

Religious Bulletin
December 13, 1930.

"It's Something Not Done By Notre Dame Men."

The editorial which appears below is taken from the Minneapolis Journal, a conservative newspaper, and one of the most influential dailies in the northwest. One on the same lines appeared in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Different Kind of School Spirit.

"It's something not done by Notre Dame men."

The words, addressed to a milling mob of students by a school prefect, came just in time to prevent the "rushing" of a South Bend theatre, in celebration of Notre Dame's remarkable victory over Southern California.

Futile, perhaps, would have been the clubs and tear bombs of police reserves, who had hurried to the threatened theatre. But potent was the warning of the mild mannered prefect. No threat of punishment did he voice, no frenzied plea for order; just a gentle reminder that it had never been the habit of Notre Dame students to register their exuberance by destroying other men's property.

If a school that has the best football team in the world can respect property rights, why cannot the schools with second, third, fourth, and fifth rate teams respect property rights? Because it's student tradition to raise Cain? Why not borrow from Notre Dame the tradition that celebrating students need not be ruffians?

Thus far the editorial -- and we thank the Journal for its beautiful encomium. No matter that the "mob" was made up of high school boys and synthetic alumni from the factories; there were half a dozen students in the group, and their misguided enthusiasm yielded to treatment -- which is testimony to their fundamental good sense.

What is more important is that the Minneapolis Journal has given you something to think about during the holidays. It is a regrettable fact, but a fact nevertheless, that many of you are better at school than you are at home during the holidays. The modern home..... God help us! When boys and girls no longer are ashamed to go home drunk to their mothers, civilization is in a bad way. Not that it is always, or mainly, the fault of the mothers; pagan standards, which crowd in from everywhere, neutralize the influence of many a pious and dutiful mother.

To be good you need all the help you can get. "Not done by Notre Dame men" means, literally, "not done by the Blessed Virgin's boys." If devotion to the Blessed Virgin has been at the root of your school spirit, it has given you an additional help that will carry you through a holy vacation -- which is the only happy kind. It will help you to turn down liquor when it should be turned down; it will help you to respect womanhood; it will help you to make a silly girl behave.

If you haven't learned the lesson, you are a fake. The world knows this year as it never knew before, the principles on which Notre Dame is founded. If you don't live up to those principles, the world will ask why.

Bishop Hall Will Preside Tonight.

Weather permitting, Bishop Hall will be here this evening to preside at the closing of the Novena of Thanksgiving. He will preach, and will carry the Blessed Sacrament in solemn procession through the church. The service begins at 7:30. It will be an unforgettable occasion. --- And a Merry Christmas, in Christ our Lord!