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SEED YEAR.



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LIVE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Whig's cartoonist this week deals with the Boards of Trade, which in some cities are composed of the men who are most active and useful in every walk of life. The cartoonist pictures the Board at luncheon where the members talk over business matters and boost the things for the time being that demand the most attention.

Kingston is not large enough to maintain a restaurant in connection with its Board of Trade, and so its business men do not come together at luncheon as often as they do in the larger cities. But the city is large enough to maintain a live Board of Trade, and a Board whose members are keenly alert with regard to every ambition of the hour. It could have an occasional luncheon just as well as the Canadian Club and have addresses from business men, in town and out-of-town, on current questions.

The produce dealers of Ontario, a fine, jolly, healthy lot, met in Belleville on Wednesday, and talked over many things of mutual interest. Their sessions were confined to business propositions, or propositions affecting their trade. It was shop talk, all of it, but mightily interesting and edifying. The Whig heard two of these producers discuss cheese and butter, how to buy and keep them, in all their taste and tone, and in a way that would delight the heart of any housekeeper.

Evidently there is, in connection with every business, a whole lot that even some men who are engaged in it do not know, and they get wiser when they come into contact with others, who, out of their vast experience and reading, are capable of lending new interest to any subject.

MORE ON CHURCH UNION.

Two members of the Presbyterian Church, writing to the Presbyterian, deplore the possibility of failure in the union of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches. They knew this because of the great necessities of the West, where the vote, too, by the way is very much in favor of a union. The vote has been overwhelmingly against union in the far East, where the communities are pretty well served religiously and where the need of co-operation between the church bodies is not so apparent.

In the West the circumstances are different and the opinions of A. G. Sinclair, a very thoughtful man, are set forth in this persuasive way: "The conditions of pioneer life have thrown the settlers together. They have had to help each other fight their common battles. They have waited patiently for, struggled for, and perhaps fought for the public schools. It is one great institution that draws the community together. His own children cannot see why they should be separated in church and Sunday school from their playmates and schoolmates of the week. And the Westerner begins to wonder why, when everything else in the West seems to draw him and his neighbors together, religion should be the one great divisive influence. No wonder that the bare prospect of a united church has produced already union churches in so many communities. The West has at last caught the vision of a community church. It is convinced that such a church alone can meet the religious and social needs of its neighborhood. And so at bottom this demand for unity is no eager desire of a money-loving people to get relief

tion cheap. It is our hunger for a modern communion of the saints."

Another writer, W. C. Murray, goes further, and suggests the union of the churches in the West because of its necessity. But that seems to be an impossibility. No Church, Methodist or Presbyterian, will willingly let go any of its agencies for the purposes of union, since that would seem like abandoning them; and yet the Church, whether Methodist or Presbyterian, cannot stifle the growth, ambition, and progress of its members in the West through the action and emotions of the people in the East. Evidently the Church Union question has not lost any of its pungency through the lapse of time in the West.

LATE CAPTAIN RICHARDSON.

Patriotism is not the attribute of any class or condition. It is the richest inheritance of a nation, and is bequeathed to all through whose veins flows the red blood of nobility. This patriotism does not need to be stirred by special appeals from the heralds of King and country. It is only necessary to sound the tocsin of war and the patriots line up for duty. They act at once, without waiting to consider and measure the contingencies that confront them.

Captain George T. Richardson possessed the spirit of the citizen and soldier. He was, therefore, among the first to volunteer his service to King and country. His was an inspiring example, and appears to have influenced a good many who later fell in behind the colors. He typified hundreds in Canada and England who left their all—friends, loved ones, place, power, wealth—in order to do their duty to the nation. He was a busy man. He had many interests that needed his close attention. A thousand responsibilities rested upon him. He could have pleaded that others better than he could be spared. But he heard the call for recruits, and, laying aside everything that stood in the way, enlisted for active service abroad.

His record for the year has been written. It constitutes a luminous page in the history of the war. Captain Richardson was not only high-minded and honorable in his character. He was valorous in his spirit. He was chivalrous in his nature. He fought a good fight. He suffered injury in one engagement, yet he kept in the field, making up as far as he could, by increased devotion, for the losses of other men. He won distinction, but he won that which he valued the more, the appreciation of his country and the gratitude of his fellow men. He really consecrated his life to the duty of the hour, and, falling, leaves a name which is to be treasured above anything else by his family and friends.

Kingston has lost within a few days two splendid citizens and soldiers—Col. Duff and Capt. Richardson. They went out from the city with a full sense of what their commission meant. They counted the cost. They dedicated themselves to the cause they espoused, and their self-sacrifices will not, and cannot, be forgotten.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

How many Capt. Richardsons are there in Kingston? The heroism of the one should call out the others and make them rally to the colours.

The pharmacists want legislative authority to discipline those of their number who offend the executive. No. None of that. If there is to be any disciplining let it be done by some unbiased and unaffected official.

W. H. Sharpe, formerly a member of the Commons, becomes a Senator. He gets his reward. Probably it was promised to him. As a candidate for Lisgar, in the local house, he was defeated and was afraid of running for the Commons again.

The Ontario Municipal Association has overwhelmed the local government with suggested amendments to the Municipal Act. Pretty late with their programme. What on earth has the association been thinking of during the last three months?

The Senate was most amiable in meeting the request of the Commons and passing the Extension of Parliament Act. First thing we know there will be apologies to the venerables for calling them bad names last session.

Hon. Walter Scott, the premier of Saskatchewan, before leaving Montreal on Thursday, said that the banner province, agriculturally, would, for last year's crop, yield 200,000,000 bushels of wheat. Here's wealth on a prodigious scale.

The Ottawa Journal refers to the complaints, and specifications, re: the munition contracts, on the part of the Manufacturers' Association, as "foolishness." The letter by Secretary Murray is wisdom itself beside the criticism of the Journal.

President Wilson and his Secretary of War have differed on public policy and the Secretary has, retired. Embarrassing to the President at this time, but he is not discouraged, and does not abandon or change

PUBLIC OPINION

Thanks For That.  
(Hamilton Spectator)  
Thank heaven! We are to be spared having a war of ballots projected into the war of bullets!

Only a Step.  
(Toronto Globe)  
Austria may be alarmed over the destruction of the big gun works at Skoda. It is only a step from Skoda to skiddoo.

Closely Allied.  
(Toronto Star)  
As one of the speakers said at Brampton: "First there was a painted horse and now there is a white-washed candidate."

Princes Bowled Out.  
(Montreal Mail)  
Prince Oscar of Germany is out of the war with a weak heart, and the Crown Prince is out of it with a weak head.

Very Probable.  
(London Advertiser)  
An aeronaut has been sued for \$50,000 for stealing a lady's affections. He must have got her dizzy with his high-flying love terms.

No One Punished.  
(Hamilton Times)  
"If any man has been a thief in these days he will not be sheltered," says Sir Charles Davidson. But so far none of the grafters have been punished.

The Reverse of Weakening.  
(Westminster Gazette)  
We are not weaker, but far stronger, both on land and sea, than when the war began. We have the utmost confidence that we shall ultimately prove the stronger.

Can't Be Trusted.  
(Toronto World)  
Judged by his kind, no German, no matter how long he has been in Canada, can be trusted, and we must take the needful measures to protect ourselves accordingly.

CONSERVATIVE PRESS.

Borden's Only Chance.  
(Toronto Telegram)  
An immediate appropriation of \$50,000,000 should be made to lay the foundations for a great production of shells by establishing fuse plants in Montreal and Toronto and other centres, and by greatly increasing the manufacture of cordite, nitro-cellulose and high explosives, for which Canada produces nearly all the requisite raw materials.

If Sir Robert Borden rises from smallness of size, from weakness to strength immediately, the whole British position will be strengthened, the whole German position will be weakened, and the Canadian people will feel that at last we are on the road to industrial triumph at home. Canada, is now in the strategic industrial position to force a triumph which shall be worthy of Canada's soldiers at the front, a triumph that will send a thrill of confidence and gratitude throughout the

LIBERAL PRESS.

Why The Delay?  
(Ottawa Free Press)  
It is about time that Sir Adam Beck and his Hydro-Electric Commission would turn their attention to Ottawa. On the first of the year the new order of the Ontario Government that municipal electric departments should be managed by a commission instead of by the board of control came into effect.

On that date the board of control ceased to have jurisdiction over our electric departments but through the dereliction of the powers in Toronto no other authority has taken its place.

For over a month the department has been without any control. The city has already borne its share—its two commissioners, Mayor Porter and Mr. Ellis are waiting in Ottawa to wait indefinitely while the Ontario Government settles its internal difficulties, before its representative on the commission is appointed.

INDEPENDENT PRESS.

Active Police Service.  
(Montreal Star)  
The question whether we in Canada are suffering from the tail-end of the German cyclone campaign of "trickiness" is a matter for police investigation. Munition plants are really the only points at which we can be hit effectively; and it ought not to be hard to guard them very carefully. To suppose that we can be frightened away from fighting as to every Legislative Chamber in the Dominion, is simply ludicrous. If it should be proven, for example, that the Germans set fire to the Parliament Buildings, that fact would be worth fifty thousand recruits in a week's time.

KINGSTON EVENTS

25 YEARS AGO  
The girl's night school is poorly attended. The Portsmouth breakwater has been completed. The little boom in this district has started. Assays have been made of several samples secured in Frontenac county.

THE PEOPLE ARE UNITED.

Toronto News.  
A Liberal correspondent asks The Daily News what more Liberals in Ontario could do to stimulate recruiting and express devotion to Canada and the Empire in the tremendous time through which we are passing. Frankly, we think of nothing. As between Liberals and Conservatives in Ontario since the war began there is no distinction or division. We have been a united people in support of the war and in all that concerns its energetic and successful prosecution. If there is more to be done the answer should come, not from Liberals alone, but from the people without regard to race, creed or party.

A mass meeting at Berlin, Ont., proposes to change the name of the town to something less German. Progress is never made by the one who follows the "wait-till-to-morrow" plan.

RANDOM REELS

"Of Shoes and Ships, and Sealing Wax, of Cabbages and Kings."

LINCOLN.

One hundred and seven years ago to-day Abraham Lincoln was born. He started in life as so many eminent Americans have done, as a poor boy, with a wardrobe consisting of a calico skirt and a pair of reinforced overalls. His parents were poverty-stricken Kentuckians, and lived in a cabin which had a perfect system of ventilation, admitting fresh air, rain, hailstones and snow with entire impartiality. The school advantages in Kentucky in 1809 were very poor and the young Lincoln had to educate himself on the installment plan with the aid of an open fireplace and a cast-iron will. When one looks at Lincoln and sees how much he accomplished without taking the foot-candle of learning, the thought arises: Why send boys away to college and have them return in their freshman year with the same degree of air pressure that they left home with? Lincoln took part in the Black Hawk war and had a chance to see how the red brother behaves when fired by patriotism, and red liquor. He then settled in the State of Illinois and practised law with so much energy that he was sent to Congress.

Rippling Rhymes

UNAPPRECIATED  
The young man labored hard at home, and writes a story or a poem, and hoping to receive long green, he sends it to a magazine. Then back it comes, by early mail, and how that writer makes his wail! The editors are all combined to bar that great and fertile mind! Or else they didn't read his stuff, but calmly set it down as guff, and shipped it back with his own stamps—what wonder tears are in his lamps? I used to talk that way myself, when viewing bundles on the shelf of tales and other gems of thought which editors returned as rot. But, friend, the editors were right! The editors are mostly white, and if they see in man or dame a symptom of the genius flame, they do not douse the glowing spark with bitter sneer or cold remark, but try to fan it to a blaze, and nourish it with smiles and praise. (These metaphors, of course, are mixed, but when I've time I'll have them fixed.) The editors, all over this sphere, are looking year by year, to find the writers who can write, and finding one brings keen delight. So, if you cannot sell your junk, it is because the junk is punk.



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