
Prayers.

Ed Hall underwent a serious operation on his leg yesterday afternoon in Chicago. S.N. Wagner asks prayers for three persons, two of them dying, and a third, a victim of an automobile accident. Karl Johnson asks prayers for a deceased uncle; John Carey for his sister who died recently; Eddie Mahan, of the Chemistry Department, for his little son Joseph, who is suffering greatly from asthma. Father Clement Molony, of Los Angeles an old friend of Notre Dame, is to undergo a very serious operation next month; he has just celebrated the silver jubilee of St. Agnes Parish, which he founded. George Cogan brother suffered an attack of appendicitis yesterday; Geo. Coury's mother is very ill; Frank Havelick's brother has just undergone an operation for appendicitis. Five special intentions.

Let's Wash Behind The Ears.

You have mulled over last Saturday's game for nearly a week now and have reached your own conclusions, some of them sound, some of them very unsound. And it's about time to get back to first principles, not only to give you the right point of view, but to put you in position to behave properly for the rest of the season.

You were told the first night of the Mission that Notre Dame is different -- and that if you don't like it you can get out; it was only fair to you to say so, to warn you in the beginning, while you had a chance to go elsewhere, that religion comes first at Notre Dame. Indeed, it comes so much first that if it weren't for religion there would be no reason for the existence of this school; the sacrifices that are necessary for the maintenance of a big university on a small financial endowment and a blood endowment of unsalaried religious professors would be worse than useless.

That being the case, where do football victories fit into the scheme? They are of small consequence in the eternal destiny of your soul. It is granted that much good has been done the cause of religion by Notre Dame football victories in the past, and chiefly in two ways: 1. the high character of these successful athletes has made friends for their religion; 2. their devotion to daily Communion has encouraged other Catholics to adopt the practice, overcoming for them the human respect that bothers most people.

But is victory in any way essential? Not one bit. As high character can be developed by defeat as by victory; indeed, some noble virtues can come out only through adversity. The team understands this well, and you can't see the players wearing long faces over last Saturday's set-back. They are better sports than a lot of people around here. And victory may do much harm to your soul and to God's interests in general. You were warned the Monday after the Loyola Game: "The drop (in Communions) from Saturday to Sunday was disgraceful. Must victory kill devotion? Must you suffer defeat to remember God?" You were warned later that the best way to defeat the team was to plan mortal sin in celebration of victory. Reports from the city indicate that there was much less sin last Saturday night than on the previous Saturday night.

The history of Notre Dame football is replete with incidents which show that whenever a lesson is needed for the fans it comes. Whenever betting on Notre Dame becomes top-heavy, we lose. Whenever sin in celebration of victory becomes rampant, we lose. Whenever we get a set of students here who are too imbued with the spirit of the world and can see nothing in spiritual values, we lose.

Let's get at the dirt behind our ears. We all know very well that here and there, on the campus and off, plans have been made for some hilarious times next Saturday night. If you want to see the team lose, go ahead with your plans. If you want victory Saturday, call off the plans that would include sin, make a special resolution to behave yourself and make up your mind to receive Holy Communion Sunday.