

University of Notre Dame
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What-Nots.

The Nazi Religion. How history repeats itself! Protestantism began in Germany when secular princes, enamoured of the teachings by which Luther enlarged their powers and urged secession from the empire, told the people what to believe. Now, in the Republic, a prince of the common people tells the people what they are to believe and how they are to worship God. Those who suffer are the descendants of those who threw off the yoke of spiritual authority four centuries ago and exclaimed (in effect): "We have no king but Caesar." Some more roosting leghorns.

Nazi Eugenics. Seventeen hundred courts, we are informed, have been organized to take care of the legal process by which 400,000 physical and mental hereditary defectives in Germany are to be incapacitated for parenthood. Well, we had our own prohibition law, and we will suffer from its effects for many years to come. It's a crazy world! It will be interesting to see just how far Germany will permit this encroachment of personal liberty to go. If they are going to start on physical defects we wonder how long it will take them to reach the judges who have exorbitant waist lines.

The Merger. People used to consider it of vital importance to know what God meant in His revelation. Then came logic to those who used the Scriptures, self-interpreted, as the sole rule of faith, and Protestantism split into two camps - fundamentalists and modernists. The fundamentalists held to the old-time Protestant sects, and refused to consider that there was something wrong with the stand that God could be responsible for the hundreds of contradictory interpretations of Scripture current as so many sects of Protestantism. The Modernist used the easy way out - that was just as illogical: in spite of all the evidence, he denied that God ever said anything to man. It has occurred to neither group, apparently, that if God has said something to us, there should be an infallible authority to tell us, without possibility of error, just what God said and what He meant by it - yet what more logical?

Philip Kinsley, writing in the Chicago Tribune some weeks ago on the proposed merger of Northwestern and Chicago Universities, found a difficulty in the amalgamation of the schools of divinity at Evanston and on the Midway. He gave what appeared to us a strikingly good analysis of the points of difference between modernistic Chicago and more-or-less fundamentalist Northwestern. He needn't have concerned himself. Much larger camels have been swallowed and are swallowed every day. In the Episcopalian (or Anglican) Church, for instance, a "priest" who thinks that he is consecrating the Body and Blood of Christ in his "Mass" may admit to "Holy Communion" a Broad Church member who does not believe in the Divinity of Christ, a Low Churchman who believes that he is receiving bread in symbolical representation of the Last Supper, and High Church members who profess a belief in the Eucharistic Presence. Many prayers will have to be said before the logic of that position becomes apparent to millions of well-intentioned people.

Chiseling. It seems to be the open season for the very unlovely sport known as chiseling. Two particular forms of it are brought to your attention. Some 150 students have returned from Christmas vacation with medical certificates prescribing various forms of diet. Probably 10% of these cases, no more, are deserving; the 90%, chiselers, may make it impossible for the University to take proper measures for the relief of those who need it.

The other case is that of employment. The University has been at pains to determine which students are most in need of employment to be able to continue school, but it cannot succeed in all cases. In the meantime, quite a few students will have to leave school at the semester simply because a chiseler - who has for spending money what he can save through a job. -- The appeal is made to conscience in both these cases - let's see with what effect.