Religious Bulletin
November 9, 1926

$1,000,000 for Notre Dame.

Something's got to be done. Notre Dame has reached the limit of endurance with the material means at hand for her development, and something drastic must be done if the school we love is to continue to do for thousands what she has done for hundreds in the past. Her equipment is stretched to the breaking point to accommodate the students now here, and she has had to turn away hundreds, year after year.

Five years ago Notre Dame began a program of expansion to accommodate the fast increasing student body. The first and most urgent need was for lay professors. A campaign for a million-dollar endowment fund to provide an annual income for their salaries was carried to a successful conclusion. A campaign for a building fund has met with some success, and during these five years we have witnessed the construction of five residence halls, to accommodate almost nine hundred more students. Rooms for three hundred more are under way, and construction will begin soon on a dining hall that will accommodate everyone. Splendid improvements in Cartier Field and the gym have helped athletics; an addition to Science Hall has relieved some of the classroom congestion.

But Notre Dame's needs are vast, and we are not half done. The Colleges of Engineering and Commerce have built for themselves (through the character of work done and the success of graduates) splendid reputations which the present generation must sustain. And for the lack of dollars that American Catholics are throwing away foolishly on all sorts of nonsense, these two fine schools are scattered over the campus with no central point of vantage. Indiana University, with one-fourth the enrollment of our College of Commerce, dedicated a splendid Commerce Building two years ago. No college of Engineering with a standing anything like Notre Dame's has to put up with the material disadvantages we have to buck.

Frowzy females of the dance halls of South Bend become the intellectual companions of the college men at Notre Dame, partly because we have no central recreation building on the campus. The questionable entertainment provided by the neighboring city is at the opposite pole from the culture and refinement one expects of a Notre Dame man. There was no lack of joy on the campus when the town was forbidden territory; and there would be more pursuit of knowledge and much more manly comradeship if there were less thought of town at present. A recreation building should help to drag us out of the ditch.

Notre Dame has got through prayer everything worth while she's ever had. It would take a whole week's Bulletins to enumerate the striking instances of answer to prayer that are graven on the hearts of the men who have built up Notre Dame. And the present generation must pray for the needs of Notre Dame.

A NOVENA FOR THE POOR SOULS.

It is a long time since we have asked the Poor Souls for anything. We are going to start now -- this week -- Thursday. On Thursday we begin a Novena for the relief of the Poor Souls, and we are going to ask them to help us by obtaining for us the contributors who will give us a million dollars for three buildings.

Have you a prayer in your heart for Notre Dame? Make it do double service by saying it for the relief of the Poor Souls, asking them to pull us out of the hole. During these nine days -- over the week-end of the Army game -- offer Holy Communion every day (And don't forget a prayer for the team every time.)

Prayers.

Bert McHugh has been called home by the death of his brother-in-law.