to the Spiritual Director and the praesidium.

One work of this all male praesidium is a continuous rosary campaign in the parish.

told of 40 children being transferred to the Catholic school; two people who had no previous contact with Catholics are receiving instruction and three have returned to the Sacraments after long periods.

A praesidium in Manchester, very active in the work of contacting non-Catholics, reported attendances of not less than 60 at the first three talks in a current series of functions for non-Catholics. Included in the attendances were Jews, Jehovah's Witnesses and atheists. They state that the city centre is a fruitful source of contact.

A report was given on a recruiting drive in a parish in Middlesboro' where visiting and local legionaries recruited nine new members. Warrington Curia has formed a praesidium in a new Parish and Liverpool Junior Curia has set up a praesidium.



England: Junior legionaries of Middlesborough, Yorkshire, pictured when visiting some of their older friends—the senior citizens of their area in Holy Name of Mary parish.

FRANCE



Visit of French party to Concilium : A cordial welcome was extended to Rev. Fr. Hoffer, National Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Petit-Jean, Tunis, Rev. Fr. Ouvard, Paris, Sr. P. Sauver, secretary, Br. Champ-terier De Rib, treasurer, Paris Regia and 19 other legionaries from France. The group was led by Sr. C. Secheret of Paris.

Fr. Hoffer addressed the Concilium and conveyed the greetings of all French legionaries. He said that in spite of many obstacles the Legion is now re-

covering from the crisis which it suffered four years ago. New praesidia have been formed and others have been re-organised. This year at their annual assembly the Bishops officially recognised the Legion of Mary, giving it its legitimate place among all the other movements of the Lay Apostolate, and appointed him as their representative.

Continuing the work undertaken by the P.P.C. team of 1971 at Paris, the praesidium Our Lady of Fatima contacts the North Africans and also visits regularly the Moslems in hospital. The praesidium working amongst the students of the University of Nancy has regular contacts with Moslem students; the latter are very interested in receiving knowledge of the Christian faith. Another work of interest in Paris is the apostolate to overseas students. The praesidium engaged in this work is comprised of many nationalities. In Versailles diocese a praesidium has recently been started which specialises in the visitation of the large apartment houses. The legionaries have been invited by the Parish Priests to found praesidia in three nearby parishes. Rev. Fr. Hoffer thanked all legionaries for their participation in the work of the Centre at Lourdes. Finally he thanked the Concilium for the warmth of its welcome to him and the visiting French legionaries.

WALES

Rev. Sister Zita writes: "After reading with interest the article, 'The Legion of Mary and the Conversion of Wales' in MARIA LEGIONIS I was reminded that at about that time, 1958, a small junior praesidium began at Rhyl in the primary school—Isgol Mair under the title of Our Lady of the Taper.

"The ages of the members were from 7 to 10



Pictured here are the present members of Our Lady of the Taper junior praesidium with Rev. Fr. Morgan and Rev. Sr. Zita, both Spiritual Directors in Rhyl. The president of the praesidium has written: "Through the years Sister Zita imparted to her young legionaries a real understanding of the Rosary . . . the family Rosary was to be their aim."

years of age. At 11 years they were transferred to the High School.

"Each week we met after School and had a full meeting, two members acting as secretary and treasurer. Although the group was never very large—about (12-14) members the children were keen and anxious to become legionaries.

"The work chiefly consisted of promoting the family Rosary in the home, helping with household duties, shopping for elderly relatives and neighbours.

"During some 15 years the praesidium experienced various ups and downs but continued to persevere with new recruits each year.

"We were indebted to the Rhyl Curia for their continual help and visits. Also to Sister Rose Reynolds for her encouragement and support.

"This year the charge of the praesidium was given to an enthusiastic curia officer, Sister Griffiths.

"May Our Lady of the Taper continue to obtain choice graces and blessings for this little group of legionaries."

SPAIN



Senatus of Bilbao, P.P.C. to London: The team comprised a Spiritual Director and ten legionaries. They worked in collaboration with the Spanish priest, Fr. Simon, in St. Francis de Sales parish, visiting the Spanish residents of the parish with a view to bringing them to the services in the parish,

and to let them know that Padre Simon is at their disposal to help them in any necessity. There are some 500 Spanish families in the area, of whom only 30 have any contact with the parish. 168 visits to homes were made. They also contacted Spanish people attending the Sunday Masses. As well they visited the Spanish centre, contacting people met there, and also legionaries. There were 16 street contacts. Sixteen auxiliaries were enrolled.

The principal problem of the emigrants is their total dedication to material things and their neglect of everything spiritual. On all the visits the legionaries were very well received, and they received hospitality. They have dealt with moral problems, unmarried mothers, broken marriages, adolescents unbaptised, etc. In all of these problems, the legionaries have tried to help the people spiritually.

Four of the team joined a group of Irish P.P.C. legionaries in reciting the Rosary at Trafalgar Square, and afterwards contacted people met there. Each day, the Spiritual Director celebrated Mass for the group; the Legion prayers were recited in com-

mon, and the words of advice and encouragement of our Spiritual Director helped us very much, giving us the necessary stimulus to carry out our mission. The members of the Team came from five towns in the Bilbao Senatus area.

Report of Extension Worker, Sr. Maria Carmen Herrero: Sr. Herrero who had completed almost three years extension work in Southern Spain was given a special welcome when she attended Concilium and gave a report on her work. Operating in four Provinces she set up 64 praesidia and four Curiae, the legionaries who are mostly young were enthusiastic and devoted. The Junior Legion is also well developed in that area. Sr. Herrero had much success in organising P.P.C., priests, seminarians and legionaries taking part. She paid tribute to Rev. Fr. Carlos Diaz Sierra, Spiritual Director of the Comitium of Cordoba who was an unfailing source of encouragement to her in her mission. She felt confident that the legionaries of Southern Spain will not only extend the Legion in their own territory but will also help in the spread of the organisation to other countries. The president conveyed the thanks and appreciation of Concilium to Sr. Herrero for her great generosity in giving her time and energy to this important mission.

PORTUGAL



Maria Senra, the Envoy writes: "On Easter Sunday I came to Viseu to profit by the permission given by the Bishop. When I arrived, he confirmed the permission for two parishes. This was an impossible situation as these two parishes reject the Legion. I

pleaded that he give permission to found the Legion in two towns, one of them absolutely dechristianised. Thanks to Our Lady, a priest accepted and at present I have five foundations ready; I hope to found a Curia in this area soon.

As you know, I began the Legion in the Diocese of Leiria with the enthusiastic sanction of its Bishop, and with his request that the Legion be founded in all secondary schools and in all parishes. But the clergy did not respond to the enthusiasm of the Bishop. I talked with all the teachers of all secondary schools, but they thought it would be better to begin in October. I set up four senior praesidia in rural areas and a junior one in a College of Dominican nuns; they need great help before there is a Curia as they are in a dechristianised area."

Our Comment: We rejoice at the entry of the

Legion into the diocese of Leiria. It was peculiar that the diocese in which Fatima lies had not the Legion. But why do so many of the Clergy refuse it?

BELGIUM



Visit of Belgium party to Concilium: A cordial welcome was extended to Sr. O. Haumont, president, Br. R. Haumont, secretary, Sr. M. Ver Wilghen, treasurer and 13 legionaries from the Brussels Senatus who were on a visit to Legion Headquarters. The party combined with the French legionaries in attending a Summer School, visiting praesidia and engaging in Legion works during their stay.

Sr. Haumont addressed the Concilium and gave news of the progress of the Legion in the Senatus area since her visit 12 months ago. The work amongst Spanish workers initiated on the visit of the Bilbao P.P.C. team last year is still continuing and a team is also expected this year to engage in the same apostolate.

There is much scope for Legion work in the visitation and preparation of people for the reception of the Sacraments. The president thanked Sr. Haumont for her dedicated work as president of the Senatus of Brussels.

U.S.A.



Pennsylvania: Our Lady of Victory Junior praesidium at Altoona reports one of its members was a recent convert. Junior and Senior legionaries had a little party for her after her first Holy Communion and invited her family to attend. They were so impressed with it all that her father, also a non-Catholic, took instructions. He too was baptised and made his First Holy Communion.

Los Angeles: Membership is increasing steadily. One Colombar Drive gained 250 names, which included 127 auxiliaries, 15 juniors and 30 Spanish-speaking senior members. Philippine and Mexican people are flowing into the Legion ranks—many in the younger age group. One parish in Stockton has 6 praesidia. One lady, brought back to the Sacraments after 27 years, is now urging her lapsed Catholic neighbours to return. Book-barrow and apostolate to the crowd continue to bring excellent results. A successful P.P.C. to Tiguana in Mexico was held. C.C.D. is now becoming one of the most important works of the legionaries.

Texas (7 Comitiae, 4 Curiae). *Houston* held a successful Weekend Workshop in May with an attendance of 80 including legionaries from Waco, San Antonio, Bridge City and Yoakum, and juniors from Coppera Cove who impressed all. Monthly Vigils continue. Houston has now taken responsibility for the Incola Mariae Program, and their Incola Mariae worker in Mexico has agreed to continue for another year.

Home-to-home visitation is being done by several praesidia. Three Returns to the Sacraments were reported and non-Catholics invited to the Catholic Church.

New York: There is an improvement in the Junior Movement which has been falling off for some time. In Rockville Centre Comitium two new junior praesidia were formed. A group of juniors have passed into the senior ranks and almost immediately set up another junior praesidium. A Spanish-speaking praesidium works in an area where the population consists of Puerto Ricans, Negroes, Italians and Irish. The legionaries visit with the Pastor, recite the Rosary and have Mass in the homes. Instruction classes have been organised in the area to prepare adults and children for the Sacraments. Two legionaries have made their home a catechetical centre for children who do not attend the other classes. One whole family has been converted; the parents have been married and they and the children prepared for the other Sacraments.

Washington; Seattle Comitium. Archbishop Connolly told the officers that he foresees the Legion playing a very important part in the future of the Church because of the shortage of priests and the expanding role of the layman. At the Priests' Retreat the Archbishop emphasised the effectiveness of the work of the Legion and recommended its formation in every parish.

The comitium are now searching for a suitable Legion premises. An inter-Council quarterly newsletter is to be circulated next month. Extension is much in evidence: six new praesidia have been set up. Against that two praesidia have closed, and an extension drive in Centralia is being organised to avert the closure of the local praesidium which has a low membership.

Our Comment: We are deeply grateful to Archbishop Connolly for his encouragement. He points to the necessity for developing the Legion so as to compensate for the shortage of priests. As well it is to be remembered that the Legion gives the ordinary Catholic a sense of responsibility for the Church without which it will be impossible to face the task

of converting the 3,000 million non-Catholics of the world. Furthermore the Legion produces vocations directly and indirectly.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Senatus of Honduras:Tegucigalpa: At a retreat in October for Curia La Libertad, 400 legionaries were present, some of whom had walked long distances in the rain. Praesidium Nuestra Senora de las Mercedes say they visit Rehabilitation Centre for criminals and give catechism lessons to 85 in Colonia Las Brisas. Some of the 31 children who made their First Holy Communion were 16 years old and had not long been Baptised. Some of the members of praesidium Nuestra Senora de las Paz travel 40 kms. to meetings and they never miss. The Curia Immaculado Corazon set up 6 new praesidia since last report.

El Salvador: The Acies ceremony was attended by 500 legionaries from four attached curiae. Mass was celebrated by Mgr. Barreray Reyes, Bishop of the Diocese. In his address, His Lordship exhorted the legionaries to continue in their membership as the effects of the Legion were being felt throughout the whole world. A new curia is also planned for Aluachapan in the near future. A Junior Boys praesidium was formed in the village of San Antonio.

Colon Comitium: The Patrician meetings of one praesidium are attended by His Excellency Mgr. Serrano, Bishop of the Diocese. A P.P.C. team is going to New Mexico and hopes to establish at least one praesidium in Santa Rita Heights. They study the Handbook by dialogue with the Spiritual Director. The comitium officers visit each curia and as many praesidia as possible each month.

Costa Rica Senatus: Three attached praesidia have book-barrows. The teaching of Christian Doctrine in schools and colleges features in reports from many praesidia. One praesidium organised a Retreat for the school-leaving students; 75 attended. A P.P.C. project was carried out in Guanacaste and special emphasis was placed on work for Alcoholics. The Senatus organised a day's course for all officers. Among the variety of junior works was the building of a centre where a praesidium could hold its weekly meetings.

Managua Comitium. First letter received since the earthquake from the President. She spoke of the marvellous work being done by the legionaries especially the Juniors. The centre of the town was completely wiped out. Many of the legionaries were

without homes, jobs or money—they were out on the street. But, she said the Legion doesn't depend on material things, only on its spiritual wealth. A junior praesidium held its meeting the day after the earthquake. The Archbishop has written to thank them for all their help. The comitium meeting has been held every month except January and they were surprised that 400 legionaries turned up for The Acies. She asked that the Archbishop and the Spiritual Director be thanked for their help in the bulletin. The new address is Managua, Apt. 2857.

PHILIPPINES



A Peregrinatio Pro Christo team of ten legionaries spent one week in the Island of Kinatarkan where they took a Census of the Barrios. In addition they held Catechism classes and brought Baptism to 47 persons, mostly adults. Ten marriages were validated. Unfortunately Rev. Father Lozada could only stay a short time, due to Parish commitments. Many difficulties were encountered, but the legionaries were heartened by the response of the people to their ministrations. The general feeling expressed by the team was one of gratitude for the opportunity given them to spread the Word of the Lord through Mary His Mother. So many cases of validation and Baptism were left undone that the legionaries plan to go back to complete their work.



One of the adult baptisms which took place on the Island of Kinatarkan.

Our Comment: See what would have been left undone, and perhaps unthought of, if that Peregrinatio project had not been undertaken. See also the spirit which was enkindled in the legionaries by their experiences.

ARGENTINA



Pasados Comitium: In conjunction with the comitium of Corrientes, the comitium of Pasados held a successful P.P.C. on the borders of Brazil-Paraguay-Argentina. It lasted for 3 weeks and 36 legionaries took part. The zone is a highly tourist one. Apart from visiting 523 homes, contact was made with 907 people. During the P.P.C. the legionaries got permission to talk for a half-hour on the local radio. Four Senior and three Junior praesidia were set up. Contact was made with the Evangelists, Jehovah Witnesses, Protestants and professed atheists. One conversion was brought about.

Our Comment: This was a unique enterprise in so much as it operated around the junction of three countries. It was carried through with great spirit, seeking contact with each person and aiming especially at conversion. But its real greatness lies in the fact that it shows the ordinary Catholics as accepting responsibility for the spreading of the faith.

BOLIVIA

La Paz: A letter from His Lordship Juan Niccolai, O.F.M., Bishop of Tarija to the legionaries and priests in his diocese praises the work done during 1972. 400 people returned to the practice of their religion; 40 marriages were regulated and many Baptisms and first Holy Communion were effected. There are 8 Senior praesidia and 10 Junior praesidia in this diocese. Most of the Spiritual Directors look after 2 or 3 praesidia each. In La Paz itself the legionaries are doing trojan work especially in the military hospital where 37 first Holy Communion were effected and in the state prison in San Pedro where 30 people were confirmed and 3 marriages were regularised. The legionaries also obtained permission from the Lord Mayor for the sale of many artistic works of the prisoners. One new praesidium was set up by the Curia Mater Decor Carmeli in La Paz.

INDIA



The Archbishop of Hyderabad, H. E. Saminini Arulappa, writes: "I shall do my very best to establish the Legion in my Archdiocese on a strong footing. I have great faith in the efficiency of Legion Apostolate. We can clearly see the hand of God on this Apostolate.

"Let me express my profound appreciation for the excellent work the concilium is doing. We are particularly happy about your special consideration for India."

Bombay: A recent report on the work done for Moslems disclosed that many of them are being contacted at public novenas, at street booths and open-air cribs, etc. They are usually friendly and some have accepted enquiry cards. The work for prostitutes extends to the visitation of the girls in the houses. They are also contacted in hospitals, clinics and at dancing schools. One woman was recently rescued from this life.

Madras:— Bro. Devanesan, assistant secretary, took a month's leave from his office and visited all the parishes in the Chingleput district. He set up 30 new praesidia. The Archbishop asked the Senatus to devote their special efforts this year to the important work of the Propagation of the Faith. Devotion to the Rosary is being neglected by many and the Senatus urged legionaries not to be misled by others but to work for the spread of devotion to the Rosary.

Our Comment: Brother Devanesan's self-sacrifice certainly brought forth immense fruit. Imagine him being able to start 30 praesidia in one month! Thereby he has modified the religious future of Chingleput. Furthermore it demonstrated the affinity of the Legion to the people who accept its membership so readily. And be it remembered that India has 500 million of people who await conversion. They must be approached.

CEYLON

Ceylon: A project on the lines of P.P.C. is planned for Kotugoda, a predominantly non-Catholic area. A praesidium at Marawila brought about the conversion of a Muslim girl. This praesidium is active in promoting "Grow more food" drives. A praesidium at Bambalapitiya reported the conversion of a Buddhist woman. A Hindu lady to whom they explained Mary's motherhood of men expressed gratitude for the spiritual consolation they gave her. The Senatus proposes to print the Allocutios of the Concilium Spiritual Director in leaflet form.



India: Guahati legionaries of Our Lady of the Holy Name of Mary praesidium with their Spiritual Director, Father Patrick Burns, S.D.B. Second from left is Brother Placid Fernandez who has opened up at least twelve praesidia in Assam and Bengal.

SINGAPORE

His Grace the Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur, attended the Acies. Two priests, devoted Spiritual Directors in Sabah, have been told to leave the country. The Sabah Junior Curia reported 23 conversions by one praesidium, while a praesidium under Kuching Curia reported 20 conversions. Another praesidium said it recruited illiterate people into the Legion as the educated ones were not interested. This report mentioned 8 Baptisms. Sibiu Curia has set up a new praesidium in an army camp.

Our Comment: Conversion must be the primary note of the Church. Here it is well in evidence. Another feature is that a praesidium has to recruit illiterates because the educated will not join. This is an anomaly which needs special examination. Why is it that education, social position, and material goods nearly always mean that their possessors decline apostleship?

MOZAMBIQUE

Nataleia Curia report that 6 Pagan girls were approached, all showed fear of becoming Christians as they felt their chances of marrying would diminish. After gentle persuasion five have been converted; four have since married and the fifth will be married shortly. A man of 100 years of age was baptised several days before he died. He had refrained from receiving Baptism as he had killed many people during the Great War. On learning of the conversion of St. Paul he relented.

Camping with Mary



Campers and their camp. Their president, Michael Kennedy is on extreme right, back row. He has since entered the seminary to study for the priesthood. Extreme left—Dominic Shaughnessy has joined the Irish Christian Brothers.

Our Lady of Hope, junior boys' praesidium, Thurles, County Tipperary, Ireland, went on a week's camping holiday to Ardmore, a seaside resort in County Waterford. They took with them their Legion altar and had a daily meeting in their tent.

It was no "idle holiday" for the boys did crowd contact every day among the holidaymakers. Many of the visitors were thrilled to be invited to the Legion meeting in the boys' camp.

It was a profitable holiday in every respect. Juniors can you beat this?

SOUTH AFRICA



Senatus of Johannesburg: Three teams of Peregrini left Johannesburg for different destinations during the month of July. The first one went to Durban to a suburb there called *Chatsworth* and occupied by upwards of 300,000 Hindu people. After the 7.30 a.m. Mass at Christ the King Cathedral, Johannesburg, the team took to the high road full of confidence in Him who promised "I shall be with you all days". Sunday morning they were introduced to the parishioners after the 10 a.m. Mass, and on Sunday afternoon the Durban legionaries arranged a get-together with two Spiritual Directors to welcome the team. Armed with Miraculous Medals the legionaries made their way two by two to each home, where in the majority of cases they received a warm welcome. A total of

375 homes were visited, approx. 90% being Hindu. 58 were interested in hearing more about the Catholic Faith, and provision was made for a follow-up of all contacts by the newly formed praesidium there.

Ofoloco: Northern Transvaal. Fr. R. F. Broderick M.S.C., the P.P. welcomed the 11 Peregrini and gave guidance on the planning of the work to be undertaken. He said only three Catholics came to Mass on Sundays. The team was to bring God to the villagers. Eleven legionaries from surrounding villages joined the team.

One group visited the Honourable Chieftainess Mantjana to report their arrival and planted Miraculous Medals at the kraal. She and her household then attended Mass, thus encouraging the villagers. A total of 244 homes were visited representing the entire village.

Published in March, June, September, and December at 2 Hardwicke Street, off North Frederick Street, Dublin, Ireland. Annual subscription including postage, 50p. Canada and U.S.A.: \$1.50c. *Maria Legionis* is supplied to all praesidia on request at 84p per dozen copies. Address orders to *Maria Legionis*, 2 Hardwicke Street, off North Frederick Street, Dublin. American subscribers should order from the Publisher's Printing Co., P.O. Box 1494, Louisville 1, Kentucky, U.S.A.

7p