Religious Bulletin February 5, 1927

About That Protest.

No communications have as yet been received regarding the courteous and rather gentle protest of the Villagers against certain unrepresentative conduct of certain unrepresentative students. This leaves room for editorial comment.

Of much more concern to the Bulletin than the rowdyism of the students at the performance in question is the fact that the performance was too well attended by student, who had heard beforehand that it would be much worse than it really was.

The Bulletin in this stand is not defending ungentlemanliness -- far from it. But it does wish to make the point that Our Lord made when he accused the Pharisees of straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel, when he accused them of making clean the outside of the cup and the dish while inside they were full of rapine and iniquity; and although Newman says that vulgarity is the worst of sins, because it contains so many little sins, it is not the most grievous of sins.

We have a statue atop the Dome. It was placed there by Father Sorin to be a guide to young men. It was placed there as an ideal to be fixed in the minds of those fortunate enough to tread the campus of Our Lady, to be impressed indelibly upon their memories, to come up before them when need be, as a warning against danger, to call them back if they strayed.

Father Sorin was only giving us what Christ gave us in His last hour on the Cross. And that priceless heritage of Christianity, His Virgin Mother, was given at a time when womanhood had reached the lowest ebb in degredation: "The brutality of man towards woman in paganism brutalized woman also. But not having his strength and his advantages, she could not assert herself as he did. Women were the slaves of man's lust. Tossed aside at his will, they became mere servants or worse in his household. Perhaps they were thrown out altogether. That was paganism's attitude towards woman. Forgetting that he owed his life to woman, man treated her as a piece of furniture or as one of his cattle, -- perhaps not as well as some of his cattle.

"The condition of woman was so bad that modesty forbids any but general mention of the matter..... Marriage was a jest, children an accident or calamity. Hardly a Roman emperor in the classic era had a child às a successor. That explains the widespread custom of adoption for inheritance and succession among the higher classes.Cruelty follows lust. The women attended the gladiatorial shows, and joined with the men in calling for blood, and in refusing all mercy to the suppliant. Cruelty fallowed towards woman herself. She was put to hard and degrading work, even in tread-mills; there was hardly any sex distinction as regards labor.... The lust and cruelty of Jupiter finally found expression in the license and hardheartedness of men towards women." (Scott, Credentials of Christianity, pages 14 to 16.)

Respect for womanhood is the deepest virtue Father Serin wanted to implant into the hearts of young men, and for that he founded this University. Is it not an indication of failure for Father Sorin and his ideals that young men who have come under the influence of her school, even for one semester, will pay \$2.20 to see the degradation of womanhood by poor, foolish things that reckon not of the consequences to womanhood? It took Christianity centuries to raise woman from the gutter. If in her wilfulness she goes down into the gutter again, can she be raised again? Will you help her degrade herself?

PRAYERS are requested by three students for deceased relatives, and by two for sick persons. Walter Smith's sister died yesterday after a long illness.