University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin February 15, 1952 Always Somebody Else.

To persevere in your resolution to spend 15 minutes each day in meditation you will have to overcome moral inertia and get started. It seems probable that anyone who sees the necessity of some prayer and feels at some time or other a definite desire to pray, has already received sufficient grace to do so. There is no need to wait about for an angelic messenger to tell you to get going or for Our Lord to appear surrounded by a great light, as He did on Mount of The Transfiguration.

If you do not know for sure whether you have the grace to make 15 minutes meditation each day, get started accepting it anyway, and you will soon find out that you have been given not only sufficient but efficacious grace to do so. Make the act of the will which you think is beyond you: you will find out, after you have done it, that it was possible.

You can be morally certain that, if you have enough grace to make the first meditation, you will also receive all the grace you need to persevere in your resolution. The important thing is to act. You don't first see your way clear, then act: you act, then see. "I believe that I may see." That is why the person who waits to see clearly, before he believes that meditation will help him to implant deep convictions, never gets started.

All day long you have been thinking about yourself. When you get to the chapel the first thing you do is to start thinking about someone else: that SOMEONE, that Person, is Christ Himself. Keep in contact with Him for fifteen minutes; talk to Him.

If you haven't anything to say and if distractions paster you, take your missal, read the Gospel for the day reflectively. One thing you must insist on from the beginning. Never, on any account whatsoever, will you give up the practice of <u>attempting</u> to pray in this way daily. If the time after Holy Communion seems more appropriate, use that period--but stick to your resolution, a set time each day.

Remember the words of St. Alphonsus: "If a man will promise me a quarter of an hour's mental prayer every day, I will promise him heaven."

Perpetual Novena Of The Sorrowful Mother.

Devotion to the Mother of God in the particular phase called devotion to Our Sorrowful Mother goes back to the first centuries of the Church. It cannot be positively affirmed that it is one of the first manifestations of Marian veneration, but its antiquity is incontestable.

From the very foundations of the Congregation of Hely Cross devotion to Our Mother of Seven Serrows has been celebrated with great solemnity, for She is Our Patroness. During this period of world-wide stress there is need to focus our devotion to Mary on one particular aspect of her dignity. It seems highly fitting that we inaugurate this Perpetual Novena of the Sorrowful Mother on campus to spearhead our urgent plea for world peace.

Force of arms and statesmanship have failed us in the past; they will fail us again. Only Ged and His Mother can save and protect us in the future. At Fatima Mary appeared to three children and through Lacy, Francisco, and Jacinta asked for the conservation of the world to her Immaculat Heart. This Immaculate Heart, which the children saw in the vision, was one surrounded with thorns. She is Our Sorrowful Mother.

Our roal is Christ. But the surest sufest and quickest way to Him is through Mary. <u>Prayers:</u> (deceased) mether of Frank Driscol, '30; Lake L. Kelly, '16; William H. Cole, '20; Mal P. Cooley,'20; James T. Foley, '14. <u>Ill</u>, mother of John Moeney; sister of Frank Romance; mother of Ed. Schickler. Six upselal intentions.