

**THE SENATE AND THE PRESS.**

**B**EFORE Parliament adjourned Hon. David Mills, the Government leader in the Senate, invited the press gallery to dine with him at the Russell House. Sir Mackenzie Bowell was present, as were also Mr. Martin J. Griffin, Parliamentary Librarian, and Senator Power. The Globe correspondent sent a short report of the affair. Mr. Mills alluded to the power of the press in public affairs, and acknowledged the growing sense of responsibility among writers of the press. Speaking of the Senate, he said he had never advocated its abolition, but he had moved for its reform. In his opinion no country could get along without a second chamber, and the experiment of Provinces like Ontario and Manitoba, with a single chamber, would, he predicted, ultimately prove a failure. He thought that in times of public excitement, and, perhaps, on other occasions, a single chamber might act in a way to do serious mischief to the country, and, as a general rule, it was a beneficial check on legislation to know that your action had to pass under the review of another body. Sir Mackenzie Bowell made an entertaining speech, in which he said it was 64 years since he had first entered a printing office. He related a conversation he had with Sir Oliver Mowat, when he reminded that gentleman of a pledge he had given to reform the Senate, and Sir Oliver Mowat had replied that he was reforming it as rapidly as possible by appointing to it such good men as Mr. Mills. He reciprocated an expression of personal regard made by Mr. Mills with reference to himself.

It appears that Mr. Cote, the popular president of the press gallery, voiced the views of his colleagues by suggesting that the press be admitted to the meetings of the divorce committee. Both the Senate leaders declined to give any pledge on this point. The most interesting proceedings of the Senate, therefore, will remain unreported.

**ONE OF THE LEAKS THE PRINTER SHOULD STOP.**

A little material thrown to waste every day amounts to a great deal in the course of a year. We are inclined, says Newspaperdom, to believe this to be one reason why so many printing offices are unprofitable, and, consequently, barely manage to cling to an almost lifeless existence. A few sheets of paper left now and then to get soiled and crumpled, and finally thrown into the waste box, seem but a trifle, but if all these little items were to be kept and the cost of each carried out, the aggregate would be most surprisingly large to one who has never considered the matter. Look out for the small things in the office and you will be amply paid for your trouble.

**POINTED REMARKS ON FOREIGN ADVERTISING.**

The country paper that wastes time and postage on the foreign advertiser is just time and postage out, unless it gets the ad. it is after, and then it is likely to be out a lot of space as well. If foreign advertising comes from a reputable concern, says The Ohio Newspaper Maker, and the bill for it is finally paid (after wrong insertions and omissions have been made up at the end of the contract), the advertiser will find that he has paid more for the advertising than it was worth to him. If the advertising comes from one of the many hundreds of irresponsible advertisers that are springing up all the time, the bill will never be paid, and the publisher will waste a lot of valuable time in trying to collect an uncollectible bill. If he would let

the foreign advertising business severely alone, unless it is thrust upon him at his regular rates, he will be money ahead, and about two-thirds of his worries would be over.

The local paper that sticks to its local field will make at least 50 per cent. more money, with 25 per cent. less work, than it will if it spends time and money in going after the foreign advertiser. There are only 24 hours in a day, even in country towns, and if the publisher sits around the office writing letters to foreign advertisers, some local advertiser is sure to be neglected, and it is the local advertiser who really pays the freight.

**SOUND VIEWS ON ANONYMOUS LETTERS.**

London Advertiser.

We are quite sure that if the writer of the average anonymous letter were asked the reason why he was anxious to conceal his identity, and were to reply with candor, he would say that he wished the onus of making the attack to fall on the newspaper that gave it publicity, and not on himself; and if he were asked to sign the missive, he would withdraw it with a suddenness truly instructive; or, if a signature were insisted on, he would so amend it as to strip it of much of the venom, with which it is usually saturated. A knowledge of the facts set forth has convinced us of the generally indefensible nature of the average anonymous letter, and of the necessity of guarding the public against putting faith in such communications. We find that the interest of the public is promoted rather than retarded by our refusal to print any of these rib-stabbing attacks.

**SYSTEM AND RESULTS.**

In no place on earth is order and system provocative of greater results than in a newspaper office, or printing establishment of any kind, says The Iowa Editor. Work systematized saves time, and in these days of close margins time saved is money made. Never try to do two things at the same moment; but order your business so that every branch shall have due attention to its regular sequence. The day you give to an advertising canvass devote solely to that; visit not only prospective, but old and regular patrons. Have something new in the line to show them, and for Heaven's sake or the sake of your success, don't croak about hard times, or use that as an argument in your attempt to secure an ad. Be good-natured, cheerful and businesslike, establish your rates and stick to them; and, if your paper is a good medium, advertisers will place contracts with you much sooner than if you cheapened your space by reducing rates. Have your ads. set neatly, and avoid the use of a half-dozen different kinds of type and two or three different borders in the same, and remember that an ad. should not be a printer's sample card of stock, but a clear bid to the public for your patron's benefit.

**RETORTED ON THE FOE.**

Can you see the point? The editor of a paper not many miles from Picton recently published the following: "The publisher of this paper is soon to buy a shirt. Strange as it may seem, we are determined to do so, and with this end in view we wish the dealers would submit sealed bids so that the job may be given to the lowest bidder. Quality or style don't count. Any old thing will do; send in your bids." No reason why he shouldn't. He is likely compelled to tender for every little job of work he gets.—Picton Times.