

forbidden to read them. Even Jesuits were forbidden to read them. And the result is that the books that were put out, just repeated the statements that other Roman Catholic books had said because they had no way of telling whether they were true or false." Well, I thought that was a very interesting statement to appear in this book by this Jesuit. I thought I could take these six volumes and I could pick out maybe a sixth of the material in it, clearing Luther of these charges against him and showing his great strength and his ability in so many lights, it would make a wonderful book of praise of Luther. Well my guess is that some of the other Jesuits decided the same thing I decided about the book because within the last ten years - ten or fifteen years - the man got out a new book, a one-volume work on Luther and in this work he just picked the part of the six volumes that is critical of Luther and so the one volume sounds like a terrific denunciation of Luther. It sounds like - it just goes down the line and tears him to pieces but it does it on little incidental, minor criticisms. It doesn't bring up these big charges that have been repeated over and over by the Romanists because in his six-volume work he's shown that there's nothing to them. And the little things he takes are such as you can find in any human being but of course they're given in such a way as to sound pretty terrible. Well he's written a book that is a pretty terrible blast at Luther and you'd never guess from it that his six-volume work actually is such a fine, careful scholarly work of examining the real evidence. But that was the statement he made - I thought it was very interesting. It shows the effect of the Index - that they were strictly kept from reading anything which had not been approved by the bishop. And to this day you can pick up most any Roman Catholic book and you'll find in the front of it a statement, "Nehalob Scott" and then the name of so and so, a censor, and then under that, "Impremata" - let it be printed with the name of some bishop ★