



Dr. Gilbert Farley

SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Gil Farley Offers Study With His Stew

by Fr. James Solari

When Abbey students talk about the succulent Hunter's Stew at "Gil's Grill," they're not praising a local beanery - they're referring to the savory home cooking served them by Dr. Gilbert Farley, Chairman of the Business and Economics department. One of Gil's favorite pastimes is to offer the hospitality of his home and especially of his cuisine to hungry 'B&E' majors.

Apart from the personal pleasure he derives from these occasions, Gil considers this an integral part of his pedagogical strategy. Few teachers doubt that the informal setting and convivial atmosphere of such events provide educational benefits that are often more lasting than the traditional lecture delivered in the classroom.

Farley is a native of Pennsylvania. His first contact with Belmont Abbey came with his arrival on the Junior College campus in 1938 as a freshman. After completing his Associate of Arts degree two years later, he set out for New York City to seek his fortune in the world of business. Although pressed by the hectic pace of working in the city, he still managed to sandwich in some course work at Fordham University and at the Wharton School of Finance.

In 1948 he decided that the teaching profession would be more challenging and exciting to him personally, and he enrolled in the University of Miami in Florida in order to complete his undergraduate degree.

Nostalgia for the Abbey waxed ever stronger and eventually led him to return to his alma mater in 1952 -- with some prompting by his old friend, Fr. Cuthbert Allen, O.S.B. Gil set about organizing the business program at the college. From 1952-1956 he also served as Public Relations and Alumni Director.

These were the transitional years of the Abbey's growth from a junior to a senior college and the reorganization of the business department into a major, degree-granting department. In 1956 he seized an opportunity to return to university life and began studies leading to the doctorate in business education, which was awarded him in 1961 by the University of Indiana.

Finding the sporting climate of Miami irresistible, he joined the university faculty and instructed there until 1966.

Few persons realize how avidly Gil followed the track at Hialeah and Flamingo Park during those years -- he still takes quiet pride in being a pretty shrewd judge of horseflesh! One just

has to suppose that his familiarity with the investment gamble of stocks provided him with a winning instinct.

In the fall of 1966 Gil returned to the Abbey as an associate professor in the department of Business and Economics.

Several years later he was promoted to full professor and in 1971 succeeded Mrs. Isabelle Hart as Chairman of the business department which has continued over the past decade to attract the largest number of students to Belmont Abbey.

He is the director of the full-time Internship Program in which students are placed in industry or business for a semester of their final year and return to campus to participate in the senior seminar and to share their experiences of the 'real world.'

Last year, in response to a need expressed by several presidents of local distribution firms, Farley began to put together a special program for a new major concentration in distribution management -- actually, the first of its kind in the country. He went to Texas A&M University for consultation about the components of the new curriculum of study.

There he made the acquaintance of Dr. Bill Kirk, an industrial engineer, who became so enthusiastic about the new major that he decided to come to Belmont Abbey to head up the program.

Gil has been awarded fellowships in business in 1956 and again in 1970 from the Foundation for Economic Education. He has been inducted into numerous honor societies and is particularly happy to be a member of the Omega chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

Gil has also been tapped for Phi Kappa Phi, Delta Pi Epsilon, Kappa Delta Pi, Pi Omega Pi, and from 1964-66 he was the state director of Phi Delta Kappa. He has published articles in *College and University Teaching* and the *Journal of Business Education*. In 1965, he was cited as a "Superior Teacher" of the University of Miami.

He has always taken an active part in civic affairs. Presently, he is the vice-chairman of the education committee for the Gaston County Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the public-education com-

please see page 7

Library Gets Gifts

The year 1975 marked a period of generous giving to the Abbot Vincent Taylor Library. Many old friends who have given books and money throughout past years continued their generous practices, and some new donors were contacted through members of the faculty and the library staff.

In these days of rising book and material costs, accompanied by budget increases which cannot keep up with inflation, the librarians turn to gifts for a larger percent of their additions.

The largest gift came through the personal contact of Father Arthur Pendleton, O.S.B., with the administrators of Lithium Corporation in Bessemer City, N.C. Periodicals in the fields of chemistry and geology include volumes of *Chemical Abstracts* from 1967 to 1973, *Mining Engineering* from 1953 to 1974, *Journal of Chromatographic Science* from 1964 to 1972, *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* from 1963 to 1974, *The Journal of Organic Chemistry* (1973), *Inorganic Chemistry* (1973), *Journal of the Electrochemical Society* from 1948 to 1966, *Coordination Chemistry Review* from 1966 to 1974, *Organometallic Chemistry Review* from 1966 to 1973, *The American Mineralogist* from 1948 to 1973, and some other selected issues.

This gift came as a result of the company changing from the paper issues to a complete library on microfilm. LCA plans to continue sending us their subscriptions to these journals in coming years as they replace their original issues with film.

Generous donations of scholarly materials to the Library were made by heirs of two faculty members who died during the year. Mrs. Mary Mathews donated 392 books and 261 periodicals soon after the death of Professor-Emeritus Dr. Joseph A. Mathews. The family of Mrs. Isabelle Hart donated 438 books in her memory.

Both of these gifts were responsible for substantial and serious additions to our holdings in chemistry and economics respectively, and they continue to stand as fitting

memorials of two people who gave much of themselves to Belmont Abbey.

Among other gifts by alumni, faculty, and friends, we received gifts from Charles L. Bush of Virginia Beach who owned a collection of the Ballantine histories of the Second World War and remembered that our library had few of them.

He donated 25 volumes to his Alma Mater. In addition to this, Dr. Thomas P. Schlunz from the Department of History at the University of New Orleans sends a generous check each month with the condition that it be used to "maintain and increase the European history holdings," while Dr. R.B. Ellstead donated a selection of 30 chemistry books from his library; Rev. John P. Bradley donated 105 books; Mr. Harley Gaston of the College Board of Advisors donated a recent set of the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory.

Mr. Peter Walker, II of Gastonia donated a beautiful 32 volume set of Loys Delteil's *Le peintre-graveur illustre*, which features reproductions of works by European engravers such as Millet, Rousseau, Ingres, Delacroix, Corot, Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Goya, Renoir, Gericault, Daumier, and others; Mrs. Cary Greenlee of Badin, N.C. donated 556 copies of early editions of *The State Magazine*.

Special recognition must be given to Mrs. Bertha Giordano who has long been a friend of our library. For the past few years, she has sent a generous check to help stretch the book budget, and throughout the year she sends boxes of first editions and especially attractive volumes which she finds in New York and Brooklyn bookshops.

Without enumerating many volumes from the past, mention must be given to her gift of a first-edition copy of Johann Brucker's *Historia critica philosophiae* in six volumes which is the first history of philosophy written by a German in 1767.

Besides the gifts which come from friends outside the immediate and active Belmont Abbey Community, the library enjoys a constant flow of materials from the faculty and monastic community.