

white stone. By turning a wheel a frame faced with stiff leather, over which are several sheets of thick carboard is pressed down upon the bed. The matter to go on one side of the paper is printed by hand on a sheet which is laid on the stone and borne down uniformly. The sheet is then lifted up and the hundreds of characters forming its face are seen to be duplicated upon the stone. At the appropriate time a sheet of paper is laid on the frame noted, the wheel is turned, the frame is pressed down against the bed, and in a moment or so lifted by a back turn of the wheel, and the sheet is discovered printed. A water-moistened sponge is passed over the bed or form, another sheet is subjected to the same process, and so on until the whole edition is worked off. After the papers are all printed the ink is all washed off the bed by the application of a chemical, and another supply of characters is substituted. The process is, in fact, that of lithography.

The office of the other Chinese publication, the "Chinese-English newspaper," (*Tong Fan San Bo*), No. 281 Washington street, was next visited. The paper was found to be about the same size, printed in the same way, at the same price, and in about the same style of establishment as the *Wah Kee*. Mun Lee, the proprietor, reporter, office boy, etc., was employed in smoking a water pipe. "Ha la," (How do you do?) said the writer. "He gong fan wah?" (Do you speak English?) Mun Kee responded, in very good English. He stated that he was about thirty-eight years old, had been in this country fourteen years and had published his

paper, which now had 750 subscribers, for almost five years. He could form about 7000 characters, and it required him two days of ten hours each to work off a complete edition of his paper. The rate for advertising in his paper is \$12 per column. Instead of the title being on the first page, like the other, it was on the fourth; otherwise the papers resembled each other. Mun Kee, also, had no previous experience as a journalist, and had started as a job printer. He stated that neither of the papers had a policy, religious or political, and that the Chinese were great readers. As to the future of the Chinese on this coast and at home, he said that before many years the race would be on an equality with all others, and would be welcomed in all lands. A civilizing process is at work, he said, which is bound to result in breaking down all race distinctions and in merging all races into one common family, socially and religiously, if not politically. He foresaw a glorious future for the Chinese on this coast, the climate and other conditions being highly favourable. He verified the statement recently made to the writer by S. S. Smith, of the Pacific, long a resident in China, that, prior to the treaty of last year, all the Chinese in this country, excepting officials, were escapes, or in the same category were as the slaves that escaped from their masters in the south in ante-bellum times. "Chang ah" (good-bye), said the writer. "Good day," pleasantly responded the intelligent and wide-awake Mun Kee.—*San Francisco Post*.

Communications.

THE ASSOCIATION QUESTION.

To the Editor of the WRITER:

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Pinkney's letter, I beg to say that I shall be glad to attend any meeting called for the purpose of considering the advisability of establishing a Shorthand Writers' Association.

Might I suggest that the subject could be most effectively discussed at a preliminary gathering of practical men.

Yours truly,

G. B. BRADLEY,
Chief, Official Reporting Staff,
House of Commons.

To the Editor of the WRITER:

I think that a Shorthand Writers' Association would be of considerable benefit at the present time, and in answer to Mr. Yeigh's letter suggesting the feasibility of such an organization, I hasten to show my approval by stating that I am ready to join such an association at any time. I think we should at all events take advantage of the kindness of the publishers of the WRITER in offering the use of their office for a meeting for the discussion of the subject.

There have been several unsuccessful attempts to organize an association of the kind in this city by the younger reporters, and I shall have no faith in the success of the present undertaking, unless it is taken in hand by some of the older members of the craft. To represent the official reporters, I take pleasure in calling on the chief and the older members, viz.: Messrs. Crawford, Horton, Henderson and Tyson. They would give some tone to the affair. It needs experienced men to start an association, but once it is in good working order the younger members can relieve them of the work connected with it.

Is Mr. Yeigh joking when he says, "let the highest grade of membership be for reporters who write 260 words per minute and upwards." Where are they?

NELSON R. BUTCHER.

PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE.

To the Editor of the WRITER:

DEAR SIR,—It has occurred to me to ask, on behalf of myself and of many others who think with me upon the subject to which I am about to refer, if our profession is entirely lacking in the professional etiquette which exercises so