

## SUPPLYING OFFICIAL NEWS.

THE practice in Canada of keeping all official or Government news for the Government press is petty. It reflects no particular credit on the Ministry, and "a copyright scoop" yields no great fame to the "scoopist." Some reform has taken place in supplying blue books simultaneously to the papers of both parties. It might be extended to apply to much news of national importance which the press of every political stripe would disseminate in the interest of the whole country. News relating to immigration, new commercial openings, etc., etc., should not be the exclusive property of any one set of journals. The entire press should be invited to circulate what is good for Canada.

In this connection a new departure has been instituted in Great Britain. Hitherto official news has been kept very close there. But Mr. Chamberlain has inaugurated a better system. During the exciting period covering the German and South African trouble, the Colonial Secretary gave facilities to the press which were greatly appreciated. At the last meeting of the Institute of Journalists, Mr. Wilcox, M.P., the president, pointed this out. He said that we had been going through exciting times, and the public had naturally been anxious to obtain information. He was glad to say that, to a larger extent than ever before known, the Colonial Office had given facilities to the press for the distribution of the news so eagerly looked for, and actually the personal convenience of pressmen who had to attend the Government offices had been considered. The Colonial Secretary had not only received representatives of the press with very great courtesy and consideration, but had supplied information to the press with great impartiality and with entire readiness. Therefore, although he (the chairman) would not ask them to pass any formal resolution on the subject he thought it was no more than gracious on his part, in his official capacity, to recognise the courtesy, impartiality and readiness with which Mr. Chamberlain had treated the press in connection with the exciting political events abroad. The other gentlemen present heartily concurred.

## A TRANSLATION BUREAU.

In Quebec, with its dual language, the want of a regular translation and information bureau has been felt frequently by English speaking business men who wish to get a card out in French, or, vice versa, a French speaking business man a card in English. N. P. Lamoreaux, the manager of Montreal Printers' Supply Co., is considering the advisability of supplying the want by inaugurating a bureau of this sort. He considers that it could be built up to something substantial. If he decides to go ahead with the scheme PRINTER AND PUBLISHER wishes him every success for his enterprise. He need not devote his attention solely to translation. Business men frequently have occasion to get some printing done. If there was a place where for a small fee they could secure some practical advice in regard to the work desired, they would be in a position to talk business much more intelligently with the printers and possibly at a considerable saving to themselves.

## WHO SELLS VAN GELDER'S PAPERS?

The enquiry made by a reader in last month's issue as to where he could buy Van Gelder's papers, brings an answer from the agents in America, Miller, Sloan & Wright, 65-67 Duane street, New York, who will send a price list to anyone inquiring.

## FREE ADVERTISING FOR FREE TRIPS.

A nice little 60-line advertisement of the Detroit and Cleveland Navigation Co. is being sent out to Canadian papers for free publication. The publisher is asked to insert weekly, from April 1st to November 1st, with six local notices of "pure reading matter," 14 lines each. In return for this service, says the polite general passenger agent's circular, "we will issue one annual pass for transportation over all our lines for yourself and wife, or associated editor and wife."

Let us examine this munificent offer. It appears from the ad. that the price of a ticket over the company's line, including meals and berth, is, from Cleveland to Mackinac and return, \$18, from Toledo, \$15, from Detroit, \$13.50. The pass is annual and Mrs. Editor may go too (children extra). As only a few of our Ontario editors would be able to spend from April to November on the company's boats, it seems likely that one trip would be the average use made of the offer. Some of us would have to walk to Detroit to catch the boat. The entire service, we infer from the ad., extends from Cleveland to Duluth. If any publisher has, before receiving this offer, made up his mind to spend his summer holiday on this trip—and we hope no member of the Canadian Press Association has yet pledged himself—it may be worth while to insert the ad. As a business proposition, the business is all on the company's side.

The plan bears every appearance of being the best to secure extensive free advertising which this season has yet produced.

## QUEBEC PRESS ASSOCIATION.

The Quebec Press Association will hold their annual dinner on the 11th of April next. It is proposed to make a special effort to make the event a record one. At the same time many members of the association are pondering why the association is to all intents and purposes restricted to the city of Montreal, and is not in any sense of the word a provincial organization. There is no reason in the world why it should not be so, for there is a live Eastern Townships association already that holds rousing conventions every year at Sherbrooke. Several of the members are putting their heads together for the purpose of devising some scheme to get country members to join the Quebec association, and make it a live provincial body like the one at present doing good work in Ontario.

## LE MONDE CHANGES HANDS.

Le Monde, one of Montreal's leading French dailies, has changed hands, a syndicate headed by the Hon. G. A. Nantel, having purchased the paper. The Hon. Mr. Nantel will assume editorial charge of the paper, while the business management will be in the hands of J. W. Poitras, who has been connected with the French press for several years past as advertising solicitor and manager, and finally as business manager. Other gentlemen said to be in the syndicate are the Hon. G. A. Ouimet and Jos. Tasse, the well-known cigar manufacturer. The new management will give Le Monde's support to the Conservative party both in Federal and Provincial politics.

Mrs Helen Gregory-Flesher, formerly of Toronto, has severed her connection with The Searchlight, of San Francisco, and is now editor and publisher of a San Francisco monthly journal, Society.