

Eugene Cavanaugh Is Sinking.

Eugene Cavanaugh cannot last long unless help comes from heaven. Remember him at adoration today. --- Thos. G. Murphy's grandfather died Sunday. Jas. Mansfield's father is quite ill. Five special intentions.

¿Vale La Pena? -- A Meditation on Flunks.

Here's the probation list of off-campus students.... cut down to 155 after you deduct the names of those who have moved to the campus... shouldn't do that in every case, though; some of them lived off-campus when they were doing their flunking.... call it 155, however. How do they line up spiritually? Here's the dope:

- 20 are non-Catholics... don't have to worry about them.
- 47 missed the Mission.... at least they didn't hand in cards..
- 40 have not yet received the Sacraments this year....
- 20 haven't averaged once a month...
- 21 have received frequently...
- 16 have gone daily or practically so.

Thirty-three are Villagers... responsibility towards them is light.... don't have to keep track of their attendance at the Sacraments... they have their parents and their pastors to look after them... give them any help they want, but they don't have to be pestored.

How about the other sixty? How on earth are you going to give them an education if they keep out of your way all the time? They heard the first week of school that you can't get an education at Notre Dame unless you live in the state of grace..... let's hope they do that, even though they haven't enough love of God to open up their hearts to Him once in a while.... wonder if they go to Mass on Sundays... here's one failed to check in 5 times.... another 4 Sundays... another 3... another 6.... two more 3 each... something will have to be done about that....

"¿Vale la pena?" the Spaniards say.... that's a little stronger than our flat "Is it worth while?" It's a question. NO is the only answer if you look for results. What can you give them for their money? Brother Marcellinus asked the Prefect of Discipline one time about a couple of little Oklahoma Indians in the prep school: "Do they get enough to eat? Make sure they do, or we'll be owing them restitution. You certainly can't get anything into their heads." But these fellows don't even eat on the campus.

The sixteen daily communicants are smart. Most likely they will pick up at the semester, but even if they don't, their time at Notre Dame has not been wasted.... plenty of old boys who flunked out will tell you that.... and they will carry away with them, if they go, the best thing Notre Dame has to offer them.... they're smart..

But how about these thick-heads who are paying down a thousand dollars for an education and then resisting every well-intentioned effort to give it to them? They have no regard for God or man... sick people don't mean anything to them so long as they don't stub their toes.... the Poor Souls -- never heard of them.... Death? wait till it comes and then we'll talk about it... future prospects.... why worry about a tomorrow that may never come....

¿Vale la pena? Sure! An old missionary once said to a teaching community: "You get your encouragement out of the bright boys, your bread and butter out of the average ones, and your crown in heaven out of the dumb ones." A great crown awaits! Carry on.