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SOPHISTRY.

The Toronto Evening Telegram, in a recent editorial, contends that, so long as newspapers reserve the right of criticism, they can fairly and honestly sell space to legally constituted mining companies.

Preliminarily we may remark that the Telegram has kept its columns clean-cleaner considerably from the taint of dishonest mining advertisements than, for instance, has the Globe or the World. Its argument, therefore, we may respect, even though we fail to agree with

Our reasons for differing from the Telegram may be brought out by an instance from real life. The Globe of October 2nd publishes an advertisement of a mining stock. The character of this advertisement is fully explained in this issue of THE CANADIAN MINING JOUR-NAL. Briefly, it is dishonest and illegal. It occupies slightly more than one-half page in the Globe.

The Globe of Monday, October 7th, points an accusing finger at a contemporary for publishing racing tips of a nature calculated to part a callow youth from his money.

Now the Telegram will admit that unless care is exercised in the publication of mining advertisements, more harm and more loss can easily result to a greater number of all sorts and conditions of people than could be possible in the case of a race track tip. The latter appeals to a limited class. The former are so coated and glazed that they appeal to the whole reading pub-

We fail to see that the Telegram can justify by means of logic a contention that its own honesty has not permitted it to put into practice.

Our country has suffered far too much hurt from wildcats. The Canadian Mining Journal believes that they will be exterminated only by a plain statement of the truth. It is too late in the day to indulge in vague moralizing. It is also too late to allow the observance of the pleasant little courtesies and anonymities of journalism to interfere with a clear understanding of the situation.

COAL CUTTING MACHINERY.

Established customs and usages die hard. Great Britain has become, quite unjustly, proverbial for the reluctance with which innovations are accepted. In the United States the pendulum swings to the other extreme. New machinery, for instance, is not infrequently installed in place of old, merely because it is new. Canada is not free from either of these extremes. Mining companies very often make lavish purchases of untried ma-