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A Listing of Business Firms



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## The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

### Thanksgiving Day

The American people have a very fine custom of setting aside one day a year on which to offer thanks for the blessings which God has bestowed upon them during the year. American Catholics can turn every day into a Thanksgiving Day by thank God for the greatest gift of all—their Faith. They can further show their gratitude for that Faith by sharing it with others.

We can suggest no better way of showing that Faith than membership in the Propagation of the Faith. By this international mission's Fund, missionaries are kept at their post that they may work for the salvation of souls.

### Loneliness?

When our fathers first stepped out of their windows to provide for the needs of the hungry, they were often met by the well-to-do who remembered the loneliness which often proves the soul's and body's companion. The Catholic missionaries, separated from their homeland by thousands of miles of land and water, living in conditions whose hardships and severity differ so greatly from their own, learn to miss the voice of Mission. Their closest companions are far away. Yet to some of these even the solitude of presence is lonely, as in the case of the Rev. Father Joseph Sidotti, who shared some two centuries ago for the evangelization of Japan.

Father Sidotti, an auditor of the Roman Rota, fired with the ideal of bringing the truths of Christianity to Japan, received permission from the Holy See to undertake this mission apostolate. After being delayed for five years in Manila, he finally arrived in Japan which had closed its doors to all foreigners. Dressed in Japanese costume the priest finally succeeded in landing at a lonely spot on the coast but was arrested almost immediately and spent the remainder of his life in Nippon in prison.

Records show that Father Sidotti made but two converts during his stay in prison and skeptics may scoff at his lack of results. However, the annals of Church history abound in proofs of the results obtained through the efforts of these "successful failures." After all the scene on the heights of Calvary held forth no tangible promise of the possibility of fulfilling the Master's command to win all peoples to Himself. Yet after twenty centuries that command is still obeyed and with heartening results.

### Catholic Medicine Man

While our columnists may assure us that "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach," Catholic missionaries have found that the surest and shortest route to a man's soul is through the care of his body. However, the bodily ministrations must be Christlike in their administration governed by a real interest in the needs of the afflicted one rather than by any endeavor to coerce them into accepting Catholicism.

The fact exemplified by the attitude of the Rev. P. J. Weismiller S. J., who has earned the title "magician" and "medicine man" in Patna, Diocese India. Although his services are demanded even by Mohammedans, he always refrains from "talking religion" while he is caring for the sick. Confronted by the statement that he was a missionary not a doctor and that his dispensary hours seemed an admirable time to discuss the truths of Christianity he replied:

"I say nothing here, but when I tour the village I find that my medicine works wonders. Those I have treated come up to me kiss my hands and tell me what wonders my magic pills have worked. Then is the time to talk about the medicine for their souls. My medicine is the open sesame to all hearts, and through their hearts, I enter their souls to give them the real medicine of baptism."

### Librarians To Meet

DULUTH, Minn. "Library Service to Catholic Readers" is the initial topic for discussion at the seventh annual conference of the Minnesota-Dakota unit, National Catholic Library Association at St. Scholastica College here, Nov. 21.

Let us pray our most Blessed Advocate the Mother of our Redeemer to deign to cover our iniquities and plead for us before the just Judge Her Son St. Christ.

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