

The British Whig



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AN EXAMINATION SCANDAL. The parents of some candidates for teachers' certificates have a grievance against the Collegiate Institute and one that does not appear to be well founded.

The candidates appear to have suffered in two ways: (1) One of the papers was such as should not have been put before the candidates. It was certain, if it was not designed, to baffle most of the students who undertook to work out the problems.

Those who essayed to use the teachers' examination, plus the French, as an easy cut to matriculation, were defeated in their plans, and it is not likely that they will receive very much sympathy.

The agitation which set in, for redress or review, after the results of the examinations were known, will not end. The sense of justice or injustice—justice to the deserving and injustice from the Education Department—will be continued, and the acting minister had better give the matter his special attention.

Bourassa is not posing as much as he did in public places, but he has the ear of the Nationalists, and he is influencing them against recruiting. If there is any place in which registration, or conscription in a modified form, would take effect, it is Quebec.

A WASTE OF MILLIONS. There is a serious difference of opinion with regard to the parliamentary buildings at Ottawa, which, it will be remembered, were destroyed by fire. After the conflagration, and while the Commons was still in session, an examination was made of the walls as they stood, and it was reported that they could be largely used, and that they represented a value, in the process of reconstruction, about \$2,000,000.

The idea was then conceived of building, or rebuilding where necessary, under the direction of a committee whose members would pass on the work as it proceeded. This committee was composed equally of liberals and conservatives. Their task was to "restore" the building. Architects were appointed. The P. Lyall Company, Limited, was given the contract on the percentage basis. It was to be paid twenty per cent. for the use of its plant, and eight per

cent upon all expenditure in connection with the structure. Later, a difference of opinion occurred. The architect decided that the walls should come down, the walls that were said, by these same men, to represent a value of \$2,000,000. Hon. Mr. Rogers, chairman of the committee said he did not authorize the razing of them. The committee knew nothing about the change of plans or purposes. When it did hear of the change a proposal was made that, as the whole situation had been altered, as there was to be a complete reconstruction, plans should be made, and specifications, tenders called for, and a contract awarded.

Mon. Mr. Rogers pleaded that the corner stone should be laid, according to arrangement, and that then, with a full attendance of the committee, the question of procedure should be settled. The issue is, why should the walls, valued at \$2,000,000, be pulled down without the decision of the committee? Why should the percentage plan of building be chosen without deliberation? What is the sense of appointing a large and representative committee to supervise the work if one or two individuals, with the aid of the officials, can do as they like, and ignore or treat with contempt those who are associated with them?

The public schools will reopen on Tuesday next. So directs the Board of Education. The school law says they should open on September 1st. There may be some reason for the difference in the time of opening the public schools and the Institute. It should be ascertained, and it should have its place in the plans of the local trustees.

A GOVERNOR'S BOOZE BILL. Now that a state election is on in New York, and that Governor Whitman is a candidate for a second term, it is remembered that his special car was attached to a train which went over a year ago to the Panama Exhibition, and that this special train cost the state over \$20,000. Some months ago the matter came before the legislature, when it was asserted that some legislators and some officials, fared sumptuously at the state's expense. The amounts expended by these legislators and officials, on their own account and on account of their families, were very large, in some cases extending into thousands. Their meals on the train cost \$10 per day each; their flowers were plentiful and expensive; the club car on the train was frequently visited, and the high-balls and other deceptions which were there produced ran into an enormous sum. The expenditure was buried under the head of "dining car service."

The subject had a lull for a time. Then, with the announcement that Mr. Whitman was setting out upon his campaign, his alleged booze party was recalled. The state auditor refused to audit the accounts on the ground that the Panama Exhibition Commission had the power and the authority to do this, and Governor Whitman did not see the wisdom of challenging the accounts of a party, mostly democratic and appointed by his predecessor, of which he was the guest. A mandamus was issued and a special audit was demanded. So far the governor has been exempted from any blame or criticism. He lived and dined with his family in his special car, and only \$2.40 has been charged up for liquor against his car. Someone in the car was served at the cost of \$2.40 from the club car, and he knew nothing about it.

On the whole, the alleged junket, so far as the liquid refreshments were concerned, cost about \$250, and the party was composed of sixty persons, and not all in it were committed to grape juice and lime water for their drinks. It is wonderful what muck some people will rake up in an election. The revelations were expected to be awful in connection with this booze trip, and so far there has been nothing found to make anyone, and especially a politician, blush.

EDITORIAL NOTES. The war is looking better. More complications in Europe, but not for the Allies. Southern Alberta, says the latest report, will have the greatest crop of high grade wheat in its history, "if" the frost keeps off until September 15th. That "if" is the joker in the case. Guelph's employers have not accepted the proffered labor of the women in place of that of the men who have been called to the colors. Why? The women who have volunteered to undertake hard service, in an emergency, should be tried. Dr. Wilbur Chapman may be brought here to wake up the city spiritually. Can he do it? A venerable friend, and an ex-preacher, doubts it. There is one who could do wonders, who gets the devil excited wherever he goes, but he is not available. Who is he? Billy Sunday.

Why should the children's garden exhibit not be shown in connection with the county fair? They would elicit and develop a public interest

which cannot be expected when shown by themselves. The Agricultural Department of Ontario does some fool things, and this is one of them.

Dr. Fyne, the Minister of Education, is away, and Hon. Mr. Ferguson, the pooh bah of the government, has not the time in which to look into departmental matters. Mr. Ferguson was made aware of the grievance of a great number over the recent examinations. He had better take notice yet. The people are quite hot because of certain injustices which have been wrought.

PUBLIC OPINION

Coal Our Worry. (London Advertiser) Gasoline has come down a peg, but coal has gone up. And coal is our worry, not gasoline.

Who Pays Anything. (Ottawa Free Press) The U. S. railways will grant the eight hour day if they may boost their freight rates. Who pays? Not the railways. Some concession!

Byron's Bad Guess. (Montreal Times) When Byron wrote "Tis Greece, but living Greece no more," he made one of those bad guesses that even a good poet may make at times.

Too Much Reviewing. (Hamilton Times) Sir Sam Hughes has twice reviewed the Canadians since he went overseas, and there is almost a rebellion among them in consequence.

Borjens A Colonel. (Ottawa Citizen) The Premier is now an honorary colonel, but most people are convinced that the minister of militia has been commanding him to keep his eyes right ever since the outbreak of hostilities.

License System. (Toronto Globe) Gordon Waldron ran as a straight advocate of the license system, and it might be inferred from the result of the polling that there are few straight advocates of that system in South West Toronto.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

Coal dealers will boost the price of coal soon. James Richardson was to-day introduced on the Exchange at the Board of Trade, Montreal.

Princess Street Nine has lost one of its best men in the person of E. Callaghan, the crack pitcher, who goes to Fort McLeod, N.W.T.

GREAT LABOR STRUGGLE IN SIGHT

Hamilton Herald (Ind. Conservative). The men's brotherhoods are strong in numbers and are reported to have at their command \$15,000,000 for use in fighting the companies if the worst comes to the worst. The struggle, if it comes, threatens to be great and costly beyond precedent. It may also be the last of its kind. Neither the brotherhoods nor the railway managers and stockholders nor the three combined constitute a force that the whole of the people need to care for. So the end may be such legislation as will do justice to all concerned and put it out of the power of one or two hundred or thousands of leaders to impend the business and comfort and prosperity of a hundred million people.

Cost of Living. Winnipeg Tribune. There is distraction in many households over the high cost of living. People wonder when the limit will be reached. Government commissions have so far failed to point out one of the causes of inflated or unjust values, namely government. Official figures issued from Ottawa today show that the importation of dutiable goods dropped from \$447,000,000 in 1913 to \$221,000,000 in 1916. This is a falling off of nearly one-fourth. But the duty collected in 1916 amounted to \$114,000,000 as against \$116,000,000 in 1913.

Taxes in one form or another, direct and indirect, eat up an enormous proportion of the wealth of Canada. Some years ago we established the record in Canada of increasing the cost of living more rapidly than any other country in the world. The record, save in lands devastated by war, probably still belongs to Canada.

Wheat closed on Monday in Chicago from nine to eleven cents less than Saturday's close. Auto bandits in Chicago raided the Standard Oil car, and got away with \$4,000 in broad daylight.

Rippling Rhymes BAD ROADS

The roads that lead to Hayseed Centre make people's tempers warm; in vain, in vain, with voice of Stentor, I clamor for reform. The roads are full of holes and ridges that bust our costly tires, and there are away-backed creaking, growing city, at which the tourists shy; and it seems seven times a pity bad roads must black her eye. Oyr city hall is rich with gilding, gymnasium building is fixed with swimming pools. We have a bank and three physicians, and in our public square there is a stand where our musicians play tunes beyond compare. We ought to grow, and yet we're shrunken, because our roads are bad, for folks won't come, unless they're drunken—to see our lovely grad. And still we'll fool away our taxes and have our roads a wreck, till we apply our little axes to some official

BRITISH ARE FEEDING THE GERMANS

Nothing could be more anomalous than that the British Empire should be subscribing at the rate of seven and a half million pounds sterling a year to feed a population within territory held by the enemy. A million and a half of that money is in the form of voluntary public subscriptions and six millions represents the Government's subsidy. We are actually contributing to the resources of the Neutral Commission six times as much as the United States. It would be given cheerfully if we felt quite sure that it was not helping the enemy. If the Germans fed the people whom they have dispossessed of their means of feeding themselves there would be less food available for the Germans.

If we looked at the feeding of the Belgians as a measure of affecting the course of war, it would be more to our advantage that German authority in Belgium be surrounded by a starving, desperate, and rebellious populace than by a populace enabled by our generosity to await its deliverance at least in physical comfort.

The Belgian Government are bound to see that their people at home are fed. Belgium is one of the Allies, and we are bound to preserve that brave nation.

It is unfortunate that our help given to Belgium should be partially diverted by the Germans in occupation to their advantage, but we cannot on that account withdraw our help. All that we can do is urge the Neutral Commission to see to it that the supplies that are so generously provided, do not find their way into the stores of the enemies.

ARE THE KRUPPS BEHIND OUR NICKEL

Montreal Herald. The nickel fight waxes hot in Ontario. Here is the latest charge, put forward by Mr. James Connor, who was the Social Democrat candidate in the recent bye-election in South-west Toronto: "Twenty-five per cent. of the shares of the International Nickel Company are held by the Krupps in other people's names, and the position is such that when the Russian Government placed an order with a firm of Toronto brokers, the International Nickel Company refused to fill the order. Why was the result? The result was that the Russians were driven out of Warsaw and Lemberg, because this company controls ninety per cent. of the nickel output of the world." If this is true it is the final argument in favor of the nationalization of the nickel output.

SOLDIERS' FEELING IN THE TRENCHES

Toronto Star's Cable. Soldiers frankly are sick of politics in army affairs. They feel the issues are too vitally important for this. They ask that the whole matter of military control, administration, and equipment should be put wholly out of politics and placed under an expert non-partisan board, that the Ministers should be debarred from bringing pressure, direct or indirect, upon commanding officers to recommend orders for promotion or appointment, that appointments should be made irrespective of political affiliations, and Ministerial criticism of army commanders to their subordinates should cease.

LIES BY GRAMOPHONE. All Records Entering Russia Will Be Censored.

Petrograd, Aug. 29.—All imported gramophone records hereafter are to be censored owing to the accidental discovery that large numbers of German origin, instead of being the harmless musical productions indicated on the labels, were found to consist of scurrilous anti-Russian lampoons and preposterous reports on Russia, describing the military situation and internal state of Russia.

Soldier's Wife Dies. London, Ont., Aug. 29.—Mrs. Francis Brennan, wife of Gunner Patrick Brennan, of the 64th Overseas Battery, died suddenly Sunday. She is a daughter of Charles Prescott, of Merrickville, and came here in order to be with her husband.

Goods valued at \$1,500 were stolen from the general store of Charles H. Bailey, in Alexandria Bay, N.Y., on Sunday.

McLeod's Drug Store

Mineral Waters. Duncan in quarts. Pluto in quarts. Hunyadi in pints. McLEOD'S DRUG STORE Brock Street.

Bibbys For Boys' School Clothes. Keep the boy well dressed and do not injure his pride by compelling him to wear poor school clothes. We think we have the biggest and best assorted stock of Boys' Suits to be seen anywhere in Canada. See Our \$3.75 Boys' Suits. Eton Suits, \$5.00. The Baunock Suit, \$6.50. The Berkley Suit, \$7.50. The Collegiate Suit, \$10.00. Bibbys Limited 78-80-82 Princess Street. Kingston, Ont.

Random Reels. THE CANNING SEASON. The canning season is a melancholy period in the life of married men, which opens up on June 1st and ends when the last string-bean has been laid to rest in a Mason jar. It is one of the most trying tests of conjugal affection, as the husband is not only obliged to furnish sugar at ten cents a pound, but in some cases is forced to don a long, crinkly apron and hull cherries in one red burial bent. There ought to be some way of telling before the marriage takes place whether the bride is an enthusiastic, long distance canner or prefers to buy canned raspberries at the grocery store. The time will no doubt come when the prospective bridegroom will lead his heart's choice up to a justice of the peace and require her to choose between the canned gooseberry and himself. The case might arise where a bride-elect would prefer the gooseberry, but that would prove at once that she was not fit to be a wife and mother. During the canning season the home is filled with plaintive odors and there is nothing in the house to eat except fresh currant jelly. Currant jelly is all right when there is something to do with it, but one tires of it faster than he does of oatmeal or self-raising pancakes. The reason why so many feel poorly during the summer and have to go away for a rest at some trout stream is no doubt due to being fed continuously on new-mown currant jelly and the leather-faced watermelon pickle. There was a time when there was some excuse for the canning season, as it was cheaper to can than to buy, but it is not so today. Here and there, all over the land, factories

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\$650.00 Piano Player, Spot Cash To-day \$330. New, All, Up-to-date. WEESE'S ART STORE

EggO Baking Powder. Will be demonstrated in our store this week. Aug. 28th — Sept. 2nd. Excellent in quality. Reasonable in price. JAS. REDDEN & CO. Phone 20 and 990. JOHN M. PATRICK. Sewing Machines, Umbrellas, Suit Cases, Trunks, repaired and re-fitted. Saws filed, Knives and Scissors sharpened, Razors honed. All makes of firearms repaired promptly. Locks repaired; Keys fitted. All makes of Lawn Mowers sharpened and repaired. 149 Sydenham Street. Guelph Junction Railway, Municipally owned, will earn \$4,000 more than the estimates for the year. Lacrosse on Saturday: Nationals, 19; Ottawa, 5. Shamrocks, 12; Cornwall, 3. NEED ANY COAL? Just a reminder— Just a suggestion— That—from us—you can get the kind of coal you want. Thoroughly Screened Steady Burning Concentrated Heat. We guarantee full weight and deliver promptly. CRAWFORD Foot of Queen Street Phone 9.