

The British Whig



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Toronto Representative: H. E. Smallpiece, 32 Church St. N. E. Rep. Office, 325 Fifth Ave. New York City; Frank R. Northrup, Manager, Chicago; Frank R. Northrup, Manager.

SOME NOTABLE WORDS.

"I am not looking towards a coalition Ministry. I am not looking for a portfolio. But if, at the outbreak of the war, the Prime Minister had been inspired with highly patriotic motives he would have knocked at the door of the leader of the Opposition, the Nestor of the British Empire, the Senior Privy Councillor of the Dominion of Canada, and if he would not offer a coalition Government he might at least have said: 'I want your advice; let us put a stop to party politics and think only of the interests of the nation.'"

REFLECTS PUBLIC OPINION.

E. F. B. Johnston, K.C., Toronto, is not an active politician. He may be a Liberal, but he is one who has been thus far too much occupied with his profession to spend any of his time in the political arena. When Peel had disposed of the Falls case, and disposed of it in accordance with right and reason, Mr. Johnston made a few remarks and they are printed in the Toronto Star. Said he: "I think that the people of Canada generally are down on wrong-doing of any kind. The good sense of Canadians is also a high moral sense. I think that if there were an election for Dominion purposes to-morrow the same result would follow. The Government would be held responsible for the graft and wrong-doing of a lot of people in connection with war contracts. Whoever personal gain has been traced to a politician, or to a party, condemnation by the public has followed. We have had that in Quebec, Ontario, and other Provinces; we had a marked example in the C. P. R. scandal of many years ago. Honesty and morality have risen above party exigencies, and I think the same result would have followed had Falls been a Liberal instead of a Conservative."

There is no clamor now from the Conservatives for an election. They wanted it a year ago. They saw what was coming. The members of the Government, and Hon. R. Rogers more than some others, felt that they could not restrain the party if it was running away with them. It was crowding them into all sorts of improvisations, and there could be but one result. The masses, who are honest at heart, would not stand for wrong-doing—no flagrant, un-paralleled, and inexcusable wrong-doing—and that they would put an end to it all when they could. At least, they would give the members of the Government a foil they would never forget.

Mr. Johnston, a keen observer, and far-seeing man, is quite persuaded that an appeal to the people now would result in the overwhelming defeat of the Government and the success of the opinion of the average man.

A MISTAKE OF \$30,000,000.

When the Finance Minister made his budget speech he submitted the estimated expenditure of the coming year and it totalled about \$189,000,000. In referring to them Sir Thomas White said they were about \$30,000,000 in excess of the amount that would be required. When the House went into committee on these estimates Mr. Pugsley asked that the figures should be revised and the items which made up the \$30,000,000 eliminated.

The Premier's reply was that some of the excess represented the re-votes on account of various public works, and, said he, "My honorable friend, with his warm and sympathetic nature would not deny to the people

interested in some of these items the poor consolation of seeing them continued in the estimates when they have been approved by Parliament on more than one occasion. But Dr. Pugsley was not in a sentimental mood. His idea was that if the \$30,000,000 was not required they should be removed from the estimates, and it was farcical or unbusinesslike to keep them in.

Sir Robert Borden's plea was that as the different items were called it could be explained whether or not they would be proceeded with, and with that understanding the discussion continued. A number of items were challenged in vain. These included the expenses of the Conservation Commission, \$30,000; costs of International Joint Commission, \$10,000; suppression of the White Slave Trade, \$10,000; Administration of Justice, \$146,224.27; salaries of the Paris Agency, \$28,000, and expenses of litigated matters conducted by the Department of Justice, \$13,000.

The report with regard to all these items was that they would be wanted. At least several Ministers reported to that effect. Mr. Pugsley remarked respecting them, 'I would like to know where we are going to begin to save the \$30,000,000,' and Hon. Mr. Graham added: 'Each Minister will adhere to his estimate and the Finance Minister will finally have to explain to the country how he came to make the mistake in his budget of \$30,000,000.' None of his colleagues seemed prepared to help him to carry out his promise.

SCOTT IS NOT RUNNING AWAY.

Hon. Walter Scott, the Premier of Saskatchewan, has passed through Montreal en route to New York, there to take a steamer for Nassau, where he proposes to spend a short time for the benefit of his health. He travelled by way of Montreal in order to see a daughter, who is undergoing her education there; and he is going south in pursuance of an arrangement into which he entered about the beginning of the new year, and in accord with a practice which he has followed for many years. He is not a rugged man, and finds it necessary to look up a warmer climate during the weeks of early spring, and therefore cannot be accused, as he seems to have been, of running away from the dangers and difficulties that beset his Government at Regina.

Incidentally, while in Montreal he discussed the scandals which are now engaging the attention of committees and commissions at home. From him one gets an insight as to what the situation is. The plundering of the Road Department is an entirely official matter. Out of an expenditure of several millions of dollars there is said to be a deficit or deficiency of about \$50,000, and it has come about through the defalcations of a chief clerk, who had the custody of the accounts, and of the moneys in connection with them. When reference was made to irregularities in the Road Department, or the misapplication of money, the Government was not aware of the facts, nor could the representative of the Opposition, who seemed to have some light upon the subject, be induced to speak or reveal his information. He and his friends contented themselves by making vague references to certain serious contingencies which simply alarmed the guilty parties and allowed them to escape. Hence, the chief clerk and the banking official, who seems to have been co-operating with him, have disappeared. The Government is investigating this scandal through the help of a Royal Commission.

The alleged bribery of members of the Legislature in connection with the liquor legislation is a different issue. The liquor men seem to have subscribed large sums of money prior to the time this legislation came before the House. It was subscribed, no doubt, for a vicious and illegal purpose. It was disbursed through certain men who seem to have been called upon for an accounting of their expenditure prior to the exploitation of the scandals in the Legislature. The use of \$10,000 seems to have caused enquiries which were not satisfactorily met, and it may be that some of the charges against members of the Legislature, which have not so far been sustained, are due to the desire of the men handling these moneys to make some show of the manner in which they have been applied. It is significant to know that two members of the House, Messrs. Simpson and Pearce, alleged to have been bribed, have resigned their seats in the Legislature and asked the Attorney-General to take criminal proceedings against them. The Opposition demands, and contend that a Royal Commission should handle the cases. A much more direct and satisfactory result will be reached by the criminal prosecution which has been suggested.

Hon. Mr. Scott does not seem to be depressed or disheartened over the outlook. He says he is not running away from the trouble, and would not be away from it if he regarded it as at all alarming. Before he left upon his trip, which had all been arranged for, and which he could not defer, he had as far as possible

made arrangements for a full and impartial investigation into all the facts. He would be disappointed in his Liberal friends all over the Dominion if he took any other course. He has been regarded as an honest man, and he claims to be surrounded by honest men. Of course, honest men may err and make serious mistakes, and it is for the committees and commissions which are being appointed to report at a later date upon their findings, and to give verdicts or reports which will sustain or otherwise the splendid reputation which this leader of Liberalism in Saskatchewan has maintained.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Verdun was captured in 1870 in six weeks. It was not fortified then as it is now. Above all it was not surrounded by rows of trenches that defy the big guns of to-day.

A syndicate at Hanley, Sask., has gone down 1,670 feet in their search for oil and they are still boring. It is about time to conclude that they are boring in the wrong place.

Can a soldier be pressed for a debt contracted before his enlistment and for a sum less than \$150? A judge in Montreal has this matter under consideration and will give his decision shortly.

Suppose Britain, which has a navy, retalates and destroys all ships, armed and otherwise, and which are bound for Germany or laden with goods for Germany? The deceptions of the neutrals would suddenly cease.

Now it is the bankers of Canada who are protesting against Canada's new taxes, particularly as they go back two years to a time when no one was anticipating the war. It makes third parties pay in taxes profits which have already been dissipated or paid out in other directions. The current discontent seems to spread and swell.

PUBLIC OPINION

Regiment of Colonels. (Windsor Record.) Too bad there aren't enough commissions for everybody so that we might recruit a battalion of colonels.

It Has Come. (London Advertiser.) The Crown Prince should be careful. When he has bent that French line as far as it will go, there will come the rebound.

They Don't Do It. (Hamilton Times.) As we understand the function of bilingual schools, it is to teach the children a knowledge of both languages. Do the French-Canadians object to that?

Germany's Good Faith. (Toronto News.) Canadians appreciate President Wilson's difficulties, but why is it necessary in his Notes to credit the Germans with "good faith and fidelity to their promises"? The only reasonable explanation is that he is a humorist and uses such expressions

RANDOM REELS

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

THE COLD BATH. The cold bath is a recipe for imparting a gloss finish and goose pimples to the human hide. While looked upon by the thoughtfulness as a fad of society, it is in reality a great public boon, as it encourages the free and unrestricted use of soap and water in quarters which heretofore have been able to wiggle along on one weekly application.

The cold bath was invented by a Napanese man of rash and impetuous nature, who was the victim of hay fever with all-weather tread. He had tried bathing and liked it first rate, but had never used it as a beverage. Upon the advice of his family physician, who had run out of pills and was afraid to operate, he originated the present pastime of leaping out of bed into a tub choked with ice, which caused him to forget his hay fever entirely. He became an enthusiastic advocate of the cold bath and lived to a ripe old age, surrounded by admiring relatives and mate relays of Turkish towels.

The purpose of the cold bath is to harden the skin so that when a germ strikes it a slanting blow it will skate off and fall harmlessly to the ground. Medical science has never found a way to ward off a germ which attacks human head on, which teaches us that on seeing a germ approaching we should turn the other cheek. Thousands of people who have been laid low by the grip germ would have escaped entirely if they had been attacked in the cheek. The cold bath will harden the cheek to a certain extent, but in most instances it is a superfluous remedy. The cold bath should be taken every morning before breakfast and followed immediately afterward by the last will and testament. The water should be allowed to stand in some exposed spot until it has grown two inches of ice, which will not interfere with the bath or the card of thanks. This is the only kind of a cold bath that will impart to the bath a glaze like the surface of a side-saddle. Stone men can substitute in the form of an abluton performed in front of a red-hot stove with a wash cloth, but this is a base imitation which cannot be too highly condemned.

There would be fewer people left in the world if every deceiver had to take his own medicine.

Rippling Rhymes

THINK TWICE

Think twice before you mail the note in which you give your anger vent, in which you recklessly devote yourself to skinning some poor gent. For doubtless when your anger cools, you'll kick your spine up through your hat, and say, "I was the prince of fools to send a man such rot as that!" Think twice before you pass along the scandal that you heard last night; you may do some good man a wrong that years of effort can't set right. And though the story may seem, why rob a neighbor of his goat? For your own eye remove the beam, before you reach for another's mote. Think twice before you jaw your wife; there was a time, some years ago, when you declared you'd make her life as cheerful as a picture show. Alas, she took you at your word, as damns do and always did; and all her married years she's heard her husband yawning through his lid. Think twice before you do a thing your soul refuses to indorse; for every wicked act will bring the certain penalty, remorse!



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sarcastically in condemnation of the most ruthlessly faithless breed that ever dishonored the earth.

Different Then.

The (Sincere Reformer.) The architects say the Ottawa Parliament building can be repaired for \$1,500,000. But just wait until Bob Rogers' friends get through with those architects' estimates.

Mosquito Netting at Calgary. (Calgary Alberta.)

And while we are thinking about getting out the mosquito netting, the poor people in Eastern Canada are freezing. However, Alberta should touch wood before making plans for continuous spring weather.

Uncertain Increment. (Brentford Examiner.)

Why does the Finance Minister not follow the example of Lloyd George and get after what is known as "the uncertain increment"? It is to be said for excessive profits made in industrial enterprises that they are for the most part, the product of industry, while the profits of real estate gamblers are, for the most part, the product of idleness.

Britain's Great Army. (Montreal Star.)

Britain begins the campaign of 1916, putting an army of 3,000,000 trained men in the field and another million ready to be drawn upon as required. They are men mostly between the ages of 19 and 30 years of age, "the very classes now largely exhausted in the armies of the enemy."

It is only now, in 1916, that Britain is ready to rise up and enter the war on land with the forces of a great power. Germany's only hope lay in winning before Britain reach her present stage of readiness.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

J. H. Metcalfe, M.P.P. was in Brockville to-day, speaking on behalf of J. F. Wood.

The Reeve of Portsmouth wants a lighthouse on the end of the breakwater. Oscar Telgmann will put on the opera "Leo" for the benefit of the families of the miners at Springhill, N.S.

LIBERAL PRESS.

No Compromise Here. Toronto Globe.

In this Province the penalty had to be paid for temporizing with the liquor traffic and giving the bar-keepers a chance. The Liberals paid in full, and have made a new start. The Conservatives, in their turn, refusing to learn from the experience of their predecessors, have now to carry a Government bearing all the marks of moral bankruptcy, bled white by the bar-keepers, and leagued up for years with the degenerate liquor exploiters. Ontario's hard-earned advice to Saskatchewan is, Clean up!

Padding the Sheets. Toronto Globe.

The padding and forging of Saskatchewan's pay-sheets show that the day-labor system in public works construction is not an absolute guarantee against fraud. Gigantic frauds such as are accomplished under the contract system may not be possible, but there are opportunities for petty thefts that make formidable aggregations. The only safeguard is the refusal of public confidence to men who are unworthy.

Advertisement for Bibbys Limited. It features the text: 'We Meet and Beat All Catalogue Prices', 'KINGSTON'S ONLY CASH AND ONE PRICE CLOTHING HOUSE.', 'Sale of Boys & Children's Clothing', 'Children's Suits', 'Big Boy's Suits', 'Little Chaps Suits'. It also includes illustrations of a young boy in a suit and a girl in a dress.

Advertisement for Electric Irons. It features the text: 'Electric Irons', 'We are placing one sale for ONE WEEK ONLY, 150 Electric Irons. These Irons are guaranteed for 5 years. FOR ONE WEEK ONLY— \$2.50 Each', 'W. J. Moore & Son :: The Electric Shop'.

Advertisement for Libby's California Canned Fruits. It lists items: Pears, Peaches, Pineapples, Apricots, Black Cherries, Royal Anne Cherries, Green Gage Plums.

Advertisement for Porritt Garage Co., Limited. It features the text: 'Porritt Garage Co., - Limited', 'IN THE HEART OF KINGSTON CITY. Day, Night, 24 Hour and Winter Storage. Automobile Repairs, Expert Mechanics. Estimates Given; Inspections, Valuations, Chauffeurs Supplied. SECOND-HAND CARS BOUGHT AND SOLD.', '210-214 WELLINGTON STREET. KINGSTON. PHONE 454.'

Advertisement for Mrs. May's Letter to Women. It features the text: 'MRS. MAY'S LETTER TO WOMEN', 'More Proof that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Relieves Suffering.', 'Chicago, Ill.—"I suffered from a bad case of female ills. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was recommended and I took about six bottles. It fixed me up all right. The common symptoms of such a condition—pain when walking, irritation, bearing-down pains and backache, nervousness and disordered digestion—soon passed away. I look much better now than I did before, and I recommend the Compound every time for female troubles, as it did for me all it is claimed to do. You have my permission to publish this letter." Mrs. J. MAY, 3548 S. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.' 'If you have any of the symptoms mentioned in Mrs. May's letter, remember what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound did for her, and try yourself. It is a good old-fashioned medicine, made from roots and herbs, and it has helped countless numbers of women. If you need special advice, write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential), Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman, and held in strict confidence.' 'Dr. T. H. Crotty, Winnipeg, has been appointed western secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.' 'Woman suffrage will be made a live issue by the Liberals in the Ontario Legislature.'

Advertisement for 'KITCHENER' electric iron. It features the text: '"KITCHENER"', 'Is the name of the new Electric Iron made by the Canadian General Electric Co.', 'Under the new power rates, it will cost only 2 1-2 cents per hour to operate this iron.', '—FOR SALE AT—', 'Halliday's Electric Shop, Phone 94 845 King Street'.

Advertisement for Unique Grocery. It features the text: 'UNIQUE GROCERY: Good Tea, black and green... 30c lb. Sweet Blackberries... 3 lbs. 25c Maple Flavor Syrup, per qt... 30c Pickering's Perfection Baking Powder, per lb... 15c', 'PICKERING'S, 490 Princess Street. Phone 530.'

Advertisement for John M. Patrick. It features the text: 'JOHN M. PATRICK', 'Sewing Machines, Umbrellas, Suit Cases, Trunks, repaired and re-fitted, Saws filed, Knives and Scissors Sharpened, Razors honed. All makes of Fire-locks repaired promptly. All makes of Lawn Mowers sharpened and repaired.', '140 SYDENHAM STREET.' 'THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY, No. 1 & 2, N.B. Used in French Hospitals with great success. CURE CHRONIC AND ACUTE DYSURIA, GONORRHOEA, URETHRAL DISEASES, BLOOD POISON, PILES, RITERS, HAEMORRHOIDS OF ALL KINDS. POST & CO. FOODS, CO. N. B. REMEDIUM ST. NEW YORK, N.Y. U.S.A. SOLE IMPORTERS: WHITE FOX, PRINCE ROBERT ST. L.L. CLERIC MED. CO., HAVERTOCK RD., HAVERTOCK, LONDON, ENGL. LET NEW DRUGGISTS KEEP FORMS! EASY TO TAKE SAFE AND PAINLESS. LASTING CURE. SEE THAT TRADE MARK WORD "THERAPION" IS OF BRIT. GOVT. STAMP AFFIXED TO ALL GENUINE TABLETS.'

Advertisement for Washington. It features a portrait of a man and the text: 'WASHINGTON', 'First in War, First in Peace, First in the Hearts of His Countrymen.', 'OUR COAL', 'First in Thought, First in Favor, First in the Hearts of Our Customers.'

Advertisement for Crawford. It features the text: 'CRAWFORD, PHONE 9.', 'Foot of Queen Street.'