This is just a word of encouragement about making a retreat. The signs are out for the mid-semester, annual pilgrimage to the Trappist monastery in Kentucky. Registration is limited, but there are other places to go for this "exercise of the soul."

The word RETREAT is a misnomer. You retreat--get away from the world; but the principal aspect is the spiritual ADVANCE that is made in an environment where distractions are reduced to a minimum. Usually quiet is sought and a certain degree of seclusion. God seems to work best in a soul when it is not tangled up in trivialities.

It is well for any man to take time to ponder the great realities--his basic relationships to God, to his neighbor, to the material world in which he must work out his salvation. Once these basic relationships are outlined clearly, the long road home and the motives for sanctifying the journey back to God from whence he came are no longer like blind resolutions running up a blind alley.

Here's a resolution to think over. Resolve to get up early for serving Mass in the Main Church. The priests are still short of servers for their six o'clock Masses.

If you do not know how to serve take advantage of the class for neophyte servers in the Log Chapel each Wednesday night... 7 o'clock.

If poor boxes could speak the Poor Box would say: "Thanks to the anonymous donor of 5 dollars." Another contribution of $1 was gratefully received for Bengal. It's a cold, cruel world all right, but it would be much colder without the warmth of charity. It is more blessed to give than to receive, says the Holy Book.

What's Your Percentage?

The Golden Rule Foundation puts out a graph indicating how Americans spend their money. In the current issue of Our Sunday Visitor is the latest one. According to it Americans spend 10% of their income--this includes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, amusements, sports, gambling--on luxuries.

On the Church and Charity it is 1.1%. If you think you are big-hearted estimate how generous you are. Keep track of your spending money for one month. How much of it will go for luxuries? How much for charity?

What's The Rush?

On the Religious Survey one-third of the students acknowledged that they were not in the habit of making a proper thanksgiving after Holy Communion. This is a condition that calls for serious reflection; only serious reflection can remedy it.

God gives you twenty-four hours each day. How many minutes do you give Him in return? Once again we remind you that the Holy Eucharist does not work in your soul like an aspirin does in your stomach. The Eucharistic effect follows the laws of the spiritual life--there must be intelligent and volition cooperation with God's operation. The effect of a pill is biological.

But how can you treasure what you do not understand? There are many reasons for ignorance, but there's no excuse for it around here.

Prayers: (deceased) grandmother of Ed Erbacher (Wal). There are N.D. men fighting in Korea. You may be there before you know it. Exercise your knees in prayer.