

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

NO. 1.

Hugh P. Comerford.

Not many months ago, the Bishop of Leeds, England, issued a pastoral, in which he recalled in the words of two Sovereign Pontiffs, the duty of every Catholic man and woman of actively supporting and assisting in the spread of Catholic reading. Our late Holy Father, Pius X, told us that "all our works, all our efforts will be destroyed if we are unable to wield the offensive and defensive weapon of a loyal and sincere Catholic press". This can have but one meaning to all who believe in the importance of the spiritual influence and the power of the printed word to aid or hinder them. It is with all the eloquence of a holy zeal, made restless by a want long felt and unsupplied, that the Bishop of Leeds points to the indifference and neglect of Catholics in this matter as a "standing mystery and a standing shame".

The lesson is one that is needed, not only in the North of England but wherever the Church has gathered her children around her to protect her institutions and her teachings, and it is not too much to say that there is no place where it is more urgently required than in this our own country of Canada.

As a member of the Catholic Truth Society of Canada, I must leave it to others to speak of the labors and of the successes of that organization.

That there is such an institution, organized, equipped and active, we trust every one of our fellow Catholics is aware. But it is a remarkable and a regrettable thing that the nature and importance of its work has hitherto failed to impress itself upon the Catholic community generally.

51215