Veterans (and others)!!

University of Notre Dame

Religious Bulletin

January 25, 1946

Confessions: at night prayer; Sorin and Cav. after 7:30 P.M.

Your Stake In Vocations.

The Bishop was preaching at the parish Confirmation and the class was perhaps too well coached by the good Sisters. When His Excellency crossed everyone up by asking "What is a Saint?" instead of the expected "What is a Sacrament?" he was startled -- and the nuns were horrified -- to hear the star first-grader respond: A Saint is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace."

Not a bad answer at that. That definition could also apply to the Priesthood, for a priest is "instituted by God to be a sign pointing out Christ to a world that sorely needs him. (Many of the remarks made here apply to the Brotherhood also: to simplify things we shall use "Priesthood")."

Needy Worldlings.

A chaplain on an airplane carrier asked a Lieutenant, "Why do you dodge these sessions on religion that the other officers seem to enjoy so much?" In his answer the officer summed up the modern mind fairly well, "Well, Father, if I think of such things as death and the purpose of life, I worry -- so I just don't think about them." That's like Coach Leahy tearing up the schedule to avoid worrying about Blanchard next Fall.

Individuals are in need of the truth of Christ and His strength to live good lives. Normally the knowledge of Our Blessed Savior comes through priests, Brothers and Sisters. That is why a Catholic who has a love for his neighbor will be interested in the problem of vocations. The layman must contribute to the priesthood by his prayers for good vocations.

Needy Priesthood.

In some parts of Poland last year people were permitted to give Holy Communion to one another, so scarce are priests in that stricken land. In South America there are parishes of 4,500 souls with only one priest. In our own country 1 out of every 5 counties has no resident priest.

Talent Scout.

Even if you are not going to be a priest, you might have occasion to be a "talent scout" for the Priesthood or Brotherhood someday -- that is to advise some boy, perhaps your own. It is an obligation for an informed zealous Catholic to be interested in one of his Church's -- and civilization's -- most vital problems: vocations. Primarily this means frequent prayer for vocations -- to the Priesthood, Brotherhood and Sisterhood. It also means that, as part of his education, a Catholic should have some knowledge of the signs and requirements for a vocation, the cost, the kind of education imparted in a seminary, the chief differences between secular and religious priests. There are books and pamphlets on these subjects. Ask your religion teacher, the Prefect of Religion or any priest for information.

On the Notre Dame campus there is an organization which meets informally to discuss various aspects of vocation. It is called the VOCATIONAL INQUIRY GROUP and anyone is welcome: those who are pondering over a vocation for themselves, and those who merely would like to be better informed on the subject. The next meeting is MONDAY, January 28 at 7:30 P.M. in the ROCKNE MEMORIAL LOUNGE.

PRAYERS: (deceased) father of Fred Veit (Badin); wife of Hardy J. Bush, '15 (Newark); grandmother of Jack Fallon (Al); friend of Francis Shortsleeve (OC); grandmother of John O'Rourke (Sorin); friend of Don Poepsel (Dil). Two Spec. Int.