

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115.

Feb. 18, 1925.

SAN JUAN P. R.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
Box 776,
Ponce, P. R.

Dear Bishop Ferrando:

I had no opportunity to talk over with you the questions brought up in your letter of Feb. 4th.

As to the money for Fr. Saylor's residence at Quebrada Limon, I am hopeful that \$833. can be obtained from the Board, on account of your rent allowance. Besides this amount, I have a gift of \$1000. Have borrowed \$1000. and, if necessary, know where I can borrow \$1000. more. This may leave upwards of \$1000. more needed towards the total sum of about \$5000. for the building. I hope Fr. Saylor will be able to begin his operations at an early date.

As to the Mission of St. Mary the Virgin. I should be very glad indeed if the Department of Missions of the Executive Council, of which you are chairman, would take charge of the matter of raising funds to pay off the indebtedness, as also any other matter pertaining to the arrangement of the purchase. You state in your letter that you do not see why the people of Ponce should not do something towards this expense. I am sure Fr. Locke would greatly appreciate any activity on your part in Ponce, in this direction, and would be glad to be of assistance in any way possible.

I am thoroughly in accord with your idea of maintaining Maguayes in connection with the Quebrada Limon quota, and hope that the people will be as enthusiastic this year as last and will consequently raise a larger amount of money during Lent, as you already have the Mite Boxes for them. My recollection is that you told me you had already received them for the Quebrada Limon Missions. Will you please see to the distribution of them as early as possible and, if you need any more, let me know and I can supply you.

As to the question of going beyond our quota. I think that the action taken at Convocation, requesting the Field Department to communicate with the National Council to find out if part of our quota of \$2000. can be used for Diocesan purposes, covers the whole question. My idea is that some salary of the District, as for instance, that of Ramon Cortes, or some project of equipment, such as that of the mission of St. Mary the Virgin in Ponce, might be paid for out of our quota after the budget quota of about \$1100. has been paid.

I hope to be in Ponce for a meeting of the Hospital Board, and for final arrangements as to contract for Holy Trinity Church next week, and shall hope to see you at that time.

I wrote to Fr. Locke, regarding contract with Alejo, a copy of which I am enclosing. I will be very grateful if you will take the first opportunity of talking over this matter with Fr. Locke and Alejo,

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thereby assisting in making an agreement on the subject.

With all best wishes to all the ladies, and with warm regards,
believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Chas B. Olmstead.

CBC/MAW*
encl.