

The Camels are Coming, Hump! Hump!

The sad note must needs be injected into the feasting. The ghost will walk at midnight. The skeleton will come out of the closet. The silver lining will be turned inside out. In the midst of the Homecoming festivities you will hear a note of anguish:

"There comes a day of reckoning...Exams are only nine days off."

The Novena before Examinations is a very popular institution; if you want to know how popular, study the graph in the basement chapel and see the approach of exams. Every other Novena shows a falling off as the nine days are counted out, but day by day there is an increase as examinations approach.

And this is perfectly proper, if your motives are clean. If you have done your duty with a clear conscience, if you have tried to study from day to day and have asked the Holy Ghost for a blessing on your work of the year, if you have offered your daily actions to God for the benefit of the Poor Souls, it is perfectly proper to ask the assistance of the Holy Ghost in the special hour of need.

But it is little short of blasphemy to ask God's help if you intend to cheat, if you are not coming clean with your teachers, your parents and God. To pray for God's help and then crib is removed only by degrees from asking your favorite saint to steady your hand for the shot that kills your enemy.

The Urgency of the Case.

If you want to make a Novena before examinations you must start next Monday at the latest.---and you must not miss if you go on the Wisconsin trip. Father Knox has promised to take care of you at his church as soon as the train gets in (it's due at 7 o'clock), and you will have ample opportunities when you get back to Notre Dame on Sunday morning. But if you are not taking a Pullman it's going to be hard to keep your fast--not that the sacrifice won't do you good, however.

Friday is a Fast Day.

Friday, the Vigil of All Saints' Day, is a ~~strict~~ fast and abstinence. Students taking meals on the campus are excused from the fast, but the abstinence binds by virtue of the Friday Law. Students taking meals in town are obliged to fast if they are twenty-one years of age and are not dispensed. A dispensation may be obtained by individual application to one's confessor. No boarding-house keeper in South Bend has any general dispensation unless she has received it from the Pope, because the Bishop has no right to grant such dispensations, as he has stated in a letter denying Notre Dame's petition in favor of off-campus students.

Prayers.

Mrs. Jones of Pittsburgh, mother of Jimmie and Gus, former students, is in critical condition as a result of burns received a few days ago. Two of the sisters in the infirmary ask prayers for relatives who died recently. A student asks prayers for his sick sister. The members of the Indianapolis Club ask your prayers for one of their friends at home who was shot and killed last Saturday night.