Leave in state of grace: confessions...

University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin December 18, 1941

Eat Fish on the Train.

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday are Ember Days, meaning that ordinarily you must abstain from meat and if you are 21 you must also fast, being limited to one full meal, the other two meals being quite moderate in size.

Notre Dame enjoys a dispensation by virtue of which you do not have to observe the Ember Days as long as you are in school. Hence the Ember Day regulations are not binding on Friday the day you leave, though Friday abstinence is, of course.

Hence eat fish on the train Friday and Saturday, there being no authority for the quaint belief that traveling excuses from the law of abstinence. Fish or eggs won't hurt you on the train - you'll enjoy mother's cooking all the more.

On Your Way.

The big smiles are coming back, the frowns are disappearing, and the bags are being packed tonight for a rush to the trains tomorrow.

The war clouds will make this Christmas a little different from those of other years.

It probably isn't necessary to "preach" in these times, to warn you against adopting the pagan philosophy of "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die".

You'll meet many youths disheartened and bewildered who will follow that motto in carousing as a frantic escape mechanism because they fear the future.

The future does hold some threats for youth, it is true. Hence, for the man of faith and character this Christmas vacation should be a season of more seriousness, preparation, and prayer than usual for that future.

Don't fall for the cheap, dizzy stuff that the despairing will grasp. You can have a good time without it.

Choose now the amusements and companions that you can enjoy in the state of grace. Rule the rest out. Choose those that can make you more ready to greet the Prince of Peace so that you may secure from Him peace and strength to help you through the turbulent times ahead.

Show your worried parents more attention and affection this Christmas than usual.

Show them also that you face the future unafraid, with peace, with confidence in that Mother of God who can bring good out of any situation you will ever face.

May God bless every one of you. Keep the Faith. And to all of you -

Merry Christmas

FRIETERS: (deceased) friend of Don Gowan (Car); friend of C. Concer (Al); father of S. Drendel (Bro); mother of Prof. Troiano; friend of W. Terheyden (Dil); 14th. anniv. of Norm Steyskal; Hugh Murphy. (Ill, nephew of R. Hughes (Zahlm). Four special intentions.