

was too brittle to withstand the travel of the rollers or drag of the cylinder, and snapped off under the strain. In price-list work where the column of dollars and cents is on the blank side of the page it is an every day occurrence when the type is of brittle quality for figures to break off on the press. Type of suitable tenacity of metal will not break off in this way upon any good printing press.

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A printer doing a large trade in this kind of work, and whose type was of the brittle class, recently called THE IMPRINT'S attention to a job on fine paper which had been ruined by the breaking off of several figures in a column of prices.

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The remedy for this sort of thing is to have point system materials only which lock up accurately together, and type of the greatest tenacity and toughness of metal to withstand the strain of modern presswork. Toronto type and materials are made upon these principles.

In Regard to Libel.

The Superior Court of Quebec recently dismissed an action against the Montreal Gazette wherein it was sought to recover damages against that newspaper for publishing reports of what transpired in a parliamentary committee and making comments thereon. To hold a newspaper liable to damages for publishing reports of legislative committees is manifestly absurd, but making comments thereon is another matter. On this point the Superior Court's decision is as follows:—

"In all cases of public interest comment and even a sharp criticism, provided they be not malicious, are permitted to persons as well as to journals. Justice Crampton in a similar case said: 'Nothing is more important than that fair and full latitude of discussion should be allowed to writers upon any public matter, whether it be the conduct of public men or proceedings of courts of justice, or in Parliament.' And Lord Esher, in *Merivale v. Carson*, said: 'Every latitude must be given to opinion and to prejudice.'"

This decision is unquestionably just as there is no stronger deterrent of public wrong-doing than the fear of honest, independent and bold criticism by the press. It would be a great scheme were burglars allowed to muzzle the watch dog. Our newspaper writers will see by this judgment that the proceedings of courts of justice are also

open to their criticism. For a long time Canadians have been in the habit of looking with reverential awe upon our courts and regarding our judges as above criticism, as if they were a higher order of beings and could do no wrong. Judges are, however, human, and are therefore liable to err; when their errors are through the fallibility of human judgment criticism is not called for in the press. But when judges render wrong decisions through manifest prejudice or favoritism they lay their conduct open to review by the press and it should be so reviewed. Immunity from criticism has a bad effect in all cases. It cannot be doubted that the effect would be beneficial were decisions fairly criticized which are absolutely incomprehensible when one remembers what a judge's oath requires of him. Legal journals have spoken out upon this subject, but lay editors have not given the matter that consideration which its grave importance demands, for there can be nothing in our civilization of so great moment as that our judges should be absolutely impartial and actuated only by the highest sense of right and justice, considering that by the constitution of our country they are placed in an absolutely independent position.

The Cranston Press.

PRINTERS who desire to purchase a really first-class press should step into the office of W. S. Johnston & Co. and see their new Cranston. Without any question this is the best machine of its class in Canada and there is none better built.

THE WORLD office, Beeton, which was recently destroyed by fire, has been completely rehabilitated with a new outfit entirely of material from the Toronto Type Foundry, both news and job. Mr. Somers, the manager, is a good, practical printer, and believes in keeping abreast of the times, hence his selection of point system type throughout.

TORONTO TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 91 picniced at Island Park on August 12th. A jolly time was spent by the typos and their friends to the number of about three hundred. The principal event in the sports and games was a tug-of-war between the printers and the Q.O.R. bugle band which resulted in victory for the fellows who do the most blowing.