



Vol. XVI.

TORONTO, CANADA, MAY, 1900

No. 5.

**CURRENT NOTES AND COMMENTS**  
OF INTEREST TO THE TRADE.

**The Copyright Question.**

It is to be hoped that the copyright will shortly be placed on a settled basis. Dealers want to know where they stand. They are in the business of selling books to the public, and they have a right to know definitely and clearly what books or editions can circulate here without infringement of copyright. It is understood that a bill is to be introduced this session at Ottawa which will fix the rights of authors and publishers in respect of certain editions now sold in this market. One of the clauses of the proposed bill deals with the case of Canadian publishers who purchase the Canadian market of a work from English publishers, by according to them the exclusive copyright in Canada on such protected work. Australia and Cape Colony have already enacted statutes of this character, and concurrent legislation of a similar nature is now before the House of Lords, the measure being in charge of Lord Monkwell. Another clause, of some interest to dealers who sell daily papers, is a provision granting copyright to newspapers for special despatches for a period of 18 hours. The big dailies, therefore, with their exclusive news services and special cables from London, will thus secure a larger sale, as no other paper can borrow their special

telegrams. The bill will be introduced in the House of Commons by Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture.

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**Cheap Magazines.**

The new manager of the Harper Co. announces that the price of Harper's Magazine will be raised again to 35c. This is interesting. It is the first bold check given to the move for cheaper magazines, which has led to a flood of 10 and 5c. periodicals in the sale of which there is practically no profit for the trade. If too much encouragement is given to the 10c. magazines, readers turn away from books. Some dealers say you must keep them on the counter because the public ask for them. For town and local trade the dealer can afford to order a copy for such customers as ask for a certain periodical, but by filling the window up with them profitless sales are pushed. There is more profit in the sale of one copy of The Canadian Magazine than in four or five copies of the cheaper magazines.

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**Tourist Trade.**

The Canadian dealer cannot too soon make up his mind to cater, especially during the coming season, to tourist trade. This year the tide of travel through Canada is likely to be larger than ever. Organized effort is more

pronounced than it used to be, and at several important Canadian points tourist associations exist to bring the attractions of Canadian routes and scenery to the attention of foreigners. This results in large numbers of people with a certain amount of money to spend coming into Canada each Summer. Some merchants in the dry goods line, for instance, do a splendid trade with American visitors in July and August. The book and stationery dealer ought to do equally well, as a chance visitor is more often attracted to a bright store with books, papers, souvenir goods, photographs and stationery novelties than almost any other. But the windows must always be brightly trimmed, so that a passer-by is tempted to stop. Few travelers return home without taking some presents, however small, for relatives and friends. To cater to this class is good business.

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**The Patriotic Movement.**

As a simple matter of trade, the present patriotic fervor demands some consideration. It has led to a number of results in the stationery and book trade. The demand for maps, periodicals with war pictures, and South-African books has been considerable. This will be a valuable factor in the Summer months, when sales of books, except paper-covered novels, are apt to decline. The demand for flags, for colored tissue, used in decorating schools, halls and house fronts has increased, and, as the Queen's Birthday and Empire Day will shortly be celebrated, we look for good sales of these if dealers