AND NOW THE PAIN BEGINS, AS HOW THE RAIN BEGINS. And to make matters a good bit worse, Tessie Toogood hasn't written. Well, your not the only one who has troubles. PUT ON A HAPPY FACE and turn out for the Rally tomorrow evening at 7:30. Theme of the Rally: YOU Gotta HAVE HEART.

• CLOSE TO YOU. That's how Bishop Sheen and the people at the Propagation of the Faith headquarters would like to get next Sunday. It's Mission Sunday, throughout the country.

• THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will hold Open House tomorrow evening in the Council Chambers. A movie will be shown. All who have considered joining the Knights are invited.

• INTERESTED IN LAY MISSIONARY ACTIVITY? Might be worth your while to check out the following:

New York.—Skilled, trained and dedicated lay men and women are working side by side with priests, brothers, and sisters to Christianize the environment and implant the Church in mission lands. The national office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has released a list of the chief American societies to which missionary Bishops apply when they are in need of lay helpers. New groups are forming each year, but the eight largest lay mission movements now in operation are the following:

Grail Institute for Overseas Service (3509 Fulton Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.) has sent overseas, after 15 months of training, more than 150 young women possessing professional or technical skill. They strive to foster a current of Christian thought and action in education, the professions, arts, public life, the home, family, parish, and community.

International Catholic Auxiliaries (1734 Ashby, Evanston, Ill.) has sent more than 300 young women, some for five years and many for life, to the missions. Three years of missionary training are required.

Lay Mission-Helpers Association (1531 West Ninth Street, Los Angeles, Calif.) now sponsors close to 100 single men, single women, and couples on assignments or at least three years' duration. Their training consisted of 600 hours on weekends for more than a year.

Association for International Development (373 Grand Street, Peterboro, N. J.) stresses the social apostolate. More than 50 single men and married couples are now overseas, following at least nine months of training. They do not engage in direct proselytizing, but work for the reconstruction of the social order in underdeveloped countries according to the social doctrine of the Church.

Young Christian Workers (1700 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.) have sent more than 150 extension workers to foreign lands where they seek to bring a Christian answer to the needs of young workers and those preparing to work.

Women Volunteers for Africa (5401 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.), an organization founded last year by the White Sisters, now has five nurses in Uganda and four in Nyasaland. They require 10 months' training and a promise to dedicate three years of service to the African missions.

Regis College Lay Apostolate (Regis College, Weston, Mass.) sponsors 100 lay apostles in one-year teaching positions in the Western Hemisphere.

Papal Volunteers for Latin America (NCWC Latin American Bureau, 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D.C.) is a new program that will begin to recruit single persons and married couples in 1961.

Cardinal Marcello Minimi, president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, lists the essential participation requirements as "probit of life, teaching knowledge of Catholic doctrine ... speaking knowledge of either Spanish or Portuguese."

Five of these lay organizations have formed a Committee of the International Apostolate, and, with Manhattan Apostolate, N.Y., are co-sponsoring a second national conference on lay missions to be held at the college during the Thanksgiving week.

OTHER CHANNELS

Many Catholics are pursuing the apostolate through other channels, such as scholarships for overseas study or teaching, the United Nations agencies, the U.S. State Department overseas, and the U.S. business and industrial concerns with foreign affiliates. Such opportunities are not limited to youths. Apostolic middle-aged couples are planning to give their years to the Church overseas.

There are others who are entertaining foreign visitors and are concerned to make foreign students feel accepted and at home here. For the academic year 1959-60 there were 47,000 foreign students enrolled in American colleges. Eighty-five per cent of the Latin American students in the U.S. attended colleges other than Catholic.

HOW HIGH CAN YOU GET? .........In heaven, I mean. Of course, Our Lady surpasses everyone else there. But keep in mind that she is in a class by herself. As the Mother of God, she is in a class by herself, above all the saints and angels. St. Joseph is probably the No. 1 saint. The point is debated by theologians. Some insist John the Baptist is tops. The controversy never had much interest for the village blacksheep in our town. He--like a lot of his latter-day counterparts--defended his moral lapses by insisting he would crawl under the fence and into heaven at the last minute. of life. Just getting past the Pearly Gates was all that mattered to him. He figured that just getting into heaven was all that mattered. He had an idea of heaven that was all his own. He thought that by making the grade, everyone will enjoy the same degree of happiness. He acted on this principle--never tried to outshine anyone. The St Joseph--John the Baptist controversy might have straightened him out.

THAT FIRST DAY IN HEAVEN is going to afford a lot of surprises for quite a few. There's apt to be a few rascals up there. Someone's prayer will have saved them. And some who were expected to be close to St Peter.......won't be around. When their guardian angel announces, "the jig's up", their secret life will have caught up with them!

GOD REWARDS EVERYONE according to the way they serve Him. Many times, the lowly and humble have a much greater love. Your folks, for instance, may not have had the opportunities for schooling that they have made possible for you. But they may be greater saints than their sons. .......How high are you trying to get?

THOSE OF US who have taken the vows of religion and joined a religious community ought to have a place in heaven above business and professional men. Even above parents. The religious state puts one in a position to serve God better. The religious has help that others in the world don't have. That's why his halo is (or should be) a little brighter. You might say God wants to give a special place in heaven to some souls. So..... He calls them to the religious life. Maybe He's called you. You had the idea once, I'll bet. Turn the idea over again in your mind. Maybe make a retreat. Get away from the routine and think a few thoughts about how high you're going to get. In heaven.

THIS WEEK-END--or any week-end--take time to consider your future. Make a retreat. Take time for a few extra prayers and some discussion of how high you can expect to get when it's all over for you.

MAKE ARRANGEMENTS for a week-end retreat at St Joseph Hall by stopping at 116 Dillon.