

University of Notre Dame
RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

February 2, 1938

To the Court of Heaven



Though Monday was a free day, tucked in between semesters, Judge Cain kept busy. He did not quit his office in the Law Building until he had marked the last exam. Then early Tuesday morning, shortly after midnight, unexpectedly Christ came and gave the Judge his Last Exam. Quietly and quickly William Morley Cain had passed the bar of earthly life. And fervently we pray, May God admit him to the Court of Heaven.

No ordinary lawyer, this lovable Nebraskan was graduated from the State University in 1894. Thirty years he practised in the law courts of his native state, serving as Attorney for Butler County from 1897 until 1901 and later as City Attorney at Fremont. Two years he sat as a member of the Supreme Court Commission in Nebraska. Then in 1930 he brought the ripened fruit of his wide experience to Notre Dame. Today Hoynes College of Law mourns its loss. Deeply grieved, Dean Konop says: "He was one of our best. He cooperated perfectly. He never shirked responsibility."

Judge Cain's paternal kindness will be missed. It often smoothed the student-lawyer's path. One day a young man, in the introductory course, sought advice. The judge himself typed out a twelve-page, single-spaced response. He spared himself no pain to clarify a case.

Sometimes, in the classroom, he almost preached. For him the Law was more than merely legal. "You must ever stress," he taught, "the Moral Law." He fired fiercely against shady practices and criminal abuse. "Rather be of good repute and little wealth, than get rich quick and suffer a suspicious name."

To Judge Cain's wife and children, the University extends her deepest sympathy and prayer. The students are asked to offer their Holy Communion Thursday morning for the speedy repose of his noble soul. Then at 9:00, in the Sacred Heart Church, a Solemn Funeral Mass will be sung. Students free at that hour should try to join the Lawyers, led by Dean Konop: they will assist in a body.

A few years ago Judge Cain broke away from an old tradition. But once convinced, he courageously made the step. Moved by God's grace, he embraced the Catholic Church, and to the last cheerfully, bravely lived out his newly acquired, holy Faith. May we not hope today, as we celebrate the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple, that Our Lady will present this worthy member of the Notre Dame faculty to her Only Son, our Heavenly Judge.

PRAYERS. Deceased: Mother Rose, Superior of the Sisters at Holy Cross College, Brookland, D. C. Ill.; Father Francis Wenninger, C.S.C.; Father John Farley, C.S.C.; Mother of Father John O'Connell, C.S.C.; and two friends of Sister M. Naomi, B.V.M.