

Religious Bulletin

April 27, 1928

Repeaters.

Some of the questions submitted for answer have been dealt with in previous Bulletins this year. To save time and space, and to cover a multitude of needs, some of these earlier issues will be posted from time to time. A red mark on these will indicate that they are repeaters. The one posted today is the one of "Coo-education;" it will give additional information to the questioner who wanted to know whether a man should marry a girl older than himself.

Amplifying.

Terse answers irk a certain sophomore. His letter (condensed) follows:

"A questioner asks if other creatures made in the image and likeness of God existed before Adam, and you answer: 'Adam was the first man. This is revealed. It is bound up with the doctrine of original sin.' But in Sheehan, Part 2, I find: "It may, perhaps, be worth noting that the Church has never condemned the opinion that a race of men lived on earth, but became extinct, before the creation of Adam.' If you will satisfy this obvious contradiction, my friends and I shall appreciate it."

"Another point. You say that J reads books on the Index and receives Holy Communion daily. I do not reconcile the two practices. Reading such books, I had always supposed, was a mortal sin. I must change my mind; otherwise I see you neglect giving a sound rebuke -- if not to him, at least for our information -- and how can I help staring wide-eyed at your indifference for what I take to be hypocrisy."

1. The answer was framed for what seemed the import of the question. There seemed to be no need for discussing the theory you mention (which has no solid scientific basis); likewise no mention was made of the fact that the Holy Father has appointed a commission to study whether proof of life on Mars would have any bearing on Revelation. If you want a revised statement, here it is: Adam had no ancestors.

2. It seems one can't be too subtle. With J's statement should go business of holding up one's hands in horror. It seemed too obvious to require the reprimand you want given. But your statement requires one correction: J's sin is dumbness, not hypocrisy. No one could be that hypocritical, but many people are dumb enough for tricks like that.

Questions.

45. How much money should one have before marriage?

Ans. That belongs to Doris Blake's department.

46. Why is there but one vigil light in the sanctuary of the church?

Ans. That's all the law requires.

47. Why do some profs delight in finding exam questions that no one knows?

Ans. It's so much easier than finding the other kind.

48. Explain abortion and tell when, if ever, it is just.

Ans. Abortion is the murder of an unborn infant. It is never just.

Prayers.

Eight students are ill at St. Joseph's Hospital. A student asks prayers for a friend who died at Holy Cross College; Jos. D. Murphy for a sick niece; Jacob Holle, of last year's freshman class, for his deceased father. Three special intentions.