

Boston philanthropist, who has spent a great deal of money getting credit unions started in various kinds of organizations throughout the country. Mr. Filene sometimes explains that it is appropriate that he, a Jew, should engage in the work of abolishing usury since so many Jews have been charged with the offense.

While most persons who are interested in parish credit unions are prone to think of them as coöperative borrowing and saving societies, there is another side of them which is stressed by some of the pastors who have had them in their parishes. Where they are operated successfully they tend to bring the parish together and to strengthen its community bonds. As one pastor puts it the by-products of the parish credit unions are more important than the financial plan itself.

In a word the parish credit union is an agency to combat the "rapacious usury, which, although more than once condemned by the Church, is nevertheless, under a different form but with the same guilt, still practiced by avaricious and grasping men" as Pope Leo XIII said in the Encyclical "Rerum Novarum." This principle has been expressed by Pope Pius XI in his recent encyclical "Quadragesimo Anno." The best way to make this agency really effective is to bring a knowledge of the merits of the parish credit union to pastors everywhere.

SONG FOR THIS SPRING

PHILIP REILLY, O.P.

Out from poor hungering mouths the lyric forth—
 Out from heart's taunted strings the melody—
 Out from despair unearned, a song is wrought,
 And those who listen hear a bodeful threnody.

A song that surges o'er this depressed land,
 And purges gold, the canker of their care;
 That soothes the victims of our bread-line bands,
 Who seek their shelter and an ekesome fare.

To this song men perchance may harken,
 For every man knows what it sings,
 And contrite hearts perchance may reckon:
 Why bartered I in human things!