

In religion above all it is of great moment that the early impressions be favorable. In all circumstances and on all occasions should reverence be manifested towards sacred things. Parents may well go beyond the limits which duty prescribes in order that their children may obtain the highest possible love and admiration for all that conduces to the spiritual welfare.

If, in later years, persons fall away from the path of virtue, the strength of early teachings will not be lost. For how often does it not happen that the remembrance of some chance event in childhood has the effect of deterring men from crime and leading them back to the ways of righteousness! How often is the influence of an early impression the means of bringing grace and peace in dying moments to the souls of the most hardened sinners!

THE LATE JOHN PATRICK OATWAY

Philip Steele, '45

With the death of John Oatway, who died in the Charlottetown Hospital on January 15, 1942, St. Dunstan's College parted with a highly esteemed student.

John was born on September 19, 1922, at Charlottetown. He received his early education at Queen Square School, apart from a year and a half which he spent at Pleasant Grove. John always held a high rank in his class and was awarded the Governor General's Medal for proficiency on the completion of grade ten. Following his successful completion of the Prince of Wales matriculation examinations, he entered St. Mary's Redemptorist College at Brockville, Ontario, where he spent the next two years. Last September he enrolled at St. Dunstan's as a member of the freshman class.

About a year ago John underwent an operation from which he did not completely recover. Despite this physical handicap he took an energetic part in college activities and entered whole-heartedly into his studies. Such was his reticence about his physical indisposition that even his classmates did not suspect that he was in poor health. Pneumonia and rheumatic fever contracted during the Christmas holidays proved fatal.

Possessed of a kind and gentle disposition, he gained for himself many friends during his short life. He was an apt

student and gave promise of making a success of anything he might have undertaken in life. His Christian manliness, spirit of faith, and exemplary conduct will long remain a source of inspiration and edification to those who knew him well.

—REQUIESCAT IN PACE—

THE WHITE FATHERS IN AFRICA

Everett Cameron, '45

I set my pen to the pleasant task of conveying some facts to those who are in the dark concerning the duties and customs of the White Fathers of Africa because there are many people in the world who know of the White Fathers only by name and many others who do not know of them even to that degree. They form a very important society because they have done, are doing, and will continue to do much for the maintenance and spread of Christianity in Northern and Central Africa. Think of the vast number of little negro children they instruct and baptize every year. Think also of the vast number of children they teach to read and write, and you will then realize what a great institution this really is.

From its founding about seventy-four years ago by the Archbishop of Algiers, later Cardinal Lavigerie, the society of the Missionnaires of Our Lady of Africa of Algiers has been known to us as the *Pères Blancs* or White Fathers. In 1867 there was a great famine in Algeria. This was the cause of there being left many Arab orphans to be educated and instructed. Cardinal Lavigerie founded the society expressly for the purpose of educating and instructing these orphans. He also had in mind a secondary aim for the society, the conversion of the Arabs and negroes in Central Africa.

These missionaries do not exactly constitute a religious order. They may have a property of their own, but they may expend it in the society only at the direction of the superior. One of the most important of the rules of the society is that the members must always be three together. The members are bound by a vow to labour for the conversion of Africa according to the constitution of their society.