

# Hong Kong Catholic Works of Mercy

(Last in a Series)

## An Ink Stained World

By Richard Core

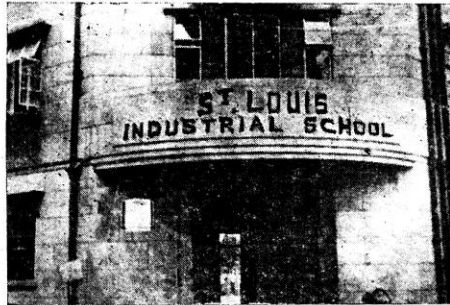
When you get off inter-city bus "Number 3" at its terminus in West Point, you are right in front of the St. Louis Industrial School. While construction is in progress on a new edifice here, your best entrance is down the hill at 179, Third Street. And if perchance you are carrying an armful of old books to be rebound at the St. Louis printing-shop, your most expeditious arrival will be by taxi-cab.

The Hong Kong Catholic Mission priests who are members of the Pontifical Institute of Foreign Missions, first opened the School in 1864. It was then a combined orphanage and industrial institution.

Since the mission in those early days was beginning to branch out, the La Salle Brothers, more popularly known as "The Christian Brothers," took over the jurisdiction in 1875. From 1893 to 1921 control of the work reverted to its original supervisor. Around the year 1920 the project was enlarged and reorganized by Father Angelus Grampa.

In May, 1921, the Maryknoll Fathers, who had lately come from America to establish missions in the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, were in need of a headquarters for their missionary work in the interior of South China. Maryknollers assumed responsibility for the Industrial school. It was then under Rev. Raymond I. Lane, M.M., former Bishop of Fushun, Manchuria, and present Superior General of the world-wide missionary organization of the Maryknoll Fathers.

### SCHOOL ENTRANCE



this number are orphans sent in by parish priests.

The boys are generally between the ages of 14 and 19, and spend about five years learning the printing or bookbinding trade. Many of the alumni work in the printing shops of the "South China Morning Post," "China Mail" and for other newspapers throughout the Colony. Some of the graduates have gone into business for themselves and are successful in their own right.

Last year athletics were given greater emphasis. Brother De-root, who oversees gymnastic exercises and music, led his boys into the Y.M.C.A. football league at Southern Park, Wan-hai, where they captured third place in their first year of participation. It is now planned to have a representative contingent to participate in the next Y.M.C.A. basketball league.

Twenty-six teachers, four priests and one Brother, comprise the faculty board at the St. Louis Day School. Over 850 students of the neighborhood attend classes, eighty-five of whom are boarders. The lower classes are conducted exclusively in the Chinese language, but a portion of the upper grades are carried on solely in English.

Under construction is a gigantic new building to be added to the present inadequate facilities of the Industrial School. The first floor, already completed, will be a reading room and library. On top of this will be the gymnasium, recreation room and concert auditorium. The third storey will be a parochial meeting-hall, while the fourth storey will constitute the long-planned St. Anthony's Church proper. A Church bazaar, on June 18, will assist in the current building-fund drive.

During the War, with their backs to the wall, the Salesians were forced to sell most of their

printing-type and other workshop accessories, in order to buy food for their charges.

Another factor which has crimped the progress of this ink-stained world at West Point has been a slack in business. For years the name "St. Louis Industrial School" has been well known among China missionaries who sent their orders here for catechisms, calendars, and the hundred and one other miscellany needed in missionary work.

Now with the erection of the "bamboo fence" orders from China have fallen off.

However, the Salesians here aren't the type to become pessimistic. Preparing boys for a manhood trade and livelihood is their work for God, based on the notion that one must "seek first the kingdom of Heaven..." and the rest will take care of itself, according to God's disposition in the planned Divine Economy of things.

### HOW MANY COPIES?



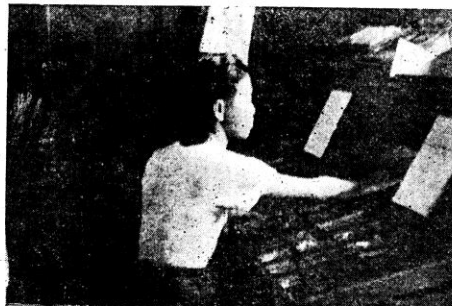
With the help of two religious Brothers, Father Lane conducted an immense shop where nearly 200 boys were given instruction by skilled craftsmen in carpentry. Throughout this entire period, however, St. Anthony's Church existed as it is today, independent of the School. It was on October 1, 1927 that the St. Louis School was placed under the auspices of the Salesian Brothers.

For the better part of seventy-five years the place has remained in status quo as to its three buildings, although the efforts in behalf of homeless and poor boys have been in a constant stage of improvement over the years. Like most Salesian projects found in many countries, this one hums with activity.

Brother John Jezovitz, who came from his homeland in Czechoslovakia nineteen years ago, is the expert in charge of book-binding and printing. He has the help of skilled laymen to teach the 85 apprentices. At the present time twenty-eight of

Last year Father G. Clifford, who is the Rector of the School, anxious to raise the educational standards, made it a compulsory rule for every future artisan to attend every morning the normal course of studies. Work in the shops has been limited to afternoon periods.

### SETTING THE TYPE



### AT THE PRESS



## Eyes on Africa

Soviet Interest in Dark Continent

According to the bulletin "East Europe" published in London, it is the present attention of the Communists to concentrate their attacks on Africa. With the purpose of forming them as militant Communist agitators, Moscow has had a group of witch doctors from the Belgian Congo and from the British Colonies established in Russia since October of last year.

The Cominform believes that by mixing Marxist doctrine with black magic it will be possible to achieve speedy results, due to the influence exerted by witch doctors on the native population.

The Bulletin published by the Soviet Embassy at Moscow devotes a great deal of attention to the negro problem, and recently published a picture of negro actor, Wayland Rudd holding his small three years old son in his arms as he voted in

the elections for the Supreme Soviet Council of Russia. It is aimed to show that negroes resident in USSR have been given Soviet citizenship and equality of rights.

The Soviet Press at the same time reports the existence of a negro colony called Adzhubdzha in Georgia, Russia. It would appear that the method used to educate Chinese Communist leaders is now being employed for the peoples of the African continent.