

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

Feb. 18, 1925.

Badin Asks a Question.

To the Prefect of Religion:

Several times of late you have referred to the prayer of the Badinite---the strange voice that God heard among the prayers at Notre Dame. We are not surprised at your happy expression. Unfortunately, we are forced to admit that you know us only too well. There may be some reason why the Badin of today is not the Badin of last year or of the year before, and we regret that the ~~strange~~ that has come upon us as any other old-timer would regret it, but, in the words of the poet, "what would you suggest?"

The other night several of us wandered back in memory to other days and concluded that Badin is not the hall she used to be, and we found new conditions that may be the remote cause, at least, of Badin's place in the limelight. Here are some of the innovations that have crept in this year:

Last Thursday night the rector announced that there would be a Mass said in the chapel Saturday morning for the deceased father of a Badin Hall student. He repeated the announcement and issued a fervent exhortation on Friday night. He urged---you know our rector urges when he urges---that every member of the hall receive Communion at the Saturday Mass. On Saturday morning the only communicants were the usual twenty-five who go every day. Not one boy from the floor where the bereaved is living was present at the Mass. Last year on a similar occasion everybody in the hall paid a tribute to the memory of the deceased, and the chapel was packed. The cafeteria came closer to being packed this time. You will recall that on Friday's Bulletin you made a special plea for Van Wallace. For these two worthy intentions Badin could summon only twenty-five Communions.

This kind of attitude may account for some of the innovations of this yr:

1. Badin is the only hall on the campus that has an exclusive club organized for the purpose of missing Mass on Sunday;
2. Badin is the only hall on the campus original enough to annoy prefects with firecrackers;
3. Badin has the undisputed record for latecomers at Sunday Mass;
4. Badin consistently and continually retains the lowest place in the scholarship list of the Director of Studies;
5. Badin ranks last in interhall athletics;
6. Badin ranks last in daily Communion, I think (correct, J.F. O'H.)
7. Badin does contribute according to its means to the Bengal Mission, for on one occasion I heard the rector remark to a group in his office that while Carroll had contributed, from September to Christmas, \$31.00, Badin from Easter to Christmas contributed \$00.33.

God may find a strange voice this year, and there may be a reason why we have changed. Lent is coming on: can't you give us a lift?"

Badin '26, one of the twenty-five.

Dear '26: What is the matter with Badin? There is every indication of dry-rot. The hall needs a pruning. The condition has grown out of a circumstance not entirely under the control of the authorities. It is this: One of the big advantages of Notre Dame is the hall system, with its annual turnover. Goofing is one of the traditional aids to character development here, and when a student goes from hall to hall each year and meets a new group of students, goofing stays alive and faults vanish with goofing. When he stays with the same crowd cliques form, and the members of a clique tolerate one another's faults. Faults tolerated are parasites that sap vitality. When there are enough halls to permit of Badin mixing generally in the turnover each year, the hall will be revitalized. If each member of the hall will read "Neglect of Divine calls and warnings", some good may be done...