

May 21, 1928

Charity.

The collection for the Bengal Missions yesterday amounted to \$63.41; a few days ago the committee in charge of the benefit movie checked in \$51.00 for the same worthy charity. The total amount received this year, however, is far below last year's totals; and if it is the best you can do financially you should at least pray that God's blessing will stretch it to fill the needs of the Notre Dame men in India.

Mexico.

Yesterday's papers carry a story that the informer who gave the alleged information on which Father Pro, S.J., his brother, and two others were executed in Mexico recently, as conspirators against the life of Gen Obregon, has been banished to the penal colony of Tres Marias for blackmailing Catholics. The report adds that the information on which Father Pro and his companions were executed without a trial was later found to be false.

Father Pro is better off. He prayed for the grace of martyrdom, and his prayer was granted. This month's Columbia tells his heroic story. He was probably the most active of the priests who have ministered clandestinely to the spiritual needs of the Catholics of Mexico, his efforts having reached their peak on one First Friday on which he administered Holy Communion to 1500 Catholics at various hiding places in the capital. Read this story of a modern martyr; it sounds like a page from Fabiola.

President Calles and his partners in crime are not so well off. Since their era of persecution began, two years ago next August, nearly two hundred priests have been shot without trial; and among the hundreds of others who have met the same fate were nuns, lay women, and children. Their blood is on the hands of their executioners, who will go before God with dripping hands.

What have we done for Mexico? In God's Providence the raging persecution is doing good, and the Church in Mexico will be blessed for what it has suffered for its Crucified Founder. But we are not Christians if we are not helping out brothers in their need. What prayers have you said for Mexico? Every day in the Mass prayers are said for the persecuted Church there, and the three Our Father's and Hail Mary's said at the end of Benediction are for the same intention. According to a report from headquarters in London, twenty-five million women have pledged their Holy Communions on the Feast of the Sacred Heart for Mexico. Must we not join with them?

You have been told before of the tabernacle veils of the main altar in our church. One panel shows a full-blown lily, erect and lofty, holding in its chalice of gleaming white the Sacred Host; the other panel shows a broken lily, withered and bereft of its Glory. The two panels represent Notre Dame and Mexico. Here in this sanctuary of the Blessed Sacrament, where we know only peace and the love of God, we owe many prayers and Communions for Mexico, where to do what you do daily would mean facing a firing squad.

Prayers.

John Poliskey received word yesterday of the death of a cousin, a young man twenty-one years of age. A telegram from John Q. Carey, of last year's graduating class, urged a continuance of prayers for his brother, whose condition is quite critical. Another student wants prayers for a relative who is dying. Three special intentions are recommended.

Novena For Exams?

Most of you seem to have forgotten that prayer helps in tight pinches. You still have time for a final Novena; in it remember those who have not made their Easter Duty.