University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin September 29, 1934

Authority and Doubt.

Mallock, writing on the famous Lamennais, is responsible for this memorable paragraph on Lamennais' estimate authority:

"Imbued with the heterodox doctrines of the eighteenth century, he (Lamennais) had allowed doubt to glide into his soul; but he was naturally too averse to doubt not to use every effort to reject it.

"Conviction is not enough for him, he must have authority, he must believe.

"But where is he to find indubitable truth? He has vainly sought it in philosophical systems; he goes for it to the religion of his fathers.

"These' he wrote in 1815 to a young English Protestant whom he was trying to convert, 'are the reflections which made me decide on embracing the Catholic religion. We ought to hold as certain the following propositions, which are deduced from one another by necessary consequence: There is but one true religion. This religion was established for all men. Consequently it bears within itself a mark by means of which all men may easily discern it from all others. This mark or character is authority. It is to be found only in the Catholic religion. Consequently one cannot be saved out of the Catholic religion.'

"It will be seen how far back one must go to arrive at the source of his philosophical system. It relies entirely on a saying of "Rousseau in his Lettres de la Montagne: 'Let anyone', he used to say, 'prove to me that I ought to submit to an authority of any kind, and to-morrow I will become a Catholic.'"

Points on October Adoration.

- 1. Begins Monday, October 1, and ends Wednesday, October 31.
- 2. The exposition takes place in Sacred Heart Church, usually on the Bernini altar, behind the main altar.
- 3. Official adorers (those who sign cards) should vest in cassock and surplice and spend their time in the sanctuary.
- 4. The Blassed Sacrament should never be left alone.
- 5. The cards you have filled out will be returned to you as advance notice of your adoration period.
- 6. Those who find it impossible to be present at the hour chosen should notify the Prefect of Religion, 117 Dillon Hall, or find a substitute themselves.
- 7. Extra volunteers are needed for these emergencies. Off-compus students should try to fill in from 12 to 12:30, dinner hour on the compus.
- 8. At the pumphlet rack in Dillon Hall you will find a complete assortment of cards for the whole time of aderation.
- 9. "Gaps in adoration", to be published from time to time in the Bulletin, are periods for which adorers will be needed. Volunteers for these gaps should sign cards at the pamphlet rack.
- 10. On account of the football games, adoration ends during October at 12:30 on Saturdays. No adoration on Sundays. Adoration on other days begins at 7:30 a.m., ends at 5:15 with Benediction.