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Sister M. Celestia Klima

Our Sister M. Celestia Klima slipped away to God Wednesday morning, May 8, 1957, at 9:12 a.m. in the Convent Infirmary, where she had been bedfast and helpless for the last year.

Sister's illness began in September of 1954, when she suffered a slight stroke at St. Procop's, Cleveland. She was brought home to the Infirmary, but was able to take up third grade teaching at Mansfield the second semester. The next year she spent at Holy Family, Cleveland, as portress until May, when a severe cerebral hemorrhage required her removal to the Motherhouse. Sister continued to decline and during the last months had only short intervals of consciousness. She was anointed periodically.

Sister had celebrated her Golden Jubilee in 1951 and had spent fifty-five years in the classroom. She began her teaching career as a novice in the first grade at St. Stephen's, Streator, in 1890. From 1900 to 1915 she taught various grades from first to eighth at St. Procopius, and Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Chicago. The next three years she taught commercial at St. Joseph's, Joliet, and the following three years she concluded her grade school teaching at St. Procop's, Cleveland. Beginning with 1921, Sister taught commercial subjects in the High School. Her thirty-three years in this field included eight years at St. Procop's, Cleveland, twenty-four years at St. Procopius, Chicago, and one year at St. Francis deSales, Chicago.

As a teacher and particularly as a commercial teacher, Sister Celestia was held in highest esteem. Her kindness impressed everyone; her thoroughness and efficiency were a challenge, as her many students through the years testified. Among these are Sisters of our own Congregation, also commercial teachers now. In her religious life she was an inspiration to all who had ever lived with her and who had been directed by her, and her reputation went even beyond these contacts, so that her influence cannot be measured. Her last quiet and patient year completed the peaceful yet zealous work that had characterized her life. May eternal rest be hers!