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**The Society for
 the Propagation
 of the Faith**
 The REV JOHN S. RANDALL
 DIRECTOR

Palembang—Catholic Center
 The date was April 18, 1940 the place was the office of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith—the visitor the then newly appointed Vicar Apostolic of Palembang, consecrated by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, as one of the 13 modern apostolates to spread the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world. His Excellency, Most Rev. H. Mekkelholt, S.C.J., was well acquainted with conditions in his Vicariate for he had labored for over 13 years on the island of Sumatra. He was well aware of the difficulties in a territory covering some 100,000 square miles, with a population varying from two to two and one-half million inhabitants.

Bishop Mekkelholt knew also that his principal work would be among the Javanese; some 100,000 of whom were imported annually to Sumatra because of the overcrowding on their native island. He had completed his plans for the erection of hospitals out in the jungles for it was to this territory that Javanese were assigned and to which they came with perhaps one small bundle representing the entire fortunes of a family. Poverty was the daily companion of these people—a poverty which knew nothing of the rich oil deposits for which a world is now in mortal combat. Hence when we read of the increasing attacks on this distant island we recall the visit of Bishop Mekkelholt, with his 28 priests, 15 brothers and 100 sisters, and wonder what will become of the rich harvest of souls which he hoped to reap in Palembang.

Another Side of the Picture

Even the most casual observers appreciate the years of concentrated effort necessary to create the Nazi war machine, but few realize the remarkable work done by German Catholics for the love of God. Actually they provided the second largest national group after France for the Catholic world mission work. In spite of the setbacks caused by the first World War, 1914-1918, and its consequences, German missionaries were able to increase their activities in post war years as compared with the pre-war period. Catholic Germany in 1835 was represented in 50 independent mission fields with 1,000 priests, 673 brothers and 2,002 sisters, as compared with 732 priests, 600 brothers and 874 sisters before 1914. In 1935 they baptized no less than 742,000, compared to 583,000 in 1914. Fourteen of the German Catholic mission fields before this war were in China, 5 in Japan, 2 in India, one in the Philippines, 16 in Africa, 2 in North America and 5 in South America. Among the German congregations devoted to mission work the Society of the Divine Word ranked first.

War's Ally

One of the powerful allies of the war machine is the devastating spectre of disease which keeps step with the march of infantry, stalks unmolested over the battlegrounds and infiltrates the ranks of conquering nations. Each day the secular press reports the ever widening range of typhus in Europe—a malignancy more to be feared than bombings or torpedoings.

While the war lords retreat from the horror of this disease, the "army of Christ" goes forth to check it. Within the quiet confines of the Catholic University of Peking the most powerful vaccine to counteract spotted typhus has been developed, and another splendid chapter is written in mission history.

Protect Them

The boys that are "keeping them flying" the hardy marines, the far-travelling navy lads and our 1942 A.E.F., have first place in our hearts and minds today. Why not make that interest a tangible rather than a sentimental affair? Enroll one of your soldier or sailor friends in The Society for the Propagation of the Faith! We cannot foresee the difficulties and hardships of his life during this war but we can afford him the protection of the prayers of the missionaries and insure his participation in the 15,000 Masses offered annually for members of this Society.

DOLLARS FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

WIN A PRIZE

IN THE NEW COOPERATION

\$150 PRIZE \$150 CONTEST

How To Solve This PROBLEM?

Advertising is vital to the operation and development of your diocesan newspaper, the CATHOLIC COURIER.

This is so because: The CATHOLIC COURIER is a self-sustaining newspaper organization operated by a corporation which is owned and supervised by the Catholic Diocese of Rochester. As such, it has no income beyond revenues from circulation and advertising.

The development of advertising acceptance by business firms who seek increased Catholic patronage has been accelerated during the past years by increases in circulation which the CATHOLIC COURIER has secured.

BUT . . .

That advertising acceptance has not been fully in accord with the value of the CATHOLIC COURIER as a newspaper and as an advertising medium; it has not been in accord with the importance of the Catholic population which is served by the CATHOLIC COURIER; it has not been in accord with the increased influence of the CATHOLIC COURIER with its increased thousands of readers.

NOW . . .

What suggestions have YOU to offer, as a Catholic and as a reader of this diocesan newspaper, for the solution of a problem which involves the progress, the dignity, and the prestige of the CATHOLIC COURIER, and of the Catholic Press in the Rochester Diocese?

Your Answer May WIN A PRIZE!

Just follow these few SIMPLE RULES

1. Entries should be in the form of letters, not less than 200 words or more than 1,000, written in ink, or typewritten, on one side of plain paper.
2. Entries should be mailed to the Cooperation Contest Chairman, c/o CATHOLIC COURIER Press Committee, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York, and to be eligible for a prize must be postmarked not later than midnight, February 15, 1942.
3. Entries will be judged by a committee of five members to be announced in the CATHOLIC COURIER issue of February 12. Decisions of the judges will be final and all entries will become the property of the CATHOLIC COURIER.
4. Entrants must be 16 years of age or older and must be members of a parish within the Rochester Diocese. In entering the contest they automatically accept these rules.
5. Entries will be judged according to originality and merit of content in offering solutions to the problem stated in the box printed just above on this page. Three prizes, totaling \$150.00, will be awarded as follows:

FIRST PRIZE — \$75.00 in United States Defense Bonds
 SECOND PRIZE — 50.00 in United States Defense Bonds
 THIRD PRIZE — 25.00 in United States Defense Bonds

Contest not open to CATHOLIC COURIER employees or members of their families

Send Your Contest Entry to Cooperation Committee

Catholic Courier
 Official Newspaper of the Rochester Diocese
 50 CHESTNUT ST. ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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