

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

Vol. XXXIX, No. 31

Wednesday, December 9, 1959

Notre Dame, Ind.

News Section

● This morning, at 4:30 A.M., another Holy Cross priest faculty member here at Notre Dame went to his reward. Fr. William Havey was a member of the University's Department of Philosophy and a former President of St. George's College, Santiago, Chile. Students may pay their respects in the Corby Hall Chapel tomorrow.



Rev. William C. Havey, C.S.C.

● HERE'S A CHANCE to help yourself and to help the Missions at the same time. There is a representative of the Moreau Mission Society in your hall. He will pay you a visit tonight or tomorrow to show you the Christmas cards the Society is selling this year. Get your Christmas cards from him.

● LISTEN TO THIS, all who will be travelling in the next ten days. A little nun writes: "Last Tuesday, I was travelling to Milwaukee and I needed some directions in Chicago. Not only was I anxious about finding my way and reaching the next train on time, but I was uneasy because it was late and I was alone. Jack _____ overheard me asking directions and immediately asked if he could help. Not only did he get the information for me, but he carried my bag and walked all the way over to the North Shore Station with me and didn't leave until I was in the ticket office. I was overwhelmed by his courtesy and kindness, which took him 'way out of his way, as some-

one was to meet him at the other station."

● THE NOVENA FOR PARENTS began on Monday. If you haven't begun the Novena yet, get started today. It is still possible to start and finish the Novena before leaving for Christmas vacation.

● PRAYERS. Deceased: Fr. William Havey, C.S.C.; uncle of David Coombs of Howard; friend of Larry Brekka of Pangborn; two relatives of Pat, '49 and Bill Durkin, ex-'52. Ill: Grandmother of Joe Higgins, '59; Mrs. John F. (Lucille) O'Shaughnessy; Mrs. George Garner; uncle and friend of Larry Brekka of Pangborn.

SUNDAY MASS MEMO:

1. Sunday Mass must be a complete Mass, i.e. from the prayers at the foot of the altar to the Last Blessing.
2. One must be present in such a way that he is reckoned as a part of the congregation. He must be able to follow the principal parts of the Mass.
3. One must have the intention of hearing Mass and at least be aware of the progress of the Mass or of its principal parts.
4. Considerable hardship excuses one from assisting at Sunday Mass, e.g. when one is on a long journey and finds it impossible to get to Mass.



ONLY 235 HOURS REMAIN before "H" hour. And I guess it's safe to say that many of you, if not most, will spend 3 to 5 hours in one or more of the city's movie houses.

WHY BRING THIS UP? Because, the '58-'59 report of the Legion of Decency has just come out. Just published, the report says that since October, 1958, percentage-wise, there has been a slight increase in morally objectionable films. But the report also points out that the degree of offensiveness in some recent movies has been much worse, and more objectionable matter has been presented in films--films intended primarily for you and the rest of the country's youth. Film spokesmen have been quick to counter with such unrealistic statistics as "only 14.59% of the Hollywood films of last year incurred Legion of Decency objections." They suggest that the harm the "bad ones" do is more than off-set by the rest of the crop. Hah!

THE TIME HAS COME for a constructive approach to the problem on the local scene. There's never going to be any "clean-up", however, as long as there are those who insist on ignoring the Legion of Decency ratings that are posted each week in the Pamphlet Room in Dillon Hall.

I don't think we have to go into a justification of the Legion and its ratings. We must face up, however, to the reasons why intelligent Catholic men are not discouraging patronage of morally bad movies, and encouraging attendance at morally good ones.

According to the Natural Law, we are all bound to avoid occasions of serious sin.

We are bound to take ordinary means to find out what are occasions of sin. The Legion's task is to appraise movies, to determine whether a movie is an occasion of sin or not. The Legion's appraisals "establish presumptions that should be accepted by the average Catholic unless in an individual

case and for special reasons the presumption can be proved to be invalid.

A CLASS "C" PICTURE, one that is condemned in its entirety, must be avoided under pain of mortal sin both because of the danger to the viewer and because patronage will lengthen its run and endanger uncountable numbers. "B" pictures, those that are morally objectionable in part, must also be avoided under pain of mortal sin, unless one has reason to know that the objectionable part will constitute no moral danger for him. With smell-o-vision now added to vista and other visions one is reminded of what Eve did when she had only an apple.

