

THE ENGLISH LIBEL LAW.

The new president of the British Institute of Journalists tells a good story about his first experience with the law of libel. While editing a London district weekly, "whose business it was to attack the people who got their roads made at the expense of the vestry, and who committed other iniquities of the same sort," he got into a libel action. "My proprietor and I," relates Sir Edward Russell, "went to see Mr. Cleasby, of the Temple—afterwards Baron Cleasby—who was retained for our case. He said: 'Oh, apologise!' 'Apologise,' I said, 'why the man is one of the biggest scoundrels in London.' 'That may be,' said Mr. Cleasby, 'but there may be half-a-dozen like him in the vestry itself, another half-dozen on the jury who will try the case.' So after a hard struggle, my proprietor—who was really a high-spirited man, with a considerable sense of public justice—apologised, but we had to pay, even at that, some £170 by way of expenses." We are afraid that this story could be matched in nearly every newspaper office in the kingdom where anything like outspoken criticism of public affairs is attempted.—British and Colonial Printer.

OFFICE AND STAFF EXPENSES.

The expenditure of a newspaper that is operated on a large scale was as follows last year: Editorial and literary matter, \$220,000; local news, \$290,000; illustrations, \$180,000; correspondents, \$125,000; telegraph, \$65,000; cable, \$27,000;

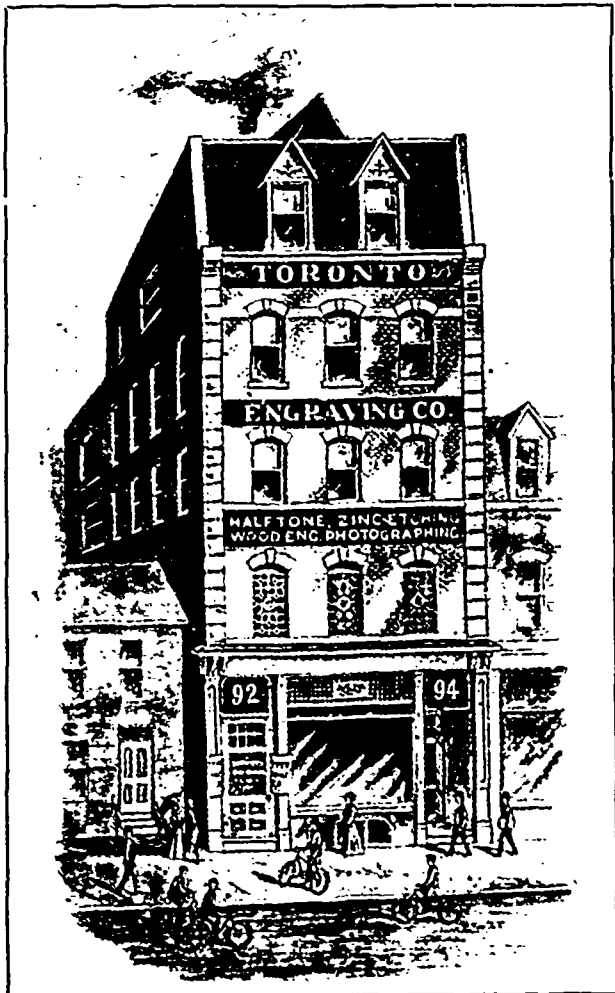
mechanical department, \$410,500; paper, \$617,000; business office, ink, rent, light, etc., \$219,000. This paper has a very expensive staff of editorial writers, but the \$220,000 is largely for special articles of a very miscellaneous character. Most papers of the same class—the cheap "great daily"—put about 2 per cent. of their total expenditure on this item.—From "The Business of a Newspaper," by J. Lincoln Stiffens, in Scribner's Magazine.

CHEAP MEN, INFERIOR WORK.

Why should a newspaper expect to publish a first-class newspaper with the help of third-class reporters and editors? Too many papers drag along with ten-dollars-a-week men on the staff, when a smaller number of men at better salaries would improve the news columns wonderfully. It is better to have quality than quantity, but it is the happy combination of both quality and quantity that gives the paper a standing in the community it can never hope to reach through the quantitative work of mediocre men.—Newspaperdom.

NEW PRESBYTERIAN PAPER.

The MacLean Publishing Co., of Toronto, are said to be about to issue shortly a paper representing the Presbyterian Church, and arrangements are being made to have the best writers and to issue a high-class publication.



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