

Mt. St. Mary,
STRATHFIELD.
31st August 1945.

My most dear Br. Superior-General, *Recd 10/9/45*
Your letters of the 8th, 9th, and
13th to hand yesterday.

T?McS (104). In a separate letter we forward the statement of the novice. Yesterday we dealt with his case. We had present the 2nd, 3rd Cons., M.B.H., and F.King. He was prepared to admit nothing, in vague terms - "I cant remember anything like that happening". "I cant remember being in the room with him". "Perhaps somebody has been putting it into his head". "Perhaps he is getting scrupulous". He later admitted one incident, putting the little guilt admitted on to the other. There was no doubt in our minds of the guilt, and a unanimous verdict was given against him. He has had two previous warnings. Extenuating circumstances are : age, lapse of time since the occurrences - about five years, during which no similar incident has come to our notice, mental weakness, the shock to his brother, his general helplessness. Whatever your decision, he must never be allowed back to active work, and in any case we shall probably have to support him at least in part.

Third Consultor. He had a bad turn on Saturday night, but he thinks it was not connected with his present trouble. He was very depressed for a day or two, but has recovered his best spirits, and generally shows good improvement. His blood pressure is down, and there is some improvement in his left eye.

M.A.A. He too was very low a fortnight ago and looked like moving on, but he has made another recovery and hopes to be at some of to-morrow's celebrations.

P.J.B. He is in wonderful form and will have a big day to-morrow. The Archbishop, Dr. McGuire, about twenty priests and 140 Brothers are expected.

M.M.R. The directions you give in your letters of 9th and 13th August seem contradictory. I fear we can do nothing till his six months leave expire. Whatever I do, he feels I am exerting an "immoral Pressure" on him. We shall carry out your directions at the end of the period of leave.

D.F.Neylan. He was in hospital last year for eleven weeks and arrived here looking like a ghost. He spent some months in the Psychiatrist Clinic, and rejoined his community for the vacation. He went to his people after that. I had originally agreed to allow him a few months, but on representation from his sister reduced it to one month. This upset him greatly and eventually I had to extend it. As he was not yet fit to return, he has obtained through me from N.S. six months leave as from August 18th. I doubt if he will ever do any good, but would like to give him every chance.

The Assistants. Both are well after their strenuous trip, though the Third has a cold. He has made a start at Minto and Leura, and next week they will both commence in the other communities. With every best wish,

I am, my most dear Br. Superior-General,
Your affectionate Brother,

J.M. Mackey