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Sister Carmelita Loeffler

Another death occurred in the ranks of the Community on Dec. 17, 1933, though this time it was not so unexpected as it had been in the two previous deaths. Sister M. Carmelita, the former Teresa Loeffler of Joliet, died at the Motherhouse Infirmary shortly after seven-thirty in the evening. Her death was the result of pulmonary tuberculosis. During the five years previous to her death, Sister Carmelita had been the bookkeeper at the Guardian Angel Home. When she was brought to the Convent Infirmary on October 23, 1933, she entertained the greatest hopes that a few weeks' rest and care would make her fit to return to the Home and to the work she liked so well. Her hopes were never to be realized. Her condition was by far worse than she knew. She had suffered a collapse during the last week of June and the doctor had ordered her to Saint Joseph Hospital, Joliet, for observation and treatment. On July 16 she returned to the Home and spent the rest of the summer convalescing. Toward the latter part of August she resumed her work, but her health was very poor. She was determined not to give up, and forced herself to keep on with the office duties until her strength was practically exhausted, in spite of the fact that she rested as much as possible. After she was brought to the Infirmary she made no improvement, or at least very little in spite of the care and the complete rest. She lingered until December 17, when she passed quietly away. She had been prepared for death sometime previous. The funeral Mass and the burial services were celebrated by her cousin, Rev. John Kalvelage, C.S.S.R.