

Toronto. When the advertising accounts became due they were sent here for collection, but *The Christian Journal* could not be found, and H. M. East denied all knowledge of such a concern. Whether they pay in advance or not, newspapers should not encourage these concerns.

AFFAIRS IN MONTREAL

IN the printing business in Montreal the subject that has occasioned most discussion during the month is the probability of an advance in the cost of paper. Some claim that it has advanced, while others say that it has not, and between the conflicting reports it is hard to obtain any definite information whether it has or not. A canvass of the leading printing houses in the city, however, elicits the fact that their supplies are not costing them any more money, and that they have placed orders for future delivery on the terms of the old contracts. In one case that came under notice the manufacturer tried to get a $\frac{1}{4}$ c. advance on No. 3 print, but ultimately accepted $\frac{3}{4}$ c., and the circumstance no doubt applies to other cases. One result, however, has no doubt been the outcome of the agitation, and that is the absence of cutting. Paper manufacturers claim that none of this is being done, and that they prefer to refuse orders first.

With regard to the future it is not improbable some advances may result on the higher grades of paper in the manufacture of which rags are necessitated. But there is nothing in the situation positively calling for an immediate rise. Across the lines it is true that prices have been worked up, but the circumstances governing the case there do not apply to the same extent in Canada, according to the admissions of our paper manufacturers themselves. In the United States proper, makers usually buy their rags from month to month, and any change in the rag market has an immediate effect. In Canada the case is somewhat different. Makers lay in supplies of rags considerably ahead, and the consequence of this is, at least in the cases of manufacturers in Montreal, they are supplied with rags ahead. Across the lines, since the embargo took effect, white rags have advanced from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for No. 1, and No. 2 from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb., and No. 3 from 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. Linen rags, which are all imported, have risen even more, the best German moving up 2c. per lb. Now, at the best, 100 lbs. of rags will not make more than 70 lbs. of paper. It can be seen how the cost of making paper is enhanced where the rag market rules in the position outlined above. In addition, the chemical market stiffened, especially for bleaching powders; but lately, owing to the subsidence of the cholera scare, it has fallen back again. If cholera should

break out again in the spring, the paper stock situation will indeed be interesting.

So much for the paper situation, and now about the printing trade itself. All the offices are busy, which is natural at this time of the year, when insurance companies, railroads, etc., are wanting calendars, almanacs, etc., for distribution. In fact, a good many of the offices have already commenced night work to meet the rush which is in much earlier than usual.

NOTES.

ROBERT LOVELL & Co. promise to have a lot of new publications for the Christmas trade.

THE *Star* is advertising a new Almanac, and Mr. Hugh Graham says it will be up to the average.

MR. MILLER MACCONNELL, the night editor of the *Herald*, is away on a trip to Halifax, visiting his father, who is editor of the Halifax *Herald*.

THE *Gazette* job printing department's new platen press has been working now for several weeks. Managing Director White says he is well satisfied with the results.

MR. J. A. GARVIN, or "Johnnie," as the fraternity dub him, took possession of his chair in the *Herald* office this month. He is a welcome accession to the ranks of the newspaper men in Montreal.

THE *Gazette* is getting out an Almanac this year that is to be even better (according to Mr. Kydd, the managing editor, who has it in hand), than the famous political one of the last Federal campaign.

THE many friends of Mr. George E. Desharats will be pleased to learn that he is once more able to be out and attend to business. Mr. Desharats has had a long fight of it, having been ill for over six months.

THE new Sunday morning paper which has appeared here is said to be doing very well; the clergy, however, are against it, and it remains to be seen whether our people can be educated into appreciating a publication of this kind.

THE *Herald's* "Montreal edition" of over fifty pages met with the success which it deserved. Brother Crossley, who worked up the financial and commercial part of it certainly did himself proud. By the way, "Jimmy" is now city editor of the *Gazette*.

THE ticket printing business is brisk now, and Mr. David English says he has a "cinch" on the lottery ticket branch. He has a system of numbering which defies counterfeiting. The Notre Dame Hospital Tombola tickets were turned out by him. He has the idea copyrighted.

THE *Star's* new improved press is a picture that any newspaper man will admire. The two presses which it has replaced are a chance for some other