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**THE WHIG, 75th YEAR**  
DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at No. 210 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at 10 per year. Editions at 2.50 and a clock p.m.  
WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG, 14 pages, published in parts on Monday and Thursday morning at \$1 a year. To United States, charge for postage to be made for. For Daily 60c for Weekly.  
Attached to one of the best Job Printing Offices in Canada; rapid, stylish, and cheap work; also improved process.  
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**Daily Whig.**

**REVIVING WHITNEY'S DEFAULTS.**  
The local government is claiming great credit for what it has done, for the derelicts of the province. The abolition of the Mercer Institute has been followed by an experiment, the success of which has yet to be established. The women, mostly young, formerly sent to the Mercer, had been seriously degraded by a life that was given to immorality. The idea was to bring them into contact with good women in a home supported by the province, and under an influence that was elevating. It is possible that the Superintendent of Neglected Children may find homes for the erring one outside of the public institutions, but it is not every housewife who has the tact for correcting a life which has been spoiled in the premature years. The experiment will be watched with interest, and if the truth were known Mr. Kelso is probably to be credited with what favour it has suggested. When Mr. Hanna boasts of what his government has done for the masses it is well to remember that his party, and particularly his leader, were bitterly opposed to Mr. Kelso's appointment and work.

The Hamilton Spectator—which is such a stickler for the truth—should see that Premier Whitney stops his fibbing. He has twice repeated the story that Mr. Pense and Mr. MacKay agreed that the C.N.R. deal should not be opposed after Mr. Pense has flatly contradicted it.

**ABSOLUTELY UNTRUE.**  
The Kingston Standard, with that unfairness which mars the conservative press, declares editorially, in regard to the Canadian Northern railway guarantees, that in the legislature, Mr. Pense "sat mutely and meekly when the measure was presented, offered not a word of protest against its passage."

This is absolutely false. The Whig, of May 4th, made this statement, in connection with another false accusation, that Mr. Pense had conferred with Hon. Mr. MacKay and decided not to oppose the legislation:

"But this does not apply to the bad act of bringing down the proposal in the dying days of the session, nor to the evident misleading of the house as to the conditions of the original mortgage in regard to territory. On both these points Mr. Pense made protest at the presentation of the measure."

The Standard is in receipt of the Whig, had access to it, and yet, with deliberateness and malignity declares Mr. Pense "sat mutely and meekly when the measure was presented."

Will it withdraw or will it, like its leader, Mr. Whitney, leave the lie uncorrected. On May 4th, the Whig denied the alleged MacKay-Pense interview. Mr. Pense denied it through the Toronto papers on May 2nd and 4th, and yet on May 7th, the premier, in the first speech of the campaign, repeated the falsehood.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Telegram says "it does not aid the nation-builder notion to have Sir Wilfrid Laurier treating with Hon. R. P. Roblin and Hon. Bob Rogers." No it does not, and the Whig is glad to know that this treating has not taken place.

**ABOLISH THE OFFICE.**  
It was most fitting that the Toronto News (now the apologist of the Whitney government, not its independent critic), should give a long and flowery description of the education department.

The minister comes first. He was a promising student in medicine, served in an hospital and in an insane asylum, and acted as the registrar of that most autocratic of modern institutions, the medical council. He made no claim to being an educationist, and reached office only because he was the nominee of the machine and a benchman who had to be remembered in a division of the spoils.

The secretary of the department is a journalist, one who began life in Montreal and won distinction in Toronto as the secretary of the education commission. Mr. Colquhoun, in his new position, has carried himself worthily, and but for his coaching, goodness only knows what would become of Hon. Dr. Pyne.

The real head of the department, technically, is Dr. Seath. He came into prominence in the eighties as the critic of Hon. Mr. Ross and his school inspectors. He is an able man, and came to his own by inheritance, as there was no one else to proceed or supplant him with a change of government. He has something to learn as an administrator, before he can be regarded as a success. He has realized that the people must be educated with regard to great reforms, and his

one experience with regard to regulations on which the rural school trustees were not prepared will not soon be forgotten.

The local government is not true to its advocacy of certain things while in opposition. For instance, in 1891 Mr. Whitney moved that the office of minister be abolished. Why should he not revive the motion now? The people would be thankful for any means that would retire Dr. Pyne from a position for which he has neither the scholarship, the experience nor the training. The limit is reached when he becomes a ward boss and uses language that is beneath the dignity of any gentleman.

The local government is upon its defence. Even the plea is offered, give it another chance. Who would have thought that the first conservative government since confederation, and with a majority of forty-two in the last house, would be fighting for its life.

**TRUST THE PEOPLE.**  
The conservative press in this city has undertaken to emphasize the weakness of the last legislature. What the people surely want is not a re-election of the government with a larger number of supporters. No well wisher of the province desires to see that it is well to reflect, then, upon the inadvisability of any change in the representation so far as Kingston is concerned.

The events of "that last awful week" are not a reflection upon the opposition, but upon the government, which delayed important business until the dying hours of the session. The inquiries for which the government is now so severely criticised were begun on Thursday evening and completed on Saturday afternoon.

It cannot be said that the member for Kingston was in any way neglectful of the city's interest. He accepted the instructions of the council, when they were tendered with regard to local legislation. He introduced one measure whose merits have been frequently questioned. That was the bill which confirmed the present street railway agreement, with regard to power, etc., without the sanction of the people. The plan was offered in justification of this proceeding, that there was not time in which to consult the electors.

There will have to be a revival or renewal of the agreement in the early future, and it should not be undertaken without consent of the ratepayers. Of course a friendly council may be induced to repeat the operation of three years ago, and a member for the city who is not personally and financially interested may be most desirable. It is a contingency that will not be forgotten on June 8th.

Tried in the balance and found wanting. This is the subject of an excellent cartoon in the Globe. Mr. Whitney is on one side and the unpopular acts of his government in the other, and the misdeeds prove the heaviest.

**AMES SIMPLY A GOAT.**  
The alleged scandals of Mr. Ames are not at all serious when they are scrutinized. The care with which they are elaborated indicates the man of detail, but the directness with which, most, if not all, of the charges have been met, mark the individual with biased mind.

It will be recalled that Mr. Ames, before the Public Accounts committee, vainly struggled to maintain his erroneous position, and he carefully avoided calling as witnesses the men who could give him the light which he professed to desire. These men, Messrs. Tariff, and Burrows, had to force themselves upon the committee only to give the allegations of Mr. Ames a flat and emphatic contradiction. Even then Mr. Ames kept on repeating his fictions, accompanied with fine-sight views, in addresses outside of parliament, and had the nerve to revive some of them in the house, in the presence of the men he maligned.

He was obliged to accept correction after correction, and to withdraw certain statements which were declared by the affected parties to be "absolute falsehoods." Yet his motion of non-confidence or censure in the government, having been prepared, was put and suffered an ignominious defeat.

The case is parallel with that of Congressman Lilley, who charged that a certain Electric Boat company was really directing the work and expenditures of the United States navy department, instead of the naval officers and navy committee. The scandals were submitted to an investigation, and though the microscope and stereopticon used by Mr. Ames were missing, the result was a complete vindication of the navy department.

The conclusion of the whole matter has been quaintly summed up by an American paper, and if one substitute the name of Ames for that of Lilley, he has the verdict in the land scandal case exactly:

"Mr. Lilley has caused a loud noise, a bad smell and a lot of trouble for nothing. Probably nobody believes that he did all this for hire. His actions have not been those of the subsidized villain, the astute plotter, the hoodler or the Mephistopheles. If an epithet must be devised to fit him, the word 'goat' would suit as well as any."

**A CERTIFICATE OF CHARACTER.**  
Mr. Whitney made a serious blunder when he, at Hamilton, referred to the men who are serving the province in a non-partisan way as servants and hirelings of the government. Mr. Whitney has repented of his words so far as Mr. Jeffrey is concerned, and in connection with this case it will be remembered that the premier made the pitiful apology that he was joking.

Quite a different thing is the assault on Mrs. Macdonald of the Globe. He was expected as a governor of the university to denounce Mr. MacKay, and simply because he had been standing on financial matters for a fundamental principle. Mr. MacKay was not stalling the facilitation or injuring it. As a graduate of it he was bound to cherish and protect it. He simply differed with Mr. Whitney as to how the financial aid should be applied. Only that and nothing more. What Mr. Whitney wants to do says Mr. Macdonald, is denounce, less and reason more.

A glimpse is given of the interview which Mr. Whitney sought with Mr. Macdonald, of the invitation which the one gave the other to join the non-partisan board of management, and of the assurance that there would be nothing to involve any one in political entanglement. This makes the offence of Mr. Whitney the more serious. It advertises him as a leader who is extremely coarse in his language, and indiscreet in his manner. Mr. Macdonald should be thanked for a statement of facts that is at once frank and manly and so worthy of his reputation.

Mr. Whitney has been frantically appealing to the editor of the Globe for a certificate of character, and now that he has it the hope is indulged that he will be satisfied.

**EDITORIAL NOTES.**  
The city does not want as its representative in Toronto any man who has an axe to grind.

Ald. Nickle has appeared several times before legislative committees—in the interest of some personal deal.

The premier of Ontario will not refer again to Mr. Macdonald, of the Globe, as the servant or hireling of the government. That is very certain.

Judging him by his speeches, all dealing with some alleged slander, Mr. Ames, M.P., must have continually a very bad taste in the mouth.

The issue in a few words: Do the electors want a member in the legislature who will look after their interests, or one who will look after the spoils?

The labour party is still issuing literature in which the Whitney combination is referred to as a "Thirty-cent government." One cannot regard this as a sign of approval.

The ratepayers were not consulted about the street railway agreement three years ago. But they will not willingly be ignored a second time. That much is certain.

The Hamilton Times will please be careful not to credit any of the radical ideas of this paper to its local contemporary. The idea of any conservative organ commenting upon Mr. Gooderham's barrel!

Are some aldermen trying to drive the engineer out of office? They talk as if they would like to cripple him, or limit his usefulness. The electors should make a note of this.

Monday will be generally observed as a holiday. Even in Ottawa there will be a lull in the political pyrotechnics and the small boy will make a noise with his pecky firecracker.

The Spectator hastens to declare that the power question is not an issue in the local election. Well, if not, what is it? Why the hurry to get some municipalities committed to contracts?

The postmaster-general will not remove the girls who are now in the post office service. But it is safe to say that with the civil service reform there will be a smaller number of them engaged in the future.

The plea is offered in support of Mr. Nickle's ambitions that he is a great talker. Some of his friends would be better pleased if he talked less—in the city council. He has not added to his power by posing as a municipal dictator.

**SPIRIT OF THE PRESS**  
Time For Change.  
Peterboro Examiner.  
Whether a government is in power three and a half years or thirty and a half years, "it is time for a change, if it has not made good—if it has failed to justify the confidence given it, and failed to live up to the policy and platform upon which it based its appeal for election to office."

**Sound Philosophy.**  
Toronto Star.  
Some of the Whitney papers are calling on the people to stand by the Niagara power. And not without reason. If the people do not stand by for it, who will. The Whitney government, there is excellent reason

for believing, would be glad to be well rid of the whole perplexing problem.

**No Ground For Fight.**  
Montreal Witness.  
If the offer of Sir Wilfrid Laurier is to place the debatable electoral lists absolutely in the hands of the judges the opposition will only make negative capital by making fight against it.

**A Square Deal, Eh?**  
Toronto Globe.  
The campaign pamphlet falsely slandering the Temiskaming railway commission has not been withdrawn. A government depending on falsehoods about opponents has outwitted its usefulness.

**The Money Goes.**  
Brantford Expositor.  
In 1907, the Whitney government spent \$35,350 on immigration, and this year it has taken a vote of \$58,000. All of which information is carefully concealed from the workmen of this city.

**Liberal Benefits.**  
Exchange.  
The country owes to the liberal party:  
Vote by ballot.  
Simultaneous polling.  
One-man-one-vote.  
Trial of election petitions by judges.  
Municipal suffrage.  
Municipal suffrage registration.  
The liberal party, in short, is the party of the people.

**THAT PAMPHLET.**  
A. G. MacKay's Third Letter to People of Ontario.

A fair specimen of the unreliable information contained in the conservative campaign pamphlet recently issued is found in connection with the explanation given of the gift of \$100,000 of the people's money to the wealthy La Rose Mining company. This wonderful document says that "on December 20th, 1904, in the middle of the general election campaign, Hon. A. G. MacKay, then commissioner of crown lands, and now leader of the opposition, ruled against the claimants" (the La Rose company) "and passed the property over to Mr. O'Brien. . . . That Mr. MacKay should have secretly decided the dispute as to the ownership, when an election was in progress, in favor of a friendly politician who was at the time in charge of the Temiskaming railway is another point worthy of consideration." The Hon. Mr. Matheson, speaking at Newmarket, is reported as making substantially the same statement.

Now as to the truth. It appears from the records in the department that in or about November, 1903, each of two parties claimed to be the original discoverer of the same mining location. The O'Briens purchased the title or claim of the one, the La Rose company that of the other. I was sworn in as commissioner of crown lands on November 22nd, 1904. Prior to that the disputed claim of these two companies was submitted to a board of commissioners or arbitrators to inquire into all the facts and report thereon. That board consisted of T. W. Gibson, now deputy minister of mines; Aubrey White, now deputy minister of lands, and Dr. Kennedy, head law clerk of the department. This board publicly and openly sat as a court and heard evidence for about three weeks. Both sides to the dispute were represented by eminent counsel: G. H. Watson, K.C., and Mr. Holden acting on the one side, and J. B. O'Brien on the other. After the evidence was fully heard, they argued the case at length before the board, and on December 20th, 1904, the board gave its decision, awarding forty acres to the La Rose company, and the balance in dispute to the O'Briens. If this report or award was to be carried out it was then necessary to order the leases to issue in accordance with the report. "Concurred in."

I personally did not then know, nor do I yet know, anything of the merits of the dispute. I had not heard the evidence. I had confidence in the integrity and ability of the commissioners. I still have. The records, I understand, show that the lease to the La Rose company was issued by the old government; that to the O'Briens by the present government, in February, 1905. Still, the facts of these facts, the government issued a campaign document in which it says that I "secretly decided the dispute!" This is the explanation they give in order to base an excuse for interfering and making the grant of \$100,000 to the La Rose company, because, as is alleged, they furnished the government with evidence wherewith to fight the O'Briens.

How are the mighty fallen! This is the same government whose leader appeared in January, 1905, to "the good people, the Christian people," to support him. If there is any honest defence of the government's in handling \$100,000 to the La Rose Mining company, it is certainly not contained in the conservative campaign pamphlet or in the speech of the honorable provincial treasurer at Newmarket.

**A. G. MACKAY.**  
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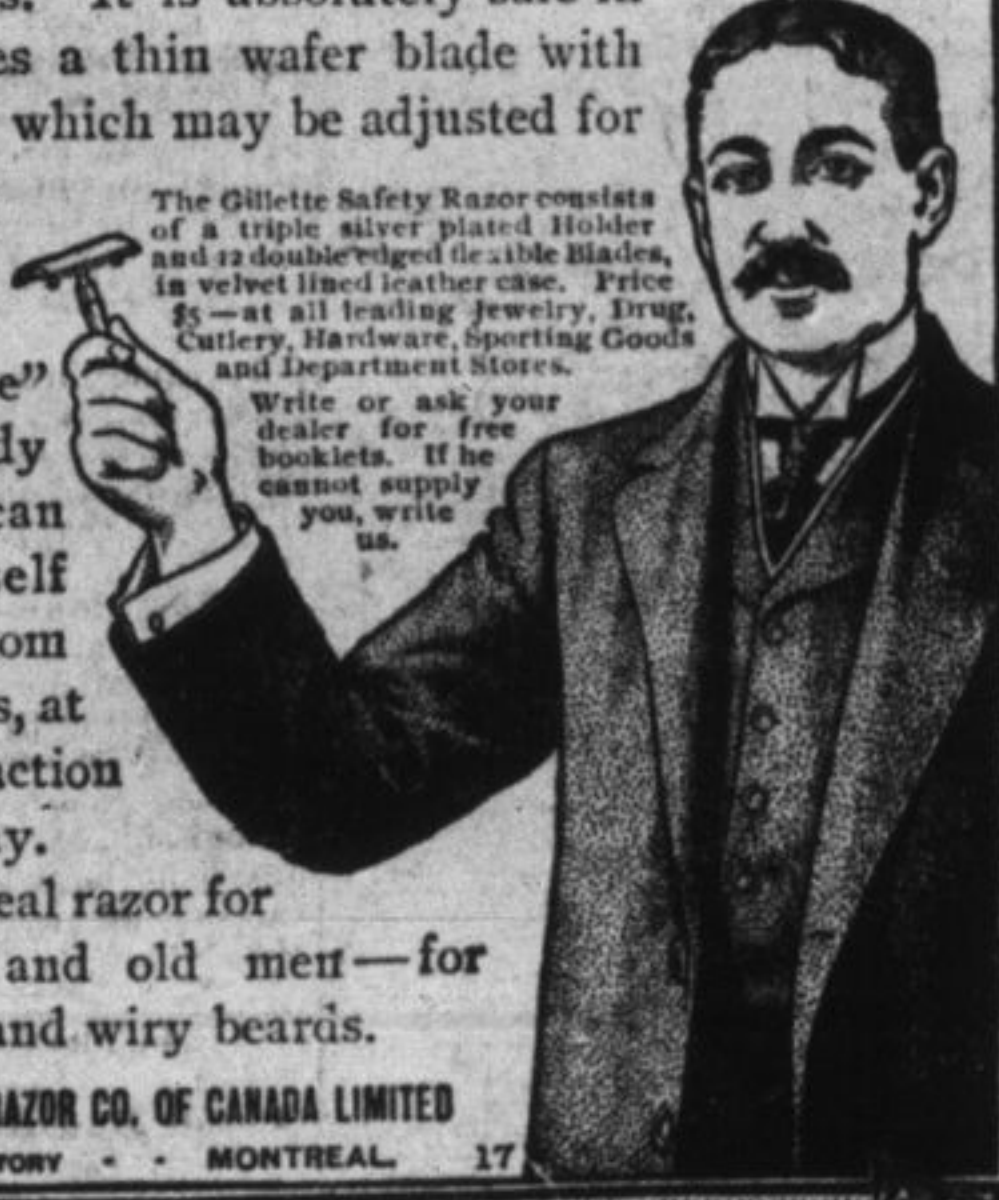
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