

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

Nov. 18, 1924.

Extra Copies of the Bulletin.

The Bulletins posted each day are gathered again and kept of file for those who want them. Engineers and students who want a copy of any particular Bulletin should call at room 141 Sorin Hall.

The Class in the Doctrine of the Eucharist.

Father C. Hagerty's class in the Theology of the Blessed Sacrament has finished the consideration of Grace, and will now take up the work proper to the class. Father Hagerty wishes to announce that he will admit seventeen applicants for this class at the present time. The class meets on Saturdays at 11:10, in room 116, Main Building.

Hardening of the Arteries.

A freshman expresses surprise at hearing for the first time that the greatest offenders against propriety at Notre Dame are quite apt to be seniors. (The fact in question will, of course, be disputed, but case for case in the matter of bad liquor and silly girls, seniors seem to fall harder than any one else. --- when they fall.) The reason is a spiritual one, and it follows natural and supernatural laws.

*

When a freshman enters Notre Dame he finds a spiritual atmosphere that is entirely new to him. He may have come from a model Catholic home, where religion is a part of the daily life; he may have had splendid religious surroundings in school and in the leisure hours between home and school; he may have lacked one or another of these factors in environment, --- or worse still, he may have resisted one or all of them; but no matter what was his previous religious environment, it is hardly possible that he has met with anything just like Notre Dame, where the best fellows in the world, under the compulsion only of their own consciences, make the love of God the biggest thing in their lives for twenty-four hours of the day.

*

It is the business of the freshman to accommodate himself to his surroundings. He may welcome this opportunity for a full and free development of his religious sense, he may puzzle over it and accept it only grudgingly and by degrees, or he may reject it altogether. If the grip of the world, the flesh and the devil is too strong, he will pursue the latter course. Many a student has succeeded in rejecting it for one, two or three years; few have succeeded through four. But those who have been able to establish this power of resistance have hardened their spiritual arteries to such a point that the grace of God can no longer reach them from within.

*

Will God visit them from without? Our Lord spoke this parable of four wasted years: "A certain man planted a vineyard and let it out to husbandmen; and he was abroad for a long time. And at the season he sent a servant to the husbandmen, that they should give him of the fruit of the vineyard. Who, beating him, sent him away empty. And again he sent another servant. But they beat him also, and treating him reproachfully, sent him away empty. And again he sent the third, and they wounded him also, and cast him out.

"Then the lord of the vineyard said: What shall I do? I will send my beloved son: it may be, when they see him, they will reverence him. Whom when the husbandmen saw, they thought within themselves saying: This is the heir, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours. So casting him out of the vineyard, they killed him. What therefore will the lord of the vineyard do to them? He will come, and will destroy these husbandmen, and will give the vineyard to others."