

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. VI, No. 10

JULY, 1942

TEKAKWITHA—VENERABLE

On Tuesday, June 9, the Cardinals of the Congregation of Rites with the Officials and Consultors of the Congregation held their third and final Session on the Virtues of Tekakwitha. After praying before the *Blessed Sacrament Exposed*, they agreed unanimously that the Virtues of this Servant of God were heroic.

On the Feast of the Sacred Heart, Friday, June 12, the Prefect of the Congregation, Carlo Salotti, had an audience with the Holy Father, who gladly ratified the finding of the Congregation and decided to issue the Decree proclaiming that the virtues of Tekakwitha were heroic.

In this Decree the saintly Indian Maiden will be styled *Venerable*.

COMMUNICATION IN WAR TIME

Real news these days about ecclesiastical affairs, such as the Cause of Tekakwitha, must come from Vatican City. Rome is no longer a sure source of information since Italy declared war against this country. Thus the Associated Press got its report of the Session of the Congregation of Rites on June 9 from a broadcast on the Italian radio. The following day the United Press received the startling message that Tekakwitha was not only Venerable, but Blessed with much more that would be idle to repeat, evidently speculations or inferences from what had really happened, although with a basis of truth.

Even part of the cable message from Vatican City about the audiences of the Prefect of the Congregation of Rites with the Holy Father on June 12 was none too clear so that

it should not be published until further word comes to elucidate it. Fortunately, there is no doubt about the one result we were all expecting of the final Session of the Congregation of Rites on the virtues of Tekakwitha.

As instances of the difficulty of communication concerning the Cause of Tekakwitha, a letter entrusted to one who was leaving Rome early in January arrived here by way of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on June 1. Two letters sent from New York to the Postulator for the Cause in Rome early in December were intercepted by censors and returned to us, one in May, the other on June 10. However, these difficulties and delays have not interfered with the progress of the Cause for Tekakwitha; it is advancing with remarkable rapidity.

VENERABLE TEKAKWITHA

By the shores of Mohawk River,
 By the shining, singing water,
 Stood the home of Tekakwitha,
 Daughter of a mighty warrior.
 In the fragrant flowered valley
 Like an angel pure she lived there;—
 She the rarest of all flowers,
 She the Lily of the Valley.
 There she heard the song birds singing;
 Heard the music of the pine-trees.
 There she read the Book of Silence;
 Learned the happiness of suffering.
 There the Holy Spirit taught her,
 Of the Faith of Christ He taught her.
 Came the Blackrobe,—came the Jesuit
 With the cross upon his bosom,
 Poured the cleansing waters on her;
 Made her Christian like the pale-face.
 Like the Blackrobe, Francis Xavier,
 Burned with love, her heart within her,
 While her sweet low voice was singing,—
 Singing her magnificat!
 Full of grace, the holy virgin
 Yearned to die like Jogues, the martyr,—
 She the light in pagan darkness,
 Beacon Light of Ossernenon.
 Came a day when Tekakwitha
 Heard the Master calling, calling,
 Through the star-lit aisles of heaven
 Triumphant the angels bore her;
 Bore her through the gate of heaven
 With the loving God they left her.

* * * * *

Many moons 'tis, Tekakwitha,
 Since you left the Mohawk Valley,
 Where you heard the song-birds singing;
 Where you heard your loved One calling.
 And today His holy Vicar hails thee
 Venerable Tekakwitha!

SISTER FRANCIS MARIE, S.C.L.,
 St. Mary's, Leavenworth, Kan.

WAR ECHOES

"Kindly say forty holy Masses *pronto* for a sailor-boy, the first buried here a week ago, killed by a torpedo from a U-boat. He made his eight years in parochial school and graduated from our Central High."

—Pastor, Wheeling, W. Va.

"Enclosed find a small offering, but the offering of thanks come from the bottom of my heart to Kateri for saving my son. Officially reported missing in action in the Gulf of Mexico, I received word from him yesterday—he is safe. After being in the water two hours, he was finally rescued."

—St. David, Ill.

"My sister and her family were in Honolulu, December 7, and ever since I have been anxious for their safe arrival in the United States. Last week all were safe here except one niece and her husband and infant child. These last three I am earnestly recommending to Kateri Tekakwitha, from whom I have already received striking favors, such as money for a necessary journey, and a visit with a sick relative." —Marylhurst, Ore.

THEIR WISH GRATIFIED

"Our club, composed of converts and their friends, is sending you this ten dollars. We are looking for the Lily of the Mohawks to become Venerable." —Cleveland, O.

"Enclosed is money-order for \$2.50. One dollar is from my non-Catholic friend in thanksgiving for favors received. The other dollar is asking a favor for myself."

—Terre Haute, Ind.

FROM PRIEST CLIENTS

"Rev. Father Lebel, O.P., founder of Camp Tekakwitha, died suddenly last week. Please pray for him and for his successor, so that his wonderful work may be continued and devotion to Catherine be spread among our children and their parents."

—Lewiston, Me.

"The following, from my successor at the Cariboo Indian School, may interest you: 'We were quarantined for scarlet fever from April 2 to May 14. One of the girls, Dora Thomas, suffered hemorrhages as a consequence and the doctor had no hope for her recovery. We made a novena to Catherine Tekakwitha on her behalf and Dora is now well on the way to normalcy.'"

—Cranbrook, B. C.

"One of our parishioners was very sick in the hospital; after a transfusion, her case still seemed perilous; the relic was put on her, operation most successful, and she is now at home progressing splendidly. This I promised to tell you.

"Another operation—the removal of the left eye from an eye specialist, left him with perfect focal distance in the other eye, and other blessings which could only be had from heavenly help."

—Jessup, Pa.

"On April 8 (this year) I went to the hospital with a painful attack of erysipelas. The doctor said that he would have to operate and was getting ready to do so in a day or two. Before going to the hospital I had seen the picture of Kateri Tekakwitha in the *March Messenger of the Sacred Heart*. When the doctor left me I prayed for hours to the Sacred Heart and to Kateri. Next morning, when I awoke, there wasn't the slightest trace of swelling—all pain had gone. The doctor came, was astonished and said, 'You can go home.' The saintly Indian girl had done a good night's work!"

—San Jose, Cal.

At two o'clock the children from the Little Flower School at St. Michael's Mission entertained the good Bishop with the playlet of Kateri Tekakwitha, giving scenes from her life and depicting her death. They received cordial congratulations from the Bishop for a fine performance, nice stage setting, beautiful costumes, and good singing. The playlet was coached by Sister Lavergn.

KATERI A FAVORITE IN IRELAND

"I should mention also that some few months ago in the course of my Vincent de Paul visitation of a poor invalid crippled man, who is visited each week, I gave his wife a leaflet about Tekakwitha. She believes her husband obtained some temporary relief from severe pain. At the same time a 'Jubilee' lay nurse who was attending her husband noticed the leaflet and asked for a loan of it, as she was soon to undergo an important examination. I was told afterward that this nurse passed her examination successfully and obtained an appointment to a higher post."

—Dublin, Ireland.

"Just before Christmas, my mother, who is in her eightieth year, took very seriously ill. Owing to my sister and myself being out at our office all day we were anxious to get a good nurse for her. I proposed getting a sister from the good nuns of the Bon Secour. My sister was hesitant as she thought mother would take alarm at seeing a Bon Secour nun—thinking her end was near. About this time, I happened by accident to come across a letter of yours, containing some leaflets about Tekakwitha, the holy Indian girl. Your letter, in fact, was two years old, and I at once made a private intercession to the holy girl. Well, the nun arrived, my mother took kindly to her. In the course of the following ten days mother had a severe setback and received the last Sacraments, but the nursing of the good Bon Secour Sister brought her over the crisis. She has now recovered wonderfully except for a weakness of the legs and still retains the Bon Secour nun to help her. I have no hesitation in attributing her recovery to the intercession of Tekakwitha."

—Dublin, Ireland.

BLESS THEIR LITTLE HEARTS

"My little orphans are praying for your intentions."

Pineville, La.

"A wonderful financial favor for an elderly couple, relief from pain for myself, peace of mind for a mental patient, and many other favors."
—Tampa, Fla.

"You will find enclosed a money-order in gratitude for favors received and to help the Cause of Kateri."
—Methuen, Mass.

"My husband has been a very heavy drinker for some time. I have prayed and tried everything. Three days ago I started a novena to Kateri and today he took the pledge."
—Sioux City, Iowa.

"I was out of work for six months and was becoming desperate when I prayed to Kateri. The speed with which my prayer was answered was phenomenal."
—New York, N. Y.

"For the past one-and-one-half years numerous favors have been granted me and mine by imploring her aid. Some of the favors granted were: work for four, cure of mastoid, successful election, better health, two operations avoided, and the return of a young mother from an asylum."
—Topawa, Ariz.

"About two months ago we admitted a baby suffering from an enlarged thymus. The doctor informed us that if we could keep the baby alive about an hour it might make a recovery. I immediately pinned a medal of Kateri Tekakwitha on the baby and promised to write you if the baby recovered. It was dismissed the fourth day

and today has excellent health, thanks to Kateri. I pray she will soon be Beatified."

—Dodge City, Kan.

A dealer in New York City wrote anxiously about the war's effect upon his business. I sent him a picture of Kateri and suggested that he pin it in the storeroom and that she would help him since she was a benefactor of her Indian people. Soon after he wrote, "We know you will be glad that we do find an improvement in our business since late last month, and at this time we are very busy with a fairly large size order."

"I sell real estate for a living, and due to a serious illness in our household I was kept from working most of the time—but the day before my novena ended I sold a house, making the necessary money to take care of the family. A few days later my sister passed away and if I hadn't made that money I don't know what would have happened to us."
—Tulsa, Okla.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	6	Happy Death	1
Financial Aid	9	Property Sale	1
Relief in Distress	2	Employment	6
Not Specified	37		

PETITIONS

Cures	23	Examinations	4
Financial Aid	13	Employment	8
Relief in Distress	14	Not Specified	90

Obituary

Rev. T. W. Albin, Ludington, Mich.
Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan, Barrytown, N. Y.
Rev. A. Thibbits, S.J., Pomfret Centre, Conn.
Rev. N. Zudaire, Mesilla Park, N. M.
Sister M. Celestine, Lowellville, O.
Miss Loretta C. Bowes, Waterbury, Conn.
Mrs. Lucy Schumacher, Englewood, N. J.

TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

BRIEF LIFE, BY WYNNE, 64 PAGES, 3 ILLUSTRATIONS, 25C.

LEAFLET I, WITH PRAYER AND REMARKABLE FAVORS; II, NOVENA, 5C. EACH, 25C. A DOZEN.

PICTURES — SMALL, SEPIA INK, SKETCH AND PRAYER, 5C.

4 COLORS, SILK APPLIED TO RELICS, 15C.

LARGE, 13 X 10 IN., 4 COLORS, MOUNTED ON HEAVY BOARD, 40C.

(Prices include postage)

REV. JOHN J. WYNNE, S.J., V. *Postulator for Her Canonization*
400 EAST FORDHAM ROAD, NEW YORK