

University of Notre Dame

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

May 13, 1941

"He Faithfully Adored Thee, His God."

Jimmie McMichael, freshman of Carroll Hall and of Port Arthur, Texas, died yesterday morning at 5:45 just as the attending priest was reading those words from the prayers For A Departing Soul.

He died after a brave fight against peritonitis — a brave fight worthy of the gallant and gifted Southern youth that he was.

Jimmie came to Notre Dame by winning the Meehan Scholarship, which was awarded to him for ranking first in a competitive examination for the state of Texas. At St. Mary's High School he had attained, among other requirements for the scholarship, an average of at least 90 for his entire high school course. Able and popular, his classmates elected him president of the class his last three years, and his C. Y. O. associates throughout the city made him their president for two years.

Jimmie labored to continue his high scholastic record at Notre Dame, and followed a rather rigid schedule for his studies in the chemistry course. He started the day by adoring his God at Mass, by serving Mass, in fact. He spent his Easter vacation here on the campus. Even those vacation mornings found him faithfully present in Brownson Basement chapel ready to serve Mass.

True to Carroll traditions, he was a mixer and no recluse. Nor was he a bookworm. He had earned a freshman numeral in track, and had always found time to fill in as a member of the Carroll Hall baseball team.

Approaching exams had him somewhat worried, because he was determined to maintain the high average suitable to a scholarship student. Even during his sickness, exams and loss of time caused him some worry. As the Brother who was his rector left the death-bed, he remarked to one of Jimmie's chums, "The exams won't bother Jimmie any more. He passed the biggest one of all this morning," and Jimmie's friend answered truthfully, "That's one exam he wouldn't have to worry about."

He was ready to bring his life and record before his God. He had faithfully adored Him.

During the two days and nights that his parents were at his bedside, he discussed with them his convalescence in the Gulf breezes after his return home. But Jimmie has gone home ahead of them — gone to his eternal home where he awaits his devoted and bereaved father and mother and two sisters.

After his death there was found a verse fastened in his notebook. That treasured verse of his can be a solace to his parents and sisters; can be an answer this side of Heaven to them and to his friends here who prayed so hard for him, and now ask, "But why, out of all of us, did God take Jimmie — the best?" Jimmie, himself, gives the answer in his cherished verse, entitled "Confidence":

*When shadows fall athwart thy path,
'Tis God Who Passes By!
Bow down in peace and praise and pray,
And even while you sigh,*

*Remember this — Each sorrow is a shadow sweet
That tells how near Christ's nailed feet
Are walking by thy side —
Then Let Thy Soul Confide!*

Yes, it was God who passed by — the God Whom Jimmie faithfully adored. Let your souls confide.

A Requiem High Mass will be offered for the repose of his soul on Wednesday at 6:20 at Sacred Heart Church, to be celebrated by the President, Father Hugh O'Donnell, C.S.C. All freshmen are asked to attend this Mass and pray for the repose of his soul at Mass and Communion. The upper-classmen will please attend in their own hall chapels on Wednesday morning.

PRAYERS. Deceased: Anniv. Father of Prot. F. J. Hanley, Ill. Father of Charles McMahon (Dil); Bob Buchholtz; friend of Harold Zimmer (How). 4 Special Intentions.