

Deceased, mother of Mike
Handley; mother of Prof.
Robt. Sullivan.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 7, 1952

Appendectomy, Bob Nanovic
(Ly). 2 special intentions
(Holy Hour Thursday 4:30-5:30)

Getting Back To Father John J. Cavanaugh, C.S.C.

Last week the Bulletin mentioned that it had asked an elderly priest to get from him for you a better appreciation of Father Cavanaugh's background to office. We begin where we left off. . .

After graduation, our perspective in five years or ten will be more sharply focused. But that doesn't matter a whole lot. The work of expansion at Notre Dame continued under Father Cavanaugh's administration. A "Greater Notre Dame" has been the target at which our president aimed his arrows during the past six years. Your fathers and the alumni and friends of the university are happy in what has been achieved.

The Student's Point Of View.

Alec the Great says: "If the world was just the way I'd like for it to be. . . it's likely that it wouldn't quite please anyone but me." For some the same could be said about Notre Dame. When the chips are down, there are few men better qualified at Notre Dame today who can evaluate and appreciate the students' point of view than the retiring president.

As an eager young man he came here to work his way through as secretary to the president. Those were days when Notre Dame was beginning to feel her first growing pains. It was a small school, nearly all questions of administration came to the desk of the president. As his secretary, Father Cavanaugh shared the knowledge of those problems and the decisions made by an older, more experienced man. The young secretary may not, in his callowness, have agreed with all his decisions; but when he said so, he was squared away by a right answer smilingly prefaced perhaps by a favorite quotation from the wisest of ancient kings:

"Three things are hard to me, and the fourth I am utterly ignorant of: the way of an eagle in the air, the way of a serpent on a rock, the way of a ship in the midst of the sea, and the way of a man in youth." Prov. 30,19..

After working for two years as secretary to the president, Father Cavanaugh began his student life. There was no phase of it he did not enter enthusiastically and enjoy thoroughly. His fellow students elected him president of the Students' Activity Council, and once more he had a look at student problems--now from a different point of view--and present them to, and argue them with, the administration. . .

Nostalgia.

The nostalgia which so many graduates are afflicted with for what was their life and home during four happy years, infected Father Cavanaugh mortally, and after a few years in the advertising department of Studebaker's, he made his decision to study for the priesthood in the Congregation of Holy Cross.

When his former "boss"--his namesake--led him to the door of the novitiate he gave him a parting word of advice, which every student entering a university might adapt and keep in his mind as a sort of guiding principle in his activities: "Remember, John, you are joining a community, not founding one." (To be continued.)

This Mother's Day Novena: Mass attendance and Communions are up, but not high enough to waistle about. What's the matter with these modern boys who don't give their mothers a break on Mothers' Day? Is it mental inertia? (Thinking is obsolete--you can hire a man to think for you.) Is it spiritual lethargy? One thing you can't hire anyone to--to take your own hide to the market on Judgment Day. Is it fat-headedness? Placid self-satisfaction takes reform out of this world.