

The Spirit of Notre Dame is legend. Strange to say, it was born before the first game of football was played. You will find it in the indomitable spirit that dreamed of a great university where only a deep wilderness had been for centuries. The spirit grew with the achievement of that dream, despite the odds of pestilence and war, fire and famine. Notre Dame is grateful to the game of football for the opportunity of dramatizing to millions of Americans the spirit that attended its birth and growth. For this spirit will not say die, will count no odds too great while there remains a will to win. Let us hope that this spirit will never cease to flourish in the hearts of young men here, for life needs what is exemplified on the football field - where spirit alone can win over great physical odds, and men can lose manfully, if indeed they must, while still playing to win. And the legend seems to say this much at least, that men fired with the spirit of Notre Dame will win in the end, when it is important to win.