

The Slippery Will.

Lenten resolutions are all right in their way, but they have an inconvenient way of reminding us of our woeful weakness. We all have strong wills, of course; but when we put ourselves to the test -- as we do every New Year's Day and every Ash Wednesday, we find that we are not so good.

But our will is never at fault. It was our judgment. We took up something that didn't count anyway, and in the clearer light of more mature judgment we simply change our minds.

The Irish.

The average number of Communion every day since Lent began is 923. On St. Patrick's Day the number was 773. Last year the average was 814, and on March 17 the number was 749. In 1922 the average was 768, and the number for the Day, 619. The Irishmen who made their devotions on the Niles Road had their places taken by the nationals of the whole of Europe.

Lent Is Half Gone--

Almost. If your resolutions have snapped, start over again. Don't limit your penance to the first ten days.

The Survey.

The Religious Survey will get under way again this week. There are some brand-new questions, and some of them are not easy to answer. Send in your queries on them: the Bulletin will explain difficulties.

Notre Dame Is Watched.

America has had two padded thrusts at Notre Dame in the past few weeks. An article on "Spiritual Leadership" gave the impression that you confine your religion to daily Communion. (If anyone does, if Holy Communion is not producing real fruits in his soul, he is blocking the way to the inspirations of grace. Another article a week ago called attention to your gross neglect of reading -- a fault surely, but probably a common fault of college men, about which we are particularly frank. The same comment comes in the March number of Extension.)

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The Apostolic Delegate, who honored the University with a visit last week, expects to return for a longer visit, to see your religious life in operation.

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"No man lighting a candle putteth it under a bushel," said Our Blessed Lord. You have a right to the secrets of your heart; but you are mighty stingy if you refuse to share them -- under the protection of an unsigned questionnaire -- when you know that your example, as Notre Dame men, is such a strong force for good throughout the country and abroad as well.

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A thousand answers on this survey is a reasonable expectation. Some will always be too timid to answer; some will be too rushed to take the time required. Lack of courage, lack of initiative and lack of time are passable excuses. A successful man does not offer excuses.