University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin March 30, 1940

NINE YEARS AGO TOMORROW

....a plane crashed in Kansas....carrying to an early death one of America's heroes, a living idel of the Notre Dame men who were used to his bustling bigness stepping across the campus into the Athletic Office or onto Cartier Field....

He was your benefactor as well as the rest of the world's.... He left you the lesson of how to be a man's man, a giver of self without any strings attached; he showed you the way to play sports--hard and clean--no belly-aching, no sour grapes and alibis.

The High Mass tomorrow in Sacred Heart Church will be offered for KNUTE K. ROCKNE. Pray for his generous soul.... that it may be at peace with God, that God will grant you the grace to be what "Rock" was and shall ever be in the memory of all who knew and respected him: a MAN-- virile in gait, virile in speech, virile in every action; and at the same time a GENTLEMAN-- always thinking of someone else. His wife and children, the players at Notre Dame, his business associates, the needy, everyone <u>else</u> occupied his first thoughts; after that came "Rock."

He was a great man to admire and <u>imitate</u>. Not that any of you will ever be "Rock." That is not desirable. The best thing is to be yourself, and your best self. But in cultivating certain virtues that the great coach cultivated, you will develop the best that is in you. Surely no one of you, imitating his masculinity, will ever give anyone any excuse to call you soft.

DON'T EUSH YOUR CONFESSION.....

Take plenty of time....especially now. There is always the danger of not being adequately prepared, of coming back from a "vacation let-down" (which has no place in the life of a mature lover of God) with the idea of "getting it off your chest." That's very bad.....

If you think of confession principally in terms of getting semething off your chest, you can accomplish that by looking up a psychiatrist downtown or perhaps in Chicago. Mental catharsis is supposed to make you feel at ease; that is, at ease psychologically.

But that is hardly what the good Christian is looking for: psychological ease. Your one aim should be--if you've lost it-to regain case with God, union with <u>Him, peace of soul</u>. And you make this recovery only by the SINCEREST CONTRI-TION.

A "thoughtless" plunge into the "box" is hardly sincerest contrition....AN EARN-EST ACT OF CONTRITION, preceded by a candid examination of conscience and followed by GENUINE SORROW FOR HAVING OFFENDED GOD and A FIRM, PRACTICAL PUR-POSE OF AMENDMENT....is the right way to recover God's grace after mortal sin.

You should, of course, always try making a perfect act of contrition as soon after any misfortune as possible.... Then prepare with reasonable leisure for your good confession.

THANKS TO MT. ST. MICHAELMEN....

.....Students of Mount Saint Michael in the Bronx, New York **heve** sent on their annual contribution to the Missionaries of Bengal. This year they netted \$35.66....to them all....and to their moderator, Brother John of the Cross, F.M.S., many thanks.... Brother's letter will be printed later.

PENNY-A-DAY.

The mite boxes which were distributed by the Monogram Men carly in Lent will be taken up Tuesday night. A convenient time for leisure confessions is after supper in Dillon or in the Basement Chapel....or after nightprayer in Dillon, Howard or Cavanaugh....

THE APRIL CATHOLIC DIGEST.

Read all about 'em- "White Cellar Criminals" *** "Pioneers of the Gelden West." *** "Dean of the World's Monarchs." *** "We Are Fifteen." And about others.... Leave your name and 15¢ with Fr.Gartland, Fr. Grimm or Fr. Lynch.....tonight or tomorrow..... The CATHOLIC DIGEST deserves your support.

PRAYERS: (DECEASED) Rev. Henry Simon, brother of Brother Florence; daughter of William Helmkamp, '11; Ray Sandusky, '30; grandfather of Howie Klein (Al); Mrs. Strumil.....