

October 17, 1923.

The World, the Flesh and the Devil.

The oldest firm in the world,
Still doing business at the old stand,
Up-to-date, sets the styles, keeps good accounts,
Gives and takes unlimited credit,
Never in bankruptcy despite colossal failures,
Never a harsh word to a customer,
It aims to please,
It gives you hell!

It deals in:

Lies and murder, drunkenness and impurity,
Stealing, cheating, gambling, burglary,
Envy, dissensions, strifes, rebellion, discord,
Hatred of fathers and treason to mothers and sisters,
Blasphemies and perjury, calumnies and backbiting,
Pride,gluttony, sloth.

The Devil Came First.

Lucifer was the highest angel in heaven. He thought he was pretty good. He said, "I will not serve.", and in his rebellion he drew away with him "a third of the stars of heaven." God created man to fill up the places of the fallen angels. In a rage of envy Lucifer set out to destroy man's hope of taking the vacant place; and when he prevailed upon man to sin he brought into being the flesh and the world, his faithful lieutenants.

The Flesh.

Man's appetites, created by God as helps, were subject to reason in Adam. His fall made them rebellious, and we inherited their rebellion. We can make them our slaves, or we will be their slaves. There is no middle course. The red blooded man dominates his passions: the yellow-livered quitter lets his passions rule him. The quitter is not a Notre Dame man, but there have been quitters at notreDame.

The World.

The spirit of the world is absolutely and uncompromisingly opposed to the spirit of Christ, and the two can never mix. The world crowds in upon Notre Dame at times until it well nigh overwhelms it, but with the help of God it will never win this place over. It is alert and clever, quick to sieze the slightest advantage, dirty and mean in the tricks it plays. Through bad reading, dirty stories, filthy shows, student- and other boot-leggers, painted women and gambling dens, "good sports" among "good" girls, cabarets and dance halls, politics sarcasm, emulation, sophistication and unsophistication, through ignorance and malice, it works away through a thousand agencies, by trickery and deceit, to rob you of your holy and pure ideals, your confidence in God and in your mother, to plunge your soul into mortal sin, and through mortal sin into hell. Grace is the enemy of these three scoundrels; and when grace is active, as it is at Notre Dame, the devil gets no sleep.

DAILY COMMUNION CONQUERS THESE FIENDS -----AND SINCE THE MISSION YOU
HAVE LET IT GO.

John P. O'Hara C.S.C.,
Prefect of Religion.