

five or six evening papers. The remuneration is not so great as his ability would perhaps justify for his labor, but by getting five or six papers, he is able to make a fairly good income and do good service for the paper. I think the work he does is more than commensurate with the salary he is paid. I do not think it is necessary for me to say more, except as so far as the personality of the man is concerned. A man who represents an outside paper, and it is a very decided advantage not only for the paper but for the man himself, is thrown into a class of work that improves his usefulness, in every way, as an all round man; he gets into habits of looking at things in a different way from merely reporting a few incidents that occur in a city. He has to take a broader view, and to look at the effect which it may have in the country by the way he spreads his news and information. (Hear, hear.) I think the Ottawa correspondents in the past have done yeomen service in this respect, most notably in the last general election. It was very largely turned by the manner in which the political matters had been handled for several years before that by the Ottawa correspondents. I know there is a certain amount of exaggeration in the reports; it is not safe to swear to all of them (laughter), but still there is an honest intention to give the news and to give it in a readable and attractive manner, which naturally leads to a little picturesque writing perhaps. (Applause.) Both the daily and the weekly papers gain a decided advantage by having an accredited representative at Ottawa who tries to assist his paper by sending the best news. After all, the business of a newspaper is to collect news and sell it, giving, of course, the best article it can obtain, and I believe we are trying to do our work as fairly, honestly and truthfully as circumstances will admit." (Applause.)

#### Foreign Affairs and the Daily Press.

In the absence of Mr. John Lewis, Toronto Globe, his paper on "The Daily Press and Foreign Affairs" was, at the request of the president, read by Mr. A. H. U. Coiquhoun, as follows.

When war between two nations seems to be imminent, or their relations become strained, a large part of the cabled or telegraphed news consists of newspaper comment. Is the importance of this comment exaggerated? It was once remarked that you ought not to pay too much heed to a newspaper article, it was only the work of one man—or boy. There is some truth, as well as humor, in this, and yet much is to be said for the soundness of the news instinct which attaches so much importance to newspaper comment on international topics. Either the article is inspired by a Government, in which case its significance is obvious, or it represents an attempt more or less successful to influence public opinion, in which case its importance will be gauged by the measure of success, or, it is intended to reflect public opinion, to please the reader, or to sell more papers, in which case, while the motive may not be admirable, its value as an indicator of public opinion is undoubted, and it ought to be scanned with as much care as the weather probabilities. It would seem, therefore, that newspapers may play an important part in the maintenance or surrender of national rights, in the lowering or upholding of national dignity, in maintaining peace or provoking war. To cite one instance. There can be little doubt that a firm, patriotic and well-informed newspaper press would have saved France from the disaster of the war with Prussia. It is no longer generally true, if it ever was true, that wars are made only by kings, aristocracies and military chiefs for their own selfish ends. That the warlike spirit declines with the growth of democracy is certainly not supported by the experience of the most notable example of democratic institutions in the world, the

republic to the south of us. We may attribute the jingoism which is occasionally displayed there to firebrands in Congress or in the press, but the firebrand would cease to be dangerous if a store of inflammable material were not at hand. The spark would be harmless without the gunpowder. Newspaper utterances of a warlike or insulting kind affect not only the community which supports the newspaper, but the community which is threatened. "Every nation," says Bismarck, "must sooner or later pay for the windows its press has smashed."

Where the power of peace or war resides in the people instead of in courts, and where a free press exists, the press exercises functions which are essentially diplomatic, diplomacy being defined as the art of conducting the intercourse and adjusting the mutual relations of nations. We know that under the old order of things diplomacy became a fine art, that in fact it became too refined, and passed through that thin partition which separates the sublime from the ridiculous. We recollect Macaulay's amusing account of the negotiations of the European powers at Ryswick: "Several meetings were spent in settling how many carriages, how many horses, how many lackeys, how many pages, each member should be allowed to bring to Ryswick, whether the serving men should carry canes, whether they should wear swords, whether they should have pistols in their holsters, who should take the upper hand in the public walks, and whose carriage should break the way in the streets. There were prolonged quarrels as to who should sit at the head of the table, as to whether the representative of the elector of Brandenburg should be called 'Excellency,' as to whether the Imperial ambassadors should have a room to themselves and a special place for their carriages. The chief business of Hailey and Kaunitz was to watch each other's legs. Neither of them thought it consistent with the dignity of the crown which he served to advance toward the other faster than the other advanced toward him. If, therefore, one of them perceived that he had inadvertently stepped forward too quick he went back to the door and the stately minuet began again. In the middle of April it was known to everybody at the Hague that Charles XI., King of Sweden, was dead; but etiquette compelled everybody to regard him as alive until, on June 12, Litenroth came to Ryswick in a carriage lined with black, and attended by servants in black liveries, and made the formal announcement, whereupon the assembly, now formally plunged in grief, adjourned and went into mourning."

I do not regard this instance as a solemn warning to journalists in discharging the duties of the new diplomacy. Whatever faults we may fall into, we are not likely to err on the side of formality, or excessive or fantastic displays of courtesy or dignity in dealing with international questions. But the excesses and absurdities of a system may sometimes throw light upon its guiding principles, and the scruples and punctilios of the diplomats at Ryswick may be regarded as illustrating, in a fantastic way, a sense of the extreme delicacy of international intercourse, and the necessity that each representative felt of maintaining the rights and dignity of his own country without giving any avoidable cause of offence to another. These prime essentials of diplomacy will always remain, no matter how the form may change, and they are as binding upon The Arizona Kicker as upon the British Ambassador at Paris or Lord Salisbury at the Guildhall. In a community where personal quarrels are settled by the sword, a punctilious code of honor and courtesy usually prevails, excesses of speech being curbed by the prospect of pistols and coffee for two at seven in the morning. We are accustomed to congratulate ourselves on the advance of civilization shown by the abolition of duelling, but unfortunately our civilization has not carried us so far as the abolition of insulting speech. We have still something to learn from the old days. If a regard for one's life had a tendency to check the unmannerly tongue, it is necessary to be still more careful, not to utter the insulting word