

MARIAN LIBRARY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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Newsletter

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Marian Library moves forward. We are pleased to present the Newsletter in its new format. This is a definite step toward an expression of independence and the power to sustain itself. In the past the Marian Library has been operating on the voluntary offerings of the friends of our Blessed Mother, and we feel confident that it will be able to continue to do so in the future. During the past two years the Marian Library was functioning as a sort of minor extracurricular activity depending upon the general equipment of the University and often at the cost of considerable inconvenience and delay, because of the increasing demands upon that equipment. However, because of the generosity of its friends, the Library was able to purchase a Multigraphing machine of its own, which at the present time will be used for circulars of various kinds, and eventually, we hope, for a more substantial periodical that may serve to stimulate research and publish results of findings in the expanding field of Mariology.

Union Catalogue and Booklist. Most of our time during the summer has been given to developing the Union Catalogue. A few hundred more libraries have been entered during the past weeks. Among these are many private libraries which will be of great assistance to us in locating out-of-print books. We had hoped by this time to be able to make certain contacts to this end, but limitations of help and time have prevented this thus far. Efforts will be made to proceed in this direction in the near future.

In entering the latest library Record Cards we found many new titles for our Booklist. We have already found over 1000 new titles, but instead of printing these as a separate supplement, we are counting on cumulating these new titles with the original Booklist and Supplement, so that all the publications thus far listed may be easily located in a single alphabet.

New branch libraries. We are happy to announce that a Slovenian branch of the Marian library has been opened under the direction of Father Martin Stepanich, O.F.M., at St. Mary's Seminary, Lemont, Ill. Sister M. Sabina of Kansas City, Kansas, is the first to make a donation to the new branch in the form of an interesting book on shrines of our Blessed Mother. May we suggest here that all our friends who are able to present Marian publications in the Slovenian language forward these directly to Father Stepanich. We shall be glad to publish reports on the progress of his work. --As mentioned in the earlier NEWSLETTER, it is our hope that the various national groups represented in the United States will establish a branch library for their own language to foster Marian devotion among their people. Two missionaries to China and Japan respectively have agreed to sponsor a branch of the Marian Library in the Oriental languages. We wish them God's blessing and trust that their branches will flourish and assist in the realization of Mary's mission in the Far East, as we hope our own will back home.--We have previously mentioned the branch library established by a missionary Sister in South Africa. Sister Mary Anne already reports some progress in her project at Pinetown, S. A. We are following her work with interest.--May our Lady of the Missions and the Queen of Apostles bless these efforts of her valiant children. Speaking of foreign contacts, we add an incident that amused and edified us. Last week we received from Dublin, Ireland, a copy of Estrade's Appearances of our Lady of the Grotto of Lourdes. The amusing element is that the book was sent from Dublin at the request of Father Mayne, S.J., in Australia.

With our Field Workers. One of the finest contributions from our Field Workers during the past months was the record from a Canadian library containing over 700 Marian books among which were 500 new titles for our Booklist. When these are incorporated in the forthcoming edition, the work of checking Canadian or French libraries will be greatly facilitated and our possibilities of service to French speaking people greatly increased.

Other Records have been coming in steadily. We have received eight from Hawaii, six from Columbus, Ohio, nineteen from Cincinnati through Miss L'Hommedieu, our Field Worker there. Sister Gerard Majella, S.S.N.D., added eight more to her previous total of 116. Many fine collections too numerous to mention have been added to our Union Catalogue. Worth special singling out is Father Golden of Eagle Butte, S.D., who sent a special hectographed letter to all the priests of his region requesting their cooperation with the Marian library. A considerable number of replies have already been received together with several books that have been donated as a result of his initiative.

This fine spirit exemplified in the foregoing paragraphs is aptly summarized by one of our priest correspondents: "I read your Marian Library Newsletter. It's encouraging to know that so many people love the Blessed Mother. I think your work is grand. It is probably the greatest work ever undertaken by the University, at least potentially. May our Blessed Mother continue to assist the work."

Pastor sets example. Last June Father Edwin Fussenegger of Pittsburgh sent us a check for \$25.00 for "Mary's beautiful project." A few weeks later came another check for

\$81.00 with the simple note: "Last week at the Novena service I explained your "beautiful project and told the congregation I would send the entire collection to the Marian Library. Here it is." --A noble example worthy of imitation. Is your parish represented among the donors to Mary's project? Is your sodality represented among its benefactors? Why not follow the wonderful example cited above?

We need your help. The University has donated thousands of dollars worth of space, general equipment, and man power, but, because of its own debt, it has entrusted the maintenance of the Marian Library to the friends of our Blessed Mother. Have you done your bit? Our expenses must mount, if our goal is to be achieved. The purchase of the new equipment to issue the NEWSLETTER together with the publication of the new booklist will cost us well over a thousand dollars, but it is a necessary expense, if the work is to go on efficiently. --Microfilming the books, which we cannot secure otherwise, will cost hundreds of dollars more. The microfilm reader sells for \$300.00. Wouldn't this be a worthy project for your Marian organization to sponsor?

Other gifts. A very precious copy of a book on the litany of the Blessed Virgin was donated by the Very Rev. Joseph C. Ei, S.M., of San Antonio, Texas. This French book contains a beautiful cut for every invocation of the litany. An English edition would be a worthy project for someone to undertake.--We are happy to include among our benefactors the Carmelite nuns in Baltimore for their copy of a valuable edition of Orsini's Life of the Blessed Virgin.--Our special thanks to Bro. Cyril Robert for the autographed copy of his latest work, Mary Immaculate (Marist Press, St. Ann's Hermitage, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.) Our thanks also to the many others who made contributions of books or cash.--Our very special thanks to those Brothers who spent valuable hours advancing the project during the summer; also to Miss Helen Markus for the very considerable help she offered to further the Union Catalogue.

Mary's Month. By setting aside the month of October, the Church has left us another reminder that we should periodically renew our pledge of loyalty to our heavenly Mother. Through the apparitions at Fatima, Mary revealed her predilection for the Rosary.--Father Cacela whose own mother was present at most of the Fatima apparitions, is anxious to enroll in the Sodality of Reparation to Immaculate Heart of Mary all those who say the Rosary daily. Those who can secure at least six members can enjoy the spiritual privileges of promoters. If you are interested write Father Cacella, 443 East 135th Street, New York 54, New York.

Help Wanted. Many more helpers are needed to check Marian books in public and private libraries for our Union Catalogue. If you can spare an hour a month or week, October is a good month to enlist as a helper or field worker in building a lasting and dynamic monument to Mary. Write us today.

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