

The Sagada Postboy

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A Christian Funeral is better than a Pagan funeral because a Christian is blessed and given prayers in the church in order that God will guide the person to Heaven. We first clean and dress the dead before we put him into a coffin. The corpse is then slowly and silently carried to the Campo Santo and the priest blesses and prays for Him to God. His soul is received by God the blessing of the priest and the prayers of those who mourn and all the people. On All Soul's Day, that is once in a year we go to visit and clean their graves. When the Pagans prepare deceased for burial they curl and wrap tightly like a ball. On their way it is played like a basketball. The pagans put their dead in the rocks, in caves, or in vacant place near the house. The rocks are not blessed. They are places where birds, rats and snakes can eat the flesh and bring bones out. If a typhoon comes the bodies fall out, especially near the river. The Pagan is forgotten when he is departed. He is never visited and does not receive any blessing. (I-B)

Radio broadcast this morning. General Mark Clark presented a charge to the U N. that the Reds are not sending out all the Americans they have, instead those American have been sent to slave camps in China. Our prisoner reported that a thousand Americans died from starvation and that the prisoner had to bury their own dead. Two chaplains were beaten to death because they held a forbidden service on Christmas Eve. There are 406 U.N. prisoners to be returned today...President Eisenhower signed the bill admitting 214,000 refugees to America in three years period. This is outside the immigration quota. Another signed is the turning over of 28 synthetic rubber plants to private ownership. These plants were built by the government during World War II.... President Quirino is recovering very rapidly and he may be discharged from the hospital early next week.

On my way home to Demang this week, I met a group of eight-year old girls looking very happy. I asked them why they were happy that day. They all said cheerfully, "Can't you see that we are able to attend school the whole day instead of having our younger brothers tied on our backs. Today is Obaya (staying home day in the ili) so are mother are at home to take care of them. "Oh, we wish the old men would always shout Obaya so that we can go to school every day." /By Pascuala. Cadiogan)

Hospital report. Today we have examined all students of St. Mary's except two boys. Will those two please come so that we can complete our reports? Most of the defects we discovered are of a minor nature. As usual, the list of defects is headed by skin diseases, mostly scabies, (itch to you). On the whole this year students enjoy good health. Of 315 examined, only 14 have tooth trouble. Of those who were here last year, practically all gained in height and weight. One notable exception was a boy, otherwise normal who lost 7 pounds! Finally, our thanks to Mr. Norton, the faculty and student body for their splendid cooperation enabling us to go through all these examination without a hitch;

almost, anyway. /A Report from the Staff of St. Theodore's Hospital)

Ankileng Elementary School has a complete teaching staff of six teachers this school year. It has an enrollment of one hundred fifty pupils of which almost three fourths come from the barrio of Taccong. The battered school building and the old teachers' quarter need plenty of repairs. As National aid could not be awaited, the people, under the initiation of Mr. Copa (an old veteran pupil) and the teachers, are preparing materials to repair the teachers' living quarters. /By J. Muting)

Quoted from Benjamin Franklin. "I hope the peace will be lasting and that mankind will at length as they call themselves reasonable creatures have reason and sense enough to settle differences without cutting throats; for in my opinion, that never was a good or bad peace."

In a thrilling basketball game this morning, the traveling Bontoc alumni Team defeated the Saint Mary's High School boys with the score of 58-42. Our boys did their best even though they did not have any practice. Since the game was not known by the public, there was not a large crowd to see it. This afternoon at two o'clock another game will be played by the same teams in basketball. /By F. Lardizabal)

The dispensary of St. Thomas, Tabuk that was begun early last summer is nearly finished. The materials used and labor was willingly contributed by all the members of the Anglican Church there. The dispensary was built just near the church. Mrs. Umangil will be in charge of it.

A Pupil Government called the Sagada Central School Council was organized on August 4, 1953. The following officers were elected: President – Loren Gambican; Vice President – Mary Sauyen; Secretary – Edwardo Solang; Treasurer – Valentina Andawi; Chief of Police – Ramon Aben and Press Relations Officer – Rufino Sumbad. The present officers will take care of the government of Sagada Central School during the first half of the year. The advisers are the intermediate teachers under the chairmanship of Mr. Pio Dacumos.

Sagada Central School honor roll for the First Grading Period: Grade 1 – Christopher Floresca, Angela Galas; Grade 11 – Johnny Loyola and Daisy Abad; 111 – Ben Austria and Bartolomew Daoas, Jr.; 1V A – Mary Degay, Catherine Daoas, Francisca Bacagan; 1VB – Florence Sapaen, Esther Gewan; VA – Senaida Padua, George Gewan; VB – Margarita Bacolong, Hansen Sauyen; V1 – Carmen Lizardo, Rufino Sumbad, Guadalupe Belen. /By B. Daoas

Four Lawn Mowers are getting the compound into good shape. The hospital has two and the School Landscapers, two more. Lawns, to be good, should be mowed twice a week during the rainy season. The first mowing is very difficult, after this it will be easy. St Mary's Mission must struggle to catch up with other stations. Besao has a lawn mower and the compound there is now very beautiful with flower beds that are splendidly kept. We cannot expect to equal Easter School's grounds, but we are trying.

Bishop Ogilby arrived this morning from Tabuk where he stayed for a week. At Bontoc, he met with Dr. Fonger, the head of the American Bible Society in Manila, Mr Watermann, a language specialist, Pastor Bilagot and Fr's Longid, Kiley and Kollin. They worked on the translation of St. Mark's Gospel into Kankanaey. He will be here for Sunday service tomorrow, for the Church meeting and for the S.T.A. meeting. He will return to Bontoc on Monday.