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THE WEEKLY PRESS.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE C. P. ASSOCIATION.

R. ROBERT HOLMES, editor and publisher of The Clinton New Era, who was unanimously elected at Ottawa, in March, to the presidency of the Canadian Press Association, is a good representative of the weekly press of Canada. Mr. Holmes is one of the pioneers in the movement to make the local paper a thorough newspaper, giving all the news of the town and district, and presenting it in clean paragraphs. His career as a publisher and journalist has been associated with The New Era, and he and his paper are real factors in the life of the locality. For several years he has been mayor of Clinton, and his name is now mentioned as the possible Liberal candidate in West Huron for the House of Commons, should Mr. M. C. Cameron, M.P., retire from the representation, as it is expected he will do. Under Mr. Holmes' presidency the Canadian Press Association should flourish, since he is an acceptable spokesman for the country press, while the other members of the executive for 1898 represent various other powerful interests. No doubt Mr. Holmes will carefully consider the position of the weekly publishers in the association, and determine how they can best promote its usefulness to them. Mr. Holmes, as an individual, is deservedly respected and popular, and PRINTER AND PUBLISHER sincerely congratulates him on his election and also on the fact that the executive consists of such able and representative men. The new members, Mr. Tarte, of La Patrie, and Mr. Matthews, of The Globe, are welcome additions to the

executive. Mr. Tarte is an influential representative of Quebec journalism, and will be a valuable ally in promoting the new interprovincial character of the association. Mr. Matthews is a well-known and capable member of the city press, has close affiliations with journalistic work of many years' standing, and is highly thought of by all who know him.

THE WEEKLY PUBLISHERS' SECTION.

The idea entertained in some quarters that the weekly publishers should, in organizing a section of their own, withdraw altogether from the association, strikes one as a most impracticable and silly suggestion. In order that the special claims of the press may be heard and advocated, consolidation, not disorganization, should be the rule. If the various members of the association were to be sorted out according to the dates and frequency of their publications, their political opinions, their ancestral origins, or their religious creeds, we could soon have a great crop of press associations, each claiming to be the real representative body. The interests uniting them not being sufficiently broad, such bodies would necessarily expire of inanition. Local associations which can meet frequently and have special local interests are a natural growth; sections within the Canadian association, having papers, discussions and subjects of their own to consider are also a reasonable product of present conditions. A general break-up of the association is not possible now and would be a bad thing if it could be effected.

JOURNALISTIC LEGISLATORS.

The Ontario Liberals were very fortunate, during the recent elections, in securing the return of so many able newspaper men to the new House. Messrs. McLean, of Huron, and Pirie, of Wentworth, were, it is true, defeated (as indeed was Mr. Evans, Conservative, of The Mail, in the other Wentworth), but the following emerged triumphant from the fight: Messrs. Pattullo, Stratton, Pettypiece, Russell, Auld, Craig and Graham. Next session could be made a regular bargain day in libel law amendments, as the Government's majority is small, and men of light and learning must now be listened to respectfully by the politicians on both sides.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

If postage would inspire publishers to make an increase in subscription rates the harvest of Mr. Mulock's new proposition would not be wholly discontent and pecuniary loss. It requires