

JOURNALISTIC PROMOTIONS

THE appointment of John A. Ewan to succeed Edward Farrar, as chief editorial writer of the *Globe*, is a promotion which the younger members of the journalistic profession were all pleased with. There have been too many appointments to the editorial positions on the daily papers from among men who had previously little or no newspaper experience. The best editors on the press in the States and Canada are those who have worked their way up either from the case or from the reporter's desk. Several of these are University graduates. Arthur Wallis, chief editor of the *Mail*, and one of the best posted editorial writers in Canada, began at the case, so did John R. Robinson of the *Telegram*, and Mr. Smith of the *News*, and Joe Clark of *Saturday Night*. Urquhart Colquhoun, of the *Empire* is a graduate of a Montreal reporter's desk, as well as of McGill University. As the chief editor's chair is the highest salaried position on the daily press, it should be the aim of all reporters to qualify themselves for that position. THE PRINTER AND PUBLISHER believes the time will soon come when there will be fewer editorial writers, and that reporters at \$50 per week and upwards will be more numerous. This is not the first occasion on which Mr. Ewan came into prominence in connection with the *Globe*. It was he who caught Bennett, the assassin of the late Hon. George Brown, seizing his arm and preventing him firing further shots.

TYPE-SETTING MACHINES

FOR some time these machines have been in use in the three large newspaper offices in Toronto, and the work done by them is being carefully recorded and expenses noted, in order to furnish information as to their success or non-success. Considering everything it must be acknowledged that the machines are giving prospects of good work in the future, although everything is not satisfactory at present. In the first place the men are mostly learners, and it cannot be accurately foretold what they may accomplish when they become adepts at working the key-board. There are two kinds of machine in use, namely, the Rogers Typograph, and Mergenthaler Linotype. At present there are ten Rogers machines in use in the city, distributed as follows: *Globe*, three; *Mail*, three; *Empire*, three; and the J. B. McLean Co., one. The *Globe* office has also six linotypes in constant use, but statistics concerning their work are not forthcoming at present; they are in course of preparation and will be presented in the next issue.

It is the purpose of this paper to give the experience as far as can be done of the firms using type-setting machines.

The machines in the *Mail* office have not had a

fair test as yet, on account of changes among the men. The *Mail* people say that they are not attempting to test them, but are rather awaiting developments and teaching their men.

In the *Empire* office, three workers are employed, one being an expert, and for the week ending July 30th, the results were as follows:

Dixon.....	46 hours.....	set 102,100 ems
Seymour	45 hours.....	set 66,500 ems
Harper.	45 hours.....	set 79,800 ems

Total.....248,400

Average per man..... 82,800

For the same week the results in the *Globe* office on the two Rogers machines with one learner and one expert were:

Duncan	50 hours.....	set 106,700 ems
Kennedy.....	42 hours.....	set 78,800 ems

Total.....182,500

Average per man.....92,700

The machine in the J. B. McLean Co.'s office in that week was operated by a learner in his third week of practice, and 51,000 ems were set.

The wages of these men run from \$11 to \$14 per week, working seven or eight hours per day.

Supposing a man to set 80,000 ems per week, and to get \$14 for wages; then, if it was a Rogers machine the other expenses are rent, \$7; gas, fuel, power and rags, \$1.20, making a total expense of \$22.20, which is 27½c. per 1,000 ems, instead of 33½c. per 1,000. If the wages were \$11, the cost would be 24c. per 1,000. Again, it will be seen by reference to the foregoing figures, many of the men set over 100,000 ems per week, while our computation of cost has been based on a week of 80,000. It must be carefully borne in mind that these figures are given only to indicate as nearly as possible the work of the machines. They are given as a sort of rough compass to guide the conduct of employing printers throughout the Dominion. If these machines are going to come into general use, then the newspaper proprietor who is contemplating a new dress of type for his paper, had better await developments. No doubt a few months more will throw considerable light on the actual benefits and disadvantages of the machines, and the readers of PRINTER AND PUBLISHER will be furnished with all the information as soon as it is available.

ST. PETER—Who are you?

Shade—When in the flesh I was the editor of a religious weekly.

St. Peter—And you are not ashamed to confess it! Well, well! You may enter on account of your humility.—*Town Topics*.