

JANUARY, 1914

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Tanner's Trade ❖ Circular ❖ for Printers & Stationers

Vol. IX—No. 1

JANUARY, 1914

Gratis and Post Free

CELLULOID COMMITTEE'S REPORT

IN October 1912, Mr. R. McKenna appointed a Committee to inquire and report as to the precautions necessary in the use of celluloid in manufacture and the handling and storage of celluloid and celluloid articles. The members of the Committee were : The Earl of Plymouth (Chairman); Prof. J. J. Dobbie, D.Sc., &c., Principal Government Chemist; Capt. Maurice B. Lloyd; Mr. H. M. Robinson, Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories; Mr. E. O. Sachs, F.R.S., Chairman of the Executive of the British Fire Prevention Committee; Mr. J. Ollis, Chief Officer of the Public Control Department of the L.C.C. and Mr. C. G. Markbreiter (Secretary). The Committee has held 29 meetings, at 15 of which evidence was taken, and 40 witnesses have been examined. Premises have been visited in London and elsewhere to see the conditions under which celluloid is made, stored, &c., and visits have been paid to France and Germany to study the operation and effect of the regulations in force there. Important chemical experiments have been made in the Government laboratory, and altogether the whole question has been thoroughly thrashed out in a most masterly manner.

A good deal of evidence centred round the Moor Lane fire, and from the printing trade Mr. R. J. Lake, the Secretary of the Federation of Master Printers, and Mr. B. T. Wynkoop appeared before the Committee in the interests of the trade.

It cannot be denied that legislation will be suggested on the lines of the Committee's report, but whether this will take the form of a public Bill, or whether it will be left for local authorities to deal with, cannot at present be definitely stated, but it would seem that the latter course is the more probable, having regard to the fact that the L.C.C., the Corporation of London and the City of Glasgow have included the control of celluloid in their General Powers Bills for 1914.

The Committee recommend that regulations should be made dealing with the following points :

(A) In the workrooms. The greatest danger is due to the creation of waste. Waste should not be allowed to accumulate on the floor,

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but should be collected from time to time, and removed from the workrooms and placed in metal or wooden boxes provided with lids and marked "Celluloid Waste."

The amount of celluloid in the workrooms should be limited as far as possible, and should in no case exceed one day's requirements.

Adequate means of extinguishing fire should be provided. When the quantity is small, buckets of water will suffice: if large quantities are used, there should be hydrants or sprinklers in addition.

Smoking and the introduction of matches into the workrooms should be prohibited.

Open lights and fires should be eliminated.

Adequate means of escape in case of fire: gangways, passages and staircases to be of sufficient breadth, and left free from obstruction, doors should open outward.

In addition to the above it is suggested that all premises should either be licensed or registered. In conclusion, the Committee state they are aware that many firms, in their own interests and for the safety of the workmen, take precautions far in excess of the above, but they do not think that compulsory regulations need take a more stringent form than that outlined above. The observance of these regulations should not be a hardship to any firm using celluloid, and the Committee know of no processes which should be exempted from them with the exception of those in which celluloid is used as a lacquer or varnish applied to materials themselves non-inflammable.

An interesting and instructive lecture was delivered recently, says the *Sales and Wants Advertiser*, by Mr. J. Geddes, on Developments in Letterpress Machines. At the outset Mr. Geddes said a few words to the younger members of the trade as to the necessity of recognising the value of printing in the world. Printing stamped the present civilisation as different from that of any other. For instance, the wisdom and knowledge of Assyria, Chaldea, Egypt, Rome and Greece were based upon their possession by the few. To-day the printing press had not merely permanised their knowledge for the future, but had made it the available possession of the masses. Further, by the advance and development of perfection in illustrating, the beauty was brought within the reach of all. It was only a hundred years ago that the printing of a demy folio sheet at 1,100 per hour—one side only—was hailed as a veritable miracle. To-day, one machine could produce 16 pp. papers—printed on both sides and folded—at 160,000 per hour. The lecturer dealt in detail with the characteristics, efficiency and drawbacks of present-day machines. Their construction was dealt with instructively, and the lecture was followed with interest by the audience.

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News in Brief

MR. JUSTICE RIDLEY recently stated in the High Courts, that he understood that barristers no longer reported for the *Times*, but he was at once corrected by two counsel, one of them the *Times* representative in his court.

Lord Northcliffe has consented to become a patron of the Caxton Convalescent Home, Limpsfield, and has forwarded the secretary a donation of 100 guineas. The following gentlemen connected with the trade have recently become patrons of the Home: Viscount Hambleden, Sir Horace Brooks Marshall and Sir George A. Riddell.

Mr. G. E. Phillips, in a recent lecture, emphasised the necessity of well diffused lighting in the printing office. He gave three ways of obtaining the desired result:

- (a) Placing the source of light sufficiently high to be well above the eye level, and using scientifically designed reflectors.
- (b) Enclose lamps in a semi-transparent container.
- (c) By placing lamps in entirely opaque bowls hung from the ceiling, the light being directed by means of reflectors to a perfectly white ceiling.

The Countess of Warwick has been appointed editor of the women's section of the *Daily Sketch*.

The will of Mr. J. Rowley, printer, &c., of Watling Street, E.C., shows an estate valued at £30,145 gross, with net personalty of £26,153; that of Mr. E. Holden, of Southport, newspaper proprietor, at £72,788; and that of Mr. J. J. Poole of Moseley, at £19,244 gross, with net personalty of £16,443. He left his business as a printer and £500 to his grandson, and his manager, in equal shares, and £50 to his foreman printer.

"Where legal proceedings are launched alleging misconduct the publication of the pleadings, such as the statement of claim, or an affidavit alleging the misconduct, is wrong and may amount to a contempt of court which will be punished," said Mr. Justice Scrutton recently. Having regard to this statement, it would be wise for magazine proprietors to exercise more care than has been the case in the past.

Judging by the number of orders which have recently been received from America by British printers' engineers, it would appear as if the new tariff is proving advantageous to manufacturers in this country.

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TANNER'S TRADE CIRCULAR

It is locally believed in Newcastle that Messrs. Lambert, of that City, were the first to issue Christmas cards for sale, and that the Rev. Edward Bradley ("Cuthbert Bede") was the first to design a picture card of Christmas greetings in 1845.

Mr. Robbins, manager of the Press Association, is of opinion that the item of news which caused the greatest sensation in England was the message which arrived on September 3, 1870, announcing the French surrender at Sedan. If it beat the effect of the news of the Relief of Mafeking, it must have been a sight worthy of the gods.

A course of eight lectures on the development of letterpress printing and book illustration will be delivered by Mr. R. A. Peddie, librarian of the St. Bride Foundation Typographical Library, at the St. Bride Printing School, during the spring. The first lecture will be given on January 12th, on letterpress printing in the 15th and 16th centuries, and no charge will be made for admission. The following is the synopsis of the initial lecture: The invention of movable types; the early printers and their books; Gothic and Roman types; music printing; the learned characters; Greek and Hebrew; introduction of italic letter; use of Arabic and Slavonic; general characteristics of book-printing 1450-1600.

Mr. J. H. Mason, the teacher of typography at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, Holborn, on the invitation of Count Kessler, of Weimar, a German authority on arts and crafts, has visited the Fatherland, for the purpose of assisting to start a printing press on the lines of the L.C.C. school. The first book is to be a reprint of Virgil's Eclogues, for which a splendid series of woodcuts has been produced by the French sculptor, Maillot.

We shall be pleased to forward a copy of this Trade Circular, monthly, post free, to any printer in the British Isles, on receipt of application.

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AN INDEX to a few of the things in which we can assist you. Your enquiries are invited for samples, estimates and other information for these or similar items.

Designing, Drawing on Tone or Aluminium or Zinc Plates; Transfer Writing, etc.; Labels for Canned Fruits and Provisions; General Lithography; Letterpress Posters; Advertising Transparencies (self-adhesive); Line, Half-tone and Tri-Colour Blocks; Three-Colour Printing; Photo Lithography; Pocket Calendars; Leaflets and Date Blocks; Perpetual Daily Date Cards with Rims; Award Certificates (floral and ornamental); Zenith Decorative Transparencies (self-adhesive); Pictorial Posters and Window Bills; "In Memoriam" Cards (single, folding and framing); Bordered Posters; Bordered Cards; Ruled Blanks for Invoices, Billheads, etc.; Patriotic Posters, Cards and Circulars.

TAYLOR BROS. LEEDS

THE TRADE COLOR PRINTERS.

Telegrams—"ALMANAC, LEEDS."

Telephone—481.

Practical Notes

THE MAKING OF ESTIMATES

IT is the practice for some firms to build up their estimates with figures supplied by the various departments involved in the production of the work. For example, a job which entailed composition, machining and folding, stitching and cutting would be submitted in turn to the departmental overseers, the figures put together in the counting house, and the cost of outside work and profit added. This system is open to grave objections.

Let us put ourselves for a moment in the position of the departmental overseer. He is the man responsible for the efficiency and the profitable output of his department, and it is for him to turn out every job which goes through his hands in such a way that it falls below or at least within the estimated price. He knows if he does not do this he is open to criticism. He has to estimate for a catalogue which is, in his opinion, worth 100 hours composition. He immediately puts down 120 hours in order to provide himself with a margin to meet circumstances which may not arise.

But this is not all. The machine-room overseer and the bindery foreman both act in the same way, and the cumulative effect of these margins so raises the price that the job is lost.

The right way, and the only way if work is to be secured in the face of present-day competition, is to employ a fully qualified and practical printer as an estimator, and let him dictate to the productive staff how long a job shall take. If the composing department knows that a time limit of ten hours has been set for a certain job, although in the normal way it would take twelve hours, it is morally certain that every man will "pull out" in order to produce it in the given time.

The estimator, if he be a good man, will see to it that the firm do not lose in the long run. He will know when it is necessary—and when not—to cut the figures down to the lowest possible margin.

It is, after all, quite obvious that a business which is controlled by expert brains in the office is likely to be more efficient than one which is controlled by the various departments—for the latter is what departmental estimating really amounts to. It is the estimating department which should decide the time value of each job, and not the people who have to do the work. While self-preservation is one of the first instincts of human nature, an employer will never prevent his departmental managers from over-estimating and thus jeopardising the chances of securing a job.

FRANK H. GRACE in the *Printers' Register*.

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DRY MOUNTING

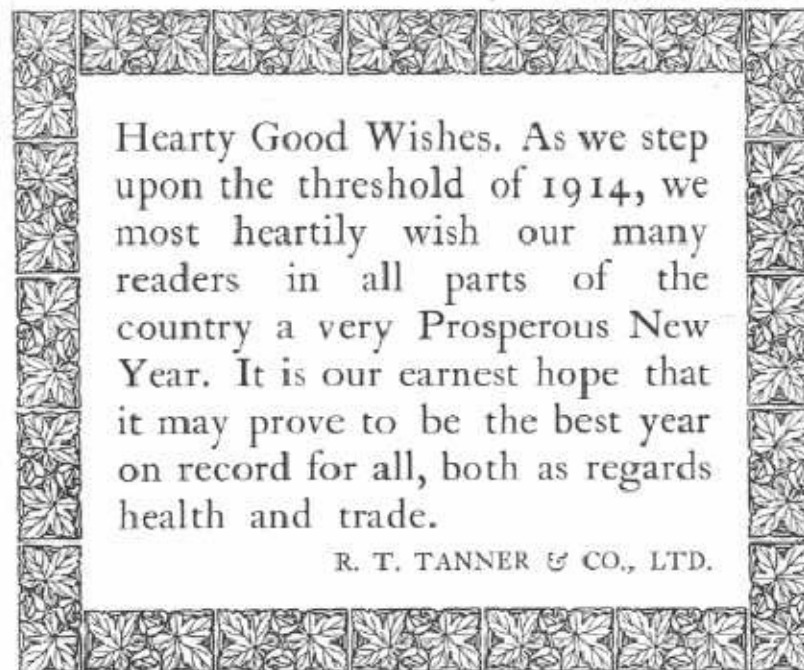
It is satisfactory to be able to report that we continue busy in our dry mounting department with high-class work. At the same time we believe there are many of our readers who have not yet realised the advantages of this method of mounting, and we should be pleased to submit to such readers samples of our work. There is a "finish" and "tone" about it which, we feel convinced, will appeal especially to modern art printers. Prints can be mounted on any substance of paper or board without cockling, and the most artistic results may be obtained by means of underlying tints, or plate-marking, and the prices we are in a position to quote now brings the process within the reach of all.

HINTS

When proving up a duotone plate, or even three and four-colour process plates, it is well to lock up with the colour plate a small solid tint block, so that when the job is completed there will be a print showing the actual tint or colour used. This will be found convenient afterward when printing the job and it is desired to know just what shade of ink was used in the proving.

A very handy and quick method for locking small jobs of plates or type on the slant is to place a Hempel quoin on each side of the job. If a further slant is required, place two quoins instead of one, putting a piece of reglet between the two quoins to keep them from slipping.

The American Printer.



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What Others are Doing.

THE United Society of Bookbinders and Machine Rulers have now taken possession of their newly acquired premises at 21 John Street, Holborn, W.C., to which address all communications should be sent in future.

Attention has been drawn in our pages to the Graphic World Exhibition, to be held this year at Leipzig. It is now announced that the Russian Government has decided to participate officially in the event.

Messrs. Hazell, Watson and Viney, Ltd., have declared an interim dividend, on the ordinary shares, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. For the half year ended September 30th last, *London Opinion* has declared an interim dividend at the rate of 200 per cent. per annum, being the same as for the corresponding period of last year. At the annual general meeting of Linotype and Machinery, Ltd., Sir Joseph Lawrence announced that the business was going on soundly, and that they had increased their stock, and altogether were £70,000 in cash results better off than they were last year, but no dividend was declared. The Chairman also stated that since the inception of the business, they had paid in dividends more than the whole of the cash capital they had received from the shareholders. The report of Printing Machinery Co., Ltd., states that dividends at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, and 5 per cent. on the preference shares have been paid to the shareholders.

The fifth International Printing Exhibition will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, N., from May 13th to May 30th next. £300 will be distributed in prizes in competitions of one kind and another, full particulars of which are given in the official bulletin, published at the Exhibition offices, 124 Holborn, E.C., where all communications should be addressed.

From the last report of the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co., it would appear that the various Harmsworth companies, who subscribed the bulk of the capital, are likely in future to reap a substantial benefit from their investments.

At a recent meeting held at the Institute of Journalists, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—That the number and activity of so-called "Press Agents," receiving payment from theatrical and musical managers and artists for procuring the gratuitous insertion of

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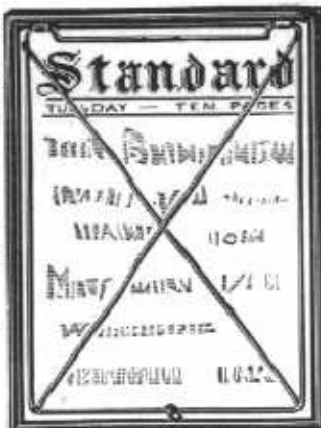
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TANNER'S TRADE CIRCULAR

laudatory articles and paragraphs in newspapers, elsewhere than in the advertisement columns, is detrimental not only to the interests of the newspapers concerned and of drama and music, but also to those of the public.

A movement is on foot in the United States to raise funds to erect a monument to the late J. J. Pratt of Alabama, who, it is claimed, was the inventor of the typewriter, and who died in 1905.

From a report issued by the Board of Trade, it appears that there were a larger number of industrial disputes during the first eight months of the year than was the case during the corresponding months of last year, or during the whole of the last ten years. The number of disputes was 960, affecting nearly half a million workers, and resulting in the enormous loss of seven million working days. Ten per cent. were upon questions of principle, while 86 per cent. arose on questions of pay. The number of disputes settled by direct negotiation between the parties or their representatives amounted to 74 per cent.

Just another reminder to the effect that we always have on hand a wide range of job lines in almost every quality of paper. If you send us your requirements we are almost sure to have something suitable for your purpose.

The master printers of East France have decided to issue a fortnightly paper of their own.

It is now seven years since the Prevention of Corruption Act came into force, and during that time there have been eighty prosecutions.

The American Printer recently initiated a competition offering book prizes as awards for a contest in "printshop knowledge." The work involved in answering the fifty questions would in itself give a competitor valuable knowledge.

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Announcements from our customers to appear in this column are inserted free of charge, but they must be received by the 15th of the month to appear in the following month's issue. Such announcements will only be inserted once, unless a request is received to repeat same. Replies may be addressed to R. T. TANNER & Co., Ltd. (under Box numbers), when they will be forwarded to Advertisers.

TO PROGRESSIVE PRINTERS.—Manager, with unique practical and administrative experience, desires change, and invites enquiries from firms of repute. Thorough knowledge of all grades of work, costs, etc. Unquestionable references and proved records. At present in South Wales.—Box 332.

A CITY FIRM wish to recommend a competent Stationery Assistant, with a thorough knowledge of the trade, for a berth in the country.—Box 331.

OVERSEER. Case and Machine Departments, with thorough experience in general printing office doing a good class of colour work, especially in letterpress map printing. Also a knowledge of litho, printing and in preparing transfers from type, etc.—Box 334.

MACHINE MINDER, disengaged, seeks Sit., Wharfs., Plates and press; general jobbing all round man.—Box 330.

DISPLAY COMP. (S.), seeks sit., jobbing, illus. cat., posters, advert., artistic headings, etc.—Apply Box 327.

A SITUATION WANTED by a Man who has been employed by a large printing firm as general handy man—care of machinery, repairs to premises, etc.; highest references.—Box 335.

YOUTH, 20, seeks better situation as Improver on Wharfs, or demys, or would look after plates. Good references. Good wages. Local preferred.—Box 336.

DICTAPHONE OUTFIT, electrically driven, comprising dictating, transcribing, and cylinder shaving machines, complete, with all accessories, for sale, cheap.—Box 337.

PRINTERS AND STATIONERS.—White Paper Warehouseman seeks sit. 20 years' experience, used to all classes of paper. First-class references. Age 37.—Box A 1.

WORKS MANAGER desires change. Over ten years' experience with high-class work. Estimates, costs, buying, organisation, resource, tact. Excellent testimonials. London or country.—Box A 2.

PRINTER'S ORDER CLERK seeks change. Age 27. Has had good experience of general stationery, printing, and estimating, or manager's assistant.—Apply Box "Z."

BUSINESS WANTED.—Printing and Stationery business Wanted, in any good class locality, town or country; must bear strict investigation.—Write Box A 3.

STEREOTYPER seeks Sit., Moulder, Caster, Finisher, Take small foundry.—"Pick," c/o Mr. Birch, 39, Loftus Road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

APPRENTICE.—Wanted to apprentice a lad to Compositor, age 14. Premium given.—Apply 10, Northcote Road, Walthamstow, E.

WANTED, an Improver (Machinist), able to take charge of cylinder and gas engines, and fill up time at case, in country printing office. State wages required and references.—Box 339.

LITHOGRAPHY.—Thoroughly competent flat-bed offset Minder (N.S.) for London. State age, experience and wages required.—Box 338.

TYPE—Brevier (Stephenson and Blake), about 12 cwt. in paper, very little used and in good condition 70 lb. (not point system).—Hudson and Robinson, 21, Cannon Street, E.C.

PRACTICAL PRINTER (30), desires change as Assistant Manager or other responsible position. Keen estimator and used to costing, interviewing, etc.; well up in all branches of the trade; could take sole charge of branch establishment.—Box 343.

MACHINE MINDER, Middle, seeks situation. Half-tone, electros, stereos, three-colour and bookwork. Disengaged.—F. P., 81 Goodly Station Road, Tunbridge Wells.

FOR SALE.—An old established Manufacturing Stationers, note paper and envelopes, all high-class. Good management, thoroughly genuine. Factory two floors, S.E. London. Printing could be added. Low price for quick sale.—Box 342.

MACHINE MINDER (23) seeks change, experienced on wharfs., plates, half-tone, comm. cats., gas engines, motors.—Apply Box 341.

ASSISTANT (Printers and Stationers), age 22, seeks change, with prospects of a permanent situation. Used to good class commercial work. Knowledge of office, warehouse and shop work. Also giving out paper, ordering, etc. Good stock-keeper, and has a general knowledge of the trade.—Apply Box 340.

MINDER seeks Sit.; plates, wharfs., comm. half-tone, railway and Government printing. (Soc.)—R. F., 13 Theatre Street, Norwich.

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| Ivory | Chocolate | Elephant | Earth |
| Laurel | Fawn | Black | Coffee |
| French Grey | Dun Grey | Cloud Grey | Dove |
| Cafe au Lait | Moth Brown | Slate Grey | |

Supplied in Three Textures—

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|---------------|----------------|
| Antique | 11/3 per gross |
| Linen Faced | 12/6 " " |
| Frieze Finish | 12/6 " " |

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