

**October 7, 1948**

**Father Romuald Fox, OSB**



Father Romuald (Edward Charles) was born Feb. 22, 1892, in the Sts. Peter and Paul community north of Kinsley. After graduating from the parish school, he entered St. Benedict's in Atchison. He was ordained June 24, 1920, by Bishop Thomas Lillis at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Leavenworth.

He taught at St. Benedict's (1919-20), and was assistant at St. Benedict's Church, Atchison (1920).

Father Romuald served as pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Valley Falls, from 1920 to 1935. In 1924 the church was torched by the Ku Klux Klan and destroyed. Father Romuald led the parish through this tragedy, and a new Roman-style stone church was dedicated in 1926 on Thanksgiving Day.

Following this pastorate, he returned to St. Benedict's College to teach mathematics, physics and radio.

In September of 1942, with the country embroiled in World War II, Father Romuald was loaned to the University of Kansas at Lawrence to teach a special stepped-up course to the Army radio signal corps. He spent 14 months at KU before he was sent to Notre Dame to teach mathematics to Naval students.

He organized the first radio telephone network in the U.S., a system which has rendered invaluable service in times of disaster. (*Abbey News*, Oct. 1957, pg. 56)

He was at St. Benedict's College, teaching and with charge of the print shop, when he suffered a heart attack and died Oct. 7, 1948, at the age of 56.

The funeral was celebrated at St. Benedict's Church. Burial was in the abbey cemetery, Atchison.