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TOPICS OF THE MONTH.

WHEN The Toronto Mail absorbed The Empire the business company which published the latter paper was left as a separate concern to close up its affairs and pay its own debts. This process may now be said to be accomplished. The principal asset of The Empire Company left unsold was the second Hoe press, the other having gone to The Globe. This second press has just been disposed of to Millar & Richard by private sale. This practically disposes of the outstanding assets. The motion made at Osgoode Hall some time ago to wind up The Empire concern was not put into force, as the process asked for has been practically going on during the past six months.

The manager of this year's Provincial Exhibition at St. John, N.B., paid a well-deserved compliment to the press in his letter to Mr. Scott, editor of The Sun, recorded elsewhere. The papers in all exhibition cities are an immense factor in the success of these enterprises. But the promoters are not always so frank in acknowledging it as in this case.

Newspapers desiring to increase their circulation are respectfully referred to the Arctic regions. The field is practically unlimited and competitors are few. The Eskimo Bulletin, edited by English missionaries, is published at an Eskimo village near Cape Prince of Wales on Behring Strait, but it only appears once a year. Its principal contemporary is The Almagadlinitit

Nalinginarwick Tusaruminasassumik, published since 1861 at Gadthaab, Greenland, from the most northerly printing office in the world.

Mr. C. W. Bunting, managing director of The Mail, whose health has been gradually restored since his severe illness of last month, left last week for Asheville, N.C., where he will remain for some time.

George H. Ham, late managing editor of The Nor'Wester, of Winnipeg, who is now doing special work for the Canadian Pacific Railway, talks of organizing a newspaper excursion through to the Coast during the harvest season next year. As the party will be the guests of the railway, only working journalists will be invited. Men from the business, advertising, mechanical and other departments will not receive invitations. George has great faith in the future of that grand country, and he feels, and rightly too, that the editors and reporters should have a personal knowledge of its magnificent resources. It is not what they may write of the trip and what they saw on it; but what they may be able to do in future when opportunity offers, that he considers will be most valuable to the railway and country. On previous excursions, representatives from the leading papers were asked to accompany them, but in nearly every instance the invitation was snapped up by someone in the business department who had no opportunity of writing anything beyond an account of the trip. Some years ago, when the Montreal City Council were taken over the Soo line to Minneapolis and back by Winnipeg and the C.P.R., the aldermen themselves asked to have the City Hall reporters detailed to do the trip. Instead, however, in several instances clerks from the business office or members of the advertising staff who had more intimate relations with the proprietors were allowed to go.

A newspaper man, whose son has lately gone to a village beside the railway, writes to PRINTER AND PUBLISHER: "It is, no doubt, a very dismal place, but he enjoys it, and has a gun and a track bicycle with which he goes hunting. If he does not catch a train coming the other way, all will be well. If he does, all will be over!"

One or two features of the new offices of The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin are worth noting. The first floor contains the business and publication offices, circulation, advertising, etc., being close together. On the second floor the editorial rooms, the news room and the stereotyping are so arranged that from