

THE ENGLISH AND THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER.

By W. C. Nic Hol, Vancouver Province.

In England the newspaper aims to be a great instructive agency—a school for the grown-ups.

In America the newspaper that is most successful is the one displaying most conspicuous enterprise in getting the news, and most entertaining style in telling the news.

In England the strongest type of newspaperman—or journalist rather—is the essayist best informed on general or special subjects.

In America it is the man who discovers the "news" in advance of his rivals, the one who displays conspicuous skill in making a story in which the great reading public will be interested, with the actual news as its plot or framework, the one who at all sacrifices gets and prints the news first.

Of course the definition of "news" is necessarily different, even as the communities for which the British journalist and the American newspapermen spend their lives are essentially different.

On the other side of the Atlantic the men who make the newspaper know nothing of the enthusiasm in discovering the news by personal effort and "news instinct" that is the keynote of newspaper work on this side of the water.

But on the other hand the hustling American newspaperman misses the sense of pride in accuracy and absolute devotion to honesty and fact that is the essence of his British brother's professional glory.

There is no doubt that British journalism would be improved—so far as Canadian estimates of improvement may be made—by the adoption of something like American "hustle" in getting the news, in return the American press might with advantage take a leaf from the British on the importance of accuracy and the dangers of superlative sensationalism, which lessens public respect for the paper and quite frequently destroys its reputation in the eyes of the community.

Between the two extremes the newspapers of Canada present a happy medium. They have as a rule infinitely greater dignity and love of fairness and accuracy than their American contemporaries: they have, too, the spirit of enterprise in getting and presenting the news that the British press undoubtedly misses altogether. In no part of the world, population always considered, can better newspapers, taking the word in all its senses, be found.

W. A. Morehouse, of The Examiner, has been appointed postmaster of Sherbrooke, in succession to the late Hon. J. G. Robertson. The appointment is an excellent one.

The McAlpine Printing and Publishing Co., of Halifax, have purchased the business of the Nova Scotia Printing Co. H. W. Barnes retains the ownership of The Presbyterian Witness. H. M. McAlpine will be manager of the new concern, which, besides a general printing business, will publish McAlpine's directories and Belcher's Almanac.

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