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ACCOUNTANTS.

Editor Monetary Times:

SIR,—In my desire to avoid trespassing too largely upon your valuable space, I have evidently failed to make sufficiently clear the precise nature of my objections to your anonymous correspondent's letter of April 2nd. Everyone will endorse the first four paragraphs of that communication, and especially the first and fourth which are so obviously reasonable, and in the public interest, that they have my unreserved approval. The concluding paragraph embodies three propositions of interest to the business public and the accountants of Toronto. Adopting the forceful and direct style of his preceding remarks I understand these propositions to be:

1. The accountants of Toronto possess but a superficial knowledge of the science of accountancy.

2. They are inferior in thoroughness and equipment to the English and American accountants.

3. An organization on the lines of the English institutes is needed to elevate the profession in Toronto to the plane which its importance merits.

If this is not the impression sought to be created in the minds of your readers by the paragraph in question a number of others as well as I have failed to perceive its purpose, but if this is a fair interpretation I submit that my protest is quite in order. The opinions of anonymous writers are entitled to but little respect. The opinions of a business man are always entitled to consideration. Business men may and doubtless do entertain diverse opinions upon this and almost every other subject, but I should be sorry to learn that any fair-minded business man had, after due enquiry, formed such an unfavorable estimate of Toronto accountants as a class. The objectionable paragraph argues an intimate knowledge of the subject of professional accountancy standards in England, United States and Toronto, and the business public and the profession are entitled to such information as will enable them to give such representations their proper weight. To state my position clearly and without possibility of being misunderstood, I wish to assert now that the facts do not bear out any one of these propositions.

When "Fiat Lux" justifies his statements under his own signature, I will endeavor to present the other side of the question, and we will leave the public to judge of the merits of the case. What other course would Mr. Hunter suggest as proper for me to pursue?

GEO. EDWARDS.

April 22nd, 1902.

THE Montreal Business Men's League, which was organized a little over a year ago, is about to publish a handsome booklet, presenting the attractions of the city from a tourist's point of view, and will distribute it gratis throughout the United States.

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