

PRAYERS. Dec: Friends
of D. Petersen (How);
Grandfather of B. Rath,

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
February 14, 1941

(Bad). Ill: Mother, of
R. McCoy (B-P), Sister
of Bob Odenbach, (Al).

An Alumnus Is Worried.

A letter, just received, gives the reaction of a N.D. graduate to some education courses he is taking at a prominent, eastern teachers college. His observations, quoted in part below, give you an idea of the world you are going out into, the world and philosophy you may have to fight for:

"Let me give you an example from the problem behavior course. We started out to determine who is normal. A girl voiced the opinion that good is a relative term, that what is good for one is or may be bad for another, that there is no objective test of what is good. And the prof smiled on, without even questioning her opinion. One fellow, who was educated elsewhere, said that he thought that everyone knew what was good and bad, and he was shouted down by the class to the great glee of the prof. This, Father, is State Education, paid for by the taxpayers, who at the same time are about to spend billions for defense against Hitler, who has a perfect right to act as he does, if we are to accept the terrible thesis that good is relative. If that be true, then we have no right to condemn anyone, or even teach a course as problem behavior. What is to become of the Protestant world? If this thing continues, they will end up in a hopeless confusion. It is going to be a sad state of affairs, I am afraid."

You're right, Bob, except that (1) it isn't a Protestant, but a pagan world, and (2) that "hopeless confusion" and "sad state of affairs" are closer than you think. The naturalistic philosophy that you refer to also denies the supernatural - (a) the existence of a personal God; (b) the existence of man's spiritual soul, created by God and endowed with certain natural rights and obligations.

Deny (a) or (b); man then becomes just a pawn for anything stronger than himself and you have a flying start for totalitarianism. Man won't be able to appeal to those "inalienable rights" of man as an individual, human person, the very foundation of our American government. When democratic totalitarianism is slipped over, maybe the country will wake up - too late.

Everything is serene back here, Bob. The boys haven't a thing to worry about - or pray for - except a new coach, the Prom and week-ends.

Coming Events.

1. Next week, there will be a Catholic Press Exhibit in Badin Rec room promoted jointly by the Student Commission for Decent Literature and the Library. Catholic magazines and newspapers will be on exhibition, to be "browsed" over - and smoked over, if you wish. Containing no Dick Tracy strips, it may have little interest to some, especially, for example, to any lawyer who has no conception of his possible future contribution to real democracy.
2. Saturday, Mary's Day, for late risers under the Dome, 7:30 Mass and late Communion facilities as usual.
3. Sunday's Gospel applies to those Catholics who, having no foundation, roots or strength, fall in times of temptation or who, when choked and smothered by riches and pleasures of this earth, wither. The cure: humble confession, vigorous mortification, daily transfusions of the Blood of their crucified Savior.
4. Sunday. The Sunday Visitor with Youth section at the Church door makes better Sunday reading than the "W.G.N." - and is free.
5. Monday. Dedicated to the Holy Ghost. Ask Him for Fortitude to avoid the evils, or to take the cure, mentioned in item 3 above.