

parently, been stealing for some time, as 30 of Mr. Britnell's books were found in his house. They included works by the great poets and novelists of the English language, and were chosen regardless of expense. It seems that they were picked from a collection which is allowed to stand outside the store during the day. The offender, previously of good repute, was sent to jail.

The Copyright Question. The question of Canadian copyright in books will probably be again up for agitation soon. The Imperial Copyright Bill, which will probably pass next session in the British Parliament, can, without great difficulty, be so framed as to have a favorable effect on our situation here. With this object in view, doubtless, Mr. G. Herbert Thring, Secretary of the British Society of Authors, has arrived in this country, and will spend some time here. Mr. Thring's mission to Canada is a very important one. He comes as the delegate of the British Society of Authors, to get into touch with Canadian publishing interests, for the advancement of copyright legislation on the part of the Canadian Government. There are certain disadvantages connected with the purchase of Canadian rights to publish by Canadian firms, under the present Imperial Act, which Mr. Thring hopes to be of assistance in removing, to the ultimate benefit of the author, whether he be English or Canadian, and the benefit of those trades connected with books.

The Envelope Industry in Canada. In quoting an article from a contemporary in these columns last month, dealing with the stationery trade in Toronto during the past 30 years, we did not notice that it omitted from the list one of the most important manufacturing stationery firms in Canada. The firm in question is The Barber & Lillis Co., Limited, which was founded 23 years ago last June, when the firm took over the business of Dredge & Co. It was turned into a limited liability company about 15 years ago, the principal stockholders being Mr. John R. Barber, of Georgetown, the well known paper manufacturer, and Mr. John F. Ellis, of Toronto. Mr. Ellis is now the treasurer and head of the business in Toronto, a post for which

his shrewd abilities and experience so well qualify him, while Mr. Barber is the president. At the time of its foundation, they were blank book manufacturers, envelope manufacturers, wholesale stationers and paper dealers, and, having decided to develop the envelope branch of their business, they sold out their bookbindery and general stationery, and are now exclusively engaged in manufacturing envelopes, paper-teries, paper boxes, and dealing in fine papers. They are the largest envelope manufacturers in Canada; in fact, they claim to make more than all the rest put together, and their output is over 100,000,000 per year. When one considers that other establishments are manufacturing envelopes on an extensive scale as well, the magnitude of the envelope industry in this country will be realized.

Discounts to Consumers. The English practice of allowing a discount of two-pence in the shilling on books sold retail is one which publishers seek in vain to root out. Some publishers have marked some of their books "net" hoping that the bookseller will exact the retail price marked on the book. As a rule the trade discount is smaller in these cases. But the booksellers cannot always get the face value of the book: their customers have been led by long experience to expect a discount and only a very stiff-backed dealer can hold firm. Competition there, as here, is a great factor and no dealers can afford to lose trade. In France some publishers have adopted the net price system, but we learn from a French trade journal interested in the book trade that the retail discount lingers as before. Our French contemporary admires the stand taken by the English publishers who lately met in conference in London. It says: "To begin with, they attacked the excessive discount allowed to private persons, most often without either rhyme or reason. Sixty English publishers—certainly not the less important—have just addressed to the booksellers of their country a circular which ought to make a sensation. It will be seen that these publishers show themselves still more absolute than their German colleagues, because they do not permit the booksellers to allow the least discount on net books to teachers,

libraries, or companies. If they succeed—which is very likely considering their close union and tenacity—they will have done much to restore prosperity to the retail trade, employing the only means capable of constraining booksellers to make larger profits, more commensurate with the efforts they display and the weighty general expenses which usually burden them."

Now, in Canada we have no retail discount as a regular thing, but the excessive injurious cutting of prices adopted by the departmental stores has driven many dealers to bring their prices down so as to keep their customers. What makes the policy of the departmental stores all the more aggravating and indefensible is that they cut on new books which are in demand and would sell anyway. By dealing in nails, sugar, calico and chairs they manage to get a crowd to their stores and then sell books at prices on which—if they were real book-dealers—they could not exist, since there is an insufficient margin of profit.

THE NEW MAP OF CANADA.

The second edition of the new map of Canada first issued some months ago by the Copp, Clark Co. has appeared. The first edition being entirely exhausted, the publishers in preparing a new edition have been enabled to make some valuable additions to the special features which distinguish this map from others and enhance its educational and commercial value. On the new map, for instance, the position of Newfoundland has been entirely re-drawn. This was done owing to official information that the island in all maps is usually placed out of its accurate longitude and latitude. The principal stations on the Newfoundland Railway have been put in. Another error almost invariably made by the average map is not found in this one, the districts in Western Ontario are made to show Thunder Bay and Algoma correctly, with the dividing line, as it should be, on the line 85°.

The colorings on the new map are richer and more pleasing to the eye. The railway points in the West are red-lettered, and British Columbia is divided into its political divisions. The coal fields and gold and silver are marked as before. The areas of the Province are printed in red, and so are the areas of the large lakes. The latter feature brings out a fact not generally known that Lakes Winnipeg and Great Bear are larger than Lake Ontario. The new map has many attractions for business, school, and domestic uses.