Editors’ Comments

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The Focus Section for Volume 11, Number 2 is devoted to the educational ministry of vowed religious brothers. We have invited many orders to write on the history of their labors on behalf of Catholic schools in the United States. The first four to respond are included in this issue. We hope to receive more responses to our invitation and thus do this topic justice. The editors would like to recognize the work of Brother William Dygert, C.S.C., who assisted us in communicating with the several orders of brothers. While not nearly as numerous as vowed religious women in teaching young Catholics, they nonetheless made a gigantic contribution to the teaching apostolate and the welfare of the Catholic Church in this country. We are proud to recognize that contribution in the pages of the journal.

Three general articles are included in this volume. Two deal with higher education. The first of these calls on institutions of higher education to light the way for virtuous education. The interaction of theology and ethics is seen as the means by which this can be accomplished. The second scrutinizes the attempts of a Jesuit university to bring a concentration on social justice to the doctoral programs of educational leadership.

The third article treats the state of affairs of Catholic schools during the Great Depression. Ann Marie Ryan of Loyola University of Chicago brings light to a segment of Catholic education that is not nearly as well known as that which went before or that of recent vintage, which followed. She points out among other things, how the dilemma of accepting governmental aid, seen as necessary for survival—or at least making Catholic schooling a viable option for lower and middle classes—and the possibly-connected dilution of religious mission, in the economically-troubled era of the Depression, was of grave concern to committed Catholic leaders in this era.

Eight book reviews complete this issue. They range from a review of an encyclopedia on Catholic schools to a review of a book, The Wisdom of Practice, by one of the leading researcher-scholars in the nation, Professor Lee Shulman. It is interesting to note that several of the reviewers are students in the ACE Leadership Program of the University of Notre Dame.

It is our privilege to bring to our readership another issue of Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice.

Thomas C. Hunt, Ronald J. Nuzzi, Co-Editors