

Midwest . . . News Notes

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

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The Indiana State Approval Agency, Department of Veterans' Affairs, has granted approval of the courses offered at Holy Cross Junior College for receipt of G. I. Bill. Approval date: 15 August 1967. The current Bulletin of Holy Cross Junior College is being mailed to all houses.

The usual area vocation meetings have been postponed. The matter of area meetings will be studied again next year, but for the present Brother Donatus approved a plan of the Area Directors to intensify work in the schools as a substitute for the area meetings this year. At meetings held at the Provincial Office on the 15th and 16th of September, it was decided to emphasize faculty meetings devoted to the topic of vocations and Area Directors to attend these faculty meetings in an effort to be of assistance to the schools.

Brothers Donatus Schmitz and Charles Krupp attended a meeting of the Conference of Major Superiors of Communities of Men held in Baltimore on Sept. 15, 16, and 17. The invitation was extended to Provincials of Communities of Brothers and they discussed issues of interest to Brother religious. The sessions were held at the Marianist Provincial House. Topics highlighted during the discussions were: formation programs; dual authority in schools; the apostolate; proposed agenda for next meeting of CMSM.

The Archdiocese of Chicago has opened a Department for the Deaf at Holy Trinity High School. Brother Just Paczesny reported that the school is under the direction of a Sister trained for this work, and the program started with an enrollment of ten. Once the students are sufficiently adept at lip reading they will attend regular classes at the school.

The high school retreat program inaugurated at Basil Hall during the spring of 1967 will continue as scheduled during the spring of 1968. The future of the program is not decided for the moment, except that no retreats will be scheduled beyond the spring of 1968 until some decision is reached. The schedule of high school retreats will be discontinued to allow expansion of the formation program at Basil Hall.

Brother Romanus Ringwelski has been assigned to live at Dujarie House and Bro. Jerome Andrews has been assigned to assist at Holy Trinity High School.

Two Peace Corps workers have been added to the faculty of St. Patrick High School in Monrovia. Two Grail Ladies who were closely associated with the school were killed recently in an automobile accident.

(Previous issues of Midwest . . . News Notes carried provincial chapter answers to questions one through four of the Superior General's circular letter #5. Here are chapter answers to questions #5 and #6)

Question #5 -- Is this proposal (union of two Societies) satisfactory? How can it be improved or completed?

This proposal is satisfactory, but it might be more completely stated by emphasizing the fact that our community, in keeping with the spirit of the Founder, is dedicated to the apostolic life. We are attentive to the needs of the Church in any apostolate which would fill these needs. To quote from the Superior General's letter: "It should be made clear that we are ready to undertake activities which the evolution of the Church and the world may require of us." (CL #5, Sec. II p. 97)

Question #6 -- Is the proposed introduction to the vows satisfactory?

Because the present Constitutions are largely juridical and the traditions of the Congregation and the writings of the Founder provide relatively little by way of a different sort of treatment, the suggestion that the Council documents be used as a guideline is reasonable in formulating an introduction to the evangelical counsels of religious profession.

The imitation of Christ, strengthening of baptismal bonds, renunciation for love of God, example as sign, genuine development of the human person, and corporate aspects of the vows having their foundations in the Lord which tend toward Him are factors common to each of the three vows. Possibly the binding force of the vows could be stated in a formation handbook.

The order of listing or treating of the vows should be the same as appears in the Council documents. The revised Constitutions on the religious vows should include an approach that is principally biblical and theological, adequate, but minimal juridical elements and an emphasis on the community and apostolic aspects of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience.

The October 2 Faculty Meeting at St. Edward High School will host the staff members of Lakewood High School. The subject matter of the meeting will be "Drug Addiction" with Lieut. Miller of the Cleveland Police leading the discussion. A buffet supper will be served to the members of the two schools in attendance.

Early last spring Holy Cross Junior College offered two scholarships for the enrollment of young people from lower-income families and minority groups.

During the past year twenty-five "jobs" held by Brothers in the Province on a full-time basis became vacant for reasons of deaths, retirements, dispensations, and withdrawals. There were no replacements available for some of these vacancies.

Thirteen aspirants for the midwest, one for the east, and one for the southwest enrolled in the Basil Hall program on Sept. 14, 1967. In addition to the Basil Hall staff and scholastic receptionists, the area vocation directors were on hand to help with the orientation process.

In addition to Brothers listed in the Residence Directory, the following are also on the Holy Cross Junior College staff: Sister George Marie, O.P., teaches Phil. 101, Introduction to Philosophy. Sister is a doctoral student at Notre Dame. And Mr. Paul Smith, who teaches NSCI 101, Natural Science: Zoology and Botany. Mr. Smith also is a doctoral student at Notre Dame.

How can the Office for Educational Research, University of Notre Dame, help us: our schools and religious and lay teachers and other personnel? An attempt to answer this question was recently made by Brother Donatus and council members during a meeting with Mr. Reginald A. Neuwien, Director. Serious thought is being given to using the interdisciplinary services of ER in our effort to implement Decree #1 of the Committee on the Educational Apostolate: "Each institution of the province shall make a study -- according to Provincial directives -- of its apostolic value, and of province ability to meet adequately the commitments of the institution in light of its personnel and financial structure. The results of each study shall be forwarded to the Provincial Administration."

Thomas More High School is the new name of the school at Boysville. This name was adopted at a recent meeting of the Board of Directors. Salary increases and hospitalization benefits for the Brothers were also approved at this meeting. Other proposals that have to do with the Boysville Study were discussed, modified, and are being considered for adoption by the Board.

At a one day meeting held at the Provincial Office on September 30, 1967, the Provincial, Provincial Counsellors, Superiors of the Province, Principals, and Directors:

- = heard a report from Brother Donatus covering a variety of topics of interest and concern to those attending the meeting;
- = reviewed budget procedures and learned that a comparative analysis of maintenance costs is being made;
- = discussed local house schedules including such points as religious exercises in common; time for private prayer; experimentation with private exercises;
- = studied parts of the Provincial Circular Letter which includes approved chapter decrees and recommendations;
- = made some observations and reflections on dual authority in houses where this has been introduced;
- = gave some initial consideration to the possibility of introducing annual orientation workshops at the junior college for new teachers hired in our province schools;
- = considered advance plans for the November 11 workshop with a view to inviting Superiors, Principals, and Stewards.