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## TOPICS OF THE MONTH.

**T**HE two big Toronto dailies, The Globe and Mail, have had a good year's business. Both have earned dividends. The companies may, however, devote the surplus to improving their properties rather than to paying the dividends.

Mr. Cooper, secretary of the Canadian Press Association, has sent out notices to members that the railway privilege certificates for 1896 are ready, and will be issued on payment of the annual fee.

The Canadian Magazine scores a good point in securing a Canadian artist of merit to draw for the magazine during 1896. Mr. A. H. H. Heming, of Hamilton, is one of the Harpers' illustrators, and is capable of doing excellent work.

Since last month a change of management has taken place in The Montreal Herald office. When Messrs. McLean and Roger went from Ottawa to assume the direction of affairs they contributed their services for fixed salaries, and had the option of taking stock in the company after a time. This period having recently expired, Messrs. McLean and Roger decided to retire, which they did. The Board of Directors met and asked one of their number, Mr. Edward G. O'Connor, formerly secretary-treasurer of the company, to manage the paper. Mr. John McLean resigned from the staff, and Mr. Garvin was appointed chief editor. Mr. Duncan McLean is assisting Mr. Garvin, and Mr. Allan succeeds Mr. Dean at the advertising. There have

been rumors that some Ontario newspaper men may take an interest in The Herald, and the name of Mr. Andrew Pattullo, of The Woodstock Sentinel-Review, has been mentioned in this connection. But there is nothing definite to report.

Mr. M. O. Scott, of The Ottawa Journal, is severing his connection with that paper January 1, to set up for himself as a Parliamentary, news and political correspondent at the Capital. Mr. Scott will furnish Parliamentary letters to the weekly press, and any paper not now represented at Ottawa will find in him an accurate, trustworthy correspondent. He has a good news connection, and PRINTER AND PUBLISHER wishes him well.

Mr. Lawton, who lately took hold of The Paris Review, is indulging in bright editorial paragraphs. Years ago his writing in The Beeton World made the paper famous.

The Republic-Times, of Springfield, Ohio, allowed the public school pupils to get out a Thanksgiving edition. This is something similar to the women's editions we have been having in Canada. Except as an object lesson to the reading community, showing how much better professional newspaper men can do the business themselves, the purpose of these editions is not visible to the naked eye.

Montreal newspaperdom has been surprised this month by the sudden severance of Mr. Watson Griffin's connection with The Star. It was due to a disagreement with the management. Mr. Griffin went from The Toronto News to Montreal about 1883, and after filling several positions in The Star office with acceptance was made editor of the weekly in 1887, a position he has since held with much success. Mr. Watson Griffin is one of the most capable and industrious writers on the Canadian press. His novel "Twok," and numerous magazine articles are the product of his leisure. His post in The Star office is being filled temporarily by Mr. Daseo, the assistant to Mr. Hugh Graham, the managing proprietor, but it is understood that this is not a permanent arrangement, and that a successor to Mr. Griffin has been chosen, who will, after an interval, assume the duties.

Mr. F. A. Passmore, the present city editor of The Toronto World, has had a rather varied life. Born in Victoria, B.C., in 1863, he was educated in California, finishing at Trinity