

The Approaching Financial Crisis.

Before the social season completely engulfs us let us have a few plain words on the financial crisis facing the pamphlet rack. It has a deficit of \$650.

You have had it explained before that the rack is not a store. Before its advent there was an absolute minimum of spiritual reading on the campus outside of the Brownson Hall students and some others who patronized the library of Brother Alphonsus. It had a humble beginning at the door of the basement chapel, and an investment of ten dollars a week kept the little rack filled. The returns were not equal to the outlay, and before the end of the year it was necessary to have a couple of collections in the church to make up the deficit.

The idea was favored by the students, and the demand for books and pamphlets increased. The outlay for the past couple of years has amounted to four or five hundred dollars a month -- even more at times. The idea of free distribution has many advantages, and it should be kept up. Only in this way can we make sure that those who want the literature can have it, whether they can pay for it or not. And the virtue of charity is developed by your giving with no thought of a return.

The deficit at present is \$650, and it would be \$1000 were it not for the generosity of some friends outside the University who have helped with cash Christmas gifts and other donations. It would take eleven Sunday collections like yesterday's to clear outstanding bills, with no thought of further purchases this year -- and there are only twelve more Sundays this year outside of the Bengal collections on third Sundays.

Up to this time last year the sums contributed to the rack and to other charities were about twice the amount turned in so far this year. And there were fewer students and their income was no greater. Perhaps there have been more dances this year; undoubtedly there was more travel to football games; perhaps a lot of things! The fact is that you are not kicking in as well as last year -- and the rack faces a crisis as a result.

The Missals.

Something over two hundred daily Missals, in Latin and English, were distributed during the fall months. At present we have in stock another hundred of these, together with the remains of a hundred Sunday Missals in English. The Sunday Missals are on top of the rack; the others are held in reserve for requests, because it was observed that when they were placed on the rack they were picked up by many men who seem to have found no use for them. There is no sense in handing out a \$2.50 book to a man to use as a paper weight; more serviceable office equipment can be purchased at the 5 & 10. But those who want daily Missals can have them -- free of charge, as usual -- on request.

Prayers.

Dave Smith, of Corby Hall, was called home yesterday by the death of his father, Don Murphy, also of Corby, left Saturday on receipt of word that his father's condition was critical. Harry Cullen, of Brooklyn, a graduate of a few years ago, is in bad health from overwork. A relative of Pete Gallagher died Saturday. Three special intentions. Johnny Smith asks prayers for a relative undergoing an operation.

A Radio For The Infirmary.

In the dispensary at the Infirmary you will find a little box that is making a mute appeal for funds with which to purchase a radio. This is certainly a worthy cause. If you make haste the new apparatus may be installed in time for the occupants of the Infirmary (you may be one of them) to hear the broadcasting of the Pittsburgh game.