

The New President of the I. T. U.

We congratulate the members of Toronto Typographical Union on the election of one of their number, Mr. W. B. Prescott, to the presidency of the International Union at the recent convention in Chicago. This is the third consecutive time Mr. Prescott has attained that honor, showing the high place he occupies in the estimation of his fellow-craftsmen. Mr. Prescott is not yet thirty years of age, and his title of "Boy President" is an apt one, though his executive ability and comprehensive ideas on all matters coming under his jurisdiction have seldom been equalled by much older men. We publish herewith an excellent portrait of Mr. Prescott, taken from a photo kindly loaned us by Mr. W. H. Parr, late of the Star staff.

A NUMBER of British journalists have been doing this continent and taking in the World's Fair. THE IMPRINT ventures the prediction that they will return home more than ever attached to the blanket form of newspaper — minus the news. There is more news in any of the big Toronto dailies in a day than can be found in any British paper in a week.

THE latest arrival in the arena of trade journalism is the Canadian Engineer, published in Toronto and Montreal, and devoted to the mechanical, mining, marine, locomotive, sanitary and other branches of the engineering trades. The new paper is very practical, and besides many technical and illustrated articles, contains an immense budget of news relating to the mechanical, mining and general manufacturing trades of Canada.

MR. T. H. PRESTON, Brantford Expositor, has recently returned after spending a pleasant month in British Columbia. He likes that province well, but Ontario better.

Testing the Typograph.

THE Canadian Printer and Publisher gives a record of five weeks' work on a Typograph machine used in the office of the J. B. McLean Publishing Company, showing an apparent saving on 515,500 ems of \$22 as compared with hand composition, without taking into consideration repairs or depreciation. The McLean Company are publishers of several trade journals, including the Canadian Printer and Publisher, and they employ the machine for composition on them all but the last named, which is turned out by the office of Apted Bros., than whom no better printers are in the business. The article goes on to say . . .



W. B. PRESCOTT, PRESIDENT I. T. U.

Against this saving must be put the quality of the work turned out. This cannot be called satisfactory, and will admit of considerable improvement before it can compare favorably with type. One objection to the work is the numerous hair lines or 'fins,' as they are technically called, that appear between many of the letters, giving a page of type a very slovenly appearance. The Typograph people, however, claim that 'fins' will not occur where the matrices are kept clean. Another objection, and one that detracts from the appearance of the work, is the faulty alignment, or the tendency of the matrices to fall out of line, giving the lines a ragged or irregular appearance. It is claimed that the operator can readily detect this defect if he closely watches his work, but in labor-saving machines no labor is saved if the operator has to waste a few minutes each hour to scan the product, and perhaps to adjust the linobars. The defects of 'fins' and bad alignment are not peculiar to the Typograph, as an ordinary glance at those journals using the Mergenthaler shows that they exist in its product."

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