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THE WHIG, SEVENTY-NINTH YEAR

DAILY BRITISH WHIG, published at 266-310 King Street, Kingston, Ontario, at \$8 per year. Editions at 2.30 and 4 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 \$2 and Weekly \$1.50 per year.

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PLUNDERS OF THE UNDERWORLD.

The recital of the facts in connection with the Rosenthal murder, by the men who were contributory to it, is made in surprising calmness. These men, hired to take the life of a fellow, and engaged in gambling like themselves, but disgruntled because of the overtax to which he was submitted by the system, tell of their proceedings, with great deliberation. They all agree in the story that Rosenthal had become a source of irritation to Lieutenant Becker, that something had to be done and done quickly, in order to prevent the exposure upon which he was bent. It is charged that the lieutenant inspired the murder, suggested it, hurried it by his imperious command. The gunmen intimate that they shrank from the task, but that they did not dare to displease the man whose function it was to prevent crime. They acted eventually on the

assurance that they would be protected. It is a gruesome statement, its plot is the heartlessness of those whose contact with the underworld had robbed them of all sensitiveness. Conscience they had none. They were so far abandoned to a crooked life as to have no worries about the steps they had to take in their shocking and brutalizing business. Worst of all is the sense of insecurity in New York. Witnesses who told what they knew have disappeared. The gunmen themselves feel that they are doomed, and if ever they get out will make themselves scarce about their old haunts. And why should they be promised immunity? The district attorney wanted to get at the men "higher up," the real criminals, who have been profiting on the spoils of the gamblers. He is striking at the police system and all who have been sharing in its plunder of the underworld.

WOMEN AND WAGES QUESTION.

Some days ago a woman, termed a grass widow, one who had found herself a misfit in married life, was arrested in Chicago for systematic thieving. She confessed that she had been robbing her employers for years. Her first offense touched the conscience, but later she soothed it with the reflection that she was justified in adding criminally to her income on the ground that she was unable to live on the miserable pittance she was doled out by her employer. She was educated, active, useful, and her service was in demand, but her daily task was regulated by a system which valued her labours at a much per week, and this sum was not sufficient to meet her wants, regardless of the economics which she practiced. Her defence, when asked for an explanation of her misconduct, was that she had to steal or sell her virtue, and the court seems to have heard her plea without expressing an opinion. A Hamilton paper, commenting upon the case, confessed, with humiliation, that it represented a true condition of social life. What, asked the Spectator, can be done about it? "There is no sentiment in business, and such problems are ever regulated by the law of supply and demand, where unionism cannot intervene." The federal government can appoint a commission, and it can enquire into the facts. Commissioners in England have laid bare conditions, the existence of which

have appealed to the better nature of mankind, and parliament has passed laws of a remedial nature. England, men say, is more and more committing itself to socialism. The leaders in parliament are not socialists, as they are generally identified, but they are men who realize that legislation can do a great deal for the masses, and they are passing laws which are producing marvelous results. These men are not making a wreck of society. They are occasionally called bad names, but they are doing a great work, and must be wished abundant success. Wrecking society? Rather they are adjusting the relations between the people and fixing them with a firm and faithful hand. This poor woman, in Chicago, having confessed her sins and accepted punishment, puts herself on record as saying that when released from prison she hopes to live honestly, and pursue a course of conscious rectitude. How can she if she is dependent on her labours for her living and the wages of the shops go no higher? By taking service in the home, as servant, housekeeper, cook, or nurse. Here she gets the food she requires, in sufficiency, and a wage that is as high as she can earn behind the counter. A change of occupation is the only resort, because the law of supply and demand is unalterable so long as employers are content to act upon it, and there is nothing to force his hand.

TORONTO AND ITS POWER.

The city auditor, who cannot be accused of any partiality, and whose only object is to state the facts as he finds them, makes a revelation with regard to the power question. Toronto, it will be remembered, went into the light and power business on its own account. It made a contract for a large bulk delivery of power per year, provided all the machinery for distributing the same, and bid for the public patronage. To command the public support the city was obliged to cut rates. As a consequence some time ago the city was reported to be running behind financially. Now the auditor announces that the net shortage for June 30th is \$290,600—and this sum will be increased by the addition of various accounts to \$368,518. The mayor takes exception to the statement, intimating that it is capable of modification, but the auditor knows his business, and presents an exhibit upon the accuracy of which he stakes his reputation. The Toronto News says that of the total indebtedness \$117,308 represents the deficit for last year, which the auditor has carried forward. So much the worse. The explanation emphasizes the fact that the municipal plant is not paying its way, and never can while the present competition continues. The people are getting what

is called "cheap light." The house and store rate is low, but the rate is not reimbursing the city for its outlay, and the deficits are bound to accumulate. Eventually they must be wiped out by taxation. The Toronto News says the commission should have established a monopoly of the electric supply in Toronto by purchasing the Toronto Electric Light company, and that reforms should be made in the system of management so that, profiting by the reduction of rates, the commission may enjoy a surplus instead of suffering a loss. Toronto was not made to follow the only course that was open to Kingston: Here the city had to buy the company's plant, at an arbitrary value. It possessed itself of a lot of machinery which it would not otherwise have acquired, but it got a monopoly of the business, and it is doing fairly well by it. The management lacks on one essential—that the wants of the city are not promptly met. In the beginning of the year, at the very first meeting of the Utilities committee, the manager outlined his needs for the year. In September the committee gave attention to his recommendations, and now it is apparent that the committee moved too slow. The department may survive this dilatoriness. If it does not the committee is to blame.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The convicts' best friend, W. P. Arbibald, the federal parole officer, is critically ill in Ottawa. The prayer of many good men is that he may speedily recover. Mr. Evanturel, M.P.P., contradicts Sir James and says the legislature was not of one mind with regard to the bi-lingual school regulations. Mr. Evanturel wanted to discuss them and was not allowed. Sir James applied the gag.

The Red Sox men, the winners of the world's championship, in baseball, will receive \$1,024.69 each from the gate receipts, and the Giants \$2,566.46 each. This, in addition to the salaries of the season, makes the income of the professional ballist a handsome one. The purification of Lake Huron water by a filtration gallery is the only way to save Sarnia from future epidemics of typhoid fever. So says a gov-

ernment engineer who was sent to report on the subject. Why not try sewage disposal, if it is the better remedy?

Men were not only paid ten shillings a day and given refreshments who attended the Ulster demonstrations, and stood guard, but prominent men were promised all expenses if they attended. Some fund was providing for all this, and it was not a small one surely.

According to evidence laid before the senate committee it was stated that the nominations of Taft and Roosevelt cost \$1,163,000, and of Wilson and Clark \$265,468. There's money in politics, to be sure. Every dollar of this vast expenditure was put up by men who expected it to be returned with usury.

The Issue in the West.

Hamilton Herald.
It is clear that reciprocity is not a cause to conjure with in those Maudslayi constituencies which are near centres of population and subject to urban influences. But the result of the Macdonald election is not likely to have any effect on public opinion in the grain-growing west, where the people are not to be swayed from the desire for wider markets, particularly the market to the south. They will continue to favor reciprocity until, through the development of industrial enterprise in the west, the economic situation out there becomes better balanced and more complicated. Tax Values and Real Values. New York World.
The appraisal of the real estate of the late John Jacob Astor in this city for the state transfer taxes exceeds by twenty millions its assessed valuation for taxation. The apparent ratio of tax assessment to appraised value is only sixty-six per cent. Over in Brooklyn, property about Fulton street and Ashland avenue affected by the Fourth avenue subway was assessed at \$1,651,400 in 1910, and is held by the owners as worth \$4,183,056 and damaged \$3,000,000 for partial use. On property there owned by a supreme court justice and assessed in 1910 at \$52,000 is now valued for subway damages at \$270,561.

PRODUCES THREE COLOR CORN.

Wins Prize by Growing an Ear of Red, White and Blue.
South Bend, Ind., Oct. 17.—A wager with Wallace Foster, "the flag man" of Indianapolis, that he could not raise an ear of corn with kernels of red, white and blue has been won by Melvin G. Huey, a pioneer of this city, after four years of experimenting. Wallace gave Huey a valuable six flag as his reward, with the opinion he does not believe the feat had been duplicated in the United States. Two ears of corn have been placed on exhibition here. The coloring effect is perfect. Huey was elated when he got the flag. He said: "I met Wallace at the state capital five years ago and he wanted to give me a big silk flag, explaining he would give it to me as soon as I sent him a red, white and blue ear of corn. I told him I would send him the corn as soon as I raised it. I sent him one red ear, one white ear and one blue ear. These he laughingly rejected. I tried again, obtaining some dark red corn for seed. I planted it in a hill with the other. The tri-color was produced and Wallace will get his corn."

ROMANCE OF BROKEN TIRE.

Accident Put Motorist in Hospital—Falls in Love.
Savannah, Ga., Oct. 17.—Hanging in the wall in the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Carwell Jones, in the spot where "God Bless Our Happy Home" ought to be, is a shattered automobile tire, and the young husband and wife explain to puzzled callers that if it hadn't been for that tire there wouldn't be any happy home. Mrs. Jones was Miss Kathleen Mitchell, and a nurse before her marriage. One day two husky stretchers were brought to her room and a tired husband who had been gently lifted from an automobile by a bursting tire and deposited thirty yards away on his left leg, the leg breaking in several places. So nothing was her ministrations. Mrs. Jones fell in love with the nurse, and they were married. Then Mr. Jones sent for that shattered tire, and it is one of the couple's most cherished possessions.

She is True Sportswoman.

London, Oct. 17.—Miss Lottie Rod has, perhaps, the finest record of any sportswoman in England. She won the All-England lawn tennis championship five times, carried off the supreme honor of ladies' golf at Troon, in 1904, and has distinguished herself at hockey, archery, swimming and skating. She also, rather to the surprise of the ladies' golf championship in 1898 and 1899. Miss Rod now devotes herself almost exclusively to archery.

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