

Novena for Purity begins
Monday, Nov. 29; ends on
Dec. 7, day before

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
November 27, 1937.

.....Feast of Immaculate
Conception.

Not Wanted As Wives.

A highly significant letter, which appeared a few days ago in Dorothy Dix' heart column, presents a gloomy but informative page on the morals of the day. Twenty-six young college graduates bemoan in the letter that, although they want to settle down and get married, they can't find suitable wives.

"We have compiled figures," they say, "concerning the moral rating of the girls we have been out with, most of them come from families in the middle and upper brackets of our present social strata, families that are called 'nice.'" How can these young men face the future with a happy prospect of a decent married life when, according to their data, of the so-called 'nice' girls they go out with 75 per cent drink; 80 per cent smoke habitually; 95 per cent permit liberties after the first or second date; 50 to 55 per cent are of downright 'easy' virtue, and all, to a girl, like to hear and tell smutty stories and jokes?

Follow Miss Dix as she answers. In the light of her large experience with girls she admits the accuracy of the facts presented. Then, with good reason, she says that the purity of the race and the welfare of our country depend upon the chastity of women and the integrity of the home. She is ashamed and saddened by the low morals of girls, even of educated, college-trained girls. But the sin of these girls is, continues Miss Dix,

"On the heads of the men who make them what they are and then don't want to marry them.....Fast girls who have flung all sense of modesty to the winds..girls who drink and carouse with men are the ones who have the dates..and the most attention from men, while the good girls stay at home with few boy friends to bring them company or take them about...In the days when men demanded virtue and purity from women every maiden was as unsullied as snow. Now that they want women to carouse with them they've got them, and they don't appear to like them. At least not for wives and the mothers of their children."

Inconsistent it is, thinks Miss Dix, for the 26 young men "to devote their time and attention to wild girls and then complain that they cannot find one fit to marry. If they had hunted for a wife among the good girls, for there are plenty of them left, they could have found their hearts' desires."

Plenty of truth, as far as it goes, in what Miss Dix writes. But there is much more to be said. Keep on feeding sexy literature to young boys and girls, let the doors swing freely on the risque night clubs, teach youngsters that indulgence is only "release", turn out hordes who don't believe in God, in the hereafter, who have no worthy and solid reasons for being pure and, likely, they will continue to barter their beautiful young bodies on the bargain counters of human thrills and satisfactions. Chastity is beautiful and noble only when its motives are reasonable and high. But even then chastity is not easy. In the days when 'nice' girls wouldn't sell their honor for a trip to the movies or to a night club, when gentlemen demanded virtue and purity in their women--and usually got it--girls had more than natural reasons for being good. Teach young men and women in the universities that it is the highest wisdom to believe in a personal God of eternal reward and punishment, teach them how to pray and control themselves, bring them back to the graces of those sacraments established as their stay by Christ, eliminate glaring public and private occasions of mortal sin, and you give young people a chance. The modern pagan code is nothing but a logical application of the modern pagan creed; common looseness is proving today that there can be no satisfactory morality unless it be founded on a religion that is divine. There is the answer complete.

PRAYERS: (deceased) grandmother of James Schultheis (Zahm); Miss Helen McIntyre (New Rochelle, N.Y.) Sister Mary Margaret; Chas. McDermott ('25) (Anniversary).
One special intention.