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THE WEEKLY PRESS.

WAR NEWS. Having said something in this column lately regarding weeklies and war news, the continuance of the public interest in the war induces further remarks. The weeklies are not by any means dead to the advisability of providing their readers with news of the most vital subject of the day. But there is a tendency on the part of weekly publishers to say "this is out of my line and it must be left to the dailies." This is a mistake. In one town, it is said, the telegraph office is in one of the stores, and the operator hearing the news go by gets the gist of it and bulletins it up in his window. That is a good thing for the merchant, but where are the newspapers in that town? One country editor writes to PRINTER AND PUBLISHER:

"We are very much interested in the war—who is not, if it comes to that?—at my home, and as a consequence we are getting the morning Mail and Empire and The Toronto Star. I read them at the house. At the office I

read I. N. F.'s despatch in The Globe, and The Toronto News' London special. Occasionally I glance at The Montreal Star. We go to press Wednesday evening, printing all four pages at once. Late Monday afternoon or early Tuesday morning I take The Globe of Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday and clip everything I think I may need. Then I go to work and write the summary from those clippings, introducing anything of interest from the other papers that The Globe does not have. We get the Toronto morning papers at noon, so that Tuesday afternoon it is easy to tack on any later news under the proper headings. Then I summarize the news from Wednesday morning's papers under a sub-head of its own. I am very careful to try and put nothing but what is perfectly trustworthy in the summary. Of course it means considerable work and trouble, but it takes surprisingly little time in office hours. The chief difficulty is to keep well read-up on the question."

This correspondent knows his business. He is a newspaperman.

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THE WESTERN IDEA OF EDITORIALS.

One of the subjects discussed at the late Winnipeg meeting was that of editorials in the weekly. The Western papers are strong on that. Generally speaking, they all have a good sized editorial page containing from one-and-a-half to four columns of editorial articles and notes. These are well-written too, that is, they express opinions clearly and vigorously. The editors are not afraid to handle the questions of the day. Readers seem to expect it, and probably it is found a valuable feature or the editors would not devote to it the space they do. In Ontario and the other Provinces there are still otherwise well-conducted journals that never print a line of editorial. In some cases this may be due to over-modesty. As a general rule, newspapermen are the least vain of individuals in regard to their powers of literary expression. But there is really no reason to cultivate fine writing in this department. A plain statement of opinion is enough. The rhetorical writer, the man who "flings himself" in type is going out of fashion. Few of us, probably, have the gift of paragraph writing—the terse witty epigrammatic sentence that is equally compounded of satire and sense. Where this gift exists a newspaper editor