

The British Whig



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VERY GRUESOME.

It does seem somewhat gruesome that the Ontario cabinet ministers, who are quarrelling amongst themselves, should push on a premature election, simply on the ground that they can make profit out of the premier, Sir James Whitney, before he passes off the scene. If the conservatives had any confidence that he would return to the actual duties of leadership, as Hon. J. J. Foy suggests, they would not be rushing so vigorously to bring on the fight. They want to use his name and gather themselves together through it.

THEN AND NOW.

At the time of the first Mexican war New York had a population of 400,000, but the only railway connection was with Philadelphia, says 'The Hermit of New York' in the Troy Times. The leading editors were the senior Bennett, Horace Greeley (assisted by Raymond), James Watson Webb, of the Courier and Enquirer, and David Hale, of the Journal of Commerce. The capitalists were the original John Jacob Astor and Stephen Whitney, representing five millions for the one and twenty millions for the other. A man worth \$50,000 then was very rich. Cornelius Vanderbilt owned and operated the Staten Island ferry, and was estimated at \$100,000 and his son, William, was a Wall street clerk.

LOOKING FOR EASY MONEY

The manner in which the Canadian public are being milked by certain industrialists and railroads has called forth the following comment by H. V. Eckhardt, the noted financial correspondent in the Boston Transcript: "With reference to some of the Canadian concerns that have been experiencing difficult times there are some developments which are not exactly pleasing. Some of them appear to think it is the duty of the Dominion government and of the provincial governments to do everything possible to enable them to continue dividends and interest payments. Instead of developing all their time and talents to the purpose of operating at the lowest possible expense compatible with efficiency, the highly paid executive officers of some of the large Canadian industrial and railroads appear to spend a large part of every year at Ottawa trying to get the government to give them more special favors—bounties, subsidies, or higher tariffs. The iron and steel men in particular have been pressing insistently for government aid, notwithstanding that in the past they have drawn a very large amount of cash direct from the Canadian treasury and have received assistance in various other forms."

CLAIM A PRECEDENT

Business men who are uttering complaint against the Utilities Commission over the expense to which they will be put by reason of the change from direct to alternating current, will seek compensation from the City Council, since the commission announces that consumers of electricity have no claim upon the department. The view of the commission is that no guarantee was ever given that direct current would be used for any specified time. It regrets that business men will lose hundreds of dollars by having to discard direct current motors. A little sympathy is all it feels that it owes to those who will suffer monetary loss.

An alderman announces that he will have something to say about the matter in City Council, for he knows that a precedent was established by the purchase by last year's Utilities committee of the council of two or more motors that were put out of commission owing to the change of current in another section. He will insist that all be treated alike. Unfortunately for those affected, the City Council no longer governs the utilities, and the question of com-

pensation lies wholly with the commission.

PRINT NAMES IN ENGLISH

Why do hotels and restaurants garish their bill of fare with French words? Are they laboring under the delusion that it makes the food more attractive or are they ashamed of the English name of the things they offer the public to eat?

To the uninitiated going into a first class hotel dining-room or restaurant and ordering a meal from the menu card is anything but a pleasant undertaking to a good many people. It taxes the best of them, sometimes, those who are quite used to the French menu, to wrestle with some of the names of the dishes described on the cards.

But why should eating places want to make it at all hard for their patrons? One would suppose, from a purely business standpoint, that eating-house proprietors would try to make it as easy for their patrons as possible and, to do this, would print the menu cards in plain English and leave off the foreign words. The food would certainly be just as good and would taste the same.

IN MALE SUFFRAGE STATES

There are a few privileges which have been granted to women by men, in the states where women are still happily, without the vote.

A wife is not responsible for any debts owed by her husband before marriage, but the husband, in many states, is liable for every debt owed by the wife before marriage. The wife is the sole possessor of her own estate; the husband is not and never has been the sole owner of his estate, unless through a pre-nuptial agreement. Either during his lifetime or by his will he cannot alienate his wife's dower.

A wife cannot be held responsible for her husband's debts, but a husband may not avoid paying his wife's obligations, though contracted without his knowledge and against his prohibition. In accordance with his income, the law compels him to pay the debts of his wife.

Her own earnings, her own income belong to a married woman. A married man is not entitled to his earnings, the law compelling him to use them for the support of his wife and children. If his wife seeks divorce from him, he is compelled by law to pay her counsel fees and give her alimony, if she be the innocent party, and she can force him to provide support for the minor children. On the other hand, a husband seeking divorce cannot compel her to pay his counsel fees or alimony, though she may be guilty; nor can he make her support the minor children, even if he is penniless and she wealthy.

In Louisiana, where women do not vote, a wife is the first creditor of her husband; and in Michigan, a male suffrage state, a man may not lawfully pawn his own clothes without his wife's consent.

In the woman suffrage states, however, many property and other privileges have been withdrawn from the wife. For instance, in Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming, the wife has no dower; she is jointly responsible with her husband for the support of the children. The home may be mortgaged or sold without her consent. There are "equal rights," the privileges withdrawn. In the male suffrage states, of course, a man must obtain his wife's permission to sell or mortgage the house over her head.

COUNTRY VS. TOWN LIVING

Doubtless, in your reading and associations, you have been often reminded that most of the really big things, the great ideas and the immortal thoughts, were born close to nature—that they came from the country, says the Woman's World, of Chicago. Most of all progress had—and has—its roots in rural life. So here, too, we find the conditions of a saner living. We cannot do without cities; they are magnificent and stupendous, but they grind out human life as mercilessly as any machine and have no time to bother with those who cannot keep the pace. Fine institutions? Oh, yes. But what is a hospital to a broken spirit? What is a library to a man or woman who loses hold? And what are all the charities to the family that has begun to slip back?

But you may say that wages are better in the city, and that lives move more quickly, that opportunities are larger. Granted in part, but not entirely. Life certainly has more excitement in cities, but excitement all the time is bad for any human being. City wages are larger, and continuous changes give more opportunities for advancement, but at the end of the year, when the average city worker counts up, there is a different story. It has cost more not only in money but in wear and tear. Did you ever realize how every city is crowded with doctors—and thousands of them have their automobiles? City people pay not only for the doctors and the automobiles but for the drug stores and all the astounding exhibits of health cost. It is an interesting problem which your own eyes may see and your own mind may grasp. In the country the prices may not

be so glittering, but on the whole, life is fuller and happier and more worth while; and with the increase that has come to the farms and the small towns it is a close question as to the larger profit. As a business proposition the country to-day proves itself. As a general living proposition, there is no serious comparison. The country means fresh food, time for the doing of work, the health and joy of children, the delights of old age filling its rocking chairs and its corners, and all the other things that count in making the years ripe and fruitful. There is time for love, too, time for human interest, time for sympathy. Have you ever known the loneliness of a great city? There is no misery like it. Turn from it and seek the country where you have neighbors to say kind words when you are well and to come over and offer to help when you are ill.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Hon. W. J. Hanna will find it awkward during the next few weeks explaining to the temperance electors just why the Snider inquiry was allowed to be buried.

It is going to cost \$1,800 more to pave King and Princess streets by the adoption of the Montreal expert's recommendations, but a more substantial and lasting pavement will result.

The Parks committee would be doing a good deed if it arranged for more seats in the parks. People are using these breathing places more than ever and seats are essential. We think too little of these smaller things.

Ald. Harrison might squeeze enough out of the City Property committee appropriation to buy a clock for the City Council chamber. Then the aldermen's wives may not have further occasion to protest over the late hours their lords are keeping on council nights. Time flies when there is no clock to mark its flight.

It is quite significant that the British flag gives more protection than any other flag on earth, hence it is a pleasure to read that Mrs. William F. Ryan, of Syracuse, N.Y., now in Mexico City, has gone to an hospital in that city, "under the protection of the British flag." The flag has ever protected people of all nations.

There are dozens of good laws on the Ontario statute books, but why they are not upheld is another question. A new one, just issued, provides that no minor under fifteen years of age may be admitted to regular theatre unless accompanied by a parent or proper representative of the family. The law is all right and it should be enforced. There are a lot more helpful places for children than watching plays, some of which are very harmful.

PUBLIC OPINION

A Good Suggestion. New York World. "Panic Prevented by Fire Drill" is a fairly common item in the news of schools. This commonsense plan would work equally well in factories.

Don't Forget the Weeds. Farmer's Advocate, London. Declare war on weeds early in the season. They are much more easily destroyed while young than after a widespread root system entrenches them firmly.

Would End the Degradation

London Advertiser. The liberal policy in Ontario would utterly wipe out the drink degradation of the province and for the unborn sons and daughters would leave an unsullied heritage.

Virtue. Philadelphia North-American. Virtue is the perfectly good which is the complement of a happy life. It is the knowledge, both of others and of itself, it is an inviolable greatness of mind not to be elevated or dejected with good or ill fortune.

See Disintegration

Guelph Mercury. Not until December of 1915 will the government have filled out its term of four years. Possibly the Tory managers realize that by this time, if the present rate of disintegration kept up, there would be absolutely no chance of successfully appealing to the people.

Soon All Will be No More.

Quebec Telegraph. How sad the havoc of time! There has been another death in the ranks of the Fenian raid veterans this week. Turning to the statistics, Toronto Saturday Night now finds that there are only 14,999 veterans left out of the original 8,000 that participated in the memorable event.

Probably Soup.

The witness, a heavy-set man, who looked as though he spent a good share of his time fasting, was called to the stand as a witness in a case of assault and battery. "You were in the restaurant at the time this happened," began the judge. "Now, tell the court just what you heard." "Who, me?" asked the man, in bewilderment. "I didn't hear anything. I was eating."

ROWELL OR HANNA?

Which Will the Electors of Ontario Choose.

St. Thomas Journal. As was to have been expected owing to the peculiar exigencies of the situation, the Ontario government is likely to lose no time in forcing another election upon the people. At most, the day of polling can be only a few weeks away. The reason is obvious.

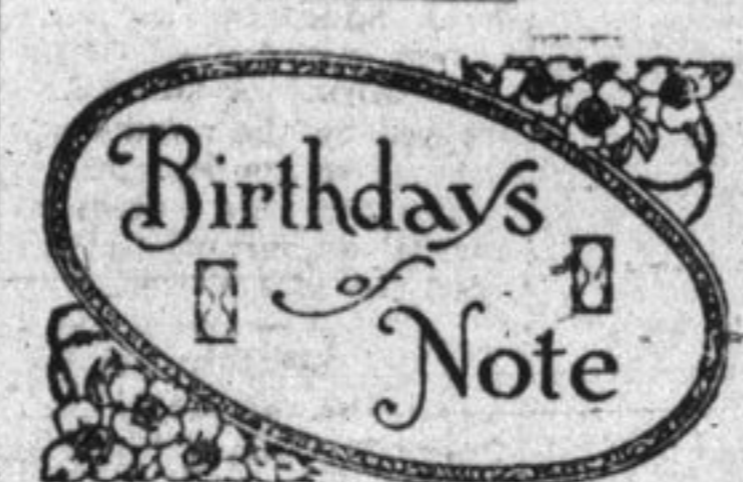
Notwithstanding the enfeebled condition of Sir James Whitney's health, desperate efforts are being made by the leaders of the conservative party to have it appear that he will once more take up the active duties of the premiership. But those who claim to be Sir James' intimate associates assert the utter ridiculousness of the proposition. There is, of course, a pathetic side to the situation but nature is inflexible and it is felt that the aged knight will have to renounce forever the hurly-burly of the political field, if he would enjoy the measure of health which his friends, irrespective of party, gladly desire him to attain.

With Sir James' retirement Mr. Hanna would undoubtedly be the man upon whom the mantle of the conservative leadership would fall. While the party will conjure with Sir James Whitney's name during the coming contest, the electors will not be deceived, since they realize that the issue really lies between Mr. Rowell and Mr. Hanna as to the one who will ultimately guide the political destinies of Ontario. It is not for Sir James Whitney, but for Hon. W. J. Hanna, that the conservatives of the province are bidding for support. The voice is Jacob's, but the hands are the hands of Esau.

No Reason for Discouragement.

Guelph Mercury. Even some Conservative papers admit that the Whitney government is showing signs of weakness and decadence. There could be no better proof of this than that a government of which it was once boasted that it was composed of superior material, gave us better legislation and better administration than any we have ever had is common clay. They have been tempted into doing things which instead of exhibiting strength show weakness. Boasting constitutes neither virtue nor ability, and if friends of the government realize that the beginning of the end is not far off, if it has not already come, it ought to give encouragement to liberals and independent electors to join in the coming campaign with hopefulness.

Probably there are not a few who think that because the government has now such a large proportion of the members of the legislature supporting it that it is really strong in the province. Such would go into the battle which is about to be needlessly precipitated without hope of success. But the large following in the legislature was obtained by 55 per cent. of the vote at the last election, and it is so much less strong in the popular estimation now that it has been driven to try to still further curtail the free expression of the opinion of the liberals. This has already produced such a revulsion of feeling in the minds of all fair-minded men that it is likely that it will fail. There is good reason for every liberal, and every elector whether he has hitherto been liberal or not, to enter into the campaign animated by hopes of not only converting a numerically weak opposition into a strong one, but of overthrowing the present government.



THURSDAY, MAY SEVENTH

The Hon. William Cameron Edwards, millionaire lumber manufacturer and member of the Senate since 1903, reaches his seventieth birthday today. He was born in the town of ship of Clarence, Russell County, and started in the lumber business when he was quite a young man. He is known familiarly as "Don't Worry" Edwards, for it has always been one of his principles not to let business cares interfere with his health. "I never heard of a man, who made money, who made anything out of worrying," says Senator Edwards. "On the other hand I have heard of many men who have lost their health and ruined their business through worrying. It seems to me that worry is a great waste of energy. If men would only utilize the vital force required for worrying and put it into good hard work there would be fewer business failures in this and in all other countries."

Also born to-day: J. W. Allison, Dartmouth, N.S., born Newcastle, N.B., 1851. H. T. Bovey, formerly of McGill University, born Devonshire, England, 1852. C. H. Keefer, Ottawa, born Rideau Hall, 1851. Hon. J. H. Legris, Louiseville, P.Q., born Rivière du Loup, 1850. A. M. Nanton, Winnipeg, born Toronto, 1880. Hon. J. H. Turner, London, born Claydon, England, 1834.

Radium water has a direct infusion of radium salts. It is kept sparkling by the infiltration of ultra-violet rays and the addition of carbonic acid gas. It will soon be served for drinking purposes in London.

Bibbys Great 69c Shirt Sale. Every Shirt Guaranteed First Quality. Regular \$1.00 and \$1.25 Goods for 69c. Sizes 14 to 16 1-2. Coat Shirts, Neat Patterns, Fast Colors. See Our Window Display of These Shirts Over 600 Shirts to choose from. Neckwear Sale. 75c and \$1.00 Pure Silk Ties for 50c Each. Large flowing end shapes, new colorings, newest designs, new cross bars, new Paisleys, new Persians, French Bengalines, Irish Poplins and French Baratheas. Our \$12.50 Suit Sale. \$15.00, \$16.50 and \$18.00 values for \$12.50. Our \$1.98 Trousers Sale, sizes 32 to 46. \$2.50, \$2.75 & \$3.00 values for \$1.98. Bibbys

MOTHERS' DAY! Sunday, May 10. For mother living a flower bright for mother's memory a flower white. Leave your orders at F. J. JOHNSON THE LEADING FLOWER 223 King St. Phone: Residence, 1212 Greenhouses, 235.

LADIES' PATENT CLOTH TOP BOOTS. Ladies' Patent Button, cloth top, medium sole, latest-last, \$3.00, while they last. H. JENNINGS, King Street.

For Sale. A blacksmith shop, good location and plenty of work. In connection are a first class dwelling in good repair, stable, hen house, about one acre of first-class garden land with a few fruit trees. A very desirable property, for a blacksmith. Farm and city properties for sale. Represent strong fire insurance companies and the Mutual Life of New York. Money to loan on real estate. T. J. LOCKHART, (Over Bank of Montreal) Clarence St. Kingston.

READ THE WHIG WANT ADS. USE CRAWFORD'S COAL. THERE'S HEAT IN EVERY LUMP.