Don't delay confession

University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin February 27, 1933. Sermon and Benedictio 7:00 - upperclassmen 7:30 - freshmen

"Lay On, Macduff."

"Dear Father: I protest against the insinuation evident in - 'you're not in South Boston now! - under "Be Genteel' of the February 15th Bulletin... Every Bostonian knows that 'bricks are out of place' no less in South Boston than in South Bend. There could be nothing more out of place, I think, than such a reference in a 'religious' bulletin. It is not true, it is not nice. No South Boston boys at Notre Dame!"

Ah, but Father, dear, it's the quickening spirit that counts, and South Boston spirit is as distinctive as Notre Dame spirit. Bricks are out of place, true enough, but in our boyish enthusiasm we sometimes forget the amenities... and we wouldn't exactly relish being a little Jewish boy with an orange necktie on St. Patrick's Day in South Boston. And we still love the South Boston spirit. Whether its brickbat comes from a fist or a pen, it bespeaks a vigorous leyalty.

"There'll Be Trouble In The Balkans In The Spring." - Kipling.

"Dear Father: Is Notre Dame Irish? Yes, if one chooses to make it appear so. My chief complaint with the survey as printed in the Bulletin is the conclusion that students with Irish mothers come under the category of Irish, though no mention is made of limiting students with non-Irish mothers and Irish names. The analysis of the names in the directory would be a fair though inexact indication of the Irish majority at Notre Dame if it were done with consistency and ability. But the ignorance of recognizing the specific groups under the Slavish head is amazing. All Slavs seem to be listed under Slavish, although there are over sixty names in the directory definitely Polish, others Bohemian, etc., and in contrast to this large group there are Scandanavians, Syrians, and Greeks who are specifically mentioned. Evidently the persons on the committee were not well picked. And then consider the inconsistency. Why aren't the Latins all filed under the broad group of Latins? Who has the ingenuity to be able to recognize Hebrew names as being German and then neglect to place them under the German group."

You're a better man than the committee, Gunga Din, if you can classify all the Slavish names in the directory. Don't count on help from the individuals; some of them don't know what they are. We will be glad to have your help in the task, but don't get us in bad by calling a Rusnak a Slovak or a Czech a Bohemian; and don't claim the Irishmen Cumiskey, Linskey and Colopy, as the committee did. While you go to work on the various divisions of Slovenians, and separate the Croats from the Serbs, we will hold off the Irish who want to be classified by counties or as far-ups or far-downs.

Be sure to stick to the old geographical divisions in your classification or you will give the Latins an advantage, since Roumania got a good slice out of Austria-Hungary, and the Latins claim the Roumanians. And don't go back too far or you'll have us claiming the Galicians of the Ukraine as Gaels. The classification is far from complete, as we said, and we are glad to have expert assistance. If we lump the Latins as you suggest, the Latins outnumber the Clavs by seventy-some - including one Portuguese who bears an English name with an Irish spelling - and to save the English we'll have to call them British and include with them to Scots and the Wolshmen.

PRAYERS: Deceased - Jas. Hanley (the tinner, baptized on his death-bed); Jos. Claffey, of the local parish; Rev. James J. Farrell, Chicago; an uncle of Pat Fisher; an aunt of John McLaughlin; a friend. Ill - Archbishop Hurth, C.S.C., in Hanila; Bro. Vincentius, C.S.C., in Deming, N.H.,; Elmor Hooley's mother; the mother of Fr. Boland, C.S.C. (convaloscent after a grave illness); Fr. O'halley, C.S.C. (the doctor's report is unfavorable); an aunt of Fred Curran; Dickie Bland, baptized here recently; a friend. Four special intentions.