

Adorer needed
Tuesday, 8:30

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 1, 1933.

Mother's Day Novena
began this morning

Explaining An Explanation.

Doc Evans says it's against the law to explain a joke. It should be. It should also be considered bad form to explain an explanation - but there have to be exceptions. Many inquirers have asked for an elaboration of the reasoning in the recent Bulletin, "Oil and Water Will Not Mix," which explained that it would be profitless for Notre Dame to send a representative to the convention of the Religious Education Association. We consider it advisable, therefore, to give a brief answer to some of these questions.

I. "Is the Catholic Church so opposed to reason that she cannot enter into a reasonable discussion of problems with non-Catholics?"

Ans. Reason has no more staunch defender than the Catholic Church; no one uses sound reason more than she. But in moral problems (such as the ones proposed) she must apply first to Revelation for an answer, and she must make use of her own prerogative of infallibility in the interpretation of Revelation. Look over the remedies proposed by the Church for these problems (they are listed below); the soundness of their reasoning (based on Revelation) is admitted by a great many people outside the Church.

Further: it was when reason rejected Revelation and attempted to "go it alone" that these problems arose as large social issues. There have always been individualists, of course, but Individualism as a social philosophy is at the root of the evils we lament.

II. "If the Catholic Church has a remedy, what is it?"

The Problems Proposed

1. When can the churches do (a) to create a newer and finer social order and (b) to meet personality problems?

2. How can duplication of effort be avoided in the character-training work of the churches and allied agencies, and how should men be trained for this work?

3. What can moral and religious education do to prevent the disintegration of home life and what is the contribution of religion and of religious education?

The Catholic Remedies

a) Apply the principles laid down in Leo XIII's Encyclical, "Rerum Novarum" and Pius XI's "Quadragesimo Anno."
b) Accept the Sacrament of Penance.

Apply the principles of Christian Education found in Pius XI's Encyclical, "Divini Illius Magistri."

Apply the principles laid down in Pius XI's Encyclical on Christian Wedlock, "Casti Connubii."

III. "If there are three Catholic laymen on the Board of Directors of the Association, why can't Notre Dame send a representative to the convention?"

We are not responsible for the actions of other individuals. What we set out to do was to explain that Notre Dame, as a Catholic institution, cannot in any way compromise the Catholic position by entering into a discussion of moral problems on a free-thinking basis, if this could be misinterpreted as legitimatizing such a basis. Notre Dame does not speak for the Catholic Church, any more than do private individuals in such discussions - but a great many people in this country do not know that, and her actions are more subject to misinterpretation than are those of private individuals.

THOUGHT FOR FATHER'S DAY: "Many a boy at college thinks his mother is his best friend - if she happened to have picked a dad who can pay bills without a murmur." -- Louisville Times.

BENGAL: April Collection, \$48.46; "from Poor Ted to Poor Ben," \$1.25; H. \$1; N. \$1; "for help in examinations," \$1.

PRAYERS: 111 - Ray Reuland's father; a student's mother; the mother of Martin Wieder, '31; a friend. A deceased friend. Eight special intentions.