

Adoration cards
at the rack.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 1, 1934.

Hymns, 6:30, at
the Grotto,
starting tonight.

Moral Principles in Legal Practice - II.

May a Catholic attorney represent parties to a divorce, and under what circumstances?

A Catholic attorney is permitted to represent the party who seeks to preserve a true matrimonial bond.

He is permitted to represent a party who seeks divorce, providing there are legitimate grounds for the divorce. The principles upon which he is to judge these legitimate grounds are as follows:

When the parties do not seek the divorce in order to marry again but only to be freed from the civil effects which the marriage entails and this freedom cannot be obtained except by civil divorce, and when, moreover, there are real reasons for the separation, the proceeding may be considered legitimate;

If, however, the ends the parties desire can be obtained merely by a separate life, without a divorce, it is not licit for them to seek a divorce;

When the parties seek a divorce simply in order to remarry the proceeding is illicit.

When the proceeding is illicit (from the point of view of the parties themselves), that is, when the parties seek divorce without just reason or with the intention of entering into another matrimonial relationship, a Catholic lawyer must have the gravest of reasons for taking part in the case. This "gravest of reasons" could be, for example to prevent notable damage to himself in his practice. The lawyer must withhold his conformity to the intentions of the parties and thus make his cooperation merely material.

Does an attorney have any duty to the parties?

The attorney has a duty of prudently informing the parties of their moral obligations and of influencing them to observe these obligations. The attorney's duty in this regard would be less as he would foresee that his efforts would be less likely to bring results.

Must parties receive diocesan permission?

A Catholic party seeking civil divorce must obtain diocesan permission.

Don't Forget Your Mother.

The novena to end Mother's Day began this morning. If you have not started yours, begin tomorrow and carry over an extra day.

Questions From the Questionnaire.

74. Would sterilization really do more good than evil?

Ans. No. It would do much more evil than good.

75. Why can't more students get employment?

Ans. Because there aren't more jobs. If you can see any possibilities in the way of creating jobs the employment office will be glad to hear of them.

PRAYERS: Deceased - the mother of John O'Neil, '29; Fr. Zephyrin Engelhardt, O.F.M., historian of the California missions; friend of a student. Ill - Fr. Tom Kelly's mother; the father of George and Jim Como. One thanksgiving and three special ints.