

Masses Tues. and Wed. in
Dillon, at 7:20 a.m. for
Leonard Casassa, request of
Italian Club.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 8, 1937

Deceased: Francis P. Garvan,
LL.D. '36, who established
Nieuwland Foundation for
Chemical Research.

A Non-Catholic Looks At Notre Dame.

Under the door at the office of the Prefect of Religion someone slipped a typewritten sheet containing this appreciation of Notre Dame. It was signed by "A Hoosier Dad."

I first looked at Notre Dame more than a quarter of a century ago. Our football team, which had always made a fairly good showing against "The Irish", took an awful drubbing on old Cartier Field that drab and chill November afternoon. At that time the enrollment at Notre Dame was not much larger than at my own college. Rockne was playing an end....

Roughly, twenty years elapsed before I again looked at Notre Dame.... Within that score of years what a metamorphosis had occurred! And the great new stadium was not the only noteworthy feature. A sort of outer quadrangle had almost completely surrounded the old campus, but in that ancient inner quadrangle there was still the mellow peace and composure that only lengthening years can bring. Those pale yellow walls of the original buildings still exerted a serene and calming influence that I had first sensed when I had seen them twenty years before. And I felt again in 1934 that spirit of veneration for the early priests and brothers who had wrought in hardship and sacrifice that all this might be.

My own boy is a sophomore now, so, in recent months, I have been a somewhat frequent visitor to the campus. I have seen it in the gorgeous hues of autumn, in the chaste whiteness of winter, and in the tender verdancy of early spring. I always thrill at the first glimpse of the Golden Dome as I come rolling in from the south, and I am always impressed anew with the "peace that passeth understanding" in that old inner quadrangle.

As a non-Catholic, I am profoundly moved to see fresh-faced boys as they stop in at the church, or light a candle at the Grotto, moved as I am by the depth and grip which their religion holds.

I salute the breadth of viewpoint which is shown by such a questionnaire as is periodically circulated among the student body, going into every phase of the tenets of the Catholic Faith and daring to ask what this younger generation thinks about it. It seems to me that here is the proof of a vital faith that invites questioning. That here, truly, the pioneer steadfastness of those early founders still lives on, in a day that is still fraught with danger, though vastly different from the dangers which they dealt with so long ago.

I have not delved much into what they teach, nor how they teach it. But with the evidence of tolerance, as revealed by the questionnaire, I am content that my boy is in good company. And so I like to dream there in the old sunlit inner quadrangle, with the mellow tones of the big bells marking the stately passage of time, with boys coming and going in groups and singly, with black-robed clerics swishing past now and then, and high above it all the serenity of the Golden Dome. I tell you that I, a non-Catholic, am always thrilled and impressed at Notre Dame.

Other Words That Count.

From Father Meehling, U. S. Navy Chaplain at Marine Barracks, Quantico, Virginia:
"I want you to know how proud I was of the Notre Dame boys who were in the Reserves and spent six weeks here this summer. They were to be found in the little Chapel at all hours of the day and night and were frequent visitors at the Altar Rail."
PRAYERS: (deceased) Bob Simons; William Lally; friend of Ed Bried (Lyons); Mrs. Anna Grady. Ill, John Monaghan (Bro.); Morris Ziegenhorn (Bro.); Bob Haggerty (ex'30) brother of Rev. John J. Burke, C.S.C.; father of A.J. Rizzie (Walsh). 3 special int.