He Leads Again.

Back in 1930 "Onie" Donovan captained Notre Dame's basketball team. And now he becomes a captain once more. This time in the Combat Intelligence branch of the Army Air Corps at Randolph Field, Texas. "Onie" made the best of his years at N.D. In recent years he has been mayor of his hometown. When he was about to leave for the service, the local editor wrote the editorial which follows, giving it the lead on the editorial page.

A Fine Man Goes To War.

Tomorrow it will be Captain Clarence Donovan, for a splendid fellow, an excellent mayor, and a very civic minded citizen changes into khaki, and goes to war. .. "Onie" Donovan was the first person this writer met when he came to Bedford on the coldest day of the year. The mayor gave me a warm welcome, without knowing the purpose of the visit. Donovan may not know it, but he was a definite factor in the sale of the two Bedford newspapers. .. That cold day in January we thought, "If this town is fortunate enough to have a very presentable young mayor, a graduate of a leading university, who speaks good English without an accent, this must be a good town." Other visitors to Bedford, on personal and official business, have said, "Your mayor is quite a person, isn't he?" The answer is, he is.

Going to war means an abrupt end to all civilian ambition, and every man in the armed forces has made a sacrifice, but Onie Donovan represents a group which probably pays the highest price - the professional man just establishing himself in a city. Men do not become lawyers overnight. Four years of college, four years in law school, intensive study for the bar exams, and then that waiting period, when, as Will Rogers once said, "A fellow needs to get his pants half-soled about three times." In the vernacular, Donovan was just about ready to "cash in" on his life studies. He told us a few days ago that he had turned down more legal business in the past few months than he ever thought would come into his office. Being honorable and knowing he was subject to immediate call to military service, he advised his clients to go elsewhere, to other attorneys who would be here when court re-convenes this autumn. The plans that old Tim Donovan had for his boy Clarence are stopped. Clarence is going to war. ..

Bedford is going to miss Onie Donovan; his cheerful personality; his sound legal judgment, and his civic interest. He will get along all right in the army. His appointment did not come through political channels; he scrupulously avoided any attempt to use them, as he avoided his draft deferment until the conclusion of his term as mayor.

When this war is finally over, come back to Bedford, Onie. Things may be different, but this city, or any other, can always use men like you. Good luck!

Seniors.

Onie is a representative N.D. man, the kind who gives honor to Our Lady and the Church. We are wondering whether some of the graduates-to-be in Alumni and Sorin are trying to develop the stuff which makes for success. The center of a Catholic man's thought is Christ and his principles, and these must be ingrained by prayer, study and the sacraments. First Friday should have brought the most sluggish of hearts to Christ. But the seniors seem to have a formula of their own for developing courage, charity, devotion to the duty of study. Of the 308 in Alumni 70 went to Communion; of the 140 in Sorin, only 30 received. What kind of men and soldiers will those students make who have not been to confession and communion since the summer session opened?

PRAYERS: (Deceased) Father of John Lane, C.S.C.; (Ill) uncle of Francis Frawley (Wal); Two special intentions.