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THE WHIG, 75th YEAR. DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 206-210 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at 10 per year.

Daily Whig. COLLEGE AGREEMENT RENEWED. The agreement between Queen's College and the board of education, with regard to the School of Pedagogy, has been renewed for another year.

There has been no disturbance in the schools, no hindrance to their regular work, no detriment to the classes. The effect has been, on the other hand, to brighten up the class work, and to stimulate the teachers into the very best service.

SMASHING THE MACHINE. The independent movement in the conservative party of Toronto is suggestive. The men who have been so ready to denounce the machine, to declare that it is the embodiment of evil, that there can be no purity in political life until it is smashed, are, it seems, the operators of its brakes.

EDITORIAL NOTES. It will cost about \$1,000 to protect the schools and their occupants against fire.

MR. WHITNEY'S GREAT INIQUITY. Those who thought that Mr. Whitney was the embodiment of political honesty, a man incapable of downright and flagrant wrong, have had a revelation in the gerrymander bill.

THE YOUNG LIBERALS MEAN BUSINESS. They will take the lead in the campaigns this year and will make a mighty stir in this community.

THE COST OF OUR SCHOOLS. The board of education had a special meeting last evening and at it made provision for the wants of the year, financially, and ordered such changes in the buildings and with iron fire escapes as promise the amplest protection against fatalities through fire.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO SEE WHAT IT CAN DO ABOUT PLEASED EVERYONE ON THE BREAD QUESTION. Hanna has the matter under consideration, and he is the jollier of the combination.

MR. COCKSHUTT, M.P., WANTS AN INCREASE IN THE TARIFF, ON AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, TO BE SURE, AND MR. LAKE, M.P., WANTS A REDUCTION. What is the old saw about a house divided against itself?

EDUCATION IN THE INSTITUTE HAS BECOME CHEAPER. This is not Goldwin Smith's idea of the eternal fitness of things, but it is the idea of the masses. The vote of the people last January settled that.

THE QUEBEC BRIDGE COST, UP TO THE TIME OF ITS COLLAPSE, OVER \$6,500,000. The Phoenix company may be liable, but it can never meet that loss.

COMMENDATIONS. These involved some structural changes in the buildings, the adoption of means looking to greater security in the fire apparatus, and the erection of fire escapes so that the pupils in all class rooms in the first stories will have egress from the buildings independent of the halls and doorways. These improvements, being of a permanent character, will be charged to capital account, and the council will be asked to raise money by debenture for the payment of their cost.

THE SCHOOL BUDGET WILL STAND INSPECTION, and generally its demands will be cheerfully met by the city council. On public schools the expenditure will be \$36,130, and in the institute, \$17,295. The grant from the city to the public schools will be \$32,195 and to the institute \$8,900, a total of \$41,095. The total outlay for education will be \$52,425, but the difference is made up in fees and government grants.

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MR. BORDEN RAVED IN OTTAWA when told the same thing by Mr. Fielding! Brute force, he declared, was asserting itself, and the minority had to submit to any outrage and any indignity because it had not the power of resistance.

THE WORK IS UNIQUE, the artistic effect of some evil genius, who can be suspected since it is the product of the provincial secretary's office. Further east there is a further attempt at political devilry in the mutilation of Peterboro by the transfer of townships so as to make Peterboro safe for tory representation and West Northumberland unsafe for liberal rule.

THE GAME IS FULLY EXPOSED, and the government will have to take the responsibility of it. The last gerrymander of the conservatives, in a federal parliament, will be recalled. It was not a redistribution to meet the wants of a shifting population, but a bedeviling of territory for party purposes.

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CIVIL SERVICE

(Continued from Page 1). time to time, say not less than once a year, every department of the government service, such inspection to cover the whole management of each department.

These respective reports to be promptly considered by the commissioners, and such action taken by them as they may deem necessary for the maintenance or improvement of the efficiency of the service, both outside and inside.

Your commissioners consider that appointments made under this system in the public service should be supplemented by a rigid system of probation. You commissioners are of opinion that some other or other immediate question of salaries should be dealt with.

They cannot recommend general increases but they would suggest to your excellency in council the advisability of at least taking votes for the necessary need for salary increases, and that for eastern Canada, such increase might be at the rate of fifteen per cent. for officials whose salaries are under \$1,500 and 12 1/2 per cent. for salaries above that rate; and for the western provinces, where no doubt a greater need prevails, these scales should be 25 and 20 per cent. of the same proportion of incomes, and all provisional allowances should be granted.

Your commissioners have endeavored to the best of their powers to ascertain the conditions prevailing in the civil service. To do this they have allowed their enquiries to extend rather beyond what might have been considered the limits laid down, but your commissioners are of opinion that to get at the full knowledge required to make a report which your excellency should be as extensive as possible. With this view they construed the reference as to efficiency and sufficiency of the departmental staffs as including in its scope the control of the appointments made by parliament.

In fact your commissioners could hardly have done otherwise considering how their attention had been directed to these matters by statements in parliament and in the public press. Your commissioners, in conclusion, cannot but express their sense of the high importance of this civil service and the necessity of doing everything possible to improve it. While there are many conscientious, hard working and efficient men in it, it cannot be denied that there are some others. It cannot be doubted either that it is a much more difficult proposition to preserve a uniformly high state of efficiency in government staff than in the ordinary work of the world carried on by money-making organizations. This, your commissioners think, is generally recognized, but to achieve any real success in either field the supreme necessity is character. No government can ignore this and live.

While demanding the highest character they should do everything possible to develop it, and one of the first things necessary is to see that its servants can at least live in a moderate degree of comfort, and that, after that a career be opened to every one in the service in which the rewards will be justly proportioned to the value of the service rendered. Your commissioners, in the opening paragraph of the order-in-council upon which the commission was issued, find that the minister states in his report upon which the order was founded that "While the general principles of the civil service act are regarded as satisfactory, etc., etc."

Your commissioners, while deferring to an expression of opinion from so eminent a source, have had impressed upon them all through the course of their investigations that in some respects certain features of the act, and features involving principle, might be simplified and improved. The commissioners beg to point out certain sections which might with some propriety be amended. Generally speaking, it is the opinion of the commissioners that the act is too long and too involved; that it deals with many subjects of varying importance, from the examination of a candidate for admission to the service to the keeping of attendance books and the granting of leave of absence. The commissioners consider that dealing with principles the act might be amended in the direction of simplification.

The commissioners find that in the working of the public service there is a constant attempt to evade the examinations by grading under other names certain classes of officials whose classification is not laid down in the civil service act—as, for example, the officials called examining officers in the outside service of the customs department. The commissioners also find that in order to meet the pressure brought upon the several departments by influential politicians to take on assistants, officials who have not passed the examinations are employed temporarily and are called laborers. Patronage seems to run more or less through every department of the public service. It was the universal feeling amongst the officials who gave evidence before the commission that this patronage evil was the curse of the public service. Many of the witnesses before the commission earnestly recommended that all persons who are interested in the maintenance at a high rate of efficiency of the administration of the affairs of the dominion should very carefully consider the evidence submitted on this point with this report.

It would seem that in the four post offices examined into by the commission, letter carriers were employed to do high grade duty and duties of clerks; that they are still designated on the pay list as letter carriers; that in consequence of a desire on the part of the official not to bring these letter carriers in their uniforms to the public notice, they to their loss have been deprived of their uniforms as well as their street car fares. In that special branch of the public service politics was found, as a rule, to play an important part. The commissioners consider that on the part of responsible officials of the several departments, especially in the outside service, there is a dread of the political, and every bit of strategy is resorted to to circumvent the carrying out of the patronage system.

The commissioners also found in one department a clerk who is employed to do certain work in the accountant's branch. This clerk came into the service under a special clause, was utterly unfit to do the duty entrusted to him, and his work has to be done in spare moments by his immediate superiors. As a consequence the work is steadily and gradually going behind. The commissioners have no reason to doubt but that the same result obtains in other departments and that many officials have been appointed to do work for which they are unfit.

The commissioners have to draw attention to another set of circumstances which has cropped up during the last few years and that is the great reluctance of women appointed to the junior branches in the inside service. The commissioners have not the figures relating to the numbers presenting themselves for examination during the month of November last, but one of the commissioners who visited the House of Commons found that that chamber had been set aside for women, while a great proportion were distributed in other rooms of the building. In Ottawa, in 1906, out of the 206 candidates who passed the qualifying examination, 121 were women. The lower grades of the post office, where there are 366 employees altogether, and the lower grades of the department of the interior, where there are some 500 employees, are practically filled up with women. While the commissioners readily acknowledge that many women are thoroughly entitled to succeed in the public service, yet the influx of such a large number must, if continued, in the course of time utterly swallow up the lower grades of the service and by limiting the field for promotion to the higher classes prove detrimental to the development of the higher and more responsible branches of the service; for it can hardly be admitted yet that the work devolving on the departments can be carried on with a staff composed entirely of women. The commissioners have had it

brought painfully to their notice that in the great development which has taken place in the last few years in the dominion, the character and quality of the male candidates entering the service has declined. Having no inducements held out to them to remain in the service the better class of men stay but a short time and leave to better themselves. The commissioners see with regret that in many parts of the dominion able and worthy young men attracted by high emoluments have left the service. It is becoming more and more difficult to fill their places.

BOSTON BARBER REGULATIONS. Board of Health Orders Sterilization of All That Barbers Use on Customers. A special despatch from Boston, May 5th, 1900, to the N.Y. Sun gives new regulations of the Boston Board of Health as to barber shops. "Rugs, shaving brushes and razors shall be sterilized after each separate use thereof. A separate, clean towel shall be used for each person. Material to stop the flow of blood shall be used only in powdered form, and applied on a towel. Powder puffs are prohibited." Wherever Newitz's "Herpicide" is used for face or scalp after shaving or hair cutting, there is no danger of infection, as it is antiseptic, and kills the dandruff germ. Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c. in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich. Two sizes, 50c. and \$1. G. W. Mahood, special agent.

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