

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
December 13, 1940

Help, Help!

We have been spared air-raids, prison-camps, the misery and gruesomeness of war: not so the students of Europe. A pitiful call for help comes from the U.S. National Federation of Catholic College Students which has representation here at Notre Dame.

The dire need, material and spiritual, of European Catholic students is shown in the following letter, quoted in part:

"The National Federation of Catholic College Students is asking all Catholic universities and colleges of the country to give money for the relief work performed in Europe among Catholic students, prisoners in German camps or interned in neutral countries, or refugees. The need becomes more urgent every day, especially because all private funds in Europe have been exhausted, while the winter will bring special hardship to thousands of prisoners and interned. For certain students, it is even a question of life; for instance, for several Czechoslovakian students who had fought with the French army and are now stranded in Marseilles without any assistance whatsoever, obliged to leave France as soon as possible but not knowing where to go.

"I know very well that your University is overburdened with similar requests from charitable organizations. I dare, however, say that there are few causes more worthwhile and more urgent than to save the young Catholic students of certain European countries. We must confess today that most of the relief work done for Catholic intellectuals of Poland, France, etc. is performed by Protestant organizations. I need hardly stress the implication which this Protestant influence will eventually have on the general outlook of the Catholic students of the countries concerned. We cannot ask the Protestant organizations to provide our students with Catholic books, missals, etc., or to emphasize the Catholic doctrine and philosophy in their university courses organized in many prison and internment camps. It is up to us Catholics to furnish the necessary material for our Catholic work.

"I am convinced that the Faculty and Student Body of Notre Dame understands the humanitarian and Christian signification of our War Relief Program. Perhaps some of your student societies would agree to sponsor a social event. It would, perhaps, be possible to take up a collection in all your chapels for the same purpose. If your Religious Bulletin would devote one issue to this cause, your student body would certainly respond in a generous way."

Sunday's Collection.

That is an appeal from students to students. The Bulletin contributes \$10.00 from its Poor Fund as a starter.

Sunday's collection will be given to this fund. That will be little, though, unless you dig down. Be generous, remembering the words of Christ: "Whatsoever you did to one of these My least brethren, you did it unto Me."

Week-end Retreat.

Encouraged by previous success, the Catholic Action Students are sponsoring another Day of Recollection, or week-end retreat, in Alumni Chapel in preparation for Christmas.

Open to all students, it begins this Saturday evening with a conference at 9:00 P.M. Sunday, there will be a Recitative Mass and instruction at 7 A.M. and a conference at 10:00 A.M.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Mother Bettina, C.S.C.; Chas. Norris (1st anniv.); Sadie Burns; grandmother of Art Bride (Mor.); grandmother of Herb and Ray Zaller; friend of Mrs. K.A. Hoyer. Ill, Mrs. J.W. Johnson; uncle of George Marcucci (St. Ed's). 5 sp. ints.