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Religious Bulletin

February 2, 1927

Mess Up the Last Semester?

What have you done in the way of resolutions?

The air has been full of regrets the past few days. Regrets are all right, if they teach you something; if they don't they are a waste of good emotion that might be well spent on some other fellow's woes.

Goodness knows there is plenty to regret. When a professor goes into the class room and asks a few simple questions and gets only simple, gawky looks in reply; when he finds that the only intelligent question his students can ask is, "Did I get by?"; when the Survey reviewer finds that sixty per cent of the students cannot name a single profitable book they have read in the past few years; when one looks around at the reading matter in the rooms and finds the general run of books sloping down from the mediocre to the vulgar and worse than vulgar; when one finds the library and the chapels deserted and the pool and dance halls and the movies jammed, -- then there is reason to wonder what Catholic education is all about.

Don't parents give their children any ideals nowadays? Do you think less of yourselves than Notre Dame thinks of you? Notre Dame thinks enough of the Catholic youth of America to offer it culture, refinement, Christian ideals of courage, of chastity, of charity, of goodness; the religious at Notre Dame have enough hope in the future of Catholicity in America to take themselves away from the comforts of the world and even away from the comparative independence of parish life, to turn their efforts to the Catholic young men who can, if they will, become leaders of Catholic thought in America. How do you correspond?

Have your parents instilled into your hearts the conviction that there are certain things that are unworthy of you? Have they taught you that loyalty to them and to yourselves demands that you avoid giving scandal?

Don't make so much of a mess of this last semester as you did of the one just completed. It's not enough to look over your past sins and make good resolutions. Action is what you need -- plenty of action. Here's a program:

1. If you are not in the state of grace, go to confession before you forget about it; the bell at the door of the Sorin chapel will summon a priest.
2. Get up every morning in time for Mass, and hear Mass every day with Holy Communion; late rising keeps you below par in intellect and in spirit; the Mass is Calvary renewed, and in it the Precious Blood of Christ flows daily for your refreshment.
3. Mark out at least one quiet hour on your schedule every day -- an hour for reading or for thinking.

That's enough of a program for the present. If you want more, re-read Perseverance.

188.

That is the exact number of Holy Communion at the Mass yesterday for the repose of the soul of Edward Anten. Comment is quite superfluous.

First Friday Confessions.

Get them out of the way before Friday morning or you may have to put off your start for another month.

Prayers.

Three special intentions and two sick persons are recommended to your prayers.