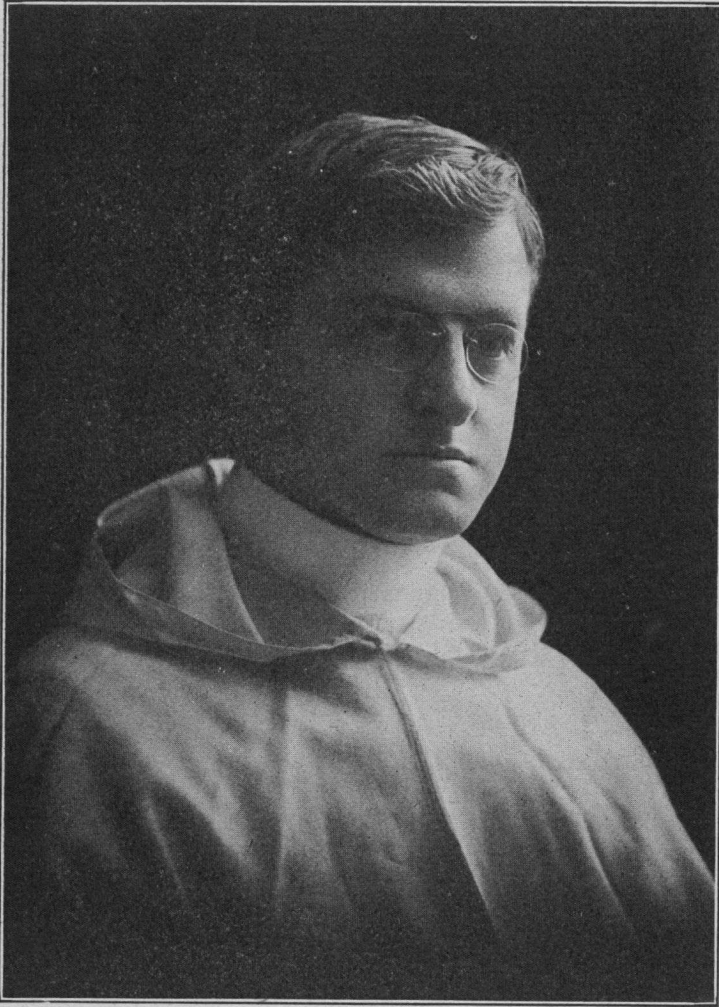


## THE NEW AMERICAN SOCIUS

**J**OY and sorrow play capriciously upon our affections, as we bid Very Rev. Father John T. McNicholas "God Speed" to his new post as Socius of the Master General in Rome. It may seem

consider our loves deeply, we find that intimacy has so entwined itself about them that it can not be relinquished without, at least, the gentle vibration of disentanglement.

The trust, which Father McNicholas goes to fulfil was enjoyed during the last administration by Very Rev. F. G. Horn. Thus, a second honor is conferred upon St. Joseph's Province by the new appointment. The Socii are to the Master General what the Cabinet is to the President of the United States—his counsellors and assistants in matters executive, but with this exception, that the extent of such administration is world-wide, and of a nature spiritual and religious. Often the Socii are honored with the Magisterium in Sacred Theology, and are sometimes created Titular Provincials. It was the happiness of Father Horn to receive both prerogatives. After



**V. Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., Socius of the Master General**

strange that the full-toned response of congratulation, coming from our hearts on such an occasion, should bear with it the gentle echo of some sorrow-softened strain. But, when we con-

sider the expiration of their office, if Socii are permitted to return to their respective Provinces, they enjoy the privileges of Ex-Provincials and of Masters in Sacred Theology, together with

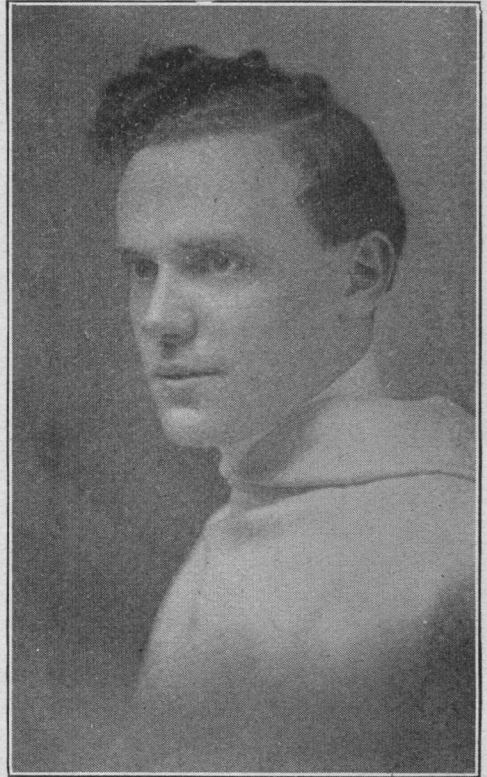
many others such as a voice in the Provincial Chapters. It is for success in this new responsibility, that our mingled well-wishes go out to Father McNicholas.

We, indeed, lose by his departure something of that close interest always manifested by him toward the Novices of the Province, an interest which has grown deep through many years. For his solicitude, regarding the welfare of the House of Studies, has ever shown itself intense, since the day that Father McNicholas was made Novice Master here. When other duties called him away from that position, his interest in the things of the Novitiate still remained unsevered; and his visits to the cloisters of Mary Immaculate and his encouraging words to those dwelling within them, have always been an inspiration. Is it of wonder then that the separation, which only love and prayer can span, should grieve Saint Dominic's children?

But there are others, too, who will miss his kind ministrations. There are the Catholic men of the whole country. The years during which Father McNicholas has been Editor of *The Holy Name Journal*, and the labors literary and apostolic with which they are replete have endeared him immeasurably to all the members of that society, whose numbers are million. Then, there are also the faithful of Saint Catherine's Church in New York, where Father McNicholas has been for some years pastor and of whose rectory, but recently erected into a convent, he became the first prior. The fatherly care of this shepherd toward Christ's flock will not be forgotten by those who have experienced its beneficence.

In theological circles, Father McNicholas is widely known as a canonist. His new office takes him to the very

center of ecclesiastical legislation. This is of especial advantage coming as it does on the eve of the promulgation of the new *Corpus Juris Canonici*. In the Eternal City, where Father McNicholas specialized in that science, he will be able to follow intimately the workings of the Roman Curia while adjusting the various phases of difficulty



**Rev. H. I. Smith, O. P., S. T. Lr., Ph. D.,  
Editor of *The Holy Name Journal***

consequent on the publication of the new Code.

That success may attend his every endeavor, and that the Grace of God may fill his days, fashioning them unto the Glory of His Name and unto the utility of Church and Order, are the prayers of all and of the Novices!

—Hyacinth Chandler, O. P.