

These two ways of propagating the Faith embrace the printed word and the pulpit and platform, but these will not suffice: it is necessary to protect the impressionable minds of young Canadians from the poisonous and immoral literature which is so openly and blatantly exposed upon the book-stalls counters. Many of these books find their way on to the shelves of the public libraries. Like many things tolerated today because "we must be modern" machiste ideas and impie clothed in "the popular novel of the day" and it operates a strong second to the movies in destroying the innocence of the youth of the cities.

Is there any one who cannot realise the importance of this work? A work that is too large and too extensive to be left to our already over-taxed pastors: a work without which the rank and file of our fellow Catholics can never acquire that knowledge and familiarity with their religion which they must have if they are to prove themselves loyal and worthy children of the Church. If they are not that, it will be hard for them to, not only, defend their religion, but to be able to advocate it. It is to this work that the Sovereign Pontiffs have again and again summoned the Catholic laity of the world. It is this work that you are called upon to encourage and support. It has been left to the efforts of the mere handful of men whose zeal and energy has been minimized because of the want of earnest support and co-operation. There is no exaggeration in the statement made. The writer has in mind one branch which is struggling under overwhelming and unnecessary difficulties, where the number of active workers are less than the number of committees needing attention. In consequence, work is doubled and in some cases trebled, and even then much must be left undone. To mention only one example: owing to the unsettled economic times, thefts have been numerous, and the donation boxes of churches have not been free from robbery. The donations placed in the Society's rack boxes, where the racks have had proper care, have been untouched, but the others have, not only, been robbed but badly damaged. This loss of income, increased by costs of repair, is a heavy tax on the meagre amount of the present financial support.