

Church is increasing in numbers and influence. Perhaps it is, but we are somewhat skeptical. If all this talk about the power of the press means anything, why is not something more being done to build up that press. If some of the money now being spent for marble altars were invested in a few English dailies, we believe it would be the best investment the Catholics of the nation ever made. The religious orders walked out of France and left their magnificent buildings behind them. If some of the money invested in those buildings had gone into Catholic daily papers, they would still be there. Even thieving politicians have a wholesome respect for the daily press. No one cared a rap for the dumb monk who was shut out from the columns of a subsidized press. Catholic Germany with its 200 dailies sent Bismark to Canossa and taught Von Buelow that Catholic rights must be respected. It was said of the Bourbons that they never learned and never forgot anything. We have our own Catholic Bourbonism, and it is very slow to learn and very prone to forget.

There are twelve Catholic dailies in the United States. All of them are published in foreign languages. There are several here in Canada, but they are not English. Knights of Columbus, Hibernians, C.M.B. A's., Foresters and other English-speaking societies are great hands at meeting and passing glowing resolutions. Their bosoms swell with zeal on the occasion of a convention or an initiation, but less than one out of three of them subscribe and pay for Catholic papers; yet these papers fight their battles and keep the public in touch with their activities. These are cold facts, but our peo-