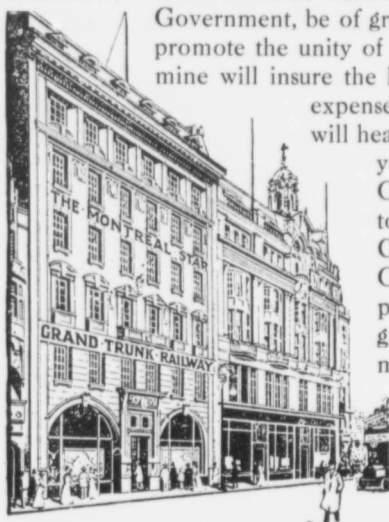

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF A GREAT NEWSPAPER

The South-African War

The last two years mentioned were associated with one of the most important incidents in the history of the *Star* and one which has a great place in the National and Imperial records of the Dominion. On October 5, 1899, when war with the Transvaal became imminent—coupled with obvious complications in Europe which made a great international conflict possible—the *Star* declared editorially that the Canadian Government's inaction was disgraceful and on the following day specifically urged the immediate sending of a large contingent of troops from the Dominion. The response was an avalanche of telegrams, letters and messages, urging action and in many cases volunteering personally for the front. At the same time (October 5), Sir Charles Tupper, leader of the Opposition, telegraphed the Premier as follows: "I hope you will send a contingent of Canadian volunteers to aid England in the Transvaal. I know it will be warmly welcomed by the British

Government, be of great service to Canada, and promote the unity of the Empire. A friend of mine will insure the lives and limbs at his own expense to a million dollars and I will heartily support in Parliament your action in this matter."

On October 9-10-11, in reply to an inquiry addressed to Canadian Mayors, Militia Officers and others, the *Star* published hundreds of telegrams and whole pages of messages which demanded prompt Government action. The press of the country had meanwhile taken the matter up and on October 11 it was announced that a contin-



The Montreal Star Offices, London, Eng.