

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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This Week's Red Hat.

This week's red hat is conferred "magno cum strepitu" on the lay cardinals who write anonymous letters of advice and abuse - who pervert the privilege granted by the Religious Bulletin (the Church provides anonymity in the confessional) for the submission of unsigned communications regarding matters of conscience and practical cases of general interest.

The hat for this group will follow the general lines of the pattern adopted by D.C. Stephenson (now of the Michigan City prison) for his followers of a decade ago, but it will be featured by two inscriptions. On the obverse side, just below the peep-holes, the word "Boo" will appear; the reverse side will bear the familiar seventh grade slogan: "Who, Me?" (The following letter is an example of the legitimate use of the anonymous communication.)

Indulgences For Rich and Poor.

"Dear Father: A good Methodist friend of mine has struck a snag in the matter of indulgences. He puts the following question: A rich man and a poor man die in the state of grace with equal merit and with an equal amount of temporal punishment still due. The rich man leaves \$1,000 for Masses. Will he get to heaven sooner than the poor man?"

A single Way of the Cross, applied by the wife or mother or child of that poor man may free his soul from purgatory before the rich man's will is probated. We don't know much about the application God makes of the indulgences we offer; we do know that no devout prayer is lost, that God is just, and that it is cruel on the part of Catholics to neglect to pray for the dead on the assumption that they no longer need prayers. When a rich man is a good enough Catholic to leave a thousand dollars for Masses for the repose of his soul, he has always the charitable intention that they be applied for others who have no one to pray for them in case his own purgatory is satisfied early.

The treasury of the Church is rich in indulgences. It is true that no prayer, no matter how richly indulgenced, has greater satisfying power than the sacrifice of the Mass, which is Christ Himself offering satisfaction to His Heavenly Father - but the poor are not cheated unless they cheat themselves by choosing for their friends only those who will not pray for them when they die. And even these have their intercessors: "the most forgotten souls in purgatory" is the favorite devotion of thousands of the most devout Catholics there are.

Is Notre Dame Irish?

We have been kidded so much by the newspapers about the name they gave us some years ago, "The Fighting Irish," that we asked a committee recently to analyze the student directory according to national origins of family names. Some 200 names are still unclassified, but the report thus far shows the following: Irish, 999; German, 567; English, 280; Slavish, 199; Italian, 145; French, 84; Scotch, 56; Hebrew (mostly German), 39; Spanish, 15; Scandinavian, 6; Syrian, 6; Greek, 5. Hungarians, Dutch, Belgians and a few others remain to be classified, and the committee will appreciate student assistance in this work. Personal calls, or cards, will help to classify the "neutrals" - the Martins, Smiths, Browns, Johnsons, and others. Do the students of Irish blood constitute more than 50% of the enrollment? This question can be answered if students with Irish mothers but non-Irish names will send in cards.

PRAYERS: Deceased - the wife of J. J. Canty, '29 (the cancer case mentioned recently); John Cox O'Connor's sister; brothers of Geo. Cannon and Harold Weinand; Norm Greeney's grandmother (his mother is seriously ill); a cousin of Jos. and Jas. McAvoney; three friends. Ill - Walter O'Brien's brother (ruptured appendix); Al Wall's mother; a friend undergoing an operation; a friend injured. Seven special intentions.