

## MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115

SAN JUAN, P. R.

Dec. 20, 1923.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,  
Box 472,  
Ponce, P. R.

Dear Bishop Ferrando:

Several more packages have come for the Christmas things at Ponce, and I am hoping that you may be able to divide these and make up a good many presents, so that there may be enough for part of Quebrada Limon. I am sending them over to you by the Blue Line express. Will let you know later the address of the people sending them and will ask you to write them and acknowledge the gifts.

I have looked up the tentative arrangement about salaries for native clergy in Porto Rico, and find that, for priests, the salary for the first three years is \$70.00 a month, or \$840. a year; for the next four years, \$960. per year; and for subsequent service, \$1160 per year. *Rent allowance of \$240. per yr. in addition.*

As you know, our appropriation for the Quebrada Limon work for 1924 has been made in ~~man~~ a lump sum of \$3600., or \$300. a month. This, of course, is entirely aside from any consideration of salary to be paid to you. It is for the four priests and four deaconesses.

It does not seem to me that it would be wise to attempt to put all the priests on the basis of the pay-table I have mentioned, but the pay-table might be used as a basis for arriving at a salary for Modesto. When he leaves Quebrada Limon, we will have to provide a house for him. Do you suppose we could make some general arrangement of allowing, say \$100. per month for Modesto, including salary and house rent, and \$200. a month for the others, living in the country and allowing them some benefit from the products of the farm? I am simply presenting you this now as a basis for discussion. I would like to settle the matter finally before the beginning of the new year, if possible.

I have settled upon Sunday, Dec. 30th, for the ordination of the Villafanes. If it would not be too difficult for you, it would be nice to have you here for that event, in order that you might participate with me in the Laying On of Hands.

Please accept our most cordial regards and all best wishes for a merry Christmas and very happy New Year. Always,

Sincerely and affectionately yours,

CBC/MAW\*

*Chas B. Colver.*