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OFFICES:

MONTREAL, (Telephone 1255) Board of Trade Building
TORONTO, (Telephone 2148) - 26 Front St. West
LONDON, ENG. (J. Meredith McKim) 109 Fleet Street, E.C
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THE WEEKLY PRESS.

100 CANA
PAPERS.

There is hardly a line of business in Canada which is so overdone by competition as the newspaper business. This is so true of the weekly field that no apology is required for referring here to the recent demise of The Victoria Globe, although that was a daily journal. In announcing its own suspension, The Globe said: "The Victoria Daily Globe has suspended publication. We think this announcement will be received by the public with very general regret. The expense of publishing a third paper in a field the size of Victoria is very great, and the failure to receive the degree of support anticipated renders it necessary to cease publication, though arrangements may be made to continue the paper at an early day. In the political field, The Globe has been remarkably successful, and it is a deep disappointment to the promoters of the enter-

prise that circumstances are such as to prevent The Globe from witnessing the triumph, in a few weeks, of the cause it so vigorously and successfully espoused."

No one whose heart is in newspaper work cares to speak flippantly or unkindly of a contemporary that has given up the struggle. But it is necessary to say that the passion for starting papers in Canada in fields already well served is altogether too prevalent. Ambition, usually political, though sometimes personal, is often the cause. Do not publishers themselves indirectly contribute to this habit of calling new journals into existence to compete with them? If a paper falls under the displeasure of some party or section, its contemporaries often accelerate the movement by criticizing it unmercifully. A new paper is then proposed, and capital is got for it, partly because people believe that it will fill a felt want and do better than those already in existence. The readiness of some to start new ventures is encouraged by the abusive tone some newspapers adopt towards each other. The average man has a poor opinion of the press as a whole. Is he not justified, when editors put in print such contemptuous opinions of one another?

To keep and increase its hold upon the community, the weekly is sometimes obliged to be on the lookout for chances to build up its reputation as a purveyor of news. This last function is surely the chief aim of a "newspaper," however able its editorial articles may be, or however original its jokes. The Parry Sound Star has seized such an opportunity by issuing daily a small four-page "war edition" at 5c. per copy. The publisher says: "It is the intention of the publishers to publish a daily edition of The Star if the encouragement from the public warrants its issue. We do not expect to make money out of the venture even at the price we are compelled to charge for it, but will be content if we can get sufficient to cover cost of special telegrams and cost of issue. Our telegrams are direct from the seat of war and are not a re-hash of the news in the daily press, our instructions being to supply us with news later than the morning papers issue. By reason of the recent change of time on the railway the news from Toronto by the morning papers will be forty-eight hours old before it reaches here. Our purpose is to give news up to the hour of going to press. In future, if sufficient support is furnished, we will print daily and of such a size as will suit the news and advertisers." Started in this modest and cautious way, the venture