University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin November 23, 1937.

Fr. De.Sanctis will speak at 8 tonight, Wash. Hall, on Mexico..

To Every Owner His Due.

"A friend and I have had an argument. He says that if students, while celebrating a victory, should destroy property they are not altogether responsible for the damage done. Even if they are responsible, he argues, their responsibility is taken care of by a precautionary fund."

There is no fund provided either by the students or by the University to cover the willful and malicious destruction of property on the campus or off the campus.

That means this: an individual student or a group of students who damage property belonging to the University, or to anyone else, are liable in conscience for the full amount of the damage. That responsibility lasts until the full amount of the damage is paid. If the responsibility is grave the obligation of making restitution is grave.

There can be no welshing on the vague grounds that somewhere there exists a fund to take care of such contingencies. There is a fund to take care of legitimate student accivities, such as trips for the band. But that fund is for an entirely different and well-defined purpose.

If, let us say, University authorities should in a given case think it wise to use money from that fund to protect the good name of the entire student body, when an individual or a mere section of students had damaged property, it would be done only because of necessity. The consciences of the guilty ones would not be freed until they themselves had reimbursed the fund or until their responsibility had been clearly condoned by the proper authorities.

Just by the way, where students in groups destroy property their responsibility is by no means lessened. If you sat on your front porch while 500 singing hoodlums ransacked your home, it would be small consolation that they were 500 instead of two, or that, instead of being glum, they sang as they hacked away.

A true Notre Dame man once remarked: "Cowards seek safety in numbers. You don't find these cowards committing misdemeanors when the blame can be clearly placed. Dregs come to the top only at times of excitement. These dregs couldn't at other times lead an old lady's sewing circle. Dregs and cowards are the ones who bring a student body into disrepute."

They Have A Claim.

Besides Van Wallace, Fred Snite, and Dick Swisher, two other Notre Dame men have very special need for your prayers.

One is John Clair, critically ill for several weeks at his home in Chicago of severe sinus infection. John's father has just written of another operation and the aftereffects are not encouraging. John had planned to return to Notre Dame this year for further study, but this trying illness has held him back.

The second N. D. man in need is George Belting ('34) ill gravely for a year and a half in a sanitarium in Ohio. Such long seiges of suffering call for courage, patience, faith in the cross.

Give George and John prominent places in your Masses, Holy Communions, and prayers. PRAYERS: (deceased) Bernice Ann Nowicki, sister of Bernard Nowicki (Off-Campus). Ill, friend of Jack Reese (Off-Campus); Mrs. P. Reimer, friend of Dan Gibbs (Sorin); brother of Matt McShane (Sorin); cousin of Father Alan Heiser, C.S.C.; father of Steve Smith (Cav). Four special intentions.