

Hardening of the Arteries--Chapter Two.

Dear Father:

Please permit me to contribute the second chapter on Hardening of the Arteries. I am in a position to hear comment that does not reach your ears, and from what I hear I judge that your Bulletin was too subtle for some of the worst offenders. On my uncle's side I am related to Clara Philips, the hammer-murderess, and I am a strong believer in the hammer myself. I am going to be specific.

Last Saturday night there was a dance given at the Elk's Temple. I understand that as a result of that dance the Elks have refused the students of Notre Dame the further use of their building. They have ample reason for their refusal. Great quantities of liquor were brought into the building, in violation of the rule of the lodge and of the law of the land, to say nothing of common decency. Men and women were drunk at this dance, and they were correspondingly indecent. Curtains were torn down and furniture was wrecked.

This dance was apparently given as a "jollification" after a victory over a football team that had managed, by hook or by crook, to win from Notre Dame the two previous years. Catholics throughout the country recognized that such a match had an apologetic value, and they prayed for victory. Such commemoration of victory would make an honest man pray that Notre Dame might never again be victorious if victory would mean a repetition of such an insult to the Blessed Virgin.

There were future mothers there, either to insult or to be insulted. Let us hope that none of those who disgraced Christian modesty will ever give birth to a Notre Dame man. And it tortures me to think that any man who has chosen this school of the Blessed Virgin to be his Alma Mater should consort with any woman unfit to be the mother of a Notre Dame man.

I must confess, dear Father, that I find my philosophy and my theology inadequate to offer me an explanation of this state of mind. I have loved Notre Dame dearly during the four years I have spent here, I have derived boundless profit from the religious atmosphere of the school, I have had my personal ideals so fortified and deepened that, with the grace of God, I am not afraid to go out and do combat with the viciousness of the world. But I cannot understand how boys who have fed daily on the Bread come down from heaven can cave in so completely in a moment.

Pergamus.

Dear Pergamus:

You should have looked into the source of your pseudonym. In the Apocalypse St. John's "great voice" tells him, "And to the angels of the church of Pergamus write....I know where thou dwellest, where the seat of Satan is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith." This is the theological explanation: where there is much work for God the devil is always especially active. A few cases of hardened arteries can wreck a great deal of God's work in a short time. The psychological explanation dove-tails in: character implies mature judgment, even in a child, and judgment is rather rare nowadays.

Society Note.

The many friends made by Wop Page during his recent visit here were sorry to hear that he was detained in the east on the occasion of the Nebraska game.

Don't Steal the Bulletin.

Extra copies of the Bulletin may be had for the asking. Don't steal the current issue, no matter how strong the conviction that it is aimed at you.