Catholic Convento Lala, Lango April 29, 1952

Dear Faurice & Alice.

I received your welcome letter vesterday and I can't tell you how happy it made me. Ever since this varish was handed to me I have had a headache, Seven hundred pesos, (1350.00) and a wreck of a charel isn't much to start a parish on. I also had the four lots that the charel stands on (If you can call what that charel is doing "standing" 1) but I had to get the other four around it. Two were donated and the third was promised but Sunday I was informed that I would have to pay P300.00 for it; which isn't too bad. The fourth belongs to a man in Cebu to whom I have written two letters but have heared nothing yet. Also heared Sunday that one of the men who gave me a lot - but never not around to signing it over in the books in the Land Office - is reneging and I will probably have to buy that one also. I ordered lumber in February but so far only one small load has been delivered. Festerday I went up to Tabud to see the layor about a reduction on the Labor Union prices in handling we cannot which will be landed there from Cebu; he was out! Thus, you can understand how welcome was your letter offering some help. About three weeks ago I organized a collection in the parish and Sunday the first results came in; F50.00 - twenty five bucks! I hate to push them two hard or they will think I am trying to make a few bucks for myself but on the other hand if you can get nothing they will sit back and let the millionaire from the States pay for everything; not a very good start for a new parish. The K. of C. in Iligan City promised two hundred pesos for an aliar but that was a couple of nonthe ago and nothing has happened since. It sure made nice-sounding conversation at the time though. Can't tell, they might come through yet.

I will take care of those lass Intentions in the very near future, including your own. I will try to say the auniversary lass as close as possible to the 20th of lay, but that exact date is on because I have a Piesta lass in a barrio that day. You can inform 'rs. Carrol and I will write her the first opportuni dail get.

Tou asked for some suggestions about my needs. I don't have enough maper on hand to go them all down but I will gladly give you a few! First of all I would suggest you forget he food; that is he least of my worries at present. Local stuff isn't too bad how that I am used to it and there are so many much more important things that I really need. I would make one exception to that. I would like a timed ham to serve the boys that show up for the blessing of the church and convento. If you can manage that, fine. Another thing I would like to have as soon as possible is a set of pictures for the stations of the cross. I had a set but the ants got at them and made a mess of some of the pictures. I have frames all made: 10 x 13 and when I went to put the pictures in I found the mess the ants had made. If you could find a set about that size - if a little larger I can cut them down - possibly - without spoiling the picture, or if a little smaller, I can put in a white boarder - I would appreciate it if you would mail them out so I will have them for the day of the blessing which will be some time in hune.

Mow for things in general! Just about anything you can use in a church. I will tell you what I have. A set of vestments; sufficient small linens for the lass like palls, purificators, corporals, amices; a Benediction well and cope. What I could use very nicely are some alter clothes ( the alter will be ten feet long and about 16 inches deen ), alter charts, missal and stand, a monstrance for Benediction, a thurible and boat for incense, sholy water pot and sprinkler, a lass beal, a black cope and a dust cover for the alter. Use could use some black material and red for alter boys' cassocks and surelices. ( Ferhaps some church or convent would have some discarded but usable ones - that also might hold for alter linens.)

Now that is a big order but please don't misunderstand me. I realize that your bank account does not end in a lot of zeros and I presume that your friends are in about the same financial brackett. I write this rithout the least intention of having you and your friends furnish the whole church. But you might as well have a list and misterer you can get, for that I will be most thankful. Very often ( though I haven't found anyone yet ) there are people who wish to give something to a church - especially in a mission country - in memory of a deceased soul. If you should run across some one like that you can show them the list and they ( over )

can pick out something I need within their budget. Many find that more satisfying than sending money. If you find anyone with any particular item they wish to send - even if it is a duplicate-it will be most release. For can find use for two or three of anything, especially for the altar, and I plan on two little side altars. Note than one set of vestments comes in very handy when - say at fiests time - you have visiting priests. Anyone that sines to just give the money onels with the expenses of building the convento and church will also be taking care of a rest need. I mention all these things so that you will know that anything that is done or given will be most velocity and creatly appreciated. If you will send me the names and addresses of anyone that helps you in his work it will be a labor of love for me to drop them a line. The reason that I mention so many and various things is that you may know, or have a friend that those, someone in that line who can get a good grice on the hing. Happy hunting and my deepest gratitude for your help. There is quite a jump between this sork and my little cleasure jumns to can Francisco when the only effort I had to expend there was in tangling up my feet trying to come in this set. However, that was fun too, and I'll be back in about six years or so to kick he sides out of someone's house just to prove I still don't know the steps.

I am glad to hear Thomas Pairick is doing so well. Does he have an ear for music yet? He'll never get along with your crowd unless he develops one soon. Butter get him a little "squeeze box" and teach him some of those blood curdling songs that scared the wits out of the "invadors". Incidently, they rather had me worried about eleven o'clock when the party got going a bit strong and I wasn't to sure mether the boys ment them or not. There were times when I wondered how my head would look on the and of a pike staff at the rising of the moon!

fell, I have a lot of work staring me in the face so I had better bring this epistle to a close. Once again, many hanks for your letter, the work you are planning to do and the money orders. Lest assured that he passes will be said as soon as possible. Exquee writing on both sides of the paper but I want to send this air mail and have to keep it as light as possible. I am inclosing a picture I took of my benefice, about he best thing in it is the air count toning. ( Tat's a joke, soni )

ly best resards to the Young's, McLouvillins, Bat & Occella, Al ce's sister and her Happy broad and all the old friends in the City.

Lather Bill



Front view of the "Lord's House" in Kapatgan



Side view - showing to advantage the air conditioning!



The gang & I



That's me on the right. (not sure of his word) "Caring" - but I'm taking no chances!



The dining room. The table stands in cans of water & kerosene to keep from the ants. It doesn't always work - so the bread stands in a jar sitting in a pan of water.