

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 10, 1934

The Farmers Are Back.

The come-late-and-leave-early farmers distinguished themselves at the 7:00 Mass Sunday. We expect it of Long Islanders, of course, but when it affects the Oak Park contingent it is time to do something.

Questions From the Questionnaire.

We begin today the publication of answers to questions proposed by students who have returned their questionnaires in the religious survey. These replies will be made brief and to the point. If the answer is found inadequate, a new statement of the question, with the point clearly outlined, may be sent by mail to the Prefect of Religion. In general, no regard will be paid to the following types of questions:

1. Sex questions. In the mind of the editor, no single factor in the breakdown of morals in the last score of years has had greater influence for evil than the outraging of modesty by public discussions of sex. Private instruction, under proper safeguards - whether in the confessional or outside, or between father and son or mother and daughter - has a wholesome effect. We cannot say as much, unfortunately, for public discussion.
2. Questions on matters not pertaining to religion.
3. Questions affecting the internal policies of the University or involving personalities.
4. Other things that are none of your business.

With this preamble, we begin:

1. How can one correct a habit of using bad language?

Ans. Here is a progressive method. If one means fails, try the next one:

1. Recite the "Blessed be God" three times a day;
2. Recall the presence of God every time you look at a clock; time suggests eternity, and eternity suggests God. Think of the Blessed Virgin every time you see an ND - on a sweater, on a book or belt buckle, on the back of a coat (where it doesn't belong). This is Our Lady's home.
3. Fine yourself a nickle for every word. Give the money to the poor.

2. Do small children (those between seven and nine) really know and believe they are receiving the Blessed Sacrament?

Ans. Many of them seem to know more about it than children between seventeen and twenty. If they don't know, they are not to be admitted to First Holy Communion.

3. Is not the main purpose of this questionnaire that it be used for advertising?

Ans. If you think so, you had better arrange to transfer to another school, for if you have not been stirred spiritually by filling out your questionnaire, Notre Dame has failed in your case. - When the questionnaire was first devised, in 1921, there was no intention of publishing the replies. They were so good that they were published - for the students only. After the second questionnaire a Bishop suggested that it be sent to all the Catholic high schools, for the spiritual good it would bring them. Then the alumni wanted it, and many pastors wrote for it; missionaries use it for sermons; seminaries use it for training young priests in the needs of the Catholic layman. It is often sent to registered freshmen, to warn them in advance what to expect, and to caution them to stay away if Notre Dame is too much for them. (Some don't heed the warning, however.)

PRAYERS: Deceased - Ray Railton, ex-'08; a friend. Brother Martin, C.S.C., died this morning at 10. Seriously ill, a friend. Three special intentions.