

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 23, 1938

Rt. Rev. James M. Corrigan
Rector, Catholic University of America
Washington, D. C.

My dear Reverend Corrigan:

The recent visit of Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen to the Berkeley campus of this University meant so much to our student body and faculty that I am taking the liberty of reporting to you upon it.

He came to us as the Lecturer on the Foerster Foundation, which deals with the subject of the immortality of the soul. The lecture which he gave this year was the sixth in the series, the preceding lecturers having been Professor Ralph Barton Perry, Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University; Professor Walter Goodnow Everett, Professor of Philosophy of Natural Theology, Emeritus, Brown University; Professor Willard Learoyd Sperry, Professor of Practical Theology and Dean of the Divinity School, Harvard University; Dean Harold E. B. Speight, Dean of Men, Swarthmore College; and Professor Douglas Clyde McIntosh, Dwight Professor of Theology, Yale University.

The lecture was given on the evening of Friday, January 28th, 1938, in the auditorium of Benjamin Ide Wheeler Hall on the campus of the University. The audience was estimated as consisting of between nine hundred and nine hundred and fifty persons. The lecture on "The Spiritual Character of Man and Its Relation to the Philosophy of Politics" was admirable and aroused the greatest enthusiasm on the part of the audience. It presented with clarity and force arguments for the immortality of the soul and from these deduced principles of conduct in other relations of life, including conceptions of the state.

On the morning following the Foerster Lecture, Monsignor Sheen was kind enough to accept my invitation to address our monthly University meeting, which is a convocation of students and faculty. He spoke to an audience of some six thousand on "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" and literally held the group spellbound by the clarity of his thinking and the artistry of his speaking. His address was generally considered to be the best of its kind we have heard at the University in many years.

In addition to these things, I should like to say that Monsignor Sheen commended himself to all of us by the charm of his personality and the brilliance of his conversation. It was good to have him with us even for a short time and we hope that we shall see him soon again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert G. Spraul". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Yours sincerely".

RGS/M