

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

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Showing the Freshmen a Good Time.

The Bulletin office is flooded with complaints about the freshmen and requests that the greenhorns be given a ride. Day and date and other specifications are given regarding offences by freshmen against good breeding, Christian morals and Notre Dame spirit. That is all well and good, but there is something to be said in favor of the freshmen.

There is always a surfeit of assininity in every freshman class--and ten jackasses can outnoise eight hundred nightingales in any singing contest. There may be twenty or thirty jackasses in the present freshman class--full statistics will be reported later; but as Rock says, one bull-frog can sound like a million.

Besides the jackasses, there are always a great many sheep in every freshman class--and the jackass is the born leader of the muttonhead, because sheep follow the first leader who promotes himself, and being bereft of reason, the sheep can't be blamed for following his instinct for excitement.

Quae cum ita sint, unrepresentative upperclassmen are to blame for the jackass leadership. If freshmen are seen in improper places and in unseemly company. The upperclassmen who see them there are deserving of the harshest censure for being there to see them and encourage them with their presence.

Even a few months at Notre Dame will teach a Notre Dameman the essentials of Catholic gentle manliness. There are those who do not learn. They are not Notre Dame men. Some native defect of character, or perhaps of intellect, or perhaps again some gap in home training that can never be supplied, takes them out of the class we call Notre Dame men. They come here, present credits, pay tuition, keep going, graduate if they don't get canned, and go out into the world as the abortions of Catholic education. While they are here they render the inestimable service of training jackasses to be leaders of freshmen.

There are plenty of good men in the present freshman class. Quite a few of them have swung into the Notre Dame spirit as to the manner born, for their home training has made them gentlemen. They need to do one thing for the good name of their class: muzzle the jackasses. This is a penitential year.

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
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