

Mass, Thursday, 7:20
a.m., Dillon Hall Chapel,
for Leonard Casassa, at..

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 17, 1937.

...request of the Metro-
politan Club.....

Monosyllables And The P.B.M.

By Arnold Lunn.

I remember hearing a professor of a well-known university (NOT Notre Dame) lecture on modern education. "We must find," he said, "the great integrating principle of education. We must motivate the student. We must correlate the student."

Now I am a plain blunt man (P.B.M.) and these long words frighten men. I wanted to know who was motivating what and what was integrating whom. And it struck me that if this learned man had used a short word of three letters (God) and defined his attitude to God I should have found it easier to understand his attitude to education.

It is a useful mental exercise to translate one's ideas into words of one syllable. We must make up our minds what man is here for and then we can make up our minds what to teach him.

Monosyllables seem to me to state the basic problem of education clearly and accurately. But of course one does not get a job to teach other people to teach (that was the professor's job) on monosyllables.

This professor seemed to me a typical modern. He hadn't thought out his fundamentals. He ran away from the problem of final ends, so he took refuge in a hazy mist of polysyllables, the modern substitute for accurate and precise thought. Perhaps he got the idea from the communists.

Your true Marxian is a Polysyllabic Fan. Indeed, Communism is protected from exposure by two things: first, by the immense dullness of Marxian economics; and, secondly, by the smoke-screen of polysyllables with which Marxians cover their retreat.

When the P.B.M. is told that there's nothing wrong with the "Negation of the Negation" but that the "Durringian corporeal contradiction" is just too bad, he can't help suspecting that people who can handle

PRAYERS: (deceased) Matthew Kenefick ('07); Mrs. Charles D. Maginnis; uncle of Al Phaneuf (Off-campus); Humbert Berra ('25). Ill, Mr. Benjamin O'Shea, friend of the University; Tom Kolman (How); mother of Richard Ganser (Off-campus); John Clair; father of Joseph Callahan (Fresh). Four special intentions.

these jaw-breakers must be rather smart guys. For the P.B.M. is a modest fellow and he finds it difficult to believe that people could use long words just to conceal from themselves the contradictions which they cannot resolve.

Ninety-nine hundredths of dialectical materialism is just pure bunk (two useful monosyllables) and the hundredth part was new in the days of Noah. What is true is incredibly antique and what is new is incredibly silly.

Monosyllabic Marxiansim.

What is new in Marx is not new. Marx said that a top class likes to stay tops. We knew that long ago.

Marx said that the class which is not tops wants to go tops and fights the top class to go top. That is not new.

Sin is not new. It's sin that makes men keep more than they need. It's sin that makes the class that is on top use wrong means to keep on top. And sin is not new.

What is new in Marx is not true. It is not true that all our thoughts are due to one cause, the tools which we use and the way in which we make our cash.

Nor is it true that when the class that is down now comes to the top the class fight will stop and the State will fade out and there will be no more than one class.

What is true in Marx is not new. What is new in Marx is not true.

Special.

Newspapers Tuesday carried the account of the death of Alfred John Capitell, (ex'34), cadet aviator, killed in an airplane accident at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. Remember him particularly in your prayers.