

The British Whig  
33RD YEAR



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PECULIAR INDEED!

John Bertram, chairman of the Shell Committee, of fragrant memory, has been made an honorary Colonel and Knight; Herbert Ames, M.P., of the Ames-Holden-McCreedy, Limited, the shoe manufacturers, who supplied a large part of the boot contract for the first overseas expedition, has also been made a knight. J. W. Allison, of the million dollar fuse steal, is an honorary colonel. The Canadian Cartridge Company, of Hamilton, having completed a contract to make a million eighteen-pounder cartridge cases for the British Government at the price paid other companies for the same work, has contributed the profits, amounting to \$758,248, to the Imperial Munitions Board, for war expenditures. The Associated Press, in putting the transaction on the wire, does not even give the initials of Mr. Baillie, president of the company. The division of honors for Empire service in Canada is certainly peculiar. While on the subject—the amount of profit made by this business company on this contract indicates to what extent the concerns engaged are profiting by their contracts.

An automobile to every twenty-five people throughout the United States by January 1st is said to be the ambition of the republic. Wonder if as many own the houses they live in?

PROUD OF ROWELL.

Wonder is expressed in prohibition quarters that Premier Hearst has seen fit to endorse Norris in the coming contest in South Toronto as the government candidate, in face of his stand against prohibition and in favor of wine and beer licenses. The premier's attitude is described in temperance circles by such adjectives as "vacillating" and "wobbling." It was expected that he would repudiate the candidature, under government auspices, of anyone with anti-prohibition sentiments, just as Mr. Rowell showed his strength by expelling Ewanture from the liberal party when he became implicated with the liquor interests.

A comparison of the leadership of Hearst and Rowell in these days of war, is most illuminating. Mr. Rowell places his unequalled services at the disposal of the country in the matter of recruiting, without reserve; sacrifices himself to support his principles in the matter of the government temperance measure, in order to aid in the successful prosecution of the struggle; and sets himself to energetically grapple with the best methods for the solution of the problems which will arise at the conclusion of hostilities. The premier, on the other hand, seems to lack all initiative, and simply follows Rowell's lead. The premier was at least expected to stand by his prohibition measure; but his temperance supporters are now in fear and trembling over his astounding attitude in patronizing Norris.

Liberals are proud of their leader and are staunch in their support; whilst there are many indications evident from the bye-election controversies that conservatives in the province are split in their affiliations.

As a matter of fact the feat of the Deutschland is not new. Several trans-Atlantic voyages have been made by British submarines, and a whole fleet of them crossed from Montreal since the war began.

WOMEN GOOD MECHANICS.

Ever since mankind began to use machinery the tradition has been that men were required to run it, because women couldn't handle machinery. The women were mentally or temperamentally unfitted for work requiring mechanical skill. And now comes a manufacturer of Dayton, O., named William Ohmer, testifying that women can handle industrial machinery better than men.

Mr. Ohmer has a munition factory in which he employs 4,000 women. He calls himself the "best hated man in Dayton," because he has taken so many cooks away from the women and so many stenographers away from the men. He began a year ago substituting women for men in many branches of work, and has been astonished to find what they were capable of doing. He pays them men's wages, and thus has been able to get women of intelligence. And the fact that large numbers of them "never before did a lick of work in their lives" doesn't seem to prevent their beating experienced workmen at their own game.

A training school is maintained for novices. At first the instruction was given by men; now it is given by women. And new girls seem to pick up the necessary mechanical knowledge and skill with surprising rapidity. The newcomer usually learns her job in three or four days, though it takes most men far longer. In three weeks, says Mr. Ohmer, the average woman becomes an expert in the use of machinery as the man who has been working at the job for three years. And the women turn out more work, anywhere from 200 to 500 per cent, more than the men used to. Moreover, they appear to do it with less effort, because they relax, and economize their energy. They are found to be especially capable as instructors, and as assemblers of delicate machinery.

It is much the same story that has been heard from European countries where the scarcity of men has forced women into industrial employment of all kinds. But it is more impressive because it is an example nearer home, under familiar conditions. Mr. Ohmer's conclusions may call for somewhat wider tests and more definite verification before they are generally accepted, but it is evident at least that women's mechanical capacity has been greatly underestimated. And our feminists may be trusted to make the most of this revelation.

The vital question is not whether it is pronounced "karkee" or "kaki," but how it would look on you.

THE DEMAND FOR MUNITIONS.

The American press comments on the end of a boom, and this boom in the production of war munitions. It has been without a precedent. The unpreparedness of Britain and France and Russia for war, and on a colossal scale, was a God-send to the great corporations of America. All the munition factories which the Allies could hurriedly jack-up and operate under high pressure were unable to cope with the immediate and increasing necessities of the war, and so appeal was made to the United States and Japan and the other overseas Dominions. Through the commissions which the Canadian Government was forced to appoint for an enquiry into the ranker scandals in connection with the contracts, and scandals that in the words of a late lamented Canadian purist, "smelt to heaven." Some idea has been gleaned of the cost of meeting certain rush orders, exorbitant prices were demanded and paid, because there did not seem to be any alternative. For a season the junkies made their fortunes. Some evidence of this was seen in the astonishing dividends that were announced from time to time. Millions upon millions were extracted from the British Government in its extremity, and many millions more were lost through the imprudence or incompetence of the men on whom the government depended. There is no need to enlarge upon the operations of the syndicates through which Col. Allison operated for his large financial benefit. For the time being everything went, at the expense of the British treasury.

But a change has come, and now a day too soon. The Allies are able to provide for their needs, in war materials, through their own factories and arsenals. No longer are Russians compelled to retreat because their huge armies have no shells to hurl at the advancing Germans and Austrians. No longer are well-planned offensives on the Franco-Belgian lines frustrated because the ammunition has given out. No more will sterling exchange be depressed by the enormous difference between the value of British imports and exports. Orders for supplies have already ceased with some American companies, and the effect is at once obvious. Stocks are declining, and they are the happy ones who have sold out their possessions, while the prices still were high. Of course, the American interests may not suffer too much. Thanks to the scare which overcame the people

when the Germans were in ugly mood, and thanks to the competition of the political parties in the programme of preparedness, there is to be a great army and a great navy, and already between three and four hundred million dollars have been appropriated for them. It is going to take time in which to build up a ponderous military and naval machine, and during the construction period the American manufacturer must be busy. Eventually much of the plant which is designed and fitted to produce munitions only will be scrapped, and that time has, not yet arrived—in America.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Each passing day separates Germany by so much from the victory that once seemed assured.

Canadians who enlist to-day will have every promise of participating in the final triumphs of the war.

Belgium has some satisfaction in that Belgian troops are wrestling much of German East Africa from the enemy.

These are joyful days in Rome, where the results of Italian efforts in the war had been somewhat disappointing until now.

Italy is not asleep. She has joined the anvil chorus that is hammering the Teutons into a proper frame of mind to admit crushing defeat.

It is all right to hit Germany in the pocket for the murder of Capt. Fryatt, but Britishers will be content with nothing short of the retribution that hits the Kaiser & Co. in the neck.

The Kaiser regrets that he cannot fight in the trenches with the soldiers and give his life for his country. Everybody else regrets it also. Perhaps he could get a divine dispensation to expose his divinely appointed person to the dangers and horrors which he set loose in the world.

Kingston is distant from Toronto about the same distance that Vienna is separated from the advancing Italian hosts. Vienna may regard herself as safe, but we should feel some qualms if the enemy armies numbering millions were at Toronto and Kingston was the national capital.

The Retail Merchants' Association, meeting at Winnipeg, has been considering a contract selling plan.

by which it is expected all cutting of prices will be stopped. The world is moving since the philosopher wrote that competition is the life of trade. The theory generally acted on to-day is that it is the death of profit.

PUBLIC OPINION

His Coat of Tan (Detroit Free Press) An eastern psychologist says it isn't the soldier, but the uniform a girl kisses. Yep. It's his coat of tan.

May Believe Himself (Philadelphia Leader) If the Kaiser goes on saying that England conspired and attacked peaceful Germany, he may come in time to believe it.

The Kaiser's Fate (Toronto News) Great Britain and France punished, and even beheaded their unworthy Kings. Undemocratic Germany leaves the task to others. The Kaiser should be in sight of a Franco-British scaffold.

Anyway the "Tallies" Took It (Syracuse Post-Standard) The Sun spells it Goritz. The Associated Press spells it Gorizia. The United Press spells it Goriz, and sometimes Goriz. The Evening Post calls it Gorz, with an unlaugh over the O. But however it's spelled, we all know the Eye-talians captured it.

Official Red Tape (Lester's Weekly) A man sent 10 cents in postage stamps to the Patent Office at Washington for two copies of a patent. The stamps were returned with a letter saying that currency must be sent. The man sent a dime and at the end of a week was informed that the copies of the patent were exhausted and that the Treasury department would return his money. A week later the Treasury department advised him that it would take three weeks to audit his account and refund his 10 cents. The man had spent six cents on postage and the Government twice as much.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

A company is being organized here which will establish works for the grinding of mineral paints and phosphates. The capital stock will amount to \$50,000.

The barley crop is disclosed owing to so much rain.

The steamer Maud carried four hundred people to Pictou to-day. The Bicycle Club held a ride out into the country to-day and on return paraded the down-town streets.

Random Reels

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

THE SUMMER COLD. The summer cold is a blood relative of nature's criminal masterpiece, the grip, but is not so full of enthusiasm and general debility as the latter. People can have the grip every winter and after a while will be able to tell it from an ulcerated tooth without consulting the family doctor, but the summer cold will wipe entire families for several years, only to land on some loved member and cause him to resemble a hay-fever victim who has fallen heir to the pluck eye.

The summer cold is caused by trifling with the laws of nature in the matter of underwear. Why is it that a man will wear long, feverish underwear until the Fourth of July and then change suddenly to the light, airy, one-piece suit, only to run into nine days of weather that would raise hair frost on a bear's ear? If more wives would compel their husbands to wear thick, beaver-board underclothes the year around we would not have so many employees laying off during the dog days with a nose like the headlight of a Mogul engine. Nobody ever heard of a Zulu islander taking a cold in August because of wearing too little underwear, which proves that we have a lot to learn from the unlettered and rug-nosed heathen.

The summer cold starts with a series of low, premonitory sneezes which sound like splashing kumling with the knee cap. The summer sneeze is a deceptive article and ebbs and flows with great rapidity. It will remain in a lurking attitude for several hours and make the owner believe that the last handkerchiefs were made as big as quinine capsule has hit the target, bedspreads.

then will suddenly begin to explode in a high-pitched six-six, interrupting an important telephone conversation and causing eighty cents' worth of overtime. This can be avoided by seizing the summer cold in time and putting on a pre-shrink wool union suit that laps neatly about the ankles.

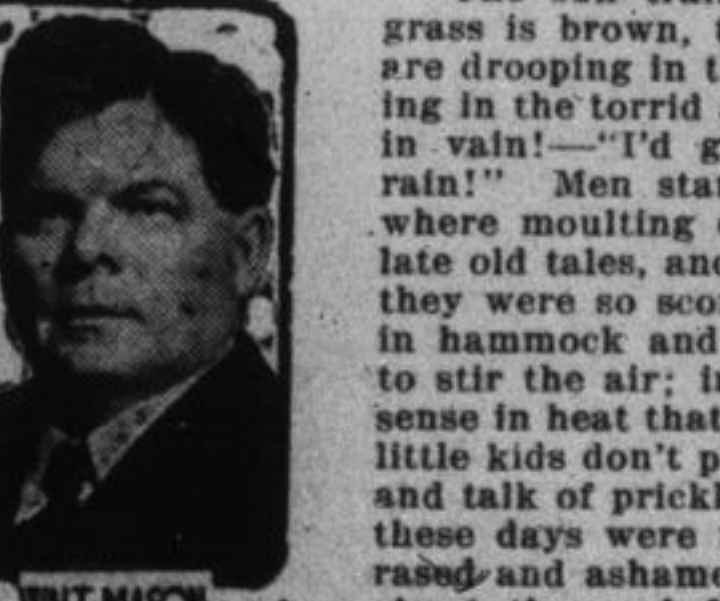


There is nothing that will completely cure a summer cold except time. If a person is willing to wait until about February 15th, he can exchange his cold for any approved form of grip, even up. Some people go to a resort where mineral spring water can be treated by a day or week and have an overworked nose therein, but it is cheaper and better to stay at home and go to bed with a late novel and a comforter. No one should laugh at a victim of a summer cold, for it is liable to leap in the direction of the scuffer and cause him to wish that the owner believed that the last handkerchiefs were made as big as quinine capsule has hit the target, bedspreads.

Rippling Rhymes

DOG DAYS

The sun trails on, across the brassy sky, the grass is brown, the earth is hard and dry, the trees are drooping in the yellow glare, the birds are swooning in the torrid air, and melting man cries out—alas, in vain!—"I'd give three bones to see a good wet rain!" Men stand and gasp, apostrophize the heat, where moulted elms cast web, apostrophize the heat, where moulted elms cast web, upon the street, re- they were so scorched and burned. The women rest in hammock and chair, and with their fans attempt to stir the air; in modest terms they say there is no sense in heat that melts the knotholes in a fence. The little kids don't play upon the street, but hang around and talk of prickly heat. The writing dogs, for which these days were named, crawl in their holes, embarrassed and ashamed. Cheer up, sad hearts, and think about the coal for which you soon must blow the hard-earned roll! Full soon these days of torture will be gone—how will you then redeem your duds from pawn—the duds you'll need to keep your systems warm, and shield your whiskers from the bitter storm?



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SEE BIBBYS NEW \$15.00 FALL OVERCOATS  
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The Bryson, \$20.00  
English worsteds, English tweeds, English serges.  
Bibbys, Limited

Canada's Soldiers "HAVE BULKED BIG."  
New York Sun. The Canadian troops around Hill 60, Sanctuary woods and Zillibeke, have repeated their valorous performance of St. Eloi, St. Julien and Ypres. The official British statement describes their capture of a former British position over a front of 1,500 yards to the south-east of Zillibeke as "a gallant and successful assault." They continued their advantage until they had won back most of the ground around Ypres; they fought through the night, says the report, "doggedly bombing their way back to the position they had lost."  
The soldiers of Canada have bulked big for a "colony" in this European war. When they first appeared upon the field they were a mystery to the trained British trooper; their apparent loose discipline, their recklessness in the face of danger, their slang and their disregard of the English traditions of the camp and field puzzled him. He still tells of a body of troops returning at night from the trenches that were challenged by an English sentry. Receiving no reply the sentry excitedly repeated, "Who comes there?" "None of your damned business," came from someone in the ranks. "All right, Canadians, advance."  
The Englishman, however, suspected the Canadians could fight, and he found it out in the engagements around Ypres. They were among the earliest sufferers from asphyxiating gas as a war weapon, when the Germans on the first day of its use endeavored to throw the Allies' whole defensive in Flanders into disorder. They held their line after the French colonialists had been overcome, and they battled on for days. The remnant of the Princess Patricia's, the best regiment Canada sent to the war, numbered but 100 when it was dug out of the trench—it had defended.

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The following prices for Ford cars will be effective on and after August 1st, 1916.  
Chassis \$450.00  
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Touring Car 495.00  
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These prices are positively guaranteed against any reduction before August 1st, 1917, but there is no guarantee against an advance in price at any time.  
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Lessening the tax burden to be borne by munition makers, Democratic members of the United States Senate Finance Committee yesterday fixed a flat rate of 10 per cent. on the net profits of all firms making munitions or their component parts.