
notre dame

RELIGIOUS



BULLETIN

QWT

Volume II

Issue 7 Oct. 13, 1985

Office of University Ministry

University of Notre Dame

Founder's Day

by Theodore M. Hesburgh c.s.c.

Father Edward Sorin arrived here with the early Winter cold and snow in late November of 1842. He was a young French priest, still in his twenties, accompanied by seven Holy Cross Brothers, only two of whom had a high school education. He had an ox cart worth of household goods—blankets, pots and pans, axes and shovels—and a total cash fund of about \$300.00. He had a provisional promise of owning some 500 acres of land (with two lakes) and a drafty log cabin if he could succeed in building a school here. The requirement could have been met with a country grammar school—five or six grades—but Sorin had, besides these material and human resources, a great spiritual vision and a great faith.





Mind you he had been in America hardly a year. He barely spoke English. He was practically broke and not yet thirty years old. This was a cold and unforgiving wilderness of Indiana, trappers and a few farmers--also very poor.

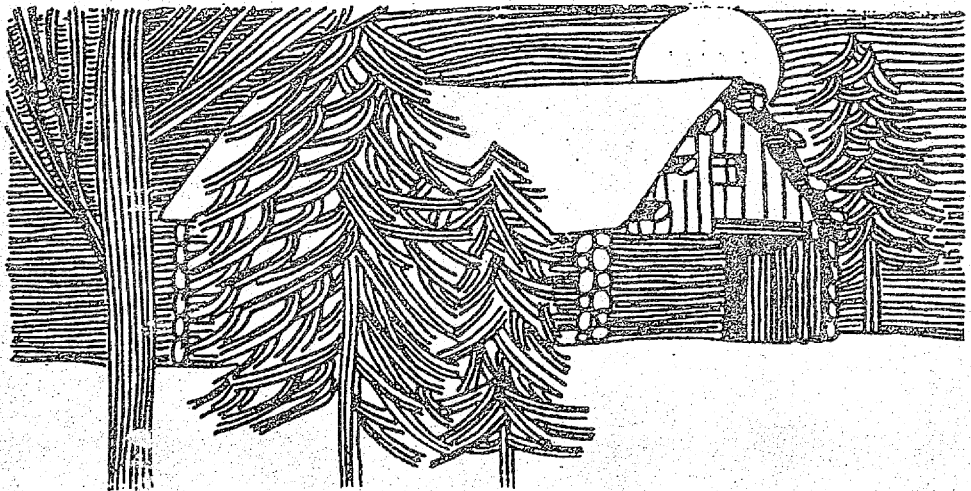
Given all that, what did he call the place? How did he name his dream? What was the object of his vision and faith?

L'Universite de Notre Dame du Lac. Not a grammar school, not a high school, not a college--no, a University, and named like the most famous cathedral in Paris of his homeland, Notre Dame. And for this lowly spot in the wilderness, a poetic du lac.

It is still our corporate title. It is still the object, almost a century and a half later, of our faith and vision which we still fervently share with Sorin.

There are few, if any, greater dreams of faith and vision, so constantly pursued over almost a century and a half in Catholic America. Hardly any have come so true, and truer with every passing year.

We celebrate Founders Day by rededicating ourselves to the dream of the Founder, hopefully also, with a large share of his vision and faith.



*Go sell what you have and give it to the poor,
you will then have treasure in heaven.*

Christ may have meant: If you love mankind absolutely you will as a result not care for any possessions whatever, and this seems a very likely proposition. But it is one thing to believe that a proposition is probably true; it is another thing to see it as a fact. If you loved mankind as Christ loved them, you would see his conclusion as a fact. It would be obvious. You would sell your goods, and they would be no loss to you. These truths, while literal to Christ, and to any mind that has Christ's love for mankind, become parables to lesser natures. There are in every generation people who, beginning innocently, with no predetermined intention of becoming saints, find themselves drawn into the vortex by their interest in helping mankind, and by the understanding that comes from actually doing it. The abandonment of their old mode of life is like dust in the balance.



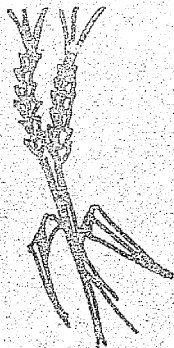
It is done gradually, incidentally, imperceptibly. Thus the whole question of the abandonment of luxury is no question at all, but a mere incident to another question, namely, the degree to which we abandon ourselves to the remorseless logic of our love for others.

—John Jay Chapman

World Food Day

We at Notre Dame are invited to participate in World Food Day, October 16. By coming together as a community in action and prayer, we hope to be more aware of the global community, which often seems far-removed from our daily existence.

Please join in these actions in solidarity with the world's hungry.



World Food Day Activities

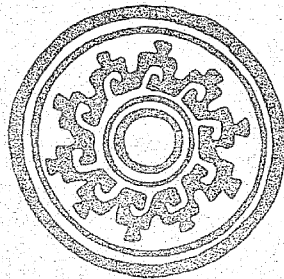
-a call to voluntary fasting

-World Food Day Mass: 5:15,
Sacred Heart Church

-Simple Meal (Dinner)
soup, rice, bread, water and
tea will be served in the North
Dining Hall lines A-C and the
South Dining Hall, East Dining
Wing.

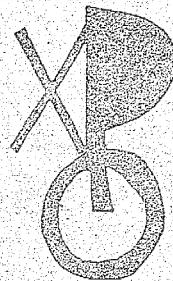
-Film: "Five Minutes to Midnight"
7:30p.m. at the Center for
Social Concerns.

Relief for Mexico



Donations are being accepted by University Ministry for the earthquake victims of Mexico. Students, faculty or staff wishing to contribute may drop off their contribution at either, the Badin or Library office.

Pax-Christi



An introductory meeting for Pax-Christi will be held at the Center for Social Concerns on Tuesday October 15th at noon. All are invited to attend. Contact Sara Webb Philips for further information, 239-5293.