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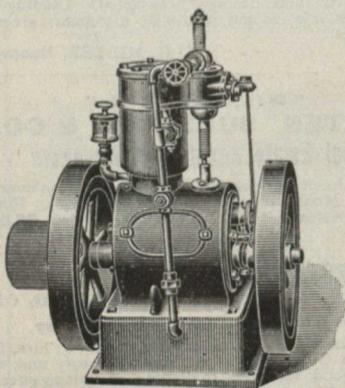
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THE Publishers' Syndicate, Limited, of Toronto, has been the subject of considerable talk among the book and paper trade for perhaps a couple of months past, and now matters have been precipitated by the action of a shareholder in applying to the courts for a winding-up order. The company was incorporated in May, 1897, and now has a paid capital of \$92,000. For two or three years it has been, and we believe is now, doing a profitable trade in subscription books through agents, and had it been content with this all might have gone well; but in order to extend they bought about fifteen months ago the old printing plant of Rowsell & Hutchison, insolvents. Shortly after this they purchased the building, 7 King St. East, on leased property, spending some \$7,000 in alterations to make it suitable for present use. To this was added a number of new presses, type, etc., all of which expenditure cramped them for means. Consequently they were obliged to ask creditors for an extension covering a period of one year on trade liabilities of \$16,000. When this had been practically arranged the matter became public, as already stated, through the hasty action of a shareholder who seems to have been badly advised. The company now owes directly about \$42,000. To pay this it has nominal assets consisting of books, stationery, etc., \$46,000; building, \$17,000; machinery, \$13,000; and over \$25,000 in contracts and accounts payable. Besides this its furniture, etc., is put down at \$5,000.

Since the above was written Dr. Price, a shareholder for \$500, says through the daily press that he filed the petition mentioned solely on the advice of his solicitors, and now that he finds it inaccurate he withdraws the same. His lawyers are also instructed to stop proceedings. The managers of the syndicate say since the rearrangement of the executive the relations existing between the company and its creditors are of a most friendly nature. While we wish well to this important and and at one time promising concern, we must say that the prospect for their shareholders is not a brilliant one. However, this is a matter which concerns them individually.

THERE was an "Insurance Day" at the Pan-American Fair this week, and from August 19th to 24th is to be Firemen's Week. Tuesday next is to be Michigan Day. Thursday will be Electrical Day, and Monday, August 26th, Municipal Day at the Buffalo Fair.

IN July, 1896, D. Hanna failed as a boot and shoe dealer in this city. The assets amounting to \$5,000 were then sold to his wife, Elizabeth, at 35 per cent. discount. Since then the business has been carried on under the style of D. Hanna & Co. Being unable to meet her bills as they became due she wisely consulted her creditors, who agreed to accept 50 per cent. of their claims, payable in nine months without security. The assets and liabilities are about \$3,400 each.