

Spiritan Papers

Volume 1
Number 1 *October*

Article 7

10-1976

Informations

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Recommended Citation

(1976). Informations. *Spiritan Papers*, 1 (1). Retrieved from <https://dsc.duq.edu/spiritan-papers/vol1/iss1/7>

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INFORMATIONS

During the past three months, three publications about Pather LAVAL have appeared:

First of all, there is the basic work *Le Père Jacques Laval*, by Father Joseph Michel, C.S.Sp., published in the collection "Figures d'hier et d'aujourd'hui" by Beauchesne, Paris 476 pages, 24 French francs. This book is particularly well documented, filled with formerly unpublished information. It will be useful, not only to the members of the Congregation, but also to all who have an interest in history and in the great missionary personalities of the last century. It brings out the climate of the times very successfully, as well as the countless difficulties Father Laval had to deal with.

In the category of the popularization, there is the 36-Pages booklet by Father Gerald Bowe, C.S.Sp., Vice-Postulator of the Cause of Father Laval. It was published at Port Louis (Mauritius) in French and in English, and is entitled "Venerable Father Laval". It is a treatment of some aspects of the life, spirit and work of the Servant of God, based upon the *Vie du Père Laval* by Father Delaplace, corrected and completed in 1931 by Father Pivault.

Finally, there is the special number of *Pentecôte sur le Monde* for July-August 1976, entitled "Au pays du Père Laval". (30 rue Lhomond, 75005 Paris). This is a remarkable study which shows how Father Laval was and still is intimately bound up with the history of Mauritius. It gives a biography of Father Laval, drawn in broad strokes, but always in reference to the present, - because "for the people of Mauritius, Father Laval is not a man in the past; he is always present and

is the confidant of all their concerns". This study is going to be reproduced as a pamphlet.

Lastly, we are delighted to be able to announce a real modern biography of Father Libermann, something wanting for a long time. The author is Mgr Jean GAY, C.S.Sp., former bishop of la Guadeloupe. He writes: "I have finished my work on Fr. Libermann. A dozen fellow Spiritans well versed in Libermann studies, as well as competent laymen have read the manuscript. All expressed complete satisfaction, several were really enthusiastic; one admitted that I helped him to discover Libermann. . .". All that still remains to be done concerns the material side of publication. Negotiations have started. Let us hope they will not drag, and that the first edition will appear in January 1977.

