

Prayers: deceased uncle of University of Notre Dame ..of Joe Moriarty; Mrs. Norma
Fr. Lauck; friend of Jim Gea- Religious Bulletin Peterson (Stu,Inf.).Ill, mot-
ron. To be operated: mother... February 20, 1952 her of John O'Donnell. 5 sp.int.

What Does Youth Want?

A recent graduate quipped: "I didn't know what happiness was until I graduated from Notre Dame. . . then it was too late!" What deep motivation will appeal to our youth? What key motive will unlock their best energies and give them an apostolic outlook? What is it that will arouse the Notre Dame man like a giant aroused from his sleep. . . before it is too late?

The President of the Grail in the U.S. talked last October before the Third National Catholic Youth Conference (cf February Catholic Mind) and offered a solution. Dr. Lydwine Van Kersbergen has worldwide experience with the problems of youth.

To tip you off. Dr. Kersbergen is a woman dealing mostly with women, but apostolic women in Europe, Australia and the United States. What matter! She may be more right than you think when she places her hopes in women. After all, women outnumbered men 3 to 1 on Calvary. . . They outnumber men in religion by approximately the same ratio. Isn't it significant that in the great crisis in the life of Our Lord women proved to be more loyal than the men?

The wife of Pontius Pilate warned her husband not to have anything to do with "this just man." Veronica ignored the protests of the brutal soldiers when she offered her veil for Christ to wipe His bloody face. In every great crisis in the history of the Church, which is the prolongation of the Life of Christ in His Mystical Body, we have no historical records of women leading great breakaways from the Church. But we do have a sorry list of men who were the apostates.

Ask Great Things.

What is Dr. Kersbergen's thesis? Young Catholic women from all over the country come every year to Grailville, where there is established an intensive program of training for leadership in the lay apostolate. From her long experience she says that for any program for youth there is one essential: ask great things of youth.

What things? Sanctity; a spirit of sacrifice; a live Catholicism that integrates daily life; a goal nothing less than the conversion of the world. These are the only ideals that will ever really satisfy young people in an age like ours.

A world vision--conversion of the world. This is our birthright as Catholics. To go out to all nations, to revolutionize them with the good tidings--this is our commission from Christ Himself. This goal is typical of Holy Mother the Church. It is essential that all of us who are training young people realize that they want a great task and that we have one to give them.

Global Concept.

The conversion of the world! This great vision fired the zeal of the early Christians. Why does Communism appeal to young people, asks Dr. Kersbergen? Because they are living in expectation of a world revolution. We Catholics have it all--the whole truth--but we have lost the conviction that in our time we have to bring the world back to Christ.

She quotes Father Danielous, S.J. (author of SALVATION OF THE NATIONS): "Catholicism loses its hold on people in the measure that it ceases to present as an urgent task, to be accomplished as soon as possible, the unity of all men within one single religion."

How can Notre Dame men get this world vision? Search for the trigger-motive continues. Will it be war? Persecution? Economic chaos? A Papal appeal?