

The British Whig



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QUESTIONS OF FINANCE.

The Canadian Municipal Journal contains a letter from a well-known lawyer, Mr. Long, of Malone, Malone & Young, Toronto, respecting the conditions under which bonds or debentures should be issued by a city. Four suggestions are made by Mr. Long: (1) That the legislatures of the various provinces should be asked to enact that trusts and companies as well as the municipalities be allowed to invest in the securities of any province; (2) that there should be a limit to the indebtedness of a municipality; (3) that the term of the debentures should not be confined, as now, to the sinking fund plan and the plan of providing for the payment of debentures by annual instalments; and (4) curtailment or elimination of bonuses to industries.

BRITAIN HAS SPOKEN.

Sir Edward Grey, Britain's foreign minister, has replied formally, and in a friendly way, to the complaint of the United States, that her trade has been unduly interfered with in the interests of the belligerents. The document is such an one as Sir Edward Grey would induce. It is able, clear, and conciliatory. The statistics available under the circumstances, during the stress of war, are not as complete as Britain would like them to be, but they are full enough to show that America's trade has not suffered very much, and that the abnormal shipment of supplies in certain neutral countries, suggest a service of Germany which is not commendable.

LLOYD-GEORGE AT HIS BEST.

M. Jean Longuet, socialist deputy for Paris, while in London, called on the chancellor of the exchequer, re-named the "Golden Chancellor," because of the readiness with which he has raised the vast sums necessary to meet the expenses of war. The French deputy knew that Britain was doing prodigious things but he was surprised when told by the chancellor that Britain was spending as much as France, notwithstanding the relative smallness of the first army she sent to Flanders. The monthly expenditure is now £45,000,000.

M. Longuet asked how that could be seeing that Britain's force at the front was scarcely one-sixth that of France. "England," said the chancellor, "has at present 2,000,000 sailors and soldiers under arms. This system will shortly add 500,000 to the number on active service, the flower of the empire, between 21 and 36 years."

A REPROACH TO FARMERS.

Under the direction of Ontario's department an advanced course in agriculture was opened in the old institute building on Monday, and with an attendance of students which was discouragingly small. Agriculture may be learned upon the farm, but the training will be unscientific and faulty. No man can act as a safe and progressive teacher, no matter how devoted he may be, who has not an academic training of some kind; and the father, or the son, in the county of Frontenac, who assumes that he knows it all, or that he cannot learn anything from experts, is surely befooling himself.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The men who advertise, judiciously and regularly, are doing "business as usual." They learn the trick once, and never forget it.

The mayor must not let all of his beautiful suggestions go into some pigeon-hole and be overlooked. He should adopt the follow-up system in civic affairs.

Germany has great siege guns which have made short work of any siege of fortified towns. But she has not had a monopoly of them. Britain and France are preparing to reduce Germany's fortifications to ashes. When this great war is over the

greater part of Europe will be a desolation.

The industrial classes are again falling off. A little more advertising may be necessary. It's wonderful how slow the Education Department and the Board of Education are to learn a very simple lesson.

New York proposes to feed the school children—in special restaurants. In Winnipeg the children are fed in the schools at a minimum of cost, and they are not made to feel that they are paupers.

The toll of the war is very heavy. Four thousand British officers lost. Very heavy. But inevitable from the British plan of officers leading the men. They inspire, by example. There is no drive with whips and revolvers.

No more paving—until we get a chance to see how our experiments work out. It is expedient also to find out just how much the city has put into the pavements it has. It takes a long time to round up some accounts.

The women of America have declared against war. And they are not going to stop with making demands. They are going to settle the issue, or help to settle it, at once. How? They don't say, and they shouldn't keep this thing a secret any longer.

Austria has had enough of the war. She would have pulled out of it long ago but for Germany. The Kaiser had an ambition to become a world's conqueror and had no compunction about using a sick old man, the Emperor of Austria, and that other sick man, the Sultan of Turkey.

Kingston Events Twenty-five Years Ago

The city has 50 men employed on the streets at present. R. H. Elmer spent this morning shaving sufferers of a gripe at their homes. Kingston was visited by a cyclone and barns and fences blowing down. Roll butter was sold to-day at 18c a pound.

Earl Grey's Story.

London Daily Telegraph. In proposing a vote of thanks to the Earl of Meath, who read a paper before the Colonial Institute last night, Earl Grey told of a conversation he had had on board a German ship, while on a voyage across the Atlantic, with a German whom, because of his outspoken advocacy of unpopular principles, he had invited to his cabin, and questioned as to the truth about German opinion and aspirations.

"If you want to know the truth," said the German, "there is, deep at the bottom of every German's heart, the desire to take away from you the country you are not strong enough to hold. Can you wonder? Two hundred years have we been hungering. We have only comparatively lately enjoyed the sensation of a full stomach. We are hungering again, and it is you who are preventing our appetite being satisfied. We have seen France and Russia and England always getting something, and we, with the finest army in the world and the second best navy, get nothing."

It's The Navy That Does It.

Westminster Gazette. It is one of the commonplaces of this war that the operations of the navy are silent and invisible. Little imagination is, however, required to realize the contrast in the present conditions at the five greatest ports of Europe. Rotterdam, nominally a Dutch port, but three-fourths German in its service, is languishing on a fraction of its ordinary trade. Antwerp is entirely cut off from its world trade, and any slight ripple on the Scheldt arises from the navigation of small vessels as barges transferring to Germany cotton and other goods "lifted" by the enemy from the warehouses in the Belgian port. The magnificent port of Hamburg affords but a palatial prison for its own liners that were at its quays when war broke out, whilst a few small craft dart furtively across the Baltic to the Elbe from Sweden and Denmark with such parcels of merchandise as can elude the vigilance of the cruisers of the allies or the prohibitions of neutrals. But the trade of London and Liverpool in ever-increasing volume flows in and out with ease, enjoying as much freedom and security as in peace time, and the only problems are to find space and labor for what comes, and for what we know is coming in the immediate future.

Gave Back Fans.

Renfrew Mercury. The Kingston Whig reproves those young ladies of the Limestone City who gave umbrellas as Christmas gifts. It reminds them that umbrellas form no part of a real soldier's kit. The strange thing about it is that snow lay deep upon the ground at the time, Kingston having a deal more of the "beautiful" than Renfrew, while the thermometer was registering about twenty-five degrees below zero. If any Renfrew non-com. at Kingston received one of these gifts on December 25th he would probably give it in return on January 1st.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

When a man boasts of being slow but sure we are at least sure about the slow part!

Occasionally a man is foolish enough to try to run an automobile on a trolley car income.

Maybe So. Some folks I know will stretch the truth. But, then, perhaps they've found There's little of it in the world. And they wait that to go round. —Judge.

An Important Point. A city girl was taking a course in an Agricultural College. After a lecture on "How to Increase the Milk Flow," she rose for a question. "How long," she blushing inquired, "must one beat a cow before she will give whipped cream?" —Judge.

Not For Safety First. "I'd come over to kiss you, only I'm afraid of upsetting the boat." "I can swim, Herbert!" —London Opinion.

A Convenient Route. "Pardon me, but how can I get quickest to the zoological collection?" "Better get yourself stuffed." —Jugend.

The Cards Are Out. "Algernon has stopped talking about his platonic friendship for Vanessa." "Well, he had to get busy. Another fellow came along and got interested in the girl." —Chicago Herald.

Retreating in Disorder. "Who was that tough looking chap I saw with to-day Hicks?" "Be careful, Parker! That was my twin brother." "By jove, old chap, forgive me! I ought to have known."

Nice Name. "What is domestic science, hey?" "That's just a little quirk. To keep from scaring girls away. Who don't like kitchen work."

Just Like Him. "My husband is just like our furnace," sighed Mrs. Bink. "All day he smokes and at night he goes out."

Hard to Find. "Why do you shift around so?" "I'm trying to find a section of landscape," explained the artist, "that includes no telegraph pole."

Disturbing the Peace. "If any man in mood forlorn should lift a public wall Like that of any auto horn He'd surely land in jail."

Shylock. "Can any one in the audience lend me a \$10. gold piece," asked the prestidigitator. "On what?" queried the pawnbroker in the third row.

A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love. —Basil.

Cheap. Mrs. Wyse—I bought a nickel coffee pot to-day. Mrs. Green—Mercy! It can't be any good for five cents.

Airy About It. Jack—It's a fine air castle you've built. How do you propose to get into it, by airship? Tom—No; by hearse.

With Compounded Interest. So you have left the Theosophical Society? "Yes. One of the members kept dunning me for \$10 which he claimed to have loaned me in a previous incarnation."

A Veteran's Experience. The chief was interviewing the young man who had applied for work. "Have you had any experience in the lunch business?" he asked. "Why, I should say so," replied the energetic youth. "I've been lunching for almost twenty years." —Lippincott's.

No Long Term Wished. "May I say just one word before you impose sentence?" asked the street railway magnate. "Well, what is it?" snapped the court. "Please, remember, your honor, that you are imposing sentence and not granting me a franchise," he cautioned, fearing for the worst. —Buffalo Express.

Stupid Sill.

Jackson and Johnson are not now on speaking terms. It all arose as the result of an argument which required some mental calculation. "I tell you," said Jackson, "that you are altogether wrong in your conclusions." "Defend me, but I am not," replied Johnson. "Didn't I go to school, stupid," almost roared his opponent. "Yes," was the calm reply, "and you came back stupid." —New York World.

Against the Rules.

The new attendant stood sentry at the door of the local picture gallery. Presently a visitor strolled up and was about to enter, when the attendant seized him by the arm and asked him for his walking stick. "My walking stick?" exclaimed the man, astonished. "I have not got one." "Then you must go and get one," replied the attendant. "My orders

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Advertisement for Farms For Sale. T. J. Lockhart, Real Estate and Insurance. Bank of Montreal Bldg. Kingston, Ont. Phone 1035 or 1020.

Advertisement for J. E. Mullen. 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. J. E. MULLEN, Cor. Princess and Clergy Streets, Kingston. Phone 1417.

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