

Books and Notions

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BOOKS AND NOTIONS, TORONTO.

We enclose in this number an envelope and blank order. We ask subscribers to send their remittances upon receipt of their paper. The amount that each one owes BOOKS AND NOTIONS is but small, but when you consider that we have over two thousand dollars due to us in these small amounts, you will see the necessity there is for pressing for them. To those who owe us nothing, and who have already paid for the coming year, we owe our thanks, and ask them to use the envelope to enclose information from their districts which may be interesting to the trade, or communications on any of the various subjects now under discussion.

ONE of the best and most popular features of the *Bookseller* and *The Publishers' Weekly* is the "Want" advertisements, "Situations Vacant," "Situations Wanted," "Business Chances," which includes stocks and business for sale and wanted, "Old and Rare Books" wanted or for sale, "Articles for Exchange," etc.

COMMENCING with the January number we will devote a page to this purpose, and hope that our subscribers will aid us by sending in announcements and carefully reading those which appear.

These announcements will be inserted at the low price of one cent a word each time, which barely pays for setting them up.

When for any reason you do not wish to give your own name and address, you may have answers addressed care of BOOKS AND NOTIONS, in which case they will be remitted to your address on payment of postage. We ask for your hearty co-operation.

WITH the January number, BOOKS AND NOTIONS

will assume a new shape and will be greatly improved. Many letters from subscribers and advertisers unite in asking us to adopt the style of the English *Bookseller*, which they unanimously declare to be, for many reasons, the best. We will accede to their request, and hope that our new volume will meet with the approval of our numerous friends. The support accorded to BOOKS AND NOTIONS has been so hearty that we feel justified in sparing neither trouble or expense upon it.

ONE of the very noticeable features of the last meeting of the Ontario Booksellers' Association was the cordial desire of all parties, retail, wholesale, jobbing and publishing, to sink their differences and work together for the general good. This is as it should be. There is nothing to be gained by quarrelling between different branches of a trade. All have a right to live and work, and the troubles that arise are easiest overcome by quiet, amicable conferences. Let each side yield that position which is most galling to his opponent, and by little acts of kindness and words of friendship keep up that goodfellowship which should exist between people who have business relations.

THE fifth annual gathering of the Newsdealers and Booksellers' Association of the United States was held in New York last month, and some good business done. One of their resolutions passed at that meeting deserves consideration from Canadian Newsdealers. It reads as follows :

"This Association recommends to Newsdealers an advance on the retail price of all daily papers which do not permit of a profit of at least one-half cent on the printed retail price."

The mover of the resolution said : " But few papers could exist without us, and we have as much right to say to publishers that they live by our services, as that we exist by them. Publishers labor under the impression that we are obliged to handle their publications regardless of the profit on them ; that the demand necessitates keeping them. After having attained immense circulation through the good-will and energy of the Newsdealers, the publishers repudiate their services by advancing the prices beyond such figures as will enable the dealers to make a living profit."

They petitioned Congress to issue coins of the value of half a cent, as they frequently feel their want ; the absence of such a coin forcing them to be, as expressed in their petition, "in countless cases either underpaid industrial slaves, or overpaid usurers, or boycotters of certain newspapers."

They also ask that the present rate for second-class postal matter in the United States be perpetually continued, and that the rule permitting the return to