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PIANO



Toronto, April 16, 1909.
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QUESTIONABLE LIBERTY
Though Sir James Whitney had a big majority in Ontario, he had not, remarks the Toronto Star, a majority big enough to carry local option under his own law. There was a majority of some 60,000 against reciprocity, but it would have required 40,000 more to give the three-fifths majority required for prohibition. Liberty to buy and sell whiskey is evidently more precious than liberty to buy and sell food.

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UP TO SIR JAMES
Sir Jas. Whitney in his address at the Academy of Music on Friday night blamed Sir Wilfrid Laurier for the failure of Ontario to secure a port on Hudson Bay. Sir Wilfrid, it is true, turned down the request for Port Nelson, but he left office with the matter still unsettled. Mr. Borden and Mr. Roblin must now assume full responsibility for the final division of territory. They cannot hide behind Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

HOLD BACK ARTIST
Sir Jas. Whitney is an adept at the hold-back game—holding back advance legislation and administrative reform. He has held back, says the Peterboro Examiner, tax reform, held back by his apathy, tuberculosis treatment reform; he has held back improvement of the Act for compensating workmen engaged in factories. As a hold-up he shines in regard to the report of Dr. Merchant on bilingual schools, by withholding it up until after the election; and, it is safe betting, that the agreement respecting the boundaries of Ontario and Manitoba will not see daylight until after the elections, on December 11th. It is a beautiful thing to be held, but it is better to be consistent.

TAKE WHITNEY AT HIS WORD
"The public man who hesitates to say definitely his opinion on a question is a public fool," said Sir James Whitney's latest elegant contribution to the literature of the campaign given at the Academy of Music on Friday. The Premier was referring to the attitude of the Liberal party to the bilingual school problem. Premier Whitney will have no cause for complaint if the people take him at his own word. What is the attitude of the Government of which he is the head towards bilingual schools? Leader Rowell has been vainly endeavoring to secure a straight answer. Premier Whitney himself says there are no bilingual schools, and he says this in the face of the fact that in scores of primary schools in the province both French and English are taught and in many of them, more French than English. Hon. Mr. Foy a member of the Whitney cabinet says bilingual schools are illegal and must be abolished. Hon. Mr. Reaume, another member of the cabinet, says that those who are talking most about bilingual schools know least about them, and that Hon. Mr. Foy speaks for himself only and not for the Government.

It is directly charged against the Whitney Government says the Woodstock Review, that it is playing a double game, seeking to secure the good will and the votes of both extremes. A little plain speaking on the part of Premier Whitney on this matter would be appreciated. What does he propose to do, or does he propose to do anything?

WHITNEY AND LABORING MEN
There is little ground for surprise that Sir James Whitney is opposed to, or, at the best, indifferent to the claims of labor upon him and his government. It's in the blood. He side-tracked the urgent demand of the labor organization representing the working men and the working men's interests of the province.

For years the Workmen's Compensation Act has been a mockery as far as it is permitted, of justice to the working man and his family. Sir James Whitney, premier, had the advanced British act as a model upon which to form improvements of the Act. But instead of acting, he referred the matter to a Commissioner Sir James Meredith, who, no matter how great a jurist he is, is still the man of judicial mind, affected, no doubt by his training and habit of political thought. He, remarks the Peterboro Examiner, is a "Tory" by training and instinct, and is by habit, opposed to new departures and is insensibly perhaps, partial to the privileged classes.

When we have this attitude of Sir James Whitney and his government, towards labor and labor interests, it is not surprising that the word has gone out from the Conservatives headquarters that Mr. Allan Studholme, the labor candidate in East Hamilton is to be crushed. The Hamilton Spectator, of November, gives local voice to this appeal. It says:

"Remember, every Conservative vote is needed to overthrow the conspiracy of the Liberals and Studholme in East Hamilton, to overthrow the government candidate. Register at once. What is Mr. Studholme's crime that he is to be made the object of a direct and deadly attack from the party of the Whitney Government? With a straight party majority of 70 in a house of less than a hundred members certainly there is no great danger to the government from having in the Legislature one solitary representative of the Labor interests. Mr. Studholme is guilty, in the eyes of the Whitney Government on three counts. He is independent; he will not fall down and worship and slavishly follow the head of the autocracy in Queen's park. Then he is a labor man, the representative of labor, the only direct one too, in the House. He must be kept down. Labor must be kept in its place. It shall have nobody to speak officially and directly for it in the Legislature. Mr. Studholme's presence in the House, with his sturdy independence, with his fearless advocacy of the rights of labor, makes the battle in favor of the privileged classes so much harder. Allan Studholme and the Studholmeism, must be destroyed. Therefore, "register at once"—kill him.

VOTE FOR MR. C. E. WEEKS AND HELP STRENGTHEN MR. STUDHOLME'S HANDS IN THE LEGISLATURE.
The theory that the three-fifths requirement is needed to give permanence to local option by-laws is disproved by the effective test of experience. On January 2 last there were 134 municipalities in this Province where local option had been in force for three years or more and where, therefore, the question of repeal could be voted on. In 76 of these the by-law had been carried on the old majority plan, and therefore could not be repealed by a majority vote. In these 134 places local option was so permanently established that only three repeal contests were brought on and none of the three was among the 76 that carried on a majority plan. In the three places voting the poll stood, for local option, 1,043, against 529.

PERMANENCE THEORY DISPROVED
The three-fifths requirement was not needed in any of the places where it applied. It was not needed in any of the 76 that had been carried from its alleged benefits. It is not needed to prevent the bringing of repeal votes. It is not needed to prevent repeal when a contest is brought on. If the popular vote ruled, 918 bars would have been closed in the last five years. Because of the three-fifths' handicap 421 bars have, despite the popular

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SIR JAMES IS BLIND
The following from the Toronto Telegram (Conservative) is a sample of the many roasts handed out to the Premier by those of his political faith:

"Sir James Whitney, like an ancient ostrich, plunges his head in the sand and says there are no bilingual schools. 'I see no such thing, I hear of no such thing; let us have peace.' A rebellion within the ranks of the Conservative party in Ontario alone can enable Sir James Whitney to lift his head and clean the sand out of his eyes. Ontario needs a phalanx of new members in the new House who believe that the preservation of the English language in Ontario is worth the destruction of one of the many Governments."

EDUCATIONAL POLICY OF LIBERALS
If the youth of this province are to receive an education to fit them for citizenship, a more progressive and adequate educational policy is needed. We propose:— To promote a more co-operative relation between the primary schools, the high schools and the universities; more liberal grants in aid of primary education; the promotion of industrial training and technical instruction in urban and rural communities; the restoration of model schools, with a view to increase the supply and efficiency of teachers. To provide thorough adequate training schools, a sufficient supply of competent teachers, and thus insure under proper regulations that the pupils in every school in the province receives a thorough English education.

VOTE FOR MR. C. E. WEEKS AND BRING ABOUT THESE CONDITIONS
REFORM IN TAXATION
The present system under which taxation is levied, for municipal purposes, has caused profound discontent in two well defined quarters—in the great cities and in New Ontario. In and about growing cities a large number of vacant lots are being held by speculators, who are waiting until the growth of population and improvements, made by others, add 20, 30, 50, or 100 per cent, to the value of their holdings. Meantime these holders are paying taxes only on the bare value of their land. On the other hand holders of adjoining property, who have erected valuable buildings, and thus added to the possibly selling price not only of their own improved property but of vacant lands along side, are compelled to pay taxes on the value of their land plus the value of the buildings erected thereon. The facts need only to be stated to show the manifest injustice of the system. The Liberal platform provides that each municipality shall be given the right to so adjust its system of taxation as to remove grievances such as these. It does not propose to say that all municipalities shall collect all their taxes on land values. It does propose that each municipality shall adopt the basis of taxation it deems best suited to its own needs. Premier Whitney denounces what he calls this checker-board system of taxation shall be levied, for local purposes in other matters. Some townships and towns have prohibited the liquor traffic while others have not. Why not allow equal freedom of choice as to the manner in which taxation shall be levied, for local purposes, as well?

VOTE FOR MR. C. E. WEEKS AND TAX REFORM.
STILL QUIBBLING
(Woodstock Sentinel-Review) Premier Whitney repeats that there are no bilingual schools, and explains what he means by the statement. "There are schools," he says, "where the pupils have to be taught, not the French language, but the English lessons by means of French, till they

Shiloh's Cure
SHILOH'S CURE
SHILOH'S CURE
SHILOH'S CURE

COMPENSATION FOR WORKMEN
Em employers' liability insurance companies in the United States received nearly \$100,000,000 in premiums in 12 years, and there was paid of this in compensation to injured employees only \$30,000,000. A good deal of the difference went in law costs in fighting claims. In Britain in 1908 only 5,338 cases were taken into court, out of 28,957 cases in which compensation was paid injured workmen. In Ontario compensation is too seldom paid without litigation or the threat of it. The Liberal policy pledges the adoption of the British plan in Ontario with an absolute assurance of compensation in every case in which injury is sustained in industrial employment. The Rowell policy provides compensation for every soldier in the industrial army who is injured at the post of duty. WORKINGMEN, vote for MR. C. E. WEEKS, who will look after your interests in the House.

CONTEST NEARING CLOSE
Less than two weeks remain to polling day. Anything that is yet to be done to complete the work of organization should be done at once. The situation is one that calls for special activity on the part of the Liberals of the country. The Conservative majority in the Legislature is so great that Conservatives can afford to rest easily. There are few Conservatives of those who place their citizenship above party association, who do not realize in their hearts that the Whitney Government would be a much better government if the forces were more evenly divided in the House.

SENTIMENTALISM AND CRIME
New York Evening Post
We don't bother, indeed about the poor devils who are being convicted and sentenced every day, without any thing in their cases to give them notoriety; but no sooner does a case figure conspicuously in the newspapers than it is turned over in every conceivable way on its sentimental side and the monstrousness of the crime lost sight of in the human interest of the criminal. The wrecker of banks is a staunch comrade and a dead game sport; the wife murderer is not half bad when you get to know him; the debaucher of city councils and black-mailer of outcast woman and all-round corruptionist, is really a sterling fellow who did what he did simply as the agent of forces which he found lying around loose in the community. And in reinforcement of all these particular forms of the plea for charity comes that universal plea in the shape of an argumentum ad hominem: "Can you be sure you would have done any better if you had been in his place?"

WHY THIS HOSTILITY?
The question of tax reform is proving itself will be one of constant increasing importance in the general election campaign in Ontario. A number of leading Conservative journals in that Province are declaring themselves with no uncertain sound in favor of the Liberal policy in that regard. Says the Ottawa Citizen for example:

"Sir James shows only too clearly each time he talks on tax reform that his study on this question has been superficial, and he has allowed his prejudices to warp his judgment, or else, like the ostrich, has had his head buried so long in the sands of time that Ontario's insistence that it be given local option in taxation has stunned his reasoning faculties, so that he can find only flimsy excuses of this kind for side-stepping her demands." Sir James Whitney will go no farther than to promise a special committee of the Legislature to look into the question. He points to the injustice of taxing a farmer with a \$1,000 house on a \$4,000 farm, but he has to admit "that in cities and towns the case is not exactly the same." But all that is proposed to give the municipalities the right to decide whether or not to discriminate in favor of improvements in fixing their tax rates. It is rather remarkable, says the Winnipeg Free Press, that the Ontario Premier should be so hostile to local option in regard to municipal taxation.

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learn English." How is it then, that in Northern Ontario teachers are found actively engaged in teaching, who neither speak, nor understand the English language? Here is a translation of a bit of conversation carried on between a reporter and a school teacher in the valley of the Sturgeon River—the conversation was carried on in French for the reason that the teacher could speak no English.

"What do you teach?"
"A little French."
"Any history or geography?"
"Oh, no. We have no histories and there isn't a map in the whole school."
"Have the pupils any English text books?"
"What use would they be?"
"Whose French reader have you got?"
"Rochon's."
Premier Whitney may repeat that this is not a bilingual school, for the reason that only one language is taught. But the language is the French. There is not an English text book in the school. "What use would it be?" It appears that in that part of the country the people depend for what knowledge of English they are able to secure on the lumber camps, rather than on the schools.

STEWART'S BRIDGE ON THE GRAIN LINE
The following has been handed the Post for publication:
"For some months that peculiar engineering freak by which the traveler was to be compelled to make the letter 'S' in crossing the G.B. & S. in front of Wm. Stewart's has been the subject of much comment. The railroad crosses the concession line at this point on a skew, and in about seventeen feet of a cut, and the Company proceeded to give the public an overhead crossing, placing their bridge square across the track, and then making the approaches to the same on a big curve. "It now develops, however, that the Company did not adhere to their plans as approved, but proceeded to make the approaches much more crooked than the plans allowed. The result has been that Ops Council prevailed on the Board of Railway Commissioners to have the thing inspected; and after such inspection by the Assistant Chief Commissioner, Mr. D. Scott, and the Board's engineer, Mr. Simmons, the Board has condemned the thing, and ordered the railway company to straighten the approaches and the bridge to such an extent that there will be at least six feet in width on a straight line on the centre of the road allowance. This will permit of only a very slight bend in the approaches. Then too, the Board has promised to see that the new structure will be sufficiently strong to carry any traffic that shall go over it. This latter is an important provision, for the flimsy bridge the Company were building at this point was not considered strong enough for traction engines. "This case has been another instance of the value to the country of the Board of Railway Commissioners. Were it not for their jurisdiction it is plain the G.B. & S. would have disregarded the public interests, just to try and save themselves a couple of hundred dollars."

COUNCIL'S GRANT TO WINTER FAIR
From Tuesday's Post.
At the Council meeting last night a letter was read from Mr. D. A. McKenzie, secretary of the Lindsay Christmas Fair, asking for a grant of \$50.00 and also for the town hall and Kent-st. to hold the same. A committee from the executive of the Winter Fair, Messrs. John Carew, Geo. Jordan and Allan Gillies appointed on behalf of the Association, urged that the grant be made. The different gentlemen pointed out the great advantages the Fair was to the town. Large numbers of visitors were attracted to the town and the merchants profited greatly as a result voted the sum of \$50.00. Of the Fair. The directors gave their services gratuitously and each year the Fair has grown in importance. It is an occasion of public interest. There was no entrance fee and every one entered heartily into the project and the show created a competition, and tended each year to improve the quality of the exhibits. On motion of Deputy-Reeve Dobson and Ald. Babcock, the Winter Fair Directors were granted the use of Kent-st. and the Town Hall and also

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SAYS THE FARMERS ARE OBJECTING
From Tuesday's Post.
At the Council meeting last night Deputy-Reeve Dobson asked why the blackboard was not placed on the market for the bulleeting of prices for market produce in accordance with his resolution passed at a previous meeting. Ald. Babcock said that according to the statements made by farmers it would be better not to put up a blackboard. Some have said that if they put it up they would not attend market. They claimed the Council had no right to state at what prices they should sell their produce. Dep-Reeve Dobson said that the idea was to get the prices which the grocers would pay the farmers for their produce. If a man does not not know what he will pay for his produce before he does it, the grocery business has changed somewhat of late. Ald Babcock said if anyone ventured to dictate to sellers what they should ask for their produce they would be politely asked to get out.

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