

operators have earned as much as \$18.00 per week, working eight hours each night, thus setting 120,000 ems, which is a large amount for one machine, but just the amount which those interested in the machines claim should be attained by all fairly skilled operatives.

The machine in the office of the J. B. McLeen Co. reached 94,000 in one week, but it is not steadily operated.

All these estimates are on the wage basis of \$15 per week. The reports are accurate as to the number set, but the cost of the respective machines may not be exactly as represented, yet they are as near as can be readily ascertained; and while the estimated cost per thousand may not be exactly correct, yet it is sufficiently so to indicate the work that is being done. When the operators become more skilful in working the keyboard, and more familiar with the mechanism of the machines, better results are anticipated. Taking all circumstances into consideration, complete success has not yet been attained.

THE PAPER MARKET

DURING the past couple of years there has been a gradual decline in the prices and a steady improvement in the quality of printing papers. Newspaper publishers were beginning to hope for the old-time profits from their business. Unfortunately, however, it does not look as if the low prices were to be permanent. Manufacturers claim that they have been losing money. Owing to close competition they have been selling paper about cost. The recent rise in chemicals and rags, and the scarcity of the latter, have forced the manufacturers to consider the advisability of advancing prices. Wood pulp is also higher. It was delivered at the mills a short time ago at \$15 a ton, and even less; now \$25 is asked. Sixteen of the manufacturers held a meeting in Montreal recently, and after considerable discussion decided to advance prices, making a list below which none of them would sell. These figures show a slight advance on the prices previously asked. The tendency is towards a still further advance. Although they are asking these and higher prices, it is not likely that present figures will be maintained, but that cutting will go on as before, unless the prices of raw material keep up. A simple agreement among manufacturers, such as the one now adopted by the Canadian Paper Maker's Association, is never adhered to: someone always cuts. They already foresee this, and admit that the only way to put the business on a satisfactory basis is the formation of a pool, a trust, or a consolidation of the companies. The tendency seems to be in the direction of the organization of a joint stock company to take over all the mills. Should

the leading manufacturers decide to do so, they can easily force all the smaller mills to come in, as the latter with old-time machinery and limited hours cannot possibly compete with modern machinery, working twenty-four hours a day.

The following are prices now asked by manufacturers and jobbers:

	CARS.	LESS THAN CARS.
No. 3 Print. in rolls, per lb.	3½ to 4c.	3½ to 4½c.
" " " reams, " "	3½ " 4c.	4½ " 4½c.
Machine-finished book reams.	" "	6 " 6½c.
No. 2. or sup. cal. book.	" "	7 " 7½c.
No. 1. or sup. cal. lith.	" "	8 " 9c.
Writings, engine-sized.	" "	8 " 10c.
" tub " "	" "	12½ " 15c.

BUSINESS CHANGES

C. E. D. Wood, late publisher of the *Macleod Gazette*, has gone into the insurance business.

REXOR connects the name of W. H. Kerr, of the *Brussels Post*, with the probable purchase of the *Godrich Signal*.

THE *Gazette and Review*, of Parkhill, have been amalgamated, and under one management appear as the *Gazette-Review*.

MR. J. B. STEPHENS has retired from the firm of publishers of the *Stratford Beacon*, leaving Mr. William O'Brien in sole control.

MR. THOMAS MCGIVERIN has sold the *Dumfries Reformer* to Mr. Laidlaw, formerly of Patullo & Laidlaw, Woodstock, who assumed possession on the 1st. instant.

MR. USEBE SENEAL, publisher of *La Minerve*, has acquired *Le Monde* for \$23,000, and will at once take charge of the paper. No changes in the staff are expected.

MR. FRED. ARMSTRONG, late city editor of the *Guelph Herald*, has purchased a paper in Neepawa, Manitoba. Previous to leaving he was the recipient of many handsome presents.

THE *Essex Free Press* has changed hands, E. J. Lovelace having bought out H. & H. Walters. The Walters brothers have gone to look for health among the Rocky mountains. Mr. Lovelace was formerly editor of the *Petroleum Topic*.

MR. JOHN HAGUE, formerly editor of the *Journal of Commerce*, Montreal, has purchased *Forest and Farm* in Toronto, of which he will in future be the managing editor. It is intended to organize a company for the purpose of enlarging and improving the paper.

THERE lately appeared an advertisement in an English paper for an editor of a first-class journal, it being expressly stipulated that "he must be a practical man of the world. No one who has graduated at Oxford or Cambridge need apply."