

## NOTES HERE AND THERE.

IF Mr. Maclean, M. P., whose remarks at the Mulock banquet are printed in this issue, will devote his usual energy to the task of facilitating intercourse between the English and Canadian press he will find there is as much fame to be acquired in that direction as in penny postage. The exchange list is a valuable suggestion. The number of errors about matters European and British which are carefully copied into Canadian papers from United States exchanges is large. Ignorance, not malice, is usually at the root of the error. The other day, *The World* itself had a clipping which stated that the Queen, alone of English sovereigns, possessed a private fortune and would die out of debt. Our people are mostly British in origin or by birth. They notice little misstatements like this, and get to have a low opinion of our newspapers for publishing them.

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As for the cable service, its cost sends a shiver through every publisher. Well, all I have to say is this: Some paper some day will start a really good service. The others will tumble over themselves to follow suit. Thus a lot of money will be spent through individual competition which would be saved by a united service organized now.

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There is hardly a newspaperman who has not, at one time or another in the discharge of his duty, had trouble with some officious policeman. Mr. C. A. Abraham, of *The Woodstock Sentinel-Review*, has had a dispute with the local police which has ended in court and a nominal fine of a dollar. The policeman declined to give up a photograph of Middleton, the railway promoter, or furnish some information asked for. Mr. Abraham remarked that the two policemen might go to the devil. They did not, apparently, wish to go, hence the case. Considering that the press is doing more every day in the week to unearth crime and to keep criminals in check than all the police forces from Vancouver to Halifax, the sympathy of all will be with Mr. Abraham, whose language was mild considering the provocation. The police and press can always work together, and, after an experience of 18 years in city newspaper life, the writer never knew of a case where—given ordinary horse sense on the part of the police—the press could not be made the most valuable auxiliary of the authorities in detecting and preventing crime.

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A friend who visited the Toronto Exhibition relates the following incident: He was talking to one of the English firms exhibiting, whose manager made the following statement: "Your newspapers here are run in a very queer way. A number of advertising men have asked me to let them write up our goods and put it in as reading matter, charging 5c. a line. If they were to write it up as a news item it would be all right, but the 'bloomin'' fools will put in any 'bloomin'' thing you tell them. You know we would never think of such a thing at 'ome and I wouldn't do it here."

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"The other day I was reading the reminiscences of Mr. Cooper, for many years editor of *The Edinburgh Scotsman*. He records with frankness his conversations and experiences during 20 years with some of the leading public men in Great Britain—Gladstone, Harcourt, Rosebery, and others. Anyone who has read the book will see what a sensation a similar work by a Canadian newspaperman would create. There is a distinct

opening here for some journalist—who is about to retire. The man in active service who wrote a book recording his actual knowledge of politics and politicians—would have to retire.

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Apropos of this, consider the biographies of late lamented politicians published in the Canadian press. Does anyone suppose that, in fulness of information, insight into character, and regard for historical truth, these biographical sketches come within a mile of reality? There is, of course, a wise rule: *De mortuis nil nisi bonum*. This, I am informed by a journalistic B.A., means: Of the dead nothing is left but the bones. Certainly, of the whole truth concerning Canadian politicians' careers, very little is recorded by the press when they pass away. The biography of Mr. Gladstone by *The London Times*, recently, is an example of what might be done in Canada.

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The harsh criticisms of the leading Canadian newspapers upon each other have a painful effect upon timid bystanders like myself. Seeing a good deal of the newspapermen, I never would have dreamed they were so abandoned, if their contemporaries had not kindly printed the necessary warnings. In future, for this reason (and also on account of stringency in the money market), I carry nothing of value in my pockets. Please take note, therefore, that 10c. for lunch, a tin watch (polished to resemble silver), and a latch-key comprise the whole of my wealth, and should relieve me of all fear of robbery. C.

## U. S. MOVE FOR HIGHER PRICED WEEKLIES.

*The Review and News*, of Lockland, Ohio, edited by R. W. Spangler, president of the Ohio State Press Association, says: "The recent advance in the price of paper is beginning to be felt by newspaper publishers, and as there is no prospect of a reduction, but rather of further increase, publishers are beginning to think seriously of charging more for their papers. Several of the eastern dailies have already raised their price, and the weekly newspapers will have to follow suit. The day of the dollar weekly is almost past."

## A CARD COMPOSITION CONTEST.

Harry Buckle, of the Buckle Printing Co., Limited, Winnipeg, won the first prize in the business card competition contest inaugurated lately by *The Toronto Type Foundry Co., Limited's* Winnipeg branch. The second prize was won by Pollard & Daniels, Winnipeg, and the third by *The Medicine Hat News* office. There were 30 competitors. The award was to the "most artistic" specimen presented, and prizes were for \$15, \$10 and \$5 worth of printing material respectively. E. G. Ralph, of *The Inland Printer*, made the award. It is said that the company intends to inaugurate another similar contest this Fall.

## ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE STREET CARS.

It is not so many years ago that defacement of natural scenery by conspicuous advertisements was one of the things that made a ride over the country almost hideous. That is not so now, and this change was brought about largely by creating a public sentiment adverse to such advertising. The same concert of action on the part of the publishers will result in the removal of advertisements from the street cars and the placing of them where they belong—in the newspapers and regularly appearing publications.—W. F. Cook in *Newspaperdom*.