

nal evidently regards junior debating societies as superfluous.

Here are some statistics showing the advantage of living under a Republic. A Frenchman has been figuring up the cost of the Government under its many varying terms in France during the present century. Under the first Empire the State cost the nation 115,000 francs per day; under the Restoration, 119,000 francs; under Louis Philippe, 150,000 francs; under the Republic of 1848, 173,000 francs; under the Second Empire, 240,000 francs; and lastly, under the third Republic, no less than 463,000 francs per day during the past year. What with scandals and extravagance France has to pay dear for her Republic.

How the faith is spreading in heathen lands may be inferred from the announcement that is just made that the Bishops of South Africa are preparing for a Plenary Council. Among those who will form part of this council are Right Rev. Bishops Gaughren, O.M.I., and Jolivet, O.M.I., and Very Rev. Fathers Monginoux, O.M.I., and Schoch, O.M.I.; who are charged respectively with the Vicariates of the Orange State, Natal, Basutoland, and the Transvaal.

A London journal publishes the following instructive statistics as to the progress of Catholicity in England since 1829. Priests in that year numbered 477; they are now 3,000. There were 449 churches against 1,763 at present. At that time there was not one monastery in all England; now there are 244. Convents have increased from 16 to 491; and colleges from 2 to 38. Catholics now play a very influential part in the government of the country. There are 6 Catholic members of the Privy Council, 34 Catholic members of the House of Lords, and 74 Catholic members of Parliament. More significant still is the portentous fact of a Catholic Lord Chief Justice of England addressing a great public meeting at Liverpool, called together to honor the memory of the late Bishop of that city. Let the faithful of England be true to their profession, and the conversion of their country is but a question of time.

Hoffmans' advance sheets of their forthcoming directory, give the following statistics, showing the growth of the Catholic Church in the United States:

There are 17 archbishops and 73 bishops with 10,053 secular and regular priests. The total number of churches, chapels and stations is 14,503. There are 114 universities and seminaries with 3,603 lay and clerical students. The high and parochial schools number 4,522, while the children attending aggregate 775,070. There are 1,160 orphan asylums and other charitable institutions caring for 918,207 persons. The total Catholic population is 9,077,865.

The Catholic Church is making rapid progress in the East. In India, Ceylon and Goa, there are, according to the Madras Catholic Directory, 1,865,245 Roman Catholics. Eminent Protestant travellers in these regions have written letters telling of the wonderful work of the Catholic missionaries in the cause of Christ. This is not surprising, as we are well aware of the heroic work performed in all countries by Catholic priests, yet it may be an interesting item to those who glean their ideas of missionary life from the Bible Society reports.

Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, in his "Plea for Toleration in the Church of England," says: "In the Church of Rome, which numbers far more souls within her communion than ours, while unity of doctrine is strictly maintained, uniformity of worship is a thing not insisted upon. . . . The pomp of St. Peter's does not discard or drive out the poor Cistercian, neither does the simple-minded Cistercian anathematize the glories of St. Peter's; they remain brethren."

ARCHBISHOP LANGEVIN'S VISIT.

The readers of the February OWL had an opportunity of perusing a sketch of the Most Rev. A. Langevin, O. M. I., Archbishop-elect, St. Boniface. And now the students of the University have had the privilege of welcoming to their midst that worthy prelate and old-time professor.