

He's Only Eight But St. Augustin Youngster Has Map-Making Flair

By JIM SMATH

Although only eight years old, Reginald Jean, a second grader at St. Augustin's Catholic School, shows fine talent as a cartographer, according to his teacher, Sister Alexis-Du-Sacre-Coeur.

The precocious map-maker is one of five children of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Jean of 4 Stewart Lane. The couple's other children are Claudette, 9, Geraldine, 6, Robert, 5, and Janet, 3.

TRACING is "kid stuff" for Reggie, who was inspired by the family's baby sitter, Miss Lucille Masse, 14, a Cony High School freshman and St. Augustin alumnus. Reggie sandwiched in enough time between geology, geography, astrology, arithmetic, reading and bowling to watch Miss Masse's high school cartography homework.

Taking pencil in hand, Reggie can free hand a map of the United States, from Washington state to Maine. He does this by looking at a globe and transferring the image on paper in close to true scale. Borders of Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, and the western states are lined and in quick order the middle west and finally Maine. Reggie can't work this magic east to west, with quite the same flair.

Reggie's skill seems to come from his late grandfather, Alfred A. Dostie, who showed an inclination for map making. Mrs. Jean is the former Rita Dostie. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jean are products of St. Augustin's school.

Reggie candlepin bowls with his dad, who is presently "53 pins away from the top average" among Hazzard Shoe Co. employes. The cartographer's father is a shoe cutter. He is presently refurbishing his dwelling, doing the carpentry. In a couple of weeks Mrs. Jean will have spanking new kitchen cabinets in which to store the family's food.

THE MANY-faceted youngster thinks highly of the Telstar project. He is very much interested in educational toys. His godfather, Donald M. Dostie, Mrs. Jean's brother, brought a girder and panel building set, so that Reggie can tinker with miniature skyscrapers.

Reggie can't wait for summer so he can swim and play Little League Baseball. What position? Why the lad can play any spot on the diamond.



—KJ Photo by Roach
Young map-maker