

Religious Bulletin
October 9, 1930

Free Advice.

To the Rev. William Orchard, who, in The Atlantic Monthly for September, rocks back and forth between Catholicism and Protestantism, finding "no difficulty in accepting the whole of Roman Catholic doctrine, including the infallibility of the Pope," and yet wanting the Church "to bring about the reunion of Christendom by such admissions, explanations, and promises as would detract nothing from her past definitions or future dignity":

When you admit that Christ founded the Catholic Church, and that, consequently, it is a God-made Church, you close the door to "admissions, explanations, and promises" possible to a man-made church; you can't make an alloy of gold and clay.

To Robert M. Hutchins, President of the University of Chicago, whose published list of readings for the special course he will give in Literature of the Western World includes Homer, the Bible, Plato, Cicero, St. Thomas, Dante, Shakespeare and others, along with Spinoza, Voltaire, Rousseau, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Freud, and others:

You can't read an author for his style without absorbing some of his philosophy, as Leopold and Loeb discovered; and the modern philosophers whose works you are putting into the hands of twenty immature boys and girls have not contributed to the happiness and moral betterment of the world.

To Dr. Edward L. Schaub, head of the department of philosophy at Northwestern University, who will direct, through the Sunday Noon Forum in Evanston, an investigation as to "whether the ideas attained by scientists and philosophers may serve to enrich and correct, rather than destroy, the 'god idea engendered by personal experience and religious life';" and whose starting point of investigation is Leuba's "Belief in God and Immortality," of fourteen or so years ago, which omits the views of all Catholic historians, psychologists and natural scientists:

Your study will lead where all other such studies have led, namely, to what the little boy shot at; and your time would be better spent investigating what Catholic scientists, psychologists, and historians can tell you about why they believe that our God is not an "idea engendered by personal experience and religious life," but The God Who has revealed Himself to man and proved His revelation by miracles and prophecies.

To Dr. Edward Lyman Cornell, of Northwestern University Medical School, who has discovered that "birth control so far is nothing but quackery," fostered in this country by Soviet Russia:

People who accept the irresponsible principles from which Russia derives abhorrent practices should not object to the logical conclusions from the principles simply because the conclusions are advertised by the less washed of their intellectual comrades; "as a man thinketh in his heart so he is."

Prayers.

A. J. Maloney asks prayers for two cousins stricken with infantile paralysis. Mr. Edw. Dunnigan, of Chicago, a good friend of Notre Dame, who lost one of his four children this summer and had to undergo the affliction of the serious illness of two others, asks prayers now in the dangerous illness of the fourth child. Van Wallace, whose case was presented to you for prayers at the beginning of the Novena to the Little Flower, has sent word that he made the Novena at the Detroit shrine. He is not doing so well, and a continuance of your prayers is urged. Five special intentions.