Lent is here - and while you may not like it (there are lots of things you don't like) -- you are going to have to get down on 'em and say your beads and make the Way of the Cross and say a lot of other prayers that you haven't maybe thought of in a long time like the Litany of the Saints, the Seven Penitential Psalms, etc., and you are going to have to tighten your belt and your purse strings and open the pages of a few books that your folks sent you here expressly to study and cut out all this running to town. And while it may be hard on the girls and the Varsity Store and Hulie's -- to say nothing practically of dancing palaces and sweet shops -- it stands to reason that you would sooner stand off the poor girls for forty days now than have them stand you off for all eternity - and that's what's going to happen if you go to hell for not doing penance. Be reasonable. Get up in the morning; start the day with God; thank Him for being alive; pray for the Poor Souls; pray for success in your studies, and study to make good the graces God gives you. It won't do any good to cut out smoking and cuss a blue streak because you are bad-tempered, nor will it help your cause with God quit eating candy or stop chewing gum if you spend all your free time running down some other fellow's reputation. Make daily Mass and Communion your chief Lenten penance, and make all your other actions conform to them.

N.B. Facilities for confession are limited physically. Go to confession in the basement after supper or after Benediction in the church tonight. One thousand penitents will want to go tomorrow morning.

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
Prefect of Religion.