

for 1894 it is said to be very good, but we haven't seen it. The *Pickering News* had a 20-page edition with scores of portraits of leading men, and plenty of good reading matter. But to mention all the holiday and special editions received would take too much space. The men who get them up, will find that like virtue they bring their own reward. They take extra time, money, and energy, but they pay if properly managed. They increase the respect and confidence of both readers and advertisers and will not that be sufficient reward?

Our Montreal letter will be found exceedingly interesting this month. The fact that the *Star* managed to have its Christmas number passed through the customs house free of duty will excite the chagrin of Canadian printers and lithographers, who pay 12 per cent. on their presses, and from 20 to 35 per cent. on ink, paper, etc. It is time this farce was ended, and printers should force their claims on the Government without delay and without any uncertain note in the tune. Montreal customs house does not seem to bear a very enviable reputation in Toronto. A prominent printer stated in a recent speech at a public gathering, that some articles which were taxed 35 per cent. at the Toronto port, came in free at Montreal.

What our correspondent has to say about the Bishop failure will be found interesting, with the probability of a more interesting chapter later on.

Newspaper men are beginning to figure prominently as candidates for parliamentary honors, especially for the Provincial Legislature of Ontario. The latest addition to the list is John Craig, proprietor of the *Fergus News Record*, who has accepted the Reform nomination for East Wellington. Mr. Craig has been more or less of a politician in this riding for 25 years, and has done heavy work for the party's sake. This habit of newspaper men to strive after political honors is one which can be looked at in different ways, according to who is doing the looking. Politics do not pay. This is a safe assertion when addressing men who have clean hands. They do not pay financially and, in the present state of rampant partyism, they do not pay morally or intellectually. The newspaper man will find hard enough work getting through St. Peter's portals without adding political sins. Far be it from us to say that sins are a necessary concomitant of political life. There are pure men in parliament, no doubt, although the writer doesn't know many of them either personally or by reputation. But there is a tendency in this year of grace to sink conscience, morals and intellect in the interests of "the party," and what has been hinted at is merely that and no more. The newspaper man who has a plant without liens, mortgages and book debts, and a neat surplus in the bank, can safely go into politics if his ambition lies that way, and if his morality is strong. There are newspaper men in parliament today, whose presses are under chattel mortgage, and we have no hesitation in saying that, from a business point of view, these men are fools. A publisher's first duty is to his journals and his creditors, his second duty may be to his country, in fact it is, if he thinks so. Every paper published in Canada needs careful attention if it is to be a paying concern. This careful attention can be expected only from its owner. Moreover, the job department depends still more on the personal attention given it by the proprietor. Bad estimating will soon swamp any printer.

AN APPEAL.

THE officers of the Canadian Press Association have issued the following circular to editors and others not yet connected with the Association:

Dear Sir, The Executive of the Canadian Press Association takes the liberty of suggesting that you should be a member of the Association. There are many respects in which you could be of assistance to the Association, and in which it would be of assistance to you. It needs your aid and advice in securing desirable changes in the tariff on printers' supplies, amendments to the libel laws (civil and criminal), better value for outside advertising, the maintenance of prices for advertising and printing, and in the discussion of the many subjects affecting the bread and butter of the whole newspaper fraternity. Much more can be done by associated action than by individual effort.

The benefits to be derived from the realization of the objects of the Association will be enjoyed by all engaged in newspaper work, whether connected with the Association or not, but it is evident that the larger our membership, the greater will be our influence on the powers that be, whether at Toronto or Ottawa, and thus the more likely we are to secure the legislative changes aimed at. Why not join?

The discussions at the annual meetings, and the papers prepared, are all on subjects of interest to newspaper men. No one can attend the meetings without pleasure—they bring us all into closer touch with each other; no one can hear the discussions without profit—they are all on subjects in which we are personally and vitally concerned. The next annual meeting will be held in Toronto on February 8th and 9th. Why not come?

You have still time to become a member for 1894, and to secure your certificate in time to enable you to attend the annual meeting. The admission fee is \$5, the annual certificate entitling the holder to a special rate on the railways throughout the year. If you think well of the suggestion that you should join, enclose your application to the Secretary, with a copy of your newspaper.

Every other profession and trade has its own organization, embracing a wide membership. Why stand aloof from the Canadian Press Association when it is trying to do the craft good? You are as greatly concerned in securing the objects aimed at by the Association as we are, and you will be as greatly benefitted as the rest of us when these objects shall have been secured. Why not lend us a hand in securing them?

On behalf of the Executive,

A. F. PIRIE, President,

J. B. MACLEAN, Secretary.

A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.

The nice young man who applied to the city editor for a place on the reportorial staff was more or less independent, because his folks had money.

"I don't have to work, don't you know," he said, rather patronizingly, to the city editor.

The city editor looked him over carelessly.

"You bet your life you will, if you expect to keep your job on this paper," he said sharply, and gave the youth an assignment that was kept on hand for the purpose.