

ANOTHER OF THE FAKES.

THE following dispatch, dated July 21st, was sent from Buffalo:—The office of Sunday Truth is decidedly the hottest place in Buffalo these days. Sidney G. Sherwood and Russell Osgoodby, until recently proprietors of the paper, are being hunted by irate citizens, but cannot be found. Sherwood and Osgoodby acquired control of Truth some six months ago. To make money and incidentally boom the circulation of the paper they started a rebus scheme. It was so simple that anyone could solve it almost at a glance. The usual conditions were attached, that the persons sending in the first correct answer with 50 cents and three months' subscription to the paper would receive a choice of pianos, watches, diamonds, etc. Other puzzles in rebus form followed one another, and the money came in lively. It is said that in this fashion, 25,000 names were added to the subscription list and some \$20,000 in cash received. Four persons succeeded in getting prizes, but they were a great disappointment. No one got a piano or a gold watch, and the diamond rings were worth eighty cents. The deluded contestants made descents upon the office, and it became so hot that Sherwood and Osgoodby transferred the paper to Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Miller, who are now so besieged by the angry contestants that it is a matter of discussion whether they will continue the publication of Truth. The girls and printers employed by Sherwood and Osgoodby have not been paid, and creditors are busily looking for the rebus pair.

Such schemes in these are only too well known in Canada, and of at least one of the parties mentioned above many tales are told in and around Toronto. The police authorities have been careless or else the laws of the country need changing. Such proceedings are a disgrace to American civilization.

COMPS. ON STRIKE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE differences between the printers in the News-Advertiser, Vancouver, and Mr. Cotton in regard to the scale of wages to be paid operators of the Rogers machines culminated and ended by the union men refusing to go to work. The News-Advertiser appeared as usual, apparently, not having had any trouble in getting men to operate the machines. Formerly the men setting type by hand worked by the piece, their average earnings being from \$22 to \$23 per week. The day's work was about ten hours. Since machines were introduced four months ago there has been a temporary arrangement, but the union at least insisted that their terms should be conceded. They demanded \$25 per week for night work, seven and a half hours to constitute a night's work, and \$24 a week for day work, eight hours a day. The proprietors offered \$22.50 for night work, eight hours, and \$21.50 per week day work. The printers also demanded that learners on machines be paid \$10 the first week, \$15 the second, \$21 the following four weeks, and after that the maximum scale. There were other demands about apprentices, some of which were agreed to and some refused. The real cause of the strike, however, was the refusal of Mr. Cotton to pay more than \$22.50 per week to machine operators. One night the News-Advertiser was set up by one operator, an apprentice, a reporter and the editor, and contained as much reading matter as formerly. Only the "make-up" betrayed a 'prentice hand. Without machines an issue or two would probably have been "skipped," or at best a greatly reduced sheet would have been published. The proprietors claim that the state of business will not warrant an increase in wages at the present

time. Opinions differ in regard to the action of the men, but in the main the prevailing sentiment is that in rejecting the offer of the publishers they have acted unwisely.

ELECTRICITY AND MANUFACTURE.

IN an editorial in the current issue of the American Machinist the following appears:

"A mechanical engineer, of an observing turn of mind, recently remarked that the small electric motor bid fair to revolutionize manufacture in many of its branches by placing men of small means more nearly on a level with those of large means, or great corporations or companies. And this, he reasoned, would result in improving the quality of things manufactured, and be in every way advantageous."

This may be a rosy view to take of the case, but there is considerable reason behind it. One of the greatest needs of the man working by himself, or in connection with two or three, or a half dozen others, is cheap motive power. He or they may require but little power, and that irregularly, but that little is wanted just as much as the large manufacturer wants a good deal. In this—the employment of motive power—the individual is, usually, at an enormous disadvantage as compared with the large manufacturer, with whom he must compete. This disadvantage begins with the first cost of motive plant, and follows all through its operations. The cost of engine and boiler, the space required for them, and the cost of fuel, water, attendance and repairs are enormously against the isolation of manufacture; they are all in favor of centralization.

But with the small electric motor of satisfactory construction and operation, with this and electricity on tap, to use an expressive phrase, furnished at reasonable cost, this disadvantage would become strikingly less. With the ability to take power "into the back yard," and to pay for just what is used, the individual would be able to make a very satisfactory step toward the front; in some branches of the trade he might get quite to the front.

The individual, or the little band of two or three, would have one thing in his or their favor, and not a small thing in its operations, either. That is human nature. No man will work for another as well as he will for himself, or at least the exceptions to this rule are no more than sufficient to prove it. With average humanity the difference in this respect is greater than would generally be believed, that is to say, the difference in the results that obtain. It is greater than the most interested party—the individual workman—would believe, himself, until he had made the trial.

As to the quality of what is made to sell, the individual would see the absolute necessity of preserving that as he never—no matter how honest he might be—could see it when working for the large employer of labor. Working for himself he would realize that his chances of success, of gaining and preserving a reputation that should create and maintain a demand for what he made, depended upon himself alone. Working for others there is great likelihood that the habit, or practice, of thinking that one man cannot accomplish much anyway in keeping up the reputation of a great concern, or its solvency, as to that matter will take possession of the individual.—Paper and Press.

The Hornet is a new paper in Vancouver, B.C. It is conducted by McNiven & Gordon.