

The British Whig 83RD YEAR.



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REVENUE FROM BILLBOARDS

The Whig has frequently been urged to take up the right against unsightly and dangerous bill-boards, but so far has refrained because it was altogether likely that the general public would think that the paper was acting from motives of self-interest rather than from those for the general good.

The Board of Control of Montreal has just agreed on a special tax of 5 per cent on the gross receipts of bill-board firms, a tax which is expected to bring the city an additional income of \$10,000.

Our city council is in need of more funds and here is an example they might well follow. It would have the hearty endorsement of the public.

The discussion which occurred in the city council on Monday evening demonstrated once more the irregular and imprudent manner in which the business of the city is sometimes conducted.

The German steamer Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm on the rocks of the island of Ferun. She ought to be on the bottom of the sea if she received the treatment commonly handed out by the Germans in their submarine war.

THE COMMITTEE AT FAULT. The discussion which occurred in the city council on Monday evening demonstrated once more the irregular and imprudent manner in which the business of the city is sometimes conducted.

There was no meeting of the committee, no instruction with regard to the work, no limitation as to the expenditure under the circumstances, and no check of the accounts.

LATEST CABINET SHUFFLE. Two days ago there was a meeting of the Conservative ward politicians of Toronto with the premier in his office, and with regard to certain cabinet changes.

There were many aspirants. The name of W. B. Macpherson, K. C., was suggested for one of the places, and there was a decided difference of opinion with regard to it.

Hon. Mr. Hanna is going out of public life. He is the representative in Canada of the Standard Oil Company, and he will reside in Toronto and give his law business his whole attention.

The new cabinet will be of a temporary character. It is meant merely to tide the government over the session, and then a crisis and possibly a collapse.

SUPPLANTING THE COUNCIL

The Quebec legislature is trespassing upon the duties of the Montreal council. There may be some provocation for this, but there does not seem to be any right.

Something further, and quite unexpectedly, took place. The government, assuming that the council's position was a serious one, and assuming further, that Montreal was unable to help itself under the circumstances, appointed two commissioners.

The Montreal Gazette very pertinently remarks: "The commissioners are substituted for the elected representatives of the taxpayers and citizens in dealing with a matter that directly touches the administration of municipal property and municipal revenue."

EDITORIAL NOTES. Dr. Pyne a senator. Politically embalm at his age? Surely not.

The captivity of the Belgians—100,000 of them so far—is accepted as an evidence of the great want of man power in Germany.

When the chairman of the works committee knew that he could not legally or fairly exceed his appropriation why did he sanction a \$2,000 order without provision as to the cost?

The Belgians carried captives into Germany are not forced into the army, but they are obliged, as slaves, to make munitions which are used

against their own people, and this is what the Teutons can katur.

The German freighters and general passenger steamships have been fitted up in America and for sea. Their owners, in anticipation of peace, gave people notice that they were ready for regular service? What a dead end!

The liberal party in Saskatchewan will fit of ex-speaker Sheppard. He wanted a coat of white-wash from the people before he had re-dressed himself from certain scandal, and the people gave him a mandate to stay at home. Good enough.

It is said that what the city wants is a business man as mayor. It has this now in Dr. Richardson. What it wants a great deal more is business aidmen. The fair grounds' deal has advertised some of them as very faulty in public service.

The article the Whig prints in another column, from the Mail, on wheat speculations, will have a special interest for those who, in a new business, expected to make millions out of their investments. They had better leave the grain market to the grain merchants in future.

The trains these days are said to be delayed somewhat because there is so much expressage in the form of whiskey packages to be dropped off along the line. Toronto will never see the full results of prohibition until this traffic is stopped.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO

T. Fitzgerald says he will run R. Robinson either 100 or 200 yards for \$100 or \$200. J. J. Behan is a candidate for aldermanic honors in Ontario Ward and is meeting with great success.

The weather is quite soft, and the coal dealers are not reaping their usual harvest.

GRAIN SPECULATORS AND THEIR MARGINS

A few weeks ago wheat was selling for \$2 a bushel. The marked scarcity of wheat, on account of the short crops, and the strength of the European demand, were said to account for the continued rise.

The speculators began to buy wheat for a further rise. Those who had bought it lower down were holding. There were few buyers.

Random Reels

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

THE MATCH

The Match is a mild explosive which is used to set a cigar on fire. The only time it fails to accomplish this object is when it runs up against a campaign cigar which has been carried around in the vest pocket of some candidate who does not smoke for fear of alienating the church vote.

During recent years the making of matches has been reduced to an exact science. The first attempt in this line was highly disappointing to people whose olfactory nerves were in a sound and rugged state.

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Rippling Rhymes

PROFITLESS TALK

It is a pleasant thing to find a man of cultivated mind, whose spelt is tinged with sparkling wit, whose every comment makes a hit. It is a luxury to meet a delegate upon the street who springs a subject not so old as to be spotted green with mold.

consider that perhaps they would not get out at higher prices to European Governments. There was an abrupt drop because the market was speculatively overheld. Then came the German Chancellor's peace proposals. The market view was, and is, that the making of the proposals marks a new stage of the war. Even if the proposals are rejected, and fighting goes on, the ice has been broken. It is a question of time until Germany is forced to accede to the Entente terms.

WINDSOR HOTEL CLOSED

ENTIRE FURNISHINGS ARE BEING SOLD AT AUCTION. Has Been Serving the Public Over Forty Years, and is One of the Best Known Hotels in Eastern Ontario.

The Windsor, one of the best-known hotels in Eastern Ontario has closed its doors and as a result Kingston has lost another "stand-by" hotel. Frank McCue, the proprietor, is selling out the entire furnishings by auction.

Frank McCue is leaving for Rochester, where he will take over one of the leading hotels. As an hotelkeeper he was regarded as one of the best in the business, and his host of friends in and around Kingston extend to him best wishes in his new enterprise.

This is the second hotel the city has lost since Ontario went "dry." The British-American hotel having closed its doors a short time ago. It is understood that another leading hotel on Princess street will be closed next May.

JOHNNY CAN'T PARADE IN KHAKI UNIFORM

An Order Against it Has Been Issued by the Militia Department. (Special to the Whig) Ottawa, Dec. 20.—No longer may little Johnnie Canuck parade about in a diminutive reproduction of the uniform of his soldier daddy.

A. B. Calder has been appointed assistant general passenger agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway, with offices at Montreal.

United States Steel broke to 109 5/8 and closed at 112 on Tuesday.

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Bibbys Store Open Even Handsome Suits and Overcoats. Beautiful Silk Scarfs \$1.50 to \$5.50. We are showing a gathering from the best and foremost makes of high grade clothing.

Electrical Christmas Suggestions. Table Lamps. Electric Irons. Electric Toasters. Electric Vacuum Cleaners. WE CAN SETTLE THE CHRISTMAS QUESTION FOR YOU. Moore's Electric Shop Wellington Street.

Sunkist Raisins. First Car New Raisins Just Arrived. At all Grocers. Insist on SUNKIST.

McLeod's Drug Store. Brock Street. Djerkiss Perfume 1 ounce bottles. Djerkiss Perfume 8 ounce bottles. Djerkiss Sachet 1 ounce bottles. Djerkiss Toilet Water and Talcum. Mary Garden Perfume in 1 oz., 2 oz. & 8 oz. bottles. Also Mary Garden Talcums, Sachet and Soap.

Downeys Garage. Open Day and Night. Repair Work of All Kinds. Cars Stored Until May 1st. Small Cars, \$10.00. Large Cars, \$12.00. Cars for Hire. Gasoline, Oils and Greases Always on Hand. We Store Furniture. George Downey, Prop. 126 Queen Street. Phone 864.

Tom Smith's Christmas Crackers. The great fun makers for both young and old. See our splendid assortment. JAS. REDDEN & CO. Phones 20 and 990.

DALY GARAGE. 335 King Street. Phone 363. We furnish auto supplies of all kinds: gasoline, motor oil, etc. (Cars washed and stored at reasonable rates. Repair work promptly attended to. Satisfaction guaranteed.) J. P. Daly, Prop.