University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 6, 1931.

May Devotions
7:30 p.m.

A Syllogism.

Major - A boy who has little regard for his mother can't amount to much.

Minor - But a boy at Notre Dame who will not make a Novena for his mother has little regard for her.

Conclusion - ..............................

"The Business of Saving Men."

"Professor John Smith, famous educator, had been called from a well known eastern university to the chair of Industrial Management in a far western college. Professor Smith had been thoroughly trained in his field of work, and had taught many years; he was considered a success. The western newspapers hailed his coming in large type, and the students poured into his classes in such numbers as to tax the seating capacity of the largest rooms. But something happened. Just what it was seemed difficult to analyze. Students reported the work unsatisfactory. In fact, many said that the new man was a "frost". The following semester only twelve enrolled in his class, and it was necessary to put the famous man in the smallest room in the building. Things went from bad to worse. There was no doubt about the fact that Professor Smith "had something on the ball," but for some reason he could not curve it across the plate. He had simply lost control. After numerous conferences between the dean of the school and the president of the university, it was decided to place him in another position in a small eastern institution. The famous educator seemed destined to pass down the trail.

"But another man insisted upon a part in the drama, a man to whom every problem was a challenge, a man who was more interested in saving a human being than discovering a new business standard. Just one request was made of the dean of the college, a request that the sentence imposed on the unpopular educator be withheld for a period of two months. Only three principles were involved in the campaign: time, method, and faith. Each day he made an opportunity to meet ten students and on occasion quite accidentally to champion the cause of the unsuccessful educator. Each student was asked as a special favor to visit Professor Smith during his office hours before passing, the final judgment on the man's ability and personality. Weeks passed. A constant stream of students interviewed the educator, his office hours had to be doubled, and campus opinion was slowly modified. Then the new semester opened, fair classes had enrolled in his work. In one year the failure had been converted into a success. In two years, he was dean of the school; and in four years, president of a large western university.

"And so one lone man went out to fight an idea that had become well rooted in the minds of a thousand students. The battle was not spectacular, for even to this day not more than three people knew that it was ever fought. The reward rests in the heart and character of the defender of a fellow man. There is nothing novel in the above incident. It might easily have occurred in a department store or a bank. There are some people interested in salvaging men."

(Executive Manager's Monthly General Letter, National Association of Credit Men, July 1, 1930.)

That's a good story of personal attention. Also the application to yourself. If you are not the man you should be spiritually, morally, intellectually, physically, do something about it. You know that the Catholic Church offers the most exact personal service in the world, through the confessional and through extra-sacramental spiritual direction. Don't wait to be sent for; you may get lost in the shuffle.

PRAYERS: John F. Sullivan, of South Hall, lost his mother Monday night. Andrew O'Keeffe and his brother James G., of 130, wire that their mother is still very low and that her grandfather died Sunday. Tom O'Lear's grandfather died the same day. G.J. Anders and Louis Alaman ask prayers for deceased relatives. Seven special intentions.