

The British Whig SEVENTH YEAR



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OUR MILITARY ORNAMENTS

Some criticism has been offered by the acceptance by Rev. Dr. Chown, the head of the Methodist Church in Canada, of an honorary colonelcy, and his appearance at times in uniform.

The idea or design of it is not apparent. The militia department has been distributing a lot of favors without any reason except to tickle the vanity of the recipients.

The federal government is in an even more perilous position. It has not measured up to the anticipations of the people. A great war has led to the grossest mismanagement of public affairs, and largely because the wrong men have been in charge of certain departments.

There are men, however, who cannot imagine the peace-loving superintendent of the Methodist Church as at home in a colonel's uniform, exhibiting his rotund figure conspicuously on state occasions.

Bishop Thornloe, of Hamilton, has had a vision of a dominion church, "made up of all sorts and conditions of people, knit and welded into one by spiritual ties."

EARLY ELECTION NECESSARY.

There is a difference of opinion with regard to the next federal election. Hon. Mr. Graham has intimated that, in all probability, there will not be an extension of the time during which the dominion parliament shall do the business of the people, and without it their cannot be a continuance of present conditions beyond October, 1917.

The legality of extending the term without an election has been challenged by Mr. Lamarche. He has announced that he will not sit for Nicolet, which he was elected four years ago to represent, and because he does not think he is constitutionally entitled to do so.

The Brantford Expositor questions the wisdom or the expediency of an appeal to the electors, during the war, and the Montreal Gazette does not see how it can be avoided.

The point is that "the membership of the Commons shall unquestionably and fairly represent all the people," and the Gazette says that a house "chosen by constituencies, based on the census of 1901, and being beyond its term, does not do that."

Even the church reproaches the government for its inability to cope with the organization of the men and resources of the country for service during the war, and afterwards.

POLITICAL CRISIS IMPENDING

The most determined effort is being made to encourage the conservative voters in the next elections. The Toronto News, which is supposed to reflect the mind of the federal and provincial governments, comments upon the difficulties which attend all cabinets during the first years they are in office.

Nothing will save both governments, with public opinion running as it is to-day. The Ontario government has merited the fate that is in store for it. Composed of men who have forgotten the traditions of the Whitney government, or deliberately abandoned them, and led by one who is the best of them all, though he was not the choice of the party, they have antagonized the electors most seriously, and the bye-elections have gone the way the general elections will go as soon as they have been ordered.

On one occasion, another man helped Thomas Edison to erect a miniature electric light plant, and when the work was finished he was so delighted that he said to the great inventor, "Mr. Edison, after working with you like this, I believe I could put up an electric light plant myself."

Brookville, Sept. 15.—Locally the second Canadian war loan is being liberally subscribed. The first subscription received was for \$10,000 from a Brookville hotelkeeper, who moved here from Alsace-Lorraine following the war of 1870 to escape the German yoke.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

All the ministers in British Columbia's local election went down to defeat. A more complete repudiation, or banishment from office, cannot be imagined.

The New York Times says the engineers of the St. Lawrence Bridge Company will suffer in reputation by the recent accident. There is no doubt of that.

Hamilton is troubled with many faddists, and some of them are in the council. They want to establish municipal bakeries, and coal yards, and milk stations. Why not run all business in the name and on behalf of the people? And make a mess of them as the council has made a mess of so many other things during the last few years.

One who is going out of the liquor business, with the close of this day, is quoted as saying that in time there will be a revival of the trade. He is quite sure that the grits will cast Mr. Rowell aside, that they will have no more of him or his abolition-bar programme, and that with a new leader they will sweep the province. Where did he get all this inspiration?

The Toronto World advocates that all tenders for public works be opened, and the contracts awarded, in public. Had this policy prevailed in Manitoba, during the reign of the Roblin government, as it does now under the reign of the Norris government, Hon. Mr. Rogers would not be so much distressed in explaining how he came to change contracts in connection with the Agricultural College.

Ottawa Council has taken \$750,000 of the war loan; Manitoba Government has invested \$500,000 of its trust funds. Lord Brooks, commanding the Tenth Brigade, Canadian Infantry, has been wounded at Somme.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

Kingston's death rate for August was 1.97. The potato rot is greatly felt in low sections of the country north of Kingston. Some of the farmers have lost from fifteen to twenty per cent. of their crop.

Letters To The Editor

Assisted to Build Forth Bridge. Kingston, Sept. 14.—(To the Editor): We have read your paper for over twenty-eight years, and seeing last night, a paragraph asking any one living who assisted in the building of the bridge of Forth, Scotland, I am proud to say a nephew of mine, who is a civil engineer, was there seven years of the time it took to build that bridge.

A Brilliant Genius. On one occasion, another man helped Thomas Edison to erect a miniature electric light plant, and when the work was finished he was so delighted that he said to the great inventor, "Mr. Edison, after working with you like this, I believe I could put up an electric light plant myself."

War Tidings. The capture of Martinpuich by the British and Peronne by the French is rumored. More war demonstrations by the people in Greece. King Constantine is still looking for a suitable premier.

War Loan at Brockville. Brockville, Sept. 15.—Locally the second Canadian war loan is being liberally subscribed. The first subscription received was for \$10,000 from a Brookville hotelkeeper, who moved here from Alsace-Lorraine following the war of 1870 to escape the German yoke.

Random Reels

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

THE RAILROAD CROSSING. The railroad crossing is a modern substitute for sudden death which kills more people every year than overwork.

When the railroads of this country were laid out, civil engineers were harder to find than a painless chiropractist. Great care was taken to locate the crossings at some point where nobody could see five feet on either side of the right of way without climbing a telegraph pole.

There are a few more harrowing experiences in life than to approach a railroad crossing at night in a rain storm, with the curtains up and the engine missing. This is particularly the case if the crossing is located in a low gully flanked on either side by reverse curves and bluffs thirty feet high.

Some day there will be no rail, shredded by a wild freight, all he-roads, but until that day comes it is better to slow up and make sure than to dive ahead and pass away in a fender and a new tail light.

A prolific cause of railroad crossing accidents is the speed maniac with a head shaped like a rat tail.

Nobody could see five feet on either side of the right of way without climbing a telegraph pole.

whose lives are jeopardized every day by these road insects, he yearns for a law which will require a brain test with every license number.

It's hard to know who are your friends, so many men have selfish ends. I take a comrade to my heart, and feed him pie and damson tart, and give him love that's pure and deep, and let him in my woodshed sleep.

EARLY ELECTION MUST BE AVERTED

Montreal Gazette (Con.). The two parties in Parliament are responsible for the situation that will prevail after the present month. Representatives in each thought that with the war on their minds the people could not do their duty as voters in the serious situation that has existed for over two years.

REV. DR. CHOWN NOW UNDER FIRE

Brantford Expositor. Rev. Dr. Chown, the general superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada, is the latest addition to the list of honorary colonels. The Minister of Militia is a Methodist but is that any reason why the head of the Methodist Church should be decorated with military honors and the heads of all other churches ignored?

Three thousand prisoners and eight guns were taken by the Russians in the advance in Galacia on Friday. German reinforcements failed to stem the advance. The Sun Life Company has subscribed five million dollars to the Canadian war loan.

The King has awarded high honors to Admiral Beatty and other naval heroes in the Jutland battle.

Bibbys New Fall Overcoats



We are showing some dandies. FOUR NEW MODELS. The Joffre, \$15.00. New fancy tweeds, full backs; sewn in sleeve, stitched cuffs. Sizes 33 to 38. The Asquith, \$18.00. Genteel grey or black, cheviots and vicunas. Splendidly made. Conservative style. Sizes 34 to 46.

The Belmont, \$15.00. Fancy cheviots, three quarter length, cuffed sleeve. Full back. Self collar; new English sleeve. Size 33 to 38. THE GLOSER AT \$12.50. Three quarter length coat. Very popular and safe model. Grey, blacks, olive, tweed, cheviot and cravenette. Sizes 34 to 46.

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