



# Brothers of

# HOLY CROSS

Vol. 2, No. 5

Notre Dame, Indiana

February, 1950

## Behind the Scenes —

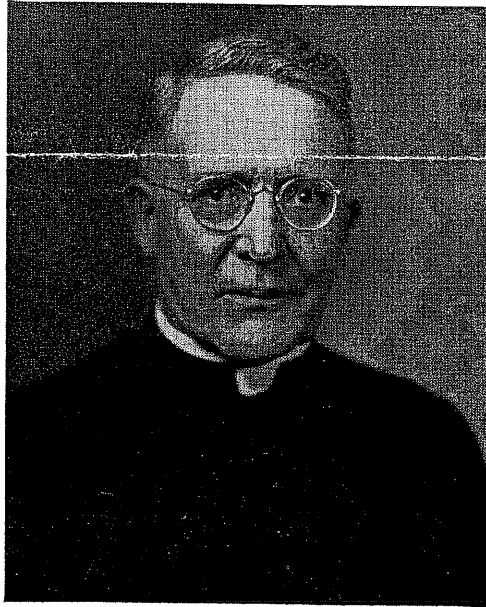
Much of the credit for the notable progress of the Brothers of Holy Cross in recent years must go to the Provincial Superior, tireless and far-seeing Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer. For upon his shoulders fell the task of forming a working government for the newly formed Brothers' province in 1946, and who since that time has directed the day to day progress of the institutions under the care of Holy Cross. It was he who organized a Provincial Council and who, with its approval, set in motion the many financial and technical details attendant upon an active religious community.

Brother Ephrem was born in Tipperary, Eire, in 1888, one of a family of eleven children, four girls and seven boys. When only eighteen, he decided to enter the religious life and came to America to fulfill that desire. He visited a short time in Brooklyn, but went on almost immediately to join the Brothers of Holy Cross at Notre Dame. His progress since then has been unusual and inspiring.

Earning both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in the arts and life teaching certificates in eleven different subjects in the secondary curriculum, Brother has also taught school administration and supervision at the University of Notre Dame in the summer session and the regular term. The University has benefited from Brother Ephrem's ability in more than just the teaching profession, because from 1931 to 1933 he was Treasurer there and from 1931 to 1939 he was Secretary to the Board of Trustees. He has been an author, teacher, principal, and superior; and from the early 1930's has held important posts in the administration of Holy Cross affairs. From 1931 to 1938 he was a member of the Provincial Council, from 1938 to 1945 he was an Assistant General. Since 1946, he has been first Provincial of the American province of the Brothers of Holy Cross.

A quick check shows that no less than eight major institutions have been added to the list of schools already under the care of the Brothers since Brother Ephrem assumed office. Most promising is the fact that five of these eight are Community-owned, thus offering to the Brothers the greatest possible freedom for putting into practice the Christian educational principles which they use in the education of young people. The new schools are listed as follows: Notre Dame High School, West Haven, Connecticut and Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio, both opened in 1946; Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, California, and St. Francis of Assisi School, Brooklyn, in 1947; Boysville, Clinton, Michigan, 1948; and St. Edward's High School, Lakewood, Ohio, and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Bronx, opened in 1949. Vastly important to the development of the Brothers is the opening of the new Scholasticate at St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas, for the training of Brothers.

Characteristically, when discussing the progress or the work of the Brothers of Holy Cross, Brother Ephrem calls attention to a provident God, to his very able council, and to the many loyal religious as being responsible for whatever success there may be. It is certain, however, that history will attest the vision and quick-wittedness of this selfless man.



Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer, C.S.C.  
Provincial

## New Assignments

The Provincial office has released a list of assignments of Brothers to work in the various houses.

Brother Claude Hartman becomes supervisor of the farm at St. Joseph of Holy Cross, Valatie, New York. Brother Lellis Brannigan will do the farming at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio.

Brother John Berchmans Aery enrolled at Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan, and will pursue agricultural studies there until summer.

Brother John Fedorowicz joins the faculty of Gilmour Academy. Brother John Capistran Bylancik is now a member of the faculty at Sacred Heart Juniorate, Watertown, Wisconsin. Brother Edwin Kinney is assisting in the publication office at Holy Cross Foreign Mission Seminary, Washington, D. C. Brother John O'Laughlin replaces Brother Peter Celestine Maranto at St. Anthony's High School, Long Beach, California, while the latter recuperates at Sherman Oaks.

Brother Amadeus Connor becomes kitchen Supervisor at St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas, and Brother Jean Kirt is to serve in the same capacity at Gilmour Academy.

## To N.C.E.A. Meet

Brother William Mang, C.S.C., Assistant Provincial and Supervisor of Studies for the schools of the Brothers, attended a meeting of the executive board of the National Catholic Education Association in Atlantic City in January. Brother is a Vice President of that organization.

## Buffalo Meeting

Brother Roman Witowski, C.S.C., of the faculty of Holy Trinity High School, Chicago, was elected First Vice President of the Polish American Historical Society at their recent convention in Buffalo. Brother was a guest of Bishop John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., longtime friend of the Brothers of Holy Cross, while he was in Buffalo.

## Brothers of Holy Cross

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Brother Garnier Morin, C.S.C. Editor

Brother Elmo Bransby, C.S.C.

Business Manager

Notre Dame - - - - Indiana

## The End of the First Half

The passing of the first fifty years of the twentieth century has produced an enormous amount of editorial comment in the secular press, and reading it one cannot help but wonder how these obviously disenchanted writers can continue to see the mistakes and the blindness of an ever encompassing materialism and not turn to the Christian solution. It is, of course, not as simple as all that.

Even if we ignore the heralds of doom in other countries and look only at some of those of the peculiarly American gender, we can readily see that no foreign country has had a monopoly on 'popular' but retrogressive thought. For at least the last thirty years a Pied Piper of American education at Columbia has propagated the idea that technological progress is automatically beneficial to men of good will; that there is no objective, immutable morality. The implications of thinking like this are unbelievable, and one wonders again just how the 'sons of progress,' believing as they do, could be so indignant over a Mussolini, for example. Scientific advancement is one thing and human understanding is another and the two do not necessarily march abreast.

People in the early centuries were often victims of forces they didn't know how to control; the plague, floods, and the like. In this year of enlightenment, natural forces in general no longer are considered dangerous and the few that are troublesome are feeling the pinch of the technological approach. But the soul of man himself is probably less better off. Whereas in the early centuries he was able to seal himself off from distraction if he so desired, that is hardly any longer possible. The mad din is on, and materialism through ingenious devices can pound away at our ears and occupy our field of vision a great part of every day—if we permit it. Materialism cries loudly from the slick magazines and the over-staged and under-acted movies, and more tragic even than this is

## Thank You

The "Brothers of Holy Cross" is financed by the good will offerings of those who read it. Donations are received gratefully at any time in any amount. With thanks we list below a part of the donors since September, 1949:

*California:* Mrs. James Gates, Anaheim. *Canada:* Mrs. Dan Madden, Nova Scotia. *Illinois:* Miss Mary C. Ryan, Mrs. A. Enk, Chicago. *Indiana:* Mrs. Donald Brennan, Mrs. Harold Haering, Miss Ruth Keil, Mrs. Henry Titzer, Evansville; Mr. Bruno Eisminski, East Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. John Corcoran, Indianapolis; Mrs. Margaret Foldenauer, Michigan City; Brother John Brennan, C.S.C., Notre Dame; Mrs. L. F. Beutter, Mr. William Buschatz, South Bend. *Kentucky:* Mr. J. Albert Clarke, Owensboro. *Massachusetts:* Mr. Howard Bostrom, Holyoke; Mrs. Josephine Repucci, Mansfield. *Michigan:* Mr. Simon Balog, Detroit. *New York:* Brothers of Holy Cross at St. Francis of Assisi, Brooklyn. *Ohio:* Mr. R. Dierker, Columbus; Mr. Anthony Schaefer, Dayton. *Pennsylvania:* Mr. and Mrs. John Ruane, Miss Maria G. Scheiber, Scranton. *Wisconsin:* Mrs. Bert Corcoran, Fond du Lac; Mrs. Donald Rink, Wauwatosa.



Competing for honors with the Mothers' Club of Notre Dame High School, West Haven, Connecticut, is the ambitious Fathers' Club. Pictured is the recently elected president, Mr. Joseph J. Sullivan.

the fact that many of our teachers believe and teach it. It is almost gratuitous to add that radio and television are its handmaidens. Its propaganda is so subtle and constant that the generation agrowing scarcely recognizes it as such. The great French philosopher, Jacques Maritain, wrote recently that if a new age of civilization is to come it will require a mass sanctification of the laity; that social living must be quickened by the spiritual. In other words the tinsel, superficial life of the materialist must end, and all activity, all living must be pointed Godward.

## Brother Kilian to St. Joseph's Juniorate

Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer, C.S.C., Provincial of the Brothers of Holy Cross, announced at Notre Dame, Indiana, that Brother Kilian Beirne, C.S.C., teacher at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio, would succeed the late Brother Jarlath O'Brien as Superior of the Brothers' Juniorate at Valatie, New York.

Brother Kilian entered the Brothers of Holy Cross in May, 1915, and was professed in 1921. He graduated from Notre Dame, has wide experience teaching in the Brothers' schools, and has enjoyed an enviable reputation as a speaker and raconteur. He is no stranger to Valatie, having taught there from 1939 to 1942 and he is happy at the prospect of living once more in the beautiful Catskill region of New York.

## Changes in General Administration

Brother Bernard Gervais, C.S.C., formerly Treasurer and Steward for the General Administration of the Congregation of Holy Cross, has been elected a member of the General Council, the Superior General, Very Reverend Albert F. Cousineau, C.S.C., announced at the Generalate in New York City recently. Brother Bernard will complete the term of the late Brother Venard Gorman, C.S.C.

Brother Bernard was born in Mokense, Illinois, and within the last year celebrated the fiftieth year of his religious profession as a Brother of Holy Cross. In 1926 he was elected to the General Council, and was re-elected in 1932. In 1938 he became General Treasurer, and has held that position until his present appointment.

Succeeding Brother Bernard in the office of treasurer will be Brother Theophane Schmitt, C.S.C., Headmaster of Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio. Brother Theophane was professed in 1935, and will remain at the Gates Mills school which he helped found four years ago.

Brother Rupert Poudrier, C.S.C., Principal of Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, California, and Brother Francis Davis, C.S.C., Principal of the Boys' Department of St. Anthony's High School, Long Beach, California, attended the annual Regional Meeting of the N.C.E.A. in San Francisco last month.

## Obituary

Prayers are requested for the Aunt of Brother Lionel Light, C.S.C., who died recently.

## In Memoriam

Following is a letter received by Brother Ephrem O'Dwyer, C.S.C., Provincial:

241 Clinton Avenue  
Brooklyn 5, N. Y.

January 11, 1950

Very Rev. Brother Ephrem, C.S.C.

Provincial

Notre Dame, Indiana

Very Reverend dear Brother:

Permit me to extend to you and to your companions in religion my sincerest sympathy in recognition of your great sorrow resulting from the death of good Brother Venard.

I am confident that priests, religious and people of the Diocese of Brooklyn who were privileged to know Brother Venard share in my high estimate of his edifying religious life and his blessedly fruitful services for the spiritual and moral as well as for the intellectual and physical welfare of our youth.

While the grief of the moment is burdensome we all feel grateful to God that He allowed the Diocese of Brooklyn as well as other dioceses of our country to enjoy the notable talents, charitable spirit and remarkable pedagogical ability of such a worthy Christian teacher.

You may be assured that we shall be mindful of him in our Mass and prayers that God may grant eternal rest and peace to his soul.

With renewed expression of sincere sympathy, I am

Faithfully yours,

✠ Thomas E. Molloy,  
BISHOP OF BROOKLYN

What kindly Bishop Molloy writes about Brother Venard he could as well have written about Brother Jarlath O'Brien, C.S.C., Superior of St. Joseph of Holy Cross, Valatie, New York, who died a short time before. Nothing suited either of these two Brothers more than to work in peace for God and Holy Cross. Their practical personal outlooks as well as their thorough Catholicism conspired to make them both talented leaders and unusually enjoyable people to know and work with.

Brother Venard's former associates, on the Board of Supervisors for the Diocese of Brooklyn, wishing to memorialize his passing in some way, submitted the following resolutions:

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

75 Greene Avenue  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

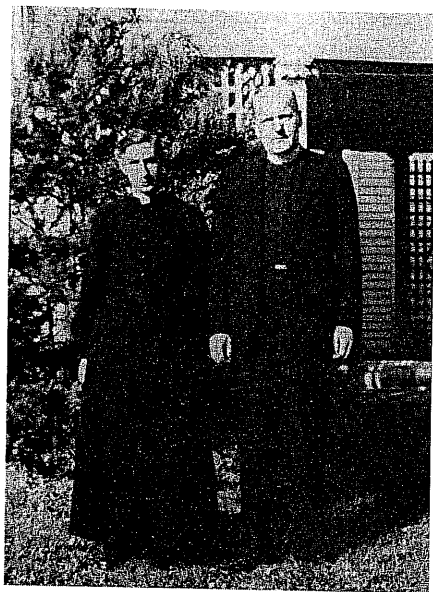
### RESOLUTIONS:

Whereas Brother Venard of the Congregation of Brothers of Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Indiana, a religious after the

heart of the venerated Father Moreau, heroic Founder of the Congregation, was an outstanding figure in Catholic education over twenty years, five of which he spent in the Diocese of Brooklyn and

Whereas Brother Venard devoted his talents completely to the service of youth; pioneered and directed St. Charles Boys' Home, Milwaukee for twelve years and

Whereas Brother Venard brought with him to the Diocese of Brooklyn a wealth of educational and administrative experience when in 1945 he was appointed by his Superiors as Supervisor of the Schools taught by the Brothers of



Brother Jarlath O'Brien and Brother Venard Gorman pictured as they enjoyed some relaxation at St. Joseph of Holy Cross, Valatie, New York, late last fall.

Holy Cross in the Metropolitan area and was placed in charge as Principal and organizer of the Boys' Department of St. Thomas Aquinas School, Flatlands,

therefore be it

Resolved that his associates—Superiors of the Catholic Schools staffed by religious of all Congregations in the Diocese of Brooklyn—pay him the tribute that he served faithfully where religious obedience called him, dedicating all his efforts to the sanctification of the souls of youth directly or through teacher guidance, giving his wholehearted cooperation in the cause of Catholic education; be it further

Resolved that a copy of these Resolutions be sent to the Very Reverend Superior General of the Brothers of Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Indiana, as a perpetual memorial of esteem and edification of his co-workers.

Brother Calixtus, F.S.C.

Brother Angelus, C.F.X.

Sister M. Marcella, S.M.

Mother M. Chrysostom, O.P.

## Coyle Review Honored

The *Coyle Review*, yearbook of Monsignor Coyle High School, Taunton, Massachusetts, has been given high ratings by the various press agencies. The National Scholastic Press Association, on the basis of originality in planning, literary treatment and artistic composition, gave the *Review* First Class Honors. This award was made in competition with more than six hundred other books in a national survey.

Columbia University Press Association gave the *Coyle Review* Second Place rating in its fifteenth annual competition.

Brother Eagan Hunter, C.S.C., a graduate of the art department of the University of Iowa, is moderator of the student publication and a member of the faculty of Coyle High School.

Brother Ernest Ryan, C.S.C., Director of Dujarie Press, Notre Dame, Indiana, spoke to the South Bend-Mishawaka Writers' Club on the methods of developing prose writing for publication. Brother used specimens of the members' own writings to illustrate his points.

## St. Edward's Enlarges Curriculum

Brother Simon Scribner, C.S.C., Registrar at St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas, announced the addition of fifteen new courses to the curriculum starting the second semester of the current school year.

Each of the four colleges of the university has added new courses. The Education department is introducing two: Educational Psychology and Social Education. Journalism will offer Advanced Journalistic Writing, News Illustrations and the Graphic Arts, Modern Culture 1, and Community Newspapers. English has added Business Correspondence and Reports. All the foregoing are in the College of Arts and Letters.

The College of Science will offer a new course in Public Health and Hygiene, and Biochemistry.

The College of Engineering will teach, in addition to the regular schedule, Fundamentals of Electric Engineering, Strength of Materials, and Thermodynamics.

The College of Commerce announced the following new courses: Sales Management, Labor Problems and Economics, Contemporary Economic Systems, and Federal Taxes.

The Brothers of Holy Cross have been working in Texas since 1874 when Brothers Maximus and John of the Cross arrived in Austin.

## Boysville Makes 'TIME'

The January 2 issue of *Time* carried the following news item on its *People* page. The Boysville school which they mention is at Clinton, Michigan, and is directed by the Brothers of Holy Cross with the financial help of the Archdiocese of Detroit and the Michigan Knights of Columbus. The item read:

"Michigan's Governor Mennen (Soapy) Williams was momentarily startled when he arrived at Boysville school in Michigan for a Christmas party. A group of youths hurriedly lined up to greet him. They carried placards which were supposed to spell out H-E-L-L-O G-O-V-E-R-N-O-R. In the confusion one of the boys ran to the wrong end of the line. The placards read O-H-E-L-L G-O-V-E-R-N-O-R."

What *Time* did not know was that the Governor was over an hour late and the boys may have been wiser than their elders.

## Brothers Accept Gift

The students at Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, through their class presidents, and with the help of Mr. Joe Dezelan and Mr. Cleon Reynolds, athletic coaches, and Mrs. Ferris, school secretary, presented the Brothers of the faculty with a RCA Victor television set for Christmas. The receiver will be placed in the recreation room of the Brothers' residence.

The gift which took the Brothers by surprise was made possible by the generosity of the students. The coaches and Mrs. Ferris acted as moderators, but the students made the purchase themselves.

One faculty member wrote: "The gift not only is appreciated by the faculty but it represents fine leadership and ingenuity on the part of all the students."

In passing it may be of interest to note that ordinarily the Brothers, if they have no school activity to work on, have a daily recreation period of usually an hour each evening. On holidays or church festivals the time is extended. The television set will be a welcome diversion.

Brother Neil Gildea, C.S.C., a member of the faculty of Holy Trinity High School, Chicago, was chairman of the Chemistry-Physics department of the Chicago Catholic Science Teachers Association at their meeting last month. Brother Neil introduced two speakers: Brother Columba Curran, C.S.C., a member of the faculty of the University of Notre Dame, who spoke on "Visualizing Intermolecular Forces"; and Brother Bruno Klusewitz, C.S.C., teacher at Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, who spoke on "Up to Date on Jet-Propulsion and Jets". Brother Bruno has spent many years studying airplanes and last summer attended classes in jets and jet-propulsion at Butler University, Indianapolis.

## Respite for the Travelers

The "auto fleet" of the Brothers of Holy Cross who travel for *The Ave Maria* magazine, published at Notre Dame, Indiana, spent the holidays at various houses of the Brothers.

Brothers Brendan Luby, Maurice Wertsberger and Kenneth Hopkinson, who are at present working on the Atlantic seaboard, enjoyed the hospitality of Holy Cross Foreign Mission Seminary, Washington, D. C., Brother Benjamin McNulty joined the Brothers at Holy Cross High School, New Orleans, to observe the Christmas and New Year festivities.

The Community House at Notre Dame welcomed Brothers Vitus Schwartz, Otto Hayden, Canisius Mooney, Romain Healy and Lionel Light. Since the nature of their work necessitates these religious being away from their "Brothers in Christ" a good part of the time, both guests and hosts enjoyed the short stay.

## Boys Print Prayerbook

The boys at St. Charles Boys' Home, Milwaukee, have edited and printed their own prayerbook for use in their chapel. They set the type in their print shop after having picked out the prayers they wanted, and turned out a very useful little booklet of sixteen pages. Brother John Fedorowicz, C.S.C., a teacher at St. Charles, directed the work.



Students at Cathedral High, Indianapolis, gather around the television set with Mr. Joe Dezelan (left, hand on hips), Father Richard Kavanagh, Superintendent (center), and Mrs. Ferris (right).