

April 9, 1926

Back to Earth.

One student reports attendance at four wakes and three dances, but usually the proportion is the other way. Sixteen hours of sleep in six days is hard on the heart; make it up in bed, as sleeping in class is hard on the nerves -- of the professor. Marks will be out in a few days, if they are not already announced. They will remind you that it takes more than nine days to prepare for examinations.

The devil is still as busy as usual -- busier than usual at Notre Dame, where he has to work hard. The Blessed Sacrament is still the great storehouse of grace. If daily Communion meant much to you during Lent, it should mean everything to you now. Let's see your faith.

Novena for Fathers.

Every year after the Novena for Mothers' Day there is a request for an opportunity to do something for poor father. The opportunity is presented early this year; there will be a Novena for Fathers before the feast of the Solemnity of St. Joseph, April 21. This novena will begin next Monday. A spiritual bouquet card will be provided.

Unclaimed.

"Finders is keepers" if the loser can't be found. Four sums of money advertised in the Bulletin are still unclaimed. The finders should apply for them.

Questions From the Questionnaire.

47. Why can't I get my studies?

Ans. Call for a personal interview.

48. Why do we not have a retreat at Notre Dame?

Ans. The retreat was changed to a Mission in 1910 because the school was getting too big to maintain the recollection essential to a retreat. The senior may have a retreat of two days after its final examinations if it wants it. Two years ago the senior class wanted such a retreat and got it; last year's class made no provision for it.

49. What definite stand does the Church take on the interpretation of the Bible?

Ans. The Catholic Church wrote the New Testament and decided (from the approval of Christ and the Apostles) what parts of the Old Testament were inspired. She holds that the whole Bible is the infallible word of God, and that when a dispute arises as to its meaning, she alone has been commissioned by God to decide its meaning. Certainly if the word of God is infallible it must mean the same thing for all people, and when a dispute arises as to its meaning, there must be an infallible interpreter.

50. Why are you death on New Englanders, sophomores and engineers?

Ans. Another example of New England provincialism. Say East, and you mean them.

51. What do you think of marriage? Is it a necessary evil? What is your attitude?

Ans. As Mr. Dooley said once of drink, "If it's an evil, it's not necessary, and if it's necessary, it's not an evil." St. Paul said: "This is a great Sacrament, but I speak in Christ and in the Church."

52. Why should one be forced to go to church when he has no desire to pray?

Ans. Why has anyone at Notre Dame no desire to pray? We should thank God every day of our lives that He gave us the power to pray, that we are not savage brutes. There are plenty of places you can go where prayer is unknown. Go there. Notre Dame is over-crowded. Make room for men with warm hearts who long for the opportunity to pray as Notre Dame men pray. Aesop wrote a fable about a dog in a manger. Our Lord said: "Cast not pearls before swine."