

of minute care in the German system, France has not wholly forgotten its old literary traditions, and in the best professors at Paris one finds German method and scientific caution mingled with a touch of the old French verse and esprit. The result is that foreign students are attracted in even increasing numbers.

Last year of the first eight of us who gave in our names at the *Seminaire* of M. Abel Lefranc on "French Literature during the sixteenth century" two only were French, two were American; the others, Austrian, Hungarian, Roumanian and Canadian.

The work of Popularisation begins in the Cours Publics, lectures given by the foremost professors in large amphitheatres.

When Aulard speaks on the French Revolution, or Lemonnier on Gothic Art, an audience of eight hundred or more gathers weekly half an hour before the lecturer begins. Admission is absolutely free and informal, and it is a case of first come, first served. A few of the front rows have desks on which notes may be taken and are invariably filled with a mob of lady-students, chiefly Germans and Americans, many of them with no further object than to get a little practice in French. Both in dress and in appearance they are much inferior to their Canadian sisters. Some come more than an hour in advance and bring their knitting to while away the time. Many of these Cours Publics are of very great value as may be seen by reading Luchairé's "Innocent III et la croisade des Albigeois," which was delivered to us last year in the form of lectures. All of them are delivered with great lucidity of thought and dignity of expression.

The matriculated student pays a fee of six dollars (thirty francs) a year. This entitles him to the lectures reserved for students alone, and to the use of the library and reading room, and is the only fee payable unless he goes up for an examination. The lectures (*Cours privées*) are intended to bring him up to the level of the latest information on any special subject. They are partly bibliographical, and partly embody the results of research on the part of the professor. I shall long remember my delight in hearing M. Emile Bourgeois unravel for us the tangled threads of the Napoleonic diplomacy. No professor lectures more than twice a week (one Cours Public and one Cours Privé) and he has thus time to make each lecture worth hearing.

Research and the study of Method are carried on in the *Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes*, which is absolutely free to all who can give proof of sufficient preliminary training. Here the Professor and his students form what is known as a *Seminaire*, and study together more as a group of friends than as teacher and taught. On his preliminary lectures the Professor outlines the subject, and gives bibliographical detail. Then it is divided into various sub-divisions, and each student is encouraged to take up one of them, and to attempt to push it further. Thus this year among others M. Luchairé is endeavouring with the help of his audience to reconstruct from the various manuscripts the original text of an early chronicle dealing with the Albigenian crusade. M. Charles Bemont is discussing the history of Guienne previous to the Hundred Years War, and devoted his last lecture to discussing whether or