University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin December 4, 1937

Minutiae.

No matter what you have to do, you can afford time: 1. to glance at the pictures in a magazine; 2. to visit one of your pals next door; 3. to have your shoes shined as you leave on the date; 4. to re-read one of your girl's letters; 5. or to write one to her.

Then, logically, you should never be too busy. 1. to pay a short visit to the Blessed Sacrament; 2. to say a decade, at least, of the Rosary; 3. to make a spiritual Communion; 4. to offer an act of charity for all sick and poor people in the world; 5. to say an Our Father or a Hail Mary for someone on the wrong path in life.

Picture Smut.

Following is a timely, temperate editorial taken from Editor and Publisher for Nov. 27.

There has always been a market for pictorial bawdiness and pornography and there probably always will be, but it has generally been furtive and under cover. Now with the mad scramble of the picture magazines for circulation, involving the big ones as well as their nasty little satellites, the business of purveying pictorial salaciousness on a big scale has come into the open.

We do not know the present number of picture magazines on the market, since no one seems to be keeping an hour-by-hour total, but the last half-dozen we have looked through reveals their editors tunnelling sweatily into the smut pile.

A few newspapers, perhaps thinking there is a bonanza in this sort of thing, have recently printed picture features which are definitely out of place in publications going into the home.

Two facts in the situation are plain to responsible publishers and editors: First, that national advertisers wouldn't be caught dead in 90% of these publications, as their lack of copy attests;

Second, that a firm groundwork is being laid for insistent censorship demands. The printed material already is at hand which, if assembled, would impress any legislative group.

The censorship implication is by far the most important, not only to the newspapers but to the picture magazines themselves.

Yes, yes; people can never be brought to believe that the right of free speech insures foul speech and filthy pictures.

Worth Committing To Memory.

"I am profoundly convinced that the time is not far distant when all men who think at all and who possess the faculty of reasoning clearly and logically, will understand that the highest use to which the human mind can devote itself is the contemplation of God and His relations to man and the physical universe; and that when that time comes I am certain that a hymn of thanks iving will well up from the heart of America to the Catholic Church which, through misinterpretation and calumny and slander and in spite of the most powerful opposition has always held that great ideal before the minds of the people; has always made God and His Christ the basis and foundation of education." (--Senator Pepper to the Yale graduating class of 1922.) PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Dan Sheedy (Dillon); father of E4. Matthews (Mor). Ill, (seriously) friend of Faul Breting (Cav); mother of Bob Reilly (Sor). 5 spec int.