

## HOW GOD SET AN ARM!

(A letter from a doctor)

"I could not help but write you a little about what just happened to me. Tonight Francisco Turriabarte brought his eight-year-old son into the hospital. The little Mexican was in great pain and had sustained a fall which resulted in by far the worst fracture of its type I have ever seen. The break was just about the elbow joint and the displacement was so great of the FOUR distinct fragments, that I broke out in a cold sweat when I looked at it. Fractures about the elbow joint are one of the greatest problems with which we have to deal. The elbow joint is a very important functional joint, and stiffness or deformity of this joint results in great functional disability. They will tax the mechanical and surgical ingenuity of the very best of orthopedic surgeons. And since they frequently result in malpractice suits, many, many men who ordinarily handle fractures will not touch them. They are, and I quote from my text: "To be managed only by the skilled and experienced specialist, a novice who attempts their reduction is inviting disaster."

"I studied the problem--I looked at the x-ray films and then tried to find a parallel case in my books. I searched through four or five massive volumes still finding nothing that would help a great deal, and gave up by composing my own methods of traction and counter traction in my mind. When the little boy was asleep I took hold of his arm and paused to think. Then Francisco said: "Ah, pardon me, doctores, we pray a leetle eef you don' mind." And I said to him, "Help yourself, Francisco, if you can get me any help, I sure need it." I thought he would pray silently, but he and his daughter began to pray aloud in Spanish. It sounded beautiful, and then they got loud, so loud that I almost asked them to be quiet because there were other patients that would be awakened. But I didn't stop them. I took hold of the little boy's arm with my left hand above his elbow, where the bone was almost through the skin, and a large clot of blood had formed, swelling his elbow almost three times normal size. I put my right hand below his elbow and began to pull steadily down; what I did in the next few seconds I would not say I could do again.

"The fragments of broken bone moved so perfectly back into place it was truly as if some power far greater than you and I guided my hands, the way they moved. Only the gentlest of manipulation was needed, and it was all over so quickly that the nurses didn't believe I had finished, or didn't believe the bone was in place. It seemed impossible that it would ever go into place without an open operation; the x-ray pictures showed the most perfect apposition of bone fragments that I have ever seen. No where on this earth and by no other hands on this earth could there have been produced a more perfect result. A very few minutes after it was done, the swelling began to leave as life giving blood, which had been stagnant around the injury began to flow freely again. I told Francisco he did a good job. I'm going home to bed now, but before I go to sleep, I'm going to have a talk with the MAN who set the little peon's arm."

### Italy in Peril

The Italian people in Italy will vote next Sunday. The outcome must be of concern to you. If the Communists win, there will be tragedy for Europe. The Pope's life will be in danger. Catholics throughout the United States have been praying for a Communist defeat. Will you say a Rosary today for that intention, and on Sunday will you receive Holy Communion at the Mass you attend? This is charity--to save a nation from disaster.

PARLES: (deceased) father of Prof. Bernard Finnan (Acct. Dept.). (Ill) wife of Joe Moerschbaeher (OC). Three Special Intentions.