

# PRIEST'S BODY FOUND IN RIVER; AUTOPSY DUE

## Funeral for Father T. E. Hackett Friday In Davenport

Clinton, Ia.—Clinton authorities Thursday were continuing their investigation into the death of the Rev. T. E. Hackett, 44, Catholic priest, whose body was found late Wednesday afternoon in the Mississippi river. He had served churches in Davenport, DeWitt and Ft. Madison as well as in Mercy hospital, Cedar Rapids, as a chaplain. Dr. L. O. Riggert, Clinton county coroner, indicated an autopsy is to be performed to determine the cause of death.

The body was found at 4:40 p. m. Wednesday at the foot of Sixth avenue, south, by James Nunn, 726 Fifth avenue, south, who said it was lodged against a buoy past which he was moving in a rowboat. He brought the body ashore and called police who took it to the Dalton funeral chapel.

### LAST SEEN AT MOTEL.

Authorities said Father Hackett came to Clinton and checked into the Lafayette hotel May 28, but later left the hotel and went to the Mississippi motel at Lyons. He was last seen there.

It was the theory of authorities that he was in a small riverfront park near the motel and that he fell from the seawall into the river which was above normal stage and running in a swift current at that point. His car and personal belongings were found at the motel.

Coroner Riggert said Father Hackett was scheduled to attend a meeting in Dubuque Tuesday, May 28. The coroner said the body had been in the river a week.

### FUNERAL FRIDAY.

Funeral services will be held in Sacred Heart cathedral, Davenport, at 10 a. m. Friday. The Most Rev. Ralph L. Hayes, bishop of Davenport, will officiate.

Born in County Galway, Ireland, March 2, 1907, Father Hackett was educated there and at St. Viator's college, Bourbonnais, Ill., and De Paul university, Chicago, where he received his bachelor of arts degree in 1938. He attended St. Paul seminary in St. Paul, Minn. and on Jan. 31, 1943, was ordained a priest by the Most Rev. Henry P. Rohlman, then bishop of Davenport, at the Immaculate Conception academy chapel.

He was an assistant at Sacred Heart cathedral, Davenport, about six months, and assistant in De Witt for two years and at Sacred Heart church, Fort Madison for one year. For the past six years he had been on leave of absence for assignments in other dioceses, his last assignment being to Mercy hospital in Cedar Rapids.