Seminary Staff Given High Recommendation

Faculty, Quality of Work Evaluated by School Group

Lafayette. — (Immaculata Seminary) — Members of the committee appointed by the Louisiana Committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools to review the use made by the faculty of Immaculata Seminary of the Association’s “Evaluative Criteria” reported last week they “were greatly impressed with the caliber of the faculty and the quality of work being done in the school.” The committee reported that “the co-operation of the faculty and student body with the committee was outstanding. Their hospitality was in the finest traditions of the South.”

Reports were made by subcommittees, listed alphabetically in the Evaluative Criteria report:

B—Pupil Population and School Community: The system of selection and recruitment is constantly under study in an effort to select the best students; the pupil population is a highly select group of boys studying for a very definite profession and is in all respects a controlled group.

C—Education Needs of Youth: The faculty is striving to meet these needs and is modest in stating techniques and qualifications, such as 1) use of tests, records, and individual group counseling; 2) training of faculty in philosophy and theology aiding them to teach students to think logically; 3) developmental reading program; 4) encouragement given to hobbies and music appreciation; 5) assignment of jobs, such as mailman, prefect, library workers, manual workers, to share responsibility; 6) low pupil-teacher ratio.

D—Program of Studies: Follows classical course of traditional Christian culture and discipline, giving evidence that the school knows the importance of its mission and the preparation of its students in the fundamentals of basic education before higher studies for the priesthood. Faculty members are exceptionally well prepared and students have access to excellent library facilities. The physical education program, while having no full time instructor, is more than ample because of the extensive, recorded recreation program. Addition of another science unit to the balanced offering of biological and physical sciences was recommended.

E—Pupil Activity Program: There is a great variety of clubs, such as glee club, choir, mission club, French club, sodality, speech group, intramural sports organization, dramatics club, school paper staff, etc.

F—The Library: Completely adequate in all respects, with competent librarian. A few recommendations were made, as listed below.

G—Guidance services: Effective and efficient aid is offered each pupil in solving problems and making adjustments. Each student chooses his own counselor and is given easy access to the faculty for counseling; parents visits and individual interviews aid further. The committee recommended screening of candidates before entry, preferably by someone outside the faculty, such as a diocesan priest.

H—The School Plant: Thoroughly adequate, with a few slight changes.

I—School Staff and Administration: Follows system proved by Marist Fathers; teacher load is normal and well distributed; the staff is sufficient and well qualified.

In conclusion, the committee recommended additional maps for history classes, added tables and chairs for the library, extra shelves, magazines, and social studies material for the library; it called also for fixing roads and approaches to the building, new blackboards, modern furniture in the community room, dining room furniture for the fathers’ and sisters’ refec.