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THE WHIG, 78th YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 209-210 King Street, Kingston, Ontario at 16 per year. Editions at 2:30 and 4 o'clock p.m.

WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG, 16 pages published in parts on Monday and Thursday morning at \$1 a year. To United States, charge for postage had to be added, making price of Daily \$1 and of Weekly \$1.50 per year.

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Daily Whig

LOOKING FOR THE LIGHT!

One has to read Hansard in order to see how disagreeable some members can be when they like. On Tuesday Hon. Mr. Fisher, of the department of agriculture, followed Hon. Mr. Sifton and made one of the best speeches that has been heard on the government side and in support of the reciprocity agreement. It is remarkable how sympathetic the conservatives were while Mr. Sifton spoke. They made no interruptions, but applauded frequently, sometimes appropriately and sometimes otherwise. Once they broke out indiscriminately, cheering a statement with regard to the success of the policy which was adopted in 1896, and too late they recognized that they had made a mistake and suffered from the ironical cheers of the ministerial members.

The offensiveness of the opposition set in as soon as Mr. Fisher began his address. Again and again he was asked questions, some of them nonsensical and most of them out of place, until at last he remarked that he did not object to "being asked pertinent questions," but "when they were foreign to what he was talking about" he would have to decline answers. Then the troubles became cross. They refused him the permission of contributing to Hansard statistical information of the highest value, and information which the house should have, and when the speaker insisted that they should let the minister proceed with his speech, without further annoyance, most of them left the house. An act becoming to children, but not to men.

Mark one result. Two days later Mr. Foster rose to ask when the government proposed to lay certain information before the house, certain comparative statements which would enable the members to discuss more clearly the issue of the hour. Mr. Fielding said he had no knowledge of what was referred to as being laid before the U. S. senate, but when Mr. Fisher was willing to give to Hansard the information he had, and probably such information as Mr. Foster needed, his party objected. Mr. Foster would not admit that he was an offender at any time and when he demanded the light, Mr. Fielding answered: "The minister of agriculture, now that it has been desired, will give that valuable information which he tried to give the other night and was prevented."

When Mr. Foster denounced reciprocity, early in the discussion, and repudiated the position he had previously taken upon the subject, he did not wait for nor want the facts. Now he longs for them. He is getting wise.

REFORMING THE SENATE.

There has been the annual reference in the commons to senate reform, and the necessity for it, and presently there may be a further discussion of the same subject in the senate itself, and because, as one speaker put it, it has become a fashionable topic. Various schemes have been proposed, but they have, after a brief examination, been abandoned because of alleged defects.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier had his proposal, in the days of his government when an adverse majority in the upper house challenged the legislation of the lower house in a peremptory and partisan way. It was not acceptable at the time, leastwise to the venerables whose party and political lives it attacked. Hon. Mr. Scott had a solution to offer out of his long experience, and he prescribed it about the time he left the office of secretary of state. It was not approved. Hon. Mr. Ross later had his thoughts on the same issue, and they were only born to die.

Now Mr. McLean, of Huron, has a plan which would wipe out at once, if adopted, two classes of senators—those who regard the senate as a refuge in their declining years, and those who value their seats for social, personal or business reasons. This would leave only the wise and good, who give of their judgment for the benefit of the country. His cure for the present defects of the senate would be to make its members elective, from the electoral divisions, and for a period of seven or ten years. They should also have a property and educational qualification. In addition there would be compulsory voting. Every man who has the franchise would have to use it. The veto power would be abolished. The senate would be a revising body only. It would not be permitted to kill or veto the effective measures of the commons.

The premier accepted Mr. McLean's

motion as suggestive of a reform to which he had given much consideration. He was prepared to approach it without any bias, but he was disposed to think that while the members of the senate should be nominated, a share of the responsibility should be given to the provinces. Senate reform was important. "It is," said the premier, "the last of the reforms which we have promised the country."

ACTIVE THOUGH AGED.

The theme of the Toronto World—that there should be an old age limit for ministers in the government—and that they should retire from public life, however fitted they may be or further service, is one of doubtful propriety. It is suggested now under unfavorable circumstances. Mr. Maclean theorizes that Mr. Fielding and Mr. Patterson, who negotiated the reciprocity agreement, were not qualified for the work. They are old, he says, and set in their ways. Younger and more vigorous men would have been more equal to the strain which Mr. Taft laid before them.

The references are decidedly personal and offensive. Age is not a disqualification in either case. Both ministers are up in years, and Mr. Fielding, at the beginning of the session, suffered physically and to an extent which called for a long and profound rest. But there is not in the common mind more alert than his, and there is not a better posted man on tariff matters than the minister of customs, and he ought to be all that is claimed of him as a result of over fifteen years close study. Moreover the ministers did not go to Washington unprepared for a strenuous task. They realized what was before them. They simply resumed at the American capital the negotiations that had been begun at Ottawa, at the instance of the president, and they succeeded beyond all expectations of any one in Canada. They succeeded too well for the peace of mind and happiness of the opposition.

Speaking of age and its disabilities recalls the fact that Mr. Maclean's father was advanced in years, in the twenties, when the National Policy was launched, and he was declared to be the father of it. Age and experience were not against one man in hinking out a policy which certainly isolated the whole business machinery of the country, and surely two men, active and experienced, should be equal to the duty of adjusting a tariff so that two adjoining nations an enjoy reciprocity in national products! The Maclean would accomplish more if he were less unreasonable.

A RUNAWAY EPISODE

HOGS LIBERATED ON A GANANOQUE STREET.

The Late Mrs. James Johnston, Leeds—Mrs. Benjamin Cross, of Lansdowne, Passed Away—She Was Blind for Some Years.

Gananoque, March 6.—An exciting runaway accident occurred about noon, Saturday, on Stone street, when a farmer's team with a load of hogs and a couple of calves dashed down Stone street and struck a tree in front of Dr. McCann's residence, smashing the pen and liberating the live stock. Horses and owners were uninjured. The pigs and calves were finally rounded up.

W. H. Clark, Leeds, has purchased the Jackson farm adjoining his own, for \$2,100.

Mrs. James Johnston, Leeds, passed to rest on Saturday in the seventy-eighth year of her age, after an illness of several weeks. The funeral takes place to-day at Gananoque vault.

A number of friends and relatives from town attended the funeral of the late Sarah Cross, relict of Benjamin Cross, of Lansdowne, which took place yesterday. Deceased was eighty-four years of age, and one of the pioneer residents of this country. For several years she had been an invalid. Her sight also having failed.

Thomas Baker, King street, has disposed of his team of cream horses to Edgar Cliffe, Lansdowne, for \$500.

Daniel Bulks, in Brockville, guest of his niece, Mrs. Cecil N. Palmer, has returned home. Clarence and Miss Georgia Shaw, spending some time here with relatives, have returned to their home in Regina. W. Bedard, spent the weekend with relatives in Kingston. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Connor, Fleuring, Sask., spending the past winter with relatives have left for their western home. W. B. Carroll, K.C., spent the latter part of the week in Toronto. R. Benson, returned from a short visit in Brantford.

Miss Sarah Cross, is spending a short time with relatives in Lansdowne.

William Sunbury arrived on Saturday, from Waterville, Que., for a visit with his family. Tupper A. Sheets has returned from a week's visit with relatives in Brockville. Miss Margaret Root, nurse-in-training at Brockville general hospital, operated on recently for appendicitis, has returned home to recuperate.

Smartness Worth While.

Eben Pratt, of Marshby, had sent two sons to Boston and knew he had reason to be proud of them. One day a summer visitor lingering in Mr. Pratt's grocery, provision and dry goods establishment mentioned some of the shining lights who had made themselves remembered in and near Boston, and others still to be found there.

"We've had a good many smart men and women in and around our city," said the visitor, "and there are a number of them left. We've got scientific men and writers and artists and musicians and—"

Mr. Pratt's dry voice broke in on the list: "If you call those folks smart," he said, "you want to go down near the water, to an address I'll give you, and see the way my boys, Ed and Sam, can open oysters. I guess that'll give you something to go by when you're talking of smartness."

Fate of a Silent Husband.

Kossara Svitkovitch, who confessed to having murdered her husband, was sent to prison for one month at Kravystva prison. Kossara proved that on her wedding day her husband had forbidden her to speak to him unless he first addressed her.

During four years he had spoken to her only seven times, and then to use words of blame. At table he indicated his wants by pointing to them. He had never even looked at their two children, and professed not to be aware of their existence.

The jury recommended her to mercy. —Bizarre correspondence Pall Mall Gazette.

The South African Union.

London Standard.

A tremendous task is being undertaken by J. Scott, formerly of the Argyl and Sutherland Highlanders, who has just arrived at Volkstrust on a journey of foot around the Union of South Africa. He left Durban on Nov. 15th, and since then has covered a distance of some 420 miles, including a detour into Zululand and Swaziland. The number of towns and postal offices he has visited on his tramp to date is 632. A Zulu boy accompanies him, carrying a traveler's kit, containing hair-dressers' accessories, with which the man is making his living on the way.

A Bank of England "Run."

London Chronicle.

Even the Bank of England has not been entirely free from "runs"—not from the necessity of saving itself by strategy. In 1745, for instance, it was forced to employ agents to present notes, which were paid as slowly as possible in sixpences, the cash being immediately brought in by another door and paid in again, while anxious holders of notes vainly tried to secure attention. In 1825, too, only the accidental discovery of 700,000 £1 notes saved the bank from stopping payment.

Sir Charles' Answer.

M. A. P.

The late Sir Charles Hammond, who won a parliament seat at Newcastle in 1892, expired neatly of a hecker who ventured to interrupt his discourse.

"Get yer 'air cut, Charlie," cried the interrupter.

Sir Charles, who happened to be a magistrate, adjusted his glasses, and calmly scrutinizing the interrupter, remarked: "My friend, if I am not mistaken, I have been the means of having your hair cut before to-day."

Two of a Kind.

"Can you picture anything to equal a life's exile in Siberia?" asks a writer discussing the Russian penal system. How about an egg in cold storage?—Fort Worth Record.

The U. S. war and navy departments have begun to place Hawaiian Islands on an effective basis of defence.

DR. SOPER DR. WHITE



Specialists in diseases of Skin, Blood, Nerves, Bladder and Special Affections of men.

One visit advisable: if impossible, send history for free opinion and advice. Question blank and book on diseases of men free. Consultation free. Medicine furnished in tablet form. Hours: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 2 to 5 p.m. Sundays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DRS. SOPER & WHITE

25 Toronto Street, Toronto, Ont.

QUEEN TO BE GODMOTHER

To Every Seventh Girl Born to a Family.

Queen Elizabeth of Belgium, wishing to express her gratitude to the Belgians for their widespread anxiety during her illness, has decided to be godmother to every seventh girl born of Belgian parents, just as the king is godfather to every seventh boy.

The queen's birthday—which falls on July 25th and was celebrated last year by the national wearing of a celadoid red rose, the proceeds from the sale of which were applied to fight tuberculosis—will be celebrated this year with edelweiss. The queen chose edelweiss because her girlhood memories are attached to the flower of the Tyrolean mountains, where she was born.

He Had a Claim.

In a certain town was a young lawyer whose father was very rich and who had been sent to an eastern law school. Since his graduation he had done nothing except open an office because he had plenty of money. This young lawyer was proposed for membership in the local fire company.

"We cannot elect him," one of the members protested. "The constitution of our company says that the members of it must sleep and live here in the city, and he lives out of town on a farm and not in the city at all. He would be of no value at all in case of a fire at night. He doesn't sleep here at night."

"No," replied his proposer; "it is true he doesn't sleep here at night, but he sleeps here in his office all day."

And they elected him on that ground.—Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

Dwarf and Giant Honey Bees.

In some of the East Indian Islands and on the mainland of Hindustan are to be found the smallest race of honey bees in the world. These dwarf honey collectors are known to entomologists as Apis florea. Their honey combs are no larger than a child's hand and the cells are about the size of a small pin head. This honey is excellent, as is the wax. The little creatures build the combs on the branch of a low tree, and as they have not to provide for winter, they work all the year through, raising broods like themselves. In the same land there is a race of giant bees, Apis dorsata, as large as a field cricket. These monsters of the bee world build honey combs that are from six to seven feet in length, four or more in width and which weigh from three to four hundred pounds each.—Christian Herald.

A Penguin as a Pet.

From the Scotsman.

I outbid a friend for a penguin, which became an interesting pet. The friend wanted the bird for his skin. On board ship the bird soon got accustomed to its surroundings, and found that the cook was one to keep on good terms with, and it haunted the galley, getting many titbits.

It was always in attendance when the market boat came alongside in the morning, and followed the steward as he carried the day's provisions aft. Strange to say, it developed a great liking for lettuce, although its natural food is fish, and another curious trait was that it would never pick up food from the deck or out of water, but would always take it ravenously from the hand. It behaved like a child, and would make a whining sound as if begging to be lifted up, and would cuddle down and appear to be quite happy when being nursed.

NINE YEAR OLD BOY

Cured of Bed Wetting by Booth's Kidney Pills.

Mrs. J. Tait, of Denmark St., Meaford, Ont., says:

"Our nine year old boy has suffered severely with kidney weakness or bed wetting for two years. Several remedies have been used to cure the trouble, but none gave any relief until he used Booth's Kidney Pills. This medicine went right to the cause of the trouble, removed same, and to-day the boy is practically devoid of all kidney complaint. I wish all mothers knew of this excellent curative remedy and am glad that Booth's Kidney Pills were brought to my notice."

Booth's Kidney Pills

Booth's Kidney Pills cure backache, dull, shooting pains, thick and cloudy urine, gravel or stone, rheumatism and all diseases of the bladder and bladder.

The Booth Guarantee.

We do not guarantee to cure in all cases, but if you derive no benefit our agents are authorized to refund you your money. Booth's Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists, 50c, or postpaid from The R. T. Booth Co., Limited, Fort Erie, Ont. Sold and guaranteed by J. B. McLeod.

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