

THE LILY OF

Fairest flower that ever



THE MOHAWKS

bloomed among true men

VOL. XIV, No. 8

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1950

Merry Christmas to All Friends of the League and Clients of Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha from the Vice-Postulator and The Staff

HOW IS THE CAUSE PROGRESSING?

We were asked, recently, to make a thumb-nail sketch of the *Cause of Venerable Tekakwitha*. This is it: The Decree authorizing the introduction of the Cause was signed at Rome, May 19, 1939. The preliminary Processes about which we have been writing in the LILY this year, and about which we have something further in these pages, have been concluded, — and on January 3, 1943, His Holiness signed the Decree declaring her virtues heroic, and entitling her to be called *Venerable*.

Father John Wynne, for whom we celebrated an Anniversary Mass on November 30, with the whole staff present, was Vice-Postulator for the United States until his death. He had been assisted, since 1941, by

Father John Killeen, who was succeeded by Father Coffey in October, 1949.

The search for miracles continues. None of the cures which have been considered as possibly worthy of consideration, has as yet been formally presented. Meantime your League is trying to spread devotion through our bi-monthly *Message*, the distribution of material, and the investigation of purported cures.

We thought, on the occasion of our Christmas letter to you, we might get many of our readers to report to us favors granted or needed through Tekakwitha's intercession. There are several informal and private Novenas now in progress, and we hope that by storming Heaven we may get, if it be God's will, the miracles necessary.

UP TO NOW

To give you an idea of how complete the Processes are, about which we have been writing in our series, *HOW SAINTS ARE MADE*, — in the case of the Little Flower,

the evidence amounted to 2,500 pages — the result of ninety-one sessions. And all has to be copied by hand, and the copy certified as correct. The original is kept sealed and un-

opened in the bishop's archives. The copy is, as before, taken to Rome.

Rome Speaks

The Congregation of Rites now has to decide that its instructions have been carried out. For this the advocate prepares a '*Positio*,' the promoter of the Faith his objections, the advocate his replies — all of which are printed as before.

Summing Up

The evidence is then discussed. For each: *heroic virtues* and *miracles*, three sessions of the Congregation are required. The first, *ante-preparatory*, is held at the house of the

Cardinal Relator. The second is in the presence of all the Cardinals of the Congregation.

After the preparatory session the Cardinal Relator goes to the Holy Father to acquaint him with the facts of the case.

At the general session, the Pope himself presides, and the members of the Congregation give their votes. But the final decision rests with the Holy Father. If it is favorable, a decree will be promulgated which confirms the fact of the heroic virtues of the servant of God, who now may be styled '*Venerable*.' But as yet no public religious honor may be given. This is the stage at which the Cause of Tekakwitha has arrived.

THE LETTERS KEEP COMING

Meantime our staff is kept busy sending material relating to the Cause out to all parts of the land whence we keep getting letters. The following is typical of our correspondence:

PHYSICAL RELIEF

"May we add our favor of many years ago, that we regard as a miracle, that we received through the intercession of the Indian Maiden, Kateri. My husband was troubled for several years with sciatic rheumatism in his hip, that caused him much pain and was unable to work. Off and on he was laid up in bed. The doctor taped him and gave him medicine to rid him of his pain. This did not give him much relief, so I had heard of Kateri only a short time before and a friend of mine gave me a leaflet containing a prayer. I then started a novena and sent for a medal, placed it on my husband and in a few days he received relief. About a month or so after he was able to go to work. That was all he has had in the past twelve or thirteen years. We thank God for His goodness to us. I have since given others relic cards in their illness and all have received help through Kateri's intercession." —Columbus, O.

"For the past six months I have been suffering from a cold that settled in my ear, leaving me at times quite deaf, since I only have one good ear. From time to time I have had relief but lately the noises and closing off periods have become worse. I have gone to two ear specialists but they have given me only temporary relief. I have prayed constantly and yesterday, August 11, was the feast of St. Philomena and I beseeched her again to help me. It almost seemed like she directed me to read the *Register*. I had no relief for two days and was very nervous and depressed. After reading about Kateri I immediately started to pray to her. I don't have the special prayer to say in her honor so I recited the memorare and asked Kateri, Lily of the Mohawks, to intercede for me. Last night, I should say this morning, about three o'clock, my ear opened up and it was a wonderful feeling as well as relief. I promised to send an offering to further the Cause of her canonization if she would help me."

—Kansas City, Mo.

"Here is a donation that I promised Tekakwitha. My husband suddenly suffered with great pain from his spine to his leg. I prayed

to Tekakwitha to help him. When he awoke he said, 'A miracle has happened. I haven't a pain or ache in my leg and I can walk naturally.' We cancelled his appointment with an osteopath and am sending the fee to Tekakwitha League to spread her Cause."

—Brooklyn, N. Y.

"I have received a great favor through the intercession of Venerable Kateri. My husband's back was recently injured and his doctor said an operation may be necessary, which would mean six months' hospitalization. The verdict was to be given the next day. He was in great agony last Saturday night, so during Mass, Sunday, I asked Kateri to intercede with our Lord for him and promised to send a large offering towards her Cause if he got relief. By Sunday afternoon he was practically without pain and has shown remarkable improvement since. I believe that tomorrow his doctor will say there is no need to operate, so am sending my donation now."

—East Falmouth, Mass.

HEALTH RESTORED

"Some years ago my grand-aunt, a Sister of Mercy, gave us a booklet on the *Life of Kateri*. I started to pray to her and she has given me quite a number of favors, big and little. My name for her is 'adopted mother.' Sometime ago my nephew, age seven, developed a softness of the hip bone which would have made him a cripple. I wrote out the prayer for his mother to say for him, and the trouble has disappeared. I also had a most irritating itch on both my hands and I said to her, 'You are a saint, it is such a small thing I am asking you,' and it also has disappeared. She helps me regularly financially."

—Kingston, Jamaica, B. W. I.

"Last year I discovered Kateri through an article and later cut out a picture of a statue of 'The Lily of the Mohawks' from a magazine. I was pregnant at the time and I sud-

denly had a fervent devotion in her honor. Somehow a miscarriage occurred and I lost the little one. I prayed that there would be no serious results from this and when I went to the doctor everything was fine. I became pregnant again shortly and when my baby girl was born named her Kateri. During this pregnancy my right leg was troubled with varicose veins, and especially asked Venerable Kateri to help me. The doctor said I had the worse looking leg that he had ever seen in his career and was quite worried about it at the delivery time, and thanks again to our Indian Maiden that I came out all right. Also, through Kateri's intercession, we obtained financial aid to build our own home."

—Dearborn, Mich.

"Enclosed is an offering for a few prayers of Venerable Catherine, Lily of the Mohawks. About thirteen years ago I received a picture and prayer of Catherine from a priest by the name of Rev. J. J. Wynne, S.J. My husband had a very bad heart attack the same week, September, 1937; both of us started the prayer and have been saying it for thirteen years. My husband was in bed for ten weeks and when he got up the doctors took several X-rays and the report was he had an enlarged heart and would never work again. He went back to work September, 1939, and worked for ten years and had his second attack in 1947. He got over that and the company he worked for put him on a disability pension on account of his age. He is enjoying very good health right now, thanks to Venerable Kateri."

—Wilmington, Del.

DISTRESS RELIEVED

"Enclosed is a small donation which I shall hope to add to each week. While away from home last night a member of my family came to tell me that my nephew was running a very high temperature and that his head was

hurting badly. Because of the infantile paralysis epidemic I prayed to Venerable Kateri that before I would get home (about a half hour later) his temperature would be down and that he should be feeling better. When I got home I found that he had brought everything up from his stomach and already his temperature was down several points. This all happened that half hour. I also prayed to Venerable Kateri that a festering sore on the leg of a friend of mine would heal. Within a week it was practically better."

—Emsworth, Pa.

"Enclosed please find an offering for Tekakwitha's Cabin. We just returned from a long trip. Before we left I had a Mass said in her honor for a safe trip. We were miraculously saved from a terrible accident in which we could all have been killed. Thanks to Catherine's intercession we were spared."

—San Jose, Cal.

"For years we had promised our daughter a piano for her tenth birthday, and as it is the 25th of July, our time was limited and our budget didn't seem to include a piano. Then she and I made a novena to Kateri the early part of June to help us in this problem. Soon after our cousin recommended us to a reliable piano firm and we got a piano at a drastically reduced price. My daughter and I have made a novena thanking Kateri for her intercession in our behalf. She is send-

ing fifty cents, two weeks' allowance, to help Kateri's Cause."

—Park Ridge, Ill.

"I want to tell you that again Kateri has answered my prayers and granted my request to the letter. I have some very important work to do for a Catholic organization and needed a car very badly to do a good job. I asked Kateri to get one for me even though I felt that it was next to impossible. As I finished my third novena to her my request was granted completely. Kateri is so good to me, Father, I feel that anything I ask her for she will obtain for me. She has never failed me yet and I know never will. I am having a Mass said for her Cause in thanksgiving at my parish church and will forward some money to you next week to further her Cause."

—Chicago, Ill.

ADDITIONAL FAVORS

Cures	12	Financial Aid	7
Apartments	2	Relief in Distress	6
Employment	3	Temporal	1
Not Specified	72		

PETITIONS

Cures	35	Financial Aid	20
Apartments	6	Relief in Distress	14
Employment	15	Not Specified	50

Obituary

Most Rev. Thomas A. Emmet, S.J., Boston, Mass.
 Rev. Joseph B. Walsh, S.J., New York, N. Y.
 John J. Byrnes, Boston, Mass.
 Frank Couzens, Detroit, Mich.
 W. E. McCartney, Springdale, Pa.
 Miss Catherine McDonough, Scranton, Pa.

TO MAKE TEKAKWITHA KNOWN AND LOVED

LEAFLETS

- I—Medallion, prayer, sketch, favors.
 II—Novena, with daily reflexion.
 5c. for 2; 25c. a dozen

LIFE

By Wynne, 32 pages, illustrated, 15c.

MEDAL

Image and title "Lily of the Mohawks,"
 special metal, 15c.; silver, 60c.

PICTURES

- Small—with sketch and prayer 5c.
 " lithograph, color, sketch and prayer.... 10c.
 " lithograph, color, silk applied to relics.. 20c.
 Large—lithograph in color, 12 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches,
 mounted so as to need no frame; for
 class or private room 60c.

Prices include postage

Reduction on quantity

TEKAKWITHA LEAGUE

30 WEST 16TH STREET, NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

REV. THOMAS J. COFFEY, S.J., V. Postulator for Her Canonization