

Religious Bulletin
January 21, 1928

Don't Be So Goofy.

Week after week the off-campus students are trying to fit a square peg into a round hole; that is, they are trying the impossible. The line forms at the two confessionals at St. Joseph's Church, and when the end of Mass comes and the crowd has to leave to make way for the Children's Mass, there are always some still in line -- goiled. The solution is so easy. Confessions are heard all Saturday morning in the Sorin Hall chapel, all afternoon and evening in the South Bend churches, and from 6:15 till 7:00 p.m. in the basement chapel at Notre Dame. Don't be so goofy.

Locked Out.

You need not miss Holy Communion if you are locked out of the seven o'clock Mass tomorrow. Every Sunday there is a priest in the basement chapel at 7:10 to distribute Holy Communion to the unfortunates who tried to squeeze into Mass just too late.

Where is Your Charity.

There is certainly a woeful lack of charity manifested during the Church Unity Octave. The number of boys here who have non-Catholic mothers or fathers is considerably larger than the number of envelopes handed in for the prayers of the eight days. That means simply that a lot of boys have not enough interest in their parents even to ask others to pray for them. It is clearly the Novena for Exams that is causing the increase in Holy Communions at this moment, not the Octave; it is selfishness, not charity.

Poor Ostriches.

Monday is Ostrich Day, but if you have no charity in your systems this year it seems unlikely that they will get many prayers to bring them to the Sacraments.

Corruptio Optimi Pessima.

It takes more than ordinary intelligence to figure out how a student can come all the way from Timbuctoo to Notre Dame for a Catholic education and then confine his campus peregrinations to the walk between the car line and the Law Building or Science Hall. If a Catholic can't be a decent Catholic at Notre Dame, what chance is there for him when he gets out? Every religious opportunity missed is a grace rejected, and the higher the mountain of rejected graces, the greater will have to be the mercy of God and the force of will to come back. Notre Dame does not brag about her fallen angels (although green reporters sometimes do) but she prays for them and always hopes that they will come back. Some of them do, but not all. (Two of them, distinguished men, died unreconciled to the Church within the past year.)

(Notre Dame hopes and prays that they will return to God before they leave her fold, and for those of them who hold back because they fear they cannot overcome old habits of sin she offers the testimony of hundreds of her students, through the Religious Survey, who tell what marvels grace has wrought in making them over as men. She risks her reputation in keeping them on, because Mary has enfolded them in her mantle and the Precious Blood of the Lamb of God has been shed for them and flows daily for them on her altars. Notre Dame wants them to come back before it is too late, and waits at the confessional for them and holds the tabernacle door ajar for them.) And fears mightily for those who leave her portals unregenerated, because the old proverb says, "Corruptio optimi pessima."

Prayers.

The hospital reports Orville Smith's condition as favorable, but prayers help; your prayers are also requested for a deceased nun and a very special intantion.