

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

Feb. 7, 1925.

Ideal Notre Dame Men.

Thanks for the following letters. Here's hoping they start something.

"Dear Father:

"Thanks a lot for the suggestion in Friday's Bulletin - your ideal Notre Dame man. While I am not suspected of being a sentimentalist, I've had something in my heart for a long time that I want to tell the world about.

"My ideal Notre Dame man is a tobacco-chewing engineer. Perhaps you will say that the adjective is unnecessary (I heard what you told the engineers in your speech before Christmas), but this fellow is not a civil. He is well built, not a shiek, not even handsome, but he has a good face. He is a good ad for his wonderful mother, who can cook and keep house as well as she can entertain. I know.

"He does not take a great part in outside activities, although he does something in interhall athletics. He belongs to the Knights of Columbus (1477) and pays his dues. I have never heard him tell a lie, and I like to feel that it would hurt him to tell one. It has given me a shock the few times I have heard him swear---not that I don't do it myself at too-frequent intervals, but it doesn't seem to fit his character. Plainly, I'd like him better without it.

"I like him most for his moral courage in speaking his mind. I was first attracted to him when I saw him make a silly girl behave on the dance floor. I have since seen him do a lot of things of that stamp. At times he has to fight for his convictions, and he will always fight, even though he comes off second best at times.

"His religious life has one flaw: he is not a daily communicant. He says his beads every day and never misses morning or night prayers, and he would rather lose his right arm than miss Sunday Mass. He receives Holy Communion at least once a week, but I have never succeeded in getting him to daily Communion except during exams. This is his last semester in school, and perhaps I can make him come across on the last lap.

"Do you know a better Notre Dame man? I don't.

"A-No-1."

II.

"Dear Father:

"My ideal Notre Dame man is the pastor of our church at home. He has the reputation among his fellow-priests of being the most cultured, the most gentlemanly and the most zealous priest in the diocese. He is the first Notre Dame graduate I ever met, and I have never met a better one since (present company excepted, of course.)

"Tannhauser."

III.

"To the Prefect of Religion:

"The best Notre Dame man I know is the alumnus who sent me here. He is an engineer (save the mark!), a weekly communicant, and an honest citizen. He has no sense of humor. He got married on sixty dollars a month ten years ago; now he has six kids and five hundred dollars a month. He is a good scout, a fine father, and a credit to Notre Dame. I'll pit my ideal Notre Dame man against any you can trot out, Commerce men included.

"M.E."

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