

## Educated? She Holds Six College Degrees---a Record

When Sidney Hook, labeled by Time Magazine as one of the top 12 intellectuals in the country, was in St. Louis last year, he was asked what surprised him most about his visit here.

Mr. Hook said many things surprised him (he was a guest lecturer at the philosophy symposium held by St. Louis). But one thing he mentioned to friends after the event really was rather startling—the penetrating intellect of “that woman.”

“That woman,” sitting there simply behind the wimple and black garb of a Religious of the Sacred Heart, may well have looked like the soul of naive simplicity to the celebrated New Yorker when he walked up to the rostrum to speak. But before the question period ending the affair was over, “that woman” had delved so deeply into the metaphysical problems pondered by Mr. Hook that he knew whatever naivete she might have was not in the field of philosophy.

Lay women philosophers and nun philosophers are both rare, and so Mr. Hook had no apologies to make for underestimating Mother Louis Keyes, R.S.C.J., A.B., M.A., Ph.D., Oxon, M.A. Oxon, B. Litt., B.A., Oxon.

The nun is full professor of philosophy at Maryville College and has perhaps more degrees than any other woman in Missouri. She started out at Trinity College in Washington, D.C., picked up additional degrees at such places as Fordham and Oxford, even found time for sessions at the New York School of Social Work and the Fine Art School.

Back to Oxford  
She had picked up a simple

A.B. when she decided her career was in the life of the religious, and entered—forever, she assumed—the Novitiate of the Society of the Sacred Heart near Albany, N.Y.

But, after being professed as a nun, she was sent by her superiors on to Fordham to pick up master's degree in history and a doctorate in philosophy. And then, back to the Oxford of her undergraduate days for four more years of study, and more degrees. She now has degrees in English, Latin, history, philosophy, and literature.

Mother Keyes will undoubtedly be visited by alumnae from all parts of the country when the Sacred Heart Alumnae hold their national convention here next week, for she has served as professor of philosophy at the Manhattanville College in New York, as well as here. In between, she was in India, with a group of English Sacred Heart nuns, to help found Sophia College for Women in Bombay. On returning from India, she was stationed both at Manhattanville and at Newton, Mass., where she helped found Sacred Heart College. She came to St. Louis three years ago.

### Raises Violets

For a philosopher, the smiling nun has a host of unusual hobbies. This year she directed Maryville's major dramatic production, Jane Eyre. She was editor last year of the Catholic Art Quarterly's Newsletter. She is somewhat of an authority on Byzantine art, and enjoys raising African violets. At present she is attending physics classes at Maryville along with the undergraduates.

“I didn't realize how much was missing,” she explained. “I hope I never have to stop learning.”

