Why Do They Stay?

A visitor to the campus during Easter vacation was talking to several students at different times. One, a senior, admitted that he was a poor Catholic. Then, apparently in justification, he brought out the old hammer and "knocked" — knocked everything, the school in general, the rules, the religious program, the priests and professors, well, everybody and everything — except, of course, himself.

The visitor, surprised, innocently asked: "Well, if you don't like the place, why on earth have you stayed around here four years?" His answer was not the usual one, "My parents won't let me change", but rather this frank reply: "I want an N D on my sheepskin. An N D diploma means a lot in my section of the country."

It is true that an N D degree "means a lot" in most sections of the country. The same applies to certain choice departments in the U.S. Government service and the Army and Navy. Several investigators for these services have recently remarked they're glad to get N D graduates. But it is well for such a one to remember this also: An N D degree will serve only as an entree, say, in getting a chance, a hearing for a position. It only gives you a start which still is mighty important in the world.

This further advice is bitterly true: Though an N D degree may easily get you a start, it won't keep you in a job if you are a "phoney".

If you are disloyal to, and a chiseler regarding, your God and your religion, you belie your N D degree, which should mean, first of all, loyalty to your God. It is very likely that such weak links in your character will show up in disloyalty and chiseling in your business or professional life, and the world treats "phonies" mercilessly.

Of course, there is a difference between the amateur griper and the professional, or "knocker". The amateur expresses his natural and somewhat expected dislike for rules, for early rising or for what some like to call "too much religion" (although if you roll all the required time for religious exercises into one session, it takes only about 2 hours out of the 168 hours a week). The professional griper or "knocker", however, so indulges generally to cover up his weak Faith and practice.

If your N D diploma does not get you a ready entree in some circle, remember that it is quite possibly due to some previous experience with an N D man who was a "phoney". You can help yourselves by encouraging the "phonies" to leave early, preferably in their freshman, or at the latest, their sophomore year.

An Army Chaplain Speaks.

A seasoned army chaplain gives you some very helpful advice, useful not only in the army. In answering the question, "What main points of advice would you give to a college man entering the Army or Navy?" he doesn't pull his punches when he says:

"Learn to keep still when orders are given. No matter how you feel about them, except on morals, carry them out promptly and as cheerfully as possible. Gripping is a soldier's privilege, but don't become a knocker. Learn to make any place your temporary home. It makes for peace of mind and efficiency.

"A soldier becomes exactly what he himself wishes. Drag as such is not everything. It helps to get notice when a man can't produce. God help him when he does not produce after a boost by drag."

PRAYERS. Deceased: Friend of Ed Buenger (Dil); Anniv. Father of Jack Berringham (Dil); Friend of E. Mahoney (O-O); Eugene F. Noon, '24; William Koehler, '96; Bob Fordyce, ex-'43 (one of Canadian flyers lost on troopship); Father of Al Lee (Dil). Ill: Don Marietta, '40; Aunt of Dick Sullivan (Z); Mother of Jack Behr (Mor). 4 Sp. Int.