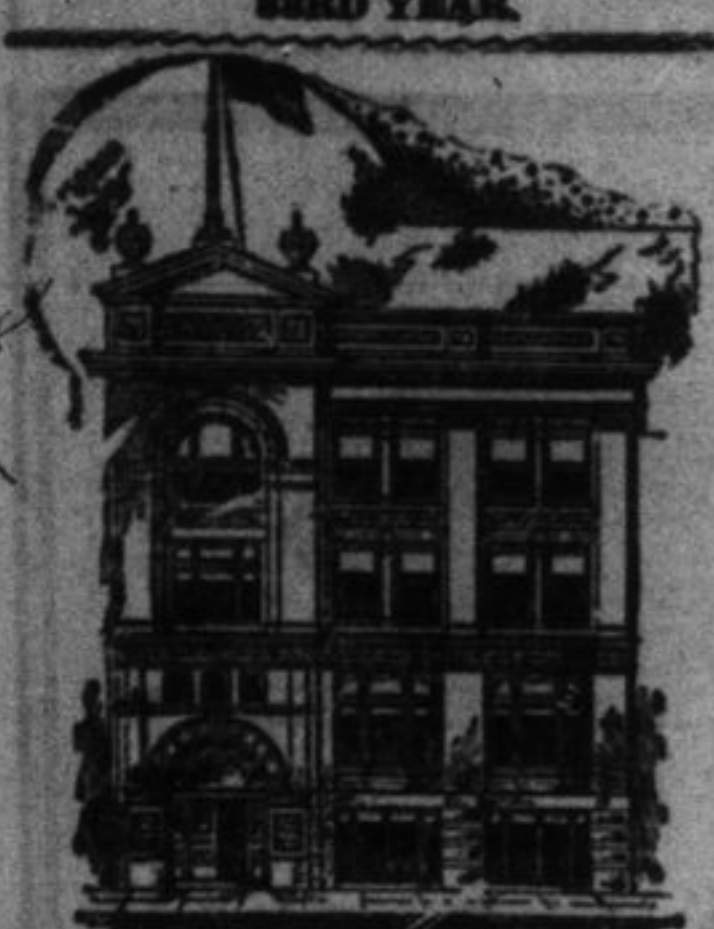


The British Whig



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ENTERPRISE PUBLISHERS

The Journal of Commerce, under its present management and edited by Hon. W. S. Fielding, is now a journalistic force in the commercial and industrial world.

The first three supplements lie before us, in their new binder, and one that develops with the monthly numbers and keeps them in convenient form.

There was in the January supplement, "Canada's Fishing Industry"; in the February supplement, "Sheep and Wool Industry of Canada"; and in the March supplement, "Economic Geography of Newfoundland."

Nothing finer in arrangement and facility of reference has been published, and the Journal of Commerce is doing an educational work of the highest value.

The enterprise is new and unique. It does not trench upon the work of any other company or publisher.

It is of a quality which must be more and more appreciated, and we hope that the Journal of Commerce will have evidence of this from its many friends.

OUR ANTIQUE LAWS

Ottawa has not been used right by the Ontario legislature. It has a progressive public sentiment, and one which would express itself in advance legislation, and the little political gods who rule in provincial politics refuse to acknowledge it.

Some years ago the Ontario government snuffed out Ottawa's ambition to experiment with tax reform. The premier at that time said "thumbs down" and the bill of the local member was killed.

Now a whole series of good ideas, and ideas that have been successfully tried in some of the American cities are supposed. Why? They are not, and will not be, embodied in the general municipal act, and what all the cities have not got, or do not want, will not be tolerated in the capital.

So the city cannot have proportional voting, lower taxes on improvements, and the franchise for women who own property.

Municipal government is subject to changes, which vary with the locality as much as with the men who are interested in them. The Americans may not be as cautious in civic affairs as the people of Britain, but they are not afraid of experiments, and they have in the last ten years struck upon many things that have been worthy of adoption.

The Ottawa Journal thinks the cure for present inadequacy in municipal machinery will be to get away from the boundaries of an ordinary city and the laws which affect it.

Washington has, in its district, a plan of government peculiarly its own. Ottawa might have a like experience if free from government restraints. But all the other cities must suffer so long as antique opinions prevail in the Ontario legislature.

SOME CANDID TALK

Hon. Mr. Rhodes, the deputy speaker in the federal parliament, spoke in Ottawa before the People's Forum, expressing himself with regard to certain necessary reforms. He favors compulsory voting, on the ground that the person who is indisposed to exercise the franchise should not possess it.

He would have more drastic laws in every province, and would expect, under them, the appointment of a judge and a pro-

curator, and the punishment of every one who is convicted of wrong doing. He would abolish party patronage and have every official appointed to office upon his merits. He would make it an offence to canvass any member of parliament for an appointment. He would have the polling of votes done on a holiday, so that every man could vote if he desired to do so, and then, with proportional voting, the very best results would be attained.

PUBLIC OPINION

Too Small (Ottawa Journal). A pension of \$264 for a soldier who has lost both his eyes, for instance, is assuredly not erring on the generous side.

Women To The Front. (Port Arthur Chronicle). The Conservative Association in a Manitoba riding has elected a woman as vice-president. The men are no longer going to have the last word, even in politics.

Tough And Tough. (Kingston Review). Col. Allison's name was Isaac, but he had it changed to John Wesley. If part of what they say about him is true the change was rather tough on both Isaac and John Wesley.

Quite A Few. (Toronto Globe). How many other good Conservatives besides Hon. Andrew Broderick warned Sir Robert Borden of the possibilities of trouble in Sir Sam Hughes' infatuation for Col. Allison?

Sample Of Economy. (Montreal Herald). An example of the Government's economy in war time is that they have purchased a seven-thousand-dollar automobile for the postmaster of Montreal. The next step would appear to be an official residence.

The Only Remedy. (Hamilton Herald). It has been discovered that Nickle matte is going out of Canada by a side door. No doubt all of this supply has found its way to Germany. There is only one way to prevent Germany from getting nickel, and that way is to forbid the exportation of nickel ore or matte from Canada to any foreign country.

A Happy Premier? (Toronto Telegram). When Sir Sam arrives home, he will not be welcomed by the executioner, but he will find everything nicely arranged for the execution. And if Sir Robert could only be assured that the victim wouldn't grab a chair and run amuck he would be one of the happiest little Premiers Canada has ever known.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

An inspector of buildings is needed here. Some of the houses erected will not be safe for habitation, and are erected solely for speculative purposes.

W. W. Folger reports that the street cars are doing well.

W. S. Gordon is issuing notices to owners of vehicles on which heavy loads are carried to adopt wide tires.

RANDOM REELS

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

MAKING GARDEN. Making garden is a harmless pursuit which is indulged in every spring by married men who envy the farmer. Nine out of ten American business men are convinced, after casting up their bills payable at the end of the month, that they should be on the farm, and most of their customers agree with them.

As few business men, however, are able to save enough out of their net earnings, after paying the hired girl, to buy a farm, they console themselves by making a garden which will not grow anything but the hardy and untried onion.

There is great profit in making a garden, if it is done correctly. The seeds do not cost anything, as they are sent out by kind-hearted Members of Congress, in exchange for a vote of thanks at the next election. The congressional baggage being the congressman's autograph, and every once in a while will surprise the recipient by sprouting in an upward attitude.

When the seeds fall to sprout, the congressman loses the vote of the planter and all of his male relatives. Some shrewd politicians figure that more congressmen have been defeated for re-election by the non-sprouting garden seed than by all of the post-office fights in the district put together.

The best authorities agree that the garden should be plowed before the seed is put in, as better results are obtained. Great care should also be exercised in planting. Onions, fruitcages and summer squash can be planted at any hour of the day or night and will come up in the face of zero weather, but early potatoes and the delicate, high-browed turnip should always be planted in the full of the moon, with the wind in the southeast. There would be few total failures of the potato crop if people would observe this simple precaution.

While the garden should be put out by man, owing to his superior judgment and mechanical ability, its care and culture should be entrusted to his wife. Woman is admirably fitted to nurse the succulent string bean and the blushing tomato from adolescence to adult manhood, and after she has worked in the garden all day she will be less inclined to gad to the picture show and drag a reluctant, tight-lipped husband by the ear. If every husband would turn over the garden to his wife, it might be disappointed to grow something besides disappointment and jimson weed.

Rippling Rhymes

THE WATCH My watch wouldn't work worth a dime, it was always a fortnight too slow; instead of regarding the time, it monkeyed around, to and fro. The main-spring seemed out of repair, it travelled by spasms and jerks; so I sat me right down in a chair, and studied the watch and its works. I took it apart with a wrench, and studied the levers and gears, all piled in a heap on a bench; I studied and wiggled my ears. I put the wheels back in the case, and shook them to give them a shock; but the hands didn't go round the face, and the works didn't tick nor yet tock. I asked of the plumber advice, and counsel I asked of the judge, consulted the dealer in ice and still the blamed works wouldn't budge. "Methinks," I remarked, "and I wist, I must go to the jeweler's shop." He gave it three twists of the wrist, and the watch went along like a top. That plan's kept me down in the past—a plan that is doubtless the worst; I always reserve till the last the thing I should tackle at first.

RELIEF OF THE BELGIANS.

Part British Play In It—Financial Advances.

Ottawa Journal. The New York American, which like all Hearst papers, is equalled in its braggadocio only by its inaccuracies, has been proclaiming that the United States has been the main saviour of the Belgian people from starvation. And indeed this seems to be more or less of a general impression across the line.

The American people have certainly been generous to Belgium. But the chief benefactor of Belgium has been Britain.

Even in Canada, we do not realize the great scale on which Britain is helping Belgium, if an article written by S. S. McClure is correct, an article which gives a picture of the Belgian case equally impressive in its presentation of tremendous distress and tremendous philanthropy.

According to Mr. McClure, of the 1,500,000 industrial workers of Belgium one-half are workless and wageless. Of Belgians engaged in agricultural labor a large percentage are idle because the export of bulbs and flowers has ceased. One-fifth of the population of Brussels are fed by the soup kitchens. Matters grow worse. The shopkeepers, who have been living on their capital through the sale of their stocks, face empty shelves. Yet the Germans are exacting \$84,000,000 a year in war contributions.

Britain, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and even Spain are sending help to the Belgians. But—as the New York Globe sums it up—

"Four-fifths of the contributions, a fact heretofore little mentioned, come from Great Britain. The British Government is advancing \$60,000,000 a year to the exiled Belgian Government, and the money is spent on relief. Thus Great Britain is entitled to the chief credit for the staying of actual starvation. The United States is proud of what it has done, but its gifts are negligible compared to those made by Great Britain."

Alas, all that is sent into Belgium is just about equal to the \$36,000,000 yearly in money or goods the Germans are squeezing out of their Belgian victims. Practically the Belgians are using the lever of Belgian starvation to get their blood money. Is there any species of villainy whatever of which the Germans have not been guilty in this war? And, in the Belgian case Germany still has the horrible hypocrisy to assert that if the Belgians are having a hard time of it, it is their own or the British fault.

STATIONING OF TROOPS

At the Camps of Petawawa and Barrfield. (Special to the Whig.) Ottawa, April 5.—The R. C. E. A. depot of "B" Battery and the Royal School of Artillery and the remaining batteries of the 12th Artillery Brigade in Kingston will be sent to Petawawa camp for the summer months.

The 93rd (Peterboro), 108th (Lindsay), 130th (Perth), 136th (Port Hope), 139th (Cobourg), 146th (Kingston), 154th (Cornwall), 155th (Belleville), 156th (Brockville), will be sent to Barrfield. The strength of these units is now 8,077, and will be just about 10,000 by May 12th, when the camp will open.

Nothing takes the conceit out of a flirt like encountering a masculine heart that is unbreakable.

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Bibbys Limited advertisement for boys' suits and men's overcoats. Includes text: 'WE NOW SELL SHOES', 'New Spring Attire for Men and Boys at Attractive Prices', 'Boys' Suits', 'Boys' Hand-tailored Suits', 'See Bibbys Young Men's Suits \$15', 'See Bibbys Young Men's Overcoats', 'The Joffre, \$15.00.', 'No better values to be had anywhere.', 'BIBBYS NOBBY HAT STYLES. We can save you 50c to \$1.00 on your new hat.', 'SEE OUR VALORA HAT, \$1.00. NEW KING HAT, \$2.50.', 'SEE BIBBYS ENGLISH FEDORA -THE YORK- A Genuine \$2.50 Hat for \$2.00.'

Electric Irons advertisement. Includes text: 'Electric Irons', '\$2.50 EACH', 'GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS.', 'W. J. MOORE & SON The Electric Shop'.

Grandma Used Sage Tea To Darken Hair and Canned Fish advertisement. Includes text: 'GRANDMA USED SAGE TEA TO DARKEN HAIR', 'Canned Fish', 'BEST IN QUALITY', 'LOWEST IN PRICE', 'CRAWFORD, Foot of Queen Street, Phone 9.', 'C. H. PICKERING, PROP.'

Rippling Rhymes advertisement. Includes text: 'Rippling Rhymes', 'THE WATCH', 'My watch wouldn't work worth a dime, it was always a fortnight too slow; instead of regarding the time, it monkeyed around, to and fro.', 'Copyright, 1915 by Globe Newspaper Service'.

Every consumer of gasoline is contributing his share in the higher prices to the greed of the Standard oil trust. He appreciates it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Col. John Wesley Allison changed his name from Isaac. Why? The new name does not seem to suit his new occupation.

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"A Cup of Cold Water" was a theme of a very timely sermon in Toronto. Appropriately enough it was addressed to the people who have been recently riding upon the water wagon.

The Dutch are humping their backs and hunting for arms and ammunition. The German submarine war is having some untoward effects. It will be bad for some people if the Hollanders go to war.

Unless the senate "kicks" the new immigration bill, which is now before congress, will deprive any man of a vote who cannot pass the literacy test. By the way, why should any man, in this enlightened era, be unable to read and write? And if he is, why should he have the franchise?

The British government is not concerned, apparently, in the scandal enquiry at Ottawa. It does not answer the personal appeal of Sir Robert Borden. If it did there would be no doubt with regard to what it desired. Grafting has no recognition anywhere, and least of all in England.

The appellate court has decided for the Ottawa separate school commission and against the Ottawa separate school board. The men appointed by the government can collect and spend the people's taxes. Which, though legal, does not seem to be right. The people's representatives should rule.

The Globe quoted in its Ottawa correspondence the expression of the minister of militia respecting a west-

