



# The NEWSETTE

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Midwest Province—Notre Dame, Indiana

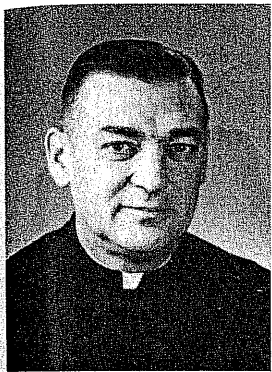
January, 1960

## CLASSES, SPEECHES, CONVENTIONS

### SILVER JUBILIARIANS

Next month two province members celebrate their 25th jubilee of religious profession.

Brother Dacian Renner, who was born in Toledo, Ohio, in 1908, entered Holy Cross as a postulant in 1933, made his novitiate among the last group of novices to go through this training at Notre Dame, and pronounced his temporary vows on February 2, 1935. He studied at Dujarie Hall and on completing classes at Notre Dame was assigned to New Orleans. After a year there he was transferred to Father Gibault School in Terre Haute, where he has been ever since, serving in many capacities over the years. Old friends remember how he took care of all the official records and correspondence when he was also steward. He taught typing to hundreds of Gibault boys, had charge of the seniors' dormitory, and also served as prefect of the junior department. For years he has looked after the expansive lawns on campus, and no matter what the work assigned, has brought to each and all his jobs a sense of devotion, a ready laugh and contagious good humor. Gibault boys know him as a sympathetic listener, one attentive to their big or small woes.



Brother Dacian

Second of the jubilarians is Brother Eligius Ruscik, who was born in 1915 in New Cumberland, West Virginia, but whose family moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, when he was three. The year he graduated from high school he entered Holy Cross as a postulant, and after the usual period of novitiate, he pronounced temporary vows on February 2, 1935. On graduation from the University of Notre Dame in 1938, he was assigned to the missionary field in East Pakistan, where he arrived in October, 1938. During the twenty-one years Brother Eligius spent in Pakistan, he returned to the States only three times for rest and medical checkups, but in 1960 ill health forced him to remain in the States once and for all. Though Brother Eligius must have a store of Oriental lore to draw upon, he spends little time regaling others with old mission stories. The duties of the moment are his concern, each of which he handles efficiently and with spirit. Words of praise would tend to displease him more than not, nor would he want to see any fuss made simply because twenty-five years of work have been done. So we'll let this stand, wishing him and his fellow jubilarian all sorts of blessings on their anniversary.



Brother Eligius

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### NEWS BRIEFS

Various benefactors of Father Gibault School in Terre Haute made it possible for the Brothers and boys to attend a matinee of the American version of the Oberammergau Passion Play at Indiana State Teachers College.

On January 17 the Chicago Associates of St. Joseph will meet at Marillac House to prepare final arrange-

ments for the club's annual fund-raising project to be held the following Sunday. The *Newsette* thanks all those at the previous meeting for the offering sent recently.

The comments of Sir Julian Huxley about evolution at the 59th Annual Convention of the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers in November made front-page news.

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Here is a quick look at what some Brothers on our high school faculties have been doing with their spare time:

First, there are those taking part-time classes either to earn needed credits, meet license requirements, or supplement their training. Six Brothers of the Holy Trinity High faculty in Chicago are enrolled in special courses. Brother Thomas Henning has a class in education statistics at Loyola, Brothers Vincent Will and William Fitch take mechanical drawing at Illinois Institute of Technology, Brother Alexius Adam has a U. S. history course at DePaul, where Brother Richard Emge goes, too, for a class in tests and measurements, and where Brother John Gaffney has a class in French grammar. From Gilmour Academy Brothers Harold Thielen goes to Western Reserve for a French linguistics class and Brother Clarence Podgorski, to study ceramics at the Cleveland Institute of Art. From their duties at Father Gibault School in Terre Haute Brother Oliver Baran goes to Indiana State Teachers for a Latin American history class and Brother William Verstraete, for sociology. Twice each week Brothers Robert Horman and Thomas Brune travel forty miles from Watertown to Milwaukee for two night classes at Marquette. Five Brothers on the faculty of St. Edward High in Cleveland also have extracurricular studies: Brother James Kinsella, Albin Kuzminski, and Joseph Kumhera, who are taking teacher-training courses at John Carroll University, and Brothers John Ryan and George Tilley, in somewhat similar courses at Case Institute.

Second of the outside-school extracurriculars is giving talks to various clubs or other groups. Over the past month or two these have included talks by Brother Dominic Petrucci to some high school classes in Michigan on Boysville and the Brothers' work at that school; by Brother Gerontius McCarthy, the Midwest Province's master of novices, who spoke to the Home and

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## Classes, Speeches, Conventions

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School Guild of St. Joseph Parish, La-Porte, on religious vocation, to the faculty of Rolling Prairie Junior High on the training of novices, and to a student assembly at Rolling Prairie High on the meaning of Thanksgiving (Brother has given talks at the latter school annually for the past three years); and by Brother James Everett, who spoke on Catholic education at a meeting of the Holy Name Society of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis.

Conventions, of which there seems no end, provide the third "away from school" activity for many a Brother. Brothers Albert Pinter and Francis Assisi Davis served on committees of the Indianapolis Archdiocesan Teachers' Institute, and the former also attended the Central Association of Mathematics and Science Teachers meeting in Chicago. To the same city Brother Bruno Klusewitz traveled from Indianapolis for a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. From our Chicago high school Brothers Joseph Chavala and John Kuhn left for a two-day meeting of the State English Teachers at Illinois University (both men are working on the reorganization of the English curriculum at their home school). About a month ago Brothers Charles Rymarowicz, John Kuhn, and Joseph Chavala attended the Student-Teacher College Faculty Conference at Illinois University as well. Brothers Paulus McGory and Thomas O'Linn, of the Boysville faculty, spent three busy days at the Catholic Business Educators' Association meeting in Cincinnati, an organization Brother Paulus serves as president of the Central Unit. He presided at the first meeting and also served as toastmaster at the banquet closing the affair. At a meeting in Culver, Indiana, of representatives of the Independent Schools of the Central States, Brother William Geenen, of Gilmour Academy, led the discussion on study habits, and Brother Armand Amman, superior and director of Father Gibault School, took time off to attend the National Council of Catholic Charities in Milwaukee.



*Our sympathy to Very Rev. Christopher J. O'Toole, C.S.C., Superior General, on the death of his mother.*

## NEWS BRIEFS

(Continued from page 1)

- Brother Norbert Henski, of Holy Trinity High, was a member of the local arrangements committee and served on the publicity staff. Attending sessions of the Convention were Brothers Stanley Repucci, Joseph Cain, Albert Pinter, and Gerald Fitzgerald.

- The latter had this to say after hearing the fifth of five panels discuss "Issues of Evolution": "It was a remarkable and thrilling experience to observe and to sit among so many distinguished scientific gentlemen. One is immediately struck by the evident sincerity of these men, their real desire for the improvement of mankind. But at the same time it is rather pathetic to observe their ignorance of God, the almost ephemeral foundation for their humanitarianism, the lack of any solid or strong substratum for their concern for man."



Brother Richard Reaume

- Last September Brother Richard Reaume began a guidance program at Reitz Memorial High in Evansville, Indiana. At the guidance office, where files and catalogues provide information about colleges, occupations, and vocational information, students are free to consult the guidance director about these matters or problems concerning home or teacher-student relations.

- Brother Bonaventure Foley, Assistant Provincial and Director of Studies for the Midwest Province, along with Brother Elmo Bransby, Assistant Provincial of the Eastern Province and province Director of Studies, and Brother William Mang, Director of Studies for the South-West Province, attended the annual meeting of Catholic School Superintendents held recently in Washington, D. C.

- For the past three months Brother Kieran Ryan, provincial treasurer and steward, has been in East Pakistan setting up accounting systems for vari-

ous Holy Cross institutions there, particularly that of Notre Dame College, where the Priests of Holy Cross took the initiative in bringing him from the States to Pakistan for this work. Brother Kieran returns to the United States early in January to resume his duties here.

- Most *Newsette* readers know by now that the Auxiliaries of the Brothers of Holy Cross that have been formed in various cities are now joined to the Association of St. Joseph. By their enrollment in the Association, auxiliary members may gain the indulgences attached to such membership. Clubs in Detroit, Cleveland, Akron, Milwaukee, Chicago, South Bend, and Indianapolis have thus far been linked with the Association.

- Brother Finbarr gave a talk to the Historical and Literary Society of St. Joseph High School, South Bend, on reparation and mortification in the life of Matt Talbot, the Irish ascetic.

- Since early fall the Columba Hall Mission Society has cleared \$83 on the sale of cancelled stamps — thanks mostly to the efforts of Brother John Fedorowicz.

- Chicago's Holy Trinity High students have been informed that "because of rising admission requirements in colleges . . . it is not too early for underclassmen to begin thinking seriously of their post-high school plans. Also emphasized for the boys were (1) a definite habit of study, including set time, place, and schedule; (2) constant review and preview; (3) use of assignment notebook.

- During the current school year the 12-member Gilmour Academy Chapter of the National Honor Society will proctor study halls and tutor students, reorganize the library, file and prepare for student use back issues of the school paper.

- The *Indianapolis Times* of November 29 carried a well-illustrated feature article about the Brothers' novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Indiana.

- Brother Theodore LaTour, director and superior at St. Charles Boys Home, Milwaukee, has begun publishing a series of "Director's Notes" meant for heads of institutions for the wayward. He is initiating a tightened policy of intensive service to St. Charles' boys, and "Director's Notes" serves to acquaint other institutions with methods used at St. Charles.

- Back once more in Ghana after two months in the States is Brother Reuben Hennel, headmaster of St. John School, Sekondi. He wants to thank

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**BROTHER GABRIEL HALM, C.S.C.**  
(1896-1959)

On Tuesday, December 29, Brother Gabriel Halm, 63 years old, suffered a fatal heart attack and died at Memorial Hospital, Fremont, Ohio. For the first time in forty-two years he had gone on a Christmas visit to his family. He is survived by two brothers and four sisters. His parents, three other sisters and four brothers are all deceased.

While teaching in California in 1953, Brother Gabriel had a stroke that partially paralyzed him and he retired to the Community Infirmary at Notre Dame. He entered Holy Cross in 1917, and his formative training complete, became an accountant at Notre Dame's treasurer's office. Two years later he became recruiter of vocations at Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, Wisconsin, where he remained for the next eleven years. After that he taught in New Orleans for a year, spent two years managing Notre Dame's bookstore, two as auditor in the University's accounting department, three as vocation recruiter in Valatie, New York, and the subsequent years in teaching assignments in Texas, New Orleans, and California.

A perennially sunny natured man even during his invalidism, Brother Gabriel in looks, manner, and disposition belied his years. He never forgot his years at Watertown. The work of recruiting vocations was something new in those years and occurred just when membership in Holy Cross began to rise. He liked gardening and left marks of his "green thumb" on the grounds of every house where he was stationed.

His family was most devoted to him, as he to them. They and the Community have lost a real blithe spirit who will remain in memory as fresh and spotless as he himself liked to keep his room.

### **BROTHER EMERY LATSKO** (1909-1959)

Brother Emery, fifty years old and a member of the Holy Cross Fathers' Indiana province, died in the Student Infirmary at Notre Dame on January 1, the victim of a heart attack.

He entered Holy Cross in 1935 and two years later was assigned to Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, Wisconsin, where for the next seven years he looked after the heating, maintenance, and similar jobs. In 1944 he came to Notre Dame, worked at the Ave Maria Press and was one of the University's stand-by firemen. The year before his death he served on the staff of the Priests' provincial house in South Bend.

A far from gloomy person, Brother Emery left many friends behind, both inside the Community and in the world outside. He had a jovial look and manner, never "let on" that someone's request for a haircut or for help with some other job might be inconveniencing him. Good men, when they are gone, leave a gap, are missed, and Brother Emery, having been such a one, will do likewise.

### **BROTHER GODFREY, C.S.C.**

The alumni edition of the University of Portland's "Bulletin" ran an article on Brother Godfrey Vassalo a few months ago. Here are some excerpts:

Very few alumni return to campus who do not first ask, "Is Brother Godfrey still here?" The answer is a very solid YES!

Perhaps you remember him as the always busy prof who was willing to stop and help you with a problem. . . . Or as the excited prof who approached every class as an adventure, constantly spiced with bits of humor. . . . Or as a man not too concerned with appearances but with results. . . . Or you get a picture of a blunt prof who laid all his cards on the table and let you choose what you wanted from his classes — the aces or deuces. . . . Or as a man constantly on the go as he hurried to set up a microphone for a big campus meeting, hustled to a Mothers' Club meeting, or strode off to teach a special course in atomic math, set up a radio station, or advise on a new lab.

All these things, and more, are Brother Godfrey Vassalo, improperly but most affectionately known simply as "B.G."

For thirty years, nearly half his lifetime, he has been at Portland, arriving in 1929 when the school graduated its

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### **BROTHERS IN SOUTH BEND —** **25th ANNIVERSARY**

The present school year marks the 25th anniversary of secondary education work by the Holy Cross Brothers in South Bend. In 1934 Brothers Hyacinth and Herman were assigned as first teachers for a small high school begun in quarters on the second floor of St. Matthew's Parish grade school building. The first year only freshmen were enrolled, with only 16 boys showing up the first day for classes in unfinished, even unplastered, classrooms. By year's end the number grew to 20, and a Patrons Club was organized that has proved a boon through the ensuing years and that provided the initial impetus for the new St. Joseph High School in South Bend built twenty years later.

Brother Hyacinth served as principal at Central Catholic, as this school was named, for seven years, and was succeeded in succeeding terms by Brothers Gerard Fitz, Quentin Hegarty, Charles Andersen, Edwin Mattingly, and Brother Reginald, the last of whom became principal of St. Joseph High when it was opened in 1953, and a post which he still holds.

The new Catholic high school in South Bend is co-institutional, with Brothers of Holy Cross teaching in the boys' department, the Sisters of the Holy Cross in the girls'. The enrollment this year is 754 boys, 752 girls. Rev. John Vrabley is superintendent. Four acres of land were given outright by the Brothers on which the school was built, and seven acres of Brothers' property was leased to the school for 25 years for athletic and recreational use. There are 22 Brothers teaching in the boys' department of St. Joseph High, over twice the number on the faculty of Central Catholic when it ceased operations in June, 1953.

Alumni of the Brothers' school in South Bend who entered the priesthood or religious life include Rev. John Vanden Bosche, Rev. John Christian, S.J., Brother Benignus Buetter, C.S.C., Brother William Schubmehl, C.S.C., Brother James Everett, C.S.C., Brother Just Paczesny, C.S.C.

*The Newsette* readers could help us stay out of the red for printing and mailing costs if they'd contribute just a dollar every year for this purpose.

News Briefs

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all those friends of Holy Cross for their many kindnesses during his visit home.

Twenty-eight new members were inducted into the Josephite Chapter of the National Honor Society at St. Joseph High, South Bend, which Brother Pascal Tomaszewski moderates. To qualify, students must rate in character, scholarship, leadership, and service. This school had nine seniors in the top 3%, nation-wide, in National Merit Scholarship qualifying tests.

• A five-foot, white Carrara marble statue of the Sacred Heart, the gift of several benefactors, was erected in front of the main entrance to Sacred Heart Military Academy, Watertown, Wisconsin.

• Back for a short leave in the States from Santarem, Brazil, is Brother Jerome Schwabe, who for the past three years has been teaching at the Ginasio Dom Amando, five hundred miles up the Amazon River.

• After a visit with his family in Milwaukee, Brother Jerome has a full calendar until his return to Santarem in late February. Beginning on January 25 he will hop, skip, and jump to Chicago, Notre Dame, Indianapolis, Akron, Cleveland, back to the Novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Indiana, then to Chicago again to do paper work at the Brazilian Consulate, then on to New York, West Haven, and Washington, D. C. The hop to Miami, first leg of the return trip to his mission assignment, will come on February 22, and three days later, God willing, he will land in Belem, and in two days, back in Santarem.

• Last summer a committee of Brothers drew up sample English tests to be administered to students in all high schools of the Midwest province. These tests, now completed and being printed, will be administered in our schools from May 2 to 5. The testing program, an outgrowth of the English Syllabus Workshop held by the Bro-

thers two years ago, is one big step on the way to evaluating what teachers and students in the province are accomplishing in this most basic of school subjects.

DECEASED

Rev. R. P. Fernand Proulx, C.S.C., Sister M. Simeona, C.S.C., Rev. William C. Havey, C.S.C., brother of Brother Gabriel, Sister M. Cosmas, C.S.C., Brother Gustave Gingres, C.S.C., Rev. W. John Brown, C.S.C., mother of Very Rev. Christopher J. O'Toole, C.S.C., Superior General, father of Brother Maurice.

Sister M. Cuthbert, C.S.C.
Brother Emery, C.S.C.
Brother Gabriel, C.S.C.
Sister M. Berno, C.S.C.

Brother Godfrey

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first four-year college students. Since then he's contributed greatly to the growth of the University and especially to the future success of many young men in his classes. If asked what Brother Godfrey contributed to their success, most would answer as one man did: "B.G. gave me a lot of technical know-how. He released a vast number of secrets and practical information to those of us in his classes. Yet one big thing also stands out in my mind — he helped us know ourselves and those around us. He taught us to approach every problem in a very down-to-earth manner."

In a newspaper article last year Brother Godfrey expressed his attitude as teacher: "Give us an average American youth with a normal amount of curiosity and we'll turn out a good working scientist—we don't have to wait for a full-blown genius!" Elaborating on this thought, he said: "For too long it has been the impression that men of science must come from only the upper two or three per cent of their

high school classes. That's wrong it's cutting out too many potentially good and possibly great scientists."

To back this statement, he can call off a long list of former students who came to Portland with average grades yet who today are numbered among top engineers, physicists, electronic experts, and other technicians.

About the high schooler, he said "Anyone can educate the educated man. Our challenge today in higher education is to elevate to above-average status those students who were considered only average and are just beginning to 'find' themselves in the last year or so of high school."

Brother Godfrey is an acknowledged authority in such fields as radioactive medicine, atomic and nuclear physics. He has taught every level, from elementary through college — and beyond into special courses for advanced work. Among many other things he has brought to the University a physics program which ranks with the best, a highly commendable reputation, prestige, numerous friends, and a proud and successful alumni.

All these things blend into the overall picture of Brother Godfrey, head of University of Portland's physics department. A brusque, purposeful and beloved man, he ranks high in the opinions of all — students, parents, associates, and colleagues.

For us, he is "B.G. — a classroom hero!"

25 YEARS AT SAME SCHOOL

1959 marks Brother Bruno Klusewitz's twenty-fifth year at Cathedral High in Indianapolis, where he has been teaching since 1934.

Rumor around the school has it that Brother Bruno keeps a disassembled airplane in the basement near the physics lab, but he does not. However, the school once owned an airplane and when it was sold, Brother kept the engine and many of the instruments.

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