

There's a Boy Very Sick At The Hospital.

James Meehan, of Carroll Hall, whose home is in Jersey City, is a very sick boy. He is down with an attack of flu, and complications of the most contradictory nature have set in, making it difficult to treat his case. An operation tentatively planned for yesterday had to be deferred because of these complications. Prayer will do more for him than anything else, and you are urged to pray your hardest that he will be spared. We don't want to lose a boy this year.

Prayers.

Brother Augustine, C.S.C., is to undergo an operation within the next few days. Two students ask prayers for relatives who are ill. Geo. Coury writes to thank you for the prayers said for his mother, who is now much improved. -- Ed Hall is also grateful and promises to be out of the hospital in two or three more weeks. Ed takes credit for winning the Navy Game and for the defeat last Saturday, and this is how; He has offered all his suffering for the team; he had a lot to suffer the week of his operation, when his leg was opened up to the bone; he had less to suffer last week. (He will plot murder when he sees this on the Bulletin, but he can offer that up for the Drake Game.)

Spiritual Direction.

What is it? It is the advice and counsel on your spiritual life that you receive from a spiritual director. Everyone needs it, if his spiritual life is to be anything but fragmentary.

Where do you get it? From any priest. If you are timid about approaching a priest on the matter, ask your confessor to suggest a director. You may take care of the matter in the confessional, if you choose, but if you do be careful not to take up the time of other penitents when there is a long line waiting.

"Goofy Questions."

Nearly every day some student seeking information prefaces his question with the remark, "I suppose you'll think I'm goofy to be asking such a question, but I don't know and I want to know." He is always told: "No question which concerns your spiritual life is goofy. The goof is the fellow who needs to know and is afraid to ask questions."

One fellow a few years ago asked, "What are these Ten Commandments I hear the boys talking about?" He was twenty-one, born in the United States, and baptized a Catholic -- but the question wasn't goofy. He wanted to know, and he took the direct means of finding out. That's wisdom, not goofiness. The man is a very good Catholic now, and an edifying representative of Catholic education.

Confession is For Sins.

Again the observation must be made that a penitent MUST TELL A SIN FROM HIS PAST LIFE if there is nothing in his present list of faults that is certainly a sin. Confession is for sins, and absolution cannot be given unless a sin is told.

A penitent may accuse himself of bad thoughts and swearing. Questioning may bring out that the thoughts were only temptations, that they were resisted, and that the profanity was an unconscious slip, caused by a habit that the penitent is trying to overcome. The safe rule is always to conclude your confession thus: "I accuse myself of all the sins I have forgotten and all the sins of my past life, especially..... I am heartily sorry, and ask pardon of God, and penance and absolution of you, Father."