

The British Whig 82ND YEAR



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LET LAURIER FINISH HIS WORK.

The Laurier government imposed the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific transcontinental systems upon the taxpayers of Canada.

And the Borden government mismanaged them. The Lynch-Stanley and government commissions made a fine record with regard to the one, and a revolt in the conservative camp is the record with regard to the other. Why doesn't the News clarify the conservative party according to its deserts?

THE SUBMARINE MENACE.

Collier's jokes over the Von Tirpitz story, that Germany can bottle up and starve out Britain. How? By torpedoing her battleships and cutting off food supplies. Granted that Sir Conan Doyle wrote a fascinating story, "Danger," and that four millions of people read it in Collier's, the fact remains that the German submarines are becoming audacious, and Von Tirpitz may figure that if he can only hold out long enough these submarines will do the trick. One hates to admit that the German submarine is endangering England, but the loss of the last battleship off Portsmouth makes him feel that Britain must somehow become more aggressive, and bottle up the German submarines as well as cruisers.

PUBLICITY SURELY PAYS.

The Whig took exception to a statement of the Hamilton Spectator and to the effect that the temperance campaign failed in the Ambitions City because the people were absorbed in the study of the war. The Whig remarked that the temperance people had simply lost their grip. A third reason is now forthcoming, and it appears very strongly to the newspaper man's instinct. The anti, having plenty of means—subscribed to a cause which deeply affected them personally—indulged in a publicity campaign and won out. Some one, with a fine showing of sense, perceived that the way to success lay in the direction of the public journals, that the people read the papers daily, and that the party that reached them in the press was the party to score a victory. The reductionists had good arguments, but they were not running through the papers, like continued stories, and they did not convert or strengthen public opinion. The Hamilton papers were neutral on the issue of the day, but they allowed their advertising space to be occupied by arguments against license reduction, and they prevailed. Publicity pays. That point has been established, and it is an important one and will be remembered when other appeals are being made to the people.

THE TRUCE AT OTTAWA.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Gazette discusses the coming session of parliament, and with information from the inside. He says the session will be a brief one, and that its business will be confined to war measures. The liberals will support this, with the assurance that there will be another session before an election. The correspondent adds that there is very little likelihood of any concessions being granted by the government.

The truce can only be continued, apparently, on condition that everything passes, through the house without scrutiny. This is not the meaning of the truce in the old land, where the war is in evidence as it is not in Canada, and where the political parties know how to treat enquiries without accepting them as a menace to that truce. At this next session the expenditure of millions will be reported, and it should be in order to ask about the contracts, the number of them, the amount of them, whether

all of them were tendered for, and the lowest, on merit, accepted. In the British parliament that would not be regarded as a breach of the understanding on which the truce is founded.

The agitation of the Canadian government arises from a fear of some exposure, and if all has been done regularly and above board there should be no anxiety. Of course the Public Accounts Committee can copy from the Public Accounts Committee of Ontario, and refuse to meet until the house is nearly ready to adjourn. Then the chairman, after the manner of Mr. Ferguson, (now a member of the local government), can metaphorically sit upon the lid and prevent any one from lifting it. This will be only necessary if there is something that will not bear the light.

THE GERMANS ARE BUSY.

The one thing about the Germans which commands admiration—and it is about the only thing—is the manner in which they labour for the fatherland. The education of forty years, and all to one end—that the German empire may be the greatest ever, that in time it may be a world power—has not been in vain. Children have had it drilled into their ears at school. Boys have had it ground into them in the shops. Young men have had it preached at them in the gymnasiums and colleges. Such a campaign was bound to bear fruit.

One sees this in the irrepressible spy system; in the costly missionary work in Europe and America; in the conspiracies of the race in every part of the globe; in the activities of representative men in neutral territory; in the bids for newspaper favour; in the subtle resolutions moved by members of the United States Congress, meant to help the Germans when the export of munitions of war are protested; in the new threats that Germany will make a note of unfriendly journalistic comment and punish it in due time.

All this indicates the incessant activity, regardless of hazard and expense, of German agents. They are becoming more insistent and declamatory, and this can be accepted as an evidence that Germany is not so hopeful, and its representatives make up for their want of assurance by the increase in their "noise." The man of the hour is Kitchener, the implacable minister of war for Britain. At the outset he intimated that he had set his gauge for a long and trying conflict. The empire had better accept his guidance without question and supply him with the forces, even by conscription, in order that he may make his plans complete.

THE PEOPLE ARE DECEIVED.

The Utilities Commission is not dealing fairly with the people. In a sense the people are being deceived. Let any consumer take up his accounts and examine them. This he will find, that he is billed at the rate of 10c. per kilowatt, for his electricity, and to this charge there has been added 50c. per quarter for meter rent. Suppose one uses 100 kilowatts. The cost is \$10, plus 50c. for meter rent. And this in the face of the fact that he is warned that "positively gross rates will be charged after the 20th." (Gross rates are charged already. When the rates are not paid within a specified time there is an addition of 10 per cent. to the gross charges, for electricity and meter rent, and not a reduction or discount which many people suppose they are getting.)

The same rule applies to the consumption of gas. The tenant or householder who burns 5,000 cubic feet of gas is charged, at \$1 per 1,000 feet, \$5. Add meter rent of 50c. per quarter, and the total is \$5.50. The consumer is informed in the account, "Positively gross rates will be charged after the 20th." This is of the following month. The account itself is for gross rates. What is meant, but is not understood, is that if the account is not paid at a certain date 10 per cent. will be added to the gross charges, which is simply outrageous.

The water rates are not subject to this deceptive process. The consumer who pays before a certain date, set forth in the bill, is allowed a discount of 20 per cent. He knows he gets this because his receipt shows it. Now the Whig does not know how long the imposition has been going on with respect to light and power, but it submits that the time has arrived when it should stop. Every consumer of electricity, in the city, is interested in the subject. Let him look up his bills. Let him begin the enquiry, as the Whig proposes to do, respecting the regulation of the Commission or Council exacting gross rates from him, and threatening to add 10 per cent. to the gross charges if the transaction is not a cash one.

The columns of the Whig are open to all who desire to discuss this most important subject, and if the people speak out, as they ought to do, the commissioners will not be long in ending the injustice.

Until the political organizations go out of business it can hardly be said that politics do not influence the Kingston elections, and the party that nominated a political mayor and held party meetings just prior to the elections is not in a position to slaughering its opponents.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The American government, in granting American register to a German ship, which has been commissioned for the American trade, is surely inviting, deliberately, a collision with the belligerent powers. The outcome of it can hardly be questioned.

Glaubitz, the \$5,000 a year manager of the London electric light plant, is resigning and leaving the country. As a German he should be interred with the rest of the suspects. The elections made it quite apparent what the people thought of him.

A Montreal paper has it that the boundary between Canada and the United States has been moved twenty-five miles northward from the Great Lakes to the Pacific. How could that be done by any agreement between the governments? The thing is absurd. The Montreal man has been mousing.

The condition of half-starved Germans, rescued as prisoners "from mud-holes unfit for pigs," on the fighting frontier, was distressing. The pity is that the Kaiser and the crown prince have not been forced to share this experience with the men and so realize, as Hubbard puts it, that war is hell in Germany.

H. J. Dingman, of Calgary, has a scheme for compulsory saving on the part of the industrial classes. He would have a certain percentage of the earnings impounded and deposited. He would, in other words, have government officials attending to the domestic economies of the people and they would be the busiest men in the land.

The World accuses the Globe of exciting the party feeling in Toronto and so contributing to the election of T. L. Church. Ridiculous. Nothing that any paper in Toronto said about the mayor-elect induced the people to vote party in preference to anything else. The majority in the Queen City will go wrong as a matter of party cussedness.

The Whig offers no apology for supporting ex-Mayor Elliott in the election and expressing a desire to see him elected to the council. He would have been a regular attendant, would have been actively interested in the business of the council, and given the city valuable service by reason of his experience. The city wants what it misses in him.

Kingston Events Twenty-Five Years Ago

The following aldermen were elected to-day: Sydney ward—James Swift, J. S. Muckleton, E. T. Steacy. Ontario ward—G. S. Fenwick, Joseph Swift, W. Wilson. St. Lawrence ward—J. Mines, J. Redden, W. Robinson. Cataract ward—S. Anglin, J. Gasikin, F. Pees. Frontenac ward—G. Creegan, J. McCammon, J. D. Thompson. Rideau ward—D. A. Givens, D. M. McIntyre, G. Osborne. Victoria ward—J. M. Machar, R. W. Shannon, W. A. Webster. La Gripe made its way into "A" battery to-day. Twenty-two are on the sick list. Four cases of chemical goods arrived to-day from Germany for the Royal Military College. One hundred men are now employed at the car works.

THE MEASURE ENDORSED.

Give Women Who Are Qualified Right to Vote.

Toronto, Jan. 6.—Some people said that the war would kill all such movements as votes for women. This opinion was based not on the assumption that women's suffrage would become less popular, but that there would be no interest in the subject owing to the interest arising from the war. These predictions, however, as far as Ontario is concerned, and as far as one specific branch of the woman's suffrage question is concerned, have not been fulfilled. The votes taken in a number of Ontario towns this week favoring the extension of the municipal franchise to married women if they were otherwise qualified, is most significant. The plebiscites were carried in all the places they were submitted, including Strathroy, Guelph, Thamesville, Orangeville, Clinton, Bracebridge and North Bay. These results simply confirm the vote recorded in Toronto last year when, on the same question, 26,288 votes were polled in favor, against only 12,575. Requests for this legislation have also come from the government from a large number of places throughout the province.

The municipal franchise for married women, otherwise qualified, is one of the planks in the liberal platform and Mr. Rowell's view is expressed thus: "With the possible single exception of tax reform, we have not had in recent years, a greater demand presented to this house in favor of any legislation than the demand in favor of this proposal."

It is interesting to note in connection with the majorities in favor of this measure, recorded this week, that it is only a few weeks ago that Premier Hearst, around the resignation of a deputization of women who had come to see him asking for this reform, but who found that Mr. Hearst had suddenly left for Ottawa, and was not there to receive them. It looks as if the new administration is going to be as hostile as the old to this reform, which, as repeated votes are showing, is one of the popular issues of the day.

BEYERS WAS FREED

BY CAPE POLICE WHEN HE WAS IN THEIR POWER.

Remarkable Story of Rebel Commander's Escape Prior to Drowning Comes From South Africa.

London, Jan. 6.—How ex-Commandant-General Beyers was arrested while motoring on the yacht, then released by the police, only to meet his fate by drowning later on, is a strange story which comes from South Africa.

According to the story, published in a South African paper, Beyers was in a motor car with three companions near Bloemfontein when the car was challenged by a motorcyclist patrol, Beyers, wearing a red handkerchief wrapped around his face, suggesting toothache.

The party first tried bluff, but with a rifle facing them, they produced a safe conduct document, part English and part Dutch, signed by Commandant Lemmer, of the Transvaal Union, allowing passage to the residence of ex-President Steya of the Orange Free State. Not satisfied with this, the patrol insisted that the party proceed to the nearest farm, where he handed them over to the Cape Mounted Police, but, to his surprise, the police allowed the party to go to its destination, yet within a few weeks Beyers was again fighting union forces and lost his life while crossing a river. The Eastern Province Herald strongly criticized the union government on the subject, demanding a full and immediate announcement on the matter.

War Tidings.

The Russians are conducting a series of violent frontal attacks on the Austrian positions along the Danube river, east of Cracow, and are bending their every effort to push toward the fortress, which has been their goal for two months.

Writing to a friend in Vancouver, an officer on the steamer Empress of Japan, which in November was doing patrol duty off Manila Harbor, says that Americans in the Philippines were constantly breaking neutrality laws by helping German ships to get away with supplies.

German soldiers chained to mitrailleses to prevent their retreating under French shells, is the latest instance of what the intruders, which received the details in a letter from a French artillery officer, calls the German officers' barbarity towards their soldiers.

Englishmen returning from employment from the Baku industries, and the Donetz collieries region, have reached Kiev on their journey to England in order to enlist in the new army. They resigned good positions when they learned of the bombardment of the English coast.

"See London in War Time" is the principal inducement which a number of hotels will soon offer to their old American patrons in advertisements that will be printed in the United States.

A remarkable telegram from Overpeit, in Belgium, states that all young Belgians available for 1914, 1915, and 1916 levies, have been ordered by the German commander to present themselves at the town hall for enrolment in the German army. A Norwegian merchant-captain, who has just returned here from Gibraltar, says the Hamburg-American liner Gracina attempted to cross the Atlantic flying the Norwegian flag, and under the name of Bjorgrvin, but that she was stopped by a British cruiser which discovered that her real name had been painted over. The cruiser thereupon took the steamer as a prize to Gibraltar. The steamer carried a cargo of provisions for the German warships in the Atlantic.

Paris Illustration makes a feature of an article on Japanese intervention written by Jadre Cheradame, well-known author and journalist. M. Cheradame declares that Japanese intervention is certainly not indispensable, as victory for the allies through their own efforts is certain. He says, however, that the matter should be considered solely from the viewpoint of shortening the infinite sufferings of the war.

WENT IN FOR SWINE.

Canadian West Quadrupled Stocks in Fourteen Years.

Toronto, Jan. 6.—While the growth in cattle in the Canadian west has been encouraging, the increase in the swine industry has gone forward with leaps and bounds. In fact the outstanding feature of the year just closed, from the production side, is the output of swine in the prairies. The total reached approximately 2,000,000, compared with less than 1,000,000 a year ago, 241,734, in 1901, 101,224, in 1891 and 36,974 in 1881. The experience of the western hog producers during the year just closed was unfortunate. They extended production in view of the profitable United States market, and at the height of the shipping season an embargo was placed on hogs. On the value however, the western farmer made money in hogs. Last year's experience brought another issue to the front which calls urgently for the immediate attention of the federal government. A market must be deliberately fostered for the agricultural products of Canada if production is to be materially enlarged.

Federal Possibility in London.

London, Ont., Jan. 6.—The unexpected defeat of Mayor Graham may result in his becoming a candidate for the federal seat made vacant by the death of Major Beattie. The liberals will likely nominate George S. Gibbons, son of Sir George Gibbons, Controller Percy Moore, is reported to be favored by many conservatives in preference to ex-Mayor Graham.

Waterworks For Brantford.

Brantford, Jan. 6.—By a majority of over 1,200 the rate-payers endorsed a by-law calling for the expenditure of \$100,000 to complete the local waterworks system. Immediate employment will be given to a large number of men.

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BOYS' OVERCOATS For boys 10 to 16 years, \$7.50 values.

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FOR \$2.35

See Our BOYS' WOOLLEN STOCKINGS 35c Heavy ribbed wool worsted hosiery, sizes 7 1/2 to 10.



BOYS' SUITS Norfolk and Reefer style, bloomer pants; sizes 28 to 33. Regular \$6.00 and \$6.50 values FOR \$4.50

BOYS' SUITS Norfolk style, sizes 28 to 34. Regular \$8.50, \$9 and \$10 values FOR \$6.00

BOYS' WOOL SWEATERS Regular \$1.00 values FOR 50c.

BOYS' UNDER WEAR Regular 35c and 40c values FOR 25c.

BOYS' KNITTED TOQUES 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c.

BIBBYS : 78-80-82 Princess St.

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A safe, reliable regulating medicine. Sold in three dosages of strength—No. 1, \$1; No. 2, 50c; No. 3, 25c per box. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Free pamphlet. Address: THE COOK MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, ONT. (Incorporated in Canada.)



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.

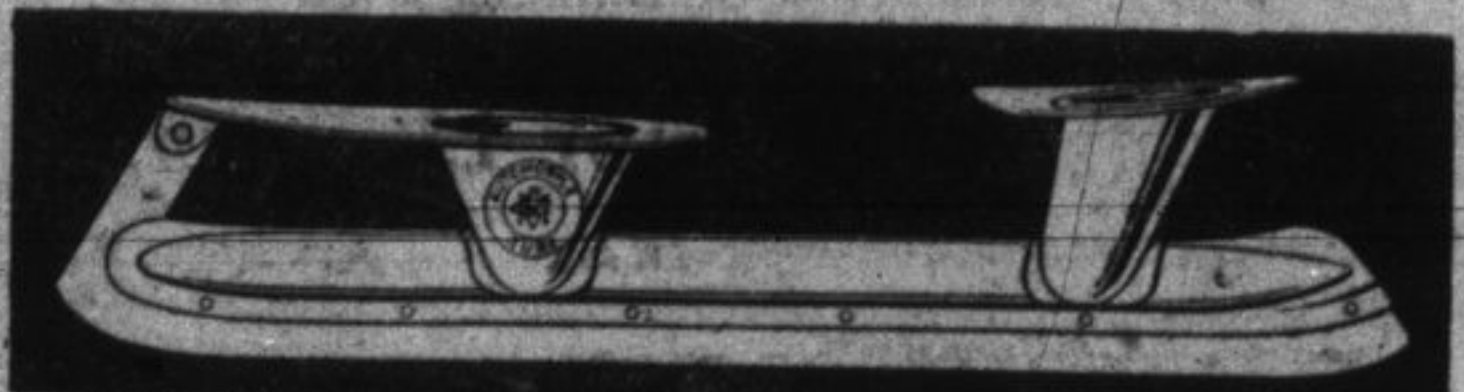
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