

tive minutes and legibly and accurately transcribe the same to the satisfaction of the Council. In the junior class the test for admission shall be the ability to write at least one hundred words per minute for five consecutive minutes and legibly and accurately transcribe the same.

The financial interests of the fraternity have also been taken in hand, only senior members being permitted to contract for first-class work, such as Parliamentary work, medical conferences, science societies, etc. Thus the reporter who has toiled for years to fit himself for this position may safely demand adequate compensation, as contemplated by the tariff of the society, without having the ground taken from beneath his feet by an incompetent. He can make a stand for his rights and say, "Pay me at a rate which has been judged by my fellows only fair and reasonable, or do without a report." The result will be first-class pay for first-class work, and mutual satisfaction to employer and employee. Junior shorthand writers, or those writing less than one hundred and fifty, will find they cannot afford to remain outside the society.

Some antagonism was expected from members of the dying or dead Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association, but instead, warm sympathy with the objects of the new-born society have been expressed. Doubtless members of the first-named realize the fact that the C. S. S., which has risen, Phoenix-like, from the ashes of that which belongs to the past, has the necessary elements of new life, new ambition, and better auspices to carry it toward success. For years they have hedged themselves in, looking jealously on all interlopers, determinedly endeavoring to sleep the sleep of the just, until the question has arisen, whether only members of the Hansard, only court reporters, are first-class men; or whether, from an employer's standpoint in a railway or mercantile house such men would be justified in calling themselves first-class. Or would even Hansard men feel quite equal to reporting a medical debate where such words as pneumonia, diphtheria, cerebral, etc., are among the simplest that would occur, without a previous training; and how many of them would feel anything but shaky over such a report as the following:—

"The red coloration by potash was visible only when the felspar contained of this element more than four per cent., and consequently visible only in orthoclase, the flogiacluses always containing less than four per cent. of potassium. The experiments were made in two parts of the flame in a height of five millimetres, at a lower temperature in the highest part of the flame. The professor then showed that for the purpose of p.ography it is enough to make the following distinctions: Orthoclase, for the potash felspar; oligoclase and arnociene, for the soda felspar; labradorite; arnathue, with the intermediate biteronite. His experiments were worked while he explained them."

The C. S. S. aims to remind shorthand writers that if it takes nine tailors to make a man, there are coat makers and pant makers, metaphori-

cally speaking, required to make up the perfect shorthand inner man, as well as material being; and also to promote good-feeling "among shorthand writers of different systems and various degrees of proficiency."

Four ladies represented female shorthand interests at the Convention; not a bad representation, and one which promises to be considerably increased by next year, when the International Congress of the United States and Canada meets here.

In fact there does not seem to be a cloud in the sky to mar the prosperity of the new society, smiled upon as it is by the general public, forwarded by its able president, Mr. Bradley, chief of the Hansard and of the editorial staff of the *Mail*, and Mr. Thomas Bengough, an official city reporter, as Secretary-Treasurer; taken by the hand by such able representatives of shorthand in the United States as Messrs. Murphy and Edwards, Congressional reporters, and Mr. Thornton, ex-President of the N. Y. State Association; and last, but not least, under the patronage of His Excellency, the Marquis of Lorne.

INSTITUTE OF SHORTHAND WRITERS.

The Institute of Shorthand Writers practicing in the London, Eng., Courts of Law is now fairly established in Chancery Lane. It includes amongst its numbers all who were *bona-fide* in practice at the time of the formation of the Institute, and special facilities will be given for the admission of those who had commenced their articles at that time. Other members will only be admitted after having served a period of not less than five years as an articulated pupil or assistant to a member. They will also be required to furnish proof of having received a good general education. The certificates recognized for this purpose will be those of the Oxford and Cambridge local examinations; the matriculation of the University of London, the first or second class certificates of the College of Preceptors, "or any other which the Council may deem to be of equivalent value as an educational test." The Institute numbers already nearly one hundred members. It will not be an easy matter for incompetent men to obtain membership in such a society: its barriers to incompetence are what they should be. The *Reporters' Magazine* would like to see the whole profession hedged around in a similar manner: there would not then it thinks be so many parasites as there are now accepting work at a price that a copying clerk would reject.

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