

✠ THE REV. LAWRENCE AMBROSE SMITH, O.P., S.T.Lr. ✠

On May 20, the Reverend Lawrence Ambrose Smith, O.P., S.T.Lr., died at Providence Hospital, Columbia, South Carolina.

Born at Newark, New Jersey, on May 17, 1897, Father Smith was one of the eight children of Michael and Mary Smith. Having received his primary education at the Newark Public School and at St. Antoninus Parochial School, Father Smith completed his high school training at St. Benedict Preparatory College. He attended St. Peter's College, Jersey City; entered St. Joseph's Novitiate, Somerset, Ohio, on July 20, 1916; and made his profession of simple perpetual vows there to the Very Reverend Bertrand Connolly, O.P., on September 16, 1917. After completing one year of studies in philosophy at St. Rose Priory, Springfield, Kentucky, Father Smith continued his preparatory studies for the priesthood at Immaculate Conception Studium, Washington, D.C. He was ordained to the priesthood at St. Dominic's Church, in the same city, on June 14, 1923, by the Most Reverend Michael J. Curley, D.D.

Continuing his theological studies at the Dominican Convent in Louvain, Father Smith received the degree of Lector in Sacred Theology. Before returning to the United States, he completed further studies at the University of Louvain and at Antwerp, Belgium. In August, 1925, he was assigned to the Dominican House of Studies, River Forest, Illinois, where he served as Master of Students and as Professor of Fundamental Theology, Dominican History, and Plain Chant.

In 1928, Father Smith left the House of Studies to enter upon the work of the Mission Bands of the South, wherein he was to spend the remainder of his priestly life—serving successively at St. Patrick's Columbus, Ohio, Holy Rosary, Houston, Texas, and St. Anthony's, New Orleans, Louisiana. In 1938, Father Smith was appointed Director of the Southern Mission Band. And when the Province of St. Albert the Great was erected, he retained that position until he returned to the Province of St. Joseph in 1942, and was assigned Director of the Southern Mission Band of this province with his headquarters at Blessed Martin de Porres Mission, Columbia, South Carolina. He held this position until the time of his death.

Father Smith had the rather singular honor of having three of his brothers, all Dominican priests, officiate at his obsequies. Father Ignatius Smith, O.P., was celebrant; Father George Smith, O.P.

served as deacon, and Father John Smith, O.P., as subdeacon. The Very Reverend E. G. Fitzgerald, O.P., preached the eulogy. After the Solemn Requiem Mass at St. Dominic's Church, Washington, D.C., Father Smith was buried in the Dominican plot at Mount Olivet Cemetery.

To his brothers and sister, other relatives and to his friends, *Dominicana* extends sincere sympathy.