



MADONNA HOUSE, COMBERMERE, ONTARIO

MADONNA HOUSE.

Madonna House had its beginning thirty years ago in Toronto. Mrs. Edward Doherty, then Baroness de Hueck, began her work of establishing Friendship Houses. She and others whom she inspired with her own love of God and neighbor worked in many cities in Canada and the United States; Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Harlem New York, Chicago and Marthon City, Wisconsin. In 1947 at the request of Right Reverend William Smith, Bishop of Pembroke, Mr. and Mrs. Doherty came to Combermere. Since coming here Mrs. Doherty and her followers under the name of Madonna House have become a dedicated group. They now number about seventy people in Canada and the U.S.A., including men, women and Priests the members dedicate their lives to serving God and their fellow men, especially through charitable works. Madonna House has been incorporated in the Province of Ontario, through Letters Patent from the Lieutenant Governor, as a non-profit religious organization to perform charitable works. At present their labors are confined to Canada and the United States, but next year they will work in the West Indies, and in 1962 in Pakistan.

After thirteen years at Combermere, Madonna House has nine foundations. Combermere itself is the headquarters and training centre for all the Houses.

It also serves as a Rural Settlement House. In Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, there are two Houses; Our Lady of Whitehorse, for Indian boys and girls, attending High School, and Maryhouse for sheltering and aiding Indians and transients. Edmonton Alberta has two houses; the Catholic Information Centre and Marion Centre, which is engaged in the work of feeding transients.

Stella Maris House in Portland, Oregon, works with interracial groups. Casa de Nuestra Senora, in Winslow, Arizona and Maria Reina, in Balmorea, Texas, do Catechetical work.

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