

Group Aiding Ft. Niagara Chaplain Can Use Help

The Fort Niagara Catholic Chaplains Aid Society organized two months ago, has already made notable contributions to the spiritual and material welfare of the men at Fort Niagara. The needs of the Chaplain were outlined in an early issue of this paper. John Egan of Niagara Falls, the president of the society, convinced of the necessity and desirability of offering definite and systematic assistance approached Chaplain Christopher E. O'Hara, Catholic Chaplain at Fort Niagara, and proposed a simple plan.

Together with the Chaplain an effective organization and program were formed.

In a surprisingly short time the organization began to function, contributions of religious articles began to pour into the society's headquarters at 254 3rd Street, Niagara Falls. A group of enthusiastic workers volunteered their services. This fact assistance has come from Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda, Le Roy, Batavia, Rochester, Syracuse and New York City.

The purpose of the organization is to aid the Chaplain in his duties.

The purpose of this organization will be to furnish to the Catholic Chaplain of Fort Niagara such aid and assistance as will be within the power of the society. Lack of funds and Fort Niagara Catholic Chaplains Aid Society of the bulk as a whole. The provision of such a fund will be entirely voluntary on the part of the individual and be held in a reputable and satisfactory manner.

In addition to the aid and assistance as to the articles of the organization, the society will also furnish to the men at Fort Niagara who are confined to the hospital or quarters or in the line of duty, those who are attached to the 12th Service Unit and finally to the men of the service generally, whether at Fort Niagara or elsewhere, such necessities for physical necessities or pleasures of life as shall be available regardless of the creed or color of said recipients.

The active workers make up the gift packages which are then brought to Fort Niagara for distribution. Every Catholic soldier receives a package containing rosary, prayer book, medal, whistle of service, etc. These are distributed in the Processing Building of the Reception Center, after the men receive their uniforms. As soon as the soldier has donned his new uniform for the first time, even before the cardboard size tags are removed and before his new army shoes are laced he receives this religious gift packet. One Catholic soldier who was impressed by the procedure remarked: "Here we are adjusting the uniforms becoming conscious of the fact that we are now soldiers and before we can grasp the idea fully the Church is on hand presenting us with our identification reminding us that we are before everything else, and at all times, soldiers of Christ."

Miss Helen Troy, the secretary of the Society submits the following statistics for the first six weeks July 19 to August 31, 1941. The following articles were given to the men at Fort Niagara:

- 803 Rosaries
- 603 Prayer Books
- 603 Combination Medals
- 75 Sacred Heart Badges
- 1900 Leathers
- 1792 Cigarettes
- 8090 Matches
- 1630 Packages of chewing gum
- 5750 Sheet of writing paper
- 1200 Envelopes
- 65 Razors
- 15 Cans of tooth powder

Besides this work, the primary purpose of the society, the president and secretary have also been active in collecting necessary equipment for use in the new chapel soon to be opened at the Post. The government does not supply religious articles for any particular denomination. Consequently all religious articles for the exclusive use of Catholics must be provided from Catholic sources. So far the society has been very successful in obtaining vestments and vessels for Catholic services. A few more items will complete the outstanding needs.

Anyone who wishes to cooperate actively in the work of the society may send small Army and Navy prayerbooks (the larger prayerbooks are not useful), small ro-

saries or donations for these articles to the Fort Niagara Catholic Chaplains Aid Society, 254 3rd St. Niagara Falls, N. Y.

FORTY HOURS

The devotion of the "Forty Hours" will be held in the following churches of the Diocese of Rochester:

Nov. 9. — Our Lady of Lourdes, Rochester; Conesus, Elmira Heights, Mt. Road, Prattsburg, Nov. 14. — Gates.

America is rallying to the Missions call

THEOLOGY TREATISE

Washington. A treatise on the nature and competence of Catholic theology written by a member of the staff of the School of Sacred Theology of the Catholic University of America, has just been published. Titled "The Concept of Sacred Theology," the work is by the Rev. Dr. Joseph C. Fenton, assistant professor of sacred theology.

AOH Party Nov. 13

Division No. 2 A. O. H. will hold a Turkey Party on Thursday evening, Nov. 13, in the Club Rooms, 104 Main Street West. There will be entertainment and refreshments, and all members are invited.

All disquiet of heart and distraction of the senses arise from inordinate love and vain fear. Thomas A. Kempis

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