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THE WHIG, SEVENTY-EIGHTH YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 306-310 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 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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SOMETHING WANTED.

The public school gives the average boy a totally inadequate education for the practical life which he must enter, and it should have been supplemented long since by something better than that which has so far been provided.

justified, through the Management Committee, in taking action, having for its object the furnishing of such technical education as the law authorizes. Not much can be done during the remaining weeks in which the present board will continue in office, but the facts should be got at, and night classes should be re-organized for at least three months of the New Year.

Night schools are not the best for boys, but for those who are employed, and who could learn much during their evenings, they are not to be despised.

SIR JAMES CALLED DOWN.

Sir James Whitney regards as "phenomenal" his success in the recent local elections, and sits back in happy contemplation of his feat. But his peace of mind is disturbed, not by the miserable grit papers whose editors have no sympathy with his prodigious acts, but by the conservative paper of insurgent tendencies.

Before polling day Sir James was reminded of several things of which he had no reason to be proud, and the candid criticism was offered by his political friends or allies. As polling day approached these prints forgot about the faults and failings of the one-man government and called for its return. In Mr. Rowell and his party these papers saw nothing they could commend.

The election is over, however, and Sir James is the subject of some very personal remarks. The Telegram declares:

"Ontario's next duty is to build a fire of sentiment under the Whitney government and keep the fire so blazing hot that the party in power will have to open up the Temiskaming country and establish Anglo-Saxon ideals in the educational life of this province."

"Ontario's next duty is to purge the Whitney government of the faults of cowardice in regard to the bilingual school evil and of sloth in regard to the possibilities of the Temiskaming country."

The World tells Sir James that he has been given another chance conditionally. He has to do better. The education department must be re-organized, under a new minister. Dr. Pyne must go. So must the Hon. Mr. Duff, if "agriculture wants to be reconstructed from the top down." A new department is suggested, under Mr. Lucas, we are told, "a minister for the municipalities," while "the Hydro-Electric and Adam Beck must go on stronger than ever," under a commission, it is presumed.

One can imagine the feelings of the conservative party generally when two of the Toronto party papers find it necessary to tell the great Sir James what he must do if he would give assurance of "progressive government." Sir James may accept the talk good-naturedly, or he may send for the editors and say to them some things that will not look well in print.

THE SLEEPERS IN TORONTO.

There is one phase of medical inspection which has not been enlarged upon during the election because educational issues should not, if possible, become political. The one justification for administering the Education Department by a minister was that he would be amenable to public opinion, or susceptible to its demands. But there are some people, and the number seems to be increasing, who favour the commission as distinct from the superintendent who presided over education in Ontario in Dr. Ryerson's day.

A commission for education would be independent of the government, and would, in the case of the bi-lingual schools, see to it that there were no violations of the law. A commission, likewise, being devoted to any project, and having a policy with regard to it, would persevere in good works, and give the masses all the enlightenment possible with regard to them. This brings the Whig to a feature of the address which Dr. Knight delivered before the Alumni Conference, in Queen's College, the address in which he criticised some things very sharply. What is the use of criticism at all if it does not reveal the defects in a system and lead to their removal? The education department has not done anything to inform the people with respect to medical inspection.

This inspection is authorized. That is all. It is for the trustees to develop it as they please, and it is a work which involves serious consideration. Now the department must see that it should lend a hand in educating the school boards and officials. The experience of every place should be ascertained and so presented, in pamphlets and circulars, that as much as possible may be learned with a little labour as possible.

Kingston has had to "go it alone," and knows what it means to introduce medical inspection. There was nothing in the literature of the government, in the blue or pink books, to guide the board. Hence if had to evolve a system or plan of its own, and from Toronto, and its medical department, the nurse later obtained such help as enabled her to make a most promising beginning with her task. But the school board should have been assisted in its preliminary service, in connection with this new departure, and that assistance should have been supplied by the Education Department.

Mr. Rowell has referred to the seven sleepers who compose the government. He could go further and refer to the seven sleepers who represent the Education Department in its principal officials.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There will not be an acclamation in the majority, so far as Mr. Graham is concerned. That appears to be certain.

Yes, little one, Santa Claus is coming. And he travels nowadays by aeroplanes. The reindeer, swift as they were, have become too slow for the old man.

Mr. Rowell got his wish—a real old-fashioned majority in Oxford. And he will give the people what they expect, a real old-fashioned revival of liberalism in the legislature.

What Kingston wants is a publicity department. This fact must have been impressed upon the mind of any one who read the Welland and Peterboro letters to the box and loomed live makers here.

A majority vote in New Zealand would have carried the prohibition law which was submitted to a referendum. But the three-fifths provision killed it. So Canada is not the only colony in which the people are suffering from license handicaps.

Over 20,000 voters in Montreal have been disfranchised for the municipal election because they have not paid their water rates. How would it do to apply that idea generally and disfranchise the man who doesn't pay his taxes before a certain date?

Will Sir James become less dictatorial, less arbitrary, less pompous and offensive now that he realizes it does not pay? His own friends, in the press and party, in the recent election resented the tendency which is to brow-beat all who do not agree with him.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

RECOMMENDS THAT ALL SHOULD BE VACCINATED.

As a Precaution Against Smallpox—It Desires That Kingston Should be Free of This Disease.

The Board of Health, at its meeting on Tuesday afternoon, decided to recommend to the citizens that precautions be taken this winter against small-pox, and advise all those who have not been vaccinated within the past few years to have that little operation performed as a safeguard. At the present time the city of Montreal is surrounded by small-pox and Kingston does not desire the disease. In one village near Montreal, where there is a good deal of small-pox, all those who have the disease were found to have never been vaccinated.

Ald. Bailey brought up the question of the nuisance caused from the stench from damaged grain at Richardson's elevator. There had been many complaints about the nuisance this past season. It was decided to take up the question next year if the nuisance occurred again.

Several places which have no drains will be dealt with by the health officers and sanitary inspector. On Lower Bigot street a whole row of houses are undrained, in violation of the by-law.

The board recommended the city council to make the necessary sewer connections between Raglan Road and Montreal street, so that the sewer on Sydenham street can be extended from North street to Raglan.

A vote of appreciation of the services of James McLeod, as chairman of the board during the year, was passed. Mr. McLeod has been energetic and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

SPY MANIA IN GERMANY.

Newspapers Bitterly Comment on Use of British Gold.

London, Dec. 13.—A special Berlin despatch to the Daily Express indicates that the trial of Max Shultz at Leipzig on the charge of obtaining information about German land and naval armaments for Britain has caused a general spy scare throughout Germany.

The German newspapers bitterly comment on the liberal use of British gold to obtain coveted information. It is reported that Germany has decided to establish a naval base at Emden, on the North Sea, and will build a harbor there for battleships and cruisers. It is said also that Germany is determined to establish a permanent garrison of 12,000 troops at Varduz.

The Express correspondent says the German press is jubilant because, by the policy of fighting fire with fire, Germany has been able to obtain important information, but vigorously protests against members of British society taking part in spying because their love of sport impels them to court danger.

The spy mania, however, is not confined to Germany, a constant watch is being kept by the British authorities on Germans in important garrison towns and naval ports.

Ministers Tired Already.

Montreal Witness. It is reported from Ottawa that the new ministers, appalled by the burdens which they find themselves called upon to bear, are planning to adopt the English system of under-secretaries. Twenty years ago an attempt was made to induce the under-secretary system in Canada, but it did not work satisfactorily. Three subordinate positions were created, the holders of which, while belonging to the government, were not members of the cabinet. They were the controller of customs and the controller of inland revenue, who were supposed to be under-secretaries to the minister of trade and commerce; the solicitor-general, who was under-study to the minister of justice. After a few years it was found necessary to give cabinet rank to the controller of customs and the controller of inland revenue; the solicitor-general alone retaining the rank of under-secretary. The proposal to revive the system was raised some two or three years ago. It was abandoned because of the resistance to it by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fielding. It is quite possible, that it can be shown that the creation of a limited number of under-secretaries would lead to greater efficiency in the government.

Kingston and Cape Vincent. Steamer service change of time, commencing Monday, December 11th, steamer will leave Cape Vincent daily, except Sunday, at 8.45 a.m., arriving at Kingston, 10.30 a.m.; returning leave Kingston, 1.30 p.m., arriving at Cape Vincent, 3.30 p.m.

Fish-Fillet, haddie, kipper and cod just arrived at Gilbert's stores. H. L. Newton, who escaped from the Watertown jail last summer, was on Saturday sentenced to three years and six months in Auburn, N.Y. prison, by Judge Emmerson, of Watertown.

DR. SOPER DR. WHITE



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