

Have you handed in
your questionnaire?

University of Notre Dame
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Are you keeping ador-
ation appointments
with Christ?

Not Death But Immortality.

The movie "Knut Rockne, All American", was selected in a huge poll as the movie of the year most popular among men; naturally, for "Rock" was a man's man.

Dynamic he was, and resourceful, fighting best when the odds were greatest against him, never running away from a battle. He loved to battle, because he had that quality that men and women too, admire - he could "take it".

He had seen his own generation, with which he had grown up in lax, undisciplined, ease-loving post-war conditions, wilt before the 1929 depression. Of those innumerable suicides who jumped to their death in the face of threatened financial disaster, he said at a banquet one time, "The trouble is they couldn't 'take it'. Their schedule had been too easy. They took things too easy for a long time; they became soft and when the going got tough, they couldn't 'take it'. So they took the easy way--out."

Rockne and Notre Dame worked perfectly together; neither fixed up an easy schedule for football or for campus life and rules. Both knew the evils of softness and that stamina, or lack of it, shows up pitifully when the going gets tough.

The movie emphasized that quality of "Rock" but de-emphasized a quality stressed in Father O'Donnell's funeral sermon, leaving out this part that helps so much to know "Rock":

"I find myself in this hour of piteous loss and pained bewilderment recalling the words of Christ: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart. This is the first and greatest Commandment. And the second is like unto this: thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' I think, supremely he loved his neighbor, his fellowman, with genuine, deep love. In an age that has stamped itself as the era of the 'go-getter' - a horrible word for what is all too often a ruthless thing - he was a 'go-giver' - a not much better word, but it means a divine thing...being quite elementarily human and Christian, giving himself, spending himself like water, not for himself, but for others. And once again in his case, most illustriously is verified the Christian paradox - he has cast away to keep, he has lost his life to find it. This is not death but immortality."

The passing years confirm those words. Today, "Rock" stands out more boldly than ever, immortal even on this earth; and immortal because he didn't stop at being a puny, selfish "go-getter": he went on to be a "go-giver". And he could so give because he could "take it". Difficulties, hardships only aroused the man in him.

May his spirit live on.

These two qualities are pitifully needed today. They'll make us able to stand up boldly and victoriously against the pessimism and despair, the confusion and chaos brought about by the godless and selfish code of the world.

These qualities are needed, for example, to stand up against the philosophy of and the current campaign for unnatural birth control: the birth control encouraged for selfish and soft men and women, unable to "take it". The New York Times one week ago ran a three-quarter page ad in which "forty-six noted men and women of business, science, education and social welfare" campaigned for Birth Control as "the first key to strong national health and to make America strong."

"To make America strong" !! Shades of fallen France! Ask France! Ask Marshal Petain who blamed France's collapse in considerable part on her declining birth-rate.

PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Jim O'Neal (St. Ed's); uncle of B. Stuk (Cav); friend of Doug Haley (Dil); Mary Laskowski; Mary E. Schram. Ill, grandmother of Richard Leon (B-P); Mrs. T. F. Milan; Miss McGinnis (Epworth Hospital). Ten special intentions.