

## In Memoriam: Thomas T. McAvoy, C.S.C., 1903-1969

Father Thomas T. McAvoy, C.S.C., associated with *THE REVIEW OF POLITICS* since 1941, died on July 5, 1969, at the age of sixty-five. The end came suddenly in his office in the University Archives, where, as was his custom, he was working outside of office hours. He had just completed correcting the page proofs of his general history of American Catholicism.

The latter, addressed, in the tradition of *THE REVIEW OF POLITICS*, to a specialist and generalist reading public, is a distillation of almost forty years of teaching and research in the history of the Catholic Church in the United States.

In 1929, the year of his ordination as a priest in the Holy Cross Order, he was put in charge of the Archives at Notre Dame, a major collection of material dealing with the Church in the United States. As a result of his work the greatly increased Archives are well organized, well housed, and available. To the accomplishments of an archivist he added in 1940 a doctorate in American history from Columbia University.

Father McAvoy was a possessive man about his responsibilities, which is to say that his energies were unstintingly devoted to them. In 1939 he became Head of the History Department and from 1945 to 1960 presided over its expansion on the undergraduate and graduate levels. As head he remained a productive scholar. But his greatest work was the recruitment of a fair-sized and able history faculty.

*THE REVIEW OF POLITICS* has profited from Father McAvoy's capacity for organization. Over more than a quarter of a century he handled budgetary matters, supervised the technical production of the quarterly, did some publicity work, and helped with proof-reading. He published many book reviews and articles — perhaps the best of the latter were written recently: "Notre Dame, 1919-1922: The Burns Revolution," XXV, 431-450; "Public Schools vs. Catholic Schools, and James McMaster," XXVIII, 19-46.

His associates do not think of him as a man all of one piece and easily categorized. We do remember his devotion to Notre Dame and his ambitions for it, his scholarly integrity, his unremitting industry, and his generosity as a counsellor. May he rest in peace.

— M. A. FITZSIMONS, *Editor*