

# Campus Chronicle

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THE most heartening event of this quarter has been that of the College's sudden spurt in enrollment. When classes for the June freshmen ended on September 20, the College's enrollment was 150 students. One week later, when the new semester began on September 27, there were over 300 undergraduates enrolled at Providence College. In the lean years, the freshmen used to meet in a third-floor classroom on opening day. This time all classes could meet together again in the auditorium without looking lost. Freshmen, of course, were in the majority. Their ages range from 17 to 30; many of them are veterans; one or two have been prisoners of war. The student coming from the greatest distance in the United States is from Oceanside, California. The College again has an international student body. We have a student from Bogota, S. A.

Veterans, now over twenty-five per cent of the enrollment, are expected to reach the campus in increasing numbers in 1946. Both freshmen and upperclassmen may enter on February 4 or on September 23. It is planned to carry classes through the summer of 1946 for those who enter in February, but the rest of the College will be back again to the pre-war summer vacation. Alumni who know of veterans who might be interested in coming to Providence College either in February or in September may appreciate knowing that the College has published a booklet called "Veterans at Providence College." Suggest to the interested veteran that he write to the Registrar for it.

Veterans are doing nicely, too, on campus. They have, for the most part, taken to college life, both academic and social, as though they had come to it normally and in normal times. There are the inevitable problems and difficulties, of course. For these the College has set up in the first room to the right of the downstairs rotunda in Harkins Hall the office of the Veterans' Counsellor. He is the Rev. Charles H. McKenna, O.P., B. Litt. (Oxon), who served as chaplain to the ASTP unit when the army was stationed on campus. Father McKenna's new office is truly a sight to behold. A soft green carpet and matching draperies set the tone for an attractive and restful office where one may go to talk over his problems, academic or otherwise, with the ease and intimacy traditional with the genial Father McKenna.

The first faculty service chaplain has returned. He is the Rev. Edward P. Doyle, O.P., who is back on campus on terminal leave. He is scheduled to resume his classes in February. Captain Doyle was sworn into the Army Chaplains' Corps on his own campus. On August 25, 1943 Father Doyle went over to the office of the ASTP unit in Aquinas Hall and became a First Lieutenant.

Shortly before Father Doyle returned Father Foley received a copy of the citation Father Doyle received with the Bronze Star medal. Bearing the heading "Headquarters: 104th (Timberwolf) Infantry Divi-

sion" the citation reads as follows: "Captain Edward P. Doyle (Army Serial Number 05321170), Corps of Chaplains, Headquarters 413th Infantry, United States Army, is awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious service in connection with military operations in Belgium, Holland, and Germany from 23 October 1944 to 8 May 1945. During this period of combat with the enemy, Captain Doyle performed his duties as Battalion Chaplain in a conspicuously meritorious manner. He constantly exposed himself to enemy fire to render assistance to his fellow soldiers. His unflinching devotion to duty and his constant ministrations to the spiritual needs of the officers and men of the battalion contributed materially to their morale and welfare. Captain Doyle's actions, above and beyond the call of duty, reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Corps of Chaplains of the United States Army."

With the citation Father Foley received a long personal letter from the famous Terry Allen, Major General commanding the 104th Infantry Division. General Allen's letter is so interesting that I cannot refrain from quoting it in part:

"I have known Father Edward P. Doyle . . . from May 1944 to the time he received his discharge from the armed forces, 3 November 1945. Within that period of time, he has functioned under my personal observation during a period of intensive training and during six and one-half months of continuous arduous combat as the Chaplain of the 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry Regiment. . . .

"During the successive, difficult combat operations of this division, Father Doyle was outstanding as a Chaplain of this division. I was particularly well pleased with Father Doyle's meritorious service in connection with the military operations of this division in Belgium, Holland, and Germany. . . . It was with great pleasure that I was able to express the division's gratitude for his courageous service during the Ruhr River Crossing by awarding him with a Bronze Star medal. This award was unusual because his Regimental Commander personally asked that Father Doyle receive the award.

"As the Catholic Chaplain of the 413th Infantry Regiment, Father Doyle personally supervised the spiritual and moral needs of the Regiment, which included non-Catholic personnel. I know of personal cases in which Father Doyle has spiritually and materially assisted men of other religious faiths, which has been a fine, outstanding example for the Catholic men of this Regiment. I know that any man associated with Father Doyle will miss him, because of his fine spiritual and moral help which he so unhesitatingly gave for his men. There were times when Father Doyle celebrated Mass under shelling, and there were times when he, without being asked, went willing and well forward into the danger zones of the division to render his consoling thoughts to the

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men just going into or coming from combat. . . . I personally feel that Providence College is gaining, and the Armed Forces is losing, a wonderful man in the name of Father Edward P. Doyle."

Distinguished visitors came to the campus for overnight visits during the quarter. One was the Rev. Jose Manuel de Aguilar, O.P., of the University of Madrid. Father de Aguilar, who is spiritual director and a dean of studies of the Colegio Mayor of the University, is in this country studying American methods of education. Following his visit here, during which he stayed, appropriately enough, in the Hall named after a Spaniard, Guzman, he left for Harvard. Lieutenant Commander Walter Farrell, O.P., S.T.M., author of the well-known *Companion to the Summa*, paid a brief visit. Father Farrell has recently been engaged in lecturing at the Naval Chaplains School, the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va. Another visitor was the Rev. Patrick L. Thornton, O.P., former professor of Latin and English at the College. Father Thornton is now Novice Master at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Ky. The Rev. Joseph D. Donovan, O.P., professor of English on leave with the armed forces, was another campus visitor. Father Donovan is back in this country, and now stationed at Camp Sibert, La., after having spent a year in France as chaplain to an Army hospital unit.

Student life on campus has been much more varied and interesting than in some years. Aquinas Hall is once more occupied, though by no means fully as yet, and college life, in its best tradition, is coming back. The Carolan Club, the social organization for Aquinas Hall residents, has been revived. The College has eight class presidents—one for each of the two terms of each class! There have been two dances in Harkins Hall, each a "first." On Hallowe'en the Sophomores sponsored a very successful Harvest Hop. The Hop was the College's first peacetime dance. On December 7, the Friars Club held an invitation dance in Harkins Hall. Called the Holiday Formal, it was the first Providence College formal dance in four years. The Holiday Formal was also highly successful. Clubs are becoming active again, though not quite so active as classes are, and other activities seem to be promised. Perhaps by the end of next term we shall even be able to report a return to the annual musical comedy.

## FULL TIME SECRETARY

Alumni President Thomas Monahan pointed out that the majority of other colleges in the country now have full time, paid, secretaries, and that there was a need for such a representative at Providence College. The Board of Governors were unanimous in concurring that the Association was in a financial position to support this new venture and was firm in its belief that many benefits would accrue to the organization as a result of the new step.

It is hoped that the new appointment will be made and that the Alumni Secretary will be in office during the forthcoming Loyalty Fund Campaign.

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