

The British Whig
80TH YEAR.



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

J. G. Elliott, President
Lennan A. Guild, Managing Director and Sec.-Treas.

Telephone:
Business Office 243
Editorial Rooms 229
Job Office 222

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 address \$7.50
One year, to United States \$8.00
Six and three months pro rata.
(Semi-Weekly Edition)
One year, by mail, cash \$1.00
One year, if not paid in advance \$1.10
One year, to United States \$1.50
Six and three months pro rata.

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THE GERMAN FEDERACY.

(Article I)

Of the German federation or empire William II is the third ruler, under the new empire founded in 1871, and he began his reign on July 10, 1888. The empire is made up of twenty-five states and cities and Alsace and Lorraine which were added after the Franco-German war.

In 1806 Emperor Francis abdicated as emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, and Central Europe was left without a head. When Napoleon fell the congress of Vienna essayed to define the boundaries of Europe. This was followed by the federation of German states, governed by a Diet of sixty-five members and a committee of seventeen. The kingdoms of Denmark and the Netherlands were members of this federation, and over it Austria presided.

In 1815 the reformers of Germany won distinction. They demanded the abolition of the existing constitution, and government under a series of ministries. Free thought, in the press and on the platform, was suppressed. Efforts to unify the states led in 1848 to the National Assembly at Frankfurt, with the Archduke of Austria presiding. It did not bring about unity, and in 1871 Austria was pressed out of the confederation and the German people became reconnected under Prussia.

A demand for popular sovereignty became apparent all over Europe. Revolutions occurred in France, in Austria, in Germany. Frederick IV gave a constitution to Prussia in 1849. Between Austria and Germany there was a contest for the ascendancy. Bismarck espoused the Prussian cause and under him the German empire was finally established.

Scleswig-Holstein was the cause of hostilities between Austria and Germany. Both claimed them, and in a war over them in 1866 William, King of Prussia, defeated Austria, and by signing the Treaty of Prague it went out of the German confederation.

In 1867 the North German confederation was formed with Prussia at its head, and all the small states of Northern Germany as members. Bavaria, Wurttemberg, and Baden held aloof, formed treaties with the confederation, but later became members of it. Consolidation came about through war just as the consolidation of the British empire has been brought about by the war of today.

Napoleon objected to the neutralization of Luxembourg, which annexation of the King of Prussia. A quarrel occurred over the succession of a Hohenzollern to the throne of Spain, and war was declared.

The French suffered defeats at Saarbrack, Metz and Sedan, and surrendered at Paris in 1871. Bavaria, Wurttemberg, and Baden joined the North German confederation in offering the crown of emperor to William IV. France ceded Alsace and Lorraine to Germany and paid five milliard of francs as a war indemnity.

WHAT THE WAR MEANS.

Bernardi, who has preached the doctrine that might is right and that nations can only be made great by war, talks about what will happen to Germany should disaster follow war. "Our political downfall," he remarks, "would not be delayed and we should rapidly sink down." What is more, the future of German nationality would be sacrificed, and "the blessings for which German blood has flowed in streams" would "for long ages be lost to mankind." The crisis is not yet reached. Far from it. The empire that has spent many years and many millions of money in building up a great fighting machine will not surrender until its emperor and his war party have been fought to a standstill. Two things are being now considered: (1) New campaigns, the old one having failed; and (2) the possibility of the allies failing to keep up

their recruiting. All of which means that the British troops now going to the front will be all the while getting nearer to the heart of the German empire and farther and farther away from Tipperary.

WIRE NETTING IN TRENCHES.

Conservation refers to the experience of an eastern city in street paving. The policy had been to lay gas and water mains and sewers a year before the paving took place, but, in order to give work to the unemployed this year, the paving followed the excavations.

In the trenches, and embedded between the two layers of concrete, was a reinforcement of fence wire of the full width of the lower panel of concrete. This extra depth of reinforced concrete, extending beyond the edges of the sewer excavation, acted as a bridge, and precluded any possibility of the roadway sinking or breaking through, owing to the settling of the earth over the sewer.

SUPPRESS THE NUISANCES.

It is hoped the Kennel Club will think twice before its members presume to appeal to the council for any amendment of the dog by-law. It has long been a reproach to the city that it had no way of suppressing the dog nuisance. There was a time, many years ago, when the dog commissioner made vagrant dogs very scarce. This commissioner received a certain percentage on the fees for his labour, and the harder he worked the better the pay. The few dogs which appeared in the streets wore collars, and to these collars were attached the tags which were proofs in themselves that the necessary and exacting provisions of the by-law had been complied with.

The new by-law may not be as good as the old one, and it may be better. In any case it will have two very direct effects: (1) It will lead to the welcome disappearance of many of the curs that have been running at large, some of them to snarl and snarl at people's heels, menacingly; and (2) it will increase the casual revenues of the city, and the treasury can hold all the money that is put into it.

Sir Lomer Gouin says that France was ready for the war. Getting ready more accurately described the situation. But for the British aid at a critical period in the campaign the Germans would not have been turned back when they had almost reached Paris.

POLITICS IN WAR.

"Is the war making you rich?" Such is the enquiry which one man made of another in discussing the mobilization of the troops and the business it brought to some of our merchants. It is certainly to be expected that every dollar which the equipment of our troops involves will be spent in Canada, and, very naturally, there are expenses which must be incurred without a resort to tenders and contracts. At the same time it is apparent good business suggests that the Militia Department shall experience all the care in buying which experience can suggest. The friends of the government may expect to get whatever patronage there is going, but in the distribution of millions there should be some thought of competition, and, considering that all classes of the people are contributing to the cost of the war, the administration should be largely non-political. It was understood that Major-General Hughes, in the outfitting of the First Contingent, was mostly concerned about the character of the service and it will be regretted if there has been any departure from his practices. A purchasing committee is understood to have been appointed by the government, after the Valenciennes camp, and it may be responsible for the partisan nature of the orders that are said to have been issued respecting the Second Contingent. In due time the Public Accounts will reveal the quality of the work which is now being done.

"WOE TO YOU NIPPON."

American papers see in the success of the Japanese at Tsing-Tau the danger of Asiatic ascendancy, eventually, and the driving of the British and French from Asia as well as the Germans. The Germans have been getting what they deserve for not playing the game. They got a foothold in China originally by seizing Kiau Chau, on account of the murder of a

couple of missionaries, and later holding it, under a lease, for ninety-nine years. The many millions spent upon the port, in fortifying it and in extending the connections with it far into the country, indicate quite clearly that Germany, when the lease was up, would continue to hold it, permanently.

Nor was Germany content with a place in the sun. She presumed to play the dictator in Asia, as she had presumed to play it in Europe. So when Japan, twenty years ago, won a decided victory over China Germany interfered and prevented Japan from getting her reward. Port Arthur belonged to Japan, as the price of peace, but Japan had to surrender it, only to win it a second time in the war with Russia. Japan has thus waited long for the time and the opportunity to balance accounts, and this has now been done, to her satisfaction. Germany is out of China, and likely to remain out of it. The German press may threaten, "Woe to you, Nippon," but the Japanese can regard these threats with contempt.

Japan may be suspected of ambitions very like unto those of Germany. She may want to dominate Asia, and may do it with an intelligence and culture quite equal to the intelligence and culture of Germany in Europe. But this is not saying or admitting that there is to be a violent rupture between Japan and her allies in this war, France and Britain.

Japan has shown a greater regard for agreements and compacts than Germany, whose leaching is that it is only necessary to keep pledges when it is convenient to do so. The most solemn understandings into which nations may enter, and to which they may be committed by the usual formalities, are not to be treated as "scraps of paper" when it suits his malevolent majesty the emperor of Germany.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Time the papers, all of them, gave Bourassa a rest. He thrives on publicity. He wants it. He longs for it. Why play the game which suits him so well?

The King of Belgium is living in the trenches with his men and sharing in their perils. The Kaiser is living in armoured cars and specially protected villas. But eventually he will fare and feed like his men.

The great German socialist, August Babel, once said that in the event of war his party would be forced to go with the tide. But let failure and humility and disaster occur and then look for a miracle! Or a revolution?

George Bernard Shaw, the playwright, wants the neutral nations to band together and insist that Britain, Germany and France withdraw from the soil of Belgium. A good act. But the neutrals, who are they? And what influence for peace can they exert at the present time?

France is now moving towards prohibition. The importation and sale of absinthe is forbidden. In England Lord Roberts is appealing to the people to refrain from treating the soldier and so are unfitting them for the hard service in which they must engage. The canteen everywhere must go.

Kitchener has an object in speaking so plainly about the position of the British army. He wants to stir up the people to a sense of their danger. If the people of the north of England and of Ireland and Scotland realize it as the people in the south of England there would be no let up in the recruiting.

Public Opinion

Showing Their Culture. Montreal Mail. The school teachers of Germany are nearly all at the front. That is where "culture" is to be taught at present.

Divorce in Canada. Hamilton Times. Seven divorces were granted by a judge in St. John, N.B., this week. Yet we shake our heads over the divorces in the states.

Strange Experience. Exchange. A man in New York ran for an office in this week's elections, and won it, only to find it had been abolished. No doubt the voters knew that.

He Should Know. Montreal Herald. H. B. Ames, M.A., who has been doing a good deal of lecturing on the British navy, declares that the latest type of British warship is so constructed as to be able to defy torpedo attack.

Election Of. Canadian Gazette. There is apparently to be no general election in Canada this autumn. The precedent of the motherland to which Sir Wilfrid Laurier appealed is to be followed, and partyism and election

talk tabooed while we are fighting for our life as an empire.

Prisoners in Germany. Bradford Express. The cost of keeping one war prisoner in Germany is about fourteen cents a day, and to cover this expense they are made to work at road-making, street cleaning, and other similar jobs. No butter is allowed for the bread, except for the wounded, and then only on doctor's orders. Imagine putting in a hard day's work at physical labor on fourteen cents worth of food.

Kingston Events Twenty-Five Years Ago

Anniversary meeting of the Y.M.C.A. was held in the city hall. Dr. W. G. Anglin, the president, presided, completing his fifth year in this position. Leo Phalen, B.A., one of Queen's best football players had a rib fractured in scrimmage practice. Rev. Douglas Laing preached to a large congregation in the Baptist church. He has already become popular with his parishioners, and has given them great satisfaction as a preacher and also socially. Doctors Irwin, Sullivan, Henderson and Phalen attended the football match at Brockville between Queen's and Ottawa. The Escort looked like an ambulance party, but the stretcher men were not called out.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

Some people are willing to take almost any old thing except a hint.

An honest man never has to buy space in a newspaper to advertise the fact.

Successful men are those who make more money than their wives can spend.

Inconsistent. "Who are your best patients, doctor?" "The people who are always complaining that life isn't worth living."

Pleasant. Hostess—I want you to sing, Mr. Basso, but it's such a pleasant party I hate to break it up.

No Material. "First Campaigner—Are you expecting a landslide this fall at the elections?" "Second Campaigner—No; there has been so much mud-throwing that there won't be any losses land left."

He Got His. "I love you," said the flippant youth. "Do you get me?" "No, I don't get you. I wouldn't have you," retorted the sensible girl.—Kansas City Journal.

How to Talk Well. "Swearing doesn't help to play the game," said the young minister on the golf links. "Besides, it's very wicked."

It may be verra wicked, an' it may no help the playin', but it's a gr-rreat aid to conversation," replied the sophisticated caddy.—Livingston Lance.

Case of Great Gravity. The latest Boston story is about a small child who fell out of a window. A kind-hearted lady came hurrying up with the anxious question, "Dear, dear! How did you fall?" The child looked up at the questioner and replied, in a voice choked with sobs, "Vertically, ma'am."

The Leopard's Spot. Master—Can a leopard change his spots? Freddie—Yes, sir.

Now, that's quite wrong. You know that a leopard cannot change his spots."

"Oh, but he can, sir, really."

"Well, tell me how, then?"

"When he's tired of sitting on one he can change to another." —Kansas City Star.

His First Company. An English recruit was stopped in the street recently by an officer for failing to salute. The young fellow confessed his ignorance of the regulations (having only just enlisted), and received an impromptu lesson. The dialogue concluded, the recruit saluted correctly. "By the way," said the officer, "to what company do you belong?" "Please sir, to the Wigan Coal and Iron company," was the reply.—Manchester Guardian.

He Shall Not Want. "Yes," said Mrs. Twinkenburg, "our minister has decided to go to another pasturage."—Christian Register.

Row Avoided. He (disagreeably)—What the mischief is the matter with this cigar? She (mildly)—I cooked it, dear. He—Well, I was wondering what made it so much better than usual.

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