

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 4, 1934.

Intelligence.

What qualities are necessarily present in an intelligent man?

To that question a learned Frenchman tries to frame an answer so as to include such widely-different personalities as Tardieu and Mussolini, Al Smith and Einstein.

Consider the three qualities the Frenchman thinks necessary to intelligence.

First, the power of concentration. Intelligent men tackle a problem and stick with it until they have a comprehensive and thorough hold on it. They read what other men have to say about it, talk it, think it over and over again and again. As a result, they turn up new views that smack of originality, that nobody else thought of in relation to the same set of facts.

Unintelligent men are satisfied with quick, surface impressions; because they never take time to plunge deeply and thoroughly into a problem they seem merely to repeat other men's words. They rarely instill confidence, never summon a following.

Second, the power of self-criticism. The intelligent man reflects critically on what he is to do, on what he has done. He wants to be sure that he is right. Usually he knows when he is right, suspects when he may be wrong. Humble, he eagerly accepts other men's opinions of himself and of his work. He doesn't fear what other men think. Hence he soon corrects the mistakes that he makes. Ever in contact with other minds he keeps abreast of progress.

Second-rate men, because of their fear of honest self-examination and of other men's criticisms go on and on doggedly persistent in their imperfect ways of thinking and acting. They rarely know their own shortcomings and failures.

Third, the power of adaptability, the power to quickly size up varying situations, different personalities, and to make the proper self-adjustments. Some men flourish in a certain environment, languish when they are changed. They cannot judge between the essential, which they must always retain, and the accidental which can properly suffer adjustment. They become self-martyred heroes over the trifles of life and cannot understand their own oddity and singularity.

Think over the Frenchman's views. Somewhat unorthodox and inadequate they nevertheless stimulate to a better understanding of the really intelligent man.

Hospital Bulletin.

Father O'Donnell continues in critical condition. He is extremely grateful for your prayers, and wishes he could thank you individually for them.

John McQuade was anointed last night, but rallied during the night and is somewhat improved this morning. He is still in very serious condition, however. Keep praying for him.

A Fine Alumni Activity.

From Springfield, Illinois, comes a notice that the Notre Dame Club there will have a Mass and General Communion on Mother's Day. For sons of the school of Our Lady no more appropriate spiritual activity could be devised. We offer our congratulations to the Springfield alumni on their spiritual acumen.

PRAYERS: Deceased - the grandmother of Chas. Schwartzel. Ill - nows comes that Vincent Stace, '28, though still gravely ill, is somewhat improved. Continued prayers are urged. Others ill - Father Carrico's sister; an uncle of John Gerrits. 4 sp. ints.