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Listen, Mister!

A certain well-groomed gentleman stood one recent evening at the entrance of a South Bend theatre skimming smutty posters set up to bring in the young and the sensual. The manager of the theatre observed his would-be-patron's disgust.

"We're just putting on these shows in the fall to get the boys coming; afterwards we'll stop 'em." explained the manager, placatingly.

We hope that this Bulletin reaches that particular manager. We want him to know that we've had trouble with "smart" fellows like him before; also, that if he persists in his present attitude, he'll soon make a better living picking chicken bones and nut shells than out of what he gets from "the boys" of Notre Dame.

From "The Art of Staying At Home."  
(by Charles W. Ferguson; as condensed in Reader's Digest.)

On Thinking, as a stay-at-home help. "Thinking can be dull, it also can be a glorious and exciting adventure," to quote the late Justice Holmes, past master of the art of staying at home.

The first experiments in thinking creatively will probably result in disheartening failure. "That brain of yours will be hopping all over the place," Arnold Bennett wrote, "and every time it hops you must bring it back by force to its original position. The mind can be conquered only by never leaving it idle, undirected, masterless, to play at random like a child in the streets after dark."

It might help us to realize that thinking, after all, is only a process of talking to oneself--intelligently. When you learn to talk to yourself coherently, you will, if you persevere, discover a lively pastime. You will be forced to talk to yourself about something important. The reason conversation is at a low ebb just now is that we do not know how to talk to ourselves. Seated alone in your room, you begin to talk to yourself..about war, for instance. You must be exact, marshaling your notions...pitting contentions against each other. By the end of the evening you will be weary, but you will be better able to talk to others the next day.

On Reading, as a stay-at-home help. Much has been said in favor of purposive reading --reading with some lofty aim--but there is also reading for fun.....Reading for fun by no means implies that the reading matter be frothy. I can imagine that some folks would enjoy reading philosophy for fun. Others could take history, others science, but in any case they would not read out of any compulsion of convention.

It is a struggle to learn any art, much more of a struggle to master it. It cannot be done in ten easy lessons. But you must admit this art of staying at home is important enough to be worth trying. Its cultivation would help solidify family life, stabilize our thinking, tone us up generally, and develop self-sufficiency and serenity. What is required most of all is the realization that the gadabouts are missing something, that the satisfactions of a flea are greatly exaggerated. He is a happy man who has simplified his tastes to the point where a good book and a fire and a quiet evening are for him not a chore or a sign of increasing age, but a preference and a badge of wisdom and distinction.

For Future Reference.

There is a handful of upperclassmen who need the mission most and are too dumb to know that they need it. For them: attendance at both morning and evening services is required.

PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Thomas Roche (Morrissoy). Ill, friend of Tom Condon (Walsh). Three special intentions.