

# RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

Vol. XL, No. 39

Friday, January 13, 1961

Notre Dame, Ind.

● AMERICANS are asked to offer special prayers on Inauguration day for God's guidance of the United States and the new President. One week from today, President-elect Kennedy assumes this office of limitless potentiality, and with it, the responsibility for the well-being of the American people. Pray for him and our country, not only at this time, not only in times of crisis, but every day.

● SUNDAY EVENING at 7:30, Fr. Parry and Prof. D'Antonio will address a student forum on the subject: "The Role of the American Catholic in the Atomic Age". Place: The Law Auditorium.




o DR. THOMAS DOOLEY is pictured here on the occasion of his receiving an honorary doctor of science degree at Commencement exercises here last June. Today, the doctor is reported suffering from malignant cancer in a New York hospital. Tuesday, January 17th, is his birthday. And many are taking advantage of the occasion to send him prayers and good wishes for restoration of health. Join them by sending your greeting in care of Medico, Inc., 421 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

The President congratulates Dr. Dooley

● TOMORROW AFTERNOON, the Kellys and O'Rourkes will be put on display via TV. The "unholy din" can be controlled by the engineers. But remember that your actions, like the picture of the woman in the New Orleans school fight, are etched for a long time in people's memories. This can be good... ..or bad.

● WE'VE BEEN ABLE to take care of all those who came in to donate blood to our account at the Blood Bank. And we can still accomodate more. Many thanks to those who have already given.

● PRAYERS. Deceased: Father of Dick Hickey of Morrissey; friend of David Stegman of Morrissey; Edward Kane; William Eull. Ill: William Butters, City Editor of the South Bend Tribune; mother of Peter Kelly of Fisher; sister of Mrs. Esther Doty of Ave Maria; Carl Rohloff, '56.



IN Wednesday's Bulletin, we asked for prayers for Eddie Mahon, who is still in St. Joseph's Hospital in South Bend. Those who know Eddie will be happy to hear that he is due to leave the hospital tomorrow or the next day. To insure prayers for his continued speedy recovery, we reprint here a story about Eddie that appeared in a re-

This year Edward J. Mahon will observe his fiftieth anniversary as a loyal and valued employee of the University of Notre Dame. A native of Athlone, Ireland, Eddie is currently in charge of the Chemistry Department's supply room and distributes thousands of chemicals and various pieces of laboratory equipment to students in the College of Science.

Mahon has presided over the chemistry stock room during the administration of eight Notre Dame presidents. He has been "on the job" when many Notre Dame men entered as freshmen and a few years later received their doctorate degrees.

How Eddie Mahon came to Notre Dame a half-century ago is a story in itself. Eddie was working in a Dublin publishing house, he relates, when a priest came in to order some books. The priest took some of the books with him, but asked that the others be shipped to him at Notre Dame. The priest, Rev. John W. Cavanaugh, C.S.C., then president of Notre Dame (1905-1919), asked the young Irishman if he ever thought about coming to America. Within the year Mahon sailed for the United States, came directly to see the only American he had met, and has been at Notre Dame ever since.

In his early years at Notre Dame, Mahon was known around the campus as an accomplished dancer. He appeared in several campus shows and recalls that Rockne himself was no stranger behind the footlights. Eddie often appeared professionally on the stage in Ireland and more than once was on the same program with singer John McCormack, who, like Mahon, came from Athlone. One of Eddie's fondest memories is the occasion in 1933 when his fellow townsman McCormack came to Notre Dame to receive the Laetare Medal.

When Mahon arrived at Notre Dame in 1911, he worked in the students accounts office and later had charge of the waiters in the old refectory before taking

cent issue of Notre Dame magazine. As the article points out, this marks the 50th year of Eddie's service to Notre Dame. Give him an assist with a few prayers.

over his present post. Literally thousands of Notre Dame men have passed through the University's chemistry laboratories during Mahon's tenure. Eddie has never taken a chemistry course and claims to know nothing about the subject. But his patience and kindness have helped many students who were discouraged when a complicated experiment went wrong.

Mahon requires that all laboratory apparatus be returned to the supply room "clean and dry." Generations of Notre Dame chemistry students have tried to return equipment that was otherwise, but few have succeeded. Occasionally, a glass vessel loaned to a student will break, and sometimes the student will claim the equipment was defective to begin with. According to a veteran faculty member, Eddie Mahon will listen to the student's story with remarkable sympathy and patience—and then charge him for the broken item!

The Mahons are a Notre Dame family if there ever was one. Eddie married Annie Monahan in the campus church and their four children were baptized and confirmed there. Their son Joe is employed at Notre Dame's Lobund Institute. A daughter, Sister Mary Mellita, R.S.M., teaches at Grand Haven, Michigan. Another daughter, Mrs. John Loritsch, is married to the manager of General Electric's chemical division who received his Ph.D. at Notre Dame.

Tragedy came to the Mahon family in 1951 when another son, Maury, a 1950 Notre Dame graduate and an FBI agent, died in a plane crash. But even in recalling such a sad occasion, Eddie Mahon can still smile. It was then that he received letters of sympathy from scores of Notre Dame men in every part of the country who came to know and admire the little Irishman in the chemistry stock room.

Faculty members, students and alumni agree that Notre Dame's chemistry department wouldn't be the same without Eddie Mahon. It is men of his character, spirit and devotion who in their own lifetime have helped transform Notre Dame from a small obscure school in northern Indiana to a university famous the world over.