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Sister Eusebia Goldschmidt

An unexpected death occurred on July 12, 1936 when Sister M. Eusebia Goldschmidt died from heat exhaustion about 8:45 a.m. Reverend Mother Thomasine had stepped into her room and found her prostrate on the floor. Reverend Mother called Sister Clotilde and Sister Gonzaga and together they succeeded in getting Sister on the bed. She had suffered a hemorrhage, the consequence of heat exhaustion. Father Thomas, the chaplain, was summoned at once from the Franciscan Friary at St. John's. He arrived in a very short time and administered Extreme Unction. Father Thomas said she was still living when he anointed her, but when the doctor arrived very shortly after he pronounced her dead.

Mother Thomasine had been watching over Sister Eusebia very closely during the heat wave which was general in this section of the country. She had not been feeling very well the day before and Reverend Mother provided her with an electric fan and asked her to keep it going in order to keep the air in circulation in her room. But in spite of all Sister succumbed to the heat. Several summer before Sister had been overcome by the heat and was in the infirmary for some weeks as a result. Sister herself never seemed to suffer from the heat of summer - on the contrary she used to complain much of suffering from the cold. Even on somewhat warm days she would admit to being very chilly. Nevertheless, it was the heat and not the cold weather that caused her death.

Sister Eusebia had been convalescing at the Motherhouse since 1923. Previous to that time she had been in charge of the the art department at the Academy. She had artistic talent to a marked degree, but during the years she was convalescent at the Motherhouse she rarely did any art work. There are pictures, hand painted china, etc., in both the Motherhouse and the Academy which Sister made in her earlier years, and these portray the real talent which she had.

At the time of her death Sister Eusebia was in the seventy-first year of her age and the fifty-first of her religious life.

The solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's chapel of the Motherhouse and Novitiate by the chaplain, the Rev. Thomas Rust, O.F.M. The Rev. Apollinaris Wackenheim, O.F.M., was deacon and the Rev. Ulric Landolt OFM was subdeacon. The body was laid to rest in St. John's Cemetery, Joliet.