

Why writing for the Catholic Press was a good place to start.

**Catholic Press Accounts**  
(plus Quaker Oats Award)

This accounts page should be adjusted to the time.  
In 1957, the average 17-year-old earned 25-cents an hour.  
In 2004, the California minimum wage is \$6.75.  
In 1957, a month's earning of  
\$90.50  
was enormous for a high-school freelance writer.  
Adjusted to 2004, those earnings are  
\$2,443.50

**Jack Fritscher, age 17**  
**Account of Money Received**  
**for Writing Published Spring 1957**

**MAY 1957**

		2004 \$\$\$
Prize Winner, Quaker Oats contest, "Why I Eat a Good Breakfast"	\$10.00	\$270.00
Short story, "Timothy and the Shamrocks, <i>Josephinum Review</i>	5.00	135.00
Short story, "Juicy Fruit Was Down That Day," <i>Josephinum Review</i>	5.00	135.00
Book review, <i>Salve Regina</i> magazine	2.50	67.50
Book review, <i>Emmanuel</i> magazine	.00	.00
Editing 500-page manuscript of Herder's <i>Commentary on the Psalms</i> for Newman Press, Westminster, MD, from Father Leonard J. Fick	50.00	1350.00
Short story, "The Odyssey of Bobby Joad," <i>The Torch</i> magazine	18.00	486.00
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TOTAL	\$90.50	\$2443.50