

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
March 26, 1935

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The Palace Promises to Cooperate.

Here is a letter from Mr. Guy W. Martin, managing director of the Colfax, Palace, and State theatres in South Bend. It reads:

"Dear Father Cavanaugh:

"After a lengthy discussion with Father Boland this evening, I wish to go on record with you in making it very clear that I, personally, am opposed to the presentation of any attraction in any of the three theatres under my supervision, which may be classed as obscene or vulgar.

"I fully realize that not only Notre Dame but the people of South Bend as well, are interested in good, clean, clever entertainment which at all times I am endeavoring to secure for South Bend.

"My Chicago executives likewise are desirous of bringing to our city such attractions which may be deemed wholesome and clean entertainment.

"It is my wish to cooperate with the student body and faculty of Notre Dame in every way possible and I will welcome and appreciate criticisms and suggestions from the fathers at Notre Dame.

"Most sincerely,

"Guy W. Martin, managing director,  
Colfax, Palace, State Theatres."

Mr. Martin is utterly right in his statement that Notre Dame and the people of South Bend want clean, clever entertainment. But let's have it! Since Mr. Martin wrote his letter, there have been highly objectionable shows at the Palace Theatre.

What, then, does this letter mean? Is it mere words? Are the "Chicago executives" responsible?

If theatrical attractions are clever, they can well afford to be clean. The cheap, third-rate "artists" and "artistes", who must resort to filth, ought to go back waiting on table. The public should be expected to pay them only for what they are worth.

While we are happy to have Mr. Martin's assurance, we must tell him frankly that we expect him to carry out his promises.

All students who are staying away from the Palace Theatre in the name of better and cleaner entertainment, are to be congratulated. The local Knights of Columbus, and the men in Badin Hall, who, at Father Muckenthaler's suggestion, took definite steps to make their protests known to the Palace management, deserve the thanks of all who stand for public decency.

Mr. Martin should read carefully the following quotation from Southey. It is a good criterion of the lawfulness of all forms of entertainment:

"Would you judge of the lawfulness or unlawfulness of pleasures, take this rule: whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes off the relish of spiritual things; in short, whatever increases the strength and authority of your body over your mind, that thing is sin to you, however innocent it may seem in itself."

It might be a good thing, too, if Mr. Martin would send that quotation along to his "Chicago executives".

PRAYERS: Decensed, Dr. E. S. Murphy, father of David '25 and Edward '21 Murphy. Ill, Mother Bernard, O.S. F.; Bill Murray (Walsh), appendectomy; mother of Charles O'Reilly (Brownson); Charles Hodierno (Dillon). Five special intentions.