

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
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Coming Back To Question Three....

The green eye of suspicion was cast on the Religious Survey by a freshman in the question he submitted for answer in the Religious Bulletin. His question was the third answered in the present series. The mail these days is full of critical appreciations of the recent survey of the alumni. We select for publication one received this morning. It gives a clear-cut answer to question 3, and it may serve to stimulate interest in Catholic Action.

"Dear Father: I thank you very much for the copy of the 'Bulletin', containing the Religious Survey 1932-1933, which you kindly sent me. Like all preceding issues of the Survey I found this one both interesting and highly instructive; and I liked especially Chapters One and Five on 'Personal Religion', and 'Alumni Views on University Life', respectively.

"Your questions were quite comprehensive, practical, and soul-searching; in many instances, I daresay, they contained a gentle reminder of something forgotten or neglected, and thus may again rouse dormant resolutions in those who answered them.

"The study, in my opinion, discloses that you may indeed be reasonably proud of the results of Notre Dame training, which in a goodly percentage of cases seems to carry over into after life with a gratifying degree of thoroughness. While your alumni are shown to be human, like the rest of us, they again reveal a refreshing candor in their replies, and a remarkable power of self-analysis and critical judgment, as revealed in their comments. I also think you made a good selection of those to be emphasized by bold-faced type. Some of these remarks are again highly illuminating to those of us who are engaged in the Christian education of youth; and every priest, I believe, will find in these pages a mine of priceless hints for his pastoral activities. This, I think, is particularly true of Chapters Two and Three, and perhaps most of all as regards the answer to 'What article of faith do you have to explain most frequently?', although I expected 'Mixed Marriage' and 'The bad example of some Catholics' to rank higher in frequency.

"Frankly, I was a little disappointed in the showing the alumni made on the score of lay missionary activity, though, of course, their standing is no worse than that of the average Catholic layman. Doubtless, the idea of Catholic Actions needs still more explanation and insistence on our part. I am glad to hear that a special group of students has been organized at Notre Dame to foster this apostolic spirit. Too many of our people still belong to the type of the one who said: 'I leave every man to his own religion'.---On the other hand, maybe there is more truth than cynicism in the remark: 'Most of them (outside the Church) are not...interested but merely possessed of animal curiosity.'"

Questions From the Questionnaire.

37. Give a real good reason for not allowing the seniors to have all-night lights. There is work to be done.

Ans. There would be more work to be done if they had them. The experiment was tried once. The boys came home at twelve, and settled down to work at two. The last year we had midnight lights in Sorin Hall, there were 27 seniors in the subway alone who had to stay for summer school. Does that answer the question?

PRAYERS: Deceased - an aunt of Dick Schager. Ill - the mother of John C. O'Donnell, '24; an aunt of John J. Ryan (Lyons) will undergo a serious operation tomorrow; a friend of Dillon Patterson, '20. Two special intentions.

MASS - 6:25 Friday, Sacred Heart Church, for the repose of the soul of Bruce Graham (Chicago Club).