



**Most Rev. Louis Theissling, O. P., S. T. M., Master General**

## *Anniversary of Religious Profession of Master General*



OUR Master General, the Most Rev. Louis Theissling, O. P., S. T. M., will celebrate on September 24th at the Collegio Angelico, Rome, the fiftieth anniversary of his religious profession.

Father Theissling was born on January 31, 1856, at Alkmaar, Holland. Upon completing his collegiate course at the College of Nijmegen he entered the novitiate of the Dominican Order and after his period of probation was professed on September 24, 1874, being only eighteen years old. He was ordained priest on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, 1880. He received the degree of Lector of Sacred Theology in 1885 and began teaching immediately.

His career as professor was interrupted to assume the office of prior in the convents of Hissen and Nijmegen in 1894 and 1896. While prior of the Convent of Nijmegen, Father Theissling was elected Provincial of the Dutch Province, in which office he served three terms.

To his achievements as Prior Provincial of the Dutch Province, Father Theissling had supplemented his successes as the superior of the Dominicans in Chile and his unsurpassed record as Visitor of many Provinces before he was elected Master General in 1916.

Father Theissling's term of office as Master General has been remarkably eventful. It has witnessed the reform of the Breviary in accordance with the norms laid down by Pope Pius X and the addition of the Offices of the Blesseds Isnard, Andrew Franchi and Dominic Spadafora; recently the Congregation for the Education of Youth was formally merged into the First Order; the present Chapter of Provincials will re-codify the Constitutions of the Order; within the last few years the Order has again acquired a large portion of the Convents of St. Dominic at Bologna and of Santa Maria della Grazie at Milan (the former is celebrated as the burial place of St. Dominic and the latter houses the famous "Last Supper" of Leonardo da Vinci); and finally the observance of the seventh centenary of the approval of the Order and sixth centenary of the death of St. Thomas Aquinas has added prestige to the Order and to the administration of Father Theissling.

The Novices of St. Joseph's Province wish to congratulate their Master General on completing the long span of fifty years of religious life and filling each one of them with such profitable activity. Would that we all could live so long and so well!