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THE WHIG, SEVENTY-EIGHTH YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 266-310 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at \$6 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 \$1.50. To United States, charge for postage had to be added, making price of Daily \$3 and Weekly \$1.50 per year. Attached is one of the best Job Printing Offices in Canada; rapid, stylish, and cheap work; nine improved presses.

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MR. ROWELL'S POSITION.

It was not to be expected that the conservative papers would say much in praise of Mr. Rowell's address to the people—Sir James Whitney would not forgive any one that did—and yet some papers have referred to the liberal leader in laudatory terms. Some others do not see much in the address to commend. They probably take their cue from Sir James, who, while admitting that he had not read it through, referred to it in contemptuous terms. Now that was very ungracious of the premier. He could well afford, in his position, to conceal his thoughts with regard to Mr. Rowell, since the only thing he can have against the man was that he aspired some day to take his place.

The Whig regrets—speaking for itself and not for the party—that there have been two omissions from the manifesto. It agrees with those who attended the liberal meeting in Toronto and took high ground on the temperance question. It was not enough to pronounce in favour of a rigorous enforcement of the license law, and looking to more sobriety

among the people. It was not enough to declare that the three-fifths clause should be abolished. The party would have been the gainer, in the estimation of the Whig, had it said the bars should go. They are a menace to the morals of the people, and any one who sees the Saturday evening closings, in obedience to the law, cannot have any doubts upon this point. Then it may be understood that bilingualism is referred to when, in Mr. Rowell's address, he says "the pupils in every school in the province shall receive a thorough English education." But there are some liberals who would have been the latter satisfied if there had been an emphatic deliverance on the subject, and to the effect that while French may be taught it shall be in French schools, and that the attempt to conduct a French-English school with the one teacher is not to be continued.

However, Mr. Rowell will, next week, speak at a great rally in Toronto, and he may make himself clear on these points. One cannot compress into a column article all that can and should be said upon two vital and all-important subjects.

MAKE KINGSTON PROGRESSIVE.

An American who had occasion recently to visit the city, writes caustically about two things, (1) the lack of a live and alert civic spirit, and (2) the abominable railway service by the Grand Trunk railway, in and out of Kingston. For the city this man has a profound regard, and on account of local memories that will never die. But he says he never comes to the city that a feeling of regret does not come over him. And why? He realizes that Kingston in many ways is a most attractive place, that if the railway connections and the hotel accommodations were good, the visitors would be very numerous. "Kingston ought to be the show place of Canada with Quebec," writes our correspondent. "With proper travelling facilities and judicious advertising, and stop-over privilege, it should profit largely by the desires of people to see things, and there are more of them to see here than in any place of a similar size. But the getting in and out of the city is awful, and the facilities are worse. I could think of nothing but lost opportunities." He said that while with a friend he was referred to several prosperous businesses, some of them conducted by alleged foreigners, who saw the opportunities that Kingston people had made and were not ready to take advantage of.

The correspondent seemed to anticipate the question, "What do you think is the matter?" by he continues, "What you want is a live, unbiassed, free, independent, non-political and non-religious Commercial Club." It should be able to wake up the Grand Trunk, as we are waking up some of the roads, on this side and making them take notice. You appear to have too much politics, more to the square inch than we have to the square foot, and your men talk as much as our women and with about the same effect. Without some change in your public methods, Kingston will continue as it is, when it should be a live city with twice the population, and swarming with visitors. Tackle the railway companies, first, with a live organization, and make them respect you. Each Kingstonian can help in the movement and have the city take its place as one of the most progressive in Canada.

The Whig quotes these thoughts from a letter addressed to the editor because it is from a friend of Kingston, and one who is deeply interested in its welfare. It must not be supposed that the business men of the city are not alive to its interests and not eager to promote them. It must not be inferred either that the board of trade has not been doing what it can to improve the railway facilities, to locate new industries, to give strength and direction to public movements. It might do more if its boundaries or membership were enlarged, so that a greater number were interested in its business. The article, founded on the criticism of a friend, may have the desired effect, of stirring up a large interest in local affairs and of securing from the great corporations the consideration which is the city's due.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Two new industries going to Windsor. The free sites did it.

Mr. Borden appears to be very anxious that the relations of Canada and the United States should remain cordial. Throw bricks at people and expect their thanks.

A conservative paper thinks that if the senate, now largely liberal, would advocate senate reform it would be a go with the government. Of course all the new senators, including our old friend, George Taylor, of Gananoque, will be hot for this.

Albertan politics cannot be judged by the late bye-elections, the opposition to the government is made up of liberals and conservatives. The issue in Alberta is Alberta Railway and Waterways vs. good roads, and the issue is dividing the parties.

So Fr. Bernard Vaughan is returning to Canada and will preach at several points before Christmas. It is to be hoped he will not visit Ontario until after the election. Mr. Lemieux credits him with being the cause of some of the religious strife in the late election.

Ottawa's assessment is peculiar. The land that the city wants for street purposes goes up in value by thousands of dollars and under the hand of the same valuator. No wonder the city solicitor Meeks and suggests that there is something radically wrong with the assessment department.

The Hogewille Times had better restrain itself on the navy question. Mr. Borden has not handed out his plans since Bourassa assumed to make the government, and one's somewhat, on reciprocity, is about all that our contemporary can stand without strain at a time.

If the province of Alberta abandoned the scheme of building the Alberta and Great Waterways railway, it should be entitled to the money raised upon the bonds. That is the decision of the court. But appeal will be made. The exploiters will carry the case from one court to another until it reaches, may be, the privy council.

Conservative papers marvel that Hon. Mr. Oliver would think of withdrawing from the federal parliament to enter a provincial legislature, that of Alberta. What about Henri Bourassa, the pet of the conservative government? He went into the Quebec legislature to reform it. The only thing he did was to drive Hon. Jean Prevost out of public life.

Commission management has been regarded as the ideal management in municipal affairs. It is handed as a success in provincial affairs so far as the Hydro-Electric Commission is concerned. They why change the business from the commission to a department of the government with all its political defects? That is what troubles the Telegram and the World.

PUBLIC OPINION

CONSERVATIVE PAPERS ON THE NEW LIBERAL LEADER.

High Praise Given Him—The Policy a Progressive One—The Government Blamed for its Inaction—Sir James Whitney Made to Sit Up.

Hamilton Herald (Cons.) Mr. Rowell's proposals mark a distinct advance not only on the record of the Whitney government, but on its professed principles, and the liberal programme should prove to be the spur which was needed to force the government to "get a gait on."

An Old Sentiment. Montreal Herald (Lib.) What Mr. Rowell has in his favor is the sentiment, which has always been strong in Ontario, that it is not a good thing to have the governments at Ottawa and at Toronto in the same hands. Macdonald's success was always considered to be Mowat's opportunity, and Whitney's chance came with Laurier. It may not be this time that Mr. Rowell will win, but on the broad outlook he stands to gain with the electorate from this time forth.

A Wise Selection. Weekly Sun. Ontario liberals have made an excellent choice in selecting Mr. W. Rowell as their leader. In the prime of life, a clear and convincing speaker, well informed on all public questions, with a clean record and a man of high ideals, Mr. Rowell possesses qualifications for leadership such as are comparatively rare in public life. Whether as leader of an opposition or head of a government, Mr. Rowell will be expected to make a record which will be a credit to himself and a matter of pride to his followers.

An Initial Programme. Montreal Star (Cons.) Mr. Rowell has thrown out a skirmishing line, however, in advance even of the Whitney ministry, but it would seem to an outside observer that he might have done better to make a more drastic departure in one or two lines which would arouse the enthusiasm of the people instead of trying to get a trifle ahead at every point. Still the reorganized liberal party probably regards this manifesto as no more than an initial programme and will proceed to build its real platform from the opposition benches during the life of the next legislature.

Patted on the Back. Toronto World (Cons.) The World has read with interest, if not with emotion, the new platform of the liberal party in Ontario, put out by the new leader, N. Wesley Rowell. There is room to stand on it. It is in measured way a response to the appeal of the World some time ago to the liberal party to reorganize itself and to "get a move on." There is some movement in this new programme, and it is to be hoped the World welcomes it. But it must go a great deal further, and perhaps Mr. Rowell will find that out in a very short time. We do not wish, however, to discourage him at the start. We rather wish to pat him on the back and tell him, so far, so good, but go further and do better.

Chiding the Government. Ottawa Citizen. It is a matter of regret that the government has allowed the opposition to forestall it in the advocacy of adoption of a principle which has successfully appealed to the democracy of Britain on three successive occasions, and which is to-day engaging the attention of progressive and enterprising localities throughout the western half of our own land. The immediate results of the taxation of land values, rather than the improvements upon the land, have become so visible in the cases of Canadian western communities that academic discussion of the economic aspect of the question has no longer obstructed the progress of the movement. The west has been "shown" to use a native colloquialism. "In Ontario the educational movement is bearing fruit. It is rather disappointing to find that the government of the day has thus far failed to recognize the growth of the sentiment in favor of tax reform in this direction, but now that the issue is fairly before the people the opportunity to impress the administration with the trend of public thought along these lines should not be neglected."

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THE WHIG'S PUZZLE. Can You Guess What the Picture Represents? GEE! IT'S COLD. ATT. What kind of a window? The answer to Wednesday's puzzle was current. Alfred Jerry, the man who married a Toronto woman on short notice and posed as a wealthy mine owner, and then disappeared, was in Peterboro a few weeks ago, and arranged to purchase a house for \$1,000, and \$1,500 worth of furniture. Sale men's overalls, from 50c; men's night shirts, 60c; fall underwear, 50c; men's hemstitched handkerchiefs, 2c. Dutton's, 209 Princess street.

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