

REGINALD LAWRENCE WHELAN—Arts.

"Good humor is goodness and wisdom combined."

"Duke" was born in Charlottetown twenty-three years ago on September 19th. He received his elementary education at Queen Square School and enrolled at St. Dunstan's in the fall of 1946. Since that time he has formed many lasting friendships and will always be remembered as a person with a keen sense of humor. His service in the C.O.T.C. has qualified him as a commissioned officer in the Reserve Army. As regards the future, "Duke" is still uncertain, but we feel confident that he possesses the qualifications which guarantee success.



Book Review

THE GOLDEN THREAD

by
LOUIS de WOHL

Philadelphia and New York Lippincourt 1952 254 pp.

In the sixteenth century practically all the Christian nations of Europe were at war with one another. French troops were invading Spain and laying siege to castles and towns. Turmoil and bloodshed were present everywhere, even in Italy and in the Holy Land.

The historical novel, **The Golden Thread**, deals with the life of Don Inigo de Loyola, or Saint Ignatius Loyola, who is known to us as the founder of the Society of Jesus.

The author of this book begins by relating the siege of Pompola, Spain, where a certain Basque nobleman received a severe wound in his leg which changed his whole career. The soldier in the French army, who was mainly responsible for wounding Inigo, was Swiss-born Uli von der Flue. Uli, who over-shadows Inigo a great deal in some parts of the book, was given the task of transporting Inigo

by litter to the home of Martin de Loyola where Inigo hovered between life and death for some time. Juanita, alias Juan, a young girl of sixteen years, whom Uli had rescued from the hands of robbers and murderers, accompanied them. The presence of Juanita adds a romantic tinge to the story.

Inigo, while recovering at the home of his brother, read two great religious books, **Lives of the Saints**, and **The Life of Christ**, which turned his mind from the commanding of armies to the commanding of his own soul. He then became firmly resolved to dedicate his life to the service of God. When sufficiently recovered to travel, Inigo left the home of his brother and went to the Benedictine monastery at Montserrat where he stripped himself of his sins and worldly possessions. After his confession, he left the monastery and began a new life—a mortifying life of begging for himself and other impoverished people.

He travelled from one Spanish town to another, preaching, praying, and begging for the poor as he went. Most people with whom he had contact regarded him as a saint.

The author also portrays very well Inigo's simple but very sincere faith in God by showing how great was Inigo's love and reverence for the sacred places in the Holy Land to which he made a pilgrimage.

The remainder of this book is devoted to relating the events which led up to the formation of the new religious order. He and his friends, whom he met in college at Paris, studied together and became priests. It was in a chapel on the slopes of Montmatre where Inigo and his six friends took the vow that was to hold them together as one. Inigo, after he was ordained changed his name to Ignatius. The seven priests then journeyed to the Vatican and their new order received the sanction of the Church. The new order which was to reform the Church, was called the Society of Jesus.

The Golden Thread, one of Louis de Wohl's latest novels, is a very interesting book, and testifies to the sincerity of the author because it is a noble and praiseworthy effort to describe the steps that led up to the founding of the great religious order, the Society of Jesus. Fictional in part, this book provides several hours of enjoyable reading; this, together with its educational value should make the time devoted to reading it very profitable.

LOUIS McCLOSKEY '56