

Religious Bulletin
October 9, 1925.

Et Contra.

"Dear Father: I don't want to generalize on the Palais; let others do that. But if my experience will help some one else from going wrong, I will offer it as a reparation for my own wrongdoing.

"I have known the Palais for three years. During my freshman year I visited it about five times, and did not find it an occasion of sin for me personally; but I laughed at things that should have disgusted me. During my sophomore year I visited it oftener, and on several occasions I found it an occasion of sin. I salved my conscience with the old stock excuses the boys give, and promised myself that I would behave. During my junior year I came very close to losing my self-respect through my fondness for the supposed good times I enjoyed there.

"Father French brought me to my senses. I certainly would not want my mother to meet most of the girls I have danced with at the Palais; and as for taking a girl up there with a party of friends -- I have changed my mind on that. I wouldn't care to have my sister see some of the things that go on there, and I have accepted Father French's advice about treating the girl I intend to marry as I would my sister. I am going to stay away from the Palais this year, and I think the penance will do my soul good.

"I don't feel that I am particularly a rotter or a moron or a green-eyed reformer. My home life has been all that a Notre Dame man could ask for; I have been looked upon as a decent sort of a chap; I have tried to live up a lot of what Notre Dame has tried to teach me. But I don't think the Palais has helped my ideals, and I am getting to the point where I cherish the ideals of mother and Notre Dame. Perhaps God is giving me sense. I have often prayed for it, on the advice of the Bulletin.

-- A Less-Wise Senior."

Et Counter-Contra.

"Dear Father: Today I read in your Bulletin the various letters you have received concerning the Palais Scandal. The average freshman is in ignorance concerning the Palais Scandal. I have gone there two years and now find it a place of good diversion. I enjoy the music for one thing. If you should have a date, there is no other respectable place in South Bend to take her, and young ladies do like to dance.

"So, Father, please don't let any foolish movement get on foot, for the Palais is not an evil. Let us not be radicals.

-- '27."

The italics are twenty-seven's. If "now" were underscored it might mean something. If it took twenty-seven two years to find out that the place is respectable (during which time he must have supposed that he was visiting a place that was not respectable,) there would seem to be still matter for debate.

A Papal Indulgence.

"Dear Father: A freshman in our hall insists that his father got a Papal Indulgence and paid five hundred dollars for it. Can you explain this? -- Curious."

Don't tell the police or they will look his father up. A man would have to be awfully goofy to pay five hundred dollars for something he could get free of charge -- The likely explanation is that his father took out ~~at~~ a Poetic License for the family.