University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
Family Rosary later at night
in every hall on campus.

Rosary Devotions at 5 p.m.
daily in Sacred Heart.

Question of the Week

Query: An enlightened Upperclassman claims that he can see pictures listed under the "B" list by the Legion of Decency, without any detriment to his moral life, Is there any sin on his part if he attends such pictures?

Reply: "The reason why the Legion of Decency puts a picture on the "B" listing is the presumption that it is dangerous to the morals of some persons, because it is objectionable in part. If a person claims that he is not injured morally by such pictures, we can presume that he is speaking the truth; though sometimes further questioning will reveal that actually these pictures are exerting a bad influence on him. However, even though the "B" pictures are not harmful to him personally, the question of scandal must also be considered. If a Catholic habitually attends such movies, his example is likely to lead others astray, since others may be harmed morally by these films. At most, an occasional attendance at such pictures might be permissible even to those who claim that they are not injured by them. The Legion of Decency listing offers a prudent, even though not authoritative, norm as to what is objectionable or not objectionable from the moral standpoint. And, certainly, any Catholic who takes the pledge of the Legion of Decency should have some regard for the standards."

---Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.Ss. R.

Then there is the movie that might be prohibited by the Bishop of a diocese—under pain of mortal sin. Such prohibition would apply to all Catholics, regardless of individual consciences, individual tastes, or individual attitudes. Such prohibitions would admit no exceptions whatsoever.

What About Yourself?

Some years ago, Arnold Lunn, the famous English convert and controversialist, lectured at Notre Dame. The best testimony to his prowess on the platform is the fact that he finds it more and more difficult, and of late impossible, to find anyone to debate with him. "A man’s a fool," said Frank Sheed once, "to take the platform against Lunn. Nobody can beat him in controversy. His mind works like greased lightening."

In Liverpool once, Lunn went storming into Communist headquarters, posing as a comrade and demanding at the top of his voice that the party orators stop running away from Lunn. "It gives Marxism a black eye," he shouted, "when we refuse to debate with that man. Everybody thinks Marxism can’t be defended. I demand that something be done about it."

The comrades assured him soothingly that something would. "I hope so," growled Lunn, coming toward the door, "because I’m Lunn, and I need some opponents." And out he stomped—to the bewilderment of the comrades.

You well do you do the job of explaining the Faith and the attitude of the Church to outsiders? A recent poll reveals a survey of the campus indicated that a majority of Notre Dame students felt themselves qualified to defend the Faith when called upon. Yet some of the students down the hall cast doubt on that self-assurance.

There’s a good answer for every Catholic belief, point of view, and attitude. You can find it at the pamphlet racks. Make use of them. "Spread the Faith in your own orbit. Purdue co-eds who argued with you last weekend may never talk to a priest! If you flubbed an argument, send a pamphlet. But read it first, yourself."

Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.Ss. R.