

-----

Have You Learned Your Lesson?

We have three common ways of learning:

1. Most of our knowledge comes from the testimony of others, from books, lecture conversation, newspapers, and the other common means of communication;
2. Reasoning upon material taken into our minds can give us (but seldom does) additional knowledge;
3. Experience gives us our most lasting knowledge, because it hurts.

At the beginning of our football season you were asked to pray for the football team, to help these boys think clearly and fight courageously and watch for the breaks of the game. That was testimony, based on reason and experience. Some of you accepted it, some of you didn't. You could have reasoned to the conclusion that prayer brings the help of God for us to use the faculties He has given us. Few of you did. Now you can add the experience that hurt; you can remember that prayer for temporal favors, if not harmful to our spiritual welfare or that of others, has God's sanction and brings result.

On the First Friday there were 1550 students at Holy Communion; on Saturday there were 1314. On the day of the Army game the number was 1343. Some of you forgot your thank yesterday: the number was 1249.

And now about the jollification. Let's hope that it was not merely the cold weather that kept you indoors Saturday night; let's rather hope that the defeat of the previous Saturday and Father Carroll's talk helped you to keep your heads down in victory. You want to pat the boys on the back when they return next Friday. All those who were in front of Sorin Hall last Sunday morning are entitled to pat them on the back, and those who shook hands with them last week can form in line on the Sorin porch to shake hands with them again. Those who forgot to pray for them and then came around to ask the team what was the matter can go fishing when the boys come back.

The burnt child dreads the fire. Experience is a great teacher. You have learned a lesson in prayer and a lesson in sportsmanship during the past two weeks. St. Patrick and St. Bridget were the patrons of the Carnegie Tech game; and when you failed to cooperate with them they taught you a real Irish lesson. Our Lady of Victory was the patroness of the Los Angeles game. Sapientibus sat.

AND DON'T FORGET TO KEEP THE PROMISES YOU MADE DURING THE PINCHES.

Your Mother's Christmas Gift.

Send her a spiritual bouquet. The card to be distributed will contain the following items: Holy Communions; Masses heard; Rosaries; Visits; Aspirations; Mortifications; Novena for Christmas. Start your Novena Thursday of this week.

Prayers.

Father Healey has worked hard for you, and now he needs your prayers in his illness. The following deceased persons are recommended: Am. Armin's brother, Wm. Grimm's brother, James Fogarty's father. Jos. Sweeney and Fred Diebold ask prayers for relatives who are in critical condition.

Why can't You Go To Confession?

If you want to be good you can. Students get a lot of bug-house notions about purpose of amendment, scruples, and the like, that keep them from confession. The wise thing for them to do is to ask a priest's advice about what troubles them. Read the pamphlet, "How to Make a Good Confession."