

Religious Bulletin.
February 8, 1924.

St. Francis de Sales and the Religious Bulletin.
(N.C.W.C. News Service.)

I.

It was in the methods which St. Francis de Sales used that he showed his initiative which considered no obstacle in carrying the message of salvation to those estranged from the Church. When the accepted methods failed in reaching them, his ingenuity was not wanting in devising a new and efficient means of attaining his object. When heretics would not come to hear his sermons, he caused his instructions to be printed and scattered broadcast in the hope that they would fall into the hands of those for whom they were primarily intended. It was not long before his attempts were rewarded, and soon the employment of the printed page was scarcely necessary so well were his sermons attended.

II.

Pope Pius XI, in an encyclical issued a year ago, named St. Francis de Sales patron of the Catholic press. The encyclical calls attention to the writings of the saint "always in dignified and easy style, but varied by ingenious acuteness of thought and grace of expression whereby his teachings prove more pleasant reading. If sometimes his words seem strong, nevertheless they always convey, as his very opponents confessed, that spirit of charity conducive to settling every dispute, as when he reproached the erring sons with defection for having forsaken the Catholic faith it can be clearly seen how he has nothing else in view than to beg them more warmly to return to that same faith."

III.

St. Francis de Sales is the master of easy and painless sanctity. If you want to prove this for yourself go over to the pamphlet rack and get the copy of his "Introduction to a Devout Life" that has been lying there for the past month.

"Say it with Flowers."

There are many shades of student opinion found in the Survey. There are others that were omitted for one reason or another. For instance: "The Prefect of Religion is all right, but once every twenty-four hours he goes crazy, and while he is crazy he writes the Religious Bulletin.

Yourself and the Average..

The average campus student has received Holy Communion seventy times since entering Notre Dame in September. If you are above average there is no reason why you should lament the fact. If you are below the average, there is every reason why you should examine into the motives of the average student. You will find these motives well expressed in the Survey, in answers to questions 54 and 58.

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Prefect of Religion.