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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Volume 33, No. 47, of *The Weekly Record*, published at Windsor, Ont., by McNee & McKay, contains twelve large pages of seven columns each. This is an exceedingly large weekly, and demonstrates the ability of its publishers. The local and district news is ample, and the editorials able and numerous. Typographically, the paper presents a neat appearance.

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The *Winnipeg Free Press*, hitherto independent, has supported the Liberal candidate in Winnipeg for the vacant seat in the House of Commons. This has created a deal of discussion everywhere, as many think it implies a change of attitude on behalf of the C.P.R. But President Van Horne asserts that he owns but \$16,800 stock in it and is responsible for less than \$35,000 stock out of \$175,000. All that can be safely said is that a change has come—its extent will be seen later.

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The late Sir John Abbott was representative of the Inkerman division of the Dominion Senate, and it is likely that J. C. Wilson, the paper manufacturer and ex-M.P. for Argenteuil, will be his successor. The town of Lachute is in this district, and in this town are situated Mr. Wilson's paper and pulp mills. At present extensive additions are being made to these mills, showing that Mr. Wilson is a progressive manufacturer; and in the Senate he could be expected to be a progressive legislator. Canada's Parliament should have as many practical men of business as possible, and when business men manage the affairs of the State, the P.O. deficit may vanish, and the other administrative expenses may be lessened. Democracy will never be successful until she induces hard headed men of business to come to the front of her legislative bodies. But this will never be while "self" predominates over "the general good," and while the pursuit of wealth is man's primary object.

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Somebody has accused the Hamilton printers of combining & keep up prices. Surely this is not so. To expect that printers would arrive at such a sense of their duty towards themselves and towards their brother craftsmen that they would actually refuse to cut special work down to starvation rates, is almost incredible. And yet here is the *Hamilton Herald's* report of part of the proceedings of the Finance Committee of the City Council at a recent meeting:—"Tenders were opened for printing the voters' list, as follows: Griffin & Kidner, 69½ cents an inch; extra for cover, \$4.50. Times Printing Company, 72 cents an inch; extra for cover, \$4.75. Spectator Printing Com-

pany 71 cents an inch; extra for cover, \$4.50. Robert Raw & Co., 70 cents an inch; extra for cover, \$5. The offer of Griffin & Kidner, being the lowest, will be recommended for acceptance. Ald. Dewey protested that the prices were absurdly high, that it was a matter of arrangement among the several establishments, and that outside tenders should be sought. Figuring on the cost of the work last year, he found that each of the 200 copies represented an expenditure of about \$4.50 each, which he insisted was excessive. But the reasoning by which he sought to support this conclusion was not clear to his colleagues, and they failed to agree with him. I suppose we'll have to stand it, sighed the alderman, regretfully."

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The Victoria, B.C., World comes to hand set by the Mergenthaler linotype. It certainly looks clean, neat and readable, and the machine work is excellent. The four machines used are new, having just been introduced, and two experts are employed. If the same care is always taken with the press work, and if the machines (speaking generally) would continue to do as good work always as they do at first, the country weekly as well as the city daily would find this method of setting type much ahead of hand setting. The limited experience of this country goes to show, however, that the machines have certain disadvantages which must needs be overcome before their success is assured.

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The causes of the dissatisfaction now existent in the printing trade generally will be found treated on another page under the heading "Progress and Poverty in Printing." One of these causes is the unfavorable aspect of the tariff, and this is a question on which there might, profitably, be an interchange of opinion, and this journal would be glad to see an interchange of views just now, preparatory for the 'tariff reform' session of the Dominion Parliament, which is likely to take place in February. Suggestions from printers in the outlying towns would be very valuable to those who live in the cities, and necessarily lead in the matter of urging parliamentary action. Another cause of trouble is the fact that the anxiety of manufacturers of presses and type to sell their product leads to the opening of many new offices, the increase of competition and the slashing of rates. Typefounders and press manufacturers seem to ask "How much business can we do?" instead of "How profitable a business can we do?" The aim is volume of trade rather than a volume of profits. This mistaken business method, adopted by the manufacturers, is doing a great deal to create a pauper printing profession.