

TORONTO EMPLOYING PRINTERS DINE.

WHILE patriotism was the predominating characteristic of the annual banquet of the Employing Printers' Association of Toronto, which was held on Friday evening, December 8, at the National Club, the meeting was not void of significance to the printing fraternity of Canada. Several thoughts were expressed which, if acted upon, would be productive of good to all engaged in the business.

About 60 members and guests of the association were present. The chairman of the evening was Dan. A. Rose, vice-president of the association; the vice-chairmen, Atwell Fleming, secretary, Albert Maccomb, treasurer, and J. T. Johnston. On the chairman's right were: Messrs. J. S. Willison, J. F. Ellis, J. J. Palmer, Walter Haddon (London, Eng.), A. F. Rutter and Lieut.-Col. J. B. MacLean. On the left sat Messrs. Joseph T. Clark, C. W. Taylor, Wm. Stone, T. C. Irving and James Murray. There were also present: Messrs. F. M. Rutter, F. Diver, F. A. Ritchie, J. E. B. Littlejohn, Robt. G. McLean, E. J. Hathaway, Charles Johnson, Hugh C. MacLean, M. McBride, A. E. Whinton, C. Dyas, Geo. A. Howell, J. H. L. Patterson, H. J. Brown, Chas. F. Mansell, M. K. Hornibrook, Robt. J. Copeland, Daniel Rose, James Brown, J. M. C. Horn, A. W. Lee, R. Carswell, John Imrie, George Spence, H. L. Thompson, Arnold W. Thomas, Douglas Ford, R. Milne, T. G. Wilson, Jas. Dudley, D. O. McKinnon, Joseph Johnson, Geo. C. Patterson, Geo. N. Morang, G. R. Baker, J. F. Stokes, Fred. W. Rose, E. L. Young, Louis Huffman, T. A. Weldon, Doug. S. Murray, John C. Gardner, John S. Murray, Wm. Daly, Fred. Stone and R. M. Jaffray (Galt).

Letters of regret were received from Hon. G. W. Ross, Hon. J. R. Stratton, E. F. Clarke, M.P., John R. Barber, M.P.P., Dr. Briggs, Mayor Shaw, R. L. Patterson, A. E. Chatterson and others. Needless to say the repast was exceedingly choice, and was done full justice to by those present.

The toast of "The Queen" was responded to by three enthusiastic cheers, and a rousing tiger. Then the chairman proposed the toast of "Our Country and the Empire," asking Messrs. John Imrie, J. S. Willison and Lieut.-Col. J. B. MacLean to respond.

Mr. Imrie's speech was characteristic of the man. With the optimism of a poet and the warmth of a patriot, he referred to Canada as a country with a future among the nations, and to the Empire as the greatest of all times, closing with a reference to the influence for good that his countrymen, the Scotch, had exerted in Canada and other portions of the Empire.

Mr. Willison's speech was the address of the evening. He referred to the struggle in South Africa, commenting on the manner in which it had cemented together in ties of warmest kinship the various portions of the Empire, and welcoming the good relations that had been established between the free Empire of Great Britain and the free

Republic of the United States as tending to the welfare of the world. Referring to the future of Canada, he expressed the belief that many present would live to see a population of fifteen or twenty millions, embracing many creeds and nationalities. Those should be welcomed and so treated as to "mould them into fidelity to our institutions and simple loyalty to our Canadian commonwealth."

Lieut.-Col. MacLean emphasized the thought expressed by Mr. Willison regarding the treatment of Canadians who could not claim British descent. He particularly referred to the French-Canadians, who, he declared, are thoroughly loyal and devoted to British institutions, and expressed the opinion that the stand recently taken by the Hon. Mr. Tarte was in accord with that adopted by the Tory party in Britain. Referring to our Imperial relations, he expressed the belief that from the point of view of commerce it would be most advantageous for Canada to have closer business relations with Britain. There were those who prophesied the decline of British commerce because of the keen rivalry of the United States and Germany, but, after seven months spent in studying the conditions, he was convinced that Great Britain was bound to maintain her supremacy in the industrial and commercial world. He strongly urged that the success in securing penny postage should be followed by a united effort to secure an exclusively Canadian cable service between Canada and Great Britain. He complimented the association on the good work that they had done in Toronto, and hoped they would lend some of their energy towards the reorganization of the Montreal employers.

Mr. Dan. Rose, sr., next called for the toast of "The United Typothetae," coupling with it the names of Messrs. R. G. McLean and F. Diver.

Mr. McLean's address was entirely practical. He believed the Toronto printers should come closer together and understand each other better before they could help to reorganize their brethren in Montreal. The great trouble with the printing trade to-day is cheap work. Few printers, said he, know what printing costs. The result was, that too little was charged for altogether too much work. As illustration, he referred to a job which he had "lost." His estimate was \$5.25, the other man's \$1.50. In his early days as an employer he had made a miscalculation that taught him to be careful about his estimating. He had found, after completing a certain job, that the ink for it had cost \$10 more than he had accepted the job for. Many such errors are made by printers.

Mr. Diver made reference to the development of stereotyping and electrotyping, claiming the improvement in these branches of the printers' art had resulted in the betterment of the entire industry.

Vice-Chairman A. Maccomb proposed the toast of "Kindred Industries" in a brief, but warm address, appealing to those interested in all branches of the business to stand together with the aim of getting a better living by doing a little less work. He called on A. F. Rutter, W. Stone, T. A. Weldon, G. N. Morang, and H. L. Thompson to respond.

Mr. Rutter, though replying as a representative of the bookbinding industry, wanted to emphasize Mr. R. G. McLean's remarks about the cost of printing. A customer