

MISSIONARY DISTRICT OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

P. O. BOX 1115

SAN JUAN, P. R.

July 9, 1923.

Rt. Rev. Manuel Ferrando,
Mountain Lakes, N. J.

Dear Bishop:

I have just received the June report from Modesto, all of which seems to be in very good order. As we are running at the present time, I find that, taking the June report as a basis, we are spending on provisions some \$83.00; labor, including cook, peon and work on the fence, \$20.00; charity, \$5.00, and rent on Pastillo chapel, \$3.50; clergy stipends, \$125.00; or a total of \$236.50.

Primitivo has not yet been able to secure the house at Magueyez, so has received only the usual \$25.00 stipend while living at the central and getting his provisions there. As soon as he moves, he will receive \$50.00 and \$20.00 rent, which will make a difference of \$45.00 to us, over and above \$25.00 which he is now receiving. The milk sales are now just about taking care of the labor, and I have ordered the charity expenditure to be transferred to the Church account, which can stand that without difficulty. We are, at the present time, therefore, just a little bit short of our expenses, counting the \$200.00 from the Board of Missions as the only outside income. When Primitivo moves, we should have \$50.00 more to meet that expenditure. There are, of course, often incidental expenses, which I have not here taken into account.

On May 31st, Modesto reports the indebtedness to the store to be \$119.21. As far as I can remember, this was the same amount as at the end of April. In your letter you mention that Modesto told you it was reduced to \$70.00. If so, he has taken no account of this in his reports to me. After paying all accounts for June, we have reduced the indebtedness to \$60.76; that is, we have paid on the old accounts \$58.45.

As you will see from the above, our expenditures each month are in excess of our regular income. Last month the \$94.00, that was sent by you in excess of the amount for the purchase of the cows, helped considerably. Can you find any way to augment our income each month? Our Board, as you say, does not seem to feel able to increase the monthly stipend for the present.

Are you planning anything about a well for the central? I hope I will hear from you on this week's mail regarding the whole matter of the light plant and pump, which Dr. Gray mentioned you had secured the money for.

I am very much in hopes that it will be possible to make the

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temporary arrangement I spoke of in my letter last week, and that we may have you down here at a reasonably early date. My request has been that I be allowed to temporarily employ you at Ponce until such time as a rector may be appointed for Ponce, or until the House of Bishops shall determine your status as a Suffragan Bishop, or otherwise. This, of course, is only intended as a temporary arrangement for the benefit of both Ponce and Quebrada Limon.

Please give our warmest regards to Mrs. Ferrando and Edith, and with all best wishes, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

Chas. B. Colver

CBC/MAW*