

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
May 25 1932

General Confessions - Saturday at One.

Requests for fixing a time for general confessions have been numerous enough to receive attention, so an hour has been fixed. Father McKeon and the Prefect of Religion will be in the church Saturday at 1:00 p.m. for confessions; they will remain as long as there are penitents. If this hour is not convenient for you, go to one of the regular confessors at the regular hours (which you will find listed on the Calendar); do not, however, take up time during the Masses on Sunday morning for this purpose. -- It should be noted, also, that general confessions are not limited to seniors; any Catholic may make one at any time, with his confessor's permission.

The Bengal Banks.

There are twenty-two Bengal Savings Banks scattered about the campus. Please return these to the office of the Prefect of Religion before you leave. -- Bengal got a blow out of an examination in a medical school this week; in a tough spot a former Notre Dame man promised five dollars to Bengal for a little extra aid from above; he fulfilled his promise the other day. And another alumnus helped this week to the extent of ten dollars. It will be very welcome in Bengal.

Questions From The Questionnaire.

153. How may one lead a healthy, wholesome, Catholic life?

Ans. Follow the suggestions given in the pamphlet, "Perseverance."

154. A non-Catholic student states that we Catholics are hypocrites when we confess a sin with the intention of bettering ourselves and then repeat the sin the following week. Is this hypocrisy?

Ans. Ask him if he ever made a resolution to avoid some sin for all future time and then slipped under a new temptation. And then ask him if he was a hypocrite when he made the resolution.

155. Should an Irish fellow go only with an Irish girl?

Ans. When the heavy Irish immigration came to this country during and after the potato famine, marriage outside the clan was regarded as smacking of apostasy. Looking back eighty years we can see that those who braved the censure to marry Germans (the only other considerable Catholic element in the population those days) produced a very desirable stock. The old days are gone forever. This is America. The blends are very precious when they preserve the virtues of the two parent stocks. Unfortunately, some of them drop the virtues and accentuate the vices of their national origins.

156. What is the effect of this modern age on birth and death rates?

Ans. Death rates have decreased - but the decrease is centered in the first ten years of life. The Pasteur discoveries and their sequolae have greatly lessened infant mortality, but the life expectancy of older people has not increased. Birth rates, on the other hand, have decreased at a shocking rate. The British rate of 31 per 1000 of two decades ago is now down to 17, and is falling rapidly. You will find some considerations on the American birth rate in the Alumni Survey. Louis Dublin has published some very significant studies on the American birth rate in the Atlantic Monthly and other magazines. A news dispatch from London a few days ago noted instances of landlords who had informed tenants that they must not have children; we have the same thing here at times.

157. How can weak persons combat sin?

Ans. The best start is with a good personal interview with a priest; it gives you confidence to tackle the job.

PRAYERS: a deceased relative of Cliff Lennon. Two special intentions.