



The Clarion

THE LA MENNAIS NEWSLETTER

Volume I

OCTOBER, 1957

Number 1



BROTHER PATRICK JOSEPH, F. I. C.,
Provincial

The La Mennais Brothers have been doing God's work in this country for many years. Yet, little is known about them. Save for an occasional record of their doings here and there, no serious attempts have been made to spotlight their activities periodically.

THE CLARION will, from now on, focus the attention of a selected public on the Brothers of Christian Instruction and their work. In its modest way, it will call attention to the good deeds of the Brothers: it will announce the glad tidings of the arrival of newcomers who will labor in the Lord's vineyard; it will sound, in clear and cheerful tones, the glorious news of the spreading' of God's kingdom in the areas where the Brothers operate.

The Founder of the Brothers—Venerable John Mary Robert de La Mennais—will no doubt bless this new venture of his sons in the United States. We beg him to inspire some who will read it to become his disciples too, and to dedicate their Jives to help extend the Kingdom of the Master!

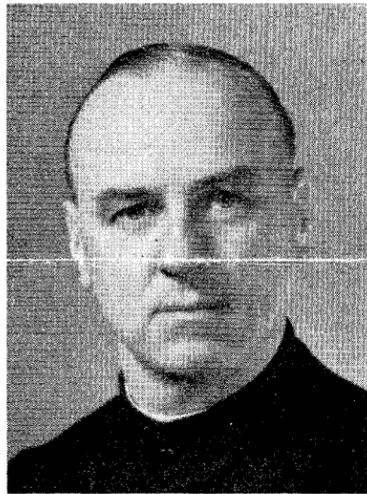
The F. I. C. family is proud to present to relatives and friends the story of its efforts in promoting God's glory and the salvation of souls.

Brother Patrick Joseph, F. I. C.
Provincial

Brothers Celebrate Silver Jubilees

In an intimate gathering last June 6, the community of Brothers at Mount Assumption Institute, Plattsburg, N. Y. celebrated the silver jubilee of religious life of Brother Dacian, principal. A high Mass of thanks-giving was sung by the Reverend Father Tardiff, O.M.I., pastor of St. Peter's parish; in the evening, congratulations were offered at a convivial dinner.

Born January 5, 1916, in Fall River, Mass. of parents staunchly loyal to the Church and devoted to its interests, Brother Dacian was educated at Notre Dame School and in our just then organized Monsignor Prevost High School. He entered our training school at Laprairie in 1928. He definitively joined the ranks of the Brothers of Christian Instruction on his first profession day, August 15, 1932.



BROTHER DACIAN JOSEPH, F. I. C.

Brother Dacian taught successively in Montreal and Buckingham, Quebec, Alfred and Biddeford, Me., before being appointed principal of St. Louis High School in 1946. Three years later he traveled to Europe to follow the exercises of the second novitiate. Upon his return, he became principal of Msgr. Prevost High School. From there, he was transferred, in 1955, to Mount Assumption, which boasts the third largest community of the order.

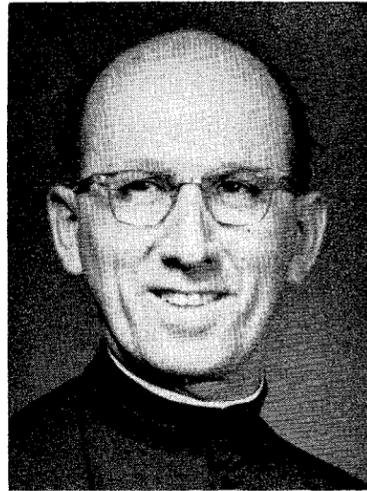
To the office of principal, Brother Dacian brought an extensive pedagogical background. He earned his B. A. and B. Ped. degrees simultaneously in 1940 from the University of Montreal and was awarded an M. A. in education from St. Michael's College in 1945. Education is his primary interest; he pursued graduate studies in education at The Catholic University of America, Fordham University, and Boston College during recent summer sessions.

Brother Dacian possesses those qualities, which mark the religious of deep conviction and the efficient administrator. A member of the provincial council from its inception, he has shown prudent judgment and a profound understanding of the religious life.

All the members of the Notre Dame District offer Brother Dacian their very best wishes on the occasion of his silver anniversary.

Soon after marking Brother Dacian's anniversary, the faculty of Mount Assumption celebrated Brother Romaric's silver jubilee. On August 29, a dinner was given in his honor. The Reverend William Frazier of Our Lady of Victory parish presided, and

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BROTHER ROMARIC, F. I. C.

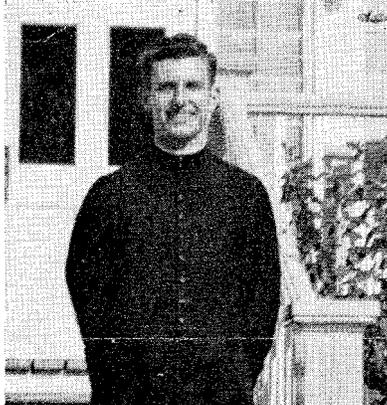
Brothers Benjamin and Louis Sail for Europe

Jersey is where Brother Benjamin Felix and Brother Louis Alcide are pursuing five months of religious training and studies. Having left the United States last July, these two members of the American province are now in their second month of the second novitiate.

Brother Benjamin, until his departure, had been principal of St. Joseph's School in Warerville, Me., for the past six years. Besides teaching at St. Ignatius High School in Sanford, Me., Brother Louis was handling a mammoth-size project, the organization of Boyland.

The session of the second novitiate began August 15 and will continue until January 15. Brothers Benjamin and Louis are there with about 30 other confreres from various countries. Before starting their novitiate, the Brothers visited in England and France, where they came in contact with English and French Brothers of the Order.

The Isle of Jersey, where the sessions are held, is the general headquarters for the Brothers of Christian Instruction. Here, just off the coast of England, in the English Channel, the Reverend Brother Superior General with his six assistants presides over the destinies of the whole Order.



MAKES PROFESSION: Brother Michael Richard is now attending La Mennais College in Alfred, after having made his first profession August 15.

Celebrate Silver Jubilees

(Continued from Page 1)

Brother Dacian, principal, offered the toast. On Saturday, August 31, the Reverend Eugene Beaucage, O.M.I., of St. Peter's parish, offered a high Mass of thanksgiving which was attended by the jubilarian's father and three sisters.

Brother Romaric was born in Winslow, Me., on February 5, 1914. He entered the juniorate at Alfred, Me., in 1931 and re-

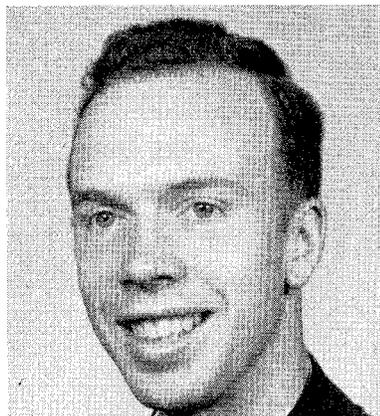
BROTHERS RECEIVE NEW APPOINTMENTS



St. Louis High School in Biddeford, Me., has a new principal, Brother Albert Joseph, F.I.C. A schoolman of the first caliber, Brother received the new assignment after his summer at St. Michael's College for graduate work.

In February, 1957, Brother Albert returned from the second novitiate in Europe and was re-assigned to St. Ignatius High School in Sanford, Me. The new principal has also taught in St. Stanislaus High School, Montreal, and Msgr. Prevost High School, Fall River, Mass.

Brother Emilian, well-known principal of St. Francis' School in Waterville for a number of years, returns to the same city, but as principal of St. Joseph's School.



MAKES FINAL VOWS: At a ceremony on August 15, Brother Patrick Denis pronounced his final vows as a Brother of Christian Instruction.

ceived the habit of our order on August 15, 1932. After the years of novitiate and scholasticate, he was assignee! to Alfred where he devoted himself to community interests for 11 years. He was then successively transferred to Laprairie and Phillipsburg, Quebec, before going to the Mount in 1917.

Piety is a tradition in Brother Romaric's family. Besides having deeply Christian parents, he also has an aunt, Mrs. William Grondin, who was miraculously cured through the intercession of the Venerable Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers.

None will deny that Brother Romaric's greatest asset is his warm personality and sense of humor. His friendliness makes him a pleasant community man, liked and esteemed by Brothers and students a-

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Brother George, F.I.C. Director of
Vocations
La Mennais College Alfred, Maine

Brother Edmund, F.I.C.
Editor

like. In the obscurity of hidden devotion, he contributes greatly to the smooth functioning of M.A.I.

Our sincere wishes for success and happiness during the coming years, Brother!

LA MENNAIS COLLEGE

Alfred, ME

Brother Thomas Stephen, F.I.C., President of the college, and Brother Conrad Joseph, F.I.C., Head of the Education Department, attended a Workshop in Higher Education at Milligan College, Johnson City, Tennessee, August 10-17. Representatives of the sixty-one-college membership of The Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges participated in the weeklong sessions. The workshop, financed by the Council for Financial Aid, dealt with problems of teaching and curriculum as revealed in a testing program that was carried out in all C.A.S.C. colleges last spring.

On Wednesday, September 11, Dr. Hayden Anderson of the State Department of Education visited La Mennais College in connection with the continued certification of the college as a teacher-training institution of the State of Maine. He held a lengthy conference with a faculty committee composed of the President, the Dean and the Director of Student Teaching.

La Mennais College is becoming more than ever international. Small though our numbers may be, we have student representation from the following countries besides the United States: Canada, England and British East Africa.

During the 1957-58 academic year, La Mennais College will launch its first campaign for financial support from parents, relatives and friends of the Brothers. Large support from industry and business is not generally given to institutions such as ours. We must therefore turn to our natural constituency: those who know us and our work. Letters will be mailed shortly.

Sister Mary Alice, of the Sisters of Social Service, visited La Mennais College on September 12, and shared with us some of her community's experiences behind the Iron Curtain in Hungary. On the day she spoke, she was celebrating the tenth anniversary of her own escape from Communist China.

Brother Robert Alfred, F.I.C., Head of the Philosophy Department, has returned to The University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, for a final semester of work on his doctoral dissertation.

Brother Edmond Gabriel, F.I.C., Librarian, returned to The Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., on September 16. He has one semester's work to complete for the degree of Master of Science in Library Science. Both Brother Edmond and Brother Robert will return to the college faculty next January.



COLLEGE GRADUATION-Front row: Sister Mary Andrea, S.S.J., Brother Hervey George, F.I.C.; Brother Joseph Armand, F.I.C.; Brother Theodore, F.C.; Brother Giles Andrew, F.I.C.; back row: Brother Gerald Victor, F.I.C.; Brother Stephen, F.C.; Brother Alphonse Armand, F.I.C.

Graduation At La Mennais College

Following a very successful summer session, La Mennais College granted eight Bachelor of Arts degrees to members of three religious congregations on August 3 in Alfred. Among the Brothers of Christian Instruction, Three provinces were represented: that of the United States, and those of Laprairie, Quebec, and New Brunswick. One Sister of St. Joseph and two Brothers of Charity were among the graduates.

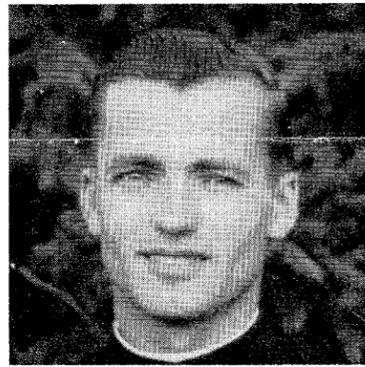
The following received their degrees: Sister M. Andrea, S.S.J.; Brother Theodore, F. C.; Brother Stephen, F. C.; Brother Alphonse Armand, F.I.C.; Brother Gerald Victor, F.I.C.; Brother Giles Andrew, F.I.C.; Brother Hervey George, F. I.C.; and Brother Joseph Armand, F. I.C.

The Reverend George Baldwin, C.S.C. of the University of Notre Dame, was the commencement speaker.



PRONOUNCES FIRST VOWS: After a year of novitiate, Brother Marcel Fernand made temporary vows in Notre Dame Chapel, Alfred, August 15.

Brother Alexis, F.I.C., has been assigned to Plattsburg, N. Y., for the first semester of the school year. He is working on his doctoral dissertation. Brother Alexis hopes to finish this last requirement for the Doctorate in Education for September 1958.



PERPETUALLY PROFESSED: Pronouncing for life the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, Brother Roger Conrad made his perpetual profession on the feast of Our Lady's Assumption.

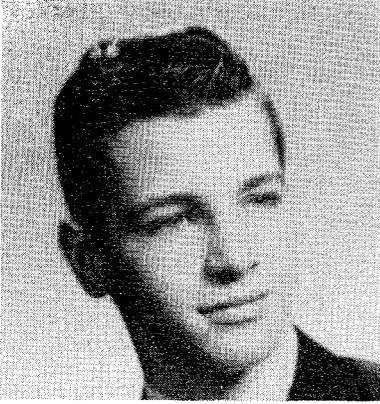
Brothers At Graduate School

Again this past summer, the Brothers traveled to various institutions to further their learning. At Boston College were Brothers Roger Edmond, James Lucien, and Roland Richard; Detroit University, Brothers Oscar and Vincent Ferrer; McGill University of Montreal, Brother Philip Joseph; Columbia University, Brother Alexis; The Catholic University of America, Brothers Richard, Edward Leo, Edmond Gabriel, Ignatius Mary, Reginald Edward, and Francis Gerard; St. Michaels College in Winooski Park, Vt., Brothers Augustus Francis, Albert Joseph, Simeon Joseph, Roland Alphonse, Edgar Cyprian, Leonard Eugene, and Robert Louis.

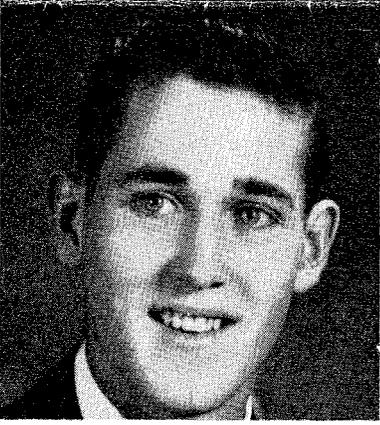
In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Brother Edward's uncle. May he rest in peace.

On September 5, Brother Paul, Dean of Studies, administered a series of tests to the freshmen. The tests included the College Qualifying Tests, The Davis Reading Test and area tests in the Natural Sciences and the Social Sciences. The testing program is part of a 3-year study made by the Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges.



NOW A NOVICE: Roger Landry of Fall River, Mass., began his year of canonical training August 15. He is now known as Brother Paul Richard.



ENTERS NOVITIATE: Jerome Lendway of Pittsford, Vt., donned the habit of the Brothers of Christian Instruction last August 15, and received the name of Brother Jerome Mary.

Successful Summer Session at L. M. C.

Although still in their infancy, the summer sessions of La Mennais College in Alfred, Me., are boasting of fine enrollments. This past summer, the number of students neared the hundred mark.

Besides four postulants and 30 Brothers of Christian Instruction, the following were represented: the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyons, the Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Good Shepherd), the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, and the Brothers of Charity.

In addition to courses in philosophy, education, the physical and the social sciences, the College was proud to have Brother Norbert Felix from Montreal to offer a course in 19th century French Literature.

The other instructors were Brother Paul Eugene, dean of studies, Brother Gabriel, Brother Ernest, Brother Conrad Joseph, and Brother Robert Alfred.

News of the Brothers

Brother Philip Joseph continues to work on his doctorate in biology at McGill University in Montreal, where he spent the past year.

After his final summer of graduate work, Brother Roger Edmond was awarded the degree of master of arts in education from Boston College. Brother Roger is on the faculty of St. Louis High School in Biddeford, Me.

Brother Lawrence Victor, one of our several American missionaries laboring in British East Africa, has returned to his cherished Uganda after spending a few months in the States to restore his health.

Thanks

We are grateful to the following for the contributions they have made since the beginning of July: **California**, Mr. R. A. Robidoux; **Florida**, Mrs. David Walsh; **Maine**, Mr. and Mrs. A. Veillet, Mrs. R. Henry, Miss Lena Benoit; **Massachusetts**, Mr. and Mrs. J. Pelletier, Mrs. E. Gaudette, Mrs. G. Poitras, Mrs. Rose Woods; **New Jersey**, Mrs. Frank Sullivan; **New York**, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tousignant; **Rhode Island**, Mrs. Leger A. Goyette; **Vermont**, Mr. and Mrs. Gaetan Boulay, Mr. and Mrs. George St. Jacques, Mrs. Anna Brault; **Canada**, Mr. Rodolphe Lizotte, Mrs. E. St-Andre, Mrs. J. Martino, Mrs. Aime Lacoste, Miss Blanche Pothier, Mrs. Rosa Kirouack.

Brothers from Haiti Visit

Four Brothers from Haiti spent a few weeks here in the United States, after attending a summer session at St. Michael's College. Brothers Nazaire, Gabrielli, Ephrem, and Jerome spent some time in Alfred and at Boyland; later, the missionaries traveled to Fall River, Mass., where they enjoyed a day with the Brothers. From there they returned to New York where, on September 3, they boarded a plane for Haiti.

Unless you write to us saying you are not interested, we are planning to send you, with our compliments, a copy of this newsletter every other month. We hope to make it a monthly at some future time.

Would You Be Interested?

Lately, the Brothers of Christian Instruction have opened a camp for boys at Naples, Maine, and staffed Cathedral Central High School in Detroit, Michigan. But they also had to refuse opening four other schools for lack of personnel. Year after year, for the same reason, offers to open new schools have to be turned down.

The Catholic population of the United States is growing tremendously. Within ten years, 40,000 more religious teachers will be required in the Catholic schools of America. Will we have them? The recruiting problem is acute; it must be solved.

We have been working hard and have achieved some success in past years. But it takes 8 years to train a young man to teach, and it costs the Order approximately \$5,000. for each one. We must try harder still to achieve more in the recruiting field. Could we help one another to increase the number of religious apostles?

Suppose we were to pay you a 5% interest annually, as long as you live, would you be willing to deposit some money with us on a life income basis, a kind of charity and income benefits plan? The details would spell out as follows:

- 1) We pay 5% interest annually on any amount given us, as long as the donor lives;
- 2) The principal to become sale property of the Brothers of Christian Instruction upon death of donor.

This is a sound investment for time and eternity. You are lending money to God to help bring thousands of souls into heaven. You are placing money in the bank of God to withdraw it in heaven where it will bear interest for you eternally. No other: earthly investment can equal this deal. Would you consider it?

Suppose you could not do anything for us financially, kindly ask God to send many generous young men to join us so that more thousands of Catholic youth may find their way into heaven through the apostleship of more religious teachers.

THE BROTHERS OF
CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION

By Brother George, Vocational Director

P.S. By making your check payable to "The Brothers of Christian Instruction," you can deduct part of the amount on your Income Tax Report. Duly registered in the Official Catholic Directory, we are recognized by the U. S. Government as a non-profit religious society.