University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin April 15, 1947



Air Your Troubles.

Worries often pass away after a friendly discussion with a trustworthy friend. Consultation gives one greater light on his problem, and an exchange of views helps to place the proper value on details of the case. Some worries need to be aired in the confessional; others with a priest privately. One's academic difficulties, like study methods, often clear up with a meeting or two with the teacher. Why carry your burdens any longer? Seek consultation today.

A Canonized Vagabond.

Benedict Labre was a tramp; that was his vocation in life. God wanted it so.

Benedict made himself a vagrant. Neither an indolent character nor an unhappy home are to be blamed, because neither existed in his case. His family, though humble and of the middle class, were not slovenly. Moreover, Benedict by nature was bright and capable.

All doors were open to Benedict. So charming was he that people were most anxious to have him visit their home, rags and all. His broad shoulders and graceful bearing brought people to attention. It started one to find such qualities in the equipage of a mendicant.

Benedict made no mistake about his vocation. He sought counsel. Confessor after confessor heard his case, and judged him correct.

Those who knew Benedict called him a holy man, and when he died people went about saying, "The saint is dead, the saint is dead". Though no name was mentioned, everyone knew the reference was to Benedict.

Back in 1700 men needed a tramp-saint. Benedict's scraggy beard, tattered clothes and ill-shod feet were a need of the age. Men could not be converted back to God by any other way, so aloof had they become to ordinary preaching. Benedict stood as God's symbol of opposition to the pride and self-seeking of that day.

Like Benedict Labre, everyone is to make an impression on others for good. This is one's vocation, whether he is an engineer, doctor, executive or tradesman. The student who is cooperative with classmates and teachers, clean in speech, disciplined in his living habits and regular in his attendance at the Sacraments is doing God's Will. Can it be said of you that you are doing good at all times?

Tomorrow is the feast of St. Benedict Labre. Pray to him for light to see the importance of good example. Those who are about to choose a state in life will do well to consult him in prayer.

PRAYERS: (deceased) cousin of Bill MacDevitt (Cav); Joseph DiBartolomel; Wayne Johnston, died in service April 15, '45, from Sheldon, Iowa. (<u>Ill</u>) George Kashmer (Morr), recovering from appendectomy: Two Special Intentions.

> FATHER SWEENEY, CSC 19 SEBIOUSLY ILL IN ST. JOSEPH'S HOSFITAL OFFER YOUR MASS AND COMMUNION FOR UTM