

-----  
The Mission Will Set You Right.

Don't laugh: you were a freshman once yourself. Give the boys a hand. Can't you remember how you ambled about aimlessly, walked up the front steps, smoked cigarettes on the front porch, wondered who was friend and who was foe, how you openly affirmed (and secretly denied) that the prefect was not so tough as he looked, how you wondered if this education wasn't all the bolony, how you would have packed up and taken the first train out if you weren't afraid of what the gang back home would say? If you can't remember these things, then your memory is playing tricks on you.

The racketeers are not so much in favor of the Mission. It puts a crimp in their activities. For twelve nights they are unable to sell Jimmy Crowley's books and Frank Carideo's soup spoons. The Mission creates a gap between buyer and seller, between sucker and slicker.

But you can remember the the Mission did you a lot of good. It set you right, as it were, and gave you a perspective (although you wouldn't have dared to call it that at the time). It let you know exactly where Notre Dame stands and where you stand. It gave you to understand very clearly that at Notre Dame the soul comes first because that is the divinely-constituted order of things. And it let you know that if you are not living in the state of grace you are wasting your time at Notre Dame.

The Mission tightens up the belt - not only for the freshman, but for the over-stuffed senior as well. It sweeps out a collection of false notions absorbed from the world's false prophets; it scours away the debris of a mis-spent summer; it polishes the reflector of God's image.

All in all, the Mission at the opening of school is a great institution. When you read about "rush week" and "freshman week" and one fad or another at some of the less favored but more highly-touted centers of illumination, you wonder how many people know what an education is. Notre Dame doesn't bring the freshmen in a week ahead to see that their social interests are safeguarded, she doesn't convoke them for an hour or two a day over a whole week, to give them enough leisure to discover all the blind pigs, but she does take them in hand when they get here and tell them in plain terms that education is a thing of body and soul in which the soul comes first, and that it will profit them nothing to gain the whole world if they suffer the loss of their soul.

Next week the freshmen have their Mission. For a fair division of the student body, St. Edward's Hall sophomores are asked to make their Mission with the freshmen. On account of the disorder occasioned by the delay in opening Dillon and Alumni Halls, it is especially necessary that the Mission be encouraged by everybody. If your word will remind some student that the Mission is on and that his place is in church, don't fail to say the word. ----- The exercises of the Mission are as follows: Opening sermons, Sunday, 7:50 p.m.; Mass and instruction daily, 6:30 a.m.; evening sermon and Benediction daily, 7:30 p.m.; closing exercises with Papal Benediction, Saturday, 6:30 a.m. The freshmen (and St. Edward's Hall) have the week of Sept. 20-26; the upperclassmen, Sept. 27-Oct. 3. (And then the football season can start with a clear conscience.)

Requiem Masses Friday and Saturday.

On Friday morning at 6:30 there will be a Requiem High Mass in the church for the repose of the souls of the students who died this summer; on Saturday morning at the same time and in the same place, a Mass for the repose of the soul of Mrs. John Staunton, who died a few weeks ago. Prof. Staunton was a professor of English last year, and will teach Philosophy this year. You should attend these Masses and offer Holy Communion for the intentions of the celebrant. -- That is Notre Dame spirit. -- Bro. Oswin, C.S.C., is very ill with pneumonia. -- Seven special intentions.