

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
April 28, 1932

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At Last The Balance.

A year ago this day (Thursday, April 30) the number of Holy Communions was 298,783. At noon today the number was 298,795. If we except the false balance established during Lent by the fact that the fasting season came this year a week earlier than last, this is the first time since the student trip to the Northwestern game last October that the number of Holy Communions for this scholastic year have equalled those of a year ago. At one time last fall the deficit for the year was nearly 4000; for the first semester it was 600 below last year; during Lent it dropped another 1100 - because the lower railroad rates this year took more boys away from the campus on the Washington's Birthday weekend, if you want to know the reason.

It is particularly pleasant to observe that the balance was reached during the Novena for Mother's Day. It would be even better if your regard for your mother would lead you to be a better Christian all year round. Your regard for our Heavenly Mother will have a test during the coming month of May - her month. If you make that a sinless month in her honor, and make an honest effort to receive Holy Communion daily in her honor, your year at Notre Dame will not have been wasted.

Questions From The Questionnaire.

81. Why are converts the best Catholics?

Ans. When they are (and often they are) it is because they think. Would to God all Catholics would think!

82. What is the purpose of question #33: "What good points have others found in you?"

Ans. To make you think.

83. What is the best method of acquiring real devotion in prayer and avoiding mere lip service of God?

Ans. The best method of attention is fixing the mind on some mystery while one recites the words - as is done in saying the rosary. It is confusing and distracting to attempt to follow the meaning of each word. When you are speaking earnestly with a friend your attention is concentrated on your thought rather than on the words you choose to convey the thought. Interest is the key-note of attention. Be sure you are interested in God and it will not be so difficult to fix your attention on Him. -- One cannot avoid all distractions in prayer, however; all God asks is that you fight the distractions to the best of your ability. A prayer that is a fight from beginning to end may have much greater merit than one in which no effort is required.

84. Why don't people seek the true religion?

Ans. One reason is that people who have it don't live up to it as they should and don't work and pray for the conversion of unbelievers.

85. Why doesn't Notre Dame try to cure drunkenness by personal advice instead of expulsion?

Ans. This isn't a Keeley Cure. There is plenty of advice given beforehand.

86. Is there a divine sense of humor?

Ans. Certainly. The sense of humor is a perfection, isn't it? Don't all our perfections come from God?

PRAYERS: Henry Wurzer, Sr., former president of the Alumni Association, died yesterday, one son, Lincoln, is a student in Dillon Hall; another, Henry, Jr., is an alumnus. An uncle of Robert Shields was killed in an accident yesterday. Dick Hyde and Wm. Cannon lost their grandfathers a few days ago. Two friends of John J. Ryan are very ill. Four special intentions.

Friday, 8:25, Sorin, for the repose of the soul of Wm. Hawkes' mother (A.I.E.B.)