

Tomorrow -- Anniversary of  
The coronation of Pope Pius  
XII, most illustrious of our  
Alumni....

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
March 10, 1955

Mass in Sacred Heart Church  
at 7 a.m., celebrated by Rt.  
Rev. Monsignor Calip.

-----  
More Power To "Variety"

Variety, the breezy weekly of the entertainment world, lashed out at the rash of popular songs it said are "attempting a total breakdown of all reticences about sex" and warned the record industry to clean itself up. Song lyrics are touching "new lows" it said, because of "the cheap cynicism of the songsmiths who justify their 'leer-ic' garbage by declaring 'that's what the kids want' or 'that's the only thing that sells today.'"

Variety noted that: "In the past such material was common enough but restricted to special places and out-and-out barrelhouses. Today, 'leer-ics' are offered as standard popular music for general consumption, including consumption by teen-agers.

"Our teen-agers are already setting something of a record in delinquency without this raw musical idiom to smell up the environment still more."

Variety, like the sharp trade paper that it is, urged the music business not to invite "the governmental and religious lightning that is sure to strike" because of "dirty postcards that have been translated into songs. Because it's too late for the welfare of the industry -- forgetting for a moment the welfare of young Americans -- we urge a strong self-examination of the record business by its most responsible chief-executive officers.

"We have a strong suspicion," continues Variety, "that these businessmen are too much concerned with the profit statements to take stock of what's causing some of their items to sell. Or maybe they just don't care. A suspicion has been expressed that even the network-affiliated record companies brush things off with 'that's the music business.' This is illogical because it is morally wrong, and in the long run it's wrong financially."

God Won't Do It All

"I go to confession frequently, Father, but I seem to be repeating the same things each time. What's the remedy?" That is a frequent request for advice.

Well, confession doesn't take away our free will. It removes sin and will secure grace to strengthen the will in time of temptation; but it won't destroy free will -- the ability to go back on God.

The remedy is: give more attention to the resolution of amendment. Put teeth in it.

No sin can be forgiven without a sincere and firm purpose of amendment; and when a sin is bound up with an occasion, the purpose of amendment must include the avoidance of such an occasion. No matter how many times a priest pronounces absolution over us, it is not rectified in Heaven unless we have this purpose of amendment -- which must include the use of whatever means we find necessary to strengthen our resolutions. Hence:

- 1) If we find certain persons, places, or things to be occasions of sin, we are bound to avoid them.
- 2) If we find certain remedies necessary to strengthen our resolutions and overcome temptation (for example: frequent Mass, Communion, the Rosary, all of which are so easy of access at Notre Dame) then our sincerity will impel us to use these remedies more -- even daily. Right now, a Novena to St. Joseph will help.

-----  
PRAYERS -- Deceased: Lieut. j.g., Philip R. Meyer, Jr., USN, '52 (crash); grandfather of Tom (Fisher) and Gene (Dillon) Fisher; uncle of Dick Torda of Howard; grandfather of Tony Filosa of Dillon; Uncle of Kirk Reilly (Walsh); Uncle of John O'Neill (Howard).  
Ill: father of Harry Snyder of Fisher.