

## CRAFT NOTES

THE annual ball of Toronto Typographical Assembly will be held on March 16th.

MEMBERS of Montreal Typographical Union complain of the levies made by the I.T.U.

SEVERAL members of Toronto Typographical Union have tried with some success the virtues of the Gold Cure.

The comps. of *The Mail* intend having a re-union in the form of a dinner about the middle of February.

CALEB BUCHANAN, of the Hamilton *Times* job department, and a brother of the city editor, died recently.

JOHN ARMSTRONG, well-known in union and labor circles, is a member of Technological School Board, Toronto.

ALTHOUGH the Montreal *Herald* office was opened to union compositors about a year ago, very few unionists are employed there.

RODNEY MOORE, one of the old-timers on the *Globe*, has been forced to retire since the introduction of type-setting machines there.

To sustain the strikers who left the office of the *Presbyterian*, Toronto, the union has levied a weekly tax of five per cent. on all wages earned by members over \$7.00 per week, the tax is at times paid grudgingly.

SAM COULTER, formerly of *The Mail* composing room, who has spent several months in the lower provinces, during which he made a reputation as a comic singer, is now in Boston, the troupe he was travelling having been forced to count railway ties.

AN excellent portrait of W. B. Prescott, president of the I.T.U., appeared in a recent issue of the *Weekly Journalist*, along with a brief sketch of his life, by J. P. Griffin, formerly a compositor in *The Mail*, Toronto. "Paddy" calls Prescott "The Boy President."

A RECENT English invention consists of an improved method of operating the inking rollers in printing machines. The inventors say that hitherto the inking rollers passed backwards and forwards over the form of type, and it not infrequently happened that they took off some portion of the ink in returning which they had put on in the forward motion. This invention aims at obviating this defect, and the inking of the form is so improved as to enable a much lighter impression to work with.

SOME curious statistics appear in a report recently presented to the Biological Society of France by Dr. Luys. The writer says he has investigated the ultimate result of 141 cases of pregnancy among women employed in printing establishments, and no less than

82 of these ended in miscarriages; there were four cases of premature birth, and five of still birth. Of the children born alive, 20 died in the first year, 8 in the second and 7 in the third year, one a little later, and only 14 are now living, but ten of which have passed the age of three years. Dr. Luys argues from these figures, sufficiently shocking in themselves, that the atmosphere and mode of life in a printing office is not suited to pregnant females.

## DOINGS OF THE PUBLISHERS

MONTREAL has ten dailies, six being published in French, and the remainder in English.

THOMAS A. GREGG is now proprietor of the the Toronto *Evening Star*. Hocken and Parr his former partners, having taken respectively the positions of advertising canvasser and foreman.

MONTREAL has a new society paper, called the *Metropolitan*, published by Chambers & Smith. The former was recently connected with the Montreal *Star*, and the latter the St. Johns, Que., *News*.

THE Livingston County (N.Y.) Press Association has decided to furnish to each member a list of subscribers who refuse to pay subscriptions. There was some opposition to this idea at first among the members, but when it was explained that it was simply for mutual protection, not for publication, and that those subscribers who were disposed to pay would not suffer, the justice of the resolution as directed against deadbeats was conceded and adopted by a unanimous vote.

HERE is a way to tell whether paper is machine or hand made; A roll or strip of paper about an inch wide should be placed gently in water, so that the upper surface is kept dry. In machine-made paper the two sides will unroll in the direction of the centre, but in hand-made paper the sides will unfold in the form of a plate. This indicates that the fibres in the hand-made paper are disposed as to length and breadth, while in machine-made paper they are chiefly extended in length.

THE *Weekly Journalist*, Boston, says: "The history of journalism teaches us that the most successful newspapers are managed by one man. Papers that are under the supervision of a managing board, composed of merchants who are ever on the alert to use the paper to further their own interests, will never prove a success from either a financial or literary standpoint. A newspaper can have but one master, and its success depends entirely upon the capability of its master. The proficient newspaper manager will inevitable surround himself with proficient employees. Not so with a managing board. There are too many friends to employ and too many irons to heat, to produce a good newspaper."