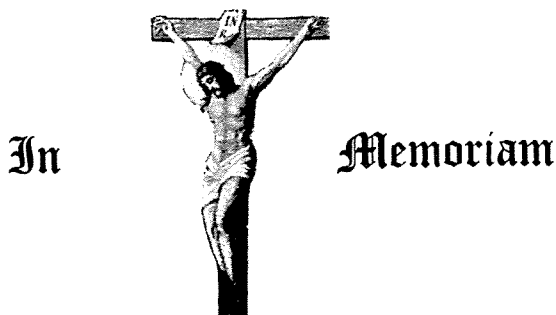


1955

THE PATRICIAN

Page Sixty-one



"He that believeth in Me, although he be dead, shall live." (Jn. 11:25).
To the bereaved kinsfolk and friends of these departed Old Boys we offer
the sympathy of the College, together with the assurance of our prayers
that God may grant eternal rest to those whom He has taken, and fill
the void in the hearts of those who mourn.

FATHER MICHAEL MURPHY, S.M.

Many in various parts of New Zealand, and especially Old Boys who were at school at the turn of the century and Catholic troops of the First World War, heard with regret the death of Fr. Michael Murphy, which occurred at Auckland in January of this year, a few days before the death of Fr. Aldridge, whose passing is also recorded in these pages.

Fr. Murphy came to St. Patrick's College from the West Coast, that home of so many vocations to the religious life, and was at school in the years 1899-1903. He was ordained in 1909 and spent most of his priestly life in parish work in various parts of New Zealand. He will probably be best remembered in Timaru, Wellington and Hawke's Bay, in each of which places he spent a considerable time.

Essentially a man's man, it came as no surprise to those who knew him when Fr. Murphy was appointed a chaplain in the 1914-18 war. He served in England and France.

Fr. Murphy, who had laboured for forty-five years in the vineyard of the Lord, had not enjoyed good health of latter years, and his death was not altogether unexpected.

FATHER C. P. BOWLER, S.M.

Over thirty years of instructing others unto justice sums up the life of Fr. Clifford Patrick Bowler, an Old Boy and a former teacher of St. Patrick's College, whose death occurred at Christchurch in October of this year.

At school from 1912 till 1916, and on the staff from his ordination at the end of 1923 till 1930, he was one of those transferred to Silverstream to implant and foster the traditions of his old school in the new foundation. There he laboured, spending himself and being spent until a few years ago, when he was transferred to Timaru there to carry on the same work in St. Patrick's High School.

Of a retiring disposition, desiring to be hidden and unknown, his life was marked by an heroic devotion to duty. He was a man of outstanding ability and an excellent teacher, and his whole teaching career was guided by the realization that worldly learning, important as it is, is only secondary to a knowledge of God and man's duty to God, and hence he strove to implant in his pupils a thorough knowledge of their God-given faith. In fact, it can be said that his special vocation was the teaching of and the helping of others in the teaching of the truths of Catholicity. As witness of this we have those excellent volumes covering the course in Christian Doctrine, which were the work of his pen.

Never robust, yet never ailing, his health seemed to deteriorate gradually since his return a year ago from Rome, where he had been attending the General Chapter of the Society of Mary as one of the delegates from the New Zealand Province. Forced finally to seek medical aid, Fr. Bowler found that his sickness was unto death and his last days were spent in that cheerful spirit of resignation which all those who knew him would have expected from this man of faith.