

The British Whig
80th YEAR.



Published Daily and Semi-Weekly by THE BRITISH WHIG PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED.

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Leman A. Guild, Managing Director and Sec. Treas.

Telephone:
Business office 243
Editorial rooms 229
Job office 293

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(Daily Edition.)
One year, delivered in city \$6.00
One year, if paid in advance \$5.00
One year, by mail to rural offices, \$2.50
One year, to United States \$3.00
Six and three months, pro rata.
(Semi-Weekly Edition.)
One year, by mail \$1.00
One year, to United States \$1.50
Six and three months, pro rata.

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THE COUNCIL—AND PAY.

The close of the municipal year is approaching and the question of Council vs. Commission government is discussed academically. It cannot, or need not, be discussed in any other way, however, because commission government is out of the question. It cannot be had legally in Ontario. There is not a general law under which there can be a change of government, and it would be impossible, we trust, under the present aspect of things, to secure a special act from the legislature.

Of course, the premier of this province professes to have a profound regard for public opinion, and if the people of several towns voted in favour of commission government Sir James Whitney would hardly say they could not have it. The Windsor Record and Woodstock Sentinel have been giving the subject some attention. The Record thinks the council would be very much improved if the people generally took a larger and wider interest in public affairs. The Sentinel regards the commission as superior because it trained men for civic service. The advantage does not lie so much in the longer term, or in the pay, as in the fact that commissioners take the offices for which they are best fitted, and retain them year after year, while the council will persist in changing its committees every year, and in contributing by this changing to their manifest inefficiency.

The Record thinks that pay would make our members of the council more devoted, and that the expenditure would be profitable. The Whig does not think so. The council system fails to arouse the interest which obtains in Britain, and fails to carry with it the sense of responsibility and integrity which are apparent in England. Pay would arouse the spirit of cupidity and it would wreck instead of improve the council plan of government.

A conservative paper announces a reduction of duty, by the United States tariff, on the following articles of food: Oats, butter, bees, storage eggs, peas, currants, chocolate and cocoa. Which means that without reciprocity, without an arrangement for a free exchange of natural products, as the Laurier parliament proposed, the cost of living will go higher. Is that something over which the people should rejoice.

CAMPAIGN IN CHATEAUGUAY.

The Chateauguay contest is on, with Hon. Sydney Fisher, minister of agriculture in the Laurier government, as the liberal candidate. The Montreal Herald, which used to be liberal but has been woefully weak on liberalism since it passed under new management, intimates that there is some doubt about his election.

The doubt originates in the projection of Rogers' methods in the constituency. Some one has suggested that his official title should be "minister of elections," rather than minister of public works, since it is his duty, apparently, to bribe, if possible, the electors of any constituency with the corrupt promises of public works. The record of several by-elections is very discreditably, so far as he is concerned.

In South Renfrew his party ignored an agreement which was made between the parties, that if the conservative went in for the local house by acclamation the liberal candidate for the commons would be similarly favoured. The electors were promised good roads, public buildings, and many concessions and refused to defeat

Hon. Mr. Graham. They had some regard for a solemn pact, Mr. Rogers had not.
In Macdonald, Man., the electors could not be bullied or bulldozed, and liberal workers were arrested and imprisoned without cause. Until this day it has been impossible to expose the rascality that marked the tory conduct of this election. In Richelieu, in Hochelaga, federal elections, and in two provincial elections, the machine was worked without regard to what the consequences would be. Promises were made and broken. Bribing only held good when the conservative candidate was elected.

Chateauguay is expected to surrender to the corruptionists on the ground that the people will not reject money offers. The people will be thrilled presently with the talk of what the government will do. The Rogers programme is an open violation or defiance of the law.

It has been intimated that the liberal papers are unreasonable when they find fault because the federal by-elections are not held simultaneously. They have been calling attention to the fact that Mr. Borden, in this as in other matters, has failed to practice what he preached. Mr. Borden should have regard for his word.

SCHOOL BOARD VS. COUNCIL.

Friction has occurred between the School Board of Brantford and the City Council, and with regard to the erection of a new school. In the western city the population is growing and provision must be made for the increase of school attendants. The school trustees had plans prepared for a school, the estimated cost of which is \$60,000, and the council, after examining the plans, decided that certain items of expense could be eliminated, and that \$45,000 would be sufficient for the school. The report proceeds:

"Whether the trustees will accept the \$45,000 by-law, which will be put through the City Council without a vote of the ratepayers, is not known. If the board tells the council the amount is not sufficient, a by-law will be submitted to a vote of the ratepayers, the amount to be raised to be \$60,000."

The question arises, Has the council anything to say about school appropriations? It has a local significance because the council of this city pared down the budget of the Board of Education, for general expenses, cutting out one item which must be provided, namely, the cost of the evening, commercial and industrial classes which are about to be established. The board cut out this provision without consulting with the trustees, and so realizing what it was doing.

Later the council agreed to supply most of the money required for an addition to Victoria school, but deleted an item for cement walks about the school. Whether the council has a right to do this is a question which must sooner or later be settled, and probably by an appeal to the court. The trustees are burdened with the care of the schools, and the education of the children, and their work should not be hindered by the council—unless it has the power to check, supervise, or change the school budgets, and this is disputed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Graft, what is it? The word, originally a curiosity, and meant to express an unusual condition or experience is now so common as to require a definition. Grafting is a common thing. At least one would infer this to be the case so frequent is the reference to it. Is it akin to thieving? Is so, what a lot of people are under suspicion?

Brantford has held up a Sunday school superintendent who deserted his wife and family in England and took flight for Canada with another erring woman. The Sunday school did not send the man wrong, but it suffers as much as if its associations were bad. Religion is hurt when one of its exemplars play the humbug and the hypocrite.

The Stratford Herald suggests that the education department "might introduce the moving picture into the public schools." It "might" do any fool thing, and keep up the reputation it has established during the last couple of years. Geography by lantern views has been tried, in American schools, but not geography by movies. It remains for Dr. Pyne to immortalize himself in the picture show business.

In February, 1911, Mr. Borden was worried about the combines, and wanted them suppressed. He was then in opposition. Now he is the premier of a government whose members have become travellers and explorers, who, when the house is not in session, and even while it is sitting, are seeing the world. The combines, the menaces of the people, have been practically licensed to "do" the people as they please.

A clergyman in Montreal who seemed to have been narrow enough when he became rector of a church, and to have suited the congregation when he became its leader, is leaving because

he has become too broad-minded. He once, like Peter, thought that salvation belonged to the few. Now he thinks it is the privilege of all, and he seeks a parish where he may preach this to the people. Here is certainly a unique experience.

The Lancet, a medical authority, claims that the breakfast of the average man could be cut out to his physical well-being. Rest and sleep have done for him more than food. In the morning he is at his best and he can work for hours without feeling the strain. Here is one way of reducing the cost of living, but, the Lancet to the contrary, it may be one way also of increasing the cost of the dead.

A redistribution of seats bill is promised at the next session of the legislature, and Hamilton is ambitious of a larger place in parliament. It wants four seats, only four, and "strong representations along that line will likely be made at Toronto at the proper time." Hamilton has not been fortunate in impressing on the Whitney government what it wants. If it were less subservient of the government it would fare the better. It is the independent man who commands respect.

PUBLIC OPINION

He Realy Is.

Windsor Record.
And now it is to be inferred that Doc. Pyne is no longer the Orange Sentinel's "grand old man eloquent?"

Money.

Cincinnati Enquirer.
Money will buy a lot of things. But it can't buy the loyalty of a dog or the friendship of a baby.

The Shame At Home.

Ottawa Free Press.
Hon. George E. Foster told how he saw the Chinese parliament increasing its sessional indemnity without any popular warrant. Well, he needn't have gone to China to see that.

Loss By Illness.

Ottawa Citizen.
The loss in the United States by illness to its population is figured at 750 millions per year. The margin for patent medicine profits seems to be still fairly large.

A Hard Question.

Brantford Courier.
Some of the wandering Doughbors out west who abandoned their lands now want compensation for them. By the bye what compensation has there been for Johnny Canuck in getting hold of such a gang?

They Would—Not.

Montreal Herald.
Chicago meat packers have suggested that the United States government might raise cattle to sell to them at cost in order to relieve the meat famine. No doubt the packers would be pleased to sell the finished product to the people at cost also.

Oh, This Is Dreadful.

Montreal Star.
When Mr. Poirer, the famous costumer, was asked the other day in New York, how should a woman choose her gown, he replied: "She should choose it in the morning, to match her soul. She should consider the temperature and the place where she is going." Certain magistrates have no doubt as to where women who wear Mr. Poirer's gowns are going, nor as to the superiority of asbestos over every other material.

SMUGGLERS SENTENCED

Go To Penitentiary For Smuggling Aliens.

Cornwall, Oct. 1.—George W. Wood and Edwin Ashbaugh, United States immigration inspectors, stationed at Cornwall, N.Y., where they attended the United States circuit court before Federal Judge George W. Ray, in the cases of the United States vs. Samuel Pleuma and Giuseppe Stuppiello, two Italians, and G. W. Martin, Mille Roches, Ont., all charged with smuggling aliens into the United States near Cornwall. Stuppiello was sentenced to two years and three months in the penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., and Martin to one year and one day in the same institution. Pleuma, who had been released on bail of \$1,000, did not appear when called, and bail was forfeited. It is expected that he will be arrested in the near future and sentence passed on him.

Judge Ray, who tried the cases, is the judge who sentenced Loupo, known as "The Wolf," to forty years in prison for committing black hand atrocities in New York city some time ago.

To Be Executed.

Saskatoon, Sask., Oct. 1.—Jesse Hammond was sentenced, by Justice Newlands to be hanged at Prince Albert penitentiary on December 17th. Hammond was convicted in the supreme court of contributing to the death of an infant. Hammond was convicted on January 24th last and sentenced to be hanged, but a new trial was ordered.

Boy Accidentally Shot.

Braceville, Ont., Sept. 30.—By the accidental discharge of a twenty-calibre rifle, Alexander Ford, a boy of sixteen years of age, was shot while hunting in the woods near Brockville. The bullet embedded itself in the calf of the leg. It is said he will recover.

Too Much Excitement.

London, Ont., Sept. 30.—Mrs. Bremer, Camlachie, who intended holding a sale and going to live with her niece, was so overcome by excitement that she was stricken with heart failure and died in a few minutes.

Wise and .: .: Otherwise

Hash is the stuff some queer dreams are made of.

There 'snt anything more pitiful than a hero out of a job.

One boy can do an errand in just half the time it will take two boys to do it.

It is easier for a man to acquire a reputation for being clever than it is for him to keep it up.

When a man's enemies make a display of friendship he always wonders what he has that they want.

No, Cordelia, a young man isn't necessarily slow because it takes him a long time to fasten a pretty girl's glove.

There are several rapid calculating machines on the market, but so far as rapidity is concerned none of them has anything on the old-fashioned gas meter.

So long as we love, we serve. So long as we are loved by others I would almost say we are indispensable; and no man is useless while he has a friend.—Stevenson.

Who Paid For It?

Magistrate—You are charged with being drunk and disorderly; what is your name?
Culprit—Angus McNicol McNab.
Magistrate—Hm—! Who paid for your liquor.—London Opinion.

She Knew the Symptoms.



George—Ah, the soft and tender moonlight—
Evelyn—Please row for shallow water, George, if you're going to get sentimental.

Not Much.

"I hear Brown's been promoted again."
"Yes."
"That's splendid! He must be an important member of the concern now."
"Oh, I guess not. The office boy still calls him by his first name."—Detroit Free Press.

Mutual Admiration.

"You are getting very bald, sir," said the barber.
"You yourself," retorted the customer "are not free from a number of defects that I could mention if I cared to become personal."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Commendable.

"What reform are you interested in now?"
"I'm advocating that people be paid double for their work when they don't feel like working."

Very Cautious.

A clerk was sent to call on Mr. C—the meanest rich man in the town, to try and induce him to purchase a burial plot in the new cemetery. In half an hour he was back again.
"Couldn't get him?" asked the manager.
"No," said the clerk. "He admitted that the plots were fine ones, but he said that if he bought one he might not get the value in the end."
"Why," said the manager, "there's no fear of that; the man will die some day, won't he?"
"Yes," said the clerk, "but he says he might be lost at sea."

It Was Never Used.

"When Scones was at Oxford he was a most excellent fellow and had only one enemy—soap. He was called 'Dirty' Scones. One day the was Bolus went into his rooms and, demonstrating with him on the untidy, slovenly and dirty state of everything, said:
"Upon my word, 'Dirty,' it's too bad! The only clean thing in the room 's your towel."—London Tatler.

Cause for His Fright.

"Hamlet Patti is timorous about appearing in this town."
"Stage fright at his age? Why, he's been on the boards for years."
"But this is the first time he was ever billed for two nights in one place."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Does This Explain Term?

Big (with newspaper)—Here's a parcel of land for sale.
Dix—A mortgage on it probably.
Big—Why do you think so?
Dix—A parcel is generally tied up, you know.—Boston Transcript.

Warning Misapprehension.

"What is your name?"
"Minnie, mum."
"All right but we expect a maximum of work out of you."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Practice.

"I could hold your hand forever!" he exclaimed rapturously.
"If you did," she replied calmly, "you might learn how."—Life.

And many a thoughtful toper gets fatter than he thinks.

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100	\$5000
170	\$3250
109	\$3500
130	\$3500
183	\$3750
120	\$3750
165	\$6000
115	\$7000
150	\$8000
150	\$8500
170	\$8500
160	\$9500
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200	\$13,000

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