

THE WHIG, SEVENTY-EIGHTH YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 206-310 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at 3¢ per year. Editions at 2:30 and 4 o'clock p.m. WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG, 15 pages, published in Paris on Monday and Thursday morning at \$1 a year. To United States, charge for postage had to be added, making price of Daily \$3 and of Weekly \$1.50 per year.

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OPPOSITION TO MINISTERS.

The ministers who have become associated with Mr. Borden must return to the electors, in their several constituencies, for endorsement. It is an ancient practice which can very well be dispensed with, because the people who elected them as members of parliament should be very glad to see them elevated to places in the government. There have, it is true, been mishaps. There have been occasions in which the same set of electors have not, for reasons which could not be understood, expressed themselves as satisfied with this proceeding.

Nor is the practice of opposing the members of a government, on taking office, so very rare as some persons suppose. There was opposition in January, 1896, when Sir Charles Tupper came back to take the leadership of the shattered conservative party; in October, 1877, when Wilfrid Laurier went back to Drummond and Arthabaska and was defeated after his appointment as the minister of inland revenue in the Mackenzie cabinet; in August, 1896, when Hon. William Paterson had to fight a bye-election in North Grey, after his defeat in

Brant at the general election and upon his appointment as controller of customs; in December, 1885, when Hon. G. E. Foster was appointed minister of marine and fisheries; in December, 1902, in Maisonneuve, when the late Hon. Raymond Prefontaine was appointed minister of marine and fisheries; in August, 1896, when Hon. A. G. Blair sought election in Sunbury and Queen's after his appointment as minister of railways and canals and in North York in November, 1905, when Hon. A. B. Aylesworth was appointed postmaster-general.

In most of these cases conservative vindictiveness was having its way, and with little, if any, effect. The ministers of the Borden government should not be opposed by the liberals. The White appointment may be opposed by the conservatives and probably will, and his defeat, because a representative of the big interests, would be a good thing for the government and the country. No representative liberal should desire for a moment any compact which would mean the election of a minister or ex-minister as the result of an obnoxious bargain.

LATEST HOTEL VENTURE.

The people may be asked to vote on the latest hotel scheme—but not yet. The council has really more to do with it than some people imagine. Its members must enquire into all the details. They must satisfy themselves that the scheme is a feasible and practicable one. They must personally endorse it, upon its merits. They must assume the responsibility of counselling the ratepayers with regard to it.

The idea of some people is that the council is not concerned with any of the particulars. If the issue is going to the people all that their representatives should do is pass the by-law, give it two readings, and appoint a day when the qualified electors may pronounce upon it. That is clearly an erroneous conclusion.

In this case three men—two of them capitalists, and one of them a practical and experienced man—propose to build a hotel on King street, between the residences of Messrs. Sullivan and Hendry, with ample wharfage accommodation at the rear, and the assurance that the passenger steamers would call at it. The building will, if erected, cost \$180,000, and the city will be asked to guarantee the issue of bonds to the extent of \$100,000, with the understanding that these bonds will become a first lien upon the property. The city will be protected by an architect, presumably of

its own choosing, who will give the certificates upon which the money will be paid out for construction as the works proceed.

Wherein is the risk, if any, to the city? One answer, there is no risk. The property will be worth an amount far in excess of this lien, and if the firm who project the scheme retire, another should be easily formed to take up the work and carry it on. But, it is asked, again, What would follow should the proposed scheme be abandoned while it is yet in development? The city would not be a loser. It would still have the property, one worth a great deal more than it put into the investment, and the hotel is wanted very badly, so badly indeed that it is remarkable some one has not made the venture long since on his own account.

The projectors of the building have figured that a modern house, fully and properly equipped, would be a positive attraction to the city, that during the summer especially many tourists would spend days in Kingston whereas they now spend hours. What takes the people to Cobourg, Gananoque, Belleville, Brockville, and other places but the better hotel accommodation which they can get? Kingston will not hesitate to aid the scheme—when the council has reported that it has made an examination of all the details and is prepared to recommend it to the people.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The National Club, formed in Toronto for the defence of the British empire, is to be continued. Why? Is the throne still in danger?

There will be a rearrangement of the duties of the federal ministers. The ministers will get their bearings before they make any changes. They are new in the business, very new.

L'Evenement is quite sure that the nationalists would not accept seats in the federal government without the assurance that their views on the navy would be respected. There is to be a referendum, then?

The Ontario municipal board needs revising. The chairman has publicly repudiated his colleagues, and when technical knowledge is required, is incompetent. The colleagues might be inclined to accept the chairman's ruling if he were a man of the May-bee stamp, which he is not.

On dit that the local government will appoint a commission to direct the opening and settlement of North Ontario. This is government by commission. Why should the mines and agricultural departments be relieved of this responsibility? Are they not equal to the tasks imposed upon them?

The Brantford Expositor suggests that a liberal convention be held for the formation of a party platform.

PUBLIC OPINION.

Stronger Arm Needed. Globe. Dr. Beatty Nesbitt's influence can paralyze the arm of justice in Ontario. A stronger arm is badly needed.

Will It He Wants. Toronto Star. Col. Sam Hughes spoke of American settlers as "galvanized Yankees." But he won't dare to say it to Hon. Geo. H. Perley.

What Dissolution Means. London Advertiser. The dissolution of the Ontario Legislature means the dissolution of the premier's vaunted backbone.

Wail of the Heart. Peterboro Review. After reading some of the press comments on the Borden cabinet, we are inclined to think that Mr. Borden will mentally exclaim, "O save me from my friends."

A Hasty Act. Toronto Telegram. So far as heard from, the doors of the Borden government have been slammed in the faces of every true friend to public ownership and public rights inside the conservative party.

AT THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE. "The Private Secretary" Was Presented on Saturday.

"The Private Secretary" is brimful of fun from beginning to end. It is not exaggerating to say that there is a laugh every minute, and sometimes two or three. Do you like to have a good, hearty laugh? Then by all means see "The Private Secretary."

The play was given at the Grand on Saturday, matinee and night, with C. James Bancroft in the leading role, and the company played to large audiences. A star actor himself, Mr. Bancroft has surrounded himself with an able company, and every part is in capable hands. The curtain calls on Saturday bespoke the appreciation of the audience.

The fun is given in three doses—that is, in three acts. The story centres around the life of Douglas Cattermole, who has a rich uncle who is very anxious that his nephew shall "sow his wild oats" before he settles down. Douglas gets a chance to do some sowing, so as to carry out the wish of his uncle, but the events which lead up to it are very amusing, and there is a mixup every minute. Douglas takes over the position of a private secretary, which has been held by Rev. Robert Spaulding, and holds down the job until he is discovered. In the role of the Rev. Robert Spaulding, Mr. Bancroft showed marked ability. He has a part rather difficult to undertake and do well, but his work is excellent. Edwin Hodges, as Douglas Cattermole, was good, and his partner, Harold M. Cheshire, as Harry Marsland, was also good. One of the most interesting characters is the uncle of young Cattermole, referred to on the programme as Mr. Cattermole. "CATT" FEAR M-O-L-E, as he himself would spell it out from time to time. Miss Nell Cave, a spiritualist, did well, and the two young girls, Miss Rhea Bacon and Miss Betty Courtney, were charming in their parts.

Russian Ballet Double-Double. The management responsible for the coming of the All-Star Imperial Russian ballet has announced it as a "double, double attraction." It sounds queer, but it is an adjectival mistake. In the first place the All-Star Imperial Russian Ballet has a symphony orchestra under the direction of Vittorio Podesti, of the Metropolitan Opera company, New York, which could of itself provide a full evening's or afternoon's entertainment. That's one double. Then the performances of the ballet appeal at once to two widely different sorts of people—the highly artistic and the tired business man. At the Grand, on Wednesday, October 18th.

The Bachelor's Baby. Francis Wilson, who, many years ago, won his way into the hearts of the theatre-going public as a clean-cut funmaker, comes this season in his own pen, called "The Bachelor's Baby," which has, everywhere it has been produced, scored an emphatic hit. "The Bachelor's Baby" is in its third season, for it had a run of over eight months in New York two years ago at the Criterion theatre. The comedian is said to have fitted himself extremely well and his Wilsonisms and inimitable little ways are shown to the best possible advantage. At the Grand on Thursday, October 19th.

The Squaw Man. "The Squaw Man" is unquestionably the most strikingly original dramatic success an American playwright has yet achieved. There is no play in the history of the American stage that has won so large a measure of artistic as well as popular success as has this picturesque and beautifully written drama of vixen American life from the pen of Edwin Milton Royce. The play will be presented at the Grand to-night with a superb company, and the entire production with a complete scenic equipment precisely as presented during the phenomenal engagement of one thousand performances in New York city.

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Advertisement for Bibbys Ltd. featuring men's and boys' clothing. Includes images of men in suits and overcoats, and boys in suits. Text: 'Fine Shoes For Men \$4.00', 'BIBBYS Ltd ONE PRICE - MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR', 'SWEATER COATS GALORE BOYS' SUITS', '\$10 OVERCOATS', 'See Bibby's Swell \$4 & \$5 Men's Shoes', 'Agents for Fowne's and Dent's Gloves for Men', 'Agents for Penman's Underwear and Sweater Coats'. Price list for sweaters and coats.

Advertisement for Thomas Copley shoe store. Includes text: 'A Shoe True To Nature', 'Invictus', 'Gas For Cooking', 'THE CLUB HOTEL', 'THAT TOBACCO', 'THE CLUB HOTEL', 'DR. SOPER DR. WHITE', 'CRAWFORDS COAL', 'USE CRAWFORDS COAL', 'INTENSE HEAT-GIVING COAL', 'The Sawyer Shoe Store'. Includes images of a shoe and a coal bin.

Advertisement for Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills. Text: 'Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills positively cure Constipation and all kindred & resulting troubles. 25¢ a box'. 'A GOOD BEGINNING GET ANGLIN'S BEST CLASS WHITE PINE, SPRUCE AND HEMLOCK LUMBER'. 'CAN YOU ASK MORE? Your Money Back for the Asking—You Promise Nothing.' 'Quick Shoe Repairing'. 'JOHN GREEN, 286 PRINCESS STREET.' 'THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY THERAPION'. 'BIBBY'S CAB STAND DAY OR NIGHT Phone 201'. 'Second Hand Furniture'. 'Wood's Phosphorine'. 'Great Sale Of Stoves, Heaters, Etc.' 'L. LESSES, Cor. Princess and Chatham Sts. Phone 1045.'