

Mass Monday at 6:20 in
Walsh for mother of
Prof. R. E. Rich,....

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
December 11, 1937.

....at the request of the
Chemists Club.

German-Catholic Exiles in Paris.

"Four hundred young Catholic men, former Catholic Youth Leaders in Germany, are eking out a miserable existence in the slums of Paris. They have been driven out of home and country for the very ideals that are so dear to all Notre Dame men." So writes a Notre Dame graduate, now living in France, who asks that we conceal his name.

He continues: "Their (the four hundred) lot is so much the more heartrending as they come for the most part, like N. D. students, from well-to-do families who are unable to come to their rescue on account of the inexorable money laws of the Nazi Government. Work? They desire nothing more ardently both to keep the wolf from the door and to sustain their own morale. But French laws refuse to strangers all salaried employment. Charity? It is to the praise of the Catholics of Northern France (the part that was invaded by German troops during the World War) that they have largely contributed until the present to provide for their forsaken Catholic brethren, but the charge is heavy and the needs of the Church in the rest of France are, as you know, so great that only too often the best-intentioned people have nothing left for the 'Hun.'"

Such are the difficulties under which these courageous young Catholics labor. Our informant writes still further: "In the beginning of October last, they formed a society in order to provide for the needs of the refugees. By typewriting, carving, and other artistic works they hope to attain a scant income to relieve the most urgent needs as well as to cement the union and keep up the morale of the refugees. They have still greater plans. They have established a center for German Catholics in Paris and obtained from the French Government a charter of existence with the added security of not being expelled in case of an open conflict between France and Germany. They also hope to establish a bureau of information which will have for its principal end to keep the world informed on the persecution and to send letters of encouragement to their suffering co-religionaires in the 'Vaterland.' A monthly periodical, Our Combat, has already appeared in German and French.

"The means at their disposal are anything but meant to encourage their hopes and plans. For the moment it is clothes and food that are needed most and a working-room where they can pursue more conveniently their self-imposed labors. As a Bulletin fan I know that your zeal goes not only to student needs but to every good cause. I am confident that the German Refugees in Paris shall have found in you real helpers in this their black misery. Try as much as you can to bring a little cheer at Christmas-time into their hard exile."

And Father Flanagan's Boys.

Father Flanagan himself writes: "I remember when I was a child about a half a century ago, how anxiously I looked forward to Christmas and the joy and happiness it brought me. But I had parents who planned to bring about that happiness....As I sit here and think what my 200 boys expect of me I am startled, for how can I take the place of 200 fathers and mothers to these children? I cannot, however, disappoint them. I cannot tell them the mythical Santa Claus passed up Boys Town..Can you take the place...of a real father to one of these boys? Anything will help immensely."

Donations to either of these causes should be sent to the Prefect of Religion, Notre Dame, Indiana, or left at one of these three offices: 117 Dillon, 107 Howard, 107 Cavanaugh.

PRAYERS: (deceased) John A. Reardon Jr.; cousin of Brother Philbert C.S.C.. Ill, aunt of John Webster (Lyons); (seriously injured) friend of John Carr (Fresh); cousin of John Lechner (Off-Campus). Five special intentions.