

MONTHLY REPORTS FROM TRADE CENTRES

MONTREAL.

Preparations for Tourist Trade—Popular Songs in Montreal—Personal Mention.

Office of BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER
237 McGill Street, Montreal.

June 4, 1907

Montreal bookstores report having had a very good month in nearly all lines. Trade generally seems to be improving. The tourist trade is occupying the attention of the booksellers at present and all preparations are duly under way. Some of the large St. Catherine Street stores are devoting large tables especially to the needs of the tourist. Guide books and views of Montreal and vicinity are selling well. Paper novels from 15c to 65c are also active.

Not many new books have appeared in Montreal during the month. Such few as have been offered, however, are selling well. Louis Joseph Vance's new book, "The Brass-Bowl," promises to be very popular. "At the Sign of the Beaver," by Samuel Mathewson Baylis, published by William Briggs, Toronto, is in high favor at present. "The Port of Missing Men," by Meredith Nicholson, published by McLeod & Allen, Toronto, and "The Chronicles of Rebecca," by Kate Douglas Wiggin, published by Briggs, continue to be very popular.

Picture post cards are in excellent demand. Canadian summer scenes are favorites at the present writing. Comic cards are also having a fair share of the trade.

In the stationery lines, Eaton Hurlbut's Hot Pressed Vellum and Whiting's French Chambray continue to be popular in the high class grades for society correspondence.

Wedding and visiting cards are having close attention at retail, as June is pre-eminently the month for weddings. The black, old English style is still to the fore.

The music business in Montreal during the last month has been very good both in departmental and exclusive music stores.

The Jerome H. Remick Co., of Detroit, have brought out a new ballad entitled "Dreaming." They claim that this song will be just as big a success as "Dearie." This same firm have also published "I'd Rather Two-Step than Waltz, Bill." This song at the present time is being sung by many such well known artists as Ethel Levey, Adele Ritchie, Clarice Vance and others. These two music pieces have recently been introduced into Montreal and up to the present writing they are in splendid request. The above mentioned firm have recently bought up the catalogue of Cooper, Kendis & Paley. This last mentioned concern brought out some big hits within the last two years. "Cheer up Mary," "A Friend of Mine Told a Friend of Mine," "Deutschland," and Vesta Victoria's song hits "Man, Man," and "Billy Green" are among the best. "Cheer up Mary," especially, took well in Montreal. "Experience," "Meet me at Twilight," and

"My Irish Rosie," used in Charles Frohman's production, "The Little Cherub," had phenomenal sales throughout the month of May. Many of the Montreal dealers were unable to supply the demand.

The Delmar Music Co., of Montreal, report good sales for Miss De Long's composition "G. E. M.," a march

and five-step. This piece has been arranged for orchestra by Mr. R. Gruenwald.

Charles K. Harris, the publisher and song writer, New York, has recently written a book entitled "How to Write a Popular Song." In our opinion no one is better able to write on such a subject than Mr. Harris. His first great song hit was "After the Ball," of which 1,500,000 have been sold up to the present. This was followed by many other successes and at present Mr. Harris is recognized the world over as being one of the greatest writers of popular songs.

In dance music the "Egyptian Waltzes," published by Whitmark's, New York, is having a steady sale.

Mr. F. E. Phelan, the St. Catherine Street bookseller, Montreal, recently returned from a two weeks' pleasure trip to Lake Charlebois.

Charles Frederick Duffy, formerly employed in the book store of Mr. A. T. Chapman, Montreal, has been arrested in New York on the charge of stealing \$3,000 from the Dominion Express Company's Agency, which Mr. Chapman conducted at his store.

Mr. E. Daoust, of C. O. Beauchemin & Fils, Montreal, has returned from a two months' trip to France. While abroad, Mr. Daoust laid before a literary society at Paris plans for the extension of French literature in Canada. He has received the support of a leading French publishing house.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Watson, Foster Company, Limited, Montreal, was held on Tuesday, the 4th instant, and the following directors were elected for the coming year: Hugh Watson, S. S. Boxer, W. B. Foster, J. H. Gallagher and W. A. Sutherland. At a subsequent meeting the following officers were chosen: Hugh Watson, president; S. S. Boxer, vice-president and manager, and W. A. Sutherland, sec-treasurer.

TORONTO.

Business Dull—Some Store News—Magazine Sales—in Wholesale Circles.

Office of BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER.

10 Front Street East, Toronto.

June 10, 1907

Business in Toronto has been somewhat dull lately owing to the disagreeable weather. This has been felt more by the down-town stores, mostly because people do not care to travel far in unpleasant weather. A certain amount of benefit under these conditions accrues to suburban stores.

Post cards are going as lively as ever, but some retailers claim that prices are being cut too much. Some stores are selling pretty good cards, which should go at 2 for 5 cents, for 4 for 5 cents. In the main, however, the trade remains fairly steady at good prices.

H. C. Rymal, Yonge Street, has a very tasty little store. He does an almost exclusively stationery trade, carrying but few magazines, and no books at all. The store has only been open since October last, when it got into the field in time to participate in the Christmas rush. The outlook for the store is very encouraging. The window is tastefully dressed—not overdressed—with high class boxed papeteries and tablets, and engraved wedding stationery and visiting cards. A few post cards frame the sides of the window, and more post cards form an attractive curtain for the top half of the window.

Sutherland, who was compelled to move from his old Yonge Street store a short time ago, to make room for a new building, is now firmly established again. His store is a little further up Yonge Street, on