

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
January 20, 1932

What Cardinal O'Connell Really Said.

The Crooners' Gallery reached a hasty conclusion when the secular papers gave a garbled account of Cardinal O'Connell's address to the Holy Name Society. The official manuscript of his address will show these men how unwise it is to utter a hasty protest when a cardinal speaks. The following sections will show the crooners wherein they err:

"I am perfectly certain that every one of you has heard over the radio from time to time a certain degenerated form of singing, which is called crooning. Now if you will listen attentively you cannot help but ask yourself why any man should degrade himself whining in that way about love. It is a degenerate interpretation of love....

"He who whines that way, well, he just isn't a man. There is no man who would lower himself to such art as that. A love song is a beautiful thing in itself because it typifies human affection of the heart. But listen again to this new idea of love and see if you do not get a feeling of disgust for man whining a degenerate song which is unworthy of any American man....

"It is a sensuous, effeminate, luxurious paganism by which men of your age may not be influenced, but think of the boys and girls who are brought up with that idea of music. Instead of hearing good music over the radio we have to put up with verse after verse of this immoral slush."

The Pledge Cards.

You will find pledge cards on the mail tables in your halls tonight. After long deliberation we have decided to ask you to return to this office a copy of your pledge -- not for the purpose of checking up on individuals, but that we may know, and make known, how many students have volunteered to make this act of supernatural self-denial.

It is the cumulative effect that is sought. The fellow whose backbone is a little weak will hesitate to sign the pledge for fear he will be thought a sissy. We know that we have enough men of courage around here to make a tough phalanx - and the tougher they are the quicker they will be to respond to this appeal. Others may rally to their standard - not only at Notre Dame, but elsewhere in Catholic schools.

The cards that you return are for our own information only. They will not be at the disposal of disciplinarians - not that the disciplinarians would make any ill-advised use of them, but that we want to keep this between ourselves. Only the totals will be made known. Send in your card at once. Every day's delay lessens the chance of your returning it. That's what we have discovered in our experience with the questionnaires of the religious survey, with adoration cards, with books loaned out, with everything.

"Sign or resign." This isn't a threat - it's a prophecy. Every time the Bulletin conducts a campaign for the pledge some of the non-signers are caught in their protests and shipped home. (Eight students have been dismissed since September for using intoxicants - and nine for unauthorized absence.) Watch for the working out of this hunch.

PRAYERS: Deceased - Bro. Cyprian's sister; the mother of F.X. Slater, '26; relatives of Lyde Lewis, Ernie Schmidt, and Joe McDonald; two friends of students. Frs. Lavin and Farley are at the Mayo Clinic. John Baldwin is ill with pneumonia. Brother Lawrence Joseph, F.S.C., is ill. Jos. D. Murphy, '28, is dying a lingering death. Arthur and Robert Wiele ask prayers for their father who is ill, and Don Bulger, Walter Johnson, and Frank Lochreiter, for sick relatives. A priest friend of Eugene O'Reilly was strucky by an auto recently. Five special intentions. MASSSES: Thursday, 6:25, Sorin, for Fr. Farley; Friday, 6:25, church, Anniversary High Mass for Joe Ford, of Brownson Hall last year; Saturday, 6:25, church, for Bro. Cyprian's sister; Sorin, for Leo Fagan's mother, Senior Class.