

as well as to Canada. Every week we receive letters which we are ashamed to put in the Question Box Department. They furnish ample evidence of the urgent need which exists for a wider distribution of Catholic literature and particularly of newspapers and periodicals. Another gentleman informed us not long ago that he did not have time to read Catholic papers. His wife and children read them, but he was too busy. Later he asked us what was meant by the Assumption. He asked the question in a careless sort of way, as if the subject bored him. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, but he did not realize that his ignorance of fundamental Catholic truths was truly pitiable. These are only a few of the many instances of the gross ignorance of common Catholic teaching and practice to be found in the homes from which the religious press is excluded. Many people labor under the impression that when they have gone to church and heard the sermon on Sunday, they have done their duty and have had an opportunity to learn all that is necessary about the Church and her doctrines. They do not realize that one weekly issue of a newspaper contains as much matter bearing on Catholic faith and practice as twenty sermons or instructions. It will take a priest five years to deliver a course of sermons covering the whole field of dogmatic and moral Theology. The Catholic paper supplements the work of the priest and touches upon many subjects which are barred from the pulpit.