

The Index.

Since Pentecost, 1918, only the Apostolic Delegate has power to give permission to read books on the Index. Previous to that time all priests having faculties to hear confessions in this diocese had permission to read indexed books. Now, only some six priests at the University have such permission, and none of them can give that permission to others.

Penalties.

It is a mortal sin to read a book forbidden by the General Decree, which condemns all works defending heresies; blasphemous works; books teaching, defending, or generally treating of or narrating lewdness or obscenity; books defending as lawful or harmless, Freemasonry, divorce, Sec Socialism, suicide, duelling; anti-Catholic, anti religious or immoral newspapers or magazines; and all books treating of religion which have not the approbation of the Bishop.

Excommunication is the penalty for reading or obtaining a book condemned by particular decree; that is, mentioned by name in the index.

Six Best Sellers.

Such books come under the general decree if they are obscene, blasphemous or irreligious. They will seldom be condemned by particular decree. Their perusal always weakens ideals, and generally weakens faith. Not infrequently college men lose their faith through reading such books. The fact that they read them shows weakness of faith: they question the divine authority of the Church.

The Kind Hearted Dynamiter.

The honest dynamiter waves a red flag to warn of danger; the rattlesnake rattles before he strikes; but the Devil parades as a scientist, an uplifter, a highbrow in art and literature, and mires your soul in foulness and heresy before you know it. If you can sit through a profane or licentious play, or read a book of that type without a shock (to decency, that is, not a pornographic thrill), you have lost something that a Christian gentleman should have.

Obituary.

Gerald Timmons of Walsh Hall asks prayers for the repose of the souls of three relatives and a friend who have died during the past two weeks. There will be a Mass and general Communion in Badin Hall Tuesday morning for the repose of the soul of Thomas Beardle's sister.

Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.,
Prefect of Religion.