

that he is able to lay his hand on any volume at a moment's notice.

The compositors' room is on the first floor above, at about the same level as the gallery of the old church. It is

Ecce, etc., that go through the bindery every year, to say nothing of the immense output of miscellaneous literature, it is simply astonishing that so much is accomplished. The foreman, Mr.

now \$80,000 worth of printing machinery, etc., in the building, and the total assets are over \$600,000! Three hundred hands are employed in the manufacturing department, and forty-eight clerks in the offices and shipping room.

Of course there are considerable profits in a business of this kind. Something has to be set apart each year for new machinery, deterioration in value of plant, etc., and a substantial balance is then given to the Superannuated Ministers' fund. From time to time Dr. Briggs has been importuned to make grants to various churches and societies in need. It is just as well for all such applicants to know that the Book Committee is not permitted by its constitution to give one dollar to anything else than the Superannuation fund. It seems very appropriate that the institution founded seventy years ago, almost entirely by the self-denial and generosity of Methodist preachers, should now be a source of revenue to this worthy fund of the church.

With a splendid history, with most efficient management, and commanding the loyal support of the church, the future of our Book Room is apparently a bright one. In his last report to the Annual Conference the Book Steward closes with these words:

"Our Printing Establishment began in a resolution of Conference. Would that all our Conference resolutions had been as fruitful! Now seventy years old, with its eye not dimmed, nor its natural force abated, growing in grace and going on to perfection, ordained by preachers, and managed by preachers, this tireless evangelist, crowned with

without doubt the largest, ablest, and best appointed printing office in Canada. Here are employed a host of compositors under the direction of the experienced foreman, Mr. R. Miln and his energetic assistant, Mr. A. Pudsey. The *Christian Guardian*, *Methodist Magazine*, *Outlook*, *CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA*, and other publications are here prepared for the press, and the many miscellaneous books sent out by the house are put into type. It is needless to say that it is a busy place, as there is usually enough work to keep every man more than occupied. It is a well known fact that our Publishing Department is liberally patronized by those who are not Methodists. A Roman Catholic priest, who recently had an historical work printed at the Methodist Book Room, was asked why he took his book to this place. He replied, "It was with me, purely a matter of business. I found I could get better and cheaper work from Dr. Briggs than anywhere else."

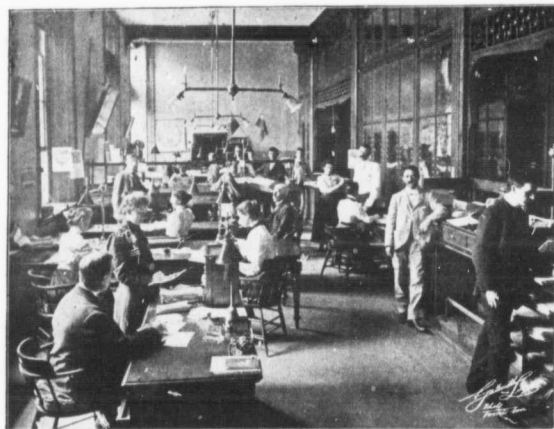
Our Sunday School papers and periodicals have attained a high standard of excellence under the able editorship of Rev. Dr. Withrow, who also edits the *Methodist Magazine*, which has recently completed its fiftieth volume.

The combined circulation of *Guardian*, *Magazine*, and Sunday School papers reaches 302,547 for each issue.

The bindery is, to a visitor, one of the most interesting departments of the establishment. It is always a hive of industry with men, boys and girls, actively engaged in putting the printed pages together into book form. To supply the Epworth League Reading course alone nearly ten thousand volumes have to be stitched every year. When one takes into consideration the hymn books, disciplines, minutes, *Magazines*, *Outlooks*,

Beatty, has his work well organized, and is assisted by a large number of helpers.

When our book and publishing house was started seventy years ago, the Conference gravely resolved—"That \$700 is sufficient to purchase all the apparatus



BUSINESS OFFICE, METHODIST BOOK AND PUBLISHING HOUSE.



A CORNER IN THE BOOK STEWARD'S OFFICE.

for a printing establishment." What would these worthy brethren think if they could walk through this immense institution to-day? Imagine their astonishment when informed that there is

three score and ten years' success, may well claim by the disciplinary tests of gifts, graces, and usefulness, the renewal of its commission for another seventy years."