

STATE OF GRACE  
The only state to stay in  
no matter where you travel.

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
March 18, 1940

CONFESSIO N!!!!!!  
Before you go home. Dillon  
Howard, Cavanaugh, anywhere!

REMEMBER A FRIEND.

This morning at Stevens Point, Wisconsin Mr. George M. Anson, a benefactor of Notre Dame, was laid to rest. Twelve years ago he established the Leonard M. Anson Memorial Scholarship, which is annually awarded to a deserving student living in or near Merrill, Wisconsin. Father J. Hugh O'Donnell assisted at the funeral and asks you to remember Mr. Anson generously in your prayers, Masses and Holy Communions.

The Cross of Chaste Christian Courtship (IV).

Never make the stupid mistake of thinking the saints had a different nature, lived impossible and unreal lives. The saints had what it takes. Learn your lesson from them. With regard to the problems that come up between you and your girl, you will never "come through" unless by the grace of God and your own Christian heroism.

Pray that your girl may be as strong as St. Agatha. Agatha said to the judge and her executioner: "I die gladly. Aren't you ashamed to touch my breasts-- you who were nourished by your mother's breasts?" And, as for yourself, pray that you may be as strong as St. Thomas Aquinas. He was confronted by an attractive but evil girl and he drove her out of his room with a fiery fagot! He would not dilly-dally with the occasion of sin!

You may be tempted to think remarks such as these are "way out of focus," "that this is the twentieth century, Father: forget it." Don't fool yourself. If you don't see eye to eye with the saints, you are the one out of focus. They knew and loved Jesus Christ. They saw the value of their bodies and souls. They understood the language of heaven and hell.

And do not drown yourself in a stream of false self-pity: "Why am I tempted so?" "I can't put up with these things five, six, seven years!" \*\*\* Get your bearings. There are thousands of young men and women your age, as healthy as you, as strong, as capable of love, who have vowed their chastity to God for life. Some of them are your own brothers and sisters!

By the Cross, dear young friend,---the Cross of Chaste Christian Courtship---you will most assuredly suffer, but you have nothing worthwhile to lose and you have everything worthwhile to gain. Place yourself willingly upon it. Stretch out your hands. Invite the nails. Endure the agony. Give up the ghost. You will enjoy the Resurrection of a happy, holy, everlasting marriage! God strengthen and encourage you!

PRAYERS: (DECEASED) Mother of Peter Gay (Taunton, Mass); three friends of Al Mcneey; grandfather of Joe McKeon; father of Harold "Red" O'Connor, ex-'31; (ILL) mother of John Trapp; uncle of Willard Anzilotti; wife of Ed Neaher '37; dad of Lou McKeon '39.

Remember Whose disciple you are. "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." \*\*\* Take up your cross.... not Our Lord's, not anybody else's.... your own. And what is your cross, if not these temptations, these things that go against your grain, these forbidden yet attractive pleasures? \*\*\* "And follow Me...." That is-- along the road to Calvary: that hard, narrow, steep and rickety road which leads to crucifixion-- to the crucifixion of your flesh and its concupiscences!

If you buckle under pressure now; if you spoil your Christian courtship; if you make an orgy out of dates; you wander off that road; you get onto the Broadway of self-indulgence, comfort, lust-- the highway of sin, death, destruction, hell! You throw away your cross, you cease to be a Christian. For, you must have a cross to be a Christian. You must carry it to the dreadful death of Calvary. Yes, death! You and she must die!

This is not sad. Bring on no flowers. Ring no mourning bells. Write no requiems. Listen once again to the great St. Paul: "If you live according to the flesh, you shall die; but if by the Spirit you mortify the deeds of the flesh, you shall live." It is again the Christian contradiction, the paradox of life and death. "For he that shall save his life shall lose it; and he that shall lose his life, for My sake, shall save it."

It all leads to but one conclusion: