

March 1, 1928

The Big First Friday.

The First Friday in March is usually the best First Friday of the year. Just a word about the confessions: leave the opportunity tomorrow morning for those who have not been attending the Sacraments. There are not so many of them, but there will be fewer by this time tomorrow. You have been exceptionally thoughtful about this this year -- in fact there has been scarcely any additional burden of confessions since Lent began, although there is a daily increase of about 600 Communions.

He Wants A Horse.

Father Goodall, C.S.C., who as a student a few years ago was Grand Knight of Notre Dame Council, Knights of Columbus, writes from his mission field in Bengal that he needs a horse to get him over the Garo Hills. A horse will cost sixty dollars. What do we hear?..... We can't let a Past Grand Knight walk. And during the Novena for Vocations we need to make a little sacrifice. If God is not calling us to the foreign missions He at least gives us a chance to back up the Notre Dame men who are there. -- Small contributions are welcome. If you can't buy the whole horse at least put in some pennies for hay.

Milk.

Donations for our tubercular patient in New Mexico to date total \$74.31; and that's nothing to brag about when the fund has been open for a month -- particularly when we bear in mind that fifty dollars of the amount came from three individuals who contributed amounts of \$25, \$15, and \$10 respectively. This is not a call for those who have been giving to every cause announced (there are quite a few such), but for those who have been forgetting the Scriptural injunction of almsgiving.

Conan Doyle's Blasphemy.

Several students directed attention to the published accounts of Conan Doyle's blasphemy of the Blessed Virgin and the Blessed Sacrament. Too much attention should not be paid to it; there was similar blasphemy in the time of Our Lord, and those who indulged in it were among those who brought upon themselves the horrible curse that accomplished in the destruction of Jerusalem: when Pilate declared himself innocent of the Blood of Christ, they cried out, "His Blood be upon us and upon our children."

The pity of it is that Conan Doyle should know better. He studied for the priesthood and was a Jesuit scholastic. He is more responsible than such fellows as poor H.G. Wells and Clarence Darrow. God has let him make a great fool of himself before now: a few years ago when he traveled over this country preaching spiritism he had the humiliating experience of being preceded by a Jesuit priest, Father Heredia, who exposed in advance all the spiritistic tricks that had fooled Doyle.

His blasphemous charges we will not reprint. If you want the answer to them you will find it in the Scriptures themselves and in the Fathers. Conan Doyle would call us credulous for believing the words of Christ in the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel; but Houdini and Father Heredia have shown us who is credulous. St. Jerome, writing nearly sixteen hundred years ago, answered with masterly scholarship Doyle's impudent imputations against the Blessed Virgin. -- We have said it over and over again, and we repeat it now: When people get proud God lets them make fools of themselves, for it is only in humiliation that He can save their souls.

Urgent.

Al Taylor's mother is dying, although he did not know it when he left for home Tuesday evening. Al delivers your daily Bulletin after serving 5:30 Mass. Don't forget him.