

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Why Lie About It?

If you are called in about your Easter Duty, don't lie about it. It gets you nothing positive, and it does not remove your name from the list. When the lying is done, of course, its purpose is to avoid trouble. It doesn't accomplish its purpose.

Get this matter clear. You have been told over and over that the University does not force any student to make his Easter Duty. Students have been dropped for a general attitude of hostility to religion, even when they have made their Easter Duty; and they have been retained through four years when they failed to make their Easter Duty in all that time. They have been retained because experience has shown that often a student who has been remiss in this because of some difficulty which he declined to discuss, has in the end become a strong Catholic and a good Notre Dame man.

Any priest on the campus is willing and glad to help a fellow who finds it difficult to go to confession or who has doubts blocking the way to his spiritual advancement. But a priest cannot help a liar. He cannot ask him to go to confession, because that would be to tempt him to commit a sacrilege. He can only pray for him.

Do You Hear Any Tears Splashing?

The Easter Duty list is down to 211 names, 87 of them of off-campus students. That is very encouraging; for four weeks it is not at all bad. The next week will see many of these names removed, and the last two days before the Easter vacation will look like a fire sale. But those who will remain on the list after the general clearance need not expect the school to shed any tears over them. Their mothers may do that - but the shepherd takes black sheep as a matter of course. He will be glad to bleach their wool if they will let him, but he will not cry over their failure to do so.

Why Not Acknowledge Your Mistake?

If Notre Dame has been a big disappointment to you, the sensible thing to do is to acknowledge your mistake and prepare to move elsewhere. There are always some whose French is weak - who do not realize that Notre Dame means Our Lady. Their standards of speech are low, their taste in reading is vile, their respect for womanhood is non-existent. They find a few of their kind, and they stick together. You can hardly expect these men to move on out of a sense of fairness to Notre Dame; their selfishness and small-mindedness precludes consideration for others. But if they can be made to realize that there are places where they will find themselves more in type, they may be persuaded to go elsewhere; there they may be able to find the appreciation that is denied them here.

The Religious Survey.

The Religious Survey for 1929-30 has been distributed to all students except those living off-campus. Mercy for the mailman has kept it out of the local mails. A good many of the off-campus students have picked up copies at the Sorin chapel; the rest of them can find them there. Read the Survey carefully. It is prepared primarily for your spiritual benefit. Look over the tabulations carefully to see where you fit into the scheme of things around here. Check over the generalizations you have made out "what the fellows think" and "what the fellows do." Most of your conclusions are based on very limited observation; it may interest you to discover that your generalizations are far out of line.

PRAYERS: Vincent Reishman's father is very ill. Henry Asman's mother will undergo an operation today; so will the mother of Vigilius Phillips, who left school in the fall. A deceased relative of Art. McGee. Two deceased friends. Three special intentions.