

Midwest . . . News Notes

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

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January 1, 1968

On January 1, 1968 we will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the arrival of the Holy Cross Brothers in Ghana." This was the opening statement of Brother Raymond Papenfuss to the Provincial Chapter last summer. "In this relatively short period of time," he reports, "much has been accomplished. In 1958 the school had only a few classrooms and a very poor academic standing. Today we have, besides the Brothers' residence, four classroom buildings, two dormitories housing 300 students, a large chapel, a dining hall, Juniorate and seven staff houses. The academic achievement is no less notable. The level of academic success has risen from a 34% pass level in 1958 to an 80% pass level in 1966. What is more important is the number of candidates that select our school as first choice is now over 400 each year. From this number we select 70 boys for Form 1."

Seventeen Brothers of the midwest province have served in Ghana during these past ten years, and some of them there now have been there for almost the entire period of time.

Brothers Andrew Steffes and William Sheehan have returned to the United States on leave from East Pakistan. Brother Brian Lyon has been appointed headmaster at Bandura and Brother Robert B. Hughes was appointed assistant at St. Gregory's. Brothers Brian and Robert were here on leave recently and have just returned to East Pakistan.

Sister Mary Luke, S.L., Mother General of the Sisters of Loretto and an observer at Vatican II, gave conferences and led discussions at the Sarto Retreat House, Evansville, for Brothers from Evansville, Terre Haute, Indianapolis, and Louisville, on Dec. 29, 30, and 31. Other speakers and discussion leaders were Rev. Thomas McNally, C.S.C., and Rev. William Bohnert. The theme of the "Community Weekend" was "The Importance of the Individual in Religious Renewal."

RECOMMENDED READING: All in Review for Religious, Vol. 26, No. 5, Sept. 1967.

- 1) "An Attitude Towards Community" by Andre Auw, C.P., page 797.
- 2) "The Vows and Christian Life" by Gary Greif, S.J., page 805.
- 3) "Institutional Business Administration and Religious" by John J. Flanagan, S.J. and James I. O'Connor, S.J., page 779.

The fourth annual INTERPROVINCE MEETING OF FORMATION PERSONNEL was held at Valatie, New York, early December. Eight Brothers representing three provinces attended. High on the agenda for discussion was the possibility of an inter-province integrated formation program. The team approach to formation was also carefully studied, and an attempt was made to define the following areas: goals of formation; methods (team, small groups, structure, etc.); stages (levels) and the content in the various stages. Brother Elmo Bransby was chairman.

The Brothers at Archbishop Hoban High School have been conducting workshops and giving in-service training courses for teachers and principals of diocesan elementary schools. -- Brothers William Fitch and Donard Steffes have been giving a course two evenings a week in science fundamentals for the Sisters of the Akron area. -- Brother John of the Cross recently addressed elementary school principals and library aides on the topic "A high school librarian looks at the grade school library."

Brother Just Paczesny represented the Catholic School Board, Archdiocese of Chicago, at a conference sponsored by The Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, held in Chicago on Dec. 8. -- Brother John Driscoll is representing Holy Cross Junior College at a study-action project initiated by Mayor Lloyd Allen of South Bend in an effort to apply university and college resources to the solution of urban problems.

Enclosed is an educational piece being sent you through the courtesy of Brother Majella Hegarty.

Question #17 -- Give comments and suggestions on the elements of a life of prayer indicated above.

The Constitution should recommend, concerning frequent exercises:

- 1) that religious have frequent recourse to the sacrament of penance.
- 2) that concerning the Blessed Sacrament
 - visits are the simplest and most natural way to express devotion to the reserved Eucharist
 - reference to thanksgiving after communion be omitted in view of the extended silent or prayer period to be inaugurated in the Mass following reception of Holy Communion
 - the Hour of Adoration be recommended as profitable to many and rooted in our traditions--but not required.
 - there be no reference to Benediction
- 3) that the importance of some form of devotion to the Blessed Virgin be stressed and that mention of the rosary be made a recommended form of the devotion.
- 4) that Chapter be presented in terms of a meeting of the local community for conferences by the Superior or another religious or an outside speaker, or by house discussion. The frequency and format to be left to the local house.