

THE WHIG, 75th YEAR

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Daily Whig.

BLUFFING THE LEGISLATORS. The Private Bills committee of the legislature had occasion to resent the alleged intimidation of the Dental College in certain cases. A couple of bills were presented in behalf of men who desired to secure authority for service by act of parliament.

There may be occasion for special consideration of special cases occasionally, but never for the endorsement of individuals with rights to practice medicine or dentistry without the qualification which comes of study. There are educational tests, and the one who cannot pass them should not be licensed by permission of the legislature.

Another Grievance Gone. The Ontario government is given credit, by conservative papers, because Hon. Mr. Graham has provided, in the act governing the railway commission, for an enforcement of the agreements entered between railway companies and municipalities.

It is not denied that good ideas originate with the opposition to any government. But this particular idea was not advanced with the desire that Mr. Graham should make of it the use he has.

The conservatives in the commons fought the Radial bill desperately, and for two reasons—that the Whitney government was against it, and Hon. Mr. Gibson was for it. The strongest point made by the opponents of the bill was that it removed the railway from the jurisdiction of the Ontario railway commission, and that there would be no means of enforcing the company's agreements with the municipalities.

Would you be satisfied, asked Mr. Graham, in his softest and blindest manner, if the railway commission's act were changed so as to meet this point and provide for the recognition of agreements? The opponents of the measure would not say. They simply went on with their attempts to kill it.

AWAITS ACCEPTANCE. The challenge of the liberal party of this city to its old-time enemy, the conservative party, is very timely. Moreover, it cannot be ignored. Mr. Birmingham struck the keynote when he said that the agreement of 1906 was made in all honesty and it was kept by the liberals. Their active workers were named, and had there been any direct and positive evidence of their violation of the compact it would have been exposed, and to the damage of the party.

There was considerable bluff in the challenge of the conservatives in 1906. There was then a bye-election, and a government which was exceedingly solicitous that its supporter should be returned. The premier of the province, several of his colleagues, and a few of the minor lights came to Kingston to indirectly bribe it, with the promises of public favour, to indirectly intimidate all and sundry whom they could influence, and to hypnotize the few who might be induced to change their politics with a change of public policy.

ment. If it was a good thing in 1906, then it should be a good thing in 1908. Will the challenge for its renewal be accepted?

CONFESSING TO A FAILURE.

Mr. Whitney, smarting under the rebuke of friendly newspapers, which charged that he sacrificed the people's interests in not acquiring the property of the Electric Development company, made a statement in the legislature, on Tuesday. It was not candid, nor complete. Indeed the more the premier undertakes to elucidate the subject the deeper he involves himself.

The Electric Development company, unable to proceed according to original scheme, because of the government's alleged plans, took on financial pains. A representative of the English bondholders invited the government to assume the estate and manage it for the people. Mr. Whitney said "no," and lost forever the chance to give the people power at its own terms.

There are two excuses for failure to act: 1. That it would have taken \$20,000,000 to finance the scheme. It has not taken any large sum of money so far from Mr. Mackenzie to float the enterprise. He gives it his credit, and the government could have done the same thing without, as the Telegram has pointed out, incurring the raising or investing of a dollar.

2. That the government (Ross) agreed not to generate power at the Falls in opposition to the private companies. But every company, in acquiring the franchise agreed that in the event of forfeiting its rights by not carrying on the work for which it was incorporated, the park commissioners could operate the plant and enter upon a generation, transmission, and sale of electricity and power.

In the face of that provision Mr. Whitney whines that the Ross government made it impossible for its successors in office to do anything. The Electric Development company offered its rights and privileges to the government at an advantage, and Mr. Whitney wants the people to believe that he was powerless and that Mr. Ross wickedly and with malice aforethought left him in a helpless condition. Mr. McKay will later puncture that absurd argument, and show that all who do not coincide with the government are not the stupid persons Mr. Whitney represents them to be.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Of course there will be a revival of the purity agreement. Everyone wants a clean election. Two elections in early summer makes the average liberal smile. Hartly and Pense. It's a winning combination.

When McKay, the liberal leader, speaks some of these days, on the power question, there will be something doing. Verdict of the coroner's inquest at Collinwood - fire from overheated pipes or flues. Time for a report on the heating of our schools.

The conservatives at Ottawa talk of what they are going to do in the next election, and they do not want to meet the electors this year! The government's junket on the Tomcaming railway last year cost over \$4,000. And it was the people's money that was handed out with a lavish hand.

The obstruction at Ottawa, in the opinion of the Montreal Herald, is simply for the purpose of deferring the federal election. The Tories do not want it this year.

If the Aylesworth bill passes, and the rich men and corporations cannot finance elections, Zaudrav, Zaudrave, and the rest of the code combine will be put completely out of business.

The power question is all important in Toronto. The city is looking to the Hydro-Electric Commission for relief. The supreme test of its usefulness is at hand.

Mr. Beck, at St. Catharines, told a conservative meeting that the power commission was a great institution. Its usefulness will be demonstrated when it solves the Toronto problem.

"The Whitney government," says the Telegram, "has lacked size, it has lacked candour, it has lacked courage." The judgment of an independent conservative who has weighed some one in the balance and found him wanting.

The World's Montreal correspondent indulges in a vision of what may happen politically when Sir Wilfrid Laurier, because of the infirmities of old age, can no longer lead the liberals. An event so remote is hardly worth worrying over for the present.



MISS MADELE WILSON, Ensign of the Salvation Army.

Miss Madele Wilson, who arrived yesterday afternoon, from New York, to spend a week in Kingston, the city of her birth and girlhood days, is expected to have brought with her the remains of her father, the late Rev. Dr. Henry Wilson, whose sudden death, one month ago, came with such a shock to his daughters and his large community of friends all over the continent. At the last moment it was decided not to make the transfer. Miss Wilson dearly wished to lay her father's remains beside dust of kindred in Cataragui cemetery, with in whose limits the voice now stilled had, over forty years ago, been heard from the pulpit of Christ Church, her father's first charge. She wished to give the remains of her father to the city of Kingston, where he labored as curate of St. George's cathedral for seventeen years, and where he had so many lifelong friends.

Miss Wilson is still an ensign in the Salvation Army though she has not been on continually active work for some years. When she was in her teens, nineteen years ago, she gave herself to the work of the Army. For seven years she labored in England, and became intimate with the nobility as well as the unfortunates in the slums of London. Then, her health failed, and she had to retire from active work. However, she did not retire permanently. She still does Salvation Army duty, besides conducting a kindergarten school in New York. Miss Wilson hopes this week's stay in her native city will restore her strength. Besides, she wished to pay a visit to the scenes of her girlhood days and the scenes of her father's early labors, and also to visit her mother's grave at Cataragui. Kingston is justly proud of the distinguished daughter it gave to the work of the Salvation Army, and pleased to have her once more within its gates.

Miss Wilson is handsome and winsome. She is tall and graceful, and possessed of a pleasing personality. She is not only a fine platform speaker, but is witty, jovial and bright. Everybody who meets her likes her, for she has the magnetic power of her father, with whom she was so long such a close companion. Tomorrow morning, Miss Wilson will worship in the cathedral where her father ministered so long and faithfully. In the afternoon, at three o'clock, she will address a public meeting in the Salvation Army barracks, speaking particularly to old friends concerning her father's lifelong work. In connection with his translation, she intends reading a letter regarding his last hours, a letter written by his host in Atlanta, Ga., where his spirit took its flight. There will be a very large gathering to hear the ensign, who has the charm of the first Salvation Army commander in Kingston, the well-remembered Capt. Abby. On Sunday evening, at eight o'clock, Miss Wilson will again speak at the Salvation Army barracks.

Miss Wilson intends placing in the hands of the Dean of Ontario the first communion silver used by her late father, and the supplies he wore when curate of St. George's cathedral. other 3,000 farmers. Giving an average of four to every family, this will mean 12,000 people on the irrigated area, and allowing the usual average of urban and inter-urban population that this will support there ought to be in ten years' time a population of 200,000 people on this land.

A large proportion of the people settling on the land were from the British Isles, and there was a big movement from the United States. In addition to that a large deputation of farmers from Holland had just arrived to inspect the land, the object being to establish a large colony of Dutch farmers. Another deputation was coming from Denmark, and another from German Poland with the same object, while negotiations were going on for the sale of a large block for a Japanese agricultural colony. It was hoped that the agricultural colony which the government of Alberta proposed to establish would be on this irrigation area, and with this view the company had offered to give the crofters the land that would be necessary.

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