

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

March 21, 1925.

To A Senior Cynic.

Cynicism is rare at Notre Dame, thank God, hence the following lines, addressed to a senior cynic, may not be of much general interest; but a cynic is hard to reach, and when one finds one around, he should be treated promptly. We therefore crave the indulgence of Bulletin fans for concentrating on one individual.

"Dear Cynic: The radical cure for your case is marriage to the cynical young lady whose character you find such an enigma. There are other cures, not so radical, but you have closed the avenues to them one by one until there remains only the major operation. Cynicism is a subtle form of pride, and pride darkens the understanding and chills the heart; humility is the cure for cynicism, the humility which breeds optimism and faith, and when humility cannot enter through the mind or the heart it has to come through strong blows on the back. You have to be chastened, and she can do it---she will do it.

"God could cure you, but you won't let Him. When your Novena failed, you failed God. It failed because of your lack of faith; you did not mean what you said when you repeated in the Our Father, 'Thy Will be done'.

"Thomas a Kempis could cure you. A chapter of the Following of Christ, read and believed every day, would give you a new sense of spiritual values and restore your faith in mankind and womankind. You might still try that instead of marriage, if you can read it as the author says the Scriptures should be read, not with carping at its simplicity, but with a heart full of the love of God and eager to learn the simple healing truths that are so sublime and fundamental.

A priest could ^{cure} ~~help~~ you, but that maddening form of pride which we call sensitiveness has kept you from seeking his advice. Remember this: there isn't a priest on the campus who has ever been convicted of murder.

"Your classmates could cure you. Take this one for instance: 'For three years I drifted along receiving only at intervals of about two weeks. At times I would go daily for a week or two and then stop. Only this year have I kept quite faithfully to daily reception. Since I have practiced daily Communion I have increased my devotion in other ways, such as rosaries, Mass, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, etc. On the First Friday of March ('25) I made an Hour of Adoration for the first time in my four years here. I have been a fool, but I think I can see signs of a change for the better.'"

To A Freshman Blasphemer:

"During the past five years questionnaires have gone to 7500 students at Notre Dame, and only two have dared to send in blasphemous answers. The other fellow who dared speak with disrespect of the Blessed Sacrament was not a daily Communicant; you say that you are. May God have pity on your poor soul!"

To One Who Prays For Purity and Sense.

"Daily mortification, serious and strenuous, will make you the man you pray to be. A little book of visits to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin, by St. Alphonsus, will help you stick to your resolution. You will find a copy of this booklet on the shelf of the bookcase of room 141 Sorin. The room will be empty between 5:30 and 8:00 every evening. Come in and help yourself."

Prayers.

Three students ask prayers for their sick mothers, five for friends and other relatives, six for deceased persons, and five for special intentions.

John F. O'Hara, C.S. C.,
Prefect of Religion.