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Which Shows You What You Can Do.

The past week brought out a most interesting revival of certain elements in Notre Dame life, the most important of which is faith in prayer. A great emotional wave, which had to have for its beginning a strenuous outside stimulus, swept you along to a peak which might have been perilous had it not been highly spiritualized. In the right order of things, the climax should have been reached at the altar rail this morning; but human nature does not always follow the right order of things, and of the ten lepers only one returned to give thanks. Our percentage, thank God, is far better than that -- and it should be, for we have had a better break in the way of training than had the poor lepers; there was a stream of worshippers from the gymnasium to the shrine of the Blessed Sacrament and to the Grotto after the game, and there were 1651 Holy Communions Sunday morning.

This has been a curious fall. You have learned much. You were told -- but you didn't believe it -- that Notre Dame is different, that God comes first here, and that He is jealous of His honor in this chosen sanctuary of His, where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in twenty-seven different places in the extent of one square mile, which, in all likelihood, does not occur in any other similar area in the world. You were warned before the Loyola Game that although students in other universities may wreck the Billmore Hotel to the extent of ten thousand dollars' worth of damage, the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Commandments still hold good at Notre Dame.

You didn't believe it..... and came the Wisconsin Game. You were warned again before the Navy Game, and you were besought to remember that the good name of your school, which is presided over by God's Blessed Mother, demanded that you be gentlemen always. Again, you were skeptical.... and came the Georgia Tech reverse. Even then you were slow to take warning. There was noticeable a goodly measure of spiritual interpretation of facts, but pagan scoffers rambled among you, questioning your faith, either by word or deed.

Then came a realization of what you considered an impending peril. The realization grew, and took definite shape. Even skeptics began to feel that even if prayer did not help, it would be best under the circumstances to be on the safe side. The result was that during the first ten days of November the average daily attendance at Holy Communion moved up to 1600, whereas during October it was 1337; your devotion reached its peak on Saturday morning, when the number was 2014. And prayer did not end at the Mass Saturday morning, when the Church of the Sacred Heart gave shelter to the largest number of communicants ever assembled there; prayer was on the lips of most of the spectators at the grid-graph throughout the two hours and a half of tense excitement during the game; and prayer kept the majority of the students gentlemen during the rest of the evening. They remembered the underscored line of last Saturday's Bulletin: Notre Dame spirit makes you think of your mother before you act.

Which shows what you can do if you are interested. If you are now wise enough to use your heads, the spiritual lesson will not be lost on you. Keep two things in mind:

1. There's another game next Saturday, and a mighty tough one;
2. If you can pray for the team, why not pray for yourselves as well? You have spiritual needs, some of them very urgent. God can fill them.

Prayers.

Gerald Fitzgerald and John Rafferty are ill in the Hospital. Father Kelly's father is not expected to live. There will be a Requiem High Mass in the church at 6:15 tomorrow for the repose of the soul of Father Stack's mother, who died Friday.