

The British Whig



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OUR SCHOOL GEOGRAPHIES

The Education Department has sent out an official statement which is designed to counteract that which Mr. Hanna, of the Canadian Northern railway, made public, and to the effect that our geographies are many years behind the times. It is intimated that Mr. Hanna was quoting, so far as the C.N.R. is concerned, from an old book, but that the geographies published by the contractors of the department are corrected every year. They are, therefore, "abreast of the times."

The Whig has examined one of the geographies, a new book, in the hands of a stationer, and assumes that it is up-to-date. One cannot tell, by a cursory inspection, whether it is revised up to 1913 or not. If it is it should have printed on its cover, conspicuously, an announcement to that effect.

Moreover, the department should be content to see that the contractor revised his maps and reading matter once a year. The department should see that the information which is given by these geographies is fuller and promptly placed in the hands of the people. The correct data and statistical matter are of no value unless made public as soon as they have been printed.

The Education Department should go further and see that the publishers are up-to-date with their methods. They should see that the work is put into the schools, and that the scholars, the many thousands of them, are getting the benefit of it.

What would it cost to call in all the old geographies and replace them with the new? A considerable sum, no doubt, yet a sum that would be well spent by the province.

A VERY DAMAGING REPORT

All too soon for the government, and in contradiction of the \$64,000 special commissioners, admission has been made, and to the effect that certain statements in the Gutelius-Lynch-Stanton report are not correct. It is not true that the Davis Brothers were paid, as alleged, a rake-off of \$740,000 by sub-contractors O'Brien, Fowler & McDougall, and that the National Transcontinental Commission paid it over.

It is not true that there has been a waste of \$40,000,000. The charge is based on mere assumption, on evidence taken secretly and by men who were not sworn "to faithfully and impartially perform their duties." It is not true that the line has been improved by the changes of the new commissioner. It has been cheapened, and to such an extent that the Grand Trunk Pacific Company has protested against a violation of the agreement regarding grades, etc., and that this violation is enough to make it object to an acceptance of the contract later on.

The one thing true about the report is the injury that has been done to the credit of Canada by its false statements. The London Times has said that the road between Winnipeg and Prince Albert has cost \$150,000 per mile, exclusive of sleepers and rails, when, as a matter of fact, the cost has been \$30,000 per mile between Moncton and Prince Rupert, "including terminals and everything complete."

The government will have reason later to regret the publication of a story which, while intended to damage the Liberal party, and it only is calculated to damage the country, and to an incalculable extent.

GREAT WATER SCHEMES

Representatives of the Inland Great Waterways Association purpose to visit Kingston on Friday evening and discuss the deepening of the St. Lawrence. The idea is that the trade of

the west may pass through the enlarged Welland canal and down the river and to the seaboard.

This seems like rushing and confusing things. Kingston, at any rate, has a deeper interest in this matter than any of the South Ontario ridings, cities, or constituencies. It does not see the wisdom of advocating the expenditure of \$150,000,000 which, it is said, the deepening of the St. Lawrence will cost. It does not see any need at this time for a departure from the proposition that Kingston's is to be a national harbour and sufficient for the transshipping of the grain trade which passes through the enlarged Welland canal.

The Montreal Herald holds that the Welland canal and the Georgian Bay canal cannot go on at the one time, and that the Georgian Bay project would render the deepening of the Welland canal a superfluous work. There is a grave doubt whether the Georgian Bay canal can ever, if built, be made really profitable for any trade, and a great deal more must be learned about it before the government can commit itself to an outlay of two hundred thousand dollars or more.

The deepening of the St. Lawrence would be useless without the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals, and hence the imprudence of seeking to make practicable a scheme which is so impracticable. The deeper Welland canal is wanted, for Canadian shipping, and Kingston, for many long years to come, must be the national harbour. As such it must be deepened at once and made equal to the needs of the times.

ULSTER CANNOT FIGHT

The imperial government has disarmed the unionists and made rebellion against Home Rule impossible. Mr. Asquith has been mentally discussing various aspects of the subject, and has reached a solution of his difficulties which should be satisfactory.

During the months which intervened between the last session of the house and this there have been conferences between the leaders of the political parties, and these are said to have been useful though without result. They were useful in that they showed how utterly irreconcilable was the Carson faction to any settlement. Apparently the issue was not approached by the opposition with open mind, but the meetings, though fruitless, demonstrated more clearly that the issue was attended with the greatest anxieties.

Meanwhile the premier says he laboured with a sincere desire to settle the question. He was willing to make concessions, but not to abandon the measure or mutilate it beyond reason. Home rule within home-rule he decided was undesirable, because it brought all Ireland under one parliament and made an appeal to the imperial parliament necessary when Ulster's representatives became dissatisfied with any legislation. Home Rule for all, with the right to secession if the Ulsterites felt that the Irish parliament was not doing them justice, was considered and rejected. The third and final proposal—the one now before parliament—of a vote of the people, by counties, in Ulster, promises to go through parliament. It is something that has dumbfounded the unionists.

They have been demanding an appeal to the people, and now that that appeal has been provided for, without a general election and an abandonment of Home Rule, they are put out. They realize that they cannot fight over it, that they cannot call out the troops they have been organizing, and forbid the people to exercise the franchise and give expression to their views.

If a majority of the people in Ulster vote that they do not want to participate in the Irish parliament they can still be represented in the imperial parliament and be served in a public way as they are at present. Six years later there will be another vote on the subject, and it will be for the majority to decide then to try their fortune in the Irish parliament or exclude themselves and continue their imperial relations.

The opposition is said to have viewed the proposal coldly. Were the members expected to receive it cordially? They had gone too far to warrant any hope of reconciliation. A contemporary says the nationalists have been pleased with everything that Mr. Asquith has done. They have been at least generally willing to make concessions. The unionists, for political reasons, have not been willing to concede anything. Such is the difference between them; and it stamps the temper of the parties in dealing with the most trying situation of the times.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Old age pensions will come some day in Canada, but that day appears to be a long way off. It has been estimated that pensions to those over sixty-five years of age would cost \$20,000,000, and, without direct taxation, that much money cannot yet be set aside for this specific purpose.

The salary which it is proposed to give a new high commissioner in London, \$30,000, should secure a

good man. The Whig agrees with the Montreal Mail, that "Canada's next representative in London shall have won his spurs in the public life of the country." This will bar out several ineligible aspirants.

The people of Ulster will now get what they are said to have demanded, a right to vote on Home Rule as a distinct and separate issue, and Sir Edward Carson is not satisfied. Mr. Asquith has given the electors what they desired without dropping or imperilling the Parliament Act.

Cheap power is building Winnipeg up. There is the possibility of developing 400,000 h.p. in the vicinity of the city and 7,000,000 in the province. Already it has four hundred factories and they give employment to 20,000 men. The output of the city for the year, in manufactures, is valued at \$50,000,000. This spells success.

The limit in dismissals has been reached. It is no longer necessary to prove that one has been guilty of partzanship. It is sufficient to know that an official is a agitator, or has a agitator partner or voter. Some day this low-grade political meanness will have its reward. The Borden government will not rule forever. In opposition its members will see the necessity for civil service reform.

Grafting is alleged to have been practiced in connection with the Trent canal accounts for years—under the Laurier government and under the Borden government—by the padding of the pay sheets. Money is said to have been spent on personal divisions and for political purposes, without check, until now. Where have the auditors been all these years?

PUBLIC OPINION

Approved Them All. London Advertiser.

When the government voted against censuring Mr. Crothers for his failure to act in the British Columbia strike, it sanctioned all his acts, and assumed full responsibility for them.

Glad News. Guelph Mercury.

The man who finds it hard to get a job this winter will be pleased to hear that the first reception in Ontario's \$1,250,000 Government House was a great success.

A Great Success. Toronto Globe.

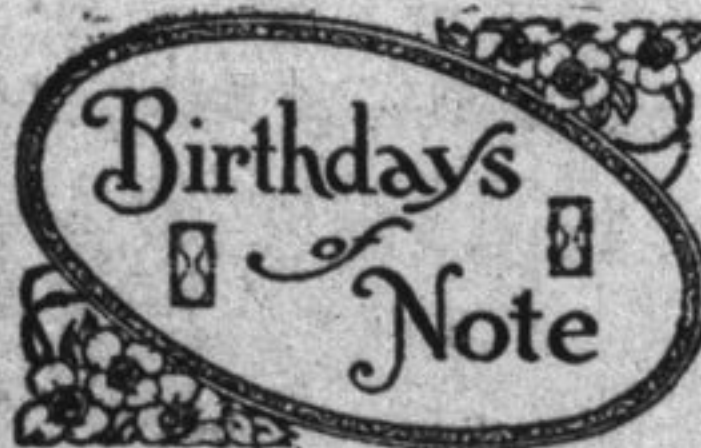
Woodrow Wilson, "the professor in politics," at whom the Tammany type of politician jeered two short years ago, is now recognized as the greatest statesman the union has produced since Lincoln's day.

Hard on Gustave. Ottawa Free Press.

The Ottawa Evening Journal finds "another object lesson" in the case of Gustave Evanturel, M.P.P., the bribe seeker. Mr. Evanturel could, it says, "probably defend himself by claiming that the money was simply to retain his services as a lawyer." The Journal's moral has holes in it, because Gustave Evanturel is not a lawyer.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO.

Council will pass a by-law, making it necessary for milkmen to take out a license. Dr. Marion Livingstone declined appointment of assistant physician in the hospital at Blackwell's Island. Princess street is in a disgraceful condition. There are several holes in the roadway.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH ELEVENTH

This is the fifty-second birthday of Dr. S. W. Dyde, principal of Robertson College, Edmonton. Though the head of a Presbyterian institution, he is carrying on his work today in close co-operation with the principal of Alberta College, a Methodist foundation. Indeed he and Dr. Riddell, the head of the latter college, are giving an effective illustration at Edmonton of what co-operation can accomplish, for lectures are delivered in common by the faculties of both colleges and the students, as Dr. Dyde expresses it, "fittingly together so indifferently, difficult to tell the sheep from the goats." Principal Dyde was born in Ottawa and before going to Edmonton was for many years professor of mental philosophy at Queen's University, Kingston.

Wise and : : Otherwies

Unless you settle down you can't hope to settle up.

Some men are so gloomy that even their laughs sound like crying.

Some men regard themselves as masterpieces of painting when they are really only caricatures.

It is not always talking too much that makes people unpopular. They may listen too little.

Can't Be Bentea. Knicker—What is the ideal library? Bocker—A cook book, a cheque book and a dictionary for the baby to sit on.

Happiness grows at our own bedside and is not to be picked in strangers' gardens—Douglas Jerrold.

Way Up. Howell—He's usually on his high horse. Powell—Yes, he is a sort of equestrian statue of himself.

An Obstacle. Photographer—Look pleasant, please. Victim—I guess you'll have to move that "Terms Cash" sign.

Subtle Appreciation. Knicker—Is Jones a poet's poet? Bocker—No; he is a poet's poet's poet.

At the Kitchen Door.



Haven't you forgotten I gave you a piece of pie only yesterday? Yes; I've tried to forget and forgive.

Sayings of Children. Freddie—Ma, what is the baby's name? Ma—The baby hasn't any name. Freddie—Then how did he know he belonged here?

Mamma (to Tommy)—I am sorry you and your sister quarrelled over that orange, and that James had to interfere. Whose part did James take? Tommy—Whose part? He took the whole orange.

Bobbie had been studying his grandfather's wrinkled face for a long time. "Well, Bob," said the old gentleman, "do you like my face?" "Yes, grandpa," said Bobbie, "it's an awfully nice face. But why don't you have it ironed?"

Ruth had been looking forward eagerly to her birthday with very exaggerated ideas of how large and old and changed she would be when 3 years old. She had expected to sit on a common chair at the table, work instead of play, be as large as Sister Mary, and give her clothes to some smaller child, and be fitted out with new. The eventful morning arrived, and, after due deliberation, she said earnestly: "I feel as big as Mary, but I can wear my own clothes yet."

A little girl in the Eighth ward was saying her prayers. "Speak louder, I can't hear," her mother, kneeling by her side, admonished. "I wasn't speaking to you," hissed the youngster.

PHILOSOPHICAL. Avoid shame, but do not seek glory. Nothing is so expensive as glory.—Sydney Smith.

Mind is the great lever of all things. Human thought is the process by which human ends are ultimately answered.—Daniel Webster.

A thousand years scarce serve to form a state. An hour may lay it in the dust.—Byron.

We are firm believers in the maxim that for all right judgment of any man or thing it is useful—nay, essential—to see his good qualities before pronouncing on his bad.—Carlyle.

It is as impossible for a man to be cheated by any one but himself as for a thing to be and not to be at the same time.—Emerson.

To be conscious that you are ignorant is a great step to knowledge.—Disraeli.

Serious St. Paul Charge. St. Paul, March 11.—St. Paul railway officials are accused by the Interstate Commerce Commission of cooking their book accounts to mislead the public and make a better market for securities. It is claimed income was over stated \$5,000,000 one year and understated \$2,000,000 the following. The stock dropped 4 1/2 yesterday as a result.

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Bibby's

New Collars 2 for 25c.

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2—Brick dwelling, Albert St., 4 bedrooms, B. and C. gas, deep lot \$3200
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