

The British Whig 33RD YEAR.



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"ORGANIZED STUPIDITY."

Mr. Bickerdike, M.P., has labored hard and earnestly for several years to secure the abolition of capital punishment. He has made speeches in the Commons and has impressed his fellow-legislators very much.

In New York the electric chair has replaced the hangman's noose and death trap and generally the electrocution of criminals is a painless proceeding. Yet successive warden at Sing Sing Prison have declined to witness the imposition of the death penalty because they are conscientiously opposed to it.

There was not only this official disapproval of capital punishment, but there was the reference to it as "organized stupidity" by the warden's secretary in addressing the company who had been summoned to witness the death penalty.

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HOME FOR INCURABLES.

For many years there has been an agitation, or a demand, for two things—an institution or resort for the mentally inefficient and a home for incurables. Very slowly public sentiment has been forcing itself upon the Government.

So far there is no sign of concern or concession with respect to the incurable. Every hospital in the land is crowded with them.

The result is the desire to shift the care of the unfortunate to other institutions, and, truth to tell, there is no place outside of the hospital where the incurables can get the care which they need.

Public opinion is sound upon the question as to what should be done, but it is not assertive enough, and does not impress itself upon the Government. The gospel of healthfulness, so far as the weak, unfortunate, helpless and incurable, are concerned, should be preached by every well-wisher of his race, and preached persistently and until relief is afforded.

GHOST OF PARTY MILL.

Now Sir Thomas White may not have contemplated the appointment of an army of officials in connection with his new taxes, and yet he must have realized that he would need a great many if the law were to be fairly enforced.

Bain, who was the Commissioner of Customs at Ottawa for a good many years. Speaking at Montreal, and before one of the local clubs, upon the subject Mr. Bain estimated that at least 2,000 collectors would be necessary; and efficient or competent men can hardly be got for less than \$1,000 per year.

THE BOYS' CRANCE.

Every growing and healthy boy wants a chance to rise, in the world, to demonstrate his usefulness, to fit into some place in life where he can feel that he is fulfilling his destiny.

AGRICULTURE.

The Agricultural Gazette for February has been published, and in it one finds the results of the acre prizes competitions which took place in 1915. In every county where the Agricultural Department is represented there are several courses in the Agricultural College, with all expenses, including transportation and board.

In 1915 there was only one young man from Frontenac at the College enjoying this free course, and he made a record for himself in the growth of potatoes and oats. In potatoes he cleared \$9.87, and in oats, \$19.78.

SCANDALS IN THE WEST.

The Opposition in the Saskatchewan Legislature has been boring for sensations as one bores for oil in a neighboring province. The Bradshaw faction has been developing its power for a long time, but at last it has decided to fire the well and let it gush.

GOOD ROADS.

Good roads are something which everybody wants for nothing. As there is nothing free in this country except elbow-room and the grip, the good roads movement is having hard work breaking any of the speed records.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The political uprising in British Columbia is of a general character. The local Government, which is opposed by the leading men in its own party, must be in a bad way.

Dining out.

Dining out will be less popular if the cooks be allowed to poison the soups which the people consume. The Jean Cranes are becoming too numerous for the public comfort.

INDEPENDENT PRESS.

What Britain Has Done. Mayor Walters should note the fact that Britain has raised and spent six billion dollars in the present war.

THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

The commission to investigate the high cost of living can find no evidence of a meat combine. But if the meat buyers agree to pay producers only so much for meat and then have the market to themselves, owing to tariff duties, there is no need for a combine.

CONSERVATIVE PRESS.

The Premier Advised. Let Sir Robert Borden manfully face the consequences entirely due to his own lack of robust leadership. Canada's Premier may be supported by a majority that would sustain Sir Robert Borden in refusing to ask J. W. Plaville, chairman of the Imperial Munitions Board, for the information demanded by the Laurier Opposition.

India's Loyalty.

In India nearly two hundred firms are lending machinery free of cost to the Government for the manufacture of munitions. That's all.

Making Money Fly.

The Manitoba Government has presented an aeroplane to the British Government. The Norris Government are making the money fly, too.

His One Answer.

The Government's high cost of living report had to be made public some time, but the man with food commodities to sell doesn't need it to refer to any more. He just says "the war," and lets it go at that.

Aberdeen's Change.

Lord Aberdeen, accidentally separated from the Countess down south, didn't have enough money in his clothes to pay for a meal. Really, Lady Aberdeen should allow her amiable spouse more pocket money.

Sweden's Part.

Sweden will warn her subjects of armed liners of the Allies, thereby playing Germany's hand once more. Stockholm is the only neutral capital remaining in which the Kaiser is the power behind the throne.

Canada's Wealth.

Isn't it surprising where all the money comes from? We didn't know we were so well off in this country.

Public Opinion.

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KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

A lot of pretty girls from Cape Vincent drove through the city today. The masons will start work on the tower at St. Mary's Cathedral as soon as possible.

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LORD DERBY.

Who is to co-ordinate British military and naval air defences.

TO AVOID THE GLARE.

To avoid the glare of the usual kind of headlights a French automobile is equipped with a number of incandescent lamps on a horizontal bar over the radiator, backed by individual reflectors.

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RECRUITS WANTED. The following is written by a woman who besides having her husband in khaki has forty-eight immediate relatives doing their "bit". Ah! boys don't pass that office Reward is sure but slow. Inside you'll find some khaki suits. Just ask for Colonel Low.

WHAT YOU NEED. Moccasins, Overshoes, Rubbers, Overgaiters, Felt Boots, Felt Slippers. The Sawyer Shoe Store. Cold Weather is Soup Weather. SNIDER'S TOMATO SOUP. Nothing to equal it in flavor—easily prepared—highly nutritious—16 oz. Tin only 12 1-2c at J. R. B. Gage, Phone 549, 254 Montreal St.

