

Report of American Jesuits Interned At Manila Algeon

NEW YORK, July 15.—American Jesuit missionaries have been

interned at the Algeon de Manila, former Jesuit university, since the fall of Manila, the Jesuit Philippine Bureau, here, has been informed by United States Government agencies.

PRIVATE JOE CASEK

A release of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 2801 Grand Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

By Rev. Lawrence Schmeidler, S.J.

Private Joe Casek had from the State of Minnesota. He is a Catholic who appreciates his religion and is one of the finest young men I have ever met. I had the pleasure of meeting him on the last day of last year, while on duty as civilian Chaplain at the South Chapel at Ft. Riley. Joe had dropped in for a little advice, but was not adverse to talking Rural Life if he could do any good by telling how his folks had turned to it as a possible emancipation from the city with its vicious circle of threatening bills and vanishing checks.

Joe admitted that they knew little about farming even though they had heard and read a few things about the part-time farming plan. They were a little afraid to attempt the venture, but they concluded that no matter how it turned out, it couldn't be any worse than the hand-to-mouth existence which they had been experiencing in the city.

This is the way Joe told the story:

"My parents were married in 1901. I, their oldest child, was born in 1921. I have five sisters. My father and mother were able to make a fairly good living the first nine years of their struggle in the city, but from 1923 to 1927, things went from bad to worse. In the spring of 1928 we sold our home for what we could get out of it and bought a two-acre plot of land, with a six-room house on it.

"The house was in good condition, but the small hen and chicken coop had been neglected so long that they needed repairs badly. Whatever improvements were necessary or desirable, we made ourselves to keep down the cost. The second year we painted all the buildings.

"As soon as we got this land, we began to improve it. In the fall of 1928 we purchased a cow, a batch of young chickens and a few rabbits.

"The expense of starting up was great in the beginning, but in the long run, over a period of years, it seemed like practically nothing. The expenses consisted of buying gardening tools, brooder for the chickens and some medicine for them and everything needed to take care of livestock and poultry, besides the tools and equipment necessary for the upkeep of the lawn and the beautification of the home.

Heads Above Flood

"The profits of the first year were slight in comparison with the cost. This was due to our inexperience and ignorance concerning the various things connected with the farm. Our greatest profits came from the cow. Our orchard, berry patches and vegetable garden brought us the next best returns. The chickens proved to be the most costly that first year.

"By the end of 1929 we were practically clear with the world. You can't imagine how nice that felt after struggling for years in the city to keep our heads above the ever-threatening flood of bills and debts.

"My father died of a heart attack on Jan. 8, 1931. This, however, did not break up our homestead. Although I was a senior in high school, I quit school and went to work, working successively as

farm hand, shipping clerk, trade director in a defense plant, packer and layout man for a company building gliders until I was drafted and left for active service. "I used to spend most of my spare time helping mother. Now

that I am gone, I am wondering how she and my four small sisters are going to manage these days, especially since mother has started in her arms. I hope that we'll not lose everything now while I am in the Army."

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Catholic Soldiers Add To Prestige Of Church In South

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Catholic soldiers have been adding to the prestige of the Church in the South, the Most Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, Bishop of Savannah-Atlanta, declared in a sermon delivered at a Solemn Mass celebrated upon an altar erected within the vast hangar of the Army Air Base at Daniel Field. "I express admiration for and gratitude to the soldiers who have come to the South, particularly to Georgia, because of their edifying devotion to the Church and the noble example of truly Christian lives," Bishop O'Hara said.

60th Anniversary

Lincoln, Neb.—The sixtieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood was observed yesterday by the Rev. Dennis Fitzgerald, retired pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Red Cloud, who now resides at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, here.

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