

FROM THE EDITOR



According to "Kung Kao Po" (Hong Kong Catholic Diocesan Newspaper) (24th July, 1981), the Hong Kong Federation of Catholic Students united with youth of several parishes to sponsor a campaign to help the victims of flood and drought in Hebei and Hubei. The campaign was held from 26th July to 16th August and included an essay competition, variety show, donations, a Meal of Concern and sale of materials. The money collected will be presented to the Chinese Red Cross Association through the Hong Kong Red Cross Association.

The July issue of "China Message" (Hong Kong Catholic Monthly) notes that the staff of the periodical together with St. Vincent's Parish, Wong Tai Sin, have started a fund-raising campaign for victims of the Hebei droughts. The campaign, held on 9th August, includes slide shows to explain the drought situation in Hebei, prayer services and a Meal of Concern. Donations received will be given to the proper authorities through the "People's Daily".

A related news item from "Christian Weekly" (Hong Kong Protestant Newspaper) states that Hong Kong Christian Council received an urgent cable from World Council of Churches in Geneva, urging churches of all countries to help the victims of flood in Sichuan province. The cable said that WCC first consulted and obtained the agreement of the China Christian Council. Based on this, Hong Kong Christian Council has called on all Hong Kong Christians to give generously to this cause. Donations received will be sent to World Council of Churches headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, which will forward them to the Chinese Red Cross Association. These positive actions are concrete manifestations of Hong Kong Christians' concern and love for the

motherland and also are expressions of the Christian faith's social mission. They are worthy of imitation.



The first article in this issue of TRIPOD is "Breaking the Impasse". The author compares the development of former and present thinking and attitudes of the Chinese Communists and the Catholic Church. Due to its length, the article will be published in two parts.

The author of the second article, "The Possibility of a Praxical Ecclesiology" wishes to discuss two points with our readers: can the Chinese Church under the control of the government have a special and somewhat untraditional kind of ecclesiology? How should this special ecclesiology be expressed?

The third article introduces "Martino Martini: A Sinologist to be Remembered." Martini was a zealous missionary to China in the seventeenth century. He not only aroused Chinese intellectuals' avid interest in Western science but also stirred up in Europeans a great respect for Chinese culture. The life of this outstanding Sinologist is especially meaningful in promoting cultural dialogue.

"The Mongolian Territory and the Christian Encounter (Part II)" continues the article begun in last issue. It relates the missionary endeavors of the Society of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Scheut Fathers) in Mongolia.

Lastly, "Selected Resources for Reference" presents for the convenience of our readers some general background information on the "United Front", "Bureau of Religious Affairs", "Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association" and "Chinese Catholic Religious Affairs Committee".



The publication date of this issue of TRIPOD marks the first anniversary of Holy Spirit Study Centre. Staff of the Centre and TRIPOD wish to thank our friends within and outside Hong Kong diocese for the great support given us. We look forward to readers' continued suggestions, contributions and subscriptions.