

(I) Sundries.

....and, while exams and marks are, in a way, important, with God nothing counts so much as the mark in His Book when you finish your examination of conscience.

A general criticism which can unhappily be levelled at too many "Catholic Action" movements: "too much fluff and not enough stuff." --- There is no substitute for intensive and extensive spiritual training and indoctrination. The fluff can be applied hurriedly -- by sensational advertising campaigns, high-speed lingo, emotional and popular appeals -- but the effect is fluffy. This technique makes about the same change in the Catholic young people's lives as lipstick plastered on a not-too-goodlooking dame. The change is thin. It wears off. --- To put "stuff" into the lives of Catholic youth, special care must be taken to see that they assimilate and carry out the fine doctrine and ideals they hear. Putting "stuff" across is slow work. The effect is not stuffy. The effect is substantial and permanent change.

Numbers are not what count, strange as that sounds (when you analyse subject and predicate!); the Apostles were only twelve. Conversion by personal conviction; action resulting from meditation; zeal overflowing from boundless love: they...count...six nights a week a half-hour's study of the next day's Mass.....an hour on Sundays examining the life of a saint... ..seven mornings out of every seven, up at 6:00 to make the recitative Mass..... there's an example of "stuff" --- the small interested group which clung to Fr. Mathis all year, to a man, shows change.In like manner Father Putz's three "cells" are healthy structures by dint of work and prayer.....Father Craddick's band of Third Ordermen has borne spiritual fruit.....Every branch will, which receives its life from the Vine.....but there must be that planting, watering, pruning and dunging about.....No one slaps a dry stick carelessly into the ground and leaves it and later comes back with the expectation of finding strong roots in the ground and branches laden with fruit....."Fluff" never makes "stuff."

And the great personality 'round which the Catholic apostolate, speaking of some little section or slice of it, turns must not, cannot, be any ordinary man-- like a director or chaplain.....it must be, can be none other than, Our Lord Himself!

May comes to a close. Did your devotion to Mary increase? --- Nothing will help its increase so much as focussing your mind on the real Mary.....not some sentimental fancy, but the Mary of Gospel life. Let the freethinker scoff and the railer cry: "O, those simple Mary-worshippers!" Let the over-pious concoct incredulous legends (they labor in vain to improve an already faultless picture, they spoil it.) You praise and love the real Mary, that most glorious of created realities, who mothered the world's Redeemer yet forever remained an inviolate Virgin; that single Immaculate one whom God assumed into heaven and crowned the Queen of Angels and Saints, she that is now the Mother of Grace.* In appreciation of May and Mary, from now on say the Hail Mary a little more recollectedly....(Grotto hymns conclude Wednesday).

PLEASE! RETURN DIL-HCM-CAV BOOKS AT ONCE.

The few pachyderms here 'bouts.....leave for their summer.....(a few for life).... with the full responsibility for their hard-hearts.....every avenue was left wide open, for grace to race into their hearts. They deafened their ears, they blinded their eyes, their humor they soured. As Our Lord said of His contemporaries who were like them, "Having eyes they saw not, having ears, they heard not." Pachyderms!Rhinoceri!.....Elephants!.....

"The Holy Face in the Way of the Cross" -- by Gerald Fitzgerald, C.S.C. and Hippolyte Lazerges, artist,-- The Fourth Station: ".....It would be harder to conceive a moment at once of deeper anguish and of higher exaltation.....two worlds, two suns of burning love, fused into one universe, mutually attracting and balancing each other.....their mutual love revealednot by retarding but by encouraging each other in sacrifice.....Jesus...You passed your sinless Mother by.....Dearest Mother.....you gave up your Son..." (Procureable from St. Columban's Foreign Mission Society, St. Columbans, Nebraska.)

If you live in sin, you do not know the sacrificial hearts of Jesus and Mary..... May their merciful hearts move you always to instant, sincere repentance..... With such serious tragedies brooding unhappiness the world over, how can you indulge in the frivolity of sin?....When you are home this summer, make Mass and Holy Communion every Sunday and every 1st Friday....and make spiritual progress by making your confessions intelligently....

(DECEASED) father of Jack Leahy; Rev. A.V. Nadolny; (ILL) Very Rev. James A. Burns, CSC.