

The Carmelite News

Christmas No.

1957

WHITEFRIARS
FAVERSHAM
KENT

Remember Our Students

I AM writing this on November 1st, the Feast of All Saints. To-morrow is the Feast of All Souls.

The Dead List came in very well. I hope you have not forgotten to send in yours and if you have, this will remind you. The Dead List is one of the main supports of our Student Funds. Without it we could not support the young missionaries in their student days. The number is growing, and the need is growing too. Costs are rising all round. It costs four times as much to heat a college now as it did before the war, and there is no way out. I remember the days when we thought that a pound a week would support a young boy in college—now, it costs nearer four pounds.

Our main concern now, is our own Missionary Students—so don't forget the Dead List if you have not already sent it.

The St. Jude Society is the second main support of the Student Funds. Now we can at last say that the Shrine is finished. The mosaic behind the statue has been completed and it looks glorious. A mosaic is made up of small pieces of coloured glass called 'tesserae' in reds, blues, greens, yellows, black, gold and white. When the light is on, it shines like a jewel.

It is a matter of great joy to us that the Shrine draws delighted comment from all sides. People drop into the church and discover it and then come to the door and tell us what a surprise it was and how wonderful they think it is.

This year we celebrated the Feast of St. Jude with some solemnity on October 28th. Father Laurence, an eminent Fran-

ciscan came down to preach the Triduum and he delighted the people in the church as much as he delighted the friars in the house—and that was considerable. It is lovely to see how these old friars settle in when they come to a house of friars similar to themselves. They seem to feel at home. The worries of life drop from their shoulders, they become young again. We are going to have another Triduum in honour of St. Jude during Lent—maybe he will convert some of the hopeless cases we have around us.

Our Missions in England and Wales are under the patronage of St. Jude. It is not so many years ago since Carmelites came back to England and it takes time to persuade people that we are on the Missions. Our houses are small and just about pay their way and there is little over for a central education fund. We are in the process of building up, and this at the hardest time ever. It seems fantastic when a local Reverend Mother could not get a short term loan of £500 from the Bank with which their Convent School has done business for over fifty years. Yet, we are told that we live in the greatest Commonwealth on earth. Is there any end to the steam of the politicians?

We have had many small but interesting pilgrimages to the Shrine of St. Jude during the Summer. Mostly they came in coaches and one came all the way from Edinburgh. We are always glad to see people from Scotland. They are so vibrant and alive in things of the Faith.

There will be a Christmas Novena in honour of St. Jude between the 16th and 24th December. This seems to be one of the most popular novenas of the year.

The Holy Child of Prague

MEMBERS of the Holy Child of Prague Society are very faithful indeed. They seldom fail to renew their membership and they are steadfast and loyal in their devotion to the Holy Child. The Feast Day of the Child of Prague Society is January 2nd — the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. The Pope assigned this day as the special Feast Day of the Holy Child of Prague devotion and it has been observed ever since. He chose the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus as the Feast Day of the Devotion because of too frequent blasphemy of the Holy Name. It comes fittingly, in early January, while the memories of Christmas are still around. Then, there is the Novena for the Feast of the Holy Family. You will find the dates in the Novena booklet.



Postage Increases

POSTAL costs have gone up. Costs of printing have risen steeply. Up to the present we have kept to a high standard of colour in our religious pictures, but I am afraid that we will have to cut our costs in 1958. The ordinary religious picture we send you is made up of four colours. We will see if we can achieve a reduction in costs by coming down to two colour. So, if our pictures are not as good as before, you will understand that we are living in hard times. So, return the Novena envelope and we can use this again for your reply.

Many firms are now not sending out receipts for bills paid by cheque. They depend on the bank returns of the customers to show that the cash has been received. We may have to do something like this in regard to the smaller subscriptions because postage costs are beginning to frighten us. For that reason we are very glad if people will send us postage stamps to defray costs. Irish postage stamps are useful because they can be put on Irish Postal Orders and so increase the value of the postal orders.

We are also very glad to receive Mass stipends. Many of the clergy will be glad to know this because their books are sometimes full.

Anyway, we will try to keep going. We must — because we must make an effort to support our clerical students. They are our lifeline. If we cannot replace the men who gradually fall out, then there is little hope for the future. God has been good to us this year and we are grateful to His Divine Providence.

May we wish you all a Holy and a Happy Christmas! Particularly to those who have children, and to those who have kept the memory of Christmas green in their hearts.

When I was a boy we lived in a strange house. It was a very historic house. There were nine windows in the front and none in the back. Troubled times of '98. The only explanation was that it kept the draughts out. The lower windows in front were barred and there was a plaque in memory of a local patriot over the front door. Some of us had to go to Mass early on Christmas mornings before the sun rose, and we used to put four candles in each window in honour of Christmas morning — 36 candles. I remember turning back from the brow of a hill two miles away to look at the illuminations which we thought were outstanding. I am afraid that it would not have impressed the people in Margate or Blackpool, but we thought it was marvelous and were sorry when daylight came and the candles were put out.

You see, it doesn't take much to make Christmas in the mind of a child and that is part of the great blessing of it. Its piety and its simplicity, and above all, the spirit of love that it inspires in all. So, once again, a Holy and a Happy Christmas to you all, and may the New Year bring us many blessings and a little good fortune as well. We don't want the world.



National Hero

I AM one of those guys who made the world safe for democracy. It was a crazy idea. I didn't want to go, but I had to. They called me up in Class "A". The next time, I am going to be in Class "B". I will be here when they go, and I will be here to welcome them back.

I remember when I registered. I went up to the guy in charge, only to find out that he was my milkman. He said,

"What's your name? I said, You know my name." "What's your name?" he barked. So I told him August Childs. He said, "Are you an alien?" I told him I felt fine. He asked me where I was born and I said, "Pittsburgh." "Where did you see the first light of day?" I said, "Philadelphia." He asked me how old I was and I told him 23.

The Veterinary Surgeon started to examine me. He asked me if I had ever had measles, small pox or fits. I said, "No only when I stayed in the pub too long." "You seem alright," he said, as he listened to my heart, "I have examined 140,000 men, you are one of the poorest I have seen"—but he handed me an A.2 card.

Then I went to camp and I guess they thought I wouldn't live long. They called me the 'Flying Corpse.' One officer I interviewed looked round and told me to close the door. He didn't like the look of what had come in.

On the second morning they put clothes on me. What an outfit! They have two sizes, too big and too small. Either the pants are so tight that you can't sit down, or the overcoat is so big that you can lap it round you twice. But big shoes are not the worst kind of shoes.

I passed an officer all dressed up in fancy belts. He called me back and said, "Didn't you notice my uniform?" I said, "Yes, but what are you kicking about—look at what they gave me."

I landed in camp with 75 dollars and in ten minutes I was broke. Dice! Then I started to play cards. I got five aces and found the other fellow had six kings. I said that it was a crooked game of poker. They told me we were not playing poker, we were playing pinochle.

It sure was nice. Below zero one morning they called us out for an underwear inspection. Talk about scenery. Red flannels, green flannels, white flannels and not so white flannels. The Lieutenant lined us up and told me to stand up. I was standing up already—the underwear made him think I was sitting down. He got so mad that he put me digging trenches. By that time I was pretty mad. So, another guy named James and myself drank a quart of whisky. Finally, James got so funny that I ran down to the doctor and told him that James was

going blind. He asked me what we were doing and I told him that we had drunk a quart of whisky. He asked me if James had seen any pink elephants. I said, "No, they're there, but James can't see them."

Three days later we sailed for the Pacific. Marching down the pier I had more luck. We had a sergeant who stuttered and it took him so long to say "Halt" that 27 of us marched into the water. They pulled us out and lifted us up and the Captain said, "Fall in." I said, "I've already been in." I was on board thirty-six days and was sick thirty-five. Nothing going down, everything coming up. We had life-boat drill. When the boat was being lowered over the side of the ship it spilled some of the men into the water. The Lieutenant gave orders to pull them out by the hair of their heads. All came in except one fellow who was bald.

Then we landed on an island in the Pacific. We were immediately sent to the trenches. The guns roaring and the shells screaming, and I shaking with patriotism. I tried to hide behind a tree, but there weren't enough trees for the officers. They sent us over the top at five o'clock to see if we had any red blood in us. We had. The Japs came at us and the way they looked at me you would think I had started the war—so did the fellow behind me, because in the excitement he put a bullet through my shoulder. Then I got sent down the line. I heard the stretcher bearer say that I was going to the morgue. I objected and they told me to shut up and lie down and not make a fool of the doctor.



IT'S A MAN'S WORLD

Yes, it's a man's world all right. If a man doesn't marry, he's a "bachelor"—glamorous word. *If a woman doesn't marry, she's been "left on the shelf."*

What he hears at work is "news." *Anything she hears is "gossip."* If he runs the family, he is "head of the house." *If she runs it, she is said to "wear the pants in that family."*

If a man keeps a watchful eye on his wife at a party, he is an "attentive husband." *But if she keeps near him, she's a "possessive wife."*

If he advises her about anything, he is a "devoted husband." *But let her try to*

advise him, and everyone will say he is "henpecked."

In middle age a man is said to be "in the prime of life." At the same age, she's described as "no spring chicken."



THANKS

- Thanks to St. Jude for favour received.
ANON.
- Grateful thanks to St. Jude for favour.
B. F. CAVAN.
- Thanksgiving St. Jude.
MRS. O'ROURKE, DUBLIN.
- Grateful thanks to St. Jude in our darkest hour.
V. K. & E. S. ROSSLEA.
- Thanks to St. Jude for success in driving test.
H. M. B., PENN FIELDS.
- Thanks to St. Jude for safe passage and means to travel to U.K.
MRS. C. H.
- Thanks to St. Jude for great favour.
JOE SASSO, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.
- Thanksgiving to St. Jude for favour received.
C. BRENNAN, SCOTLAND.
- Thanksgiving to St. Jude. Family trouble averted.
J. S., CO. KERRY.
- Thanksgiving to St. Jude.
MRS. AGNES O'SHEA.
- Thanksgiving to St. Jude for favour received after promise of publication.
S. MCCABE.
- Thanksgiving for favour received through St. Jude.
G.J.B.

Thanksgiving Fr. Titus Brandsma for favour.
MRS. MARY WALSH.
Grateful thanks to Our Blessed Lady and St. Jude.
H. M. (SOUTHPORT)



Prayers are requested for the souls of M. Donnelly and Mary Walsh, R.I.P.

OUR COMING NOVENAS

- SAINT JUDE - - -
Dec. 16th — Dec. 24th
- THE DIVINE INFANT OF PRAGUE
Dec. 24th — Jan. 2nd
- THE HOLY FAMILY - - -
Jan. 4th — Jan. 12th
- ◆—
- OUR LADY OF LOURDES -
Feb. 3rd — Feb. 11th
- SAINT JOSEPH & SAINT PATRICK
March 9th — March 19th
- OUR LADY OF SORROWS -
March 21st — March 28th
- SAINT JUDE EASTER NOVENA -
April 5th — April 13th

Our Burses

	Already acknowledged.	Increase.
	now	now
The St. Jude Burse No. 2	£1153 6 8	£1189 6 8
Holy Child of Prague Burse	567 9 3	594 9 3
The Holy Face Burse	179 15 4	190 5 4
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Burse	263 18 6	266 18 6
Little Flower Burse	219 12 6	222 12 6
St. Anne Burse	72 3 6	75 3 6
St. Anthony Burse	143 5 6	146 5 6
St. Martha Burse	909 16 0	910 16 0
Sacred Heart Burse	630 15 0	632 15 0
St. Philomena Burse	37 8 6	42 18 6
Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Burse	65 15 0	75 15 0
Our Lady of Dolours Burse	22 0 6	22 10 6
St. Pius X Burse	16 10 0	20 10 0
Immaculate Heart of Mary Burse	27 13 6	28 0 0
Fr. Titus Brandsma Burse	19 7 6	24 12 6
St. Joseph Burse	16 10 0	17 0 0
Our Lady of Tears	1 0 0	
Ven. Cyril of the Mother of God	1 0 0	

Our Lady keep you! Yours in Carmel

M. E. Lynch O.C.