

**Czy Stanisław Konarski SP był natchnieniem dla jezuitów w reformie
szkolnictwa XVIII wieku?**

**Was Stanisław Konarski, Sch. P, an inspiration for the Jesuits in their
educational reforms of the 18th century?**

SUMMARY

At the end of the 17th century, Piarist schools started to pose a serious threat to schools run by the Jesuits. The two orders competed for the same, limited number of pupils. Any new school that was established led to a fall in numbers in the schools that already existed. Hence the Jesuits voiced some anxieties about the competition from the Piarist schools.

Ever from the time they started to operate, the schooling in Piarist schools had been much more dynamic. The Jesuit schools followed the rules contained in the *Ratio Studiorum* and failed to keep up with the times by introducing new subjects. The fact that the network of Jesuits was a very dense one and covered the whole country, had a negative impact on the selection of qualified teaching staff. But the Jesuits made efforts to improve the situation, and these started to bear some fruit already by the year 1740. However, the main impulse that helped overcome the Jesuits' inactivity was provided by Stanisław Konarski, Sch. P., in 1740.

The two orders were engaged in a debate on reviving rhetoric and elocution, and on the grammar of Latin. Rev. Konarski's establishment of the Collegium Nobilium in 1740, which became a harbinger of the breakthrough in education, spurred the Jesuits to set up their own noblemen's colleges. Thus, the actions of Rev. Konarski had a salutary impact on the schools run by the Jesuits. The competition between the schools of the two orders could only bring and did in fact bring many benefits.

In spite of this rivalry, there are no traces of hostility towards the Piarists and the Rev. Konarski in the correspondence of the Jesuits; nor is there any sign of such hostility in the writings of Rev. Konarski.