

University of Notre Dame  
Religious Bulletin  
November 10, 1931.

From a Professional Faker.

From a stack of communications we choose one signed "UNSIGNED." The writer is a big-hearted guy who wants to relieve the Prefect of Religion of the job of "manufacturing" contributions - from students and alumni. He says: "Today I will be Black-eyed Susan, defending the morals of Notre Dame men, and tomorrow I will be J.D.P., voicing thoughts on the thoughtfulness of those who commute between Winnetka and Chicago. The next day is Sunday, so, of course, I will vacation, but on Monday I will resume the crusade as a conscience-stricken (and depression-stricken) alumnus, a senior who detests blockheads, or whatever the occasion may call for.

"The advantages of my proposal, Father, hardly need enumerating, but two are paramount: a) it will relieve the Prefect of Religion of the necessity of preparing these communications himself and give him that much more time for caring for the souls of the Sorin four-corner men, and b) it will, presumably, lend to your publication that air of genuineness so necessary to the successful conveying of important truths."

This faker can save his time. It takes more time to copy a letter (correcting the spelling and disentangling the rhetoric as you go along) than it does to compose a whole Bulletin (that is, when you get down to the level of the average senior). That this faker is totally unfamiliar with the workings of the Bulletin office is evident: even the casual visitor is shocked at the disorderly array of communications which clutters up the typewriter desk.

As for the four-corner men, we have just about decided to let the depression take its toll. It would be a sin to spend any more time on them - for every moment spent on them thus far has been wasted, and since at the Last Judgment we must give an account of all our wasted time, we are going to pay a little more attention to our own salvation from here on in. The faker can work on them if he chooses. We judge that he sees more of them than we do, for those who avoid our office generally herd together: they have many interests in common.

Forty Below.

The daily average reception of Holy Communion this year is just forty below the average of a year ago. This matter was called to your attention a few weeks ago; there has been no improvement. There are four hundred and sixty more students living on the campus than there were at that time. Two of the halls are still without chapels - and a couple more might close their chapels, for all the use their students make of them.

Some of the drop has been due to what might be called the "shaking-out" process - the consistent practice of the Bulletin this fall of exposing fraud and dishonesty of various sorts. After the Bulletin on the sale of marks, for instance, the number of communicants dropped 104. Staying away from the Sacraments is one way for the crook to be consistent; the other, and the saner way, is for him to straighten out his life and return to the Sacraments. He has no business at Notre Dame, dragging down the name of the school and the reputation of his fellow students, if he is unwilling to follow the second way. -- And the patient mercy of God is sometimes exhausted even with youth!

EXPLANATION: The term "lefthander" used in yesterday's Bulletin, is used locally as an affectionate term for non-Catholic friends. We find that in some localities it means fallenaway Catholics; that meaning applied to our use of the term yesterday would destroy its purpose and intent.

PRAYERS: A brother of Joe Kurth is to undergo an operation this week. Wm. D. Martin's mother is suffering from an infection. A workman here was anointed yesterday. A relative of Paul McConnell died Saturday. Frank Zwors, a student last year, is quite ill. Five special intentions.