

American Catholics Send Clothing Gift to Hong Kong Refugees

1,750 Bales Distributed from 45 Centres

When the "Canada Bear" pulled into Hong Kong Harbour this week with a large shipment of clothing from Mgr. Edward Swanstrom, Executive Director of War-Relief Services—N.C.W.C., the hearts of many missionaries working among the refugees were filled with joy.

No shipment could have been more timely. The weather is cold now, and Chinese New Year is approaching. The clothing American Catholics collected on Thanksgiving Day are indeed instrumental in sending many prayers of thanksgiving to God for the generosity of the American people.

From the "Canada Bear" the 1,376 bales of clothing and the 375 bales of shoes, were taken by United Delivery to 45 points of distribution in Kowloon, the New Territories and Hongkong. Missionaries of eleven different nationalities, and seventeen different religious families, and three different groups of laity, distributed the gifts far and wide.

The biggest allotment of bales went to the Catholic Mission at Junk Bay, to the Maryknoll Sisters in the Bishop Valtorta Memorial Centre who have been aiding the first victims of Ho-ma-tien; to Father Peter Riley, M.M. of Kowloon-tsai in whose area the most recent squatter fire occurred; to Father A. Crotti, P.I.M.E. who has just started work at Cheung-sha-wan; to Father E. van Hove, O.F.M. at Ma-On-Shan Iron Miners' Camp; to Father Howard Trube, M.M. at Tung-tau-tuen; to Father Stephen Edmonds, M.M. at Chai-wan; to Father John Curran, M.M. at Ngau-tau-kok; to Father S. Santinon, P.I.M.E. at the Cathedral Hongkong; and to the Canossian Sisters at Hung-hom.

This is the third gift of clothing which has been received in Hongkong from American Catholics. Many other gifts of medicine, and food parcels amounting to U.S.\$4,000 have been sent from this same source during the past half year, for distribution among Hongkong refugees. The goods are distributed to all, regardless of creed or race — the only classification necessary is that the person is in need.

THEY WERE THE FIRST TO RESPOND



THEY WERE THE FIRST TO RECEIVE



- 1) These children from Sacred Heart School, Washington, U.S.A. were the first to respond to the American Catholic Bishop's Clothing Collection.
- 2) These two refugee children of the Central District, Hongkong were the first to receive clothing collected by the American Catholic people. They are seen here in the Cathedral compound.