

WANTED: By the business manager of the CATHOLIC DIGEST, a campus agent....

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
October 9, 1939.

.....apply to 117 Dillon
not later than Tuesday
night...3 special ints.

Catholic Propaganda CAN Go Over.

But it WON'T go over, said Father Lord at Mundelein's Catholic School Press Conference Saturday, unless it clears these three hurdles, one after another:

1. It must present Catholic truth-- some point of Catholic faith or morals or ritual; and not as something dead or queer but energetic and commonsense.
2. The writer must be all excited about his subject-- dyed in it. He will write about it with "glow."
3. His technique must be up-to-date-- not in the style of Shakespeare or Smollett or Dickens, but slick; or to put it TIME'S way: "Curt, clear and complete."

Here's hoping the National Convention of the Catholic School Press Association to be held this coming weekend in Cincinnati will be as effective as Mundelein's Regional Conference. To the Sisters of Charity for conducting things expertly, full credit.

"But Hands Off," Somebody Says....

"Propaganda is such a nasty word....." That's where you're wrong. That's like saying the adage is false, "The pen is mightier than the sword." It's tantamount even to contradicting Christ Himself who emphasized the propaganda technique. "Go." Go what? "Go, teach all nations." Talk this thing up-- My doctrine-- talk, write, preach, catechize, put it across, lay down your life for it. That means making your life a missioner's. It means Christ EXPECTS you to be a propagandist.

Are you living up to His expectations? What are you doing to sell Christ and His doctrine to the people you live with? to your non-Catholic neighbor? to your non-Catholic girl-friend? to the butcher and grocer and barber? to the men in your hall or the men at your table?

You snicker, perhaps. What IS this, a game? Not a bit of it! What did Christ say? Who was He to say it? "He that believeth shall be saved. He that believeth not shall be condemned." No middle ground, you notice. "He that is NOT WITH Me is AGAINST Me."

Your Technique Must Be Christ's. .

He said, "Follow Me." If you do, there is something very important to bear in mind: "Jesus began to DO and to TEACH." First He DID, then He TAUGHT. So as propagandist, first you must live out the Catholic life-- which is the only full-length Christian life-- then, and then only, are you ready to teach its substance and method to others.

This Is The Idea.....

.....in the back of Father Mathis's head in planning the new unit of the C. S. M. C. In developing lay missionaries, he has no foolish mind to send you across to Bengal, or into the Pennsylvania coal mines, or onto the beaches of Cape Cod or California.

At least not to start with. First--he is convinced--you must be sold yourself on the goods you wish to deliver. If you think Christ-life is the most important thing in the universe; if you think the most noble "career" you can take up, EVEN AS A LAYMAN, is to put divine life in the hearts of men; then you've got to know what divine life is, what grace is, what charity is, what the chief channels of grace and charity are. Father Mathis-- and anyone else who knows Scripture and Liturgy-- will insist that you make the Mass the focal point of your day. FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE HIM TONIGHT OR SOME NIGHT THIS WEEK DIRECTLY AFTER SUPPER IN CORBY HALL. His proposition will interest no one whose interests are not intellectual and cultural or whose faith flounders or whose zeal is a heap of cold ashes. SEE FATHER MATHIS TONIGHT.