

Dear Van:

C. A. 2 C. U. 4 C. D.

We promised to write you whether the boys were praying for you, especially by means of the greatest prayer, the Mass.

Some have been very faithful and generous. Sunday, when we asked for volunteers in each hall to assist in canvassing names, 80 generous ones volunteered.

Let's look at Tuesday's Communion figures:

		(%)	
Zahm	40	20	Rector's mother needs prayers too.
Cavanaugh	36	16	Some more go to the 7:20 Mass.
Breen-Phillips	70	38	
Basement Chapel (Bro. and Car.)	176	57	Van's old chapel and same old spirit.
Badin	33	22	
Lyons	23	12	} Sophomoritis: bad case this year.
Morrissey	32	11	
Dillon	42	16	
Howard	24	15	
St. Edward's	7	4.6	Despite fine volunteer canvassers' work!
Alumni	19	9	} Discouraged?
Sorin	11	7.3	
Walsh	33	19	The gentlemen have some confidence in prayer.
Late Communions	189	--	

As long as you can't read, but must stare at the ceiling packed in sand-bags, maybe your Mother had better not read that report to you. Maybe she had better tell you, and truthfully, that they're good lads at heart and will get going for peace and for Van. Right now some are tired, some, especially juniors and seniors, are discouraged over the war situation. Some are trying, and unsuccessfully, of course, to find forgetfulness and distraction in worldly pleasures. Some are just dazed and scared but putting on a front of self-assurance. Some are just obstinate, maybe, which reminds us of a recent story in Catholic Digest which was as follows:

"How To Be Obstinate."

"During the Gallipoli campaign in the last war, a badly wounded British soldier was mustered out and granted total disability insurance. While this guaranteed a livelihood, it failed to quench a longing to return to his pre-war work. He had been a truck driver. Being a Catholic, he made a pilgrimage to Lourdes. When he arrived, his case drew general attention, because he was a physical wreck. Shell-splinters had doomed him to be an invalid for life. The outcome was startling even at Lourdes, where startling events are frequent. Our Lady obtained for him a complete cure.

"Joyfully he returned to his home and his truck. But when he began to earn a regular income, he felt a scruple about accepting the liberal insurance payment which also came regularly. Impelled by this scruple, he wrote to his government, gave the details of his miraculous cure, and waived all claim to future assistance. But John Bull proved obstinate. The truck driver was told that the British government did not recognize miracles, and could not see its way to discontinuing the insurance."

But the boys here aren't that obstinate. They know what Our Lady and prayer can do - and they'll get going. Meantime wait for better news and - Keep Smiling.  
 PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Ronald Rejent (Off-Cam.); friend of Tommy Atkins; grandfather of Tom Horak (How.); mother of Mrs. Stauder (Anniv.); grandfather of John Hanifin (How.). Ill, grandmother of John Nolan (How.); mother-in-law, aunt and uncle of Bill Dooley (Al. Off.); mother of Fr. John J. Burke, C.S.C. Five special ints.