

# RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

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Wednesday, January 10, 1962

Notre Dame, Ind.

## NOVENA

Even in -10 degree weather, one can always count on our church and chapels being warm. This is fortunate for those who forgot to start the Novena for Examinations yesterday and will be looking for a place in which to get warm today. It's an added reason for trying to get to church for the 5:10 Mass this evening.

## OUR THANKS

A day such as today should prompt us once again to be grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Lewis, donors of the shelter where the buses stop at the Circle. Mr. Lewis died last year, but his wife and sons still carry on the philanthropic and charitable works he began. Early in life, Mr. Lewis became what he termed a "partner of the Lord". Convinced that he should not only tithe but divide his income with Christ, he donated an estimated \$10,000,000 to the Church and \$5,000,000 to charitable causes during his lifetime. During the last eleven years of his life, he gave an annual gift of \$100,000 to the Catholic Church Extension Society. His gifts built more than a hundred chapels throughout the country, and also helped make possible the establishing of a maternity hospital in Chicago, an eighteen-story addition to DePaul University, and the financing of Loyola's medical and dental schools. His generosity to the students here will always be remembered, but especially on cold days like this one.

## EMPTY CHURCHES

Speaking of churches calls to mind a lament expressed recently on the editorial page of the diocesan paper in one of our Western states. What would normally have been ordination day in the diocese last year wasn't. The reason? Simply this. There wasn't a single young man in the diocese of more than two hundred thousand Catholics to present himself to the bishop for the imposition of hands and the reception of the powers of the priesthood. In diocese after diocese in our country, and in all the religious communities, one hears again and again of the shortage of priests. Many parishes desperately need an additional priest. The Armed Services are in need of more priests. Mission countries are begging for priests. Throughout the South, bishops would find benefactors to build more churches, if they only had the priests. Vocations are built out of prayer and discipline. A home or a school without either will not be productive of vocations. Nor will the man who neglects prayer and self-discipline find his vocation easily.

"O God Who wills not the death of a sinner \* but rather that he be converted and live \* grant we beseech thee \* through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin \* and all the saints \* an increase of laborers for Thy Church \* fel-

low laborers with Christ \* to spend and consume themselves for souls \* through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son \* Who liveth and reigneth with Thee \* in the unity of the Holy Spirit \* world without end. Amen.

## IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Hugo C. Rothert, '87; George J. Aitken, '29. Ill: Grandfather of Bob Hellrung of Badin; Joseph Zammataro; Richard R. McCabe, '50.



(We conclude today the statement "This I Believe..." by Thomas H. Beacom, '20, Vice-President of the First National Bank, Chicago, and a member of the University's Lay Board of Trustees.)

If, for a moment, we think of the manifold talents needed to split the atom; if we reflect on the problems involved in co-ordinating bits and pieces of scattered information, fusing many different skills and assembling, secretly, the mechanical contrivances that brought us nuclear fission, why then should we think it unreasonable or impossible to conceive an all-knowing Primary Cause?

Whether we are believers or non-believers, who among mortals can improve on the Ten Commandments as a code of behavior? On the Golden Rule as a test of conduct? What does occasional failure signify if we keep always a purpose to persevere? Our hope must reach beyond our grasp; our faith go beyond ourselves and our few short years upon earth. So, at least, I believe.

In the fullness of time, there will come to me, as to all of God's other creatures, an end of this life. I shall not dread it. Not because I have no fear of judgment, but because I look upon the end here as a beginning hereafter. Of all beliefs my living has confirmed, this is strongest: that for the sake of his soul was man born.

\* \* \*

These remarks were made by Mr. Beacom, shortly before Christmas in Chicago's Orchestra Hall. The man who called these remarks to our attention added: "This seems to me to represent and to state pretty much everything that Notre Dame men believe in and hope for..." We agree, and commend these remarks to the consideration of all. Alongwith it, we direct your attention to another statement, the author of which is unknown:

Here is a young Man who was born in an obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. He never wrote a book. Never held an office. Never owned a home. Never had a family. Never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. Never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. Had no credentials but Himself. While He was a young Man, the tide of public opinion turned against Him. His friends deserted Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth, and that was His coat. And yet, no other has affected the life of man upon this earth as has that ONE SOLITARY LIFE.