University of Notre Dame Religious Bulletin May 24, 1937.

A Local Charity In Action.

Your knowledge of the St. Vincent de Paul Society here on the campus may be confined to this: "It is just another charitable organization which picks up old clothes, magazines and newspapers, and in one way or another helps the needy."

You may not know that this modest little Society, composed of 51 Notre Dame students like yourselves, has, since its inception in 1933, given relief in 464 cases; that to conduct its work today the Society possesses an office, an efficient filing system, and an organization comparable to that of city groups engaged in similar work.

Since members of the local Society must carry on full class schedules here at the University, the time that they give to charity must be carefully economized. Hence they are split up into special groups.

Group One devotes itself to cases which come up in the City, to poor families who need food, clothing, and shelter. Members contact such unfortunates and assist them until it is seen that they can maintain themselves. Another Group attends to patients at Healthwin, the county hospital for tuberculosis. To these patients members of Group Two make regular visits, bringing good literature and, in particular, comforting those who have no relatives. Personal sacrifice that is sometimes severe, and hard work by all the members of the Society are necessary to this work. There is, in addition, a money problem that must be solved. The Society has been granted certain campus concessions--a penny machine in the candy store; a bus concession under which the Society sells bus tickets on a percentage basis; returns from the three major class dances; and the storage concession whereby the Society is appointed representative for two storage companies in South Bend.

To profit from the last-named concession, members go from room to room soliciting articles--chairs, trunks, tables, lamps, etc.--which students want to store for the Summer Vacation.

This year the Society has been unfortunate in its concessions. Only one of the dances, that of the Sophomores, was a financial success; lowering of rail rates has made income from the bus business extremely low. Now, for funds to carry on its splendid work next year, the Society must look almost exclusively to its storage concession.

Starting tomorrow night members of St. Vincent de Paul will canvass every room on the campus and will quote low rates for storage, pick-up and delivery service. "Profits for the poor and needy" is their slegan. You may take a hand in their work by cooperating in every possible way to help make their drive for storage concessions a huge success.

Still another Group do Big Brother Work through the cooperation of the Vincentian Service Bureau in the City. Any cases of delinquent, backward boys, of behavior problems, are referred to the members of this Third Group. Remarkable to say, nearly every "problem" boy has responded satisfactorily to the encouragement and correction that have been given him.

A fourth Group are carrying out a project in the negro parish in South Bend. Members of the this Group serve Mass, give instructions for Baptism distribute Leaflet Missals and religious literature, do everything within their power to aid the Negroes of the parish to become better Catholics.

Wild Appeals to Piety.

Don't pay any attention to "pious" chain letters that make outlandish promises and groundless threats. Let this be your devotion, the preservation of the State of Grace through the frequentation of the Sacraments and the practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy...No saint will obtain <u>everything</u> you ask for, because some of the things you may want are about as good for you as dope is for the dope-fiend.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Bishop Legrande, C.S.C.; friend of Bill Riley (Dil.), Ill, mether of Bill Moss ('35); friend of Vic Reiling (Lyons). Three special intentions.