

(FOR THE CATHOLIC STUDENT AT NOTRE DAME)

Missing in action:  
Lieut. Ed Kunkle, '43,  
son of Bert Kunkle . . .

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
April 14, 1944

of Carpenter Shop . . .  
Assist at Mass daily to  
bring a just peace.

The Resurrection of Seaman Sam.

Sam returned from his week end liberty as usual -- drunk. It was Easter too; yet temperance was again the forgotten virtue. And he boasted about it the following day. The old ship is not very soundproof and Sam is loud. Consequently many of Sam's mates overheard his detailed description of his dates, "conquests", Sam calls them. Holy Scripture, less sweet-sounding, calls them plainly, "sins of the flesh".

Listen, Sam, maybe it will help you save your soul if you realize what will happen to your body after death. You won't remain dust forever. The instant this world passes away, the bodies of all men will be reformed, by the power of God, and reunited to their souls. Your body will be among the lot. It won't take long for this reunion to take place. Scripture says it will happen "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye".

Christ will judge you in the presence of mankind. That's right, everyone will know what you did with your Saturday nights. Your body will receive its reward immediately, heaven or hell. There are two human bodies in heaven now, our Blessed Savior's and His Blessed Mother's. If you keep within the bounds of temperance and purity, God will bring you into their presence.

Sam Cheats Himself.

There is a very practical manner of looking at these Saturday night escapades. For every sin you commit you must undergo a proportionate amount of punishment here or hereafter in Purgatory before you can be admitted to heaven -- we are assuming that you mend your ways and save your soul. So sin makes you suffer. But more. Every sin deprives your soul and your body of a greater degree of happiness in heaven. If you had practiced virtue, if you had the courage to say "No" at the bar, if you practiced self-control on your dates, your body would have a greater store of happiness waiting for it after the Last Judgment.

Sam, you might think more often of your loss when you are tempted by your animal spirits. Say to yourself, "If I give up this forbidden pleasure for the love of our Lord, if I control my thirst now, Christ will reward me when I get to heaven." And remember that payment does not last a short period; it lasts for eternity. A minute of sin against an eternity of reward. It's a poor deal you have been giving yourself so far, Sam. To date you have been unfair to your body -- to God, too, of course.

Is Your Eye Cheating Your Hand.

The saving of your soul and body is a cooperative affair. The purity of one member of your body will give an increase of eternal joy to other members of your risen body. If the eye controls itself, then the other senses will merit a corresponding increase of the eternal thrill. The hand that withdraws from sin brings reward to the entire body as well as to the soul. A tongue that forms only true, pure and kind words makes heavenly profit for the whole man. Make your members play square with one another.

We'll see you at the Last Judgment, Sam, body and soul. We hope you are on the right with the sheep. The chances are you won't be there unless you have a resurrection from sin -- NOW.

JAMES RILEY "BUNNY" VEENEMAN, EX.'40, OF CHICAGO, A LIEUTENANT IN THE MARINE AIR CORPS, WAS KILLED APRIL 10 IN A TRAINING FLIGHT AT SANTA ANA, (EL TORO) CALIFORNIA. COUSIN OF BOB VEENEMAN OF WALSH.)