

Feb-March 65



DIALOGUE: ITS REAL MEANING:--

With all the admonitions for dialogue in the Church today it is important we have an exact idea of what kind of dialogue is being referred to in Church circles. Conversations about sports and the weather are dialogue in the broad sense, but are evidently not what the Church wishes to achieve. The dialogue the Church is striving for must come from the heart and deal with matters that are the very foundation stones of our lives.

And these topics must not only be important to us, but also with those to whom we are speaking. It presumes we enter these conversations to listen and perhaps even be convinced. Certainly we must enter them with a view towards learning something about the one with whom we are conversing.

Father Delp, S.J., who gave his life for the Church and who while awaiting execution wrote a very penetrating analysis of modern man's ills, tells us we must learn as much from the irreligious man as he is to learn from us if we are to effect his conversion. How much more must we learn from our fellow religious and our separated brethren when we enter conversation with them.

According to Rev. John Kirvan, C.S.P., real dialogue is a rare thing achieved only by those with courage, deep honesty and a fullness of human love. Dialogue is absolutely necessary for us as Christians even though it has fallen into disuse. And according to our Holy Father, Pope Paul VI, this dialogue must be between separated Christians and between Christians and the world.

BON VOYAGE:

To Father Edward Williams who will be leaving us for his vacation in the States. Our prayers go with Father Williams for a pleasant stay at home in spite of the snow storms.

VISITATION:--

The canonical visitation of the Vice Province will begin in Kyushu the week of the 7th and extend throughout the month ending in Tokyo after the first retreat in Aki is over.

TAISHOKIN INFORMATION:--

So far I have received only two questionnaires with the information needed by those making the survey. Since this project is so important to all of us, I urge your cooperation by sending in the information directly if it is not already in the mail. The deadline is March 20th. Dozo.

PRAYERS ASKED:--

We've received news that the following fathers of the home Province have undergone surgery recently and we ask your prayers for their recovery: Fathers. Matt. Casey, Tom Manning and Ed. Ward.

APPOINTMENTS:--

Fr. Bertram Silver, OMI, has been appointed diocesan consultor for the diocese of Takamatsu. And Fathers Silver and Mahoney, District Superior for the diocese, have the power of Vicar Forane.



April 1965



VISITATION:--

My sincere thanks to all the members of the Vice Province for their cordiality and frankness during the recent visitation. It was a pleasure and a source of inspiration to travel through the Vice Province and note the work that is being done and the wonderful spirit in which this work for souls is being done. As I mentioned previously, a Visitation should be looked upon not only as a time of introspection for a study and correction of past errors. It is also a time to note the progress we've made with a view to adding impetus to that progress.

The Vice Province, built on firm foundations, has made excellent visible progress during its short life in Japan. But we must not measure our progress merely in terms of missions established, conversions and Baptisms, buildings erected and vocations fostered. These indeed are healthy signs, but another definite indication of the health and growth of the mission is the attitude of a majority of the fathers towards the apostolate at a time when conversions are declining. The human tendency under these circumstances is to grow discouraged and at times become more isolated from the people. This latter sad effect has occurred among some of our confreres.

But I have found among the majority of our Oblates no tendency to withdraw but rather new and more detailed plans for greater contact with the people. And what is very encouraging this planning is done with enthusiasm and hope. This represents a sound attitude toward our apostolate and an understanding of the spiritual fluctuations of the Japanese people since the war ended. The reaction to the loss of the war with its spiritual and material devastation was bound to bring a large influx of pagans into the Church during the late forties and early fifties. Many interpreted this as a sign of the quick conversion of the whole country.

But with a return to independence and prosperity Baptisms leveled off and missionaries soon realized that what had happened immediately after the war was not to continue. The Church seemed to be suffering a decline, but this was merely a leveling off after the period of reaction. In fact, it has been since the middle fifties that the Church has been engaged in its real apostolate in Japan with all its challenges. And because we are facing this apostolate with the right attitude, it is evident we have not become disillusioned. Rather it is evident that we have understood the meaning and ultimate direction of the spiritual upheaval following the war.

Certainly an apostolate where little in the way of visible results can be expected is one that requires courage and fortitude. It is an apostolate, according to Archbishop Cagna our Apostolic Delegate, that requires twenty percent more of a missionary than most of the other missions of the world. It is an apostolate that will sometimes tax to the limit our missionary vocation not only because of its demands for perseverance in the face of difficulties, but also because it is an apostolate that requires joy and enthusiasm in order to bear fruit. It is an apostolate that requires more and more of the strength our Founder exhibited when the congregation faced extinction almost before it came into being.

And for this type of stamina we must continually draw upon the example of our Founder and our Holy Rule. With the opening of the Chapter in Rome next year, by way of individual preparation, it would be well to make a special study of our Rule with a view towards its application to our Japanese apostolate. We are not only missionaries to Japan, we are Oblate missionaries. There is a difference. For we bring to our apostolate an Oblate spirit and a way of solving our problems that is distinctive. By drawing on the vital sources of guidance and inspiration found in our Rule our efforts will bear fruit.

CATECHETICAL COMMITTEE:--

A Catechetical Committee has been established with Fr. Joseph Hofmans, chairman, and Frs. VanHoydonck, Ward, Lowney and Inue as members of the committee. The object of the committee will not only be to discuss catechetical methods, but also to serve as a clearing house for catechetical materials. This does not mean that all parish catechetical material must pass through the hands of the committee, but it is hoped that particularly good material can be made available to all through the committee. All are requested to interest themselves in the work of this committee by supplying members with articles and ads of interest pertaining to the catechetical problem.

AKI RETREAT:--

Sincere thanks to Fr. Edward Robinson, S.A., our preacher, and Fathers Ward and Mattimore, our hosts, for an inspiring retreat at Aki. With the permission of His Excellency, Bishop Tanaka, we were able to concelebrate each day, and I think all were agreed that this was one of the high points of the retreat. It also eliminated the problem of finding sufficient altars for the retreatants.

ALTAR BOYS MEETING:--

At the last council meeting in Naruto in April, Father John Mahoney was appointed the director of the vocation work shop for altar boys with Fr. Edward Williams as assistant. From now on Father Mahoney will be in charge of arrangements for the yearly gatherings. The meeting this year is scheduled for the Kansai area, and the expenses will still be pro-rated as in previous years.

PRINTING:--

The printing of parish newspapers should always be cleared with the local Ordinary and even though he should give blanket permission for these publications, it would be well to send copies of the paper to the Chancery before you go to press. In this way you are protected. As regards printing for the general public, manuscripts should be sent to the Vicar Provincial and the District Superior before they are printed. (Cfr. Rule 241-242)

WELCOME HOME!

Father David Barton landed in Tokyo on Holy Saturday after his period of home leave. Besides his usual flashing smile and good cheer, he brought with him twenty extra pounds that he promised to lose walking in the mountains around Motoyama.

BISHOP'S.- SUPERIOR'S MEETING:--

The annual meeting of the Bishops of Japan and the Superiors of Religious Congregations will be held in Tokyo from May 11th to the 14th.

TODAY'S APOSTLE:--

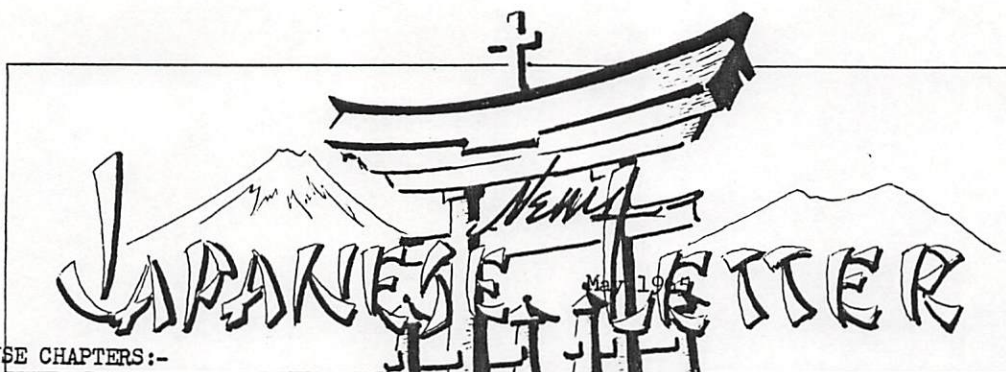
"What in ages past has always been respected, admired and sought for in a priest has become in our time an essential to his priesthood. Without this element he simply will not mediate the great mass of men in the years to come. He must be not only the mouthpiece but the credentials of Christ (in the full sense of that word.) And there is only one present, irrefutable evidence for Christ's living presence in the world: intelligent belief, profound but dynamic confidence, sincere humility, and warmly visible charity.

"Our age will receive Christ from the priest when it sees Christ in the priest."

Rev. T. Cashman, S.J.

Yours in J.C. AND MII.,

Patrick Brady, O.M.I.,
V. Prov.



HOUSE CHAPTERS:-

By this time you will have received notice of the holding of House and District Chapters on the 24th of May. I am sorry there had to be such a rush, but it was only from the Spring issue of the Provincial Newsletter that I learned that the house chapters were now under way in the United States. As mentioned in the notice, Fathers Healy, Harr and Ward will be available to attend the Provincial Chapter providing it is held after the middle of August. I have received no notice of the exact date up to this time.



SUPERIORS MEETING IN TOKYO:-

Two decisions taken at the recent Bishops-Superiors Meeting in Tokyo will be of interest to all. A religious survey under the auspices of the Superior's Conference will be conducted by a group of experts at Sophia University. The survey will try to determine the best methods available to the Church for the conversion of Japan. Under the guidance of Fr. Abad, S.J., the survey will take at least one year to conduct. Father Abad and his team are employed frequently by the United States Government and large Japanese industries to conduct surveys.

Father Abad in his address to the Conference mentioned the structures that now influenced the lives of the Japanese people. Fifty years ago in the head of a family could be influenced, you would be influencing 90% of the average Japanese person's life. Today that influence on the head of the family would account for only ten to fifteen percent of the person's interest. The influence is now divided among five new structures that have intruded themselves into Japanese life. These five are: Politics, Industrial Relations, Education, Mass Communication and Sports or Youth Movements.

Up to the present the Church has had little or no influence on these structures. The Japanese has been separated and isolated from these structures in order to convert him. The future apostolate has to be directed towards these structures in society. They have to be reshaped and given a Christian meaning. Structures must be analyzed and evaluated. How can this be done?

It is hoped that the religious survey will give us directives in this field. According to Father Abad, although the survey may not be able to tell us exactly what to do, it will tell us what not to do in many areas. This alone will make the survey extremely valuable.

A second decision taken at the Superior's Conference was to build a permanent Superior's Conference Headquarters in Tokyo which would also serve to house the Advanced Training Course for priests.

BON VOYAGE!

Sayoraras to Father Daniel Ward and Father Eugene Prendiville who left for home during the past week. Father Ward left six months early for his leave because of the serious illness of his mother.

RETREATS:-

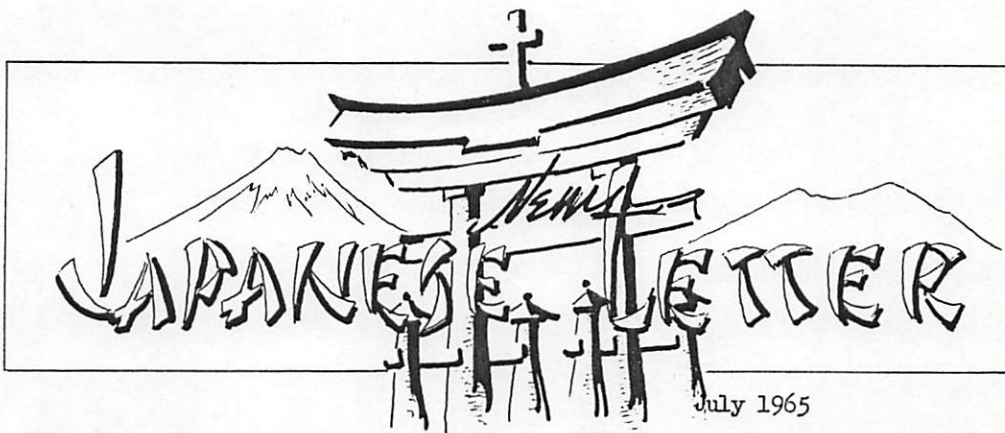
At Aki August 29th to September 4th.

R.F. Gill	R.F. Barton
R.F. Silver	R.F. Maher
R.F. Delporte	R.F. Reilly
R.F. Stevens	R.F. Kellen

The Aki retreat will be conducted by Fr. Robinson, S.A., the Fukuoka Fathers will make their retreat in the fall under Fr. Owen McElroy. The Scholastics retreat will be preached by Fr. Joseph Hofmans.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS:-

To Aki: Fr. Meyer, Brothers Quinn and Novotney
 To Itami:-Bro. Duffy. To Ikeda:-Bro. Bourgoin. To Kochi Nakajimacho:
 Bro. Laframboise. To Koga:-Bro. Bonang. To Nakamachi:-Bro. Maher



CATECHETICAL COMMITTEE MEETING:--

The first Catechetical Committee meeting was held in Tokushima on June 16th under the chairmanship of Fr. Joseph Hofmans. Fathers Brady, Silver, VanHoydonck, Lowney and Inue attended. The meeting dealt chiefly with catechetical materials. The initial project of the committee is to procure and appraise catechetical materials from different countries of the world. By the time of the fall meeting of the committee it is hoped that a large variety of materials will have been collected. For the present Tokushima will be the clearing house for these materials.

Father Hofmans read letters he had received from various fathers giving their views and ideas. Though there is a cathetical committee it is hoped that all will be keenly interested in the work and continue to submit views and suggestions. Suggested reading: "Kerygma in Crisis?" by Father Nebreda, S.J., Loyola University Press.

ORDINATIONS:--

Our Lady of Hope Seminary passed another historical milestone on June 25th when His Excellency, Peter Kobayashi of Sendai, ordained Brothers Bonang, Bourgoin and Maher to the subdiaconate. Brothers Bonang and Bourgoin are members of the first class to begin studies at the Oblate seminary in Tokyo.

AVE ET VALE:--

Welcome home to Father Thomas Maher who arrived from his six month's leave just in time to attend the ordination of his brother, William, to the subdiaconate. Also bon voyage to Fathers Healy and Harr who will be leaving this month for the vacations.

ALTAR BOY'S GATHERING:--

The gathering of the altar boys this year will be held in Naruto instead of the Kansai area. Please contact Father Mahoney or Father Silver regarding arrangements.

A BUILDING FOR SHINHONMACHI:--

The Aishikai Sisters have graciously donated their old kindergarten building to the St. Margaret Mary Parish. This large two-storied structure will be of invaluable help for the seinen kais and the English courses. Bishop Tanaka has given his permission to take the building and Okasan says it can be moved with little damage.

HOME LEAVE SCHEDULE:--

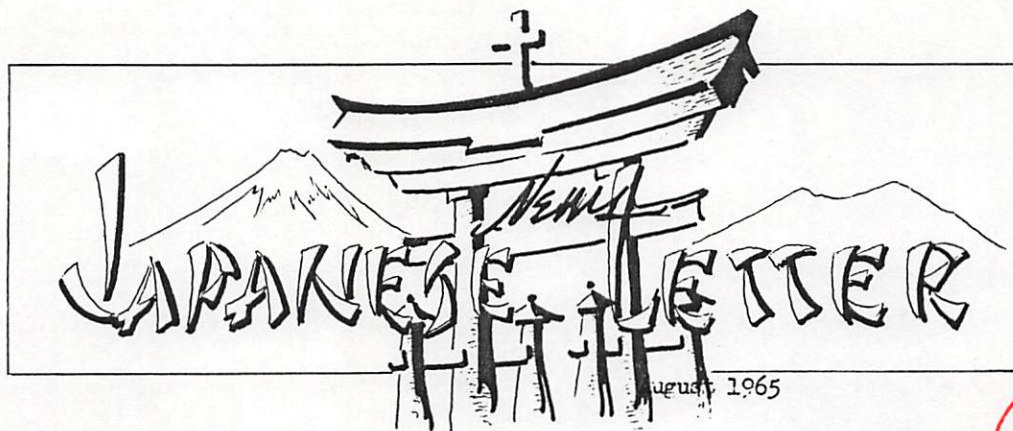
For 1966: Frs. Meyer, VanHoydonck, Simons and Reilly.
1967: Frs. Robitaille, Silver, Gill and Kellen.

OUR MAN IN BRAZIL:--

Father John Iwo will be leaving for coffee-land some time in August. Those "oleis" you've been hearing out of Akaoka are not from a new Spanish chef, they are John practicing his Portuguese.

Yours in Christ & O.L. of Hope,

Patrick Brady, O.M.I.,
V.Prov.



VOCATION PROBLEM SURVEY:--

In order to make a thorough study of the vocation problem throughout the Oblate World Father General has sent the following questionnaire to all Provinces and Vice Provinces. He asks the cooperation of all the Provinces in seeking a solution of this vital problem. I am therefore requesting that all the members of the Vice Province answer the following questions as best they can. In this way we will be able to forward a composite picture of the vocation problem as it exists here in Japan. Opinions on the problem throughout the world are also welcomed.

1. According to you, what are the main reasons for the decline (if any) of vocations in your Province, or in your Country, these recent years? Is it a general fact affecting all Orders and the Secular Clergy as well? Do you believe this is but a temporary decline?
2. Have you studied this situation in order to understand better the needs and demands of young men in your Province and Country on that point?
Do you know of any study or survey conducted by other persons, which could prove useful and valid for the Oblates as well? Could you secure a copy of these studies or surveys for the General Administration?
3. Are there in your Province any specific features (mention 2 or 3 of them) that young people find really characteristic of the Oblates and which draw them to the Oblates?
Are there, on the contrary, group characteristics which cause young people, right or wrong, to reproach the Oblates and which prevent these young people from joining the Oblates?
4. What image of themselves (human, religious, sacerdotal apostolic features) do the Oblates wish to project around them?
 - a) What is, in fact, the image they project of themselves as viewed by young people.
 - b) Do they accept and welcome this image?
5. Have you had occasion to gather personal reflexions on this point from young people themselves? From their families? Could you supply us with a series of precise remarks, be they agreeable or not?
6. What needs of the Church exert a stronger appeal, actually, on young people. In their opinion, do the Oblates fulfill these needs of the Church?
7. Is a pastoral and coordinated effort of all the Oblates possible in your Province in regard to vocations?
Are study groups and team-work concerning vocations organized in your Province?
8. How could you give an invitation to the sensitized all Fathers and Brothers of the Province regarding this special form of apostolate among young people, adults (late vocations) and the Faithful in general?
9. In your province, do the lay people feel that the vocation problem is THEIR problem as well? Do you conceive of any form of pastoral action which would render these lay people more conscious of their heavy responsibilities here?
10. Would you have any suggestion to offer towards a common pastoral effort regarding vocations? Vocations in general? Oblate vocations of Fathers & Brothers? Efforts in the Congregation at large? Would you state these?

All replies are due in Tokyo by the 30th of September.

FR. JOHN IWO DEPARTS:--

Father John Iwo left for Brazil on August 10th, the first Oblate Japanese priest to be assigned to South America. Father Iwo will work with his Oblate confreres in Suzano, Sao Paulo, where over thirty thousand Japanese reside.

AKI FLYERS WIN CUP:--

The Aki Flyers under the experienced guidance of Fr. Henry Mattimore, former Fallon High star, won the coveted Aki City Basketball title with a whirlwind finish. Fr. Mattimore, a playing coach, was ably assisted by his two six-foot three forwards, Brothers Quinn and Novotney. A large silver cup now adorns the parish recreation room.

FR. JOHN BARRETT RETURNS:--

Fr. John Barrett has received his obedience back to the Japanese mission and will return sometime in October. Fr. Barrett is at present a hospital chaplain in Indianapolis and is awaiting a replacement.

REV. JOHN DONNELLY TO VISIT JAPAN:--

I know all will be delighted to hear that Father John Donnelly will visit Japan and the Philippines some time in November or early December.

ALTAR BOYS JAMBOREE AND DAY OF RECOLLECTION A SUCCESS:--

The gathering for the altar boys of the various Oblate parishes held at Naruto in July was a huge success according to accounts of the fathers and brothers attending. Special thanks are due Fathers Mahoney and Silver for their efforts in taking care of arrangements. It required a heavy sacrifice of time and energy.

SEMINAR ON CHRISTIANITY A SUCCESS:--

Father David Barton reports that a one week seminar on Christianity at the close of their Kochi English Course was a surprising success. Forty seven students attended and many showed an eagerness to continue their study of Christianity in the fall. Congratulations and God's blessing on this very important work.

REV. CHARLES DAVIS ON PREACHING:--

"Preaching, I maintain, is a direct cause of grace. It is a sign which mediates grace to the hearers. The action of preaching does not simply put before the congregation the external expression of the Christian message; it does this, but, in doing so, it is a sign that causes grace.

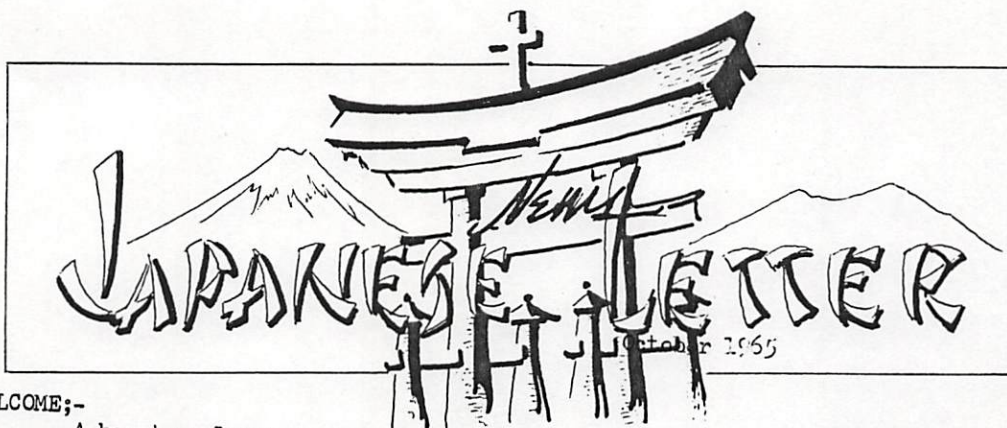
"But the assertion that preaching is a direct cause of grace does not alter the fact that the learning and holiness of the priest are required for its efficacy. It simply makes more precise the reason why they are required. The essential efficacy of preaching is not given by the learning of the preacher or the merits of his prayers; it belongs objectively to preaching in virtue of its institution by Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit.

But the sign which conveys the divine action is brought into existence by the priest. His learning and holiness do not directly measure the power of God's word, but they determine the extent to which the word of God emerges into existence here and now. Learning is necessary. Unless the priest knows the Christian message, he cannot preach it. Holiness does not abolish the need for sacred learning.

"And if we ask which virtues are particularly relevant to a preacher, we shall not be far wrong in saying faithfulness to Christ as his minister and a humble self-effacement before God's truth. There can be no more damning verdict against a preacher than to say he preaches himself."

Sincerely in Christ and O.L. of Hope,

Patrick T. Brady, C.M.I.,
V. Prov.



WELCOME:-

A hearty welcome to our four new missionaries to Japan Fathers Donald O'Brien, Angelo Siani and Brothers John Deely and Regis Parham. They are already deeply immersed in the mysteries of the Japanese language, but we hope they will come up long enough during this beautiful fall weather to take a look at our beautiful Japanese landscapes. Japan is at its best at this time of the year and snow-capped Mount Fuji beckons the hiker.

We welcome back Fr. Williams who has returned from the United States after his sabbatical.

VOCATION QUESTIONNAIRE:-

My sincere thanks to those fathers who took the time and trouble to answer the questions on vocations sent by Father General. The answers showed their keen interest and the deep study they have made of this important problem. A composite of all the answers has been forwarded to the General House.

PASTORAL HELP FOR KOREAN AND CHINESE NATIONALS SOUGHT:-

The Japanese Episcopal Migration Commission under the chairmanship of His Excellency, Paul Y. Taguch, Bishop of Osaka, is looking for priests to devote themselves to the large numbers of Korean and Chinese nationals residing in Japan. The Apostolic Constitution "Exsul Familia" prescribes that in every nation missionaries of the same nationality or of the same language should provide for the spiritual welfare of all resident foreign nationals.

The Oblates are certainly fulfilling their obligations regarding the Americans residing at the bases in this country. However, perhaps something could also be done for the large numbers of Koreans residing in some of the parishes. Have any of the pastors considered special English courses for the children of these areas? If you have any program in mind or in operation, please let me know. The Bishop wants a report on all activities among these groups.

AKAOKA CHURCH DEDICATION:-

Our beautiful new church in Akaoka was blessed on Sunday, September 26th, and the ceremonies were attended by over one hundred priests, sisters and parishioners. Father Delporte, the pastor, did a commendable job arranging the program for the day. A word of thanks is in order to our builder, Mr. Ma, who did such an excellent job. Very Rev. Vicente Gonzalez, C.P., Provincial of the Dominican Fathers, gave an inspiring talk in the Nogyokaikan where a reception was held after the blessing.

The Spanish Dominican Fathers preceded the Oblates in this territory and Father Gonzalez gave some interesting information on the early history of St. Joseph's parish in Akaoka. The mission was almost abandoned the day before the dedication of the kindergarten when a typhoon completely destroyed the new building. But the Dominicans persevered and rebuilt. Now the Oblates have completely rebuilt this mission and we hope the dedication of the new church will bring a new interest to the Church in this difficult area.

VISITORS:-

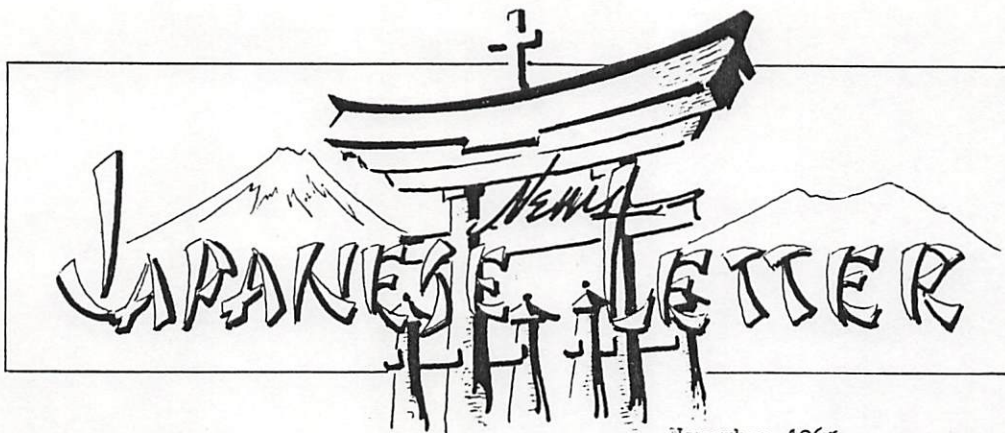
We were happy to welcome the parents of Fr. Robert Kellen to the Oblate mission in Japan and hope they will have a memorable stay with us. We are also looking forward to the visit of Fr. Mattimore's brother.

CATECHETICAL COMMITTEE MEETING:-

The second meeting of the catechetical committee on September 13th under the chairmanship of Fr. Hofmans again indicated the keen interest of the whole vice province in this project. A large selection of catechetical material is now being studied and sifted.

Yours in J.C. and M.I.

Patrick Brady, O.M.I.,
V. Prov.



November 1965



TOMIOKA PROPERTY:--

We have finally secured a piece of property in the Tomioka area near the station. In the past property in this area was prohibitively high, but through the efforts of Mr. & Mrs. Araki, we were able to find a bargain. The site is only a five minute walk from the station so those in the surrounding towns will have not too much difficulty getting to Mass on Sundays. A large bus depot is also in the area. With the building of three large high schools in the area, we have high hopes for the future of this mission. Right now we are awaiting the permission of the Nogyo Kumiai to transfer the land from a rice field to building property.

FR. BARTON'S "MIND OF THE WEST",--

Fr. Barton's book "Mind of the West" is now available and I'm sure you will agree Father Barton and his collaborators deserve the congratulations of the whole vice-province. I have no doubt the book will be a success among missionaries in Japan and even among the native Japanese clergy. Father Ward did the massive figure of "The Thinker" on the cover and the Preface was written by Father Reilly. Those who visited Shinonmachi during the past few months know the tremendous amount of work that went into putting this book in print.

WINE SHIPMENT:--

The shipment of wine from our Oblates in Spain will be arriving shortly. The price for the barrel is thirty-four dollars.

CALENDARS:--

Calendars with donation envelopes have been printed and sent to those houses which ordered them. The cost of the calendars is eighty yen apiece. Each month is an envelope which can be stamped with the mission address for a monthly donation to the mission. There are still some of these calendars left if you need them. They seem like the ideal way to start a Dollar a Month mission club.

FR. KELLEN'S THANKS"---

"I would like to express my extreme gratitude to all my fellow Oblates for their many kindnesses during the visit of my Mom and Dad. You received them as your own relatives and gave them a multitude of warm memories of Japan. Thanks Gang." Fr. Kellen.

VISITORS:--

Other visitors this month will be the brother of Fr. Henry Mattimore and his wife. They will arrive on the 3rd of November and make a tour of the Itami-Shikoku missions. On the first of December we expect Fr. John Donnelly of the Eastern Province for a two week stay. Fr. Donnelly will be able to visit all the missions. I'll send a schedule of his arrival to the various houses in a week or two.

FIRE INSURANCE FORMS:-- Some of the houses have not yet sent in their fire insurance inspection forms. Onegai shimasu.

ON THE AIR:-- The Tokushima-Naruto missions have been sponsoring an evening news program for the past month and it will run for three months. It puts the name of the church into the homes of thousands in the area around supertime. A Christmas essay contest will be sponsored by the churches using the radio for advertising.

Yours in J. C. and M.I.
Patrick Brady, O.M.I.
V. Prov.



DECEMBER 1965



SCHOLASTICATE SUPERIOR IN PLANE CRASH:--

Father Patrick Healy, O.M.I., superior of Our Lady of Hope Scholasticate, Tokyo, was one of the 53 aboard an Eastern Air Lines four-engine Constellation that went down in the heavily wooded Peach Lake sector of North Salem, New York, after colliding with a Boeing 707 TWA Jetliner. Five persons were killed aboard the plane Father Healy was riding and the rest of the passengers received injuries most of them minor. Father Healy received minor facial injuries.

When the plane crashed and burst into flames, it split open right at Fr. Healy's seat and he was one of the first passengers to get out of the plane. He assisted in the rescue of other passengers. The other plane was able to continue on and land at Kennedy Airport even though thirty feet of one wing was missing. Passengers and plane experts praised the skill of the pilots of the two planes and said it was miraculous that so few lost their lives. Captain Charles White, pilot of the downed plane, was killed in the crash.

We should all offer a special prayer of thanksgiving that Father Healy was spared.

DIACONATE ORDINATIONS:--

His Excellency Archbishop Cagna, Apostolic Delegate to Japan, will ordain three Oblates to the diaconate on December 21st at the Tokyo Cathedral. Bro. Richard Bonang, O.M.I., Raymond Bourgoin, O.M.I. and William Maher, O.M.I., will be ordained with a number of candidates from other religious societies.

CATECHETICAL MEETING:--

The next meeting of the Catechetical Committee will be held at Ikeda on January 4th. Fr. Stevens mentioned snow had fallen there a couple of weeks ago so bring along your own foot warmers, etc.

BISHOPS RETURN FROM COUNCIL:--

Led by His Eminence, Cardinal Doi, and Archbishop Cagna, the majority of the Japanese hierarchy returned from the close of the Second Vatican Council on December 12th. Bishop Francis Tanaka, Bishop of Takamatsu, where the Oblates have two prefectures under their care, returned with this first group and later addressed the scholasticate.

FATHER DONNELLY DEPARTS:--

Father John Donnelly, O.M.I., left Japan on the 16th after his two week visit of all the missions of the Vice Province. Bon Voyage to father for the remainder of his travels through the Philippines and Europe. We also had a four day visit from Fr. Andrew Horgan, O.M.I., pastor of Grace Park Church, Philippines.

CLOSING THE BOOKS:--

It would be appreciated if books were closed on the 25th of December and reports sent in as soon as possible so that our general report to the hombu can be forwarded as of Jan. 1st. Demo...

Yours in J.C. and M.T.,

Patrick Brady, O.M.I.,
V. Prov.