

1st. Anniversary Mass
for Coach Nicholson,

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 1, 1941

Dillon, Wed. 7:10 A.M.
request of Track Team.

God Help America.

Why have a mention of birth control on yesterday's Rockne Bulletin? Because Rockne's spirit of unselfishness and anti-softness is needed in every phase of life today, including marriage.

The artificial birth control organization now calls itself The National Committee for Planned Parenthood, but its appeal to selfishness, softness and sinfulness is the same. It's ad in the New York Times states that there are over 700,000 abortions yearly to 2,000,000 births. Of these 2,000,000 births, the ad says that 37%, or 738,386, will be wholly or partly wasted before they are 15 years of age by death, tuberculosis, mental and emotional ills and delinquencies. All this, and the 700,000 murders by abortion, somehow will be eliminated by the selfishness and sinfulness of artificial birth control.

"We need to make America strong," says the ad. Yes, but strong in the qualities of Rockne -- a "go-giver" and able to take it. We need "go-givers" for God, those who will give God His due. But those who take the pleasures of marriage and, by artificial means, refuse to give God the natural fruits are the ones who weaken America by weakening themselves and by offending God -- no matter what noted business men, educators and scientists say in the Times ad.

To the Howard Haller --

-- who sent in a note regarding J. Beaverduck, who seems deceased. The Bulletin of last Friday beat you to it. If you're not slow on the pick-up, you won't be April-fooled when you read it.

By the way, have you found joy yet? Don't be April-fooled by the devil, who presents sin as happiness. No one needs an airplane to find joy; merely press the buzzer at Dillon, Howard or Cavanaugh up to 10:00 P. M.

The Questionnaire and Your Questions.

They're coming in. The first few read have one or two good questions for treatment in the Bulletin. Determined by common interest, space and time, questions will be answered during the remainder of the year. Here goes the first.

Questionnaire Question No. 1. Is _____ on the Index of Prohibited Books? How wrong is it to read it?

Answer. Yes, the book you mention is on the Index; likewise the works of several other French authors who, in their love stories, started the vogue of making vice attractive and of belittling Christianity. (Look at France today, by the way.)

How wrong to read it? Without permission it is mortally sinful to read it. Even keeping certain forbidden books is a grave sin if there is a danger of their being read without permission. To loan a forbidden book adds another sin.

If you're in doubt about any other book ask a priest. The list of books on the Index isn't secret, but the Bulletin doesn't advertise Index books by name.

Some books are on the Index by specific name, such as the one to which you refer. Others are forbidden by the General Index Law, which prohibits reading of "books which professedly treat of, narrate or teach lewdness and obscenity." And the word "book" includes magazines and other periodicals.

PRAYERS. Deceased: Rev. Wm. Reardon, S. J. Friend of Bill Lawless (Cav), Ill: Uncle of Katherine Timmermann (St. Louis, Mo.); Larry Burns (Al), operation. 3 Sp. Int.