

Survey supplement.

This supplement is an attempt to get over more rapidly some of the questions and problems submitted on questionnaires.

I.

"I gamble my life away."

It's a mean thing to say, but you have to have some one to say it to you to wake you up. You are not playing square with your mother. You say that your father is dead. More than ever you owe your mother a debt of serious thought. If you didn't make the Mothers' Day Novena for her you should be ashamed of yourself. You are in bad; but you are thoughtless, and are old enough to know better.

II.

"Candor is my pet ideal. In filling out this questionnaire I have realized that there is an intangible something wrong with my spiritual life at college. At home I am looked upon as being devout. Yet this spirit of devotion has left me apparently. I attribute it, and not without some reason, to my first year spent at Notre Dame, in a dormitory, where almost every other act was a prayer of some sort; where one is compelled to attend night services and the like, at the cost of being campused. I am a much better Catholic when not forced to do homage to Him Whom I would ordinarily honor."

If you like candor, here's a feast of it:

1. You have no business at Notre Dame in your present frame of mind, because you are content to be an "Ordinary Catholic", and Notre Dame is not intended as a refuge for spiritual mediocrity;
2. You are not better when you are left free; you are free as the wind now, and you haven't been to the Sacraments in three months. Was it the fact that you were thought fervent at home that urged you to receive none times last summer?
3. The fact that you lead a "passive life devoid of any great wrong" is leading you you fast in spiritual insensibility; you will wake up some day to find that you have no faith; that's what happens when people think too well of themselves.
4. You have done 150 secular novels and not a line of spiritual reading in college. That is something of a record in the way of mediocrity.
5. St. John said of your condition: "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. I would that thou wert cold, or hot. But because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold, nor hot, I will begin to vomit thee out of my mouth." Apoc. 3:15

III.

"My first year I had to rise early every morning, and I seldom missed Communion. I seldom went out nights, so I had no trouble in arising. The next year I was allowed to sleep over; that started my laziness. Now I barely make class, and I haven't been to Communion in seven weeks. How can I overcome my weak will?"

Go back to the hall where you had to get up in the morning. If you would take voluntarily the sacrifices that were forced upon you in your freshman year, you would never have to complain of a weak will. The trouble is that you did not put enough intellectual conviction into the discipline you had as a freshman. These Set of Bulletins on perseverance would help you. A few of the numbers may still be had. You should read Strength of Will and The Will to Win, by Father Barrett, and all of Father Bull's books on Character.

IV.

"Daily Communion has taught me to respect chastity in women and in myself. Before coming here my mind was in a low state from city companions, who talked vulgarly of women and lessened my respect for them. Now I like to consider girls as I would my mother. My heart feels lighter during the day."

Your experience during the Christmas holidays should lead you to a determined resolution for the next vacation. When a companion starts something not to your taste, say, "Not so good." You will find that your gang would like to be just as decent as you are.

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Prefect of Religion.