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THE WHIG, 75th YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 205 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at 10¢ per year. Edition at 2:30 and 4 o'clock p.m. WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG, is issued, published in parts on Monday and Thursday morning at \$1 a year. To United States, charge for postage has to be made 50¢ for Daily Whig, for Weekly.

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Daily Whig.

WINSTON'S FLIGHTY PEN

Winston Churchill is as eccentric as he is able, and so it is not astonishing to learn that while he accepted a commission from the government to visit South Africa, officially, he has dashed in literature professionally.

In other words he has written to one of the English magazines upon the South Africa situation, and has no doubt made use, injudiciously, of some of the information which came to him.

It should not be necessary for parliament to impress upon his mind the unwisdom of this course. The Earl of Salisbury, as a Cecil, became distinguished for his literary labours, especially during a period when he was not troubled with the care of state.

But he was, nevertheless, as a public controversialist, preparing for the next task that came to him in later years. Winston Churchill is not at liberty to retail state secrets, in articles he sends to the press. His official intercourse with people, at home and abroad, has been strictly confidential, and Lord Elgin, his superior in the colonial office, may find it necessary to elaborate this fact in the way best calculated to improve his under secretary.

The Canadian Courier illustrates the point more effectively by showing how improper it would be for Hon. Mr. Lemieux or Mr. Mackenzie King to reveal, by any subway methods, the information that came to them. They were the agents of the governments in Japan or England, and not privileged to peach to anyone. Canadians go often to the mother country for inspiration and ideals, but it will not do for them to sit as students at the feet of Winston Churchill and accept his teaching on diplomatic issues.

MUST NOT ASK QUESTIONS.

Are there to be model schools this year in Ontario, and how many? This is the question many have asked, and so far without eliciting any very satisfying information. That the government is quite certain its normal schools, even with the four additions, will not meet the demands of the hour, is made clear in the issue of a recent circular by the education department.

There is no reference in it as to where the model schools are to be presumably remote from the normal schools, and in districts rather than counties—but there are the usual instructions as to the terms and conditions with which the work of model schools will be conducted.

Mr. McKay, the leader of the opposition in the legislature, endeavored to get some light upon the subject by pointing to the estimates, and the record in them of \$10,000 for model schools, a reduction of only \$1,000 on the usual grant. He asked for a definite announcement as to the policy of the government regarding these schools.

He did not get much satisfaction. In the reply of the minister of education he said the model schools were to be reorganized so as to guarantee a higher training of teachers and higher grading of certificates. This would be done gradually. Where model schools were considered necessary they would be retained for some time. That was all, and it was so beautifully vague.

LIBERAL'S SOUND IDEA.

Mr. Preston, M.P.P., is not in favour of federal interference and even federal support of the technical schools. It suits the purpose occasionally to cry out against the dominion government's intrusion upon provincial preserve, against the federal parliament's disposition to do the work which should be left to the legislatures. But it suits the local government occasionally to shift its very plain duty.

CANADA'S FINANCES

THEY ARE IN EXCEEDINGLY GRATIFYING SHAPE.

Scarehead Prophecies of What is Coming—This is a Compliment to Hon. Mr. Fielding's Financial Policy.

Hon. Mr. Fielding, in his budget speech delivered on Tuesday, had to deal with a condition of finances which is exceedingly gratifying.

Perhaps no better evidence of the satisfactory character of the statement which he had to present can be desired than is to be found in the treatment thereof by the opposition organs.

Failing to discover opportunities for attack in the finance minister's statement, with scarehead prophecies of calamities which they affect to see descending upon us in the near future, and instead of reporting the finance minister's speech, and giving his facts in his own words, they resort to travestying it, and introducing their own derogatory language into every paragraph.

In this course, the intelligent reader will not fail to see a worthy compliment to the success of Hon. Mr. Fielding's financial policy.

It may be interesting to put a few of the minister's points in such form that they may be readily grasped by the busy reader. In the first place, it should be noted that the budget of 1907-8 does not deal with a full year, but only with nine months ending March 31st. This occurs because of a change made in the date of the ending of the fiscal year, and it will be well to bear in mind that the comparisons between this period of nine months and former periods of two months.

The estimates presented at the beginning of the fiscal year by Mr. Fielding, when considered in the light of results achieved, testify to his excellent grasp of the facts of the situation. His estimates were:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Consolidated fund: \$65,000,000. Excess realized: \$2,969,328. Evidently Hon. Mr. Fielding is a cautious and careful minister.

Expenditure on I. est. \$52,000,000. Under expended: \$4,542,162. Similarly, Hon. Mr. Fielding proved to have been no rash optimist when he estimated that in the nine months period he would have a surplus of \$13,000,000. The actual cash surplus realized was \$16,427,167. This is the largest surplus ever recorded in the history of the dominion, even when the accounts dealt with an entire year.

We have heard a good deal of the cry of "wolf!" by the opposition, which has sought to manufacture a bogey out of the rising figures of the public debt during the year, but there is a rapid retreating country, and within a few days the leading Tory organs have been declaring that the debt of the country is increasing "by leaps and bounds," with nothing to show for it. How false this is, a study of the public accounts will reveal.

Not only has there been no increase in the public debt during the year, but there has been an actual decrease of \$3,717,117. That is the amount of the nine months' revenue remaining over after all expenditures are covered, both on consolidated fund, and on capital account, and carried to liquidation of debt. That is certainly a good showing, and a practical refutation of the alarmist falsehoods of the opposition.

But it is not only by the official figures of the reduced total of the debt that the real estimate of the burden borne by the country is to be judged. The ratio of debt to national resources and their development must not be ignored in any study of the question, and here the liberals court the fullest inquiry. The 10½ years of liberal rule have been the years of greatest growth and expansion of the dominion—the years which made probably the greatest demands in proportion to revenue on the resources of the government to meet the needs of national growth that the dominion has experienced, or is likely to experience. And, as Mr. Fielding pointed out, the liberal government has proved equal to the situation. It has expended on capital account—that is, on works not chargeable to consolidated fund revenue or ordinary running account—\$127,000,000, and notwithstanding this great investment for

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the permanent benefit of the country, the public debt, instead of having been increased, as the opposition alleges, "by leaps and bounds," has been added to only to the extent of \$5,174,427 in the ten and three-quarters years. This sum is less by millions than the single year increase in the debt often recorded during the conservative regime. Even if we entirely ignore the wonderful advancement of the country, and the demands which it entailed upon the government's finances, the showing would be one that might challenge comparison with the Tory record at its best.

But it is due to intelligence that we examine into this question of national debt to discover whether the individual Canadian is having his burdens added to in an oppressive degree or not. And just here the Canadian lover of his country will meet with cause for gratification. Taking the census department's figures of population and the public accounts statement of the net debt in each year mentioned, we find that the burden on Canadians per capita was:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount per capita. 1891 per capita: \$49.00. 1892 per capita: 49.15. 1893 per capita: 45.96. 1894 per capita: 49.40. 1895 per capita: 50.57. 1896 per capita: 50.82. 1897 per capita: 50.87. 1898 per capita: 50.77. 1899 per capita: 50.62. 1900 per capita: 49.38. 1901 per capita: 49.84. 1902 per capita: 49.59. 1903 per capita: 46.84. 1904 per capita: 45.74. 1905 per capita: 45.83. 1906 per capita: 44.63. 1907 per capita: 42.84.

Here is the evidence of irrefutable figures to prove that instead of the present government burdening the people by increase of debt, there has actually been a decrease per capita of \$7.98—from \$50.82 to \$42.84—since the conservative government was deposed from office, in 1896.

But it is not in the figures of receipts and expenditures alone that we find indications of national growth; nor are those figures out of keeping with the general progress of the dominion. It has been a fruitful ten years for Canada. In 1897 the total trade of the country was \$257,168,862. In 1907 this had grown to \$617,964,952. These are figures which go far toward justifying great outlay in the development of this young country and giving her an impetus along the path of progress. The financial institutions of the country furnish strikingly parallel illustrations. For example, the deposits of our people in the chartered banks in 1897 aggregated \$295,960,482. Last year they amounted to \$639,970,696. The business of our railways has nearly tripled also, and in every department of endeavor Canada has made gigantic strides forward.

Hon. Mr. Fielding estimates that in the coming year the large sums to be spent in the building of the National Transcontinental railway will necessitate an addition to the public debt. But this, unlike many past additions to the debt, does not represent lost money, but rather an investment decided upon in the country's interest. The road will, under the agreement to be operated and maintained by the Grand Trunk Pacific, under lease, the amount to be paid in rental constituting a sum equal to the annual cost of the money which we have put into the road. The unscrupulous opposition will no doubt seek to represent the appropriations for the building of the line as so much of a loss to Canada. But intelligent Canadians are not to be deceived in that manner. Mr. Fielding's budget is one to cause the patriotic Canadian's heart to swell, and to make him prouder and more confident of the great future of his country.

Deceived.

Washington Star. "You know how bridegrooms, setting off on their honeymoon, forget their brides, and buy tickets only for themselves? Well, that is what this bridegroom did in Aurora, and when his wife said to him, 'Why, you only bought one ticket, dear?' he answered readily: 'By jove! I never thought of myself.'"

Up In Sartorial Art.

Stage Manager of "Anthony and Cleopatra" woud company—Great Caesar's ghost? Where did you learn that the ancient Egyptians dressed like that? "By jove! I never thought of myself."

Yapton Super (loftily)—I guess I've been through the mummy room of the Metropolitan museum!

SPEAKING OF CLOTHES



NOW, HARRY!

While Speaking of Clothes, I Just Want to Say This:

I have bought clothes in Kingston for a long time. I have worn clothes, hats and toggery from every store in town—I've tried them all.

But, when all is said, I will sum up my experience by saying that the clothing and outfitting I get at The H. D. Bibby Co.'s is far and away ahead of anything I have been able to find anywhere else.

They're always ahead in style—their clothing is finely made and correctly cut.

There is a neatness and sweetness about their clothes that other clothes don't have.

Then again, they charge you only a fair price—no fancy figures.

By all odds, Harry, go to The H. D. Bibby Co.'s for your clothes. I'm telling you what I know.

This is the way that men, who know, speak of us and of our clothes. At your service Sir!

THE H. D. BIBBY CO.

Kingston's One Price Clothing and Men's Furnishings.

We Will Continue Our SALE OF FURNITURE During March.

A few lines of Mission Furniture, suitable for Dens, at special prices. Plate Racks, regular price, \$4.50, for \$1.50. Iron Beds, from \$2.50 to 25. Marshall Sanitary and Ostermoor Mattresses, at Sale Prices. Combination Buffets, from \$25 to \$75. Solid Mahogany Bedroom Furniture, big reduction Parlor Set, in Solid Mahogany, \$1.25 for \$1.00 \$85 for \$75, 3-Pieces Mahogany Set, from \$25 to \$45, at

R. J. REID, 230 Princess street. Phone 577.

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PIG METALS Copper, Lead Tin, Zinc. We are headquarters. Send us your inquiries. Canada Metal Co., Ltd., 31 WILLIAM ST. TORONTO, ONT.

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Ayer's Sarsaparilla NON-ALCOHOLIC

Lips white? Checks pale? Blood thin? Consult your doctor. Bad skin? Weak nerves? Losing flesh? Consult your doctor. No appetite? Poor digestion? Discouraged? Consult your doctor.

Free from Alcohol J. C. AYER CO., Manufacturing Chemist, Lowell, Mass.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS

The Sap On Top. Hamilton Spectator. The maple sap is running again, but it's a long way from the tree to the table, and government reports tell us that much may happen en route.

A Hideous Blot. Toronto Star. It is greatly to be regretted, that the Whitney government has decided not to go on this session with its law reform bill, and put an end to a condition of affairs which is a hideous blot upon the administration of justice.

It Makes A Difference. London Advertiser. Whenever a Canadian woolen mill gets into difficulties, the conservative press blames it on the British preference. But as some Canadian woolen mills, like the Penman's, are crowded with orders and continually enlarging their capacity, some other excuse has to be found for the failures.

In A Snarl. Toronto Telegram. Argument will not help Hon. J. P. Whitney out of the snarl in which he has been entangled by the "cushion-footed and gum-shod" smartness of advisers who nullified an opportunity that the Whitney government should have grasped or allowed the municipalities to grasp.

Another Triumph. Ottawa Free Press. The agreement of the board of investigation under the Lemieux act in the case of the Dominion Coal company and its employees is another notable triumph for that remarkable legislation. The men get a substantial increase in wages and the company gets an agreement which lasts for practically five years.

Sources Of Wealth. "Now," said the good fairy, "I will give you wealth with tenacity, prudence, foresight and thrift. With these you can easily acquire wealth." "Oh, both," complained the modern hero, "can't you fix me up with a few secret rebates instead?"

Flat Brim, Derbies. The new shapes at Campbell Bros. "In case of sickness on Sunday" remember Gibson's Red Cross Cross Drug Store is open all day.