University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin October 23, 1941

Dear Bishop O'Hara:

Tomorrow, you probably recall, is the Bulletin's birthday. It will be 21 years old.

When on October 24, 1921 the first <u>Bulletin</u> was pecked off and tacked up in the 7 halls, you doubtless never dreamed that this infant sheet would grow to its present sturdy and far-reaching adulthood. Neither did a certain little freshman reading it in Badin hall, the same freshman who is now its editor.

On the occasion of its birthday you don't want any praise as founder, but you would appreciate, we feel, that your youngster, now grown, go to work and help you a little in your present position as shepherd - or Prefect of Religion - of 500,000 Catholic boys in the army of the U.S. of which Our Lady is the patroness.

Last <u>Bulletin</u> birthday, your youngster made an offer of help to you from the N.D. Student Commission for Decent Literature - and we find that the boys "have delivered" on their promise to: "(1) Make up an N.D. Pamphlet consisting of some of your <u>Bulletins</u> of past years, still very appropriate to present conditions and problems of youth; (2) Sell this pamphlet to the public; (3) Use any profit therefrom to send suitable pamphlets to any army camp or navy station that you designate."

That pamphlet, "Hints For Living the Faith", has been published and reached a sale of 12,000 and is now in a second edition of 20,000. As promised, the profits are being used to send pamphlets and literature to the army, including also 250,000 of your leaflets, "Advice to Catholic Recruits". The Vincent de Paul Society is sending literature, Catholic and secular, to ten chaplains in a Southern camp.

The Student Commission is also sending out about 400 Scholastics to Notre Dame men in the army service. The cost of all these services is being financed by the sale of the above pamphlet, the pamphlet "No Smut", by a Victory Dance last year, and by a Victory Dance after the Southern California Game this year (plug).

The Bulletin makes an additional proffer of help this year from the Catholic Action Students among the lawyers. They feel lawyers should be leaders, and that they should do something concrete in the way of defense. Realizing the necessity of a general return to God for lasting and ultimate defense of their country they are going to summarize for publication a series of speeches given last year in a Law Club Symposium on the necessity of God in American Democracy. (Among the speakers, we note, were a German, a Jew and the inevitable Irishman.) This summary printed in leaflet form like your "Advice" leaflet will be printed and distributed throughout the army and the country by the Student Commission, free as far as possible.

We are sending the <u>Bulletin</u> to practically all the chaplains in the U.S. service. Some have made offerings, but we have returned these because the University wishes to do as much as it can in the way of service to you and your boys.

You will appreciate this bit from a letter from Lieutenant Joe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Marines: "Its really inspiring to see half or more of the so-called "Leathernecks" moving forward to the Communion rail - proving themselves not merely the so-called "hard-boiled" men but men in the fullest meaning of the word. When it is remembered that these men are under temptations more frequent and constant than we were while at sheltered Notre Dame, I think you will agree with me that when it is said 'the Marines have the situation well in hand' they are not referring merely to one battleground."

As of old the Bulletin calls it a day as taps chime out, and the Dome spot light blacks out, but may Our Lady reign on to help you, help her boys.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Congressman Lou J. Connery; Sister M. Louisine C.S.C.; Anniv. H. and J. Daele; Ill - aunt of Fr. Healy C.S.C.; Mr. G. Schmauss; 6 Spec. Int.