

of the machines. A New York journalist while passing through this city recently stated to another journalist that one of the New York dailies had been seriously considering the introduction of machines, but the business manager of the concern being shrewd and keen did not accept all the statements made concerning the new inventions. Hewing carefully weighed the points advanced in their favor, he secured the services of one expert machinist, and directed him to thoroughly examine the machines, especially the Typograph and Linotype, as he felt sure the line casters were on the right track. The expert went to work in the most thorough manner, and reported that, in his opinion, the life of a Typograph was twenty-seven months, and for a Linotype, thirty-nine months. The expert held that a machine possessing delicate parts, and subjected to great heat for hours continuously, and then allowed to cool off, could not possibly run many months without the heat seriously affecting the most sensitive portions. It may be possible that the expert was mistaken in his opinions, but it certainly appears reasonable that delicate, sensitive movements, which must be responsive to the slightest touch of the operator, are liable to be injured by the heat, and those are the parts that do the work, not the heavy frame supports. If the finely adjusted movements give out the machine will resemble a worn out watch—a good case, but of little practical use.

AVOID VULGARITY.

HERE is an item noticed during the last month in more than one Canadian journal:

DIFFERENT NEEDS.—Some newspaper man started the report that a Brookfield, N.J., girl kneads bread with her gloves on. An exchange answers: "We also need bread with our shoes on, with our pants on, and our clothes on. We need it badly, too, and if our delinquents do not soon pay up we will need it without any pants on."

It is decidedly vulgar, and is only a sample of that crude, rough humor which a journal with proper ideas on delicacy will try to avoid. Here is another recent example:

"The editor of the M. P. D., who is a good-hearted fellow and spicy writer when himself, has just recovered from an attack of d. t's., so he says, and he graphically portrays the awful experience and the events that lead up to it in a two column article in his paper as a warning to young men who imbibe. It is satisfactory to know the editor has fully recovered and resumed his labors."

The latter may be truth instead of humor, but it is somewhat indelicate and is not "news." Every editor must be the guide of his own conduct in connection with such matters. These are merely hints to rouse up thought.

THE TYPOS' PARLIAMENT.

FROM the Typographical Journal, the official paper of the International Typographical Union of North America, we glean some particulars of the convention held in Chicago recently. Two hundred and twenty-nine delegates were in attendance, representing all the allied trades. In his opening address President Prescott said—"Our union has been the instrument whereby we have curbed that ever-present spirit of selfishness which prompts many employers to make use of any device superseding handicraft as a means to encompass labor's degradation. The potent influence which machines will exercise in our economy should not—must not—dismay us, but rather serve as a stimulus to renewed and redoubled effort in perfecting and

strengthening our organization, so that it may discharge the high purpose for which it was formed." The second vice-president, Mr. McFarlane, in his report also referred to type setting machines. He said: "This is the day of the machine. The machine is not coming, it is with us, and it behooves us as craftsmen to get closer together, en masse, and take care of it in a manner to show our appreciation of so important an invention and reap whatever benefits it may be possible for labor to derive from labor and dollar-saving machines. The web press is with the pressmen as the type-setting machine is with the compositor. They are boon companions, and with a dissatisfied Typothetae as their main ally, are capable of terrible devastation to our ranks. While the output of production will increase an hundred fold, our numerical strength will remain about the same. The job printers and pressmen are about the only ones of the allied trades who have not been seriously affected by recent invention. In view of the immense strides of invention, we must view with alarm any effort to divide or disrupt our present organization. I am firm in the belief that all persons who contribute labor to the production of a common output, should be allied together, with due reference to their respective branches, to assist capital in regulating the price and the hours of labor and mutually assist each other in adversity and the fight for justice and right. I feel satisfied that it would be almost impossible for any one of our allied trades to undertake alone the fight for hours and wages."

Both of these deliverances were referred to the Committee on Type-setting Devices, who presented a majority and minority report, the minority report referring only to section 138, General Laws, as follows:

"Section 138. The International Typographical Union demands that in all offices within its jurisdiction where type-setting machines are used, practical union printers shall be employed to run them; and also that subordinate unions regulate the scale of wages and time on such machines." This was carried.

The remaining part of the majority report stood as follows, and was adopted:

"At the outset of the President's report the type-setting machine question is dealt with, and from data and information furnished your committee by the Executive Council and delegates, prompts us to incorporate the following in our report relative to type-setting devices:

"Circulars were sent out and replies were received from thirty unions where machines are in use, employing 555 men operating 282 machines. These machines are reported to have displaced 463 men and given employment to 40 non-union men as operators. The tendency of migration would appear to be to the larger towns, as few are recorded as having gone to the country, but the great bulk remain at home and secure work there. This procedure bears most heavily on the peripatetic printer in the last analysis.

"The advantage of thorough organization where machines are introduced is shown in Boston, where the hours are given as seven on newspapers and nine in book offices, and one non-union news office.

"Section 138, General Laws, places eight hours as the maximum number. In several cities this provision is not lived up to.

"A virious feature that is fastening itself upon machine offices and machine operators is the bonus system, whereby the