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Confraternity Campaign

B40442

by John Liddy

Sermonizing to a hushed congregation
Of God-fearing men
On the dangers of close dancing,
Evil literature and cinema necking,

The Spiritual Director
Declared from his pulpit
That young people were being
Deliberately provocative,

Outrageously suggestive
On the dance-floors of the City,
That 20% of Limerick's population
Had read Lady Chatterly's Lover.

And would burn in hell for it,
That picture-houses were
Dens of iniquity
Because of inadequate supervision.

Vigilante patrols were formed
To separate passionate dancers,
Scrutinise publication lists,
Root out courting couples

With flash-lamps,
That was in nineteen-sixty-three
And things have changed since then,
The Spiritual Director

Quit the priesthood,
Leaving behind
A diminishing congregation
Of disillusioned men.

