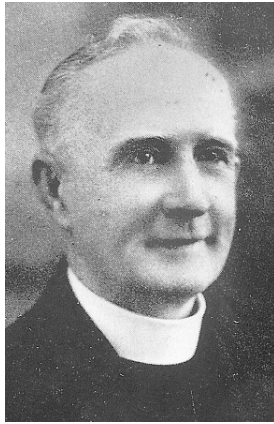


## **MAY 19, 1953 Fr. John Hall, CM**



In 1953, at Ashfield, the death of Fr John Hall, aged 75. He was the first Australian-born Vincentian priest, and was followed next by his brother Fr Mark Hall. Their family came from the first parish the Vincentians held in Australia, at St Augustine's, Balmain. Born in 1878, he did his secondary studies at St Stanislaus' College, Bathurst, where he also read his philosophy under the guidance of the President, Fr James Byrne. After studies in Dublin, he returned as a sub-deacon to Australia and was ordained priest by Cardinal Moran in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, in 1904. He was then appointed to the Bathurst staff where he remained till 1927, being for the last 6 years of the period Superior and President. He was the first Australian to hold either of these posts in any Congregational house. In 1928 he was transferred to Ashfield to the mission staff. Though fully occupied in this field and very successful in it, he yet found time to continue his work for the College at Bathurst and was principally responsible for the establishment of the Old Boys' Association. He also wrote a history of St Stanislaus' College at the request of the Bishop of Bathurst. He was a priest of enormous energy and zeal and had an exceptional love for the Mass. In failing health towards the end of his life, he died of a heart attack, with all the sacraments and consolations of religion in the presbytery at Ashfield.

*("Vincentian Journal")*