

Resurrection Mission

This unit of missionary work was established by a Dutch priest and his wife 42 yrs. ago. They both had come from Java Island, he as an evangelical minister and she as a licensed nurse from Europe. She started to work at St. Luke's Hospital, Ponce, Puerto Rico. They bought a piece of land at El Coto, rural neighborhood of the town of Manati. The Rev. John J. Koste was at the same time a fruit planter and, ^{at the same time} he was very well acquainted with some Americans residing at El Coto, where they had ^{also} reestablished their fruit farms and so Mr. Koste was very successful in starting that business, and so finally, he added some more acres of land to his small property providing him ^{in the} _{section of Manati}

a big farm to develop what in the future
came to be a prosperous project,
not only for business matter, but
for a strong spiritual development.
He decided to have religious meetings
with the laborers of all that big
rural section. The meetings were
successful gatherings where hundreds
of people were anxious to hear the
preaching of the Word of life,
the praying to God Almighty and
the singing to praise and to adore
our Lord. It was a great inspira-
tion to all but especially to the
thirsty who decided to dedicate
their lives to the best labor, to
minister to a great flock who
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In the mean time Mrs. Wente had met a very active priest of the Evangelical Church who had gone to St. Luke's Hospital. The priest was the Rev. Harvey P. Walter, who by that time was in charge of the Spanish and English work at San Juan, our capital city. Through the friendship Fr. Walter came to see and to know what the work of the Sisters at Manati. He introduced immediately the Sisters to the Bishop of the Missionary District, the Rt. Rev. Charles B. Colmore. The Bishop was quite young in age, he had been for a short term at Havana, Cuba, as Vicar of the Cathedral and he decided that the Sisters should come to the

Episcopal Church. Mr. Devote was ins-
tructed in theological studies by Fr.
Walter, and after a reasonable
time was examined and ordained.
Hence. Finally he was ordained priest
and continued his missionary work
at El Cto with their Episcopal Mission of the Resurrection.

A great congregation was necessary
to our Church having as their church
building a chapel constructed in
their property. This Chapel was
remodeled and enlarged some years
after, coming to be what is still
standing there as the Mission of
the Resurrection. But Mrs. Kroat
had another plan as she discovered
that so many children were ^{being} without
school. She decided to build

to provide educational facilities for young children.

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three school rooms; she was very ^{the} happy to know, when visiting ^{San Juan, Capri} ~~an~~ automobile distributor that she could buy the wooden boxes where the cars used to be sent for the States so as to provide lumber ^{with} ~~to be used in the construction~~ ^{which to build} some of these planned school rooms. The project was ~~carried~~ ^{developed} on and three new school rooms were built. ^{San Juan} The Rev. and Mrs. Berte went on a trip to the States and they used ^{their} ~~the~~ time to preach and to talk about their missionary enterprise in P. R. They were very successful ^{indeed} and three teachers were called to ~~to~~ work at these three school-rooms.

It is interesting to insert in this paragraph

that I myself was one of those teachers -
I taught the 4th & 5th grades when
I finished my University course and
for 3 yrs. I dedicated my life to
teach and to help the priests in the
religious task! I remember Mrs.
Kroon telling me that the future will
come when I may be the forest -
no change of the Mission. It was a
real prophecy because right away after
these three yrs. I decided to enter
the Priesthood. When ordained I
came to be the priest-in-charge
and right now I have been already
in this place for a period of
twelve years.

at present we have the School functioning

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franchising

with four grades. The teachers
are paid by the Government but
still we have all ^{influence} influence on the
students body. We have a young man's
fellows hip, very active ^{indeed} and they love
to do many useful activities, some of these
with the purpose of collecting some money
to build their own social room where
to meet. The best information I can
give is that they are starting to build
up for donation of such a room which
will be located at the back of
Church yard. Also they will have
a play ground where to carry
on Volley - and Bas. Katy Paul
Garcia.