

Prayers: (deceased) Arthur	University of Notre Dame	MAY ADORATION: main church,
Gorden Taylor, former stu-	Religious Bulletin	11:00 till 1:00...Hymns at
dent; relative of H.Sullivan	May 3, 1950	Grotto, 6:45 p.m. daily.

Laying Our Cards On The Table.

The Bulletin has no intention whatever of pussy-footing now or at any time about our need for vocations to the religious life and the priesthood. If the Congregation of Holy Cross had twice as many priests and brothers as it now has, it could find abundant work for them to do.

Our educational institutions at Notre Dame, Portland, Oregon, North Easton, Massachusetts and Wilks-Barre, Pennsylvania, are deficient in man-power. Each institution, particularly Notre Dame, has, of course, dire material and financial needs--larger endowment, scholarships, buildings--but its basic need is man-power. As a matter of fact, the entire burden of current Community expansion--United States, India, South America--demands and calls for stretching our man-power pool to its elastic limit. Hence, we need many more priests.

Figures are not now available to point out the disproportion of Community faculty members to lay faculty members in all our colleges, but here at Notre Dame, for example, the proportion is around 15 per cent. This lack of man-power has greatly increased the cost of your education. Notre Dame has always had devoted laymen on her faculty and she will always continue this policy. For years and years they formed between forty and fifty per cent of the teaching body, and she feels for these loyal men who have dedicated their lives to her service and yours, the deepest admiration and gratitude. Yet no one can pay for the high cost of University maintenance, food, salaries and new buildings with admiration and gratitude alone.

The proportion of 50-50 between religious and laymen was distributed back in the late twenties by the great influx of students, and in more recent years by a still greater influx. Between the increases in the cost of living and the numerical increase in lay faculty (the present proportion is 15-85), the salary list alone went up several hundred per cent. The salaries of the 1500 employed by the University must be paid, and there is a considerable difference between the subsistence which a religious receives in exchange for his services and the salary which must meet the needs of laymen.

Although the general need for vocations is world-wide, we do not hesitate to lay our cards on the table publicly or privately, or to be quite frank about our own vocational needs--at Notre Dame and within every other apostolic activity in which the Community is engaged, whether it be in the foreign missions or home missions; whether it be among the personnel of our mission bands or priests working in our twenty some parishes.

You who love Notre Dame, you who are big enough to overlook her short-comings, you who are sincerely interested in seeing Notre Dame flourish, you who may have been thinking of the priesthood from way back when, you who have often thought of the priesthood from its missionary or parochial aspects--it is you who should ponder that God may be calling you as He called many of us who gave up our homes and families in order to serve you to the best of our human and priestly abilities for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

The work of the Congregation of Holy Cross will go on, as the work of Notre Dame will go on, because it is the work of God and Mary. It will be increased in its effectiveness, however, and made more widespread in its influence expanding the Kingdom of God if it receives more help. You may very easily fill your empty moments with hurried judgments on Notre Dame and upon us who are responsible for her well-being, just as you may pass judgments upon any other institutions or defective human beings this side of heaven. But if you cherish a deep-seated desire to dedicate your own talents, abilities, scholarship and leadership to a cause that is primarily God's and His Mother's, then don't suppress it, bring it out in the open, make inquiries about vocational qualifications and what's necessary to enter the Novitiate where you will soon find out just how well you like us and we like you, and whether God wants you to become a priest.