

done his duty. There is still room for other local contributions not of a news character, and The Trenton Advocate doubtless had something of that kind in view when it made the following announcement :

"We are starting a new department in The Advocate, which we think will be of general interest to our readers and would be glad to secure their cooperation in the matter. It is proposed to establish a club, to be composed of persons who will contribute, each week, a brief paragraph on some live current subject—which will be announced one week in advance. This new and interesting department will commence with next week's issue of The Advocate, which will be issued on January 4, and the topic for that week, which you are invited to give your views upon will be: 'How can the interests of Trenton be best promoted during the year 1900?' Please let us have your freely-expressed opinion on this subject, written as briefly and breezy as possible, not later than January 3. Thanking you in advance for your esteemed favor."

It may be possible to keep up a column of this kind without personally seeing the contributors and reminding them of their promise. But it is doubtful. This, or any similar department conducted by local contributors would be very interesting. Names need not be signed if the writers have any objection, and they often have. In fact, the keeping confidential of contributors' names is a very important (and difficult) matter in newspaper offices.

THE LIABILITY OF THE UNION

Edward Wunch, a linotype operator of Buffalo, has been awarded \$650 damages against David Shankland, president of Typographical Union No. 9, by a jury before Justice Childs in the Supreme Court of New York. This amount represents Wunch's salary of \$25 per week since June 30, 1899, when he was discharged from the composing-room of The Buffalo Evening News at the behest of the Typographical Union. Wunch instituted an action against Shankland for alleged conspiracy in forcing him out of his position because he refused to join the Typographical Union.

After Manager J. A. Butler, of The News, had testified that he considered Wunch a competent man, and wanted to retain him, but was compelled to dismiss him in order to prevent a strike, Judge Childs ruled that there was a conspiracy, and the only point to be considered by the jury was the question of damages.

THE CANADIAN BROWN AND CARVER CUTTER.

These cutters, manufactured for The Toronto Type Foundry Co., Limited, are coming into favor. One 50-inch machine has been sold, and is running in the well-known bookbindery in Toronto, of Warwick Bros. & Rutter, and a 50-inch machine is now being placed in the paper warehouse of the well known papermakers, Messrs. Ritchie & Ramsay, of Toronto. The Canadian Brown and Carver machine is a heavier and stronger machine than the same pattern machine made in the United States, and is lower in price.

THE EFFECT OF THE WAR ON THE DAILY.

THE popular idea that the proprietors of the big daily newspapers rejoice when the dogs of war are let loose, and their sheets are monopolized with news of battles won and lost, and lists of killed and wounded, is an entirely erroneous one. The public think that the enormous increase in circulation must mean an enormous increase in the amount of cash received. There are two errors in this connection. Firstly, as is well known, in a large proportion of cases, the money is in the business end of the paper. It is an equally well-known circumstance that war never tends to facilitate or further the interests of commerce, but rather acts as a damper; and the more important and the more closely related to a country's interests the war becomes so much the more is business paralyzed. When such a state of things exists, advertisers are backward and cautious. Why? Because people don't read their advertisements. They read about the war. They think about the war, and about nothing else. Everything must give place to the one all-absorbing topic. For this loss a temporarily increased circulation does not and cannot compensate.

Secondly, expenses are multiplied to a most alarming extent, where the attempt is made to keep strictly up-to-time, and to furnish the most reliable and authentic information with regard to the progress of events. The statement of the manager of one of the leading London penny dailies in this regard is significant. "I am confident" he said, "that if such a thing were possible as a permanent war, in which we were engaged, such as this one, and assuming of course that the papers felt bound to report it as they are doing, not more than two of these papers at most could withstand the strain, unless they were prepared for party reasons to run at a permanent loss." Certainly there is increased circulation, but its value is swamped in the extra cost of cabling, in telegraphic and office expenses and retaining an expensive staff. Another item is the paper upon which the news is printed. One London paper costs fourthings per copy—paper alone. In this case increase means dead loss, and the greater the increase the greater the loss. As an instance of the expenses entailed in cabling, one account of the battle of Elandslaagte, not a very long one, when it appeared in print cost its paper just \$1,500. Add to these considerations the constant worry and anxiety accompanying the work of those who are seeking each to be ahead of the other, and to unite accuracy with up-to-dateness; and it will be plain that all is not gold that glitters in newspaperdom any more than elsewhere. M.

The editor of The Kamloops Standard having spoken disrespectfully of Lieutenant-Governor McInnes, it is asserted, in a news despatch from Victoria, that he will be summoned before the bar of the House. No doubt the punishment will be either the thumb-screw or a dipping in boiling oil.

The Anglo-Canadian Music Publishing Company, Limited, Toronto, is taking action against The London Free Press Publishing Co., alleging breach of copyright in publishing the song "Soldiers of the Queen."