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Brother George Kohles Celebrates Diamond Jubilee

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BROther GEORge KOHLES
CELEBRATES DIAMOND JUBILEE

DAYton, Ohio, February 23, 1976 ___ When Brother George F. Kohles, S.M., retired associate professor of English at the University of Dayton, celebrates his Diamond Jubilee as a member of the Society of Mary in May, he can look back on 60 eventful years as a teacher, author, and journalist.

As a Marianist he was professor of speech and English at the Catholic University of Puerto Rico, at Trinity College in Sioux City, Iowa, and at the University of Dayton, where he also taught Spanish, principally in evening classes.

In addition he taught journalism at UD and for 20 years served as moderator of the University of Dayton News, receiving a special citation in 1947 from Marquette University, including a blessing from Pope Pius XII as "an outstanding moderator of the Catholic School Press Association."

He is the author of "Journalistic Training," published in 1940, and of "The Natural Public Speaker," 1941.

His published literary essays include articles on the black poet, Paul Laurence Dunbar, in the Catholic Educator, and contributions to Ave Maria magazine and the Marianist Educator.

He also wrote for the Brooklyn Tablet and La Prensa in New York City.

Among Brother Kohles' "firsts" was an assignment to Cuba and later to Mexico City, the first member of the Cincinnati province assigned to study in those countries. He was the first Marianist to take the New York State teachers examination in Spanish, resulting in a teaching certificate valid anywhere in the State. He also inaugurated the first speech tournament for high school students at the University of Dayton.

In addition to his college teaching career, the U.D. professor was also on the faculty of high schools in Detroit, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Cleveland.

A taped history of the University of Dayton being prepared by Brother Joseph Gaudet, S.M. of the history department, includes an hour of Brother Kohles' reminiscences not only of his sixty years as a Marianist but of his 50 continuous years in the classroom. He likes to recall that 40 years ago he predicted that the University's enrollment would reach 10,000 -- which it did in 1968.

A 1922 graduate of the University of Dayton and a native of Baltimore, Maryland, the Diamond Jubilarian attended the Catholic University of America where he received his M.A. in 1932. He also studied at Northwestern and Western Reserve Universities.