

The British Whig



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PEOPLE SHOULD VOTE YEA.

The Campbell agreement with the Hydro-Electric Commission, with regard to the power which it is proposed to transfer to the city, may hang fire, but the Campbell power will enter the city with the ratepayers' permission. Mr. Campbell, at large expense, with a display of energy and enterprise that are to be highly commended, has constructed his transmission lines from Kingstow Mills, and will presently be in a position to serve himself and others in two of the local industries. Cheap power—much cheaper than Kingstow has been able to produce it from steam—is an absolute necessity. It is one of the first things about which the manufacturer, in seeking a location, makes enquiry. It practically settles the question with him in most cases, and, unfortunately, handicaps Kingstow in competing with other municipalities for industries. The Campbell proposition makes it possible for one large concern, the Great Works, to resume business with the greater assurance of success. It makes it possible for the city to offer attractions which may contribute to the capital and labour that are employed there. It is for the people to say in January, when they are voting in the municipal elections, whether they approve of the Campbell franchise, and it is worthy of their support.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS.

Christmas, 1914, may be regarded as an unique in several respects. It is remarkable this year because it finds one-half of the world, and more than one-half of the civilized world, at once, while human life is being lavishly offered as a sacrifice to the God of War. It is remarkable, also, because even Christians have been stunned by the awful contingencies of conflict, and the helpful influences of centuries seem to be threatened, if not destroyed. The calloused students of Bernard, who believe that there is no atrocity which cannot be condoned in war, have, in humble imitation of the kaiser, been calling on the God of Battles to aid them. It was Dr. Rainsford who, noticing these appeals, asked, sententiously, "What sort of God are they calling on? The merely national god, the tribal god, the god that favors one man as against another, the god that loves his Jacobs and hates his Esaus, a god as unlike the God and Father of all as Juggernaut is unlike Jesus. Men are beginning to tire of such a god-to-day. After this war they will loathe him." It was unto the shepherds who attended their flocks in Palestine that the angels appeared over two thousand years ago and chanted: "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men," and they understood the message. Thus began the melody that, at this season, fills the heart with a sweetness all its own. The message was not for the men of peaceful occupations only. It was meant for all, for even those militants into whose hands the sword has been thrust, the men who are engaged in deadly combat in so many lands to-day. The pope, in all earnestness, brought the contending armies to call a truce while they kept the feast at this Christmas time. The coveted seclusion was not granted, but an astute caught the idea when he stretched the lovely Christ bending over the trenches in Europe and was stowing on the dying and self-denying His most gracious benediction. It was a mistaken conception of the Christ, as He had been pictured in poem and story, to suppose that the agencies of war could banish Him and His birthday from the minds of men. Christmas has been the one hallowed day in all the year, and to

obliterate it from the calendar, called up all that is restful in human nature. Col. Watterson, the veteran journalist, had been dwelling with pessimists surely when he saw, in the events of the times, civilization crumbling away, and Christianity in danger of extinction. It is the view of the man who has had his vision splendidly obscured for the time being. The peace which Christ came to establish belongs to the world. It is His legacy. It can never be lost or dissipated. All that is now transpiring was foreseen and predicted. There were to be wars and rumours of wars. The millions of Europe, who have been bereaved, by war, cannot, of course, see through their tears the glories of this Christmas tide. They will have their consolations. They will look towards the time, of which the prophet spoke, when the soldiers shall beat their swords into plow-shares and their spears into pruning hooks, when they shall not learn war any more. Meanwhile the sacrifices which they are making for a righteous cause commands universal homage. There is nothing like it in the history of the world. There may never be anything like it again. The willingness of multitudes to offer themselves on the altar of their country elicits this deliverance from Dr. Rainsford, from whom we have already quoted: "Self-sacrifice may be and sometimes has been misdirected; if so it will fail of its immediate purpose. But it is the root and source of all lasting religion, and so long as it can control the life of men, even in times of crisis, that life cannot fail to be in its essence religious. To-day self-sacrifice is the religion of the embattled world. Civilization has not forgotten the martyrs of early Christian times. They died to emancipate their fellows, and the men to-day dying, locked in each other's destroying arms, are no less truly martyrs than they, for they, too, are dying that the old and false may pass forever away, and that new and better days may come to men." The call of the day is not to the colours, but to a meditation upon the life and labour, the birth and death, of the Ideal Man. If one's thoughts be pure and holy, Christmas of 1914 will, notwithstanding its distractions, bring peace and happiness to every son of man.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Toronto World supporting a liberal for the mayoralty. That is a hopeful sign. Can't the city have the experiment of a few business men selected for the Council, on their merits, and without regard to political affiliations? The shopping over? Not quite. It could not all be done early, and it is a welcome thing at any time. It will be late to-night before the last transaction has been closed.

Civil servants drawing over \$500 have been forbidden to contest any position in connection with the Council and School Board. Reason—a division of labour and attention is detrimental to the public service. There's logic in that.

The kaiser has resumed his "barbarism with God." He announces, with a great flourish of bravado, that "with God's help, he will bring the Fatherland through the present difficult days to a happier future."

The battlefield is no place for incompetents and hence the number of French generals who have been relieved of active duty. Joffre knows who are fit and who are not for the great tasks he has set before the French army.

Canada, by an order-in-council, prohibits the exportation of nickel and nickel ore for war purposes. But it goes via the United States, and after leaving Canada the order becomes non-effective. Why should not the export of nickel for any purpose be prohibited? It should be refined in Canada.

A young German offered \$10,000 to enter the Third Continent, and spy upon it, is the latest. The letters from a father, revealing the whole nefarious plot, should be published. They should be framed and hung up in every school-house in Germany, as a sample of German culture.

When Premier Hearst was at it he should have let a couple more of his ministers go—Pyne and Dill. The education and agricultural departments of the government want bracing up and this can never be under the ministers referred to. They have not the capacity for successful service.

A contemporary has it that the war will transform the social life of England. It will put an end to the life of the idle rich. Men of spirit are no longer idle, and they are no longer rich. They have given of their means to the nation, in its extremity, or their wealth has been swept away.

The clamour for able men in public office is being met in Toronto in a peculiar way. Controller McCarthy, a superior candidate, is being opposed by Controller Church, who is the joke of the Board of Control. And the joker may be elected. Which

would be anything but a joke for the city of Toronto.

Dr. Wiley, food expert, solemnly declares that there are 10,000 school children in Washington whose teeth are defective. The dental inspections in our schools have done a great deal of good, but they should be prosecuted more vigorously. The pupils in one large school have not been examined yet. Why?

The president of the United States, and the democratic party, as it is represented in the senate, have quarrelled over the question of appointments. He wants to be the supreme judge of the fitness of the officials he names. The state senators demand the right of consultation. On the question of patronage the party may be wrecked.

Public Opinion

Very Sensitive. St. Thomas Journal. A Montreal paper says that vegetables are sensitive to a potato blight as a masher and an onion brings tears to one's eyes.

There At The Finish. Springfield Republican. The German emperor's improvement in health is most gratifying. There will be a certain fitness in his seeing the thing through.

Very Likely. London Advertiser. Generals French and Joffre may not take Christmas dinner at Berlin, but there's a chance of their having a chop at Brussels.

The Fog Did It. From La Presse. There can no longer be the doubt in the mind of the reasonable man, that it was only the fog which enabled the German fleet to attack Scarborough.

Repentance Day. Montreal Mail. January 1st is to be "repentance day" in the German army, according to the bishops and archbishops. It's likely to be the busiest day since the war started.

Effect Of The Raid. Toronto News. Probably for every British life lost in the German raid there will be a hundred volunteers for Kitchener's army who otherwise would not have offered themselves.

The Greatest Enemy. Journal of Commerce. The white plague may eventually mean the total extinction of the red man. Our Indian population is decreasing despite all that has been done in recent years to improve the conditions under which they live and work. Tuberculosis remains their greatest enemy.

Kingston Events Twenty-Five Years Ago

Twenty-five men and six women will spend Christmas in the county jail. G. Gay Shannon, of the Kingston post office, was presented with a gold watch by friends while spending Christmas at Picton. D. A. Givens is a candidate for alderman in Rideau ward. There was skating near the cotton mill to-day. Two boys had a narrow escape, however, as the ice was thin. CLAYTON LAWYER WON.

Action For Services Against Pittsburgh, Pa., Woman. Clayton, N.Y., Dec. 24—Attorney John O'Leary, of Clayton, has returned from Pittsburgh, Pa., where on Monday he won a suit for several hundred dollars against Mrs. Cora Burns, Phelan, wife of A. X. Phelan, a Pittsburgh millionaire, who spends his summers among the Thousand Islands. Some years ago Mr. O'Leary acted as agent for Mrs. Phelan, having charge of property owned by her on Round Island, near Clayton. Mr. O'Leary looked after the property from 1906 until 1912, showing it to several prospective purchasers and performing other services for "the owners. Through his efforts, he stated in his suit, Mrs. Phelan was finally enabled to dispose of the premises to Stephen H. Lloyd, another wealthy Pittsburgher.

Mr. O'Leary presented a claim of \$400 for his services, but the bill was not settled by his Pittsburgh clients. Suit was instituted in the Allegheny county court, and trial was had at Pittsburgh Monday, a jury having been previously selected on Friday. A Pittsburgh attorney represented Mr. O'Leary. The jury deliberated only ten minutes, when they reported a verdict of \$275, being the full amount of the claim, and interest. Mr. O'Leary was also awarded costs in the action.

SANTA CLAUS REVERSED. German Force Ghent to Supply Christmas Cheer. Rotterdam, Dec. 24—In order to celebrate Christmas, the Germans have ordered Ghent to supply one million cigars, one million cigarettes, and ninety thousand pounds of tobacco, while they have taken complete control of every wine cellar in the town. One proprietor was ordered to supply 500 bottles of brandy, but the order taking his breath away, he asked the soldier if a mistake had not been made. The soldier answered "Yes," and increased the demand to 1,500 bottles. The Germans have also requisitioned musical instruments.

We can all hurry worry in our direction if we are foolish enough to do so. Hudnut's toilet waters, Dr. Chow's

GERMANS GIVEN ETHER

BEFORE MAKING ATTACK ON RUSSIAN FRONT.

Left Their Trenches Behind—Commanders Determined to Save Uniforms Even If Men Were Lost.

Petrograd, Dec. 23.—I have just come from Warsaw and from the territory which the Germans are now occupying, across-the country which will see the next battles. My route from Skiernewice was by way of Rawla, Nowemiaslo and Grojec, where the retiring Germans in October broke up the roads. Russian engineers, however, have done wonders. I must naturally avoid being too specific in description, but cannot emphasize too strongly my admiration of the magnificent foresight, energy and military genius which is directing operations on this front. No one who has seen the Russians at work can be doubtful as to the issue of this war. I have seen retreats before, but never a retreat so deliberate and unharmed as this.

To understand conditions one must realize that the retreat now taking place is a retreat from the southern and central portion of the line, where the Russians are not pressed by the Germans. In the north, from Sochaczew to the Vistula, where the fighting is hottest and German attacks are the heaviest, the retreat has not commenced, and, at the time of writing, so far from yielding or falling back, the Russian commander of that line has caused the Germans to fall back. On Sunday the German attack culminated in a desperate attempt to carry our trenches. Eleven separate times they tried to rush the positions and each time they were driven back with fearful losses.

Human lives are the only things in which Germans do not economize. Who can comprehend the minds of leaders who order that their men when charging shall leave their trenches behind them in the trench, so that though the man be lost his uniform shall remain to clothe another victim? Men who charged the Russian trenches did so in their shirts, and if wounded remain on our hands. They tell the same story. Every man before charging was served with a drink of spirits mixed with ether. This fact is amply confirmed.

By morning the battle had drifted to the north, and the Germans were transferring their guns toward the Vistula, in reply to heavy fire from the Russian artillery. After the slaughter of the night the intensity of the attack diminished and slowly, under Russian pressure, the German left, with Russian infantry driving them and the great Russian guns across the river smashing their flank, swung back. The movement of the left and centre of the Russian line toward its new positions was accomplished as calmly and systematically as if the army were manoeuvring in a time of peace.

Leaves Nothing Behind. The distinguished general in command took exhaustive measures to make his retreat as effective as an advance. He leaves to the Germans nothing but the earth they walk upon. The country is as bare as a beggar's hand of any means of making war. There is not a horse or a mouthful of food which can help the enemy forward a single yard.

The Germans, who were fully informed of the contemplated Russian retreat by means of continual aeroplane reconnaissance, made an attempt to take the positions and follow after the Russians. This was precisely what the Russians had expected, and prepared for, and they met the German attack with a counter-movement which was successful at every point. The rear guard actually carried several of the enemy's trenches, causing him to fall back, and also captured our field guns.

The fact which leaps to the eye is that the Russian army, which is now settling into new positions, is an army which takes kindly to hardships and the stress of war. The men are in magnificent condition. The field kitchens, which cook on the march and serve food hot immediately after the battalion halts, have worked well, and there have been practically no cases of illness among the troops.

SIMPLY CANADA'S WAY.

Interned Aliens to Have Real British Christmas Dinner.

Ottawa, Dec. 24—German and Austrian aliens interned at various places throughout the dominion are to be given a taste of Canadian "culture" this Christmas. It will take the form of turkey, plum pudding and other ingredients of a British Christmas dinner which is to be served to them on Christmas day. It is described in a departmental announcement as a "special ration," which is the mild official way of describing the process of heaping coals of fire on the enemy's head. The special Christmas dinner which it was also announced would be furnished by the militia authorities to the Canadian soldiers in training in Canada and on Salisbury Plain will be replaced in many places by spreads furnished by local citizens' committees. Where such is not the case, the department will see that the men are well cared for.

STOWAWAYS INTERRED

German Reach Copenhagen From New York.

Copenhagen, Dec. 24—A number of Germans stowaways on the Scandinavian American liner Frederick VIII, from New York were interred here on the arrival of the vessel, which apparently was not stopped by British warships, as otherwise the stowaways would have been made prisoners. A majority of them, when discovered some days ago, agreed to work their passage. The rest refused and were arrested.

Have your skates sharpened and repaired by H. Milne, 273 Bagot street. Colgate's toilet waters. Dr. Chow's. Duty to humanity is next to that of home and family.

Bibbys To-night and Saturday SPECIALS



Men's Overcoats Real Beauties, Society Brand \$22 & \$22.50 Garments for \$15.00

Big Boy's Overcoats \$7.50 & \$8.00 values for \$5.00

Men's Suits \$15.00 Hand Tailored Garments, Blue Cheviots Worsteds and Vicunas, Newest Models

English Parametta Raincoat Special \$8.50

Men's Shoe Special for \$3.50 Goodyear Welt Bench made Sizes 6 to 10



Bibbys

Farms For Sale

Table with 2 columns: Acres and Price. Lists various farm properties for sale.

T. J. LOCKHART, Real Estate and Insurance Bank of Montreal Building.

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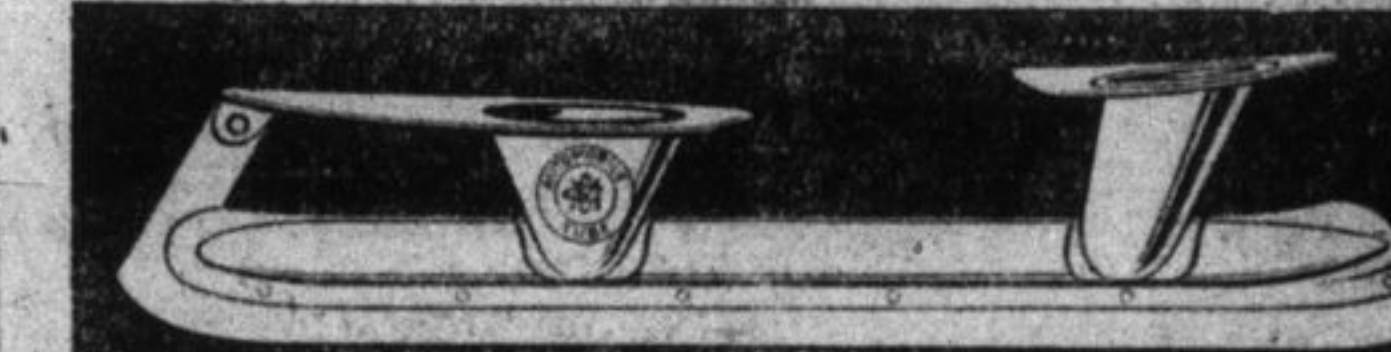


Announcement?

As I have decided to vacate my present premises in the early spring of 1915, I am now prepared to make reductions on any monument that I have in stock. If it is your intention of purchasing it would be to your advantage to buy now.

J. E. MULLEN Cor. Princess and Clergy Streets Kingston. Phone 1417.

SKATING TO-NIGHT ARE YOU READY? IF NOT, SEE US.



AUTOMOBILE SKATES—Ask any hockey player what are the best skates to buy, and he will say "Automobile." THERE IS A REASON—We are the sole agents for Kingston. Hockey and skating is our specialty, and we have the finest line of boots in the city. We only ask you to look them over before you buy, and you won't be sorry. State Sharpening a Specialty.

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USE CRAWFORDS COAL. 75c Corsets, 50c Dutton's. Remouder H. Milne sharpens skates and repairs them. We will call and deliver. Phone 542.