

Canadian
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kets.

The fear that Canadian publishers would flood the British and United States markets with cheap editions is utterly unfounded, as the Copyright Acts of those countries prohibit the importation and sale of unauthorised editions, and impose a heavy penalty for violation of the law. Canadian publishers, therefore, could not flood either market with cheap editions.

It has happened that orders for books sent to London have been returned with "cannot supply" marked thereon, thus forcing Canadians to buy those books from the United States publishers.

On the other hand, the British publisher prints a cheap edition of a work by a United States author. This cheap edition is exported to Canada. An illustration on this point is furnished in the case of F. Marion Crawford's book, "The Ralstons." This book was published in the United States at \$2. It was published simultaneously in Great Britain at 12s. But the British publishers printed a cheap Colonial edition which sold in Canada for 75 cents. This cheap edition was on sale in Canada within a day or two after the publication of the United States \$2 edition. Here, then, is a British publisher issuing a cheap paper edition for sale in Canada—when one of the main objections of the opponents of the Canadian Act, which is made to do duty on every occasion, is that the Canadian publisher will issue cheap paper editions which will flood the United States market, in competition with the more expensive United States editions! It must be distinctly understood, however, that this cheap paper edition, which is sold in Canada, does *not* flood the United States market, for the very excellent reason, already stated, that the United States Copyright Act prohibits its importation or sale in the United States.

Imports
allowed from
Britain.

The Canadian Act permits the importation of British editions of works, whether copyrighted here or published under the royalty clause of the Act; but excludes foreign editions.

No piracy in
Canadian
Act.

Should the author (be he British or American) neglect to secure copyright in Great Britain, any publisher may reprint the work there without paying the author.

Should the author neglect to secure copyright in the United States, any publisher may reprint the work there without paying the author.

Should the author neglect to secure copyright in Canada, no Canadian publisher could reprint the work in Canada without paying the author 10 per cent. royalty.

It is therefore clearly seen that, while the British and United States Acts permit the piracy of authors' works, the Canadian Act does not.

The Royalty
clause.

The introduction of the royalty clause in the Canadian Act was not original with the promoters thereof. The idea was suggested by the Foreign Reprints Act, passed by the Imperial Parliament, which allows a United States publisher, or other foreign publisher, who has printed a copyright book without permission, to supply the Canadian market on payment of a royalty of 12½ per cent., collected on the whole-sale price of the book, which royalty goes to the British copyright owner. It was but natural for the Canadian to desire to be placed on an equal footing with the foreign publisher, so far as his own market was concerned. Therefore a royalty of 10 per cent. on the retail price of the book was suggested.

Furthermore, many difficulties have been encountered in collecting the royalty on imports, it being almost impossible to keep a complete and accurate list at every Custom House, and to check every invoice therefrom. The collection of the royalty on reprints, on the other hand, is provided for by the Canadian law in a perfectly safe manner, as the Inland Revenue Department is to stamp the title page of each copy of every book issued, and before this is done the royalty must be paid to the Government to the credit of the author. As a matter of fact, then, the author will exchange his royalty of 12½ per cent. on imports, which is uncertain of collection, for a royalty on reprints of 10 per cent. on the retail price, which is certain of collection.

Geographical
position.

In considering this question, the geographical position of Canada, side by side with the United States, ought not to be overlooked. This fact makes Canada's position very different indeed from that of any other British Colony.

Advantages
given to
authors.

Compare the United States Copyright Act, now in operation, with the Canadian Copyright Act, and it will be seen that many advantages are given to authors by the latter.

To secure copyright in the United States, the British author must print his book there from type set within the limits of the United States, or from plates made from type set within the limits of the United States. The Canadian Act provides for no such restriction, but allows both British and United States authors to set the type in Canada, or print from plates, as they may think best. In anticipation of the Canadian Act