

301. Sister M. Seraphica Reineck
January 13, 1950

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Sister M. Seraphica Reineck, former superior at St. Francis Convent who had spent 36 years working on the Indian Reservation in Red Cliff, Wisconsin, died last night at the Motherhouse following an illness of seven years. Sister Seraphica would have observed her 90th birthday on February 11.

Sister M. Seraphica was a member of the Congregation for 73 years with a wealth of experiences and had lived in many sections of the country. As an invalid since 1943 she often mentioned that the memory of her activities of earlier years sustained her. The most colorful of these came from her long stay teaching on the Red Cliff reservation, 1887 - 1923. With her return to the Motherhouse, she became director of postulants for three years. Then in 1926 she became Superior of the Motherhouse until she was sent to St. Mary's, Columbus, OH, in 1932. Her last years were spent at the Motherhouse.

Veronica Reineck, daughter of Johann Reineck from Baden, Germany, and Susanna Bartzen, a Luxemburger, was born on Feb. 11, 1860, in Fremont, OH. She became a postulant on Jan. 2, 1877, and began her novitiate with the name of Sister M. Seraphica on March 19, 1877. She pronounced her first vows on August 4, 1878 and her final vows on August 5, 1881.

The Interlude, Volume XV, Number 9, published by the College of St. Francis during the course of World War II pictured Sister Seraphica in the Motherhouse Chapel with the caption: "Age complements youth's prayers for America. Sister M. Seraphica is representative of the many Sisters who daily offer hours of adoration for peace.

As she grew weaker and more bed-ridden Sister Seraphica regretted that she was unable to get to the chapel especially for the Holy Mass. Many times she seemed to be attending the Sacred Liturgy in her room! She often spoke of the processions of Indian children who were there praying with her. Her strong constant faith never wavered.

Sister Laetitia gathered notes and memories from Sister Seraphica's students from the Reservation and with the help of Sister Beatrice these were compiled for publication, entitled "The Living Seraph!"