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WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG, 15 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 \$7 and Weekly \$1.50 per year.
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THE COUNCIL IN SESSION.

The citizens who are interested in the proceedings of our council should see it in session. Perhaps they would be favourably impressed; and then again they might not. The Whig does not know when the innovation of smoking while the business proceeded set in, but it is one which cannot be too strongly condemned. All the members of this honourable body are non smokers, and why those who do not use the weed should be forced to breathe in the second-hand smoke is a question no one can answer. Occasional visitors to the American courts and councils have been shocked as they saw lawyers, doctors, judges, jurymen, and legislators, smoke pipes, cigars or cigarettes, and they have commented upon the becoming dignity of the Canadian courts and councils, where the air has been pure and where the evil habits and customs of some men do not intrude themselves upon others. These persons have only to see our city fathers at work in order to realize what a sad fall from grace there has been, what a really unwholesome and unwelcome place the council chamber is, and what an utter and regrettable absence there is of the dignity which has marked the conduct of this civic body.

THE CITY SOLICITORSHIP.

The resignation of Mr. McIntyre was, of course, accepted. There was no alternative, and the retiring official did the graceful thing of desiring to give his successor in office all the information he could with regard to the public business before leaving the office. The motion of acceptance, which was made by Ald. Elliott, was followed by as neat a speech as any one has heard in the council in many a day. It was not long, and it was not fulsome. It expressed the one thought, which every one applauded, that the city was losing an able man, an official who had served the city faithfully, conscientiously and well, and that the government of the day had made one of its best appointments. The new city solicitor was appointed later, and after one of the most confusing scenes. There were three nominations and for a while it was not at all clear how the motions should be disposed of. There was talk of suspending a rule which required the motions and amendments to be voted on in the reverse order, and then there was, at the last moment, a determination to stand by the rules. On the first vote Ald. Givens, (who did not vote and resigned his seat in the council later), received a majority. There was a lot of talk—oh, such a lot—about the main motion, which should be put as amended, in favour of Ald. Givens, and some aldermen worried over it as if some new problem or surprise would now take place. There was a difference of one vote, but there should not have been any discussion because it could not have been expected that men in open council could vote for more than one candidate without being exposed to well-deserved criticism. The council did well to make the choice unanimous, and Mr. Givens, from his long experience in municipal life, should render the city a valuable and acceptable service. The Whig congratulates him and wishes him abundant success.

MOTORIZED FIRE APPARATUS.

The report of the Fire and Forest Committee, with regard to a gradual change in the fire apparatus, so that it will be driven to fires by motor in place of drawn by horses, was received in a spirit of levity. Granted that the time is not ripe for a change in the fire equipment that the people have to be educated with regard to it—the information which has been collected is of the most interesting kind. The committee did not give its chairmen adequate support, and Ald. Fair was, perhaps, a little disservice, and too easily led from a debate upon the main issue. If the people had a firm grip on the situation they would probably endorse the report as the majority in the council endorsed it. The central point was this: That it takes a lot of money to keep the horses that are required to move a department in an emergency; that the feeding and driving of these horses costs money; that a motorized machine when idle is not running up expenses; that when wanted it is capable of rapid transit, and that it represents not only economy but efficiency in service. The people may be asked to vote on the subject later, and then the decision will depend very largely on the manner in which the plebiscite is taken. Ald. Fair should, when he has a case to submit, prepare it so that in brief form he can present the facts,

and so that he may hold off all who seek to disconcert him by untimely interruptions. The mayor, too, should see that the rules of the council are impartially enforced and to the end that the amenities of debate may be preserved.

ASSESSMENT REFORMS.

A subject of especial interest is the manner in which the assessment should be made. There has been an impression that the work of our commission could be improved, and it seems that the Finance Committee has had the matter under advisement. This was the last resort, after two or three motions had been submitted in the council, half-heartedly, and by members who were not clear as to what they ought to do. One of these motions involved the printing of the assessment rolls, for the information of the people. When it was dropped the committee was asked for an opinion, and this opinion it has given, accompanied by a summary of its correspondence with other municipalities. The result is a testimony to the efficiency of the work of Commissioner Gordon, and it is very much to his credit that a new body of men, who had no knowledge of the circumstances under which he took office, paid him a tribute of the most flattering kind. The Whig remembers when two assessors, appointed annually, and subject to change, did the work in a perfunctory and haphazard way. It remembers when the change was made, and the evidence on which Mr. Gordon was selected for the office, and knowing the difference between the systems it is surprised that any one could think of going back to the old one. The Finance Committee thinks, however, that each fall a couple of competent men can be selected to look over the rolls, hear complaints against them, and help the Court of Revision, and infamously Mr. Gordon, to adjust the differences. What good these men could do cannot be imagined. What they think of the assessment may amount to little. The Court of Revision will hear the evidence in any case, and will adjust the assessment as it sees fit. It has been doing this all along, and that so few alterations have been made from year to year is a splendid testimony as to the excellence and fairness of the Assessor's valuations.

REARRANGING COMMITTEES.

The manner in which some questions are approached is remarkable. The Finance Committee suggested, through the mayor, that the item of "Unfinished Business" might lead to meetings to the introduction of new matters, and as a sample of this kind of thing a couple of aldermen talked of what they saw abroad, and Ald. McCarty produced a crested block and told that many streets in New York were being paved with this material. The Whig wondered why some alderman, who had a reason for it, did not give notice that at the next meeting he would amend the rules in a certain way and thus bring the matter before the council in a direct and effective form. The desire is for a "Management" Committee. There should be an Executive Committee. Belleville has it. So have other towns and cities. The meaning of it is that the work of the other committees have to be reported to it, and that it acts in a supervising way, suggesting such amendments, at times, as may guarantee the success of the scheme or movement which is dealt with. It is a good idea, and it is hoped the Finance Committee may be able to deal with it at once. The time to change the committee, the number or composition of them, is before the new council meets; for there the discussion is cast for the year.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The doctors' combine or union in England, against the Insurance Act, has succeeded. The suffragists will be encouraged.
Armed Leverage is the star actor in the Hochelaga election. Suppose the campaign does go against him. Think of the adulation he is receiving at present.
Ottawa cannot afford to lie under the imputation that its officials are corrupt. The charge or insinuation that one man bought his way into office must be cleared up.
The idea that every man has his price—the expression was used in a civic committee last week, though not in a personal and offensive way—is not pleasant. It will stand serious examination.
The council does not encourage research. The man who goes into things in order to measure their merits suffers from the jibes and jokes of his colleagues. The attitude of

some aldermen on the fire apparatus question is remarkable.
In one city, twenty towns, twenty-three villages, and twenty-three townships people will vote on township law in January. So that the demand for an abolition of the bar goes on. Sir James Whitney will please take notice.
THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE
After County Councils for Overdue High School Fees.
Gananoque, Nov. 19.—J. Leslie McFadden, the fifteen-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William McFadden, passed to rest at the family residence, near Pittsburg, on Sunday evening, after a short illness. The funeral took place this afternoon, to Willow Bank cemetery.
Principal R. G. Graham, of Gananoque high school, and W. B. Carroll, K.C., appointed by the Board of Education, at its session last week, to attend the Counties Council, in Belleville, this week, left yesterday, for Brockville, to present the claim of the high school against the county for fees of pupils residing outside of Gananoque. The amount is stated to be somewhere near \$2,000. There is \$300 due from the county of Frontenac.
Messrs. Thomas Cockrill and Robert Haig have returned from a two weeks' hunt for big game in the Fort Coullages section of the wilds of Quebec. They report the big game as quite plentiful, but that the number of hunters was not up to the regular standard.
Miss Muriel Churchill, formerly of the staff of the local post office, has entered the private hospital on St. de la Haye street, conducted by Mrs. Charles Bamford, and will take a course in training for nurse.
Messrs. C. E. Britton and Deputy Reeve John A. Webster are in Brockville, attending the session of the Counties Council.
Miss Lottie Koot, who for the past few weeks has been undergoing treatment in Brockville general hospital for blood-poisoning, returned home yesterday, much improved. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Margaret Koot, trained nurse, who will take charge of her sister's care at home.
The Late Mrs. Thomas Cunningham, Napanee Express.
On November 8th, the angel of death entered the Hotel Dixie, Kingston, and claimed for its victim Mrs. Thomas Cunningham, of Napanee. She had been ailing but a short time and went there with the hope that the best of care would soon restore her to her usual good health. Her daughter, Mrs. Joseph Flemming, Rochester, N.Y., came and lovingly looked after every comfort available for her mother, but she grew gradually worse and passed peacefully away on Friday morning.
Mrs. Cunningham was the daughter of the late James Hinch, Camden, being born in county Wicklow, Ireland, in 1838. When only a small girl she came to Kingston, afterwards marrying Thomas Cunningham, a sea captain, who predeceased her some six years. She was loved and respected by all who knew her and had lived most of her life near Tamworth, but had been residing in Napanee the past few years. Her large concourse of friends followed in her funeral procession from the old homestead at Tamworth to the Roman Catholic church in Ericsville, where a solemn requiem mass was said by Rev. Father Carey. Her remains were then placed in the vault to await future interment. She is survived by three sons, John, San Diego; Daniel, San Francisco, Cal.; and William James, Tamworth, and one daughter, Mrs. James Flemming, Rochester, and one brother, James Hinch, Camden East.

THE BOHEMIAN GIRL.

Of all the musical productions presented within the last few years, none have attracted more widespread attention or received warmer praise than has the Bohemian Opera company's modern revival of "The Bohemian Girl," in English, which will be the attraction at the Grand on Wednesday, November 20th. The reason for this, it is said, lies in the fact that in its new dress it has made even a stranger appeal for popular favor than it did as it was formerly presented. Many of the changes incorporated into this version were suggested by the book used at the time of the music festival at Paris, during the French and English Exposition, and the success of the production, which the Marquis de St. Georges added, was made for this occasion, and so successful did it become that it won for its celebrated composer such coveted honours as commander of the Order of Carlos III from the regent of Spain and was made chevalier of the Legion of Honour by Napoleon III. To a surprising extent, it is said, Edward P. Temple, formerly of the New York Hippodrome, has succeeded in realizing all of the suggestions contained in the Parisian version.
Ladies' Musical Club.
The following ladies constitute the board of the Ladies' Musical Club, of Napanee:
President—Mrs. Franklin VanLauwen.
First Vice-President—Mrs. K. P. Miller.
Second Vice-President—Mrs. W. S. Herington.
Secretary—Mrs. J. W. Robinson.
Treasurer—Mrs. C. M. Stratton.
Convener—Mrs. Cameron Wilson.
Programme Committee—Mrs. U. M. Wilson, Mrs. McNaughton, Mrs. J. G. Daly, Mrs. J. E. Robinson, Mrs. W. H. Boyle, Mrs. J. L. Boyes, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. M. Black, Miss Light, Miss Luella Hall, Miss Deroche.
Workers; Not Talkers.
Ottawa Free Press.
Here are those dinky Malay states giving a cruiser for the empire's navy and never heard a word of talk from there. We believe, too, that Canada navy eloquence has circled the globe many times.
Let Them Sleep.
St. Thomas Times.
Four New York policemen have been suspended for sleeping while on duty. Why not let them sleep and keep their noses out of mischief?
Wine of odd liver oil 50 cents, also in bulk at Best's.

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