

Marian Library Newsletter

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New contacts. The numerous communications of the past weeks are evidence that the Marian Library is becoming better known and making new friends anxious to help in Mary's project. This is due in no small measure to the splendid support offered by religious periodicals which have given publicity to a release we sent out several weeks ago. We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the Homiletic and Pastoral Review, the Review for Religious, the Lamp, Our Lady of Fatima, and the Latineer for the fine response in their May issues. The Queen of the Kingdom from distant Africa continues to give its whole-hearted support, and while soliciting help for our work, announces the establishment of a local Marian Library of its own.

Organized cooperation of Field Workers looks promising. Several months ago one of our Field Workers recommended that we contact the St. Vincent de Paul Society to solicit their cooperation, since they are frequently the recipients of numerous and valuable books. Our first efforts to comply met with a most generous response. Mr. Kalesher of Denver offered to contact the hundred salvage shops of which he is central manager. He promised further to publish an article in his monthly release in which he would ask them to forward to us without cost the Marian books that come their way.--Here is a tip for our readers: These local managers may be extremely busy and would appreciate having someone check their book collections for Marian titles that will be of use to us. Visit your local salvage shop and you may be able to make a worth-while contribution to Mary's work.

Marjorie Quinn, secretary of the Marygrove College sodality wrote us that eighteen of their sodalists had volunteered to check the libraries in their respective cities over the holidays. We are anxiously awaiting their results. Their example should suggest similar assistance in other colleges and high schools.

Outstanding example of family spirit in Mary's children. From the standpoint of actual results our best example of organized cooperation to date comes from the School Sisters of Notre Dame in the Milwaukee province under the leadership of Sister M. Gerard Majella, S.S.N.D. In our April issue we wrote of Sister's promise to secure records of Marian books in the libraries of all the communities in her province. The prompt results were beyond our most sanguine expectation, when last week's mail brought in the Record Cards for 116 different libraries in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. And more are still to come according to Sister's report.--What a gold mine of Marian treasures would become available to the Church in America, if we could have the complete record of the Marian books in every convent and monastery in the United States and Canada alone.--A wholesome emulation of this family spirit would make possible a most fruitful Marian apostolate, and that at a minimum cost in time to any individual. These Sisters have done the job during the school year. What should be the possibilities, if, during the coming vacation all other religious organizations followed this example in their local convents, schools, and rectories!--Children of Mary, wherever you are, your Mother wants your help! Jesus wants you to do your part to make His Mother better known and loved!

Service of the Union Catalogue. The records of these many libraries are necessary for effective service through our Union Catalogue. A separate circular which we are enclosing explains its general nature. Last week we had another interesting illustration of its possibilities, when a Franciscan Father of Shawnee, Oklahoma, asked us if we could help him locate Salzer's Sinnbilder und Beiworte Mariens, published in 1893. In less than a minute we had the answer from our Union Catalogue. To date the only record we have of this book is from Harvard University library. Such books are available through the interlibrary loan, i.e., though an individual cannot secure them in his own name, he can have his local librarian do so for him. With the addition of the Marian books in other libraries, our service can be greatly augmented.

Marian periodicals and pamphlets. During the past year and a half, most of our time has been devoted to building up an effective organization to assure the future of the project. From the standpoint of actual library materials, our efforts have been concentrated on an adequate collection of books. With the continued cooperation of old and new Field Workers in the checking of more libraries, and with the assistance that seems available from Europe, that phase of our work seems assured of fair success. Our next step is toward the assembling of an adequate collection of Marian periodicals and

pamphlets. So far our only attempt in this regard was to secure a complete set of the Ave Maria, which began publication in 1865. Through purchases and donations we were able to secure the complete set down to the present time with the exception of two volumes, viz., VII (1871) and XVIII (1882). We are pleased to say that at our recent visit to Washington on the occasion of the Marian Congress, the Catholic University Library offered to break its complete set in order to give us the missing numbers. Such generosity on the part of the leading Catholic institution in the United States inspires us with great confidence for the remainder of our plans. However, before we ask for such a great favor, we make another appeal to our readers to help us locate the missing volumes, so that the set at Catholic U. may remain intact. There may be some institutions that have the missing numbers which are never used and would be willing to part with them as their contribution to Mary's project. We shall be glad to hear from them. Last year we announced the donation by St. Mary's Kansas of a set of the Rosary Magazine from its inception to 1915. We are very anxious to complete this set down to the present time. Are there any volumes in your library gathering dust for lack of use, when they might be added to the Marian Library collection to stimulate research and help make Mary better known.--During the past months our friends have given us a little start in this direction. Mrs. Edna Shuart donated 77 issues of the Ave Maria; from Anaheim, California, Sister Rosarita sent us a dozen issues of Rosal Dominico; from St. Agnes Academy, Baltimore, we received the 1898 volume of the Irish Rosary, and three volumes (1900-02) of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Do you have anything in your neighborhood that will help round out this material?

Other gifts. To his gifts mentioned in the April issue, Father Neubert added five more of his own autographed books. Sister Ste. Anne of Chestnut Hill, Pa., added nine books and several pamphlets to her earlier contributions. Sister Felician, C.P.P.S., of Minster, Ohio, presented six valuable books together with an interesting manuscript of an Ave Maria composed by the former organist of Defiance, Ohio.--Outstanding among donations of books is Mrs. Robert Owens' contribution of Ady's Christ and His Mother in Italian Art valued at \$50.00.--We acknowledge likewise the \$25.00 check of Father Edwin Fussenegger of Pittsburgh, who asks us to accept it as his testimonial of a noble work. We are grateful, too, for another check of the same amount from a friend who wishes to remain anonymous. And finally, we take this occasion to thank all our other friends, too numerous to list here, who have in any way encouraged our work during the past two months. May our Blessed Mother reward them all for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

More Field Workers needed. Besides the example mentioned earlier of Sister M. Gerar Majella, who submitted records of 116 libraries, Sister Jerome of Pittsburgh has added 21 more to her growing list. From historic Vincennes, we received the record of the Old Cathedral library which includes the precious collection of the renowned Bishop Simon Brute. Records have come in from three other cities not previously included in our Union Catalogue. New Field Workers have joined our ranks from Newton, N.J., and Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. To give a more concrete picture of the work done in the past year, since the organization of Field Workers, we list here those cities from which we have received records for three or more libraries together with the number of libraries checked under the direction of their respective Field Workers. The mere number of libraries checked may not give an adequate idea of the amount of work involved, but it does give some picture of the places where initiative has already been taken, and of the need of cooperation in other places, if the work is to go on in a balanced manner. We shall be glad to supply information and materials to anyone who can spare an hour or two each month to help render more fruitful this work of our Blessed Mother.

Washington, D.C. - 5

Chicago - 3

Ferdinand, Ind. - 11

St. Meinrad, Ind. - 4

Sioux City, Iowa, - 5

Baltimore - 6

Detroit - 21

Kirkwood, Mo. - 7

Brooklyn - 5

Maryknoll, N.Y. - 4

Cleveland - 18

Dayton, O. - 4

Philadelphia - 42

Pittsburgh - 45

Tacoma, Washington - 7

Galesville, Wis. - 5

Brockton, Mass. - 4

St. Paul, Minn. - 18

Albany, N.Y. - 9

Milwaukee, Wis. - 116