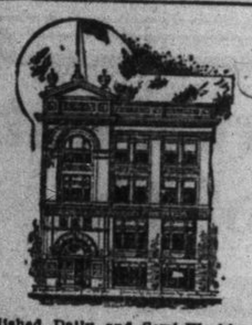
The British Whig

80TH YEAR



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WAR IS EXPENSIVE

The chief of staff, United States army, has been drawing a gloomy picture of the war department. He demands $6,000,000 for military purposes, for the increase of the army to 500,000 men, and for its efficient equipment with guns and ammunition. The average American has been talking peace, and General Wood suggests that he talk war, and prepare for it. Truly the military craze is spreading, and if there is not war, desolating, destroying, and distressing, it is not the fault of the alleged "military stratagists." The following statement, so modestly made as to almost escape attention, in the Syracuse Post-Standard, should be cut out and sent to General Wood with the request that he give it his prayerful consideration: "Montenegro is bankrupt, Bulgaria insolvent, Greece hard up and Turkey in its chronic state of indebtedness. War is an expensive game." America does not want it at any price.

Carnegie is spoiling Dumfernline, Scotland, his native town. He has given it another $10,000,000 for public improvements. Do the people of any town appreciate the fine things it possesses without cost to them. Citizens do not like taxes, but they like the things their money has bought, and take good care of them.

A VERY STRONG CONCESSION

The Whig has been asked, How do you like the Utilities Commission? Very well, indeed. It is largely composed of the men whom this paper favoured, and advocated advisedly, because of their peculiar fitness, through experience, for the positions they hold. The mayor is the choice of the citizens. He must enjoy their confidence. Ex-Mayors Ross and Rigney, and ex-Ald. Toye, are ex-chairmen of the committee. They bring to their deliberations a knowledge of the power, water and light business which must help them very much. Mr. Birkett is the only new man, and he is exceptionally well-posted in many departments of industrial life outside of his own, accounting. Two of these members were leaving the Council this year. A third member was already out. So that they would not be available for service on a committee had the new system continued. It is not argued or assumed that men so useful could have been selected from the Council-elect, and hence the Commission is stronger than the committee, and the best results must be expected from its administration.

Russia is losing a lot of good people. They have heard about the big wages they can earn and are emigrating to Canada. Wait until they hear about the offer of Ford, of automobile fame, who is giving away his millions, and Detroit will be the object of the world's greatest pilgrimage.

LAW FAVOURS CELEBACY

The United States national income tax law is bearing hard upon the married people, and the critics say that it will, unless amended, encourage celebacy or the union of people without marriage. There are, under rulings of the Treasury Department, present specific exemptions of $2,500 for a single person and $3,333.33 for a married person, and in future years of $3,000 and $4,000. The incongruities follow.

A man in receipt of less than $3,000 a year may go along as if no income law had been passed. He cannot be "inspected" by any special command. The question of investigation lies with the local collector, who may be as troublesome as he likes and as often as he likes. Then the law meant that a married man or woman should be allowed $1,000 or more exemption than a single man or woman—the single man to have a $3,000 exemption and the married man a $4,000 exemption. But the treasury has ruled that the exemption of $4,000 allowed to married people applies to the income of a husband and wife when added together, and that their income cannot be returned separately so as to give each an exemption of $3,000, but only one exemption of $4,000 is to be allowed. The effect is "a premium on celebacy and a privilege on married people who are living together." The earnings of the children of a couple are added to the income of the home and so subject to taxation.

There is one glimmer of hope for the man with a taxable income. He can dodge imposition and national duty by buying and owning national or municipal securities. These are not subject to the assessor's touch, and this fact will give a prominence and value to municipal bonds which they have not had heretofore. The man whose income is derived entirely from municipal securities will pay no tax.

Ottawa disapproved of the scheme of improving its water supply at a cost of $8,000,000, and the Journal suggests that the Ontario Legislature be asked to authorize the scheme and expenditure. And defy the people and public opinion? The Journal talks like a common, every-day anarchist.

QUEBEC'S LICENSE LAW

Quebec's new license law is of the most drastic character. It puts the business of the province under the direction of two commissioners, one located at Quebec and the other at Montreal. It orders a certain reduction in the number of licenses, from 473 to 350 restaurants, at which liquor is sold, and from 548 to 350 of shop licenses, a total in a year of 371. Quebec's reduction is as great proportionately. There has been complaint about the cabarets and a new clause puts it in the power of the commissioners to take these complaints into account and to act upon them, and especially for misconduct, to cancel the licenses at once.

The provision which deals with patent medicines, is certainly very emphatic and will prohibit the sale of them in the province of Quebec. One clause reads as follows:

"Any person who advertices for sale any intoxicating liquor by means of suggestive illustrated advertisements, tending to induce the public to believe that the use of intoxicants is beneficial to mind or body, shall incur a fine of thirty dollars and costs for the first offence, and in default of payment an imprisonment for a period not exceeding one month; for a second offence a fine of one hundred dollars and costs, and in default of payment an imprisonment for two months; and for a third or any subsequent offence a fine of two hundred dollars and costs, and in default of payment an imprisonment for three months."

A further provision is against the importation of liquor into the dry districts or counties for sale, and any transportation or express company which handles the stuff is subject to a fine. Deliveries may be made to individuals direct, but the goods may be seized if there is any evidence that it is to be sold. The open bar is after May, 1915, abolished, and one exhibiting or selling liquor at it will have his license cancelled. The temptations of the bar will, therefore, be gone, and Quebec, of its own accord, and without any referendum, takes advanced ground upon the subject.

The premier of Quebec is not so much talked of as some other premiers in Canada, but he is a progressive and courageous legislator. He was understood to be anxious to limit the sale of liquor and to remove the bar, and the bill which is now before the house shows that whatever he approves he is willing to carry through. In Saskatchewan anti-bar legislation was proposed and abandoned because it seemed to be in advance of public opinion.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Judge Morson, of Toronto, has given a ruling which will probably stand, namely, that people can buy and eat all the ice cream they like on Sunday, because it is a food. This will encourage a great Sunday trade in ice cream. But if the people spend their money on nothing more hurtful they will be doing well.

The witnesses who made a profound and lasting impression before the Prison Reform Commission were ex-Warden Platt and Dr. Young. They spoke like men who had put study and common sense into the question. Inspector Stewart has simply forfeited all the confidence the people had in him as an official and critic.

The governor of New York state is calling for economy in the expenditure. It has gone up from $15,000,000 to $50,000,000 in twenty years. Demands for votes have been fyled and they aggregate $63,000,000. Has due allowance been made for the grafting which was eating up so much of the public money?

The Bureau of Research is preparing to show what Toronto has, or has not, in the way of municipal machinery. When the facts have been made known the Queen City may be disposed to halt a while, in its expansion theories, while it builds up and repairs some of the works more immediately at hand.

New York's police department has pensioners for whom it must provide $149,000,000, and some of these, though retired "disabled" are holding positions for which they draw large salaries. Any pension system is defective which put men out of service while they are fitted for it, and continues its payments when the beneficaries are banking, not using, their salaries.

Joseph Chamberlain retires from public life. Alas, ill-health retired him several years ago, and the feeble attempts he has made by letters to arouse the tariff reform party have shown how quickly the strong man, out of the running, loses his power. Or perhaps his absence shows how much his personality counted in a great public movement. His was the force of a skilled leader, the touch of a skilled debater, the thought of a master mind.

The Winnipeg Telegram, conservative, and a Rogers organ, is real mad because faster progress is not made on the National Transcontinental railway. It does not approve of the appointment of Major Leonard, as chairman of the Railway Commission, and calls him an "incompetent." Here is an insult to the commissioner and the minister who appointed him. Is there war between Mr. Rogers and Mr. Cochrane?

Hon. "Jimmy" Duff—his colleagues call him "Jimmy," and he appears to like it—may not be highly pleased with the remarks of Prof. Dean. The professor is longing for a Moses to lead the people of Ontario out of their agricultural troubles, and it is quite clear the minister is not the man. Of course Mr. Duff need not worry if it is going to take as long to train a new leader as it took to train Moses. The Hon. "Jimmy" will not care what happens forty years hence.

PUBLIC OPINION

Surely Not

Toronto Globe.

Some seem to believe that hosing is a pleasant means of entertaining inmates of Kingston penitentiary.

Get Rid of Them

Hamilton Times.

Mr. Hughes hit the nail on the head when he told the penitentiary investigating commission that there was too much politics in the management of the institution.

Saw Truth in That

Toronto Telegram.

Sir James Whitney has worn himself out in a wrestle with labor that could have been delegated to associates in the government and followers in the legislature.

Fifty-fifth.

New York Herald.

Mr. Bryan may suffer from "stage fright" when before the footlights, but he recovers at least fifty per cent of his equilibrium by settlement time at the box office.

Dealing in Facts

Montreal Herald.

The Canadian Club has invited Mr. Henri Bourassa to address them next week. The members can at last count upon hearing some real truths about our civic affairs by one who will deal in facts instead of hysterics.

A Good Work.

Ottawa Citizen.

The little town of Pembroke voted the sum of $5,000 for public play grounds on Monday last. As this is the sum asked for the continuance of the playground work in Ottawa this year, the city cannot well refuse so modest a request.

Kingston Events
25 YEARS AGO.

W. Carson is the proud owner of a John A. colt, who can now trot better than three minutes. John A. is by Bacon's Ethan Allen.

Sir Richard Cartwright has been elected president of the Reform Club.

There are five candidates for the position of warden of the county. The names mentioned are E. Joyner and H. Rankin, township of Kingston; J. Cox, of Howe Island; James Woodruff, Loughboro; J. Campbell, Hinchinbrooke.

Principal Grant is in favor of a two-year term for mayor.

LIGHT.

Light is such a wondrous blessing;
E'en the word is heaven found.
Light of dawn, just say it over
When the darkest hours abound.

Light is such a magic healer;
Say it, say it in the night,
When the woes of earth oppress you
And its wrongs you seek to right.

Light of morn—the promised sundown;
Light of mind, rare gift from thee;
Star of hope to weary pilgrims,
Blessed light for you and me.
—Katherine Ward.

Wise and Otherwise

WANDERLUST.

I hear insistent singing in a corner of my brain.
It must
Be the rust
Of the waking wanderlust.
What glimpses it is bringing of the orient—and Spain!
I scan
Quaint Japan
And bejeweled Hindustan.
I sway to rhythmic measures of a melody unknown.
"Why thrall,"
Is its call,
"To one land, O lord of all?
You, who yet are straight and strong,
Foot the highway! Life's not long!
Throw away your shriveled crust!
Waken!" sings the wanderlust.

"See where waters lap the sky,
Slave of poisoned city dust?
Far beyond is bright romance
Where the languid hours sigh.
Spurn the job and lose the chance!
Would you rot?
Would you rust?
Chained and cobwebbed would you die?
Waken!" sings the wanderlust.

"Oh, the breakers now are pounding on a Polynesian shore
To the rip
Of a ship
Throttled in the tempest's grip,
And the booming conch is sounding in the temples of Lahore,
And the lead
Bloody red
Stretches desert bandits dead.
And the slender palms are sighing by a sea of rippled gold
Where guitars
Lift the bars
Of a love song to the stars.
Out—oh, you yet are hale!
Out—to battle with the gale!
Out—to parry foeman's thrust!
Waken!" sings the wanderlust.

See where scarlet sinks the sun,
Slave of poisoned city dust?
Far beyond is where there's life,
Where the reckless deeds are done,
Stolen kiss and gleaming knife—
(Would you rot?
Would you rust?)
Ha, the glint along the gun!
"Waken!" growls the wanderlust.
—Thomas R. Ybarra in New York Times.

A Society View.

Kreme de Kreme—What reason have you for marrying that actress? You are rich, and she has to work for a living.

Multymil—I am going to marry her because I love her.

Kreme de Kreme—That is an excuse, but no good reason for it.

Tricks For Husbands.

To tell yellow from green in matching silk. To wash the dishes without breaking more than two. To keep quiet when he's spoken to. To face the cook when she's angry. To find out what ails the gas range. To stand in line an hour for two trading stamps. To set up his wife's brother in business. To get up winter nights to investigate "robbers." To smile when his old sweethearts' pictures are burned up. To prefer halma at home to billiards at the club. To drop his old friends because they are "vulgar." To give up coffee because it disagrees with his wife.—Puck.

Frightened Off.

A Washington car conductor born in London and still a cockney has succeeded in extracting thrills from the alphabet—imparting excitement to the names of the national capital's streets. On a recent Sunday morning he was calling the streets thus:

"Haitch!"
"High!"
"Jay!"
"Kay!"
"Hell!"

At this point three prim ladies picked up their prayer books and left the car.—Lippincott's.

He Didn't Know Her.

The telephone call of a suit of apartments in a ladies' boarding house is 190.

One young lady, a recent comer, answered the call and was astonished to hear a man's voice inquire hurriedly, "Is this one nine o?"

When she could catch her breath the lady, who was a very proper young lady indeed, replied: "I think not. Were we ever introduced?"—Brooklyn Life.

His Specialty.

"Ezry, you ought to git a good job in a firearms factory," growled the country storekeeper as the chief loafer reached into the barrel for another choice apple.

"What doin'?" lazily asked the pest between bites.

"Ridin' barrels!" snapped the long suffering storekeeper.—Illustrated Sunday Magazine.

A Grewsome Proposition.

"You don't go after that dentist very often?"

"No," answered the bill collector. "I'm afraid to. Every time I see him he offers to take the account out in trade."—Washington Star.

Speaking For Himself.

"What kind of a bar of soap does your mother want?" asked the grocer.

"The smallest," said Bobby, deciding with the aid of his own prejudice.—Buffalo Express.

BIBBY'S JANUARY SALE

Men's Underwear Sale

Fleece-lined Shirts and Drawers, sizes 34 to 44. Regular 50c goods for **35c per garment.**

Men's $5.00 Shoes for $2.50

Hartt's and Just Wright Patent Leather Shoes, new models, sizes 4 1-2 to 10. Stamped price $5.00. January price **$2.50.**

Men's Shirt Sale

New patterns, good making, all sizes. Regular $1.00 and $1.25 goods for **69c.**

Men's and Women's Sweater Coats $1.50

Penman's All Wool Sweater Coats plain white with fancy trimmings and combination colors with and without collars. Regular $2.00, $2.25 and $2.50 values for **$1.50.**

Men's and Women's Sweater Coats $2.50

Heavy three ply all wool knitted jackets in grey, maroon and white, plain or fancy trim. Regular $3.00 and $3.50 goods, for **$2.50.**

Early Bird?

Overcoat Sale

All our Society Brand $25.00 and $28 Overcoats for $20.00. Hand-made garments, some silk lined.

Semi-Ready $20.00 Overcoats for $15.00

Suit Sale

Men's $16.50 and $15.00 Suits for $12.50. See our window display of these Suits, sizes 34 to 44.

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A BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR to our many friends and customers.

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The following is a partial list of farms we have for sale in Kingston district:

Acres	Price
60	$1800
410	$1500
22	$2000
60	$2800
150	$3250
85	$3500
100	$3500
105	$3600
200	$4500
119	$4750
100	$5000
170	$5250
100	$5500
130	$5500
183	$5750
120	$5750
165	$6000
115	$7000
150	$8000
150	$8500
170	$8500
160	$9500
192	$9500
260	$10,000
250	$12,700
200	$13,000

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