

Religious Bulletin  
February 21, 1929.

Late Breakfast Tomorrow.

Breakfast at eight. Masses at 7:30 in the halls. Early service in the basement and Sorin chapels; also 7:30 Masses in these two places. Don't break the series.

Shall We Throw In The Towel?

Additional contributions for the Native Seminary since the report yesterday total \$3.45. That's a rotten showing. Two years ago we raised \$1000 in ten days -- and total contributions for charity that year (not counting the Rack) were \$5500; this year they haven't yet reached \$700 (and the Rack deficit is more than that).

Novena For Brains.

There is something radically wrong with the religious life here this Lent, and it's time we did something about it. It can't be that the grace of God is lacking, for God always gives His grace: "Facienti quod in se est, Deus non denegat gratiam," as the old scholastic axiom has it. It is true that it comes in greater abundance at one time than at another, and it may be that we are in need of extraordinary graces this year to overcome new obstacles -- but that cannot be the whole matter.

After all, it is a matter of brains on the natural side. A brain that is filled with self has no room for God. A poor fellow who has been worshipped by his mother all his life can't quite get the idea of worshipping God. An introvert who has had all his wants supplied by a doting parent before he has had a chance to make them known can hardly be expected to know what it means to pray. A brain that has had no chance to develop along religious lines is panicky in the atmosphere of Notre Dame.

A 95 average isn't necessarily an indication of brains. A man may know all about Shakespeare and still be on all the sucker lists in the country. Many an inventor has died in the poor house because he was no business man. No matter how much a man may know along secular lines, he hasn't brains -- that is, common sense -- unless he shapes his life on the principle that it profits you nothing to gain the whole world if you suffer the loss of your soul.

A Novena of Masses for the spiritual welfare of the Notre Dame students will begin Saturday. Let's call it a Novena for Brains. You can leave your name and the names of your friends at the Pamphlet Rack; they will be placed on the altar.

The Open Season For Catholics.

The time for fulfilling the Easter Duty began last Sunday, the first Sunday in Lent. We are pleased to observe that of the 545 non-resident off-campus students (not Villagers, that is) 294 have already made their Easter Duty -- 229 of them last Sunday, and the rest since then. Make it early this year; then if you happen to die suddenly there will be no squabbles about Christian burial.

Prayers.

Prof. Ambrose asks prayers for his wife, who is quite ill. John Whitman's mother died Tuesday. An uncle of Ronald Armour is ill. Jose Toriello, '27, was set upon by bandits at his ranch in Mexico recently and left a cripple. A son of Mr. Julius Daele, caretaker of the local cemetery, died yesterday at St. Meinrad Seminary. Five special intentions are recommended, one of them listed as "almost impossible." Robert Strebl, father who has been critically ill for two weeks, has had a bad turn. Sister Clara, who has worked in the kitchen for many years, asks prayers for her brother, who was burned to death a few days ago.