



# The NEWSETTE

Vol. 14, No. 7

Midwest Province—Notre Dame, Indiana

April, 1962

## HOLY TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL Chicago, Ill.

"Juvenile Delinquents — 3% of Our Teen-Age Population" was the topic of Brother Eugene Palinski's talk to the Mothers' Club of St. John of God Parish.

Holy Cross High of River Grove and Holy Trinity High held a joint faculty meeting at the latter school to hear Dr. John Lynch of DePaul University's College of Education speak on tort liability.

At a recent meeting of Chicago Catholic high school principals Brother Charles Rymarowicz reported on accreditation of guidance personnel.

Brothers Leon Gnewuch and Donald Martin attended the annual convention of Illinois Classical Conference at Alton, Ill. The group of college and high school teachers aims to increase interest in study of Latin and Greek.

To the Home-School Association of Sacred Heart Parish in Whiting, Ind., Brother Charles Rymarowicz spoke on "School: Rights and Lefts" at a Communion breakfast attended by two hundred parents and youngsters. The topic concerned young people's *right* to receive training in personal responsibility and how through parental neglect the task is *left* to the school.

Brothers Donald Rink and John Kuhn attended a reading institute for school administrators in Chicago from March 1 to 3.

The school's 3rd annual science fair was held at the beginning of March. Mr. Edward Jakubczak, chairman of the science department, and teachers Brother Charles Beck and Brother Charles Drevon guided the students' working out of exhibits.

The music departments of Holy Trinity High and neighboring Holy Family Academy combined to stage a musical comedy, "Mr. Crane of Sleepy Hollow," for a three-night stand in mid-March. Brother Alfred Grilli directed the instrumental music, Brother John Gaffney the choral music, Brother Edgar Plas the dramatics, and Mr. Edward Jakubczak the property and stage crews.

Trinity High senior John Dykla was awarded a \$3600 four-year scholarship in Loyola University's recent competitive examinations.

## SACRED HEART MILITARY ACADEMY Watertown, Wis.

Parents looking for a military boarding school for boys entering 5th or 6th grade will want to know that the Academy is giving entrance tests for next September's new cadets on June 3 and 9 at the school at 2 p.m.

An open house on April 8 from ten in the morning to five in the afternoon also gives prospective cadets and their parents a chance to see the school, learn what it offers, and chat with the Brothers staffing it.

Guided by its sports-enthusiast moderator Brother Thomas Brune, the rifle club is entering two five-man teams in the Sentinel Match at the Milwaukee Arena on March 22. At school fifteen cadets have thus far won sharpshooter awards this year.

Brother James Newberry moderates the newly formed science club whose members range from 5th through 8th grades and meet Sunday mornings to talk over basic ideas about air, circuits, projectory paths, etc.

## CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL Monroe, Mich.

Camera portraits of all CC alumni or students who have entered the priesthood or the religious life hang in a "memorial gallery" in the school library. Recently the student council under its moderator Brother Leonard Leary presented four large studio photographs for the collection. The gallery was established in 1957 to encourage vocations.

A CC senior won the city's Mr. Junior Achievement title this year. He represented Junior Achievers in local, county, and state meetings.

A junior at CC represented his county in a recent state-wide 4-H convention at the University of Michigan.

The football team, the Falcons, has a record of 23 wins in 24 games over the past three years. Ron LaBeau, a Falcon halfback, has been nominated to the squad of 44 contestants to appear in the High School All-American Football Classic in the Cotton Bowl on May 19th.

Don Lessner, assistant basketball coach and a CC alumnus, bought a set of glass basketball backboards for the school gym.

## ANNIVERSARY GROUP INCLUDES GOLDEN JUBILARIAN, PROVINCIAL

Brothers of the province celebrating anniversaries this year include golden jubilarian Brother Fabian Leimeister and the provincial, Brother Donatus Schmitz, who observes the twenty-fifth jubilee of his religious profession.

The others celebrating the quarter-century milestone in their religious lives are Brothers Lawrence Miller, Cyprian Milke, Gilbert Scher, Ambrose Nowak, Donard Steffes, Edwin Mattingly, Caius Webber, Benedictus Secoy, and Ivo Regan.

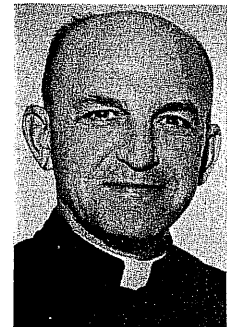
A dinner for these jubilarians will be held at St. Joseph High School cafeteria on April 14th. The affair brings together the Midwest provincial and those who with him made their vows on completing the novitiate together in 1937.

## BROTHER DONATUS SCHMITZ, Provincial

Heading this year's silver jubilarian group in the province is the top administrator of province affairs, Brother Donatus. His hometown is Chicago.

He earned his A.B. and master's degrees at Notre Dame, also took graduate studies at Fordham and Fairfield universities. His academic major was English, and while pressures of administration allow little time for the eclectic reading many an English major likes to do, he keeps carefully posted on magazines and books devoted to the spiritual life.

Upon leaving the scholasticate Brother Donatus went to teach at Monsignor Coyle High in Taunton, Massachusetts. After two years he became assistant superior. Another two years later he went as superior to St. Joseph of Holy Cross Juniorate in New York, leaving after a year to assume the same position at Sacred Heart Juniorate in Wisconsin. This assignment lasted four years, whereupon he took over as superior and principal of the newly opened Notre Dame High School



Brother Donatus  
Schmitz, C.S.C.

in West Haven, Connecticut, his predecessor and builder of the school having been the present South-West province head, Brother John Baptist Titzer.

After five years at West Haven Brother Donatus became superior and principal of St. Francis High School, in Mountain View, California, a school then housed in temporary quarters while the new plant was under construction. A year later he was appointed by the Superior General to be provincial of the Brothers' Midwest province. At this time the Brothers' Society in the United States was split into three provinces, and Brother Donatus is thus the Congregation's first member to head the Midwest province as such.

Because of Brother Donatus' position many cares and anxieties lurk in the wings. Someone in a pretty good position to know has observed that weighty responsibilities that would cause in some men an occasional outburst seem to make Brother Donatus even more silent than is his usual wont.

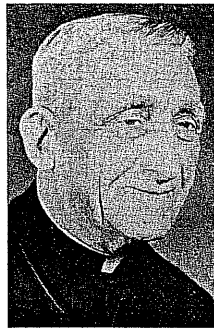
All province members would agree that their major superior has given himself unstintingly to their welfare, emphasizing at every chance the proper living of the religious life. While he always puts "first things first," Brother Donatus has during his tenure of office also improved the academic rating of province teachers, sent twice as many on to higher studies than before, and chosen quality rather than quantity in regard to province affairs.

The General Chapter to be held this summer in Rome will mark the close of Brother Donatus' six-year term of office, although he is eligible (and liable, and perhaps likely) for appointment to another term. Whatever the future, Community members and

readers of this paper join in wishing him well on the occasion of his twenty-fifth jubilee and in praying that God gives him every joy.

#### BROTHER FABIAN LEIMEISTER

Brother Fabian brings to nine the number of golden jubilarians in the Midwest province, not one of whom



Brother Fabian  
Leimeister, C.S.C.

can be said to be fully retired, and not one of whom is in the infirmary. Each of the nine is more or less active in some Community work or school.

His taking of vows in 1911 launched Brother Fabian on a long, continuing span of service to Holy Cross. A not unusual thing in the early days, he had, as he said, "a general hotchpotch of education which supposedly fitted me to do some teaching in high school." This meant a little of everything and not very much of any one subject: a far cry from the specialization demanded of teachers nowadays.

The fact remains that early Community teachers seem generally to have been skilled and surprisingly versatile teachers, called upon as they were oftentimes to teach subjects which, lacking formal training in them, they had to teach themselves.

"I had enough," writes Brother Fabian, "to be classed an A.B. degree man for ten years of teaching in Bengal and to train some others in how to teach physical geography and history." Long ago, in fact, he fulfilled

the demanding requirements to earn State of Indiana licenses for teaching English and general high school mathematics.

Brother Fabian has the very enviable record of thirty-two years of direct service in or for the East Pakistan (Bengalese) missions of the Congregation, including five years during which he canvassed for the Community's mission magazine. He went to what was then Bengal in 1924.

He summarized these years recently in his typically matter-of-fact way: "In the mission I taught six years in St. Gregory's High School and five years in Holy Cross High, Bandhura. Managed grade school in the Tomilia mission for two years, also two grade schools in Solepore for five years. Did odd jobs in the Mymensingh mission for three years and took care of boarders in Bandhura for three. Finally, I have a couple of certificates for physical training — one from the Bengalese police trainer and one from the public school physical education man; also an elementary boy scout training certificate from the Bengalese head scout-master."

The half century included much work here in the States for Brother as well. He helped establish the juniorate in Wisconsin, Reitz Memorial High School in Evansville, taught at the juniorate for five years, for two in New Orleans, for three in Evansville, and was assistant manager of the Wave-land boys' camp in Mississippi for two summers.

Another noteworthy fact of Brother Fabian's career is his having a blood brother in the ranks with him: Brother Lewis Bertrand, Dujarie Hall's dedicated director of truck farm operations, multiplier of chickens and eggs, and one-man producer of comestibles it would take a half-dozen less expert cultivators to produce.

#### BROTHER IVO REGAN

(Continued from page 4)

there. Without question it may be said that in those days Brother Ivo outmajored the English majors and perhaps does so still.

He has an incisive mind and style, can as conversationalist be pitted with the best, and has been working hard ever since Gilmour Academy opened to make it one of the country's top prep schools.

In his class of freshmen all sit around an oversized round table, and in this informal arrangement the "Knights of the Round Table" joust with grammar, literature, their creative writing in poetry and prose. There probably is no "duel of wit" between teacher and student because Brother Ivo's wit is always at the ready.

## STUDENT BODY SELF-RULE EXPERIMENT CONTINUES TO PROGRESS AT ACADEMY

For several months a Student Court has been a campus fixture at Gilmour Academy as a project of the Student Council.

The court aims to provide more student self-government by making the court members correct individual abuses among the student body before these become general problems. It considers the misdemeanors of a student and metes out punishment for them, usually special work assignments.

Court members consist of the student council president, and the vice-presidents of each class.

The student court is not merely an extension of faculty discipline. The idea behind it is to correct the individual problems before they lead to punishment of the entire student body.

Therefore, no faculty member except the assigned moderator knows who is brought before the court, the reason for his appearance, or the punishment he receives.

The faculty moderator serves as a proctor only in the strict sense — to make sure justice is done and the punishments not extreme. Thus, the court helps cut down the cat-and-mouse stalking of wrongdoer by teacher, of teacher by wrongdoer.

Nor does the court sit in judgment on students. Only when the student is clearly guilty can the court take action.

Headmaster Brother Alfonso Comeau has said, "If the Student Court is a success, it will be the greatest contribution that has yet been made towards student self-government."

**BROTHER GILBERT SCHER**

Some people seem to move within a little orb of silence all their own, exercising a kind of balm wherever they go, on people they meet. Such a one is Brother Gilbert, who without fanfare or other note has been faithfully serving God and the Community for the past quarter century.

On completing the novitiate he went to Father Gibault School in Terre Haute, where he spent the next fourteen years superintending the farm. His contacts with the wayward youth the school cares for, whether in the fields or at prefecting duties, immeasurably benefited the boys, of course, and he views this time at Gibault as "a very satisfying and rewarding experience."

On leaving there in 1954, Brother Gilbert was honored by the Indiana Knights of Columbus with a resolution commending him for his work in several departments at the institution. His new assignment was at St. Charles Boys Home in Milwaukee, where he has been for the past eight years as teacher, counselor, and prefect. Although all staff members at St. Charles are busy, he and some of the other Brothers attend evening classes at Marquette taking courses that keep them attuned to latest developments in social work.



Brother Gilbert Scher, C.S.C.

**BROTHER AMBROSE NOWAK**

A native of Detroit, Brother Ambrose has taught exclusively in Midwest schools, unlike a few of his peers who before the division into provinces may have had stints of teaching in west or east.

He is a "science man"—a label applied early in their scholastic years to all majors in math, chemistry, biology, or physics, and he has taught them all. Brother Ambrose is also one of those vanishing few who took their four years of high school as aspirants in the Brothers' Watertown juniorate: "One of the rare hothouse plants," he said.

His teaching assignments included terms of varying length at schools in Chicago, South Bend, Evansville, Indianapolis, Gates Mills in Ohio, in Milwaukee, and repeats in Evansville and Chicago. At the last, he was superior and principal from 1958 to 1961, and he now heads Catholic Central High in Monroe, Michigan.

Brother Ambrose starred on Dujarie Hall baseball teams during his years there, has been athletic director at many schools, and retains his absorbed interest in everything concerning sports.

To say he is a diamond in the rough is to express one of Brother Ambrose's most refreshing, most please-don't-change qualities.



Brother Ambrose Nowak, C.S.C.

**BROTHER DONARD STEFFES**

Seeing Brother Donard after his recently completed eight years of teaching at the Notre Dame International School in Rome proved how little time makes inroads on the appearance of some men, no matter the advance in wisdom and grace.

Carleton, Michigan, is his hometown, and he has his degree in science from Notre Dame. He taught in New Orleans, Chicago, Gates Mills, Evansville, then Rome, and now in Akron.

While at New Orleans, he said, "I learned to be athletic director." Well, too, since it was then the track program at Holy Cross High was organized and also Brother Melchior's consistent championship-winning wrestling teams. At Gilmour he organized the chemistry and physics laboratories in the new classroom building, helped with the athletic program, and added varsity football to the extracurriculars.

At Rome he helped design the labs for the school, served as athletic director and organized the intramural and varsity programs, along with a big invitational basketball tournament—something quite new in the city. The photography club he organized at the Rome school has, according to report, grown so big that students keep three enlargers going and take over thirty thousand pictures a year.

In his present teaching assignment at Akron Brother Donard's extracurriculars include moderating the photography club and building apparatus for the physics lab.



Brother Donard Steffes, C.S.C.

**NOVICES HEAR PRIEST-EDITOR, RENOWNED POET, WITHIN PAST WEEKS**

A short time ago Father John Reedy, editor of the *Ave Maria* magazine, visited the novitiate to speak on the problem of morality in determining public opinion. Father recounted some incidents involving coverage and explained how his magazine handled them. A question and answer period followed the talk.

Sister Madeleva, well-known poet, author, and past president of Saint Mary's College, very graciously accepted an invitation to speak to the other novices on Shrove Tuesday. Her lecture, "The Philosopher and the Poet," emphasized the poetic principles of Jacques Maritain and included illustrations from Sister Madeleva's own work.

*Feast Day Observed*

On the patronal feast of the Brothers, St. Joseph's Day on March 19th, a Solemn High Mass was celebrated in the afternoon, with many of the diocesan clergy from nearby communities attending. Following the Mass, guests were entertained at dinner in the refectory.

*Music and Liturgy*

Copies of the Propers for the Lenten Masses have been made available to each novice so that the entire congregation may join in singing those parts formerly sung only by selected "chanters." . . . The novices' customary daily chanting of the Short Breviary, an exercise in common in the chapel, has recently been brought into accord with rubrics established by St. John's Abbey, Collegeville.

**BROTHER EDWIN MATTINGLY**

Whether or not Brother Edwin is surpassed by someone else in the province in love for the outdoors, for wildlife, is a moot point, especially now that half the province members are, to anybody in his forties, newcomers and not really known by the rank and file until they land on some school's faculty.

Brother Edwin is a dark-haired Hoosier from Indianapolis, has a



Brother Edwin Mattingly, C.S.C.

brother who is a Benedictine at St. Meinrad and who edits the Grail magazine.

As might be surmised, he is a biology major with far more enthusiasm for zoology than botany. Depending upon the midwest locale of his various teaching assignments through the years, he may or may not have had under his wing, figuratively, a hurt owl, a captive hawk, a coopful of pigeons, or hutch of rabbits.

A couple of summers ago he took a canoe trip down the Wabash with Brother Eymard — two woodsmen, one tall and one less so, roughing it all the way.

Brother Edwin does not believe that learning takes place in the classroom or lab when there is dead silence, such silence being to him evidence of comatose condition of listeners or experimenters. As a consequence there emanates from his charges a "buzz of learning" that proves young minds are undefunct as they absorb his enthusiastic lessons on the wonders of nature and as they capture — perhaps for a lifetime — a spark of his delighted attention for all things footed or winged.

**BROTHER CAIUS WEBBER**

After spending five years teaching and prefecting first at Sacred Heart Juniorate in Watertown, Wisconsin, and then at St. Charles Boys Home in Milwaukee, Brother Caius went on to Father Gibault School in Terre Haute to be treasurer and steward of the institution.



Brother Caius Webber, C.S.C.

Brother Caius, who came to the Congregation from Richmond, Ind., studied at Notre Dame and at Gregg Business School in Chicago. After three years' work at Gibault, he was assigned to the provincial treasurer's office, then after a year traveled to the

west coast to be treasurer and steward at Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks, California.

Two years later he came to Gilmour Academy to do the same kind of work and where he has been stationed for the past eleven years. Along with his other duties Brother Caius has for the past six years been senior housemaster and senior moderator.

In these latter posts he is in position to counsel and correct adolescent boys in their most trying but very important years, and one needs no more evidence than his lengthy tenure at Gilmour to understand how well he accomplishes what he has been given to do.

By now the song "Home, Sweet Home" ends for Brother Caius with the line, "There's no place like Gilmour." His best memories are of it, he said, as are those garnered when he accompanied a Gilmour students' tour of Europe for a few summer weeks in 1960.

**BROTHER BENEDICTUS SECOY**

A native son of Sandusky, Ohio, Brother Benedictus earned his master's degree at Notre Dame. All his teaching assignments have been in midwest schools, thus nearly twenty years of handing on knowledge of his major fields — biology and sociology, along with sporadic additions to his teaching schedule for such subjects as civics, health, English, and the very time-consuming extra-



Brother Benedictus Secoy, C.S.C.

curricular of getting out yearbooks.

He took graduate work at Fordham, and last summer attended a six-hour daily workshop in guidance and counseling. He has met requirements demanded of counselors in Illinois schools but expects to continue study in this field during the summer at DePaul.

Brother Benedictus began the Group

Guidance program at the newly opened Holy Cross High School in River Grove and has sacrificed much time in order to have a private interview with each of the 380 freshmen at the school last semester, with another interview for each during the second semester already in progress. The group guidance involves meetings with ten sections of freshmen, each period for fifty-five minutes. Discussion leaders take over, but Brother moderates the sessions.

He is also faculty moderator of the newly formed women's guild at the River Grove school, a group which includes the students' mothers and others.

Brother Benedictus said his hobbies are gardening and cooking. Many a shrub hiding the foundations of the huge old building at the Watertown juniorate owes its presence to his green thumb.

**BROTHER IVO REGAN**

A Gilmour freshman, asked what he liked most about his English class, replied, "Brother Ivo."

The same boy, queried as to what he liked least about the class, answered at once, "Brother Ivo."

What this indicates about the tall, rangy Nebraskan whose look and accent savor of the Great Plains but whose interests are literary and cosmopolitan may be left to conjecture.



Brother Ivo Regan, C.S.C.

Among student Brothers, at least in the past, the terms "science man" and "English major" were usually antipodal in implication. "English major" in particular has been a label that sticks, particularly on that half dozen or so Brothers who were in Dujarie Hall when Brother Donatus, now the provincial, Brother Ivo, and some others were

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