

University of Notre Dame
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ARE YOU
SHORTSIGHTED****
YOU ARE IF YOU HAVE BEEN
ATTENDING MASS & COMMUNION FOR
THE POOR SOULS.

Charity Never Misses

A beggar that you befriended may put your offering to evil uses. The food and clothing you give to some drive may bring profit to a grafter along the way. But why worry excessively about the racketeering your kindness encounters. An editorial in the Sign magazine (Dec.) tells you the Christian approach to the matter.

"Throughout all relief campaigns for Europe, some people (usually people with good will and a practical turn of mind) have been plagued with one bothersome thought. It expresses itself somewhat like this: 'Relief for Europe is fine. But let's not be saps about it. How do we know that our aid is reaching the right people? After all, Europe is full of black markets, and indiscriminate giving is just encouraging a huge market and racket.'"

"This is a real objection and it can't be ignored. In an age like ours with its genius for racketeering, even charity can't afford to divorce itself from vigilance. If charity sees a hungry Christ in the pained eyes and gaunt faces of starving DP's, it can't content itself simply with sending food. It has to be sure it isn't gobbled by wolves on the way.

"But even if it fails to reach its goal, as sometimes it will despite a noral amount of vigilance, charity never wholly misses its mark. Comparison has an effectiveness all its own, even when it misses its immediate aim. It may aim at bringing comfort to a mother who has no milk for her whimpering baby, and it may be so tricked by the maliciousness of men that it seems only to cater to some swindler's greed. Yet it is not in vain. For every movement of compassion is an increased likening of a man's heart to the heart of Christ; and whenever a human heart pulsates in closer rhythm with the heart of Christ, new spiritual energy sweeps over the face of the earth--energy marked for the removal of evil and the destruction of sin's ever-abundant crop of human ills. Not even the smartest racket devised in hell can reduce genuine Christian compassion to the impotence of utter futility; and a man who reaches out a hand of mercy to a needy Christ is never completely fooled."

PRAYERS: (deceased) father of Ken Stille (former asst. football coach).
(Ill) Andrew Kopcsa, N.d. workman, fractured spine, very serious. Two special intentions.