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New Mexico, Jemez Pueblo, San Diego Mission School, 1931

William M. Hughes

Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions

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MISSION SCHOOLS-20
NEW MEXICO
JEMEZ PUEBLO, SAN DIEGO MISSION SCHOOL
1931

Return this COPY to BUREAU OF CATHOLIC INDIAN MISSIONS
2021 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Rev. Florentine Meyers, O.F.M.,
San Diego Mission,
Jemez, N. Mex.

Dear Father Meyers:

I enclose herewith Bureau check for \$10, covering
the gift of Mrs. William Kossler, 56 Hawthorne Avenue, Crafton, Pa.,
designated for one case of honey to be shipped by you direct to her.

Upon receipt of this donation, please write a letter of
thanks to the donor and forward it through this Bureau for transmittal
by me to the donor.

Yours in Christ,

Wm. Hughes
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Wm. Hughes,
Director

JR

Received the check named above

(Signed)

No more honey until August.
Florentine Meyers O.F.M.

(This form satisfies the Bureau but not the donor. Send me letter for
donor. Pictures mean much both to the donor and to THE INDIAN SENTINEL.)

40-17
No. FEB 10 1931 Amt. _____
Ent. _____
Fold _____
L. to _____
Order lined _____
Ship't _____
Copy to I.S. _____
Copy to _____
Masses _____
Work Slip O.K. _____
List _____
D.G. or Ref. _____
Check sent _____

Jemes, New Mexico December 2, 1931.

Rt. Rev. William Hughes
2021 H Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Father Hughes:

The report which arrived today is filled and being returned. I wish to add that it is not possible to get into the day schools at Zia and Randitos since they are so far from headquarters and these places get Mass very seldom (one or two per month). Therefore, I have inaugurated in the past year a sort of Catechism class after the Mass. My plan is to take the catechism and ask questions. It is true that I do not get many answers from the congregation, but by not answering the question immediately, I think that chances are that they will think about the question and what the answer might be. Then when the answer is either read or told them they will be very apt to remember it at least in substance. A half hour is the extent of the time I use for this purpose.

Judging from appearances they seem to be interested. I make it a special effort to present this religious instruction as something good, pleasing and beneficial. Due to the fact that there were serious efforts made previous to my coming to these Missions and even until a few months ago, to have them join a certain non-Catholic sect, (The minister called every Sunday) my efforts were chiefly bent on bringing out the fact that the Church to which they belonged is the only true Church. It would take too long to give you all the details here, but I am pleased to state at this time that I have no longer any trouble in any of my Missions, in this regard. Deo gratias.

Another plan which I have not as yet carried out as I intend is to have a house to house call. The nature of this call is to get better acquainted, take up a census and incidentally remind them of their duty to receive the Sacraments frequently, hear Mass on all Sundays when possible and in general to make them more faithful to their religious duty.

The following may be used for the Sentinal if you wish.

Catholic Atmosphere in Indians Homes.

Catholics who visit our pueblo Indian homes are usually very much surprised at the findings within the homes of the Indians. They still imagine up to the time they pay a visit to the homes of the Indians that they are quite pagan and have little or no spirit of Catholicism. But as soon as they have paid a visit to the homes of the Indians they find to astonishment that nothing is more untrue. Not a single house is to be found which has not a goodly share of holy pictures, statues of the Saints and of the supposedly better educated Catholics, who no longer bedeck the walls of their homes with such pious articles. The Indians of our Missions do treasure highly holy pictures, images of Christ or the Saints and medals. These Catholic symbols appeal to the natives. They aid them to understand their religion. And they wish the saints to protect their houses and families. As the governor of one Pueblo said to me, when I remarked what a beautiful statue he had in his home of the Sacred Heart: "Father, I want the Sacred Heart to protect my house and my family. I need the protection of the Sacred Heart. He can do all things." Certainly no poor judgment, on the part of the Indian. What will you do for the Mission? Don't you think it a good policy to assist in keeping such Catholics in the Faith and winning others likewise?

Dear Monsignor, it occurred to me just a few days ago that a person who spends 25 years among the Indians should have a little notice in your worthy publication. Such a person is Sister Stephania, who has been a teacher in the school here for that period of time. I am letting it up to you and if you agree with me in this point, kindly let me know about what you would like to have. If there is anything I can do for you in this regard as any other I shall do my best - gladly.

Enclosed find a photo also. Unfortunately, a note in coming due in a month for \$150 on my car. From the looks of the depression I do not see how I shall meet it. If you can assist me in part, many thanks in advance. Another favor, if I may continue to beg, is a request to try to pick up a 16 mm. projector. We must get the 'drop' on the day school in this respect. Our electric is D.C. 100 volt, but if the machine could be also used on 6 V. or 12 V. battery it would be useful in all Missions. I would take it in the car. I think, the enhancement of such an instrument cannot be overestimated.

In the not too distant future, I hope to oblige again with more bits of news and photos.

Sincerely in St. Francis,

Fri Raphael Weisenbach, O.P.M.

Rec'd DEC 28 1931
A.M. 11/5/32 W.H. 5498
Fol'd.
Letter to
Order filled
Ship't
Copy to L.S.
Copy to

Rt. Rev. and Dear Monignor:

Jemez, N.M., Dec. 23rd, 1931.

The two hundred and fifty dollars given
by the Marquette League, thru the instrumentality of Rt. Rev. Msgr.

Flynn came today and I am hastening to thank you for forwarding the check to me. It came as a nice, little Christmas present and will help a whole lot. We are trying our best to get enough together to purchase a new car. The one we are using is in sixth year and has gone over these mountain roads so long and so often and so far, is just about done for. There is no chance of getting anything under five hundred dollars and we are working hard to get this amount together. Now is the time for you to come to the aid of the poor missionaries here in Jemez. Can you not possibly see to it and send the other two hundred and fifty dollars? There must be some money of the Bureau's destined for such emergencies. If you come to our rescue you may rest assured of our eternal gratitude.

A merry Christmas and a Happy New year,

Sincerely yours,
F. Flornutius, O.S.A.

Jemes, New Mexico, December 30, 1931.

Rev. & 1932
Rev. Msgr. William Hughes
2021 H Street
Washington D.C.

Letter to
Dear Msgr. Hughes:

Undoubtedly, Christmas was a day of great joy for you who do so much for the Missions. At this time of the year it stands to reason also that you must have very much extra work to execute. For that reason I did not write you sooner and would not write you even now, -but?

Yes, we are willing to visit the Indians and try to fulfill our task to the best of our ability. This is possible only when we have the support that must from time to time come from without. We cannot and do not think it proper to take the few cents from those that walk barefooted in the snow (as I have witnessed at Zia). This year too the so-called primicias which is a small offering amounted to almost nothing. But it happened that the car that I drive to the Missions no longer held up and so I was compelled to get a new one. Rather than omit any visits to the pueblos I bought the car with only a portion (\$300) of the cost relying on friends and organizations to assist for the remainder.

For that reason I mailed you a letter at the early part of this month. Next month the note comes due for the remainder which I hoped to obtain at Christmas time but I simply did not. Then too it was a fond hope that the Indian Sentinel would probably carry the little writing send in during the month of August, but we know you have better writers and plenty. The immediate need is nothing less than \$150 to cover the note. If you cannot oblige next week kindly inform me so that I may borrow the necessary amount from somewhere.

Perhaps, you have replied to my last letter previous to the time this is written, but the reply has not reached me due to slow movement of mail. In that event don't take this letter amiss. Rest assured Rt. Rev. Msgr. that the only reason for this writing is the fear of losing the car.

If you receive the New York Times you probably have noted two drawings of the Zia Indians on pages 15 & 16 on the Magazine section in the November 30 number. While the Literary Digest of two weeks ago carried another of the same pueblo. If at any time you have a call for any of their drawing or pottery I shall be glad to oblige. At present I am carrying a small stock of this pottery.

Wishing you every success throughout the coming Year. May it be a joyous one for you. Now don't forget I am looking forward to a nice letter from you and when you come West, Jemes is the place to make a stop. For better Missions among the Indians, I am

Gratefully yours,

R. Raphael Kuennenbach, O.F.M.