

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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For Fr. Hugh O'Donnell's Father.

Yesterday's Bulletin carried a request for the repose of the soul of the father of Rev. J. Hugh O'Donnell, C.S.C., President of St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas. Father O'Donnell has a special claim to your prayers, for he gave seven years of very hard work to your interests as Prefect of Discipline at Notre Dame. Since he is known personally to the juniors and seniors, it is suggested that instead of a corporate spiritual bouquet, individual cards be sent. (There are cards suited to this purpose on hand at the pamphlet rack.) The 6:25 Mass in the basement chapel tomorrow morning will be offered for Fr. O'Donnell's father.

Try It Again.

We can't say that the Novena for the Poor was a complete failure, for at their lowest point during those nine days the number of Holy Communions was above 800, but that is far from being a complete success, when you recall that last year the daily average was 1504. But the football trip and Founder's Day conspired to cheat the poor - your piety could not withstand the distractions. We will try again. On Friday we will begin a

new Novena for the Poor; the last three days of the Novena will constitute the triduum requested by the Holy Father. And during the nine days you may keep in mind the spiritual message given by President Hoover last Sunday:

"Our country and the world today are involved in more than a financial crisis. We are faced with the primary question of human relations, which reaches to the very depth of organized society and to the very depth of human conscience. This civilization and this great complex, which we call American life, is builded and can alone survive upon the translation into individual action of that fundamental philosophy announced by the Saviour nineteen centuries ago. Part of our national suffering today is from failure to observe these primary yet inexorable laws of human relationship. Modern society cannot survive with the defense of Cain, 'Am I my brother's keeper?'

"No governmental action, no economic doctrine, no economic plan or project can replace that God-imposed responsibility of the individual man and woman to their neighbors. That is a vital part of the very souls of the people. If we shall gain in this spirit from this painful time we shall have created a greater and more glorious America. The trial of it is here now. It is a trial of the heart and conscience, of individual men and women."

We are grateful to the President for this spiritual interpretation of the depression. "Part of our national suffering today is from failure to observe these primary yet inexorable laws of human relationship." When Father Coughlin said that same thing, but more specifically, a few months ago, an attempt, in part successful, was made to rule him off the air. Now that this sentiment has the sanction of the highest executive authority in the land, the appeal for a return to sanity and to spirituality may meet less opposition in high places. We take it for granted that it will not be kindly received by the A.A.A.A. or the Soviet agents in our midst, but decent people will welcome the implied confession of the breakdown of Materialism.

NOTE: We hate to spend so much time giving advice to college presidents, but when Dr. Angell, President of Yale, told the American College of Surgeons last week that it is "unthinkable that reasonable, but drastic measures will not be found to diminish the number of births of the seriously unfit, to say nothing of controlling birth in excess of the possibilities of a well conditioned population," we couldn't help thinking how much more appropriate it would have been had President Angell made his plea one for the increase of births among the "fit," the vanishing Native.

PRAYERS: An aunt of Harold Desnoyers is very ill.