

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN

Vol. XLI, No. 20

Wednesday, November 8, 1961

Notre Dame, Ind.

CLOTHING

The Thanksgiving Clothing Collection will get under way over the week-end. This annual collection sponsored by the American Bishops provides warm clothing for the needy and homeless in many parts of the world. It may take the shirt or jacket off your back to do the job, but there's a warm satisfaction in knowing that you can get another without too much trouble while, save for your generosity, many another would surely suffer. So, begin looking through your wardrobe to determine what you can part with.

THANK YOU

And, speaking of Thanksgiving, how long has it been since you've said, "Thank you"? Not the quick expression of gratitude when someone passes the salt, nor the bread and butter note to Aunt Myrtle after you've spent a week-end at her home in Chi. There are many other times when a word of thanks is in order, but often neglected. You thank a girl when you've spent a pleasant evening with her. But there are other times when appreciation should be expressed. Too often, men assume that because a person is being paid to serve them, that person doesn't rate the same consideration that would be accorded to personal friends. The fact that a waiter or waitress collects a little money at the end of the week for smiling as he or she serves you in the Caf or Dining Hall, doesn't mean that they don't like to hear a bit of gratitude expressed. Come out with a "Thanks" when you're served at the Caf or Huddle, when the telephone operator spends 20 minutes trying to put through your call to the girl-friend, when the clerk hired for the holidays still looks pleasant after working since the early bright, and when the bus-driver changes your bill without a murmur. It takes so little time to tell others you appreciate what they have done for you, so take that little time. Make your charity come alive.

CLOSED RETREAT

If you are planning to make the retreat this week-end at St Joseph Hall, see Paul Shellhammer this evening. He lives in 303 Walsh. The retreat begins at 7:00 on Friday evening, and continues until 2:00 P.M. Sunday.

SIC TRANSIT...

How soon the glory of this world passes was brought home again this week. For years, in the lobby of the Metropole Hotel in Moscow there has hung a painting showing Lenin seated at a table reading from his works to Stalin. Then, when Stalin was denounced recently, an artist was called in to work on the picture. Now Lenin sits reading to an empty chair that is draped with a dust cover.

IN YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the following. Deceased: Grandmother of Bob Fritsch of Zahm; father of Edwin Shay, '60; aunt of Paul Quinn of Alumni; father of Henry Rainone, '61; Charles Priebe; Mrs. Pelegrin. Ill: Father of Pete Scheid of Alumni; mother of Donald Patla of Sorin; aunt of Joe Martella of Sorin; grandmother of Bob Lafayette of Morrissey; Mary C. Nolan; Rev. Felix Penna, S.D.B.



THE VALUE OF A RETREAT

The majority of men in this country have a sincere desire to reach God, to seek the foundation of things. And they feel that besides individual communion with God, there is a certain advantage in approaching God in communion with other people. Some men, it's true, do seek God or go to church merely out of social reasons or a desire for conformity. These are a natural prey for anything that promises security. We would like to think that all here fulfill their religious obligations out of conviction, a conviction based on knowing what they want out of life. From the very first, you have been advised to think seriously about the meaning of your own life: the development of all your faculties and capacities.

In this connection, we set great store by the closed retreat, by which a man "retreats" from his day-to-day life and considers the meaning of his life systematically in the light of the Gospel. From this he forms a clearer idea of what he wants to get out of life. A retreat is a time for asking "Do I just want to seek pleasure? Do I merely want security? Is life an end in itself? Are its rewards purely material?"

The person who practices the virtue of hope is convinced that time is an infinitely precious gift, and not just something to be killed. There is a tendency on the part of some today to scoff at hope. It can be observed in some literary and dramatic circles. Meanwhile, the communists seem to recognize what we have been coming to neglect, and that is the practical importance of hope. Hope can accomplish more than despair. And hope can be strengthened during a retreat.

Anyone who allows his life to be governed by a mere desire for conformity readily absorbs the low moral standards that are prevalent in contemporary society. However, if a man finds the answer to himself in a Being who stands above and beyond the changing affairs of this life, an ultimate Righteousness to whom all rights and wrongs are referred, his hope won't waver much. And conversely, when man becomes self-centered he becomes self-divided.

A retreat is a time for putting the pieces of yourself together. Give some thought, therefore, to making a retreat during the present school-year. There will be numerous opportunities. In fact, there's one this week-end.

Glen Boorman, Jr.
University Chaplain