

and retain friends and enjoy a prosperous patronage. If the editor has no taste for local work, he should employ an energetic reporter, who possesses a good nose for news. The writer of local news should have good discriminative powers. He should be careful about using his pencil to wound the feelings of his readers. He should have the faculty of readily distinguishing between proper and improper news for publication, eliminating from the columns of the paper everything of an unclean or demoralizing character. The paper should be typographically, as well as morally, clean. There is no excuse for sending out a paper full of errors or one that is poorly printed. The local department should include a goodly amount of country correspondence. Every community in which the paper circulates should be represented as often as possible in the columns of the home paper. If this plan is followed systematically, the paper is bound to gain in popularity, and the growth of its field of usefulness will be highly gratifying to the publisher. We have heard editors try to discredit the custom of printing personals. We have always contended, and our experience bears us out in our contention, that the more personals a paper contains the greater will be its popularity. Show us a live newspaper—one that is brim full of bright, local news—and we will show you an editor who is prospering to such an extent that he meets his obligations promptly and eats three square meals a day.

Many a Kansas town largely owes its growth and commercial enterprise to an aggressive, wide-awake local newspaper. And many a town is slow and sleepy, and seldom heard of, because its newspaper displays no enterprise and persists in being an antiquated number. A live local paper brings results every time. If not at first, it will eventually, if the editor will keep everlastingly pounding away in the right direction. And while the whole community is forging ahead, through the instrumentality of an enterprising newspaper, the editor is also enjoying some of the fruits of the industrial prosperity which he has been so important a factor in creating.

In conclusion, let us advise our editorial brethren to crowd their papers with interesting home news, and your constituents will rise up and call you blessed.

DUTIES AND QUALITIES OF A FOREMAN.

TO a newspaper, says The Brooklyn Eagle, the foreman of the composing-room is second only in importance to its managing-director or to the editor-in-chief. He is incidentally a very large employer. It devolves upon him to hold in equal regard the rights of the newspaper and the rights of his employes, who are also his associates, and this is no easy task, for it involves the exercise of patience, judgment and justice in a very large degree. Of course, he must be a master in all the departments of which he has control—a capital printer, a man who understands thoroughly the “make-up,” and who, by long experience, has learned how to correct the errors of copy and of type that are constantly occurring.

In addition, he must know the relative value of topics, and of news, and must be able, at short notice, to decide questions of vast importance to the establishment he serves. It is in this latter respect that his value is chiefly put to the test, for newspapers are not snails, and have to be sent to press with the regularity of the clock. A large number of questions which, in war, would be called strategic, and in Government would be

executive or diplomatic, according to circumstances, have to be decided by the foreman, and decided, not in hours or minutes, but frequently off hand, “on the jump,” if the expression be admissible.

No modern journal would think of employing a foreman who did not combine all of these qualities, and combine them in an unusual degree. The longer the period of service, the more intimately acquainted with the customs and methods of the institution which employs him, the more valuable, of course, is the man and the greater the confidence imposed in him. It is not his good or bad fortune to be at the front in the sense that reporters, correspondents, and editors are, but superior to the service of most of those in the so-called “intellectual department” of a newspaper is that of the head man in the composing room.

CANADIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING IN TORONTO.

A MEETING of the executive committee of the Canadian Press Association was held in the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, September 2, there being present: President Holmes, L. J. Tarte, A. G. F. Macdonald, C. A. Matthews, J. T. Clarke, D. McGillicuddy, W. Ireland and J. A. Cooper.

The president made a verbal report, showing the efforts that had been made to hold an annual excursion in 1898, and the fact that only about half a dozen members had been willing to take the proposed steamer trip from Owen Sound to Duluth.

Mr. Matthews moved, seconded by Mr. McGillicuddy, that a committee be appointed to prepare a scheme for an 1899 annual excursion, to be submitted at the annual meeting, and that the committee consist of Messrs. Macdonald, Tarte, Ross and Ireland.

The following new members were elected:

Charles J. Howell, Intelligencer, Belleville.

John J. Clarke, Watchman, Trenton.

J. H. Meir, Star, Sault Ste Marie.

Evangeline Booth, War Cry, Toronto.

The question of an agitation re postage was discussed, and the executive decided that, on account of the resolution passed at the Ottawa meeting of the association, it could take no action whatever.

Mr. Ireland moved, and Mr. McGillicuddy seconded, that the next annual meeting be held in Toronto about the usual time, the exact date to be fixed by the president. As to the programme of the annual meeting, it was decided to hold a banquet and attempt to secure the presence of one of the following gentlemen: Mr. Watterson, of Louisville, Mr. Whitelaw Reid, of New York, Mr. Godkin, of New York, or Mr. Box, of Philadelphia. The following are to be invited to speak: Henry Bourassa, of Montreal, and A. F. Pirie, of Dundas.

The subjects to be discussed at the meeting were considered. Papers on War Correspondence, Advertising and Press Work in Daily Offices were arranged for. Open conferences were agreed upon to deal with the following questions: Collecting Subscriptions, Press Work in Weekly Offices, Tender Work for Municipal Printing.