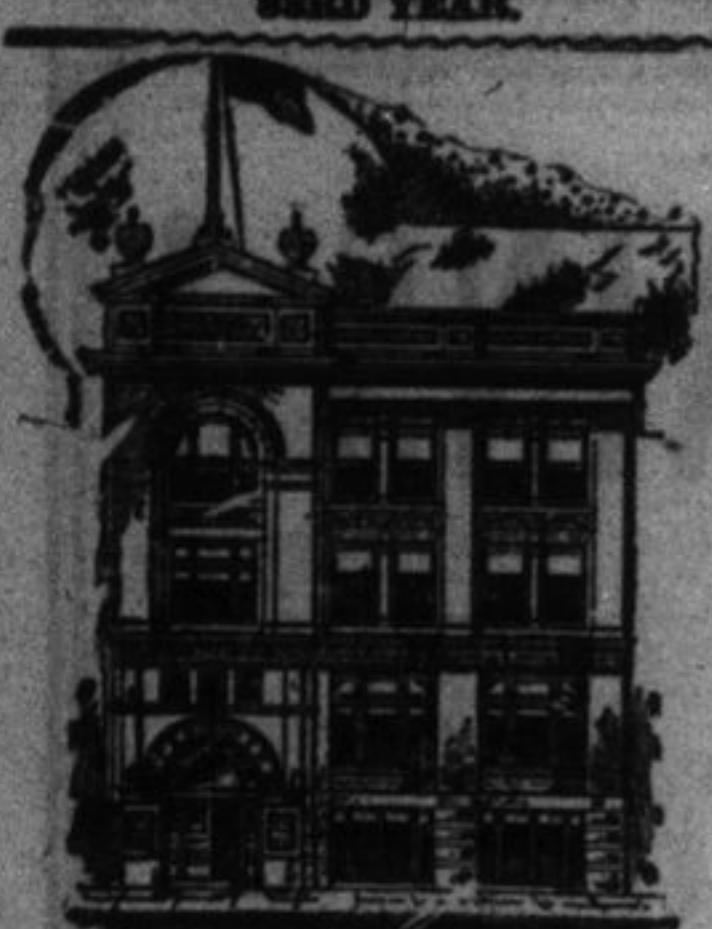


The British Whig



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

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

Telephone: Business Office 243; Editorial Rooms 229; Job Office 224.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (Daily Edition): One year, delivered in city \$6.00; One year, if paid in advance \$5.00; One year, by mail to rural offices \$5.50; One year, to United States \$12.00; One year, by mail, cash \$11.00; One year, if not paid in advance \$12.50; One year, to United States \$25.00; Six and three months pro rata.

Attached is one of the best job printing offices in Canada.

TORONTO REPRESENTATIVE: H. E. Smallpiece, 32 Church St. U. S. REPRESENTATIVES: New York Office, 125 Fifth Ave., Frank R. Northrup, Manager; Chicago, Tribune Bldg., Frank R. Northrup, Manager.

THE BILINGUAL QUESTION.

The argument of J. S. Ewart, K. C., Ottawa, in favor of bilingual schools is intensely interesting. Mr. Ewart stands high in his profession. He has reached distinction in connection with certain cases, and one of them was the Manitoba school case. He represented the Catholic minority in appeals to both Ottawa and London, but unsuccessfully. Yet because of his non-success his opinion is not to be discounted now that he offers it freely in behalf of bilingual schools. His letter to the Ottawa Journal, which the Whig copies to-day, will be read with deep concern. His contention, in brief, is that the French language, and the opportunities for acquiring it in the schools, have equal standing with the English language and the manner of acquiring it. Here is something for the controversialists to worry over.

Now it is the Hamilton Herald that refers to the number of idle officers in London as "a wastage of war." If these unattached officers were not drawing pay there would be fewer of them upon the waiting list.

BIBLICAL STUDY REVIVED.

The president of the Canadian Club made a hit when, in introducing Rustom Rustomjee to the members at Tuesday's luncheon, he referred to him as of the same original Aryan race as we are. Dr. Macgillivray referred to the part the Indians were taking in the campaign in Mesopotamia, and intimated that ere long the Indian troops would effect a junction with the forces of the Allies in the vicinity, or on the site, of the Garden of Eden, "and," said he, "in appreciation of what they have done in defence of the British cause Paradise itself is none too good."

Biblical history, by the way, is being wonderfully revived in the studies of the people, young and old, by the contingencies of the war. It is only recently that the Turks were reputed to have become aggressive, and to the extent of capturing Mount Sinai and the monastery and ancient Church of St. Katherine lying at its foot. The old church, surrounded by a wall, on which were mounted several rather ancient guns, dated from the sixth century, and its sacrists was said to contain the skull and hand of its patron saint, these relics being embossed in gold.

Mr. Bickerdike, M. P., has fallen once more to secure, by legislation, the abolition of capital punishment. One remark of his is notable. It is that "no rich man was ever hanged." What is the inference?

TOO MANY OFFICERS.

The Manitoba Free Press discusses the acute conditions that have grown out of the number of unplaced officers in Winnipeg. The plight of some of these men is said to be pitiable. "The right, says our contemporary, "to wear the uniform has been challenged, and in many ways the position of these unplaced officers is made uncomfortable. From it they can only escape by a display of moral courage which they find difficult to master." It is in this district we presume in which as many as 4,000 officers are said to be at large, eager, dissatisfied and discontented, and with an outlook not at all assured. The Free Press raised the issue as to whether the militia department should not, from the graduates of its schools, appoint officers to the regiments as fast as these are formed; and in order of seniority, is it too late to change the plans of the government and save the young men who have enlisted, or been given

commissions, from embarrassment? It is not advisable that the men who leave the schools of instruction should do so as members of the regiments which are forming, and with the understanding that as the companies fill up appointments will be made to them and of those who hold the necessary qualifications.

It should be time enough for men to buy uniforms when they have received commissions. It is a shame to give any young man the impression that he can get a commission when he qualifies, and in a brief space of six weeks; it is a greater shame to mislead him and invite, as it sometimes does, an appeal to political influence in connection with that which should be a wholly non-partisan matter.

NEW CIVIC FORCE.

The City Planning Committee which met on Monday, in the Board of Trade Rooms, began its work cautiously. Its mission is not yet fully understood, but it is to be congratulated upon having Prof. Skelton as its chairman, for he has given considerable thought to the subject and will be able to lead the good work to which the committee is devoted. As a preliminary the committee will be supplied with copies of the report of the City Improvement League, which was organized in Ottawa some time ago, as the nucleus of, as many local branches as Canada may form for civic purposes.

At the outset it must not be supposed that anything is being done which is interfering with established institutions. Though the platform of the original Improvement League contains references to municipal questions it must not be inferred that any collisions with the council are to follow; on the contrary, this City Planning Committee will co-operate most heartily with the mayor and aldermen, and help to shape public opinion in support of their reform.

The next meeting of the committee will probably bring out some distinct announcements in respect to the manner in which the committee may help the City Council. By the way, the council should appoint a sub-committee of its own to report upon the number of by-laws, which are useful and unenforced, and perhaps some idea may be obtained as to why these by-laws have been of no effect.

Visitors, for instance, have complained of the exposed and untidy properties through which they must pass, in entering the city, or in departing from it, and there is a by-law which says that these properties must be enclosed by fence of a certain height. The eye sores would disappear if some people did their duty.

Supposing the United States troops are worsted in Mexico. The doctrine of preparedness will get a boost such as the president and his party have not been able to give it.

QUESTION OF COMPENSATION.

The resolution of Mark H. Irish, a member of the local legislature, and with regard to the compensation of the men put out of the liquor business by act of parliament, is harmless enough so far as the government is concerned. The impetuosity of the premier in promising prohibition in advance of a meeting of the house, and without waiting for a consultation with its members, is well understood.

Mr. Hearst saw what was coming—the demonstration of the people when they undertook to bombard his government with their monster petition. He did not like the idea of being forced to surrender on the subject, and a quick change after the interview, in view of the stand of the government in the past most certainly meant a surrender to the temperance forces. He preferred to anticipate the attack and so announced a policy which, he said, was founded upon his observation of passing events. He acted at once, and as a result there have been all sorts of difficulties in the party, which includes the Licensed Victuallers.

The government did not promise to compensate the liquor men for loss of business, or loss of investment, and Mr. Irish's resolution has been interpreted as a means of sounding public opinion upon the subject. The Whig has favored compensation on the ground that it appeals to a sense of justice and fair play. It has been reminded that the license holder is not warranted by the annual issue of a permit to do business, for which he pays dearly, in spending large sums in buildings and equipment; and yet he must spend this money if he would draw and retain the patronage of the people.

The average traveller wants comfort in the hotel at which he stops. He may not be a consumer of liquor, of course, and may be willing in any case to pay, and pay well, for his accommodation. The question is how many will be willing to meet higher prices when the bar is closed and the profits from it are looked for in the additional charges for rooms and meals. The saloon man is not in the same class with the hotel man. He is completely out of business when he loses his license.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

On dit that the Horticultural Society will hold its annual show at the Kingston Industrial Fair. Good. Now let the council and the merchants do their part, and there will be something like an exhibition next fall.

Fancy the Turks in the Garden of Eden! And driven out of it by the Anglo-Indian army. There is a great deal about this war that is profoundly interesting. The war is certainly giving a new interest to biblical events.

The Parnell love story is again being discussed in the press. It was supposed to have its temporary hold on public attention and then to have passed into the oblivion which befits literature of its kind. What pleasure can anyone get out of this sordid recital of domestic infelicity?

Col. J. Wesley Allison has not yet condescended to appear before the Sir Charles Davidson Commission, or the Public Accounts Committee and explain his connection with a multitude of things. If the government is not to suffer severely on this man's account it cannot too soon produce him for examination.

Sir Sam Hughes says there is no reason for apprehension with regard to recruiting. He tells the people of England that the enlistments in Canada are going on at the rate of 1,000 a day, and this number will be increased. "Compulsion? He sees no need of it. Others do, and in fact that some cities in the Province of Ontario have suggested registration has a meaning which Sir Sam cannot depreciate.

PUBLIC OPINION

Quantity Not All. (London Advertiser.) Buying in quantity does not always insure cheapness. Witness the war purchases.

And It Was. (Ottawa Free Press.) Girl in New York talked 25 minutes on a telephone until police had time to nab man at other end of wire. Some papers thought it was quite a wonderful performance.

Small Allowances. (Toronto Globe.) Five ounces of butter per week is now the permitted diet in Berlin. Get the grocer to weigh out that quantity and so obtain some idea of what war means to the German civilian.

Hard to Shake. (Quebec Mercury.) Perhaps in some happy years yet to come we may get rid of the chap who delights in telling you that he doesn't go to church because there are some hypocrites in it.

A Great Bargain. (Montreal Star.) Germany is willing to pay 300,000 livres for Verdun, and the minister of Commerce in a cablegram from Moscow announcing that the port of Nikolaevsk, at the mouth of the Amur river in Siberia, will be opened for navigation on June 14th, and will provide a good channel for placing American goods in the Russian market.

Trail Too Hot.

(Grand Growers' Guide.) Revelations in the House of Commons at Ottawa last week indicate very clearly that the late shell committee either perpetrated or covered up a whole lot of graft. When the trail got so warm for the Minister of Militia he had sudden call to the battlefield. He could have done a great deal better service replying to the charges against him in the House of Commons.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

The Kingston fire alarm system is now as efficient as any in Canada. Messrs. Robert Crawford, John McKelvey and J. J. Behan have been appointed license commissioners for Kingston. The trustees of Chalmers Church purchased an organ from Warner & Sons, Toronto, for \$3,350. The old one was sold at a good figure.

CENSURING THE WOMEN.

To Blame Very Largely Because of the Military Muddle. (Manitoba Free Press.) A powerful contributing cause to the military trouble has been the idiotic, unpatriotic, even criminal enforcement, or attempted enforcement, of the social distinctions which are traditional in the British army. The British army, as it was before the war, was the least democratic army in the world. Being a voluntary army, the rank and file was recruited largely from the down-and-out, while the officer class was drawn from the rich and noble. In such an army, an enormous natural social chasm divided the officer and the private, but to apply these distinctions to the new Kitchener armies in Great Britain and the still more democratic armies of Canada is not only a ludicrous display of snobbishness, but is something far worse: it is nothing less than treason to the cause.

Women of a certain social position are largely to blame. They are patriotic enough, Heaven knows! They will sew shirts for soldiers, toll in Red Cross enterprises, attend an unlimited number of patriotic dances, sell badges in the streets, contribute beyond their means to charitable enterprises, they will visit the sick and comfort the afflicted; but when it comes to their Tom, Dick or Harry, they want to see him in an officer's uniform. They fear he would be degraded socially as a private. In hundreds of cases they have thus been parties to putting their sons and brothers in a position in which

they are eating their hearts out in chagrin and disappointment.

LIBERAL PRESS.

A Specimen of Ottawa's Economy. (Montreal Herald.) In his recent Budget speech, Sir Thomas White told how the Government were "economizing." The annual report of the Post Office gives an excellent example of departmental economy. The revenue has increased from \$12,196,152 in 1913 to \$16,210,573 in 1915. This steady increase in postal revenue only lends added gravity and importance to the fact that for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1915, the Post Office Department recorded its first deficit since 1901.

For the year ending March last, there was a net loss of \$2,914,525, this being the difference between revenue and expenditure. In 1911 there was a surplus of \$1,192,729. In 1912, during which year the methods of Liberal administration still obtained, there was a surplus of \$1,340,229. In 1914 it dropped to a surplus of only \$134,157, and in 1915, thanks to Conservative management, with its added thousands of "patronage" employees, there was a deficit of nearly three million dollars. From 1912 to 1915, postal revenue increased by about 50 per cent, while expenditure increased seventy-five per cent! What is the reason of all this? "Patronage" for political supporters.

As samples of patronage, it may be mentioned that so many people have been put on the payroll of the Montreal Post Office that whereas the salaries amounted to \$542,918 in the last year of the Laurier administration, they are now \$1,118,364 per annum. Considering the depression we have been through, it is hardly likely that the work of the Montreal Post Office has shown any appreciable growth; certainly it has not doubled, like the salary list. Any increase in receipts is mostly due to the fact that the present Government have increased mailing rates by 50 per cent. The salaries in the Post Office at Quebec have increased in the same period from \$91,186 to \$236,244; at Vancouver, from \$461,118 to \$310,213; at Toronto from \$596,311 to \$963,415. And so on. The "Civilian," the organ of the Canadian Civil Service, stated some time ago that the Government were wasting at least \$5,000,000 per annum through the over-manning of the civil service. The various post-offices evidently have their share of over-manning.

INDEPENDENT PRESS.

Why the Refused Titles? (Grand Growers' Guide.) Occasionally a title is conferred on a man who merits the distinction, but often the "honor" is refused by men of high character who have rendered service to the country because they prefer not to bear the same title that has been bestowed on so many men whose only claim to distinction is that they have become rich or powerful by exploiting and corrupting the people.

New Port Opened by Russians.

New York, March 23.—For the first time since the opening of the European war, American exporters will have an opportunity to land goods in Russia, without interference or delay from government shipments. This news was received to-day at the American-Russian Chamber of Commerce in a cablegram from Moscow announcing that the port of Nikolaevsk, at the mouth of the Amur river in Siberia, will be opened for navigation on June 14th, and will provide a good channel for placing American goods in the Russian market.

RANDOM REELS

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

FATHER.

Father is a title applied to a man who has lived long enough to acquire some property in his own name, along with a glittering array of children. Some fathers never acquire anything but children with rich, stiff-lipped appetites, and are thus obliged to gaze mournfully every morning into the face of a celluloid collar which has to be washed with a sponge. Fathers are permitted to encumber the earth for the sole purpose of paying charge accounts contracted by somebody else. When a father has eight or ten restless children who are not earning anything but the esteem of the community, his monthly bills will make the interest on the Panama Canal debt look like the proceeds of a cemetery social. It is a trying moment in a proud father's life when he steps into a drugstore to collect a bill and is confronted by a charge account for chocolate, cherries and nut-sundaes reaching from the prescription case to the front window. Father is usually well thought of in his home, and is allowed to eat with the hired girl and the rest of

Bibbys - Limited New Spring Suits and Overcoats. We offer our trade the best garments the world's most skillful tailors can produce. Our styles are absolutely correct and our prices are always pleasing. SEE OUR \$15.00 SLIP ON OVERCOATS. SEE OUR \$15.00 SUITS—THE YORK MODEL. SEE OUR \$18.00 BUD SUITS—REAL BEAUTIES. SEE OUR \$18.00 GROSVENOR OVERCOATS. Bibbys : : Limited

Everything Electrical. Our stock of ELECTRICAL FIXTURES and APPLIANCES is the most complete in the city. The very newest designs always in stock. Largest stock to choose from. Wiring a specialty. W. J. MOORE & SON -- The Electric Shop

SALTS IN HOT WATER CLEARS PIMPLY SKIN. Says we must make kidneys clean the blood and pimples disappear. Pimples, sores and boils usually result from toxins, poisons and impurities which are generated in the bowels and then absorbed into the blood through the very ducts which should absorb only nourishment to sustain the body.

Australian Rabbit in Jelly. 60 cents per tin. Each tin contains 2 lbs. net. —Just Arrived— Jas. Redden & Co. Phones 20 and 990. THOMAS COPLEY Telephone 987.

Good Coal is SAFE COAL. Good coal is the only kind we have. We don't keep it in our safe; but we do keep it in a safe condition. It's coal that burns freely yet slowly and furnishes its full quota of heat—concentrated heat. You are safe in patronizing us. CRAWFORD, Foot of Queen Street. PHONE 8.

NOSE CLOGGED FROM A COLD OR CATARRH. Apply Cream in Nostrils To Open Up Air Passages. Ah! What relief! Your clogged nostrils open right up, the air passages of your head are clear and you can breathe freely. No more yawning, sneezing, mucous discharge, headache, dryness—no struggling for breath at night, your cold or catarrh is gone.

Rippling Rhymes SPRING SONG. Every sage this scheme indorses: Make your premises look neat; cart away the old dead horses, burn the rubbish and repeat. For the spring should find our city rid of every ugly thing; it will be a beastly pity, if we disappoint the spring. In the spring the world is laundered by the soft, refreshing showers, and the cleansing winds are squandered by Nature at all hours; but the rainfall and the breezes can't remove the trash and junk, which, like decomposing cheeses, fill the air with perfume punk. Let us hustle, and abolish everything that draws flies; let us clean and paint and polish till our town delights the eyes. Oh, I ought to sing the lily, when old winter ups and goes, and I ought to write some strings rattle, urging folks to clean their lawns; cart away dead cats and cattle, old tin cans and demijohns.

Copyright, 1915 by Grand Growers' Guide. One Mass.