

The Question Box Revised.

(The questions answered here were submitted by students through the medium of the last Religious Survey.)

Why is there, in church, so much conversation, laughter and play, especially on Sundays?

The fundamental cause of such conduct is lack of faith. Our Lord prophesied this condition as one of the signs of the end of the world: "Think you that the Son of Man when He comes will find faith on the earth?" If such a condition can prevail at Notre Dame, what must be the lack of faith where religious atmosphere is lacking. Another potent cause (working with the first) is lack of home training. It is quite evident that some mothers missed their vocation.

What is the Matter with the Average Catholic Girl?

An exchange of views on this question might be helpful. Who is the average Catholic girl? Very probably a vote on the question would bring out the fact that the majority of students here have found a Catholic girl who seems to them far above the average. Quite a few students can tell you that they have cured a good girl of some foolish ideas on drink; and quite a few more have made them promise to quit smoking before they start raising a family. A fellow can't supply brains for a girl, but at least he can make her humble and pious.

Why Are There So Few Brilliant Catholic Writers?

Brilliance serves the devil's purpose much better than it does God's purpose. Its tendency is to blind the eyes and lead the reason away while its perpetrator gets away with murder. Our Lord never used brilliance. He wanted His hearers to have full use of their reason. Your modern sophist does the devil's work by means of the "wise crack". If God needed brilliance in His writers He would supply it.

Should a Student Contemplate Marriage Before Completing His College Course?

Marriage, yes; getting married, not so much. If a student does not find in himself an inclination to the priesthood or to the religious life, he should contemplate marriage, and he should incline his conduct and his aspirations to that end. The regrets of marriage life arise largely from lack of forethought. Every student should read "You and Yours" and "The Home World" during his college course; and when he makes his choice he should see that the girl reads them too. They help to avoid misunderstandings.

What things offer most temptations to students?

Things forbidden: by the law of God, by the laws of the Church, by parents, by the school, by the State, by the police. That is the perversity of human nature.

What means would you suggest for suppressing profanity?

1. Daily Communion;
2. A system of fines, self-imposed;
3. A set of rules made and enforced by each table and each room on the campus;
4. The application of as much human foresight as one would show who would sew up the pocket through which he loses his nickels and dimes.

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