

BROTHER FRANCIS FENTON. SDB.

Bro. Francis Gerald Fenton. SDB, of Thornleigh House, Bolton died in hospital at Bolton, Lancs, on June 25th, 1958, aged 75.

Bro. Francis was born in London on the 6th October 1882. He spent his early years in London, where he began his business career, and later went to South Africa. In 1913 he went to work in the repository at the Salesian Institute, Cape Town and he stayed there for two years. During that time he decided to apply to join the Salesian Congregation as a Laybrother. His application was accepted and he returned to England in 1915 in order to enter the Salesian novitiate at Burwash and try his vocation as a brother. Having successfully completed his novitiate year, he made his first profession on the 8th November 1916. He was then asked to go back to South Africa to continue his good work at the Repository there.

In 1924 he was asked to return to England to be based at Cowley, Oxford, the then novitiate and house of studies, where, until 1930 he was manager of the "Help of Christians" magazine. Whilst at Cowley he made his perpetual profession in 1927.

In 1931 he was asked to move to Battersea and take over the managership of the Salesian Press there. He stayed there until 1938. In 1939 at the beginning of the war he moved to the Salesian College, Farnborough and he took over the task of infirmarian for the confreres and school boarders. In 1942 he then moved to Bolton, where, inspite of failing health, he was able to give devoted service as infirmarian and College porter until his death.

May his good soul rest in peace.