

but I have at least on ten ~~x~~ occasions told ~~people~~ people, who have drove into our yard, how to get over to the place that they were looking for, when they have asked me if this was the retreat, the Dominican retreat house. And if that does not convince you that monasticism is an important force today, walk over in this direction, the opposit~~e~~ direction, 150 yards from here, and you will find an even bigger estate, although the buildings on it are not quite ~~as~~ as pretentious, in which the so-called Christian Brothers live. And they carry on their life according to ~~the~~ monastic rules, bound by the monastic vows, and ~~it~~ dedicated in their lives to perpetual giving their services to the ~~church~~ church, free, for the rest of their lives.

(question) Before I noticed this here, a few years ago I was at the Concordia Seminary in Missouri, the great Lutheran headquarters, of the, Missouri Lutheran Synod. And there, on both sides, you have great Roman Catholic ~~x~~ establishments. It is a tremendous force today. And it is important for us to realize that monasticism though very ancient, was unknown in the Christian church in the first centuy A.D. and in the second century A.D. and almost completely unknown in the thrid century A.D. Ther are beginnings of it, going back to the thrid century A.D., but they are so slight that we have no record of them from that century whatever. Only in the next century do we have records going back, telling us a little about what was heard then about things that had happend in the previous century~~s~~. And so before monasticism/~~begain~~ begins, you have three centuries, you have a period which is longer, much longer, than the time of the existance of the United States of America. Much longer. Perhaps fifty percent longer. From the time of Christ until ~~it~~ monasticism evern began. And until it came to be much ~~more~~ of a movement, you have a period somewhat longer than that. ~~A~~ It is important that we realize that. It is not a featre of primitive Christianity, it is something that came a little bit later. But it is something which had such an appeal to the himan heart, ~~and~~ that once it began, it spread like wildfire, and it was a tremendously vital force in ~~the~~ every section of the Christian world, until the time of the reformation. And the reformation resulted in its