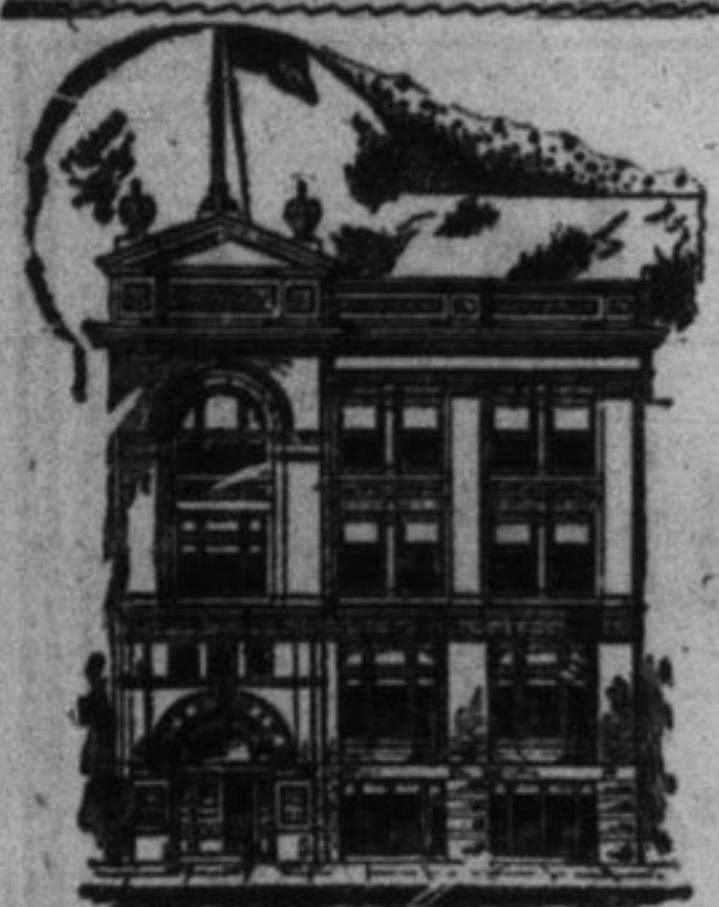


The British Whig
SEVENTH YEAR.



Published Daily and Semi-Weekly by
THE BRITISH WHIG PUBLISHING
CO., LIMITED.

J. G. Elliott President
Leman A. Guild Managing Director
and Sec.-Treas.

Telephones:
Business Office 343
Editorial Rooms 339
Job Office 332

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(Daily Edition)
One year, delivered in city \$12.00
One year, if paid in advance \$11.00
One year, by mail to rural offices \$12.50
One year, to United States \$22.50
(Semi-Weekly Edition)
One year, by mail, cash \$11.00
One year, if not paid in advance \$12.50
One year, to United States \$11.50
Six and three months pro rata.

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CITY PLANNING SCHEME.

The Board of Trade has appointed a committee which is composed of members of the Board and of the City Council, and for a service which is essentially civic in its character; and yet it is of a nature unlike the service in which any local Board or committee has so far engaged. City planning is a comprehensive term, and means most, if not all, that is represented by the City Improvement League of Canada. This is a new organization, quite recently launched in Ottawa, under the personal direction of the governor-general. Its object has been thus briefly set forth: "To promote the study and advance of the best principles and methods of civic improvement and development, to engage in each community those social forces which make for efficient Canadian citizenship, and to secure a general and effective interest in all municipal affairs." The new committee which has been suggested by the Board of Trade is not a branch of this League, but it can become such, and the Whig respectfully suggests an alliance for the sake of the helpful influences which are certain to flow from and follow it.

The late Alderman Wickett, Toronto, was present at the Toronto conference and submitted the platform of the League, and the regret is very general that he did not live to give it his further assistance. Alderman Wickett represents the men that are all too scarce in any community. He had rare administrative ability. He was a busy man, but in early life he consecrated a part of his time to the public service, and he was most faithful to every duty which was assigned to him. Only one in a thousand has his conception of a public trust. Hence the serious loss which the city felt by his removal.

Mr. Rowell thinks the pensions for the disabled should be adequate to the payments made to disabled working men under the Compensation Act. And he is right. He will be supported in this contention by every fair-minded man.

TEMPTING THE FATES.

The Whig has been sent a copy of the Berlin Telegraph, with an article by the North Waterloo Recruiting Committee in reply to Mr. Breithaupt, a prominent man who is opposed to the changing of the name of the city. The paper is accompanied by a writing to this effect: "Please speak out in behalf of the loyal minority of North Waterloo."

Berlin is the capital of the county which is largely populated by Germans and their descendants. These have prospered. They have, or many of them, an intense love of the Fatherland. Berlin was named after the capital of the Prussian Empire, and later the Germans had such an admiration for the emperor that they erected a monument or statue in his honor at considerable expense. They were good citizens of Canada until war broke out. Then they showed a sympathy with Germany which was most exasperating. They are not represented now in the recruiting of the local regiment and perhaps it is just as well.

Local conditions have suggested a change of the city's name, since the British do not want to be aggravated by the remembrance, through it, of the crimes and atrocities which have been committed by the German army. The council has had ground for ordering a registration of the aliens of all kinds, and so far 450, particularly Austrians, have been signed up. The plea of the German element, which is represented by Mr. Breithaupt,

is that the city was not named after the Berlin of the Old Land; that the Germans have contributed to the industrial wealth of the city; that by changing the name they will be subjects of public derision; and that they are proud of their race and want the question of the hour submitted to a vote of the people. "There is an air of bravado in all this, and it betokens the presence of the spirit that Canada cannot be expected to patiently tolerate. It may be that the Germans think they are being unduly humiliated when they are commanded to register at the City Hall, but they must remember that some diabolical things have been charged against representatives of their race in Canada, and that, as a consequence, they should be interned as the only safe proceeding. Mr. Breithaupt is very indiscreet in his appeals. He is surely tempting the fates.

Over 400,000 acres less than last year have been prepared for crops in the west. This means that the crops of this year will be lighter, and they should be heavier.

MR. CARVELL'S PROBE.

Mr. Carvell is one of the members of parliament whom some others in the seats of the mighty have a reason to fear and respect. His last criticism of the shells committee was scathing. Only one feature of it is referred to here—the part that concerns our esteemed friend, the Minister of Militia. It has been argued that an investigation by parliament is unwise because the imperial representative expressed himself as satisfied with the outcome of the case, with the change to a munitions board. Its members are agreeable to the Minister of Munitions. But Mr. Carvell read to the house letters and telegrams coupling the Minister of Militia with these contracts, and some of them of a particularly attractive kind.

When Sir Sam professed that he did not know of certain transactions, Mr. Carvell cited letters and telegrams, and told him where he could find them by an examination of his office. When Sir Sam questioned certain high prices which were referred to Mr. Carvell quoted from official documents. When Sir Sam said he did not pay three dollars each for certain shells Mr. Carvell said the shells committee did it, and Sir Sam was a member of that committee. When Mr. Carvell alluded to the extravagant statement that 22,000,000 pounds of copper had been put into Canadian munitions, and Sir Sam said he had never made the statement, it was read, not once, but twice. When Sir Sam said he had paid only \$1.50 for fuse, Mr. Carvell read from the public prints that he had paid \$2.28, and pointed to the order which had been given through the mysterious Col. Allison for millions of them in the United States at \$4.15.

And so on to the end of the chapter. One marvels at two things, the postagedness of Mr. Carvell in all these matters, and the forgetfulness of the Minister of Militia. It may be that Sir Sam Hughes does so much telegraphing that he fails to keep track of it, and he has the faculty of being quite sure that he did not do the things of which there is the documentary evidence. His assertions and his records contradict each other.

Sir Thomas White admits that his new loan of \$75,000,000 will meet ordinary expenditure as well as the war demands of 1916. The debt is rising rapidly.

SIR BORDEN'S APOLOGIES.

The apologies of the Borden government sometimes excite one's derision. The premier and his colleagues are always on the defensive. E. M. Macdonald stirred them up when he asked for a return showing what Canadian vessels or steamers had been pressed into coastal service, seeing that the country was without the help of the navy which had been authorized by the Act of 1910, with the concurrence of both the government and opposition at the time.

Sir Robert Borden did not oppose the motion, and it finally carried, but in the discussion upon it he admitted that his government had not done anything about the defence of the country, or with the creation of a Canadian navy with ships and men. How could he do this in the face of the compact he had made with the Nationalists and with several of them in his government until after the war broke out? His appeal was that the liberals were off with regard to the attitude of the Germans in 1911, that there was a real menace, and the evidence of it was the war itself. Granted that the liberals of Canada were deceived by the Germans in 1911, what about the liberals and the Tories, too, of Britain. The imperial government was deceived, and its wisacre, Winston Churchill, whom Sir Robert Borden quotes in long screeds from his scrapbook, was likewise deceived.

As a substitute for the Canadian navy, which he originally supported, Sir Robert was willing to give Winston three battleships costing \$10,000,000 each, to guard British interests in the North Sea, where there

is no menace and where there has not been any since the war began, while Canada has been at the mercy of the enemy. Canada in the east was menaced by German craft, and had to be protected by British cruisers, while one of the cruisers which had been purchased by the Laurier government was dismantled and out of commission. Had she been in the service she could have captured, as Mr. Macdonald said, half a dozen German ships and held them as prizes. Had the Pacific coast been guarded, as it would have been had the Laurier naval policy been carried out, the people of British Columbia would not have been terrified as they were by German craft, and Sir Richard McBride would not have bought a couple of discarded submarines at fabulous prices, and foisted them upon the federal government.

The question of the day is not what was said or expected or feared in 1911, but what happened in 1914-15, and what is happening now, with a government at Ottawa that is utterly unfitted for the duties of the hour. Sir Robert Borden's scrapbook story is sorry reading in view of the late German menace.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Von Tirpitz is said to be in need of a rest. Hasn't he been resting for nearly two years while his navy has been bottled up in the Kiel Canal?

What is the use of Canada West raising immense crops if the grain cannot be moved or sold? The federal government urges production, and does nothing, absolutely nothing, to help it.

Ex-Governor Brown, of Saskatchewan, now in Toronto, emphasizes the fact that the grain growers must be given the boon of the nearest and freest markets. The west will sooner or later be heard from in no uncertain voice.

The Toronto News suggests a new occupation for Baron Shaughnessy. It is to head a recruiting committee in Quebec. That is the place and function of a Minister of the Crown. Quebec is suffering from the Borden-Bourassa-Monk-Pelletier campaign of 1911. Those who sow to the wind must reap the whirlwind.

The farmers of the west have their grievances. They cannot get their grain moved, and cannot therefore sell it. Many are still suffering from the depression. Nature helped them with a bountiful crop, but the government and railway systems have failed to give them the transportation and markets which they need.

Sir Hugh Macdonald's birthday and the success of the prohibitionists in Manitoba, in voting in favor of the Act, came close together. Sir Hugh is sixty-seven years of age. He was a rising force in Manitoba until he was induced to retire from the local government in order to save, or seek to save, the Tupper government in

1896. He suffered by its fall. Salt-petre could not save it.

Villa's troubles—his invasion of the United States at southern points and the murder of certain Americans—is probably the result of German influence. The Kaiser's emissaries are getting back at the United States as the one assertive neutral power. President Wilson's course is the correct one. Villa and his murderous band must be exterminated.

PUBLIC OPINION

Who Is This Caruso?
(Philadelphia Public Ledger.)
The meeting of Caruso and Charlie Chaplin offers another opportunity to the historical painter.

Water In Plenty.
(Montreal Star.)
Winnipeg uses 7,750,000 gallons of water every day. But wait until prohibition comes this summer and see the figures boost!

The Highest Glory.
(Port Arthur Chronicle.)
Kitchener has received the grand order of the Legion of Honor from France. His glory will be complete when Toronto University makes him an L.L.D.

A Pertinent Question.
(Ottawa Free Press.)
What's this! Union Jacks made with German dyes! How can we expect a flag to float a thousand years in the battle, and the breeze with Hun dye in it?

Home, Sweet Home.
(Vancouver World.)
Talk about peace at any price! An Atlantic City couple quarrelled 40 years ago, and, although living in the same house, have not spoken to each other since the day of the row.

Flood of Horror.
(London Free Press.)
The sinking of the magnificent steamer and the loss of 1,300 lives a mere incident? Are we becoming calloused or is it that our fluke minds no longer can gauge this flood of horrors?

Not a Unit.
(Hamilton Herald.)
Premier Hearst says that his cabinet is a unit on the prohibition question. Maybe so, but it is certain that there is anything but unanimity among the government's supporters in the legislature.

A "Young" Recruit.
(Toronto Globe.)
Col. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, aged ninety-two, has offered himself as a recruit for the battalion of Forerunners. He is willing to go as a Lance-Corporal. This information should bring the blush of shame to the faces of husky young slackers.

KINGSTON EVENTS
25 YEARS AGO

Business at the Kingston hotels is very dull.
Major Drury led in the grand march at the Kingston rink.
Lamps have been substituted for gas jets in the Salvation Army barracks.

RANDOM REELS

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

PORK.
Pork is a substitute for the campaign cigar which fills the halls of Congress with pure patriots.

There are a great many varieties of pork manufactured in this country at the expense of the plain people, but all of them serve the one beneficent purpose of re-electing to Congress some statesman who otherwise would be obliged to work out his poll tax.

In justice to Congress, however, it should be stated that a great deal of this pork is pickled right at home and shipped to Washington in the form of a popular petition calling for the erection of a \$200,000 federal building in a town with four business houses, including the jail. One of the worst things that can happen to a Congressman is to present five or six of these petitions and see the public buildings committee draw their teeth in a cold-blooded and scientific manner.

The skilful use of pork has remained in public life many a man whose efforts in debate have been confined to a motion to adjourn. The statesman who is able to tap the pork barrel at will and extract therefrom army posts, post-office sites and river

and harbor appropriations has a great advantage over a humble colleague who is a strict vegetarian. Some of our mightiest pork-hunters find no trouble in being re-elected with a loud noise after throwing a few hundred thousand dollars of government currency into a project to make Catfish Creek navigable for its entire distance of eleven miles.

Owing to the snooping, prying ways of the daily press, pork is becoming less popular as a daily article of food. It is getting so that a Congressman can hardly rise with a motion to establish an Indian reservation in any of the New England states without being greeted with derision and told to sit down in a lump. This is one of the most discouraging features of our national life, and if persisted in promises to retire to painful and noiseless obscurity a large band of animated Prince Albert costumes.

Pork, like charity, begins at home. The only way to reduce the dimensions of the pork barrel is to curb the popular appetite for governmental pap. The more people read and think and talk, the less taxes they will have to pay for the other fellow's benefit.

Rippling Rhymes

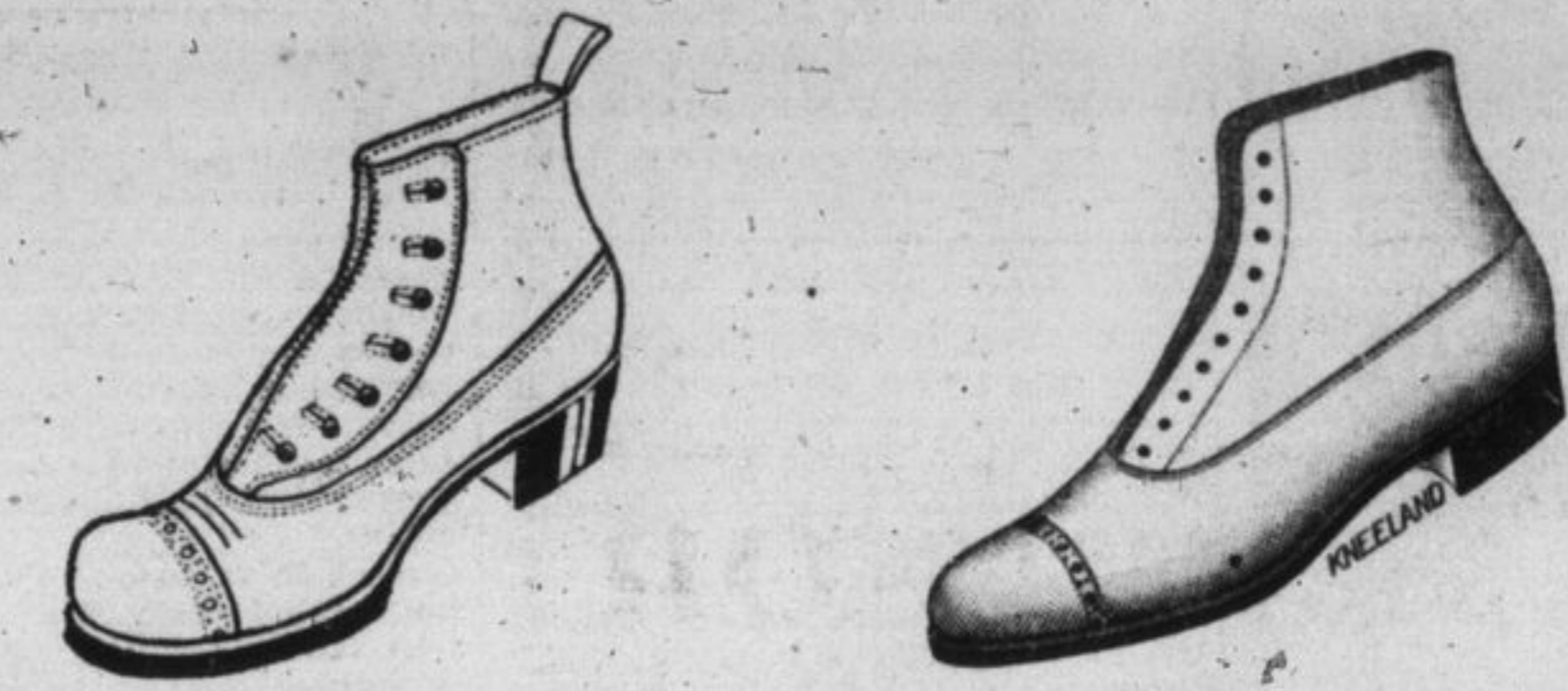
Old Winter's on the downward grade, he soon will cease to blow; so burnish up the good old spade, and grind the trusty hoe; O grind the trusty hoe, my friends, and make it gleam like glass, for when the stormy winter ends, we plant our garden sassa.

The birds will soon be winging back from sunny Southern climes; they'll build their nests around your shack, and sing to beat the chimes; they'll sing to beat the chimes, my boys, among the swaying trees, and while they raise their cheerful noise, we'll plant our beans and peas. The Frost King soon will lose his grip, the frozen brooks run free, and lambs and colts and calves will skip around in frantic glee; they'll skip in frantic glee, my dears, for all young things are brash; and when the snowdrift disappears, we'll sow our succotash.

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