MOST REVEREND EDWARD C. DALY, O.P., S.T.M.
Bishop of Des Moines, Iowa
The Most Rev. Edward Celestin Daly, O.P., S.T.M., was consecrated and installed as Bishop of Des Moines, Iowa, on Thursday morning, May 13, 1948. The Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, S.T.D., J.C.D., Apostolic Delegate to the United States, consecrated the new Bishop in St. Ambrose Cathedral, Des Moines. The co-consecrators were the Most Rev. Henry P. Rohlman, D.D., Archbishop of Dubuque, and the Most Rev. Leo Binz, D.D., Coadjutor Bishop of Winona. Four Archbishops, twenty Bishops, and more than two-hundred of the clergy attended the impressive ceremonies. The sermon was delivered by the Most Rev. John J. Wright, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Boston. Following the consecration a dinner was given for the clergy at the Hotel Fort Des Moines. The newly consecrated Bishop was welcomed by state and city officials at a reception held in his honor on Sunday, May 16, in the Radio Theater of Station KRNT. Lieut. Governor Kenneth A. Evans spoke in the name of the State of Iowa and Mayor Heck Ross welcomed Bishop Daly in behalf of the city of Des Moines.

Bishop Daly, a native of Cambridge, Mass., was born on October 24, 1894. He was the first of three children born to the late James Edward and the late Elizabeth Cairns Daly. Receiving his early education in Agassiz School, Cambridge, and at Boston College Preparatory School, Boston, Bishop Daly attended Boston College before entering the Novitiate of the Dominican Order at St. Joseph's Priory, Somerset, Ohio, in September, 1914. On September 16, 1915, after his year of Novitiate, the young religious made his simple profession and began his philosophical and theological studies at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C. Bishop Daly was ordained to the Priesthood at the House of Studies on June 21, 1921, by the Most Rev. John T. McNicholas, O.P., S.T.M., then Bishop of Duluth and now Archbishop of Cincinnati. During the next three years he studied Canon Law at the Catholic University of America under Monsignor Filippo Bernadini, the present Apostolic Nuncio to Switzerland. Receiving the degree of Lector in Sacred Theology from
the Dominican Order, Bishop Daly was appointed professor of Canon Law at the House of Studies in Washington. In 1923 he joined the staff of the Apostolic Delegation with which he remained affiliated until the time of his consecration. In 1936 Bishop Daly received the highest degree conferred by the Order of Preachers, that of Master in Sacred Theology. It was on this occasion that the Apostolic Delegate spoke of Bishop Daly’s “profound knowledge of Canon Law,” his “rare virtue,” and remarked that “his counsel has always been sound.” These same qualities make the new Dominican Bishop eminently suited for the tremendous task to which he was appointed by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, on March 18, 1948. The announcement of the nomination of Bishop Daly was received by his Dominican brethren with a joy that was tinged with sorrow; joy in the recognition of his talents, sorrow in the loss of his presence among them.

Dominicana, in the name of the Fathers and Brothers of the Province of St. Joseph, extends to Bishop Daly fraternal best wishes and congratulations. May God bless him abundantly in his new office as Chief Shepherd of the Catholic people of Des Moines. Ad multos annos!