Religious Bulletin
November 19, 1928.

CONSIDER VAN WALLACE

His story runneth thus: Enrolled as a student in Engineering......The next Fourth of July, taking a shallow dive, he broke his neck. Doctors and specialists declared his case hopeless. Word came to Notre Dame to pray for a happy death. Summer School was in session and a novena was begun. On the ninth day he fell into a sound sleep which lasted eight hours and Van came up out of the deep shrouded valley which is death.

SCIENCE.......AND SOMETHING ELSE

This crisis passed, another was to come. From hospital to hospital, doctor to doctor, specialist to specialist Van passed in turn. Responding to no treatment he was able to move his head. Then on his heels developed dry gangrene. Four o'clock one afternoon, after a consultation, the head doctor told his father, "Medical science knows no cure for this." A nun in the hospital cheered him up by saying, "If I can only get a coral thing, I am sure it will help." She did. It was a relic of the True Cross. The next morning when the doctor looked at Van's feet he rushed in amazement from the room and summoned the other doctors. One of them, a non-Catholic, spoke for the rest. "A higher power than is ours has done this." The gangrene disappeared.

Van Wallace and His FRIENDS

The Nuns, experts in petition, carried the news of Van's condition to their communities and classrooms in every part of the country. The men returned to Notre Dame and heard the story. Then was unloosed a cataract of prayer which to this day has not ceased.

VAN WALLACE COMES HOME

Little by little improvement came. Now he could move his arms. Under his direction his father fashioned an appliance out of a wire coat hanger to slip over his wrist. One piece projecting downward was tipped with rubber. A portable typewriter was propped upon his chest and thus equipped, with infinite patience, he learned to write. One day a great discovery came to him, that he could move the carriage with his other arm. He studied calculus and chemistry. A portable wheel cot, a specially constructed automobile and he was able to go out for rides. It was thus he came back to Notre Dame last Friday, five years and three months after his first enrollment. What were his emotions as he looked again upon the golden dome and the Lady of his love belongs to the secrets of his pain-tried heart.

VAN WALLACE Ideal All Notre Dame Man

In two recent Bulletins we tried to describe the ideal Notre Dame man and to analyze Notre Dame spirit. Let us now sum both up in the words: What though the odds be great or small, Old Notre Dame will win over all." Yes, in victory or defeat, we always win for each, in its own way, teaches us the meaning of life. Friday night you saw Van at the "pep" meeting; Saturday afternoon he was on the side lines. There he saw the team fight valiantly, suffering bruise and shock and poignant pain for the honor of his school. Of the thousands of frenzied fans who cheered them, of the countless thousands who hung expectant upon the event who best typifies the elusive, dominant thing which is Notre Dame?

THE NOVENA

We promised prayers and communions for nine days for Van's complete recovery. Let the communion chart show you have not forgotten.

FRIENDS: Deceased relatives of Tom Dorris and Tim; John Reilly, Boy Guidance student, lost his mother last week; Two relatives of Austin Barlow are very ill.