

The British Whig 50TH YEAR



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TAPPED THE RIGHT IDEA

Dr. S. G. Bland, in a Victoria day message to young Canadians, printed in the Winnipeg Tribune, said, in part: "First, we love the place where our home is. Then we love the province we live in. Then we remember we are not Manitobans merely but Canadians. And then like the widening ripple made in waters by a stone, our love and loyalty expand to the great empire which Canada helps to form and we are proud to feel we are Britishers."

ANSWER REQUIRED.

Because the liberals have protested against the untimeliness of bringing on a general election for Ontario a year and a half before the regular time, merely because it serves the ends of the Whitney government to do so, the Toronto News suggests that they are afraid to go before the people. There is another way of looking at it, says the Brantford Expositor. If the government has no reason to fear public opinion fairly expressed why should it try to carve the liberals out of three seats, give ten members to hide-bound Toronto, and then bring on a contest two years and a half before the required time?

TO EXTEND FARTHER

The effect of Irish home rule is likely to extend farther than to Ireland; it may divide the imperial power into federated states and bring home rule to Scotland, England and Wales, as well as Ireland, and make a federated kingdom in place of the present consolidated one.

The passage of the Irish home rule bill is a great and epochal event in the history of Great Britain. After all the years of turmoil since the request of Ireland, it comes peacefully and quietly and without excitement. It is to be hoped that continued moderation will follow, but that, of course, depends upon the character of the amending bill and whether on the one hand the Irish nationalists will accept it and on the other whether Ulster will accept it.

HAS BUSINESS TURNED CORNER?

Has business turned the corner? is the question most frequently asked when business men meet these days. A few months ago there was no such question. In those days, men knew too well that the bottom of the depression had not been reached. Now it is different, remarks the Montreal Journal of Commerce. Men are taking fresh courage; they are making new commitments; they gather from a hundred different sources, small, but significant, testimony that conditions are improving.

Practically every barometer by which men size up economic conditions point "Fair." In some lines of industry, there are no visible signs of improvement, but underneath there are unmistakable evidences that conditions are improving. Among the improvements noted are larger bank clearings, fewer failures, an improvement in collections, easier money and railways earnings, which show an improvement over the past few months. In a measure, however, the improvement is more psychological than financial; it is largely a restoring of public confidence in the business outlook. After all, there is nothing quite so contagious and demoralizing as fear and hesitation. This spreads among business men with surprising rapidity and proves demoralizing to business. On the other hand, optimism and courage are constructive, and this is the attitude of business at the present time. They feel that this is a great country with almost unlimited resources, and that the pre-

lud of depression which we have just passed through was but a pause in our path of progress. The very fact that men everywhere are asking if business has turned the corner is an indisputable fact that the corner has been turned.

THE REVOLVER.

The appalling number of tragedies in which the revolver has figured has led to a general campaign in Canadian newspapers for the rigid enforcement of the act against the carrying of concealed weapons. A similar campaign is being carried on in the United States where conditions are worse even than in the dominion of Canada. Statistics recently published concerning last year's death rate in Chicago showed that the great number of fatalities were due to the prevalence of the custom of carrying arms.

This custom is one that should be stamped out. There is no place for the armed citizen in modern civilization. He is a menace at once to the general public and to himself and such a menace cannot be tolerated where there is a law designed to protect the just and punish the evildoer. The unfortunate feature of the situation is that those who are inclined to carry revolvers or other weapons are precisely those in whose hands such weapons are unsafe, to them the possession of a weapon means either temptation to practise with it or irresistible inclination to flourish and fondle it in public. Familiarity breeds contempt and the very association with the weapon induces a carelessness which in moments of passion leads to tragedy. There are many crimes committed in haste which would never have been if the absence of a weapon had furnished time for reflection; fatal accidents innumerable have resulted from heedless toying with an instrument of death. The plenty of deadly implements among the people constitutes one of the grave problems with which authority has to deal; it should be solved by stern administration of the law coupled with a campaign of education which would teach the thoughtless or ignorant the useless folly of their ways.

HARRISON THE MAN.

The liberals of Kingston, last evening, at an enthusiastic gathering, unanimously selected Alderman T. F. Harrison as their candidate to contest Kingston for the Ontario legislature. They have chosen wisely. Alderman Harrison has been ever progressive, and as a citizen is esteemed and respected. He is a man of splendid reputation, successful in business, vigilant in his efforts to make Kingston a live city, an able advocate of reforms for the improvement of the people, genial and affable with all, and a man whom any citizen can, with pride, speak of.

He enters upon the campaign with the avowed purpose of winning. He has a good cause to fight for, and he should have the support of every man who is thoughtful and devoted to the best interests of the province. As to the policies of N. W. Rowell, he finds himself in hearty accord with them. He is with him heart and soul in his endeavors to curtail the liquor traffic. It can be truthfully said that if it were not that this one issue was before the people Mr. Harrison would not care to be a candidate solely for political advantage. The Rowell programme of social, moral, educational, industrial and agricultural advancements tends to make up a platform that any man, no matter what his political allegiance, could endorse and vigorously support.

Mr. Harrison recognizes that great issues are at stake, that the government of the day has not been zealous for the welfare of the province, that it has not kept abreast of the times, and that in some respects it has permitted the banner province of the dominion to drop into second place along lines of commercial and agricultural development. It has treated with contempt the proposals of Mr. Rowell and his small band of backers and has turned aside the splendid schemes as to tax reform, temperance reform, legislation for the betterment of the conditions of the toilers and for the welfare of the general community. The things that the Whitney government have left undone demonstrate clearly that it has been negligent in its duty and has not served the best interests of the province. A vigorous campaign of these matters will be carried on before the people, and we believe that if they will carefully ponder over the attitude of the government of the day they will find that it has not been faithful to duty, and that a time for a change has come.

Mr. Harrison recognizes along with Mr. Rowell that the temperance issue is the paramount question. The government has truckled with the issue, has pandered to the liquor trade and a day of reckoning is at hand.

If the men who have been temperance allies all their lives will be true to their convictions there is every hope that Kingston will be in line with many other of the constituencies of Ontario in showing devotion to principle rather than to party allegiance. The test will be made in

this election and the best efforts made so that Ontario shall free itself from being a party to the license system.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Eighty-seven hero medals have been awarded, and not one to the man who stays at home from the baseball game to beat carpets.

Just rain enough. Now watch the crops grow. How the cattle are enjoying it in the lush pastures! How beautiful the world is these days!

"Mrs. Pankhurst's east-end followers are numerous," says the London Mail. Following Mrs. Pankhurst's east end strikes us as nearly zero in occupations.

The fight is on, and it is time for the anti-bar element not to sink away under the cover of party interests but to array themselves for the battle of Banish the Bar.

The Toronto Weekly Sun says: The main weakness of the government party is, perhaps, the rude strength which it has used upon its opponents. There is a popular feeling like that of the bystander who sees a big boy ill-using a little one.

Sir Edward Grey's answer to the request for the abolition of the capture of private property at sea in war time is encouraging and leads to the hope that a condition of things more suitable to the dark ages may be abolished by international agreement at the next Hague conference.

The question of aid to the C.N.R. is not the point at issue; everybody is agreed that the C.N.R. must be sustained, and the real question is for whose good must it be sustained? The liberals say for the nation's good; the conservatives say—well, they don't say the same thing as the liberals.

Mr. Rowell's temperance policy is part of a large, comprehensive policy for the advancement of the people of Ontario. Mr. Rowell's aim is to make Ontario what it ought to be, the most progressive province in Canada, the most progressive community in the British empire and in the world.

In the coming election the choice will be between progressive, twentieth century ideas for the great province of Ontario, and fossil, reactionary prejudices and traditions. It will be between progress and stagnation, between life and deathlike inertia. It will be between going ahead and standing still. The present government has definitely taken its stand against progress. Does that policy satisfy the vigorous, independent people of Ontario?

Hon. I. B. Lucas boasts that of the six seats in Bruce and Grey Mr. Rowell cannot possibly carry more than one. No doubt he wishes it that way, and if the gerrymander could have possibly fixed it to produce that result it would have been done. But gerrymanders do not always work out the way they are intended, and a sense of fairness prevails among electors, even of conservative leanings, though it does not in the mer who compose the Whitney government and those who support it in the legislature.

PUBLIC OPINION

Had Become a Habit. Buffalo Courier.

A Fall River editor has just retired at the age of ninety. He is still lively enough to say: "Now is the time to subscribe."

They're Filled Now. Indianapolis News.

Shorter and fuller skirts are to be worn, eh? Can't well, of course, some of them could be shorter, but no many of them could be much fuller and still be sale.

The Law Can't Do It. Ottawa Journal.

The whole trouble in the tipping business is that those of the community who have money enough to tip have no sand. And we don't think law can supply the sand.

A Few Cents More. Hamilton Spectator.

A former Kingston newspaper man is said to have cleaned up \$200,000 in the Calgary oil boom. That's more than he could make out of editing it two or three years, at the very least.

Divided Corsets Next. Columbus Journal.

This interesting garment, as portrayed by the esteemed advertisements, is getting to come down so far that we suppose the more daring young ladies will be taking to the divided corset before long.

Pure Neglect. Stratford Beacon.

The overtaxed accommodation at the Guelph Agricultural College, is a proposal to a government that, while spending over a million dollars on a lieutenant-governor's residence, has neglected this invaluable institution.

Uneasy Lies the Head, Etc. Rochester Herald.

In contemplating the spectacle of John D. Rockefeller hemming himself in at his Tarrytown home with electrical alarms, one cannot avoid the reflection that there are happier people

than those worth six or eight hundred millions.

School Vacation Holidays.

Montreal La Patrie. The school vacation camps are one of the best and most touching philanthropic works of these times. They bring health and happiness to many poor little beings who, without these camps, would stifle in the cities and never know the value of the open air of the country.

Kingston Events 25 YEARS AGO.

The frost last night did considerable damage. The doctors and lawyers of the city had a game of baseball today.

Ald. C. Robinson says it is a mistake to allow boulevards to be built inside of board walks. Ald. Gilder-slove contends that the system is all right if it is not allowed to go too far.

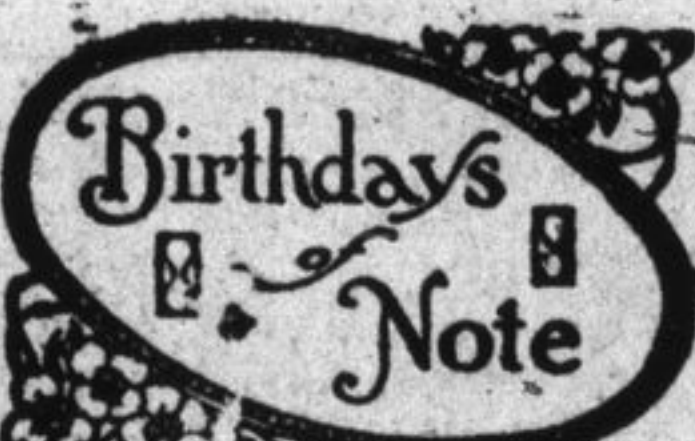
SOCIAL AMELIORATION

Ontario's Supreme Issue—And Many Others.

Toronto Globe. While the abolition of the bar will undoubtedly be the supreme issue in the coming general election in Ontario, it is not the only issue. In various parts of the province independent candidates are coming forward who talk as if they expect to command a practically unanimous liberal support so long as they are sound on the temperance question, and who seem to regard all other matters in dispute between the two parties as of no consequence.

Liberals would do well to indicate to these one-plank candidates that tax reform is, in the opinion of very many electors, scarcely less important than temperance, and that Mr. Rowell's whole policy of social amelioration is "of a piece." Ontario, which formerly commanded the attention of all progressive states because of its advanced social legislation, has been falling behind badly in recent years. Care for child workers and for women in industrial occupations is not what it ought to be. Vast sums have been lost by inefficient regulation of fraternal organizations in which workmen are specially interested. Land speculation goes unchecked, and the natural result is that rents are high and few wages. Workers can afford to buy land in a reasonably central location in the larger cities. No real effort is being made to repopulate the countryside from which there has been a great migration to the west and to the centres of population within the province. The centralization of power over the entire educational machinery in the hands of a few bureaucrats in Toronto has produced widespread dissatisfaction among teachers and impaired the efficiency of the system.

These are but a few of the evils arising under the Whitney administration which liberals have been doing battle in the legislature. While they welcome the support of independent candidates in the coming campaign and are well disposed toward the nomination of men most likely to win, whether such candidates are liberal or in a special sense temperance candidates, they will assuredly expect some declaration as to the attitude of independent candidates toward such vital features of liberal policy as tax reform and the public operation of power, telephone, and hydro-radial services. Candidates or whom liberals are called upon to vote, and who expect to draw the bulk of their support from Mr. Rowell's followers, cannot be progressive in spots. The abolition of the bar is the supreme issue—but there are others.



FRIDAY, MAY, TWENTY-NINTH

Principal William Peterson of McGill University is fifty-eight years of age to-day. He has been head of "Old McGill" since 1896, prior to which he was principal of University College, Dundee, for many years. A well-trained Scottish student, he is to-day an accomplished scholar with particular knowledge of the classics. He is revered, as becomes such a man, but on occasion has been known to break through his shell of calm, scholastic indifference. One notable instance of this occurred several years ago when Harold Begbie, the English novelist, after a hurried tour of Canada, published some severe criticisms on the rudity of the country, its materialism and the lack of artistic and literary culture. His remarks aroused the Principal, who broke a lance in the defence of his adopted country. After pointing out the handicaps under which art and literature labored in a new country, he added with biting effect: "One must remember that it took England three centuries after Shakespeare to produce a Harold Begbie."

Also born to-day—His Honor Judge Harding, Lindsay, born West North County, Ont. 1846. Lt.-Col. J. P. Macpherson, Ottawa, born Kingston, 1839.

Better put off the meat, miserable as until to-morrow, my friend. Do good ones to-day.

Amblion is a good thing to have, but a man should never fly higher than he can roost.

Advertisement for Bibby's Men's and Boys, Toggery. Features: New Collars 2 for 25c. YOUR NEW SUIT. We offer our trade the best garments the world's most skillful tailors can produce. Norfolk Suits \$12.50. Fabrics, rich grey and bronze chevots. The Senator Suits \$15. New grey and black checks, soft roll lapels, high cut vest, plain or cuffs bottom trousers. The Windsor Suits \$18. All wool West of England blue worsted, hand tailored throughout, new English model, a great favorite. The best \$18.00 suit value in America, and we mean exactly what we say. Our \$20 Suits. Are made by the Semi-Ready tailors, the Society Brand tailors. A perfect fit guaranteed at any price. Our Shoe Department. We claim to have the best \$4.00 Shoe in Canada.

Fresh Garden Seeds. Onion Sets, Geranium bedding, Plants, etc., etc. Wedding Bouquets, Funeral Designs a Specialty. F. J. JOHNSON THE LEADING FLORIST 524 King St. Phone: Residence 1212 Greenhouses, 235.

Ladies' Button & Laced Boots. In Dongola Kid Regular \$3 for \$2.49. All spring goods on up-to-date lasts. 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.

READ THE WHIG WANT ADS. T. J. LOCKHART, (Over Bank of Montreal) Clarence St. Kingston.

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