

The cross was planted on Puertorrican soil by Christopher Columbus on Nov. 19, 1493. In 1508 when Juan Ponce de Leon, the first governor, arrived to colonize the island he brought with him priests to minister to the new colony and to teach and baptize the Indians in the Roman Catholic faith.

The first church was built in 1511 at Caparra, a small village across the bay, founded by Ponce de Leon as the capital of the island. This church was dedicated to St. John the Baptist. This same church became the first cathedral when Bishop Alonso Manso, the first on American soil, arrived in May 1513. Puerto Rico was constituted a Roman Catholic Diocese by Pope Julius II on Aug. 8, 1511, the bishop being the suffragan of the Archbishopric of Seville. In 1512 a similar structure was built in San Germán near the western coast.

The location of the present Roman Catholic Cathedral marks the site of the first church built in 1520 in the capital city under Bishop Manso after the city was moved from Caparra.

In 1524 the first hospital was built near the "Fortaleza" (Governor's Palace), attended by sisters who were the first ones to come to the island.

Fifty-six Roman bishops have governed this ancient see, the cradle of christianity in America, several of them born in the new world and one in the city of San Juan who was co-founder of the first conciliary seminary.

It was in Puerto Rico that the first Episcopal consecration in America took place. In 1529 Bishop Manso consecrated the bishop elect of Santo Domingo.

Because of the increased population the Pope in 1924 divided the island into two dioceses, the Ponce diocese comprising the south-western part of the island and the San Juan diocese comprising the northeastern part, including the adjacent islands of Vieques and Culebra; also the

Virgin Islands. The two dioceses are directly subject to the Pope through an Apostolic Delegate who resides in Havana, Cuba.

During the Spanish regime not more than two native priests were elected bishops. Ever since the American occupation all bishops have been continental Americans appointed by the Pope. Serving the islands are more than two hundred and fifty Roman clergy, half of which are secular. There are several orders of nuns. The Carmelite Sisters with a convent in Santurce is the oldest native order, founded in 1646. There is not a single town in Puerto Rico where there is not a Roman Church. There are also quite a number of chapels in the rural areas. Since the change of sovereignty in 1898 the principal religious sects or denominations in the United States have come to P.R. The first non-Roman Church in P.R. was established in Ponce as early as 1873. According to the records of Holy Trinity Church on Nov. 20, 1869 a group of men (non-Romans) met in Ponce to consider the organization of a parish, availing themselves of the decree of the new constitutional government of Spain which granted religious liberty to her colonies. In 1872 the parish was organized under the Bishop of Antigua (Anglican Diocese in the West Indies). A portable church of wood and iron construction was shipped out in sections from England and erected on a site at that time outside the city limits and in 1873 the church was opened for divine services. The Rev. John DuBois from St. Paul's Church in Frederiksted, St. Croix, V. I. came to Puerto Rico to organize the parish and served as its rector (interim). The first rector was the Rev. A. Giolma who served the parish for two years. The Rev. F. VallSpinosa of Spanish origin, educated in England, came as the second rector and served the parish for eight years having established the first parochial school in Ponce. During his ministry services were held in the Spanish language and many native Puertorricans were received in the church and the sacraments were administered to them. Seven priests served the church during the Spanish

regime. The Church was consecrated in the summer of 1874 by the Lord Bishop of Antigua, William Waldron Jackson, in honor of the Holy and Ever Blessed Trinity. The last English rector was the Rev. Fred Caunt. It is also recorded that at the re-establishment of the monarchy in 1874 the Church was ordered to be closed but with the good offices of the English Queen Victoria the Church was re-opened, but ringing of bells was prohibited as well as the opening of the front door. Entrance was by the side doors. No religious symbol or notice on the building was allowed to show that it was a church. The visits of the Bishop of Antigua were made at long intervals at which time he held confirmations. These visits on some occasions were made in disguise (incognito),- it depended on who was the mayor of the town, whether a staunch Roman Catholic or a liberal minded one. On a trip to America and England Father Vall-Spinosa raised money to build a cemetery for his Anglican people. They were not allowed to be buried in the city cemetery controlled by the R. C. Church. When General Miles' army entered Ponce in July 1898 some members of St. Andrew's Brotherhood found the Church, opened it, cleaned it out and the old colored sexton and lay reader, Alexander Horton, rang the bell for services. There was no rector at the time. In August, 1898 a memorial service was held for soldiers who had fallen during the American invasion. The Rev. A. Southerland, Chaplain of the 19th Regiment, held the service. He continued holding services until January, 1899. On Christmas Day 1898 the Holy Communion was celebrated by Chaplain Southerland, assisted by the Rev. F. VallSpinosa, second rector of the parish, retired, who was visiting Ponce at the time. Soon after the American **Invasion** the jurisdiction of the Church of England was transferred to the American Episcopal Church and the parish was placed under the Presiding Bishop.

On Feb. 28, 1899, Ash Wednesday, Bishop Whipple of Minnesota visited the Church. In 1901 Bishop Peterkin of West Virginia visited the parish and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The first American rector was the Rev. S. E. Gunn, appointed in 1902,

who served for a short time, followed by the Rev. H. B. Thomas who served until 1903. Father William Watson followed him and served until 1906. Under the influence of Father Watson the parish made great progress. From there on the parish was constantly served by continental American priests until 1932 when the first Puertorrican priest was placed in charge of the mission which had ceased to be a parish a few years after the change of regime. The old building was condemned and torn down in 1923 and the present beautiful church of reinforced concrete in the Spanish style was erected on the site and consecrated in 1926. The bell, which was cast in England in 1872 and transferred to a chapel at Clausells, Ponce when the new Trinity Church was built in 1926 was again brought in 1939 by the priest in charge at the time and enshrined at the Church as a symbol of religious liberty and is now called the Puerto Rican liberty Bell of religion. → Today there is a flourishing Spanish speaking congregation but services in English have continued to be held at the traditional hour of 11:00 A.M. every Sunday, at Christmas and Easter Day.

As mentioned above, in 1899 the Bishop of Minnesota visited Puerto Rico. This visit was made at the request of the Bishop of Chicago who had been appointed to take charge of the work of the Church on the island. In his visits to the principal towns Bishop Whipple found everywhere a warm welcome. His first service was held in San Juan where the Rev. Henry A. Brown, chaplain of the army in San Juan had gathered the beginnings of a promising congregation. A class of twelve persons was presented for confirmation. Later on ^{Chaplain Brown} he was transferred to Mayaguez. At Mayaguez, through the kindness of army officers, the local theater was obtained for the Bishop's visit and an evening service was held at which not less than two hundred and fifty were present. In a private house at the town of Arroyo, near Guayama, the Bishop held a service with a good congregation, while a Spanish gentleman furnished the music. At Cayey the Bishop was the guest of the commanding officer and held a ~~never to be forgotten~~ service at the barracks. Besides the English speaking residents a few Puerto-

rricans and over a hundred soldiers were present. This was the first service held during the year the troops had occupied the town.

Concerning the future of the island Bishop Whipple wrote: - For all the sin, sorrow and ignorance of Puerto Rico there is but one remedy- the gospel of Jesus Christ. It will do for these poor souls what it has done for the people of every race and climate. There is no room for discouragement if the work is entered upon with faith, and hope and in the strength which comes from God."

The following year the Presiding Bishop appointed Bishop Peterkin of West Virginia in charge of the work. He arrived in San Juan, Jan.10,1901. During the two months that he remained on the Island he held nineteen services, confirmed 12 persons in Ponce, one in the temporary chapel in San Juan and six in Vieques Island. Vieques is about nine miles of the coast east of Puerto Rico, geologically is a prolongation of the main land of Puerto Rico, with an area of fifty-seven square miles. The principal town is "Isabel Segunda" named after one of Spain's most famous queens.

According to Miller's History of Puerto Rico, the Spanish government about the year 1870 granted permission to open a school for non-Roman Catholic children in Vieques, who would be taught in their own language which was English, and also permitting the teaching of their own protestant (Anglican) religion. This is the first case of religious tolerance in Puerto Rico and perhaps in the Spanish domains.

One Zaccheus Anderson, a carpenter from the Island of St. Croix, came to Vieques about the year 1868 and personally conducted church services to the great comfort of the many English laborers resident there. He was followed by John James Hancock, a native of Tortola, who continued the good work and opened a school about the year 1870.

The Rev. Fr. Semper, came from Tortola in May and again in October

1881 to celebrate the Holy Communion and to administer the sacraments of baptism and marriages. He came again in 1883 to baptize a child of Mr. Joseph Nathaniel Bean, who had come from one of the Islands to live in Vieques. Mr. Bean was a revenue officer of the British Colonial government there. He had heard of the need of someone to carry on the work at Vieques, and gave up his position and came to the Island in 1881.

Archdeacon Hutson, Rector of All Saints' Church, St. Thomas, V.I., visited Vieques in 1885.

Mr. Bean went to the United States and entered St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, N.C. in 1889 to study for the ministry. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Lyman in 1890 and priest by the Bishop of Antigua in 1893, returning to Vieques as priest in charge of All Saints' Church, at Isabel Segunda.

In 1893, Bishop Branch, of Antigua, visited the Island of Vieques, and had confirmation. It seems that there was no restriction to these visits, for it is also mentioned that in 1881, the Hon. C.A. Brewer, Treasurer and Warden of all Saints, St. Thomas, visited the Island of Vieques in order to check on the permit granted to the Church to hold services, issued by the Governor of Puerto Rico.

For many years the people worshiped in a plain wooden structure which had been a sugar warehouse, renovated in 1903 and greatly improved. Up to the time of the American occupation the church had been a mission of the Church of England and this, with Holy Trinity Church in Ponce, were the only two non-Roman Churches in Puerto Rico and perhaps in all the Spanish American domains. The Rev. Fr. Bean became totally blind about the year 1897, but continued exercising his ministry until 1905 when he resigned his post. He died in Vieques on July 15, 1907.

When Chaplain Brown was transferred to Mayaguez, the Rev. George B Pratt was sent to Puerto Rico as a missionary on April 11, 1899. He held the first service as an organized mission under the name of St. John the Baptist Church on March 12, 1899 at the "Ateneo Puertorriqueño" building in San Juan. Father Pratt returned to the States in October 1900 and Chaplain Brown returned from Mayaguez and took charge of the congregation, holding services regularly. He had to move from the "Ateneo" to Fortaleza St. No.5, a government building known as the "Pink Palace". Chaplain Brown returned to the United States in February 1901.

The Rev. James H. Van Buren was appointed missionary a week after Chaplain Brown had left the Island. On December 24, 1901 the mission of St. John the Baptist was organized as a Parish and Fr. Van Buren was elected its first Rector.

The General Convention of 1901 elected the Rev. William C. Brown, a missionary in Brazil, to be the Bishop of Puerto Rico, but he was not able to accept. At this same Convention Puerto Rico was made a missionary district.

A year after Father Van Buren was appointed a missionary, he was elected Bishop of Puerto Rico and consecrated on June 24, 1902. In December the then Fr. Van Buren had written: We must begin our work, in my judgement, among children. We can teach religion in our parish schools and by beginning in this way, we shall win the hearts of the people as in no

other way. We have begun a school in San Juan, we bring our children to the Church every Sunday afternoon and have a service based on the order of Evening Prayer in Spanish. The grown people come too, they all want a lesson in English and in getting it we take care that they get the gospel also. Our mode of worship, our apostolic origin, our christian year, our creed all appeal strongly to the people."

Under Spain the Roman Catholic Church was established as a part of the government. Under the United States Constitution that Church could not have any official connection and many of the Spanish priests left the island. Nominally the entire population of Puerto Rico was Roman Catholic but there were thousands of souls that had no religion whatsoever. Among the lower and poor classes the vast majority were living in superstition and practical heathenism.

In February 1902 a parish school was started in San Juan at Cafetade San Juan, No. 9 with Miss Frances Cuddy in charge as principal. At this same time it became necessary for the government to use the room at the Pink Palace and the congregation had to move again to rooms in the old Colonial Hotel on the corner of San Francisco and Cristo Streets.

On Dec. 26, 1903 Bishop VanBuren laid the corner stone for the Church of St. John the Baptist at the Caleta de San Juan, opposite the Roman Catholic Cathedral and on March 12, 1904 the first service was conducted by Bishop VanBuren. The land cost \$12,000. and the building \$16,000. Bishop VanBuren continued as rector until Nov. 24, 1904 when the Rev. Walter Mitchell came to Puerto Rico as second rector of the parish.

From very early days there were in San Juan many colored English speaking people who had migrated to Puerto Rico from the islands of the British West Indies. A number of them had been trained in the Church of England in those islands. These, together with a few Puertorricans, worshipped originally with the American continentals at St. John the Baptist. In 1901 it was reported that about one-fifth of the congregation was colored and

one-fifth Puerto^Rricans.

In February 1903 separate services were begun for these groups by Bishop VanBuren, the Rev. David W. Bland assisting, in a rented house on what is now Lugo Viña Street in Puerta de Tierra. The house was altered inside so that it served very creditably for a chapel. A day school was also started for the Puerto^Rrican children of the neighborhood.

In 1907 a large lot was bought and a wooden two story building erected at Stop 7, Puerta de Tierra. Two congregations used the building, one composed of native Puerto^Rricans and the other of English speaking **communicants from the British West Indies. (colored)** A day school was opened in the basement of the church which served also as a parish hall. By this time the Rev. Charles E. Snavely had taken charge of St. Luke's, which was the name given to the mission, and lived in a small house across the street from the church.

In 1907 St. Luke's had several missions - St. Mark's in Puerta de Tierra (another section of town), in Aguas Buenas, eastern section of the island, there were four missions, the Advent, St. Margaret, the Incarnation and the Ascension, all attended by Mr. José Archilla, lay reader; the Good Shepherd at the Leper Colony on Cabras Island, St. Peter's at Palo Seco, St. Paul's at Cerra St., Santurce and Annunciation at Loiza St., Santurce. In 1907 there were five licensed lay readers: Messrs. C. C. Nairn and Paul Reinhardt at St. John the Baptist, San Juan, Gerhardt Monefeldt at Mayaguez (St. Andrew's), Ernesto Rivera and Enrique Cuervos at St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra and José Archilla at Aguas Buenas. There were also five continental American priests in charge of the following parishes and missions: The Rev. F. A. Warden, rector of St. John's in San Juan and also priest in charge of St. James at Bayamón (Candelaria), - this mission was attended by continental Americans, fruit growers of that community, - Father Warden was also chaplain at the Naval Station in Puerta de Tierra; the Rev. C. E. Snavely, priest in charge of St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra and all the mission stations, as-

sisted by his lay readers; the Rev. C. D. Bland, priest in charge of St. Andrew's, Mayaguez; the Rev. H. P. Walter, Holy Trinity, Ponce and the Rev. John F. Droste, deacon, chaplain at St. Luke's Hospital, Ponce and the Rev. Leonard Read, deacon in charge of All Saints, Vieques. There was a preaching mission at La Esperanza in Vieques, attended also by Mr. Read, which was named after St. Clement.

The mission of St. Paul's in Santurce was opened by Father Snavely because a great number of the **British West Indies** colored people were living in this section and this new mission therefore met a great need. So promising was this work that in 1920 plans were laid for a chapel to be built across the way from the house, but owing to the fact that there were not sufficient clergymen to continue the work, it was closed and people were asked to attend St. Luke's in Puerta de Tierra. Although some of the work was conducted in Spanish for the Puertorricans, the main work was among the English colored people living in that neighborhood.

To follow the chronological order of events we will mention now the ^{for} Mayaguez mission/which, as we said before, the foundations were laid by Chaplain Henry A. Brown. It was not until March 1st, 1905 that the mission was really organized under the Rev. David W. Bland. The first services were in English in a private house. In April an old coffee warehouse was rented in a thickly populated "barrio" (ward) at the southern end of the town. This was fitted up for church purposes. On May 21, 1905 the first service of Holy Communion was celebrated. Only four communicants, all Americans, attended, but at the door were some few Puertorricans. Services in Spanish began the following week with a congregation of about one hundred and fifty, and in January 1907 a class of fourteen was confirmed. A Sunday School with an enrollment of one hundred and sixty-seven children gathered every Sunday with an average attendance of one hundred and forty-four children. In February a house

was rented near the church and a native teacher by the name of Matilde Martínez was employed and a day school was started with fifty-two children enrolled. This same building was used in the evenings for lectures and social gatherings. The parochial report from St. Andrew's for the year 1905 reported one hundred and seventy-four individuals, one hundred and sixty-nine baptized persons, nineteen communicants, twenty-four baptisms, fourteen confirmations, eleven marriages and Sunday School teachers eight. For several years, up to the time of the arrival of the Rev. F. A. Saylor, the moving spirit of the mission was that of Miss E. H. McCollough, well remembered by quite a few of the Mayaguez people. She was a teacher, counsellor and friend to all. In 1916 the building used as a church, which was about one hundred years old, was ordered closed and in 1918 a new one was put up.

In Bishop Van Buren's address to his first convocation, May 9, 1905, he begins by saying: "Today marks an era of progress in our work. We are assembled in convocation for the first time to perfect the organization of our forces." Later on he reports the purchase of land and the building of St. John's Church in San Juan and gives a list of parish organizations and missions at which services were held, following the order of their ages:

- Holy Trinity Church, Ponce - Father Watson, rector
- All Saints, Vieques - Father Bean, priest in charge
- St. John the Baptist, San Juan - Father Mitchell, rector
- St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra - Father Mitchell, priest in charge
- St. Peter's Mission, Playa Ponce - Father Watson in charge
Rev. L. Read, deacon
- St. Thomas Mission, West End, Ponce
(probably Barrio Canas or near
the hospital) - Father Watson and Mr. Read
- Epiphany, Central Aguirre - Father Watson and Mr. Nelson

- St. Mary's Mission, La Carmelita, Ponce - Father Watson and Mr. Cabrera
- Hope Mission - La Esperanza - Ponce - Father Watson and Miss Fordham teaching assistant
- St. Andrew's, Mayaguez - Father David W. Bland, priest in charge

He also mentioned three flourishing mission or parish schools, - St. John's in San Juan with Miss Anna M. Reed as teacher and Miss Dolores Quiñones, assistant, and an enrollment of seventy-five children; Holy Trinity, Ponce with Miss Frances Cuddy as teacher and Miss Sarah Davidson as parish helper, and fifty children enrolled; La Esperanza, Ponce with Miss Fordham as teacher and thirty children enrolled. A night school for adults was held the past winter with some twenty-five pupils. Bishop VanBuren also mentions the offer of four acres of land in barrio Candelaria, seven miles west of Bayamón on road No. 2, on condition that a church building be put up within one year. At Pueblo Viejo near Cataño a similar offer was made to him. At Aguas Buenas land was offered and a promise of fifty dollars toward erection of a church. At "El Semil" up in the mountains near Juana Diaz an urgent request was made for church ministrations and at Hormigueros Father Bland was thinking of establishing the Church.

The work which seemed to him most conspicuous was the erection of a church hospital in Ponce. Father Watson had had trouble visiting ~~his~~ his parishioners at the Roman Catholic hospital "Santo Asilo de Damas". The Sisters did not allow him to minister freely to the sick members of his parish and tried to persuade them to leave the Anglican Church and join their church. In a few instances they did persuade them. A very serious incident between Father Watson and a Sister forced him to discuss the matter with Holy Trinity vestry and they in turn with the Bishop. So, in his convocation report, he mentions the purchase of four acres of land on the outskirts of Ponce, on a high and well-adapted section, for the purpose of erecting the Memorial Hospital of St. Luke, the Beloved Physi-

cian, in memory of Dr. Charles Henry Thomas who had been a room-mate of Bishop VanBuren at Yale College, and in his senior year when he fell sick with typhoid fever, Mr. Thomas ministered to him and took care of him until he regained his health. A committee was formed, composed of the Bishop, the rector of Holy Trinity, Dr. Carl Vogel, a local physician, and two wardens of the parish. These were to serve as the local Board of Trustees. Under the provision of the General Canons, Bishop VanBuren, when he became the Bishop of Puerto Rico, selected the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of West Virginia to be the law of the district. A new draft of a constitution and canons was prepared by him and presented to the first convocation held at St. John the Baptist Church in San Juan, May 9, 1905, which were finally approved by the House of Bishops at Convention held in Richmond, Va. in 1907. At this convocation Bishop VanBuren recommended the reading of our church papers, such as the Spirit of Missions, The Living Church, The Southern Churchman and The Churchman and that every worker and family in the church subscribe to any one of them so that they be informed of the progress and affairs of the Kingdom of God.

At the 1906 convocation the Bishop mentioned the fact of the two versions of the Bible in common use in Spanish countries - "Cipriano de Valero" and Version Moderna (used by non-Romans), considering the former as superior but the latter a more accurate translation but the language less dignified. He also expressed the unfortunate fact that the Book of Chants and Canticles he had, did not conform to the version of the Prayer Book they were using at the time. The Bishop also reported the preparation by himself of a Hymnal with two hundred hymns, but due to lack of funds the same was not printed as yet.

At this convocation 1906, Mrs. Walter Mitchell, as acting secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary in Puerto Rico, reported that there were two branches, one organized at St. Luke's, Puerto de Tierra the first Sun-

day in August 1905 with fourteen members, and a junior branch organized in the same church in May of the current year with eleven members. The Ponce branch was reported discontinued.

At the previous convocation Mrs. VanBuren, in her report to convocation, stated that she was appointed by the Bishop in October 1903 at the request of the General Secretary of the Womans Auxiliary to the Board of Missions. That on March 22, 1904 the parochial branch of the Church of St. John the Baptist in San Juan was organized with fourteen members and that on Jan. 29, 1905 the parochial branch of Holy Trinity, Ponce was organized with twenty-five members. Mrs. VanBuren reported that at the meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary in Boston on Oct. 4, 1904 there was much applause when it was announced that Puerto Rico was represented by a delegate. She had taken with her samples of the drawn work made by the parish Needlework Guild of Ponce, some of it was sold and orders were received for more. At the time of the United Thank Offering Mrs. VanBuren placed in the Alms Basin \$17.80, the amount from the Puerto-rrican branches in the blue boxes.

At the 1907 convocation the Bishop reported the publication of the Spanish Hymnal with 203 hymns, mostly taken from the book published by the American Tract Society, but with the best tunes in use by the Church. The amens were added to thy hymns and all the chants pointed for singing and set to music. The hymns were also arranged in the order of the christian year after the mamer of our American Hymnal.

Work at La Carmelita in Ponce was suspended because there was no one who could be appointed there who could minister in the Spanish language. The Church was holding several acres of land there on a ninety-nine year lease.

The building of St. Luke's Hospital at a cost of \$17,000. was completed with funds contributed by friends in the States and in Puerto Rico. An appropriation of \$1,000. a year for its support was approved by the

Board of Missions and a pledge of \$1,200. annually by a lady was made during her lifetime; also provision in her will for a legacy of \$50,000., the income to be used for the maintenance of the hospital after her death. At this convocation the Bishop reported the admission on Aug. 28 of the first Puerto Rican candidate for Holy Orders, Mr. Ernesto Rivera. He studied at Sewanee, Tenn. and was ordained deacon in June 1912. He died the following year.

At the convocation held in Mayaguez, May 9, 1911 Bishop Van Buren informed about the establishment of new management at St. Lukes Hospital in accordance with the usages and requirements of the Board of Missions. He also spoke of the critical condition

of the church due to lack of a sufficient supply of clergy. Only two priests (continentals) were helping the Bishop, one in San Juan, the other in Vieques. Only three native lay readers were assisting in the work, one in Aguas Buenas, one in Mayaguez and one in Santurce - St. Paul's. There were two teachers in San Juan, one continental, one Puerto^Rican. There were six in Mayaguez, two continentals and four Puerto^Ricans, and three teachers in Puerta de Tierra, one continental, one West Indian and one Puertorrican. Bishop VanBuren complained that there was no response to the call for volunteers in the States to come to Puerto Rico and help in the work. Climatic and other conditions were very trying, especially to women born and brought up in the north. It is very important to know that after almost eleven years of missionary work done by the Church and ten of apostolic ministry of Bishop VanBuren the Church had hardly progressed compared with the so called Evangelical churches. The Church could have advanced decidedly if the Bishop had had the cooperation and backing of the Department of Missions. It seems that at the beginning it was for him a great struggle and caused him great anxiety due to the lack of funds and interest on the part of the Church in the United States. In those

days travelling was difficult and tiresome. The apostolic zeal and fervor of the first missionaries justified the rapid extension of the work but in the course of the following years the Bishop found himself with a number of parishes, missions and preaching stations and hardly any personnel to take care of them due to lack of resources and cooperation from the Department of Missions address to convocation the Bishop was forced to say: "We are still suffering from lack of a sufficient supply of clergy to hold the places already occupied. Looking at the humble position we occupy in the list of dioceses and missionary districts, looking at the small numbers we are able to present in the table of church statistics, the question is sometimes asked, "What is the matter with Puerto Rico?" I am tempted to reply, "What is the matter with the Church at home ---?" "You have a right to expect of Puerto Rico just in accordance with what you put into Puerto Rico ---." I have undertaken to supply services on successive Sundays at several places, - Ponce (vacant for ten months), Mayaguez, Guánica and Aguirre, besides the visitations and other duties which belong to a Bishop. 'A house-going parson maketh a church-going people', and the pastoral relation, the seeking after the lost and the straying, that is what tells in the upbuilding of the Church."

Towards the end of this year (1911) Bishop VanBuren was forced to resign on account of ill health and the work was placed under the care of Bishop Knight of Cuba who looked after it for a year and a half. In 1913 Bishop Knight appointed the Rev. Rowland S. Nichols as Archdeacon of Puerto Rico, who also took charge of St. John's Church. The next summer he was obliged to return to the States.

On Dec. 17, 1913 the Very Rev. Charles B. Colmore, then Dean of the Cathedral in Havana, Cuba, was consecrated Bishop of Puerto Rico and arrived in San Juan on January, 1914 to take up his work. At his first convocation held in San Juan, June 17 and 18, 1914, there were one contin-

ental American priest, three West Indians, one ~~colored and two white,~~

one deacon, seven lay readers and three continental Americans—one West Indian and three Puertoricans, Enrique Cuevas, José Flores and Esteban Reus García, who were responsible for the work at St. John the Baptist, and ^{at} nine other missions besides Guanica and Central Aguirre sugar factories. In 1911, Transfiguration at Fajardo (eastern part of the island) was received as an organized mission. It was attended by the Rev. W.E. Hendricks who was also in charge of All Saints, Vieques. Father Hendricks

established a day school wholly on his own personal resources but was forced to give it up after ten months due to lack of funds to continue the work. His greatest stumbling block in the way of progress was the lack of a suitable church building.

The Church of the REsurrection in Manatí was begun on April 20, 1913 by the Rev. John F. Droste, a deacon, who had been ordained by Bishop VanBuren in May 1907 in Ponce, and was chaplain of St. Luke's Hospital while Mrs. Droste, his wife, served as the first head nurse and director of the school of nurses. Two years after Mrs. Droste resigned as head nurse of St. Luke's and Mr. Droste as chaplain of the hospital. ~~and~~ ^{they} moved to El Coto de Manatí where they bought a piece of land and dedicated themselves to the growing of pineapples. At the same time they began holding church-school in the packing shed with an attendance of about twenty-five children and adults. On April 16, 1914 Bishop Colmore laid the corner stone for a stone chapel which Mrs. Droste built and turned over to the Church in Puerto Rico. She raised the money by saving money that she made taking care of sick Americans of the community and other funds raised through friends in the States. On Jan. 26, ¹⁹¹⁵ the Rev. Mr. Droste was advanced to the priesthood and Mr. Enrique Cuervos made deacon at St. John's Church in San Juan.

The vital statistics for the year were as follows: 993 baptized persons, 486 communicants, 28 church school teachers and 602 pupils. There were four day schools as follows: Ponce, Mayaguez, San Juan and Puerta de Tierra, with eight teachers, four of whom were continental Americans, three Puertorricans and one West Indian, with an enrollment of 135 pupils.

The following year the amount of \$2,817.92 was reported as receipts for the year 1914, with a total payment of \$351.11 towards general church work.

During the first years of his episcopate Bishop Colmore made all the efforts to recruit clergymen for the work on the island and to strengthen the work. ~~as he found it in 1914.~~ So by the year 1919 there were already seven clergymen (all English speaking), one deacon (English speaking), eight lay readers and four Puerto^Rican postulants. ~~The Puertorrican deacon ordained in January, 1915 had resigned and gone to the States.~~ There were also seven women workers, four of whom were English speaking. In his annual address to convocation, May 20, 1919 Bishop Colmore mentioned the fact of having received notification from the Presiding Bishop that the Bishop of Antigua (Anglican) had resigned his jurisdiction over the Church

In the Virgin Islands of the U.S. and that the work of the Church in the Virgin Islands was to be placed, in the following future, under his jurisdiction. The Bishop had

already visited the three parishes on the Vieques Islands and found a total of
about nine thousand Church people and nearly nineteen hundred communicants and twelve hundred church school children. The Bishop of Puerto Rico

was also at the time in charge of the Missionary District of Haiti so he made the statement at this convocation that he was considering the advisability of suggesting to the House of Bishops that the Virgin Islands and the Dominican Republic be included in the District of Puerto Rico and Haiti be connected with some other district. This of course meant much travelling for the Bishop which was done mainly by boat. Therefore convocation passed

a resolution to request the House of Bishops to include the Virgin Islands and Santo Domingo in the Missionary District of Puerto Rico. The Bishop also reported in his annual address that Miss Ellen T. Hicks had come to Puerto Rico in March 1918, expecting to fill the vacancy at St. Luke's Hospital in Ponce for three months and that she was still there. During her stay the hospital had passed through the trying experience of the earthquake and the consequent repair work. Miss Hicks, who had been at St. Luke's Hospital, Manila, Philippine Islands, was in the United States recovering from a breakdown and agreed to come to Puerto Rico for a change and to help St. Luke's while on her furlough, but she learned to love the work in Ponce and decided to stay longer. She re-organized the school of nursing and remained in Puerto Rico until her retirement after thirty years of faithful and efficient service to the Church. The new building, forced to be built due to the 1928 cyclone, is a credit to her and to Bishop Colmore.

It is very important to notice that at this convocation the Bishop made the following statement: in his address: "With St. Luke's Hospital Training School (nurses), the Industrial Department of St. Andrew's and the New World School, El Coto-Manatí, I feel we are making a beginning in the most necessary effort to teach the lesson of self-support. I believe that the most important practical training that we can give is that of industry and hope that we can make all our educational work tend in that direction But apart from the industrial training there is the all-important work of training the future leaders of the Church's work in Puerto Rico. I hope there will be no obstacle in the establishment of our postulants' training school at Rio Piedras this year. I feel that this is the most important plan we have and that the permanency of our work in the future depends upon its success."

The Industrial Department at St. Andrew's, Mayaguez, developed into

the St. Andrew's Craft Shop which is now a diocesan institution giving work to a great number of women of the church. The New World School was a kind of industrial school for boys which struggled for lack of funds and finally had to be closed after the 1928 cyclone when all the buildings were blown away.

The Nation-wide campaign which was originated in the Board of Missions in 1919 and endorsed with great enthusiasm by the General Convention of that year was very successful in Puerto Rico and a pledge of \$793.00 a year for the next three years was made at the 1919 convocation.

At the General Convention mentioned above the House of Bishops enlarged the jurisdiction of our missionary district by attaching to it the ecclesiastical territory of the Virgin Islands of the United States, and at the annual convocation held in San Juan April 13 and 14, 1920 the clergy of the Virgin Islands were present and a resolution was passed welcoming to membership in our convocation the parishes of the Virgin Islands. Our next convocation was held in the Virgin Islands May 25 and 26 and we were the guests of the parish of St. John, Christiansted, St. Croix, - the Rev. H. M. Pigott, rector. It was a very happy event. The Bishop, clergy and lay delegates from Puerto Rico left Fajardo early in the morning in a boat arriving at Frederiksted, St. Croix in the late afternoon. Three of the four Puertorrican postulants attended as lay delegates. At this convocation the Bishop reported a shortage of clergy in the District of Puerto Rico and the necessity to give up, temporarily, the mission of St. Paul's in Santurce and to concentrate efforts on St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra and Annunciation, Loiza Road, Santurce. St. Luke's had no priest in charge at the time. Owing to the many vacancies existing the work at the seminary had to be postponed also. The Bishop mentioned the fact of the need of a priest in the district to be able to act as executive secretary, taking off his shoulders certain details of business, and who might also serve as an extra priest to fill

in vacancies as necessity might require. The Bishop's frequent and extended absences, visiting the Virgin Islands and Santo Domingo made this almost an imperative need.

About this time the "Iglesia Viviente",^{*} our diocesan paper, began to be published under the direction of Father Camille Estornelle, but at his resignation the Rev. Father Haughwout took charge of its publication. The paper was mainly a means of publishing church school lessons in Spanish. The emphasis was made of the need of more church literature in Spanish. Father Haughwout who had been in Mexico was greatly interested in this aspect of our work. He had written a book in English, "Ways and Teachings of the Church" and had in preparation a book in Spanish entitled "Aspectos Fundamentales de la Religion Cristiana"; also a revision and enlargement of our Spanish hymnal.

The year before extending the missionary jurisdiction of Puerto Rico the Church in Puerto Rico had 1330 baptized persons, 657 communicants, 855 church school children with 37 teachers, and four day schools with an enrollment of 328 pupils and 11 teachers. These schools were located at St. Andrew's Mission, Mayaguez, at Annunciation, Loiza Road, Santurce, at St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra and were for Puerto Rican children. St. John's School which had been moved from San Juan was now in the Condado and mainly attended by continental American children and Puerto Rican children of the better class residing in Santurce. Bishop Colmore had bought a property on a street opposite the Presbyterian Hospital. This school became partly self-supporting.

St. John's

The new rectory at El Coto, Manati was finished late in 1921 and the devoted missionaries who had lived and worked there under unfavorable conditions for many years now had a beautiful bungalow built with funds raised by the Rev. H. P. Walter who had been in Puerto Rico on two occasions, - in 1906 as rector of Holy Trinity, Ponce and in 1916 in charge of St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra.

On April 17, 1923 for the first time convocation met as guest of a rural mission, the Resurrection, El Coto, Manati. At this convocation we had a visit from the Rev. A. B. Parson, Assistant Secretary for Foreign Missions of the National Council, and Mrs. Parson. In his annual address the Bishop made the following statement: "For the past nine years and probably longer it has been a constant source of worry and difficulty to keep our several missions equipped with the necessary personnel in clergy and other workers. The frequent changes and resulting periods of vacancy have been a serious obstacle to the continuity and resulting success of the work. Father Haughwout, after eight years' work in Ponce, having built up a good Puerto^e Rican congregation, has consented to move to St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra, for the double purpose of ministering to the Spanish speaking congregation and taking the responsibility of having our candidates for the ministry." At this time there were two candidates for Holy Orders, Messrs. Antonio and Aristides Villafañe, and one postulant, Mr. Esteban Reus-García who was working for the government. Bishop Colmore expressed his great satisfaction with the progress made by the two candidates for the priesthood and praised very highly the work done with them by the Rev. Fathers Haughwout and Pugh. It was the hope of the Bishop that with the accession to the clergy staff of these two candidates the dependence upon the importation of clergy from the United States would be greatly reduced.

Bishop Manuel Ferrando of the Church of Jesus in Puerto Rico (Quebrada Limón and other rural sections of Ponce) was present and greeted by convocation. Bishop Ferrando had received supplemental consecration at the hands of six American Bishops. By this act and Bishop Ferrando's subsequent acts in Puerto Rico the entire Church of Jesus (five missions with two hundred and fifty acres of land, four clergy and several parish workers) was brought into full communion with the Episcopal Church.

NOTE: For Specific information, see Ferrando's documents.

Miss Ethel M. Robinson of Teachers' College, New York had come to Puerto Rico to make a survey and advise the Bishop in regard to educational work. It was the idea to organize all school work in such a way as to systematize it and have cooperation between the several missions. There was already in Ponce, connected with Holy Trinity, St. Elizabeth's House for training of young women for parish workers. Mrs. Juliet Darracott and Miss Mariana Cordero were in charge. At this time Bishop Colmore mentioned the completion of the Mayaguez buildings (rectory and school rooms) and that the municipal authorities had pronounced the old building in use for church services as unsafe. Services were then held in the basement of the new rectory.

The year 1923 marked the tenth anniversary of the consecration of Bishop Colmore and it was cause of great enthusiasm and optimism in the matter of the native ministry. He had participated with Bishop Ferrando in the ordination to the priesthood of the clergy of the Church of Jesus. The National Council in New York had taken the financial responsibility for the work at Quebrada Limón and associate missions and agreed to pur-

chase the land and other properties connected with the mission. Bishop Ferrando was elected

Bishop Suffragan of Puerto Rico at the meeting of the House of Bishops in Dallas, Texas on Nov. 14, 1923. Credit is given to Fathers Haughwout and Modesto Rivera for this union for they were instrumental in the preliminary conversations between Bishops Colmore and Ferrando.

Another event of the same nature and of immense importance to the Church in Puerto Rico was the ordination to the diaconate of the Messrs. Antonio and Aristides Villafañe at St. Luke's Church, Puerta de Tierra on Dec. 30, 1923. With these ordinations the total number of Puertorrican clergy was seven and one candidate for Holy Orders, also Puertorrican. Three of the new priests remained in the rural work in and near Quebrada Limón while Father Modesto Rivera was appointed assistant at Holy Trinity

Church under the Rev. P. D. Locke. The Rev. Antonio Villafañe went to Mayaguez as assistant to Father Saylor and the Rev. Aristides Villafañe remained at St. Luke's, Puerto de Tierra as assistant to Father Haughwout. The following year both deacons were ordained priests, remaining as curates at their respective missions.

Among the new lay workers mention at this convocation were Miss Ethel A. Stevens who came to Puerto Rico to act as the Bishop's secretary and who soon after was appointed teacher at the mission school of El Coto de Manati where she served for several years, Miss Edna Hastings, parish worker at St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra, (Miss Hastings later was married to the Rev. Antonio Villafañe and has rendered a most valuable service to the Church as a faithful and devoted companion to her husband), and Miss Ethel M. Robinson, who after a year's temporary stay in Puerto Rico volunteered to work here and continued the work of St. Elizabeth's in Ponce, transferring it to Santurce under the name of St. Catherine's Training School for women workers.

During the year 1924 an experiment was made in the creation of an Executive Council and the experiment resulted so successful that the Bishop expressed his satisfaction and appreciation and requested the committee on Constitution and Canons to prepare a canon covering the subject.

St. Andrew's Church was finished during the summer of 1924 and consecrated on St. Andrew's Day of the same year. The estimated cost of the building was \$20,000., but it actually cost \$13,000. due to the fact that Father Saylor gave the work his personal supervision and attention. Father Saylor was a man who not only was a very efficient priest but also an able student of architecture and masonry.

The Church at El Coto de Manatí was enlarged to almost double its original size and a handsome tower built at the west end. This was possible by a gift from a lady friend of the Drostes in the United States.

A chapel at the Bishop's residence and office in the Condado was pre-

pared which was a great blessing and comfort not only to the Bishop and his family but also to the many church people living in the community.

The Executive Council authorized the Rev. P. D. Locke, rector of Holy Trinity, Ponce, to buy a piece of land with a building on it for the new mission of St. Mary the Virgin in Canas (Clausells), Ponce. This mission was started through the missionary zeal of Father Modesto Rivera, assistant at Holy Trinity.

The new Spanish Hymnal was published by Father Haughwout who had been working at it for several months. It was really an excellent Episcopal Church Hymnal.

Father Haughwout resigned and Father Aristides Villafañe became priest in charge of St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra.

~~Father~~ ^{Mr.} Ramón Cortés, one of the clergy of the Church of Jesus, was brought into the Church by Bishop Ferrando, ordained deacon and sent to the Quebrada Limón mission with special charge of St. Peter's, El Mato.

Mr. Frank D. Edmunds of New York was appointed as farm manager at Quebrada Limón. There were plans to start a vocational school.

Messrs. Esteban Reus García and Vernon Lane, students at DuBose School in Tennessee, were ordained deacons at St. John the Divine Cathedral (St. James' Chapel) ^{New York} on Jan. 6, 1926 and came down the following day, Mr. Reus-García to assist in the work at El Coto de Manatí and Mr. Lane at St. Paul's Church, Frederiksted, St. Croix, V. I. Mr. Harry a Stirling, also a DuBose man, had been ordained deacon at St. Paul's Church on Aug. 2, 1925 and transferred to St. John's, Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I.

The nurses' home at St. Luke's Hospital was built. It was a long-felt need in the life of the hospital.

The new Church at Holy Trinity, Ponce was consecrated on April 11, 1926, a gift almost entirely from the Second Province of the Church. The Sanctuary was given in memory of Bishop VanBuren. The bells and lighting fixtures were given by friends of Mr. Noyes, a member of the congregation.

The three beautiful stained glass windows in the chancel were given by Mr.

Noyes and the mahogany pews and choir stalls were a gift from Mr. E. K. Junghans who left at his death in 1938^a one thousand dollar legacy for the care of them. Mr. Junghans was convocation treasurer for several years.

A piece of land was bought at Magueyes, Km. 5, Ponce-Adjuntas Road, sufficient for a church and rectory.

A property next door to St. Andrew's Mission was bought to be used by the St. Andrew's Craft Shop and needed very badly to meet the growth of the work there.

The Bishop mentioned in his annual charge at the 1926 convocation that Puerto Rico had stood third in the list of dioceses and missionary districts in payment of budget quotas and pleaded to keep on with the good record. Puerto Rico was already paying \$1,245.00 for the budget quota and \$202. for diocesan missions and \$133. for convocation expenses. A beginning was made towards a permanent Episcopal fund. There was already a committee on the support of the Episcopate as per Article VIII of our Constitution and Canons. He also, for the second time, made stress on the need of self support and the need also of a strong diocesan organization of the Woman's Auxiliary and a church school service league.

Bishop Ferrando, by resolution of the House of Bishops at the 1925 General Convention, was assigned to undertake the work of translating into Spanish for the various Spanish speaking districts. A short compilation from the Book of Common Prayer had been made by a committee from the districts, upon which Bishop Ferrando had represented Puerto Rico, and was ready for the printers.

At the 1927 convocation it was reported that a piece of land adjoining St. Andrew's mission had been purchased, giving to it nearly the entire square back of the mission buildings. The property at Stop 20, Santurce which had been rented for St. Catherine's Training School was purchased, enabling the school to enter a larger field of service. One of the rooms

in the house was remodelled into a splendid chapel. A chapel was built at Quebrada Ceiba, St. Matthew's, and another at El Mato, St. Peter's, both in the Quebrada Limón district. A summer camp was erected on a hill-top in Quebrada Limón called "Camp Peggy Rogan" for St. Catherine's school girls. This camp was given in memory of a girl from ~~a wealthy church family from~~ Glendale, Ohio.

Another notable piece of work begun in the district was the mission started at Las Cuevas, Trujillo Alto by Father Aristides Villafañe. This project was backed by Mr. F. VallSpinosa, a vestryman of St. John's Church who owned a large piece of land there and had given to the Church the necessary land for a chapel and a rectory. Services began in a tobacco shed owned by a nominal Roman Catholic neighbor. He and his family all were received into the Church. This shed was used during the week for cock fights. These were discontinued at the request of Father Villafañe soon after a congregation of some size was built up. Three students of St. Catherine's Training School assisted in the church school. The mission was called St. Hilda's.

At Barahona, Morovis the Rev. J. F. Droste started a mission connected with the Resurrection, Manati. The Rev. E. Reus-García who had been made a priest on Aug. 22, 1926 was placed in charge of the mission, holding services on week days and Holy Communion and Church School on Sundays. At first he used a motorcycle and later on a second hand Ford was purchased. The building, which had been remodelled into a fine chapel, had been a small movie house.

The rectory at All Saints, Vieques was destroyed by fire.

Through the generosity of certain members of St. Bernard's parish, Bernardsville, N. J. a winter conference was held at St. Andrew's, Mayaguez under the leadership of the Rev. T. A. Conover, rector of St. Bernard's. Miss Newbold, National Council Field Secretary of the Girls Friendly Society, Miss Adélaide Case of Columbia College, New York and Dr. Edmunds of

General Theological Seminary were the members of the faculty. A committee was appointed to draw up a curriculum for three years and to interest the Department of Education of the National Council in the project. Father Conover assisted Bishop Colmore, taking part in the Bishop's Crusade which was instituted at the last General Convention. Bishop Colmore requested the Presiding Bishop to relieve him of the work of the Church in the Dominican Republic so that he could devote all his time more effectively to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

For the first time in some years convocation, meeting at St. Thomas, V. I. on Jan. 23, 1928, received a new mission. St. Hilda's Mission, fulfilling all the canonical requirements, was accepted as an organized mission.

The 1929 convocation was held in Mayaguez, Jan. 21. Due to the tremendous hurricane that swept Puerto Rico on Sept. 13th the previous year, this convocation had to deal with ways and means for the rehabilitation of the island's work. The Bishop submitted a detailed list of estimates for replacing destroyed and damaged properties. General Convention, held in October, 1928 passed a resolution requesting the Church in the United States to provide the sum of \$202,600. for restoration of the Church's properties in Puerto Rico and South Florida which had also suffered severe damages on account of the same hurricane. St. Luke's Hospital was badly damaged and the residence of Father Reus García, assistant at El Coto de Manatí, was completely destroyed. The roof of the Church there was also blown away. The Chapel at Barahona was destroyed completely and there were several other minor damages to church properties in the Quebrada Limón and San Juan areas.

Advantage was taken of the hurricane conditions to change the residence of Father Reus-García from El Coto de Manati to Barahona with the idea in mind to extend our missionwork along the Ciales-Adjuntas road and join the Quebrada Limón missions on the southern part of the island, a project presented the previous year to convocation by Bishop Ferrando. The plan meant

also moving a clergyman to Adjuntas to live and the building of two country chapels. Bishop Colmore asked the endorsement of the project and backing financially. He mentioned of course the need of more clergy and again reminded convocation of his plans for the establishment of a seminary in San Juan near the center of church work already developing, to ask for the appointment of a priest with whose family these students would live, to instruct and order their lives, making use of the high school and university for scholastic instruction and of any of the clergy in the district who might be willing and able to assist in the teaching. Convocation passed a resolution endorsing the project of establishing new work between Utuado and Adjuntas but no financial backing of it. There were already two young Puertorrican men at DuBose School, Messrs. Lauro Bauzá and Luis Castro Quesada. There were four others applying for postulanship.

As a beginning towards self support a resolution was passed that all missions in the district be expected to raise a certain percentage of the total salary of the priest in charge, to be decided by convocation, and the amount be deducted from the salary of the priest. Convocation did not decide as to the percentage. This action was taken in response to Bishop Colmore's statement in his annual address stressing again the point that a beginning should be made toward self support and to increase it every year. It was very convincing. St. Hilda's Chapel was built and it was consecrated on Dec. 27, 1928.

St. John's Church was sold in May, 1928 and the proceeds were to be used toward the construction of a new church in Santurce. In the meantime services were held in St. Catherine's School Chapel.

A home for the missionary agriculturist was build in Quebrada Limón. A site had been purchases (four acres) at the highest point on the Yauco-Lares Road for the building of a modest rest house for clergy and other

church workers. The money for the project was raised by Mrs. Colmore and Mrs. Boynton who visited the district the winter before. A new rectory was built in Vieques to replace the one destroyed by fire.

The first two Puertorricans to attend the Provincial Synod as deputies, elected by convocation, were Father Aristides Villafañe who attended in 1927 and Father Reus García in 1929. Both had wonderful experiences in learning first hand about the work of the Church in the Province.

Dr. John W. Wood, Executive Secretary of the Department of Missions, visited Puerto Rico from March 25 to April 4, 1929. His visit was of great benefit materially, especially in a better understanding of our aims, policy and methods in prosecuting God's work in Puerto Rico.

The winter conference of this year was a great success and blessing. Besides Father Conover other distinguished personalities contributed to the success of the conference, - Dr. E. C. Chorley, Miss Mabel Cooper, Miss Marian C. Ward and Miss Mildred Brown. We had a visit also from Miss Josephine Bumstead, Latin American Secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary of Massachusetts.

Ground was broken on Feb. 22 for St. John's Church and St. Catherine's Training School and the corner stone laid on St. John the Baptist Day. St. Catherine's School moved into their building during the Christmas holidays and appropriate services of dedication were held on New Year's Day. This building cost nearly forty thousand dollars.

A property was purchased on Robles Street not far from the Church for the use of the seminary. The value of it was \$12,000.

A small building was added to the property at St. Hilda's, affording room for a clinic which was a great need in the community. Referring to this the Bishop said: "As stated in my address last year, I repeat that this is, to my mind, our most important and necessary future development. We have adopted the policy of seeking the unshepherded in the rural dis-

tricts of this island and everywhere we have undertaken it great success had attended our efforts, so much that we are being urged on many sides to extend the church work into other communities. Fathers Aristides Villafañe, Reus García, Droste and Locke are all trying to answer the call that has repeatedly come to them. Other fields have been offered but our present staff of clergy is unable to accept. Five young men are ready to enter our seminary in September."

The 1930 convocation was held at the Bishop's Chapel and Episcopal residence in the Condado on Feb. 13 and 14. The Bishop reported the death of Miss Sarah Davidson, parish worker in Vieques, at the age of eighty-two, having worked in the field for almost twenty-five years. She was buried at the Quebrada Limón Cemetery, having died at St. Luke's Hospital in Ponce on Jan. 30, 1930. Father Hermenegildo Maldonado, missionary priest at Quebrada Limón, died on Dec. 10, 1929 also at St. Luke's Hospital and was buried at Quebrada Limón. These were two great losses to the Church in Puerto Rico.

With the Hurricane Emergency Fund damages caused by the hurricane in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands were repaired. A new church and rectory was built in Barahona, Morovis and also at Quebrada Ceiba, Peñuelas.

The Bishop reported the acceptance, with the consent of the Council of Advice, of Father Felipe E. Cintron, a former Roman priest, as a priest of this Church, with the understanding that he would be employed in missionary work among Spanish speaking people in New York City, and the invitation to Father Julio Garrett, an ex-Roman Bishop of Bolivia, S. A., to work in the Church in Puerto Rico.

For the first time the Bishop's address was translated into Spanish and printed in the Journal of 1930; also an estimate of property valuation as of 1930 including properties in the Virgin Islands. In his address the Bishop made the following important remarks: "I know from

twenty-six years' experience in Latin America that a priest or parish worker or teacher can accomplish ten fold, even one hundred fold more with their own people than can a worker of equal knowledge and ability who comes from the outside. We have already opened our training school for clergy and the Rev. Victor Dowdell, PhD. has been appointed for this work. Father Aristides Villafañe has also given his time and interest to this institution, taking care of it temporarily, until our regular warden may come. I hope that there will be four students at the beginning of this week and that in the course of a very few years we will be ordaining more young men to the priesthood. These two institutions (St. Catherine's and Seminario San Miguel) will supply our missions in Puerto Rico with Puertorrican men and women who are needed to carry out the work of the Episcopal Church in this island.

The new church building for St. John the Baptist was completed and used regularly since Feb. 2, 1930. On May 30, 1930 St. Joseph's Chapel at Caimito, Río Piedras was consecrated. This building was largely constructed with lumber salvaged from the old St. Catherine's building. The history of this mission is closely connected with that of St. Hilda's at Las Cuevas and as a project of the extension work undertaken by Father Aristides Villafañe.

On Sept. 14 the Chapel of the Transfiguration at Las Rubias was consecrated. This is built on the land purchased for the diocesan rest house, Quinta Tranquila, and a large part of the building is made of material from St. Luke's Hospital after it was demolished.

On Oct. 13 the Chapel of the Epiphany was consecrated in Barrio La Yeguada near Vega Baja. This mission was connected with the Church of the Resurrection, El Coto de Manati. Father John Droste and his wife had bought the land and constructed the building and turned it over to the Church.

On May 11th the dispensary building at the Ascension Mission in Bar-

ahona, Morovis was blessed. This little building was also constructed with lumber salvaged from old St. Catherine's building and the labor paid through a gift made to Father Reus Garcia by Mrs. Flora Swiggett of St. John's Church, Santurce.

The Church of the Resurrection at El Coto, after the enlargement and remodeling, ~~was consecrated~~ and the new parish house, built during the year, ^{were} blessed on Oct. 26, 1930.

Another property was purchased at Mayaguez with a gift from the Girls' Friendly Society of the United States as their annual missionary effort. This property completed the church control of the entire block in which St. Andrew's Mission is situated.

The new revised edition of the Book of Common Prayer translated into Spanish arrived in Puerto Rico. The book had been reduced in size by the elimination of certain portions which were not commonly needed in the pews and by the use of much thinner paper. The splendid work of translation was done mostly in the Missionary District of Cuba and the Bishop of Cuba, as chairman of the committee, was in charge of the publication of it. In reporting about this matter Bishop Colmore made this statement: "It is well said that the Book of Common Prayer is one of the greatest missionaries the Church sends out and I am very glad to be able to record here the arrival and use of the new revision of the Prayer Book translated into Spanish."

The Hymnal prepared and edited by Father Haughwout was getting old, it needed revision and enlargement and many missions had few left while the new ones had hardly any, but the Bishop had to say that there was no hope of an early publication of an adequate Church Hymnal and recommended the continual use of the present one and the reprinting of more copies as needed.

In regard to Religious Education we were facing a critical situation. A great number of people had been brought into the Church, particularly

children in our Church Schools and they needed to be carefully instructed in the doctrines and teachings of the Church. This situation was one of the most important issues in the work of the district. Miss Ruth Johnson of Hartford, Conn. had been supplying for Miss Robinson while she was in the United States on sick leave, and had been giving instruction to St. Catherine's seniors in Sunday School work and carrying on model Church School classes and was preparing weekly lessons translated into Spanish which were to be used in the district after approval by the committee on Religious Education.

St. John's School (day) in the Condado ceased to be a church institution and continued under the auspices of a committee of patrons. The new arrangement met with reasonable success. This school was not receiving the necessary amount of financial support from the parents of the children and presented a financial loss each year even in addition to the amount spent annually by the Department of Missions. The appropriation was transferred to the school at Quebrada Limón.

St. Andrew's Craft Shop, under the able direction of Miss Mildred Hayes, especially trained for that kind of work, was progressing and meeting with great success. It is not only an industrial shop but also a school where the girls learn and are trained in the different arts of craftsmanship.

In regard to Advance Work, at the General Convention of 1928 held in Washington, D. C. it was decided that in the last year of the triennium the Church should make the determined effort to raise one and a half million dollars for advance work in the mission field throughout the Church. Puerto Rico had an assignment of projects: - St. Mark's Church, Magueyes, Holy Trinity Rectory, Ponce, and of course the Virgin Islands had a chapel at St. Thomas, land and a new rectory for St. John's, Christiansted. Father Reus García had been sent by the National Council

on a speaking tour in the diocese of Georgia and Texas. Due to the depression, these two dioceses were not able to meet their full obligations and only Magueyes, Ponce and St. John's , Christiansted, received in part the benefits of the campaign.

Frs. Cintrón and Garrett were finally officially received from the Roman Communion, Father Cintrón continuing in charge of the Spanish work in New York under the auspices of the diocese of New York and Fr. Garrett as assistant at St/ Andrew's- Mayaguez.

The Spanish work at the Cathedral began as soon as the new Church building was opened in February 1930, at Santurce, stop 20. Many of the members of St. Luke's Church in Pta. de Tierra, had moved to Santurce, particularly to Barrio Obrero. Fr. Aristides Villafañe, besides his duties at St. Luke's, undertook the hard job of getting together those that had moved to this growing section of San Juan Capital city. They were greatly scattered about and it was rather difficult to bring them to St. John's due to the difficulty in transportation and in those days and also money was scarce. Nevertheless, with the vocation and fighting spirit of Fr. Aristides, he was able to bring them gradually to the Church in Santurce.

In the Journal of Convocation for 1931, there appears for the first time the Spanish Congregation at St. John's. The vital statistics showing already 30 communicants and a congregation of 75 baptized persons. The Sunday School had already 21 children with four teachers. The total receipts for the year 1930 were \$80.40 of which \$45 were paid to Missionary Quota.

The 1941 Journal contains a statement by Fr. Aristides Villafañe, in regard to the closing of St. Luke's Mission at Pta. de Tierra, that reads as follows: "This Mission was officially discontinued on the 9th of September of last year(1940). For some years past it had been the purpose

of concentrating all the work of the Church in San Juan in one central place. So when St. John's Church was built in Santurce, I started to establish on firm basis our Spanish congregation there. Later on my brother, the Rev. Domingo Villafañe, began to hold services at the "Urbanización Roosevelt" where some of our Church people had moved from Pta. de Tierra. As a result of this work a congregation has been organized there last year (1940), through the effort of Bishop Colmore a concrete Chapel was built, and the work is developing quite well. This is the Mission of the Incarnation and they have already taken over the obligations of St. Luke's Mission.

No doubt the new arrangement is much more practical, and the few Church people who still live at Pta. de Tierra come to St. John's Cathedral in Santurce."

St. Luke's building had suffered damages of two cyclons and an earthquake- by this time it was in a dangerous condition and beyond repairs.

Today, the Spanish congregation at the Cathedral, has 500 baptized persons, 300 communicants and 134 children in the Church School with nine teachers. The total receipts for the year 1951 were \$3692.22 and the expenditures were \$3651.52, including \$525 paid towards Diocesan and General Church work. In nearly 22 years, this congregation has grown to be one of the largest and most promising in our Missionary District. ^{Some} ~~Good many~~ of our Church people from Mayaguez, Ponce and other districts of the Islands, that had moved to the metropolitan area, have made St. John's Spanish congregation their spiritual home.

On Nov. 16, 1931, Father Antonio Villafaña, who had been transferred already from Mayaguez to Vieques, was now transferred from Vieques to Quebrada Limón, as Priest in charge. Father Modesto Rivera was transferred from Ponce to Vieques; Father Cortés from Quebrada Limón to Ponce and Father Maldonado from Magueyes to St. Peter's, Marueño (El Mato). St. Mark's in Magueyes was transferred from the jurisdiction of Quebrada Limón to that of Ponce as it was considered more convenient to be cared for.

In 1932, April the 12th, Convocation met at Quebrada Limón for the first time as guest of the Mission. Fr. Antonio Villafaña was the Priest in charge. At this Convocation it was reported that during the year 1931 a new clinic had been opened at Magueyes and another one at Quebrada Limón under the direction of Dr. Leigh Stock. These clinics had done a splendid piece of work at the country missions, but had to be discontinued a year later due to the resignation of Dr. Stock and her decision to join a religious order in the United States.

Pursuant to the policy of interesting ourselves particularly in the extension of the Church's work in the rural districts, Fr. Garrett had been devoting part of his efforts to the work in the mountains between Mayaguez and Yauco. The Mission of the Transfiguration was organized, as was also the Mission of St. Anne in the municipality of Sabana Grande. Both were received by Convocation as organized Missions. From the Church of the Ascension in Barahona, Morovis, Fr. Reus-García had gone to Pugnado on the southern hills of Manatí and had established the new Mission of the Holy Apostles which was accepted as an organized Mission in May 1930.

~~Holy Apostles, accepted as an organized mission in May 1930.~~

The insistence on our part upon the catholicity of the Episcopal Church was having its effect upon the people. While at first there seemed to be some suspicion of us the large number of baptisms administered at these missions showed that the people had given the Church their entire confidence and had recognized her as fulfilling their spiritual needs and requirements.

Since Sept. 1, 1931 Father Bartolomé Bover, an ex-Roman priest, became a temporary assistant instructor at the Seminary. The Bishop gave him temporary license to officiate in the district.

At the ¹⁹³¹ convocation the Bishop requested the increase of the diocesan mission funds in view of the increasing work in the district. Convocation increased this item from \$152. to \$304. and also the missionary quota from \$1,200. to \$1,400.

It was ^{also} announced that it was necessary to reduce all salaries throughout the missionary field by ten percent and in addition four percent of non-salary items due to the fact that the dioceses had not promised enough support for the general work of the Church.

A fine concrete school building was constructed at El Coto, Manatí during the summer of 1931. The Board of Trustees of the Church of Jesus, at the request of Bishop Ferrando, transferred all the property at Quebrada Limón not held by our Church to the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society. The National Council accepted it with thanks and appreciation.

~~The death of the Rev. Arthur R. Gray, D.D., Jan 11, 1933, for many years closely associated with the Missionary Society, was a tremendous loss to the Church, particularly to Puerto Rico. A very intimate personal friend and one of long standing of Bishop Colmore he had been a very good friend to Puerto Rico, particularly in helping the work at El Coto de Manatí and Quebrada Limón.~~

During the year 1932 Father Louis G. Meyer came to us from the Roman Communion; Father Garrett moved to the new rectory at Las Rubias, becoming priest in charge of the Church there; Father Reus García was transferred from Barahona to be priest in charge of Holy Trinity, Ponce, the first native Puerto Rican to hold the charge.

The world-wide depression and the necessary consequent reduction in contributions for mission work had serious effect in Puerto Rico. The reduction in appropriations by the National Council had forced the Church in Puerto Rico to study the relative value of our work and to determine what could be dispensed with with the least possible detriment, still carrying on the Master's work. The Quebrada Limón farm business was temporarily discontinued. The Seminary was also closed temporarily and the students were sent to their several missions and continued studying under the priest in charge and helping in the work there, the Bishop supervising this training periodically.

The Chapel of St. Anne at Indiera Fria at Sabana Grande, a wooden building given by Mr. Felix Lopez, built on land given by Mr. Agustin Pietri, was consecrated and the rectory of the Transfiguration at Las Rubias was dedicated the same year.

The hurricane of Sept. 26, 1932 caused the total destruction of both church and rectory in Vieques. Mrs. Rivera, wife of the priest in charge suffered injuries and almost lost an eye. The Church of San José, Caimito, Rio Piedras, the Church of the Epiphany, La Yeguada in Vega Baja and the dispensary at St. Hilda's Mission, Las Cuevas, Trujillo Alto were also completely destroyed. St. Luke's Church, Puerta de Tierra, the Bishop's house in the Condado, St. Hilda's Church and the Church and rectory at Manatí suffered considerable damages. After consultation with the priest in charge it was decided not to rebuild the Church at La Yeguada nor the dispensary at St. Hilda's. An appeal was made to the National Council for \$12,000. for a repair and rebuilding program.

At the ¹⁹³³ convocation the Bishop mentioned the observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the Oxford Movement in the Church of England and asked convocation to take the occasion of the anniversary to pledge ourselves anew to a spiritual devotion to the Church in her doctrines, ministry and sacraments.

The "Iglesia Viviente" was again republished, this time experimenting on a self-supporting basis.

Mention was made of the organization of the priests in the southern district of the island, forming a clericus, having regular monthly meetings where they discussed matters pertaining to the Church and of common interest and benefit.

Owing to the financial stringency in the general church the work in Puerto Rico had been curtailed in various directions during the years 1932 and 1933. Reductions were made in the appropriation to St. Luke's Hospital and St. Andrew's school was closed.

A new plan for the seminary students was put into operation, meeting the students for one week each month for intensive instruction at the Rest House under the Bishop and two priests of the district. On Mar. 27, 1934 three of the students, Messrs. Ramón Quiñones, Lauro Bauzá and Domingo Villafañe were ordained deacons. Mr. Quiñones was placed in charge of the Ascension, Barahona, Mr. Villafañe assisted at St. Luke's, Puerta de Tierra and Mr. Bauzá at Holy Trinity Church, Ponce. These new deacons continued their studies at the monthly seminary for another year and were ordained priests July 4, 1935 at Holy Trinity Church, Ponce.

More reductions were made during the year to the effect that the National Council had to set a policy in the missionary program. -

1) In schools and hospitals rapid progress toward self-support, consolidation or abandonment and substitution of native workers for American missionaries.

2) In evangelical work a rigid and thorough examination of all American personnel so that only the very best would remain in the field.

3) The adoption of diocesan plans for progressive self-support of national clergy as is already done in Shanghai and Japan.

This matter brought again to convocation the question of self-support. A resolution was passed that a quota of one percent, increasing it progressively for three years, on the basic salary of each priest in charge of a mission not paying at the time less than twenty percent of his salary be accepted; that the said quota be included with that of the Permanent Episcopal Fund; that at the end of three years convocation would decide what to do with such funds. The Treasurer of Convocation was to keep separate accounts of these funds. No penalty would be imposed for the inability to pay such quota. The Bishop had suggested in his address that for five years the amount of one percent be accepted and increased so that at the end of five years we would be paying five percent on basic salaries.

Convocation elected for the first time a native Puerto^Rican as deputy to General Convention in the person of Father Aristides Villafañe. The Bishop also requested that a concrete resolution to be presented to General Convention regarding the change of name for the Church in Puerto Rico be drawn up by a committee appointed for the purpose. The year before a resolution was passed but no definite suggestion was made.

St. Mark's Church at Magueyes was consecrated on Feb. 14, 1934. Major repairs were made to St. Luke's Church, Puerta de Tierra and to the Bishop's house. The Church of San José, Caimito, Rio Piedras was entirely rebuilt in a more permanent form and consecrated on Sept. 24, 1933. The Church and rectory at Vieques, rebuilt on the same property, - a fine permanent reinforced concrete building, - ~~was~~ consecrated by Father Garret by a delegation from the Bishop, on Palm Sunday, March 25, 1934.

Father Modesto Rivera was greatly congratulated upon the conclusion of the work. Eight more acres of land were purchased and added to the Quinta Tranquila property which, with the nine acres formerly purchased, made a fine piece of property of seventeen acres around the Quinta on which coffee, citrus fruits and bananas have been planted. The day school at Quebrada Limón was discontinued and a nurse was employed to look after the clinic and to visit the sick members of the mission. Only one day school was left going in the district, that at El Coto, Manatí. All other schools had been closed due to lack of funds. ^{nearly} all the Puerto ^Rican teachers, graduates from St. Catherine's Training School, had resigned and gone to work for the government or moved to the United States in search of better opportunities. Only two parish workers and two teachers, graduates of St. Catherine's, were still working for the Church. On the other hand we had twenty Spanish speaking missions, one parish and one English mission, with twelve Spanish speaking priests, ~~t~~ of which ~~were native Puerto Ricans; two continental American priests and two Europeans doing Spanish work.~~

The death of Bishop Ferrando on Dec. 12, 1934 was reported to convocation by Bishop Colmore, with a brief history of his life and works, particularly the establishment of the Church of Jesus in the Ponce - Peñuelas districts. Through the ministration to some of the people of the Church of Jesus by Father Haughwout, at the time rector of Holy Trinity Church, Ponce, contact was made with that work and with Bishop Ferrando.

In regard to the matter of self-support at a meeting of the National Council held in April 1934 a resolution was passed urging all missionary districts to adopt plans similar to those adopted by Shanghai and Japan, and asking the missionary bishops in the foreign field to report to the Council their judgment as to how soon and in what way such a plan could

be put into operation in their districts. Bishop Colmore said: "My feeling is that in Puerto Rico we must depend largely upon the land for a living and that therefore every mission should have a piece of land at its disposal from which it might draw some income for self-support. I stand ready to do all in my power to help secure funds for the purchase of a reasonable amount of land for any mission in which interest is manifested in this matter." Due to further reductions in the budget St. Catherine's School was closed in June, 1934, a further cut was made in St. Luke's Hospital appropriation, in certain salary items and another four and one-half percent in all salaries received from New York. St. Andrew's Craft Shop was contributing the amount of \$1,000. to help in the emergency. On the other hand our missionary quota had been increased from \$1,400. to \$1,750. This included the Virgin Islands who were to pay \$290.00 towards this obligation.

The canon governing lay representation in convocation was amended so as to reduce it to one lay representative for each organized mission and two for each parish. This change was due to the fact that it had become rather difficult to entertain all the delegates, particularly when convocation was held in a small town or rural mission, besides the fact also that there was an inequality in representation, - a small mission had the same representation as a parish or large mission.

Convocation was held in St. Thomas on April 14, 1936. ~~The delegation from Puerto Rico made the trip in the U. S. Coast Guard "Marion" through the kindness of the acting governor of the Virgin Islands at the request of Father Swinson.~~ Two new missions were reported at this convocation, St. Bartholomew's at Bartolo, Lares and Annunciation at Rancheras, Yauco. Land was purchased at both missions, twelve and eight acres respectively, with a house at each place where services were held until a church could be built. These properties were purchased by the Bishop with funds raised

locally and gifts from friends in the United States. The two clergymen in that district responsible for the opening of these new missions offered to increase their work with no extra remuneration except traveling expenses.

The Rev. John F. Droste retired from active work on account of age as priest in charge of the Resurrection, El Coto, Manatí after a long and faithful ministry in Puerto Rico. At this time there were no candidates or postulants and the Bishop asked the clergy that through a sermon at least once a year the people of the Church be instructed in the duty to provide material for the sacred ministry and young men inspired to offer themselves for this vocation.

~~The work of the school at El Coto, Manatí had continued through the generosity of a friend of the Bishop's in the United States. This was the only day school that the Church was running in the district, the last one to be closed for lack of funds.~~

On March 25, 1936 the Rev. Messrs. J. Pastor Ruiz and Rafael D. Pagán who had been ordained deacons in June, 1935 were advanced to the priesthood at St. Andrew's Church, Mayaguez. Father Garrett was moved to the Church of the Resurrection at El Coto, Manatí and Father Louis Meyer was transferred from Mayaguez where he was assisting to the Transfiguration, Las Rubias, Yauco. A clinic was opened also at El Cota with Mrs. Garrett, a graduate nurse from St. Luke's in charge of the work.

During the year 1937 a little more progress was made in the extension of the work of the Church in the City of Ponce. Two chapels were built, "La Sagrada Familia" in barrio Nuevo Norte and "San Antonio" in barrio Cuatro Calles, both chapels built with money raised locally by people and clergy of Holy Trinity Parish. A mortuary chapel was built in the cemetery at Quebrada Limón in memory of Bishop Ferrando with money raised by parishioners of the Quebrada Limón missions and friends of the

Bishop, the clergy and a large part contributed by Mr. Valois Pagán of Ponce who directed the work of the building.

A mortuary fund was created to pay funeral expenses of any priest, his wife or lay worker, each priest or lay worker to pay \$1.50 and each organized mission \$1.00. Payments to the fund are made as deaths occur in the district.

A piece of land in Bayamón, given to the Church in the days of Bishop VanBuren, was sold and the money used to purchase a piece of land with a house at Pugnado, the house to be remodelled and used as a chapel for the mission of the Holy Apostles.

A gift of \$1,000. was given by the women of the Diocese of Central New York for a dispensary building (concrete) at Barahona to substitute the old wooden structure. This new building not only serves as a clinic but also as class rooms for the Church School.

A house was purchased and remodeled into a chapel for St. Paul's Mission at Pastillo (Ponce-Peñuelas Road). For fourteen years a small rented quarter had been used for the purpose.

The Rev. Lorenzo Alvarez, formerly a priest in the Roman Communion, was received into the Church and assigned to the Church of the Atonement as assistant priest.

Father Saylor had been appointed Archdeacon by Bishop Colmore and given charge of the supervision of the work in the western end of the island, including the work at the Transfiguration, St. Bartholomew's, St. Anne's, the Annunciation and St. Matthew's, (Quebrada Ceiba, Peñuelas.) For the first time the district had an archdeacon. Father Saylor in his report to convocation mentioned his visits to Guanica Central where he held services irregularly.

On the 17th of December, 1938 Bishop Colmore completed twenty-five years of service as Bishop of Puerto Rico. On Sunday the 18th a large con-

gregation gathered at St. John's Church in Santurce for the celebration of this event at which he received many expressions of loyalty and affection. At this service, the Parish of St. John's through its senior warden presented a set of resolutions offering the Church of St. John, with all its furniture and facilities, to be used as the cathedral. The offer was accepted and a temporary organization was set up known as St. John's Cathedral. At the 1939 convocation the Bishop asked the Committee on Canons to draw up a suitable canon for the government of the cathedral to be presented at the next convocation.

Mention was made of five new postulants, three of them sons of clergymen at the time studying in the United States and the other two in Puerto Rico.

After twenty-five years of Episcopal labor in Puerto Rico Bishop Colmore presented the Church with the following picture: Seventeen priests, fifteen of which were Spanish speaking; one parish and twenty-one missions; one hospital; one day school; one industrial school (St. Andrew's Craft Shop, Mayaguez); four mission clinics; a diocesan organization of the Woman's Auxiliary; one of the Girls' Friendly Society. There were 6,700 baptized persons, 2,882 communicants and 3,044 church school children. Total receipts were \$6,620.41 and \$1,610.93 was paid towards the missionary quota for the year 1938. The two farms, El Coto, Manatí with thirty-six acres of land and Quebrada Limón with two hundred and fifty were providing work for the people of their respective communities. El Coto farm had produced \$575.73 and Quebrada Limón \$2,108.03. At St. Andrew's Craft Shop the amount of \$5,871.93 had been paid for labor, having assets in the amount of \$10,462.06.

This convocation in 1939 was held at St. Paul's Parish, Frederiksted, St. Croix. The death of Miss Carmen García, one of our teachers educated at St. Elizabeth's and St. Catherine's, was announced. She died while at

sea a day after leaving Puerto Rico. She was the first one to use the mortuary fund provided by convocation the previous year. Due to the death of Bishop Hulse of Cuba in April, 1938 the Presiding Bishop requested Bishop Colmore to take charge of the work in Cuba until a new Bishop could be elected. For this reason the Bishop had to make two trips to Cuba during the year.

Father Saylor retired early in 1939 after nearly twenty-two years of faithful service at St. Andrew's, Mayaguez. Both he and Mrs. Saylor were very much loved and their retirement was deeply felt by their parishioners and the district in general.

Father Primitivo Maldonado had to retire after a serious illness.

The Bishop withdrew his request for a diocesan canon governing the Cathedral. The three congregations would continue under their respective priests, the Bishop acting as dean and the two priests in charge were appointed resident canons. These were Fathers Bruce Reddish and Aristides Villafañe. Two honorary canons were also appointed, the Rev. J. A. Swinson representing the Virgin Island clergy and the Rev. Julio Garrett representing the Puertorrican clergy.

The mountain work in the Yauco-Lares district continued to develop and extend. Carrizales, Bucarobones, Rio Prieto, Los Rabanos and Mirasol had been added as mission stations and were served by the priests in that jurisdiction.

St. Luke's Church, Puerta de Tierra, no longer needed there was sold in September, 1940 for \$15,000. ~~and permission from the National Council was obtained~~ and the money was used for the construction of an auditorium in connection with the parish house at the Cathedral.

At Rancheras, Yauco, a very nice church and rectory were built and both were consecrated and blessed on Dec. 20, 1940.

At Roosevelt, Hato Rey, a new church was built and dedicated on Jan.

6, 1941. The work at Roosevelt was started by the Rev. Fathers Domingo and Aristides Villafañe. The first confirmation class was presented May 7, 1939 at the Cathedral. The Church of the Incarnation is well located on a piece of land in the center of this new community, leased for ninety-nine years. This property was finally bought in 1950.

A small parish hall was built at the Church of the Transfiguration, Las Rubias, Yauco.

Dr. Donald F. Gowe was ordained deacon on April 27, 1941 and priest on Nov. 9th of the same year.

The Rev. Charles F. Boynton arrived with his family on Jan. 12, 1942 to be priest in charge of St. Andrew's, Mayaguez.

The new church of St. Mary the Virgin at Clausells, Ponce was consecrated on Nov. 30, 1941.

A very nice rectory of wood was built at St. Bartholomew's mission and 6.25 acres of land were purchased, together with a house, and added to the property at Quinta Tranquila. The house was rented to the government for a clinic established there through the efforts of the priest in charge.

At the convocation of 1942 the Bishop brought up the matter of the separation of the Virgin Islands from the Missionary District of Puerto Rico. There were several fundamental reasons for this separation. A resolution was presented to the House of Bishops. In the meantime the Bishop had been meeting with the Virgin Island clergy in what they called "regional conferences."

Good news for the clergy in Puerto Rico was given by the Bishop at the 1943 convocation. The National Council had, in principle, adopted a pay table for the national (native) clergy and other church workers in Puerto Rico on a basis of premium for length of service to the Church and a promise of increase of salaries during the year, a minimum of \$600. and a maximum of \$1,500.

Again the National Council asked the Bishop of Puerto Rico for his conviction as to the proper future strategy for the Church in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, meaning the strengthening and expansion of the work, if we were allowed twenty percent increase in our appropriations and one hundred percent increase. The Bishop mentioned as the chief necessity the educational facilities,- if twenty percent were allowed to use it in the nursery school at St. Luke's, a school at St. Croix, V. I., addition of two priests and an agricultural and mechanical school at Quebrada Limón,- but if more appropriation be given to employ it in more educational institutions and for providing more clergy in various locations and capacities. There was need of a priest to be called an archdeacon or by any other name who would be able to go at any time to the assistance of a parish priest ill or under any special strain, to hold parochial missions or do some special work.

There was another great and urgent need, that of church literature in Spanish, especially material for church schools and confirmation classes, and tracts giving general information about the Church.

There was already a committee on the Hymn Book working regularly on a revised edition of the one in use.

An increase of \$562. on our quota for general missions was reported, this including our offerings for British missions which had suffered tremendously on account of World War II.

On Nov. 15, 1942 Mr. F. Reus-Froylán was ordained deacon at Holy Trinity Church where his father was priest in charge.

Mr. Victor Manuel Rivera, a candidate for Holy Orders, had gone to the Divinity School of the Pacific in California and Mr. Raul Mattei was a postulant studying at DuBose School, Tennessee.

Dr. Roy Stokes, Director of St. Luke's, who had been doing a magnificent work in cooperation with Dr. D. F. Gowe, was called to duty in the navy

since March 1942. Dr. Gowe was acting director, at the same time helping faithfully at Holy Trinity, particularly with choir work and young people's activities. Dr. Gowe had been a tremendous help and an inspiration in the work at Holy Trinity.

Miss Mildred Hayes, one of the oldest missionaries in the Church in point of service resigned her position as head of St. Andrew's Craft Shop and went to the United States. She had been working for the Church since 1914. She had built the shop from nothing to the formidable business which it is to-day. Mrs. Boynton was appointed to take her place interim.

For many months the Bishop had been in poor health. His doctors had recommended rest and precaution on account of his heart condition. His great concern of course was the choosing of a successor who could continue his work along the same policy he had followed in the island considering our culture and traditions. At the General Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio Bishop Colmore requested the election of a suffragan bishop, but to his happy surprise he got a coadjutor who would succeed him automatically at the time of his death or retirement which was not far from that date. The election fell on Father Boynton who had been with us for the last two years and had learned a great deal about the work and the Bishop's policy. Father Boynton was consecrated Bishop at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Jan. 2, 1944, Bishop Colmore being the consecrator and the bishops of Milwaukee and New Jersey the co-consecrators. The Bishop of Nassau assisted in the ceremony.

Bishop Boynton's consecration was not only the first one of a bishop of the Anglican Communion in Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands but it was the first consecration of a Bishop Coadjutor for any missionary district of the Episcopal Church. The canons of the Church were amended to make possible the election of Bishop Boynton for Puerto Rico.

It was in Ponce that two Bishops presided at convocation held at Holy

Trinity Church, Feb. 15, 1944. The election and consecration of a Bishop Coadjutor for Puerto Rico relieved greatly the burden on Bishop Colmore's shoulders and he began to improve in health.

Upon the request of the bishops of the three Spanish speaking districts the Presiding Bishop appointed a committee consisting of the said three bishops to prepare a new translation of the Book of Common Prayer in Spanish. The Department of Missions of the National Council was to provide for its publication. At each district a committee was elected to prepare suggested changes. A meeting was arranged to take place in Havana, Cuba.

The Department of Religious Education of the National Council in New York was interested in coordinating the efforts of the three Spanish-speaking districts in providing church school literature and suggested that representatives from the three districts meet in Havana, Cuba with Dr. McMaster to decide upon the literature to be compiled and translated.

The plans for the establishment of a farm school at Quebrada Limón had taken shape. The Rev. Ralph K. Webster was appointed for the work and a generous appropriation for the work was expected.

On June 29, 1943 the Bishop of California ordained Mr. Victor Manuel Rivera to the diaconate at the request of Bishop Colmore. Victor Manuel is the son of the Rev. Victor Rivera and nephew of the Rev. Modesto Rivera. On Aug. 15, 1943 the Rev. Deacon F. Reus-Froylán was ordained priest at St. John's Cathedral, Santurce.

The poor health of Father Modesto Rivera had forced him to seek retirement from active duty, the Church Pension Fund having granted him a pension. The retirement of Father Modesto was a great loss to the Church for he had done a magnificent piece of work in Vieques where he had been not only a very active priest but a splendid pastor, friend and doctor of the community.

On Nov. 26, 1943 the Bishop sent a statement to the clergy in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in regard to the matter of receiving Holy Communion, making it emphatic that it is at the will of the individual and not of the priest to decide the matter of receiving in one or both kinds.

La Iglesia Viviente, our diocesan paper, appeared with the issue of June 1943 under a new name - "Revista Episcopal" - and in a new dress. It was a bi-lingual paper with the purpose of giving a review of the work of the Church in the whole missionary district, together with articles dealing with the teachings and practices of the Episcopal Church, serving to correct mistakes and clear up difficulties in the minds of the readers.

At the 1944 convocation the Committee on New Parishes and Missions recommended acceptance of the new organized missions of St. Andrew's Continental congregation in Mayaguez under Father Kenneth Hinds, and Santa Cruz, Castañer under Father Lauro Bauzá.

Father John F. Droste died at his home in Isla Verde, Santurce on May 14, 1944.

The Bishop of Puerto Rico, representing the Presiding Bishop, attended a conference of Bishops of the West Indian Provinces held at Jamaica in December, 1944, presided over by the Archbishop of the Province. The chief object of the meeting was that of discussing informally the matter of a more equal division of the territory of Central America in which our Church was greatly concerned due to our work in the Panama Canal Zone, and that instead of the American Church making an annual contribution to British missions she would rather assume the care of certain portions of their mission field that they might desire to transfer to us.

Father Aristides Villafañe attended a meeting of Religious Education workers of Latin America held at Havana, Cuba in June, 1944. The conference was presided over by Dr. McMaster of the National Council, and the same was both interesting and very valuable.

The Bishop and Father Garrett went to Cuba in June for a meeting of the Committee on the revision of the Prayer Book in Spanish. The Bishop ^{of} Mexico presided and the meetings which lasted ten days covered all the work that was to be done and almost ready for the printers.

At ^{a meeting of} the Executive Council ~~meeting~~ the matter of the salary table was discussed. We found out that the salary table for Cuban (natives) was more advantageous than ours. It was decided to request the National Council to apply the Cuban pay table to Puerto Rico as a matter of justice. Another matter considered by the Council was children's allowances. Bishop Boynton presented the matter to the National Council and both received favorable consideration.

The Woman's Auxiliary in the United States, due to the critical time of war prices, gave the Bishop of Puerto Rico for the triennium a sum of money to be distributed among the native clergy who had children. For this noble action convocation expressed its sincere thanks.

The matter of self support reached its maximum efficiency by the decision that each mission pay its clergyman the minimum of \$60.00 and a maximum of \$240.00 ^{per annum} according to the basic salary.

A committee on Theological Education was appointed by the Bishop to take care of the matter of training postulants and candidates for Holy Orders and seminary training.

By resolution of convocation the Committee on Constitution and Canons was instructed to codify all canons, amendments and resolutions from the year 1925 to the present time.

All clergy and lay workers were extended the benefits of the Blue Cross for hospitalization in case of illness by an action of the National Council at the request of the Bishops.

The quota for missions (general Church work) was increased to \$3,000. which was larger than that assigned to sixteen other dioceses and missionary districts.

The Rev. Canon Reddish reached the age of retirement and resigned in July, 1944. Canon Reddish had been connected with the district for several years and was the founder of the Confraternity of St. John the Baptist, an order to which only the clergy belonged.

The Rev. Deacon Victor Manuel Rivera was ordained priest at the Cathedral in Santurce on Sept. 24 and on Dec. 28 letters dimissory were given to him for the Missionary District of San Joaquin, California.

The position of Executive Secretary was created by the Bishops and Father Reus-García was appointed for the job, having been transferred from Holy Trinity Church, Ponce to the Incarnation in Roosevelt, Hato Rey in May, 1944. He was also appointed Treasurer of the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church in Puerto Rico. Having been a business man before he entered the priesthood he brought to the new work the exact type of technical training necessary.

Father Antonio Villafañe was transferred to Holy Trinity Church, which position also carried the duties of chaplain at St. Luke's Hospital. His success as a parish priest, his knowledge of the English language and long experience qualified him ideally for the position.

The Bishop called for a meeting of the Executive Council, which was held on April 19, 1945. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the details of the enforcement of the resolution passed by convocation in 1944 to put into effect the new plan of rural and city work and the creation of a new type of worker for the rural missions. It was approved that the new type of worker be known as "Misionero Laico", - the duties and obligations to be prescribed by the Bishops; and a maximum salary of \$300. per annum be paid; to receive adequate instruction for their office; to have an eighth grade diploma or its equivalent and to be of age. Requirements to establish permanent new work, were also established.

The mission of San Rafael was accepted as an organized mission. This

mission was started by Father Ruiz and was the first effort of the Church to move its activities into the towns and cities of Puerto Rico. Father Ruiz had established a chapel in his house ever since he moved into Yauco in 1945.

On May 26, 1945 the Theological Education Committee held a very important meeting to draw up a plan of training men for the sacred ministry in a seminary to be located in San Juan. The committee was in agreement with the general feeling of the National Council that wherever possible it was best to train national clergy in their native land and under local conditions. The plan involved training postulants, beginning with their junior year in highschool on through their full theological course and including the deaconate year. The National Council adopted the Puerto Rico Theological Education Plan, exclusive of the highschool, and approved the furnishing of funds to put into effect college and seminary training. At a later meeting the Bishop Coadjutor was named Dean of the Seminary, Father Whitley as warden and Father ReusGarcía as chaplain. The Bishop and Canons were appointed instructors. This new seminary was named "Seminario San Miguel" and was opened Aug. 17, 1945 with two postulants attending university and one candidate for Holy Orders doing regular seminary work.

Four Sisters of the Transfiguration arrived in San Juan on Dec. 11, 1945. A small convent was built in Ponce on the hospital grounds, part of the cost being provided from hospital funds, but the greater part from the Community itself. They took up work in the parishes in Ponce and at the hospital.

The first report of the "Colegio de Agricultura de San José" at Quebrada Limón showed that eight boys had finished their first year's course with the school and all of them returned for the second year's work. During the new year eighteen new boys entered the school. The ninth grade

was added in the plan to add a grade every year until all the grades through high school could be offered. The Department of Education had accredited the school and their inspectors had made regular visits during the year, showing a fine spirit of cooperation and encouragement. Several prominent business men of Ponce had taken interest in the school and had helped financially and otherwise. Five "4 H Club" boys were enrolled.

At the 1947 convocation held in Ponce, Feb. 11, Bishop Colmore made his last address to convocation, having reached the age of retirement and was leaving the district in March of that year. Convocation passed a resolution, with a rising vote of unanimous approval, expressing great sorrow and deep gratitude and appreciation for Bishop Colmore's thirty-three years of apostolic zeal and work in Puerto Rico. Appropriate farewell services were held at different missions in the district, culminating in a great gathering at the Cathedral where a great farewell service was held and gifts and demonstrations of love and affection were shown to both Bishop and Mrs. Colmore.

At the time of his retirement Bishop Colmore left a strong work with twenty-one priests, thirteen lay workers, one candidate for Holy Orders, eight postulants and eleven lay readers; four institutions, twenty-five organized missions and five mission clinics.

At this convocation Bishop Boynton presented the following resolution which was passed with only two voting against it: "That this convocation accept the authorization given by General Convention of 1946 that our Church in Puerto Rico be known as "The Episcopal Church in Puerto Rico."

Bishop Boynton became diocesan in March and was enthroned on June 24, 1947. The Rev. A. Ervine Swift, personal representative of the Presiding Bishop and National Council was present; also the Bishop of Haiti and the Bishop of Antigua, representing the Archbishop of the Anglican Province of the West Indies. The enthronement of Bishop Boynton was the first one of

a non-Roman Catholic Bishop, and his consecration the first in Puerto Rico
of any Bishop.

At this enthronement the Bishop created two archdeacons for Puerto Rico and one for the Virgin Islands,- Father Garrett for the south-western portion of the island, Father Reus-García for the north-eastern section and Father Swinson for the Virgin Islands. Father Antonio Villafañe was made an honorary canon of the Cathedral on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the foundation of Holy Trinity Church, Ponce, of which he was priest in charge.

In October for a period of ten days a conference of Bishops from the Caribbean area met for the first time at the "Quinta" at the invitation of the Bishop to discuss matters of common interest in the work of the Anglican Communion. The Bishops of the American Church, from Brazil, Panamá, Mexico, Haiti and the Bishops of the Church of England in the Province of the West Indies were greatly pleased with the success of the meetings and at the end issued a Pastoral Letter which was published in The Living Church and considered as "one of the best expositions of contemporary Anglicanism ever written."

In November 1947 the House of Bishops, meeting at Winston Salem, N. C., approved of the separation of the district of the Virgin Islands from the Missionary District of Puerto Rico, which had been united for over a quarter of a century, creating a separate district under the ~~direction of the~~ Bishop of Puerto Rico, hoping that some day the British Virgin Islands would be incorporated in the American Virgin Islands and a bishop be appointed to that work. These islands form a historic, geographic, economic, cultural and linguistic unity.

In his first annual address to convocation Bishop Boynton mentioned the possibility of creating the Latin American Province of the Episcopal Church. This matter was discussed by the Bishops of the Episcopal Church in this part of the world at the October meeting at the Quinta and all

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agreed to the idea.

Mention was made of the three new projects - the new St. Just School to be established at St. Just on land bought from the P. R. R. A., transferring the San José Agricultural School from Quebrada Limón. Permission was given to the Bishop to sell as much land as was necessary at Quebrada Limón to invest in the St. Just project which would include a new parish work in the district, conference grounds and a place of meetings for convocation and other church activities. Another project was the establishment of a Youth Center in Rio Piedras near the University of Puerto Rico, having in mind also the building of a church and to develop all kinds of parochial activities. The third project was the sponsoring of more parochial schools. There were already six of them functioning in the district, the newest one being the Cathedral Academy, organized through the zeal and devotion of Canon Aristides Villafañe. With permission to use the St. Catherine's building adjacent to the Cathedral Father Villafañe started a kindergarten and first grade, having at the end of the first year an enrollment of over a hundred children. At the blessing and dedication of the school which already owned an omnibus for the transportation of the children, the Bishop said, "This parochial school has been organized upon a rock, the rock of Puerto^Rican leadership and the rock of self-support. As long as these two exist the work cannot fail." To-day the Cathedral Academy, in its fifth year of successful work, has four hundred pupils, twelve teachers, ten classrooms and grades up to the sixth including two kindergarten groups; also half a dozen buses, and with a budget of \$25,000. a year. This project of the Puertorrican congregation at the Cathedral is a great credit to the Church and its founder, Dean Aristides Villafañe.

The schools at St. Mary the Virgin, St. Andrew's, Holy Trinity and the Incarnation are growing fast and the day will come when they will need adequate buildings too.

With the appointment of Father Reus-García as archdeacon and in charge

of the St. José and St. Hilda Missions, Mrs. John E. Levo was appointed Secretary to the Bishop and Treasurer of the National Council for Puerto Rico.

Mr. William Lee Richards was appointed headmaster of Colegio San Justo and directed all the building program of that project which included dormitories, kitchen, dining room, class rooms and faculty residences. Father Reus Froylán as chaplain of the school was moved to St. Just and started religious work among the people of the community. The community center of the P. R. R. A. was used in the meantime as chapel and classrooms for the school and the house of the administrator as the rectory.

A new mission was opened by Father Ruiz at Ensenada in Guanica.

The new Spanish Hymnal was printed and put into circulation. The committee under the able leadership of Father Gowe had prepared the best hymnal ever printed for any Spanish speaking work of the Church. A good number of hymns came from Father Haughwout's hymnal and many others were arranged, translated or written by Father Alvarez and Lawyer Angel Arroyo.

A new canon governing the duties of the archdeacons was passed at the 1949 convocation.

New chapels for St. Bartholomew's, Holy Cross and Grace were built under the direction of Father Bauzá, priest in charge of those missions. A new parish hall was built at St. Mark's, Magueyes with Father Pagán in charge. The rectory and parish hall at St. Mary the Virgin were rebuilt and a concrete court (cancha) was built under the enthusiastic direction of Father Alvarez, priest in charge.

Father Meyer, after a long ministry in Puerto Rico, went to New York to work with the Puertorricans at Grace Church, Brooklyn.

During the year 1949 the new Church of the Holy Family at St. Just ^{built and} was dedicated. The new small parish halls at San José and St. Hilda's were also dedicated. The Guanica Central gave a piece of land at Ensenada where St. Cecilia's Chapel was built and consecrated. The land where the

Church of the Incarnation stands at Roosevelt, Hato Rey was finally purchased from the P. R. R. A. and a fine rectory built. Yauco was blessed with a new church and rectory for St. Rafael Arcangel, built in a fine location. Father Ruiz at last saw his efforts of years crowned with such excellent buildings.

L. O. C.
1927

The new revised edition of the Prayer Book in Spanish is already in use in our churches. The new edition ~~is~~ is larger in size and types, making it very easy reading for both young and old.

On the 20th day of November (Sunday) in a solemn thanksgiving the Episcopal Church in Puerto Rico celebrated the fourth centenary of the Book of Common Prayer in English and its subsequent translation and adoption to tother great languages of the world. The celebration took place at Holy Trinity Church, Ponce, the oldest church in this district and included celebrations of the Holy Eucharist, a great procession consisting of the clergy and lay representatives from all parts of Puerto Rico, wending its way throughtthe principal streets of Ponce, and ended with a solemn service of Evensong by the Bishop. Bishop Colmore, Emeritus of Puerto Rico, came over from his home in Florida and preached the sermon for the occasion. For the first time in the history of our Church in Puerto Rico such a demonstration of strength, zeal, devotion and enthusiasm was made. It was indeed a great success and the committee was greatly praised, particularly its chairman, Canon Antonio Villafañe of Holy Trinity. An excellent pamphlet commemorating the event was published.

A few days after the 1950 convocation the archdeacons presented their resignations to the Bishop which he accepted reluctantly.

In May of the same year the Diocesan Convention of New York elected Bishop Boynton as their suffragan. His resignation as Bishop of Puerto Rico was greatly felt and left the district in a difficult situation. Before taking charge of his new position Bishop Boynton appointed Canon Villafañe as dean of the Cathedral and enthroned him as such. At the same time he

* made Fr. Frederick J. Haskin, Canon of the Cathedral in charge of the English work. The Rev. Angel Escolano, who had been preparing himself for the ministry of our Church under Fr. Garrett in Mayaguez, was received from the Roman Communion as Priest of this Church on Dec. 9, 1950 and continued assisting at St. Andrew's- Mayaguez. At the time of the retirement of Fr. Cortés, Fr. Escolano was placed in charge of the Missions of Transfiguration and Anunciation, as well as St. Anne.

Mrs. Stanely Igoe was appointed Secretary to the Bishop. Mrs. Igoe came to Puerto Rico in 1929 as Miss Frances Nutting to be the Secretary to the Bishop and Treas. for the National Council. Some years later she married but stayed in the Island. Several times she has supplied during absences of the Bishop's Secretary. Bishop Boynton appointed her again Secretary to the Bishop and Bishop Swift confirmed this appointment when he took charge of the District, Mrs. Igoe has been a faithful worker of the Church in Puerto Rico and loved by all. Mrs. John E. Levo, whose work had been increasing constantly, continued as Treasurer of the National Council in P.R. and Diocesan Treasurer. Fr. Ramon E. Quiñones is the Treasurer for Convocation and was elected for that position at the 1949 Convocation.

It was not until January 1951 that the House of Bishops elected a new Bishop for Puerto Rico in the person of the Rev. A. Ervine Swift, at the time working in the Missionary District of the Philippine Islands. Fr. Swift was already known to us in Puerto Rico while he was acting Secretary of the Overseas Department of the National Council. He had visited Puerto Rico in 1947 at the time of the enthronement of Bishop Boynton, representing the Presiding Bishop and the Overseas Department.

Among the candidates for the Bishoprick of Puerto Rico was Dean Aristides Villafañe, who was sponsored by almost half of the clergy of the District.

Bishop Swift was consecrated on Ascension Day, 1951 at the Cathedral Church of Topeka, Kansas, at which consecration both Bishop Boynton and Dean Villafañe attended. The Bishop arrived in San Juan early in June and was enthroned at his Cathedral on June 24 (St. John's the Baptist Day) in the presence of all his Clergy and a large congregation. Bishop Boynton attended also representing the Presiding Bishop and on his own as former Bishop of the District.

And the Church continues her apostolic mission under the able leadership of the new Bishop. Convocation was held again at St. Just during Feb. 19 and 20 of 1952. The opening service was held at the Cathedral at which time the new building, adjacent to the Cathedral, was dedicated and blessed to the memory of Bishop Colmore, who had died in June 28, 1950 as his home in Winter Park, Fla.

At this convocation announcement was made of the reception of Fr. Jose Vilar, from the Roman Communion. He had been also preparing for his reception under Fr. Garrett, at Mayaguez and after his reception continued assisting there until April 30th, when he was transferred to Vieques to take charge of the work at All Saints' Church. It was also announced the retirement of Frs. Ramón Cortes and Víctor Rivera, the former on December 31st, 1951 and the latter to take place on April 30, 1952. Fr. Víctor Rivera was the last one to retire of the group of Priests that came into the Episcopal Church with Bishop Ferrando.

Letters Dimissory were given to Fr. Reus-Garcia for the Diocese of New York, to assist in the work at St. Edward the Martyr with the Spanish speaking people. He left the Island late in January, but returned early in June of the same year. Bishop reported also the acceptance of three new postulants. There are now seven, all of whom will attend colleges and seminaries in the course of the year, with the exception of Mr. W. H. Beckwith, Ph.D., and Lay Reader at St. Andrew's, who will read

for orders under the Bishop and Father Garrett whom he is assisting in the work at St. Andrew's, Mayaguez. Dr. Beckwith is a professor at the College of Agriculture in Mayaguez.

Sister Teresa Ruth (Miss Ruth Clark who had been a parish worker at St. Andrew's Mission, Mayaguez) returned from the States after having spent over a year at the Mother House of the Order in Glendale, Ohio. Sister Teresa is the first woman to enter the order in Puerto Rico.

Sister Esther Mary, head of the Convent in Ponce, had taken a great interest in the boys' ward at the Ponce District Jail. She has visited them regularly and helped them in their spiritual and recreational life. She has visited the Attorney General and the Governor's wife to discuss problems of that nature. Through her efforts conditions have improved and projects are in mind to build appropriate jails for them. A piece of property has been purchased in Ponce by the Church not far from the jail to establish a center of recreation and spiritual help for those youngsters who have fallen in the life of vice and corruption and come out of jail wishing to do better. This project is under the auspices of the Sisters and their chaplain, Father Gowe, and also the chaplain of the hospital, Father Krueger.

Bishop Bentley, head of the Overseas Department, visited the district the latter part of February at which time he visited several missions and institutions with Bishop Swift.

Fathers Joseph Moore of Seabury Western Seminary and Edward Turner of the Overseas Department of the National Council arrived on the island, the latter party of May 1952, to make a complete survey of the work of the Church in Puerto Rico.

Bishop Swift left for the United States to attend for the first time the meetings of General Convention as a Bishop.

At Bishop Swift's first convocation the committee on the State of the Church presented the following picture:

Baptized persons in the congregations - 10,578; present number of communicants - 3,766; church school children - 3,287, with 92 teachers. During 1951 - 1244 children and adults were baptized; 389 were confirmed and 189 weddings were celebrated. Total receipts were \$13,903.51 and total disbursements were \$20,385.34, the deficit being covered with balances of the previous year. Total payment to the missionary quota was \$3,529.62 and to diocesan missions \$568.42. The Church today has thirteen branches of the Woman's Auxiliary with a total membership of 225; seven branches of the Girls' Friendly Society with 211 members and the possibility of new organizations. The United Thank Offering for the triennium amounted to \$925.99. There are a few altar guilds, the oldest of which is at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. The oldest Woman's Auxiliary branch is that of the St. John's English Mission (formerly St. Luke's Church), and the Girls' Friendly that of Holy Trinity Church, Ponce, both of which have already celebrated their 25th anniversaries. There are Boy Scout Troops at Holy Trinity, St. Mary the Virgin and Holy Family. St. Andrew's Clubs have been organized at St. Andrew's, Holy Trinity and St. Mary the Virgin, Holy Family and St. Mark's, the oldest being at St. Andrew's Church in Mayaguez which was organized in the days of Father Saylor and Father Meyer.

The Church in Puerto Rico is humbly proud of its institutions, particularly St. Luke's Hospital, the oldest of them all; St. Andrew's Craft Shop, Colegio San Justo and the Cathedral Academy, the youngest and most promising. These institutions are almost self-supporting with the exception of Colegio San Justo for boys who pay a rather small amount for tuition and board. There are a few scholarships. The several mission clinics and parochial day schools are doing a splendid piece of work notwithstanding their limitations. The clinics receive small financial help from the National Council.

APPENDIX

Young Peoples' Work

It was Father D. F. Gowe who first presented to the Bishop the matter of youth work in 1941 and the Bishop appointed a committee headed by Father Gowe to coordinate this work in the Church.

At the 1942 convocation the following resolution was passed: That the committee be given authority to form and administer a district federation of young men's clubs; 2) that a conference be held for young men this summer, details to be worked out by the committee; 3) that the Bishop be urged to procure an annual sum of money to be used for church work among young men as a district activity; 4) that the committee study the whole problem of the Church's work among the army and navy personnel, both insular and continental.

The first two youth conferences were held during the summers of 1940 and 1941 at the Quebrada Limón Mission. The first groups were small and only boys attended. The years 1942 and 1943 the conferences were held at the Polytechnic Institute in San Germán. In the summer of 1944 the conference was held at the Boy Scout camp at Guajataca with a large group of boys and girls. Father Reus Froylán with the cooperation of Bishop Boynton, Fathers Gowe, Aristides Villafañe, Lauro Bauzá, Miss Clark and Miss Saavedra handled the conference that year and it was a great success. At the 1945 conference there was an attendance of seventy students, five lecturers and a few visitors. The conference continued at Guajataca until the Church was able to purchase and prepare its own conference grounds. At the new Colegio San Justo where a swimming pool was built and facilities were offered for dormitories, meeting rooms and chapel, the youth conference was held for the first time in the summer of 1949. Some fifteen thousand dollars was given by the Young Peoples' Fellowship in the United States to help in the new St. Just project.

Annual Retreat

Because meetings of convocation were crowded with business and the need from time to time to come together in the spirit of quiet devotion and fellowship prompted the creation of a committee on annual retreats which was appointed in 1941.

Annual retreats have been held almost regularly, many of them held at the Quinta with the Bishop presiding and a conductor leading in the meditations. Such retreats have been very helpful to the clergy of both districts.

Diocesan Papers

The "Revista Episcopal" which was a continuation of "La Iglesia Viviente" had a short life.

For awhile we were without a church periodical and then the Rev. Canon Julio Garrett began publishing a parochial paper "La Iglesia Viviente" which paper was supported by members of St. Andrew's Mission. At the same time another local paper appeared in Ponce under the name of "El Pan Nuestro" directed by Father Lorenzo Alvarez with the collaboration of several priests of the southern part of the island, particularly Ponce.

A few months later ~~in~~ "El Faro", another church paper, began its life under the auspices of the churches in Hato Rey, Rio Piedras and Trujillo Alto (St. Just). This periodical had a rather short life. At the present time only "La Iglesia Viviente" and "El Pan Nuestro" continue their publications with the financial help of convocation as per resolution passed at the last convocation.