NEW PROTEIN CONCENTRATE TO BE TESTED BY FAMED HUNGER-FIGHTING HONG KONG PRIEST IN LUNCHEON ARRANGED BY SECRETARY UDALL

Something new may be added to the five million pounds of noodles that Monsignor John Romaniello of Hong Kong annually distributes to needy Chinese. Raw materials for the noodles are provided by the American people through the Food for Peace Program.

On June 27, Father Romaniello will be guest at a special luncheon arranged in Washington, by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall. One of the dishes will be noodles, made especially nutritious by addition of fish protein concentrate (FPC), which Secretary Udall believes can be utilized to fill the hunger gap for millions throughout the world. Bread and cookies containing small amounts of FPC also will be served Father Romaniello, fondly nicknamed "Romy" by his followers in the Orient.

"Romy's noodles" are famous in Hong Kong, in the Philippines, Macao, Taiwan, Vietnam, and Korea. One of the first things Father Romaniello noticed when he went to Hong Kong in 1957 to head the Catholic Relief Service in that area was that while surplus foods from the United States arrived regularly, the food was in unfamiliar or unusable forms. Wheat flour and corn meal are well liked, but in too many instances the hungry Chinese had no method for preparing them. Father Romaniello conceived the idea of converting the wheat flour, plus some of the corn meal and milk powder, into noodles. Now he has nine jerry-built "factories" in Hong Kong alone manufacturing noodles for free distribution to Red China refugees and others.

Nutritious as the noodles are, they still do not supply the necessary amounts of animal protein for continued good health. Other sources of such protein must be found. The answer may be in FPC, which the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service is pioneering through intensive research.

Fish protein concentrate, a white, flourlike powder made from fish, contains all the essential amino acids necessary for human health. It is lightweight, easily transportable, and virtually impervious to spoilage.
Secretary Udall, who spoke at the recent World Food Congress in Washington, which Father Romaniello attended, spoke enthusiastically of the efforts by the priest to feed hungry millions.

"Were concern for the plight of the world's hungry is not enough," he said. "Father Romaniello, in taking a page from the lesson of the loaves and fishes, has joined the front ranks of the hunger fighters."

"FPC offers the world one of its best weapons in this fight against the mass hunger which threatens many parts of the globe," he added. "Much of the world's hunger, ranging from acute starvation to chronic, marginal dietary deficiencies is a problem not only of food lack, but of protein malnutrition.

"By utilizing the unharvested fish in United States waters alone, enough fish protein concentrate can be obtained to provide supplemental animal protein for one billion people for 300 days at a cost of less than half a cent a day per person."

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