Picture Report of Father Brown's Arctic Mission

We've read a lot about "the long hot summer."

For Oblate Father Bernard Brown of Rochester, it's been neither very hot nor very long.

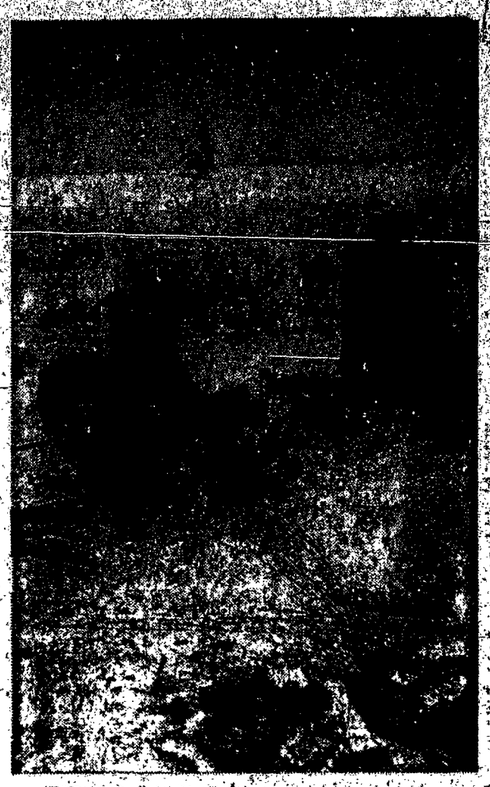
He is a missioner above the Arctic Circle in Canada's Northwest Territory.

This week he sent us these pictures of his Our Lady of the Snows Mission at Colville Lake. Father Brown is the son of Mrs. Frank J. Brown, 315 Lake Front, Rochester, and the late Frank Brown.

Father Brown pours the water of baptism in log chapel.

Caribou meat is on the menu for supper.

Father Brown is also the barber and the price of a haircut is two big smiles.



Indian girl brings in fire wood.

A log house is Father Brown's cathedral. Rochesterians Robert Haughwout and Barry Haefele serve the Mass.

Arctic madonna on missioner's canvas.

The shopping plaza at Colville Lake.

God's World

Patience of God

By REV. LEO J. TRESE

We never can cease to marvel at God's infinite patience — His limitless patience with us, His wayward children.

His patience revealed itself at the very beginning, in Eden. Adam and Eve had it made(to use a unbiblical phrase) and they muffed it. They had only to perform one small act of obedience as proof of their love, and the world was theirs—the next world as well as this. But no, poor fools, they had to prove their independence. They had to do what they wanted rather than what God wanted.

Right then we might have expected God to wipe the slate clean for a new start. There would be other planets which he could populate, other immortal beings whom he could create. We humans were not at all essential to him. Yet, mysteriously, He stayed with us. He did not give up on us.

THE DESCENDANTS of Adam and Eve forgot about God, most of them. They wandered into all sorts of idolatry, created their own gods in their own image, even made sin an act of worship to their bizarre deities. Still God did not give up.

He chose a nomad Semite, Abraham, to be the father of a race of men who would be God's own people. God would guide them, protect them and progressively reveal Himself to them. The Israelites, so named after Abraham's grandson Israel, took their favored position lightly. They fell and re-fell into idolatry. They fought and quarreled and killed. They killed even many of the prophets whom God sent to instruct them. Still God did not give up.

With inextinguishable love, God sent His own Son to reveal God to mankind as fully as man could understand. His Son, however, was greeted with skepticism and scorn. Ultimately He was crucified by the very men He had come to save. Still God did not give up.

God made the very life and death of His Son the starting point for a new try. He accepted that life and death as an atonement for mankind's sins, and fashioned a new kind of Body for His Son. That Body, the assembly of all who believe in Jesus, is the Mystical Body of Christ. By the grace which Jesus merited on the Cross the members of that Body are knit, through baptism, into a unity more intimate than the unity which binds together the cells of a physical body. In His Mystical Body Christ remains upon earth to instruct, to sanctify and to guide His members.

But God's problems were not over. Christ's Body was lacerated by successive heresies. His law of love was more honored in the breach than in the observance. In the tragic Crusades, for example, Christians slaughtered and pillaged in the name of Christ. In the Inquisition men and women were burned at the stake in the name of Christian truth because they could not or would not accept those truths. In the sixteenth century the Body of Christ was torn wide open by the Reformation. "Holy" wars raged across Europe as Catholics and Protestants showed their love for one another with naked swords and smoking muskets. Still God did not give up.

As civilization marched forward sins became more sophisticated, injustice more refined and hatreds more politely masked. There has been some growth in virtue, too; but as we look into our own hearts we must confess that God continues to receive a pretty grubby return for the infinite love and bounty which He has poured out upon us. Still He does not give up.

It is a sad story in the telling and yet for us it is a glorious story. The golden thread running through the darkness is the fact that God simply will not accept defeat. His patience, His mercy, His love are inexhaustible.

As individual's we dare not presume upon God's patience. We must, we absolutely must do for Him the best that we can with the graces He gives. But as we do that very insignificant best, we move forward with confidence and hope. We stumble, we fall. Doggedly we pick ourselves up and try again.

Noah's Ark Has Wings

Puno, Peru — (NC) — A "Noah's Ark" with wings landed in Arequipa with a live cargo for Maryknoll Model Radio School Farm here in the altiplano highlands.

Two "cowboys" had to ride herd on nine head of cattle, four goats, six sheep, six pigs and 20 rabbits in a plane all the way from Boston.

THE TWO MEN accompanying the animals were a Protestant minister the Rev. John Chapman, and James Canavan, a Catholic layman from Massachusetts. They had helped to collect the animals and delivered them in cooperation with the Heifer Project and the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.) of the Alliance for Progress.

During the flight Mr. Chapman and Canavan had to feed the animals and milk the goats. Other than that there were no major crises or stampedes.

As soon as the plane landed two big trucks drew up to the side and started to unload the animals. This service was provided by SIPA, the Peruvian Departmen of Agriculture.

The animals were taken to a nearby quarantine station where they will be kept one month. This will give them an opportunity to get accustomed to the 8,000-foot altitude of Arequipa. At the end of one month they will be shipped by train to Puno, which is 12,500 feet above sea level.

The experimental farm in Puno is directed by Father Robert E. Kearns, M.M., of New York City.

When asked about their purposes, Father Kearns said:

"The animals will be used for artificial insemination and their first-born will be given away free of charge to students in our radio schools, mostly poor Indians. In turn each Indian is expected to give away the first-born to another person, not in the family."