Religious Bulletin
April 27, 1927

Hand in Your Dollars Now.

If you are afraid you will not have it Sunday, hand it in now for the Holy Father.

Your Questionnaire?

Are you willing to cheat the world of your ideas that would pep up the next report? Letters come every day telling of the good done by the Survey. Get yours in.

Seniors: Your Last Chance.

Few seniors leave Notre Dame without having been daily communicants; the time is short.

The Case of T.

Although T has made a couple of converts to the Faith, he shows traces of Protestantism himself. He wonders about the right of the Church to make laws, he doubts stories of the Bible and other matters of faith, he has a tendency to regard grave sins as trivial; he finds philosophy more stimulating than religion, he doesn't receive the Sacraments because he doesn't stay away from sin enough. His father is a non-Catholic, but insists on the children practicing their religion.

T is lucky in having a conscientious father; without that stimulus he might lose the Faith. He needs to read Newman's Discourses to Mixed Congregations, particularly the discourse entitled, "Faith and Private Judgment." That and a sound course in Apologetics will set him on his feet intellectually; morally he needs to reflect on the consideration that the Sacraments are not a reward for virtue, but an aid to virtue, a medicine for the soul.

The Case of U.

U is a freshman. He has received Holy Communion fifteen times this year. If he had 24 hours to live he would make a good confession; under present prospects he finds himself too weak to go to confession. He is too weak-willed for sacrifice; his faults are profligacy and impurity; he is ashamed to seek spiritual advice. Notre Dame has helped him spiritually to a considerable degree; he has made no progress in any virtue he hopes to marry "a gentlewoman in every respect;" his class average is only slightly below the general average for the whole school.

What U needs is a bucket of ice water inserted between his neck and necktie -- suddenly. He will never marry a gentlewoman or any other woman unless he gets the gumption to cure his weak will and bad habits. Sacrifice, prayer, and the Sacraments are what he needs most. This little trimming may give him the pep to get a start. He'll never make a living or save his soul at his present rate of speed.

The Case of V.

Like U, V is a freshman. Their cases have much in common. V has received Holy Communion ten times this year; he takes no interest in sacrifice or in his spiritual life. He asks a few questions about the girl question, and wants to marry a clean, upright girl who is not treacherous and who loves him more than anything else in the world. His spiritual difficulty is that he has a hard time resisting evil temptations.

He has high ideals of marriage -- for the girl. He wants a clean girl, and is himself throwing away the chance God gives him to be a clean boy. He wants a girl to love him more than anything else in the world, and shows by his questions a low conception of "love." He needs a large dent put into his self-esteem, and an intense practical application of the pamphlet Perseverance. He is pretty low, but not hopeless.