A bum is an idler. He enters that state not by force of circumstances, but by preference. It's a great life. It requires no effort to live it. Halleluia!

You find the bum on the street. He is among the type that touches you for a cup of coffee. His request come to you on words steeped in the aroma of hard liquor. When you offer to feed him after a little work about your home or office, he suddenly finds his hunger pains have disappeared.

Now and then you find a bum in the best of families. The father supports him. His mother suffers and prays for him. Brothers and sisters try to prod him to work with their jibes. He just won't do his part. His thoughts begin and end with self. He watches the world pitch in to help the needy fellow next door or in the next country, and he enjoys the scene from his grandstand seat.

There are spiritual idlers. They do nothing to better the world, nor to help a friend in distress. Cooperation has been dropped from their thoughts and their vocabulary. They watch the war, comment on the number of men dying, sinning, and yet they never bend a knee in prayer, nor sacrifice a pleasure for the conversion of sinners and for peace among nations.

University men can be spiritual idlers. Are you one?

Put your finger on the one action you are performing daily as your spiritual contribution to peace. What is it: Mass, Holy Communion, rosary, visits in chapel? If you find you are offering nothing to the cause, then cast off your idleness now — and bring some of your companions with you to prayer.

No Idlers At Malta.

Malta's long resistance against Axis odds was attributed directly to the force of prayer by General Dobbie, former governor of the island.

"During the two years of the siege, I was very conscious of the good hand of God upon us. I am sure that the continued safety of Malta was ultimately due to His Divine protection.

"I am convinced that God does still answer prayer. I believe that recognition of this fact was the secret of the spirit, endurance and fortitude shown by so many persons in Malta.

"Lessons which we can draw from this epic story are: firstly, a stout heart still produces great results; secondly, cooperation in efforts and a determination to help each other is vitally important, especially in times of stress; and thirdly, acknowledgement of God through Christ and trust in Him is now, as ever, the thing which matters most."