After Christmas and Easter, in some places (not saying where) St. Pat's Day is the most important day in the year. A long time ago when Notre Dame was all Irish, no classes were held. But now it's different. The Germans and Poles insist that the profs and priests give them their money's worth. *** Every year too, the question's brought up in bull-sessions where St. Patrick was born. Some say in Briton (though most deny that), others think France. But a lot of the local boys have it narrowed down to either South Boston or the south side of Chicago. Sure didn't all the Irish come from one or other of these? *** There's something wonderful about St. Patrick and the Irish, else his feast would pass without a big stir.

The whole thing about it is the Catholic Faith. *** The conversion of Ireland by Saint Patrick is unique in the annals of the world. Within the lifetime of this one great Apostle, the whole Emerald Isle cast aside forever pagan idols, sacrifices and Druid rites never one day to return to them! In their place the Christian Faith was wholeheartedly taken and with it the sublime dogma, moral and rites of Rome. *** This was accomplished without shedding one drop of blood, without digging one martyr's grave. Within Patrick's lifetime, Ireland became a land of priests, of scholars and saints. Never once in the 1400 years since 532 when Patrick first stepped upon Erin's green sod was it necessary to seek the help of another foreign missionary either to complete or restore the true Apostolic Faith to Ireland. *** Within Patrick's time every hill was crowned with its college or abbey, every village was sanctified with its church. *** Though famine often tried the Faith of the Irish people, though tyrannical laws pressed against them, though churches were closed down and schools wrecked, and Catholic leaders imprisoned or led to the gallows, nothing ever could cut the Catholic Faith out of Ireland's heart. It is that way even today. Ireland, almost alone, is a Catholic nation, thoroughly, to the core. Distinctly non-Nordic, it lays no claim to the greatest "progress". Too often the "greatest progress" means denying God, resting the ultimate causes of things in the genius of superintellectual men. The people of Ireland still have enough backwoods roads and dirt pavements, cows and barns, fields of green clover, bees of the flier unharnessed waters, uncot trees to point beyond doubt to the Hand of God.

*** Besides Faith, Hope and Charity, there's plenty of fight in the Irish. People that believe, trust & love always fight.

(Decased) grandfather of Ed Layden, ex-'38; 2nd anniv. father-in-law of Professor Hoyer.

(Deceased) father of Rev. James Kearns, (Deceased) two friends of Bill Hawes (Carroll).

Proceeds to spread the Faith in Bengal.

Benbolic brother Leonard, O.S.C. (Mayo's); father of Rob Cuthbertson (Scrib); Rev. James Kearns, (Deceased) two friends of Bill Hawes (Carroll).