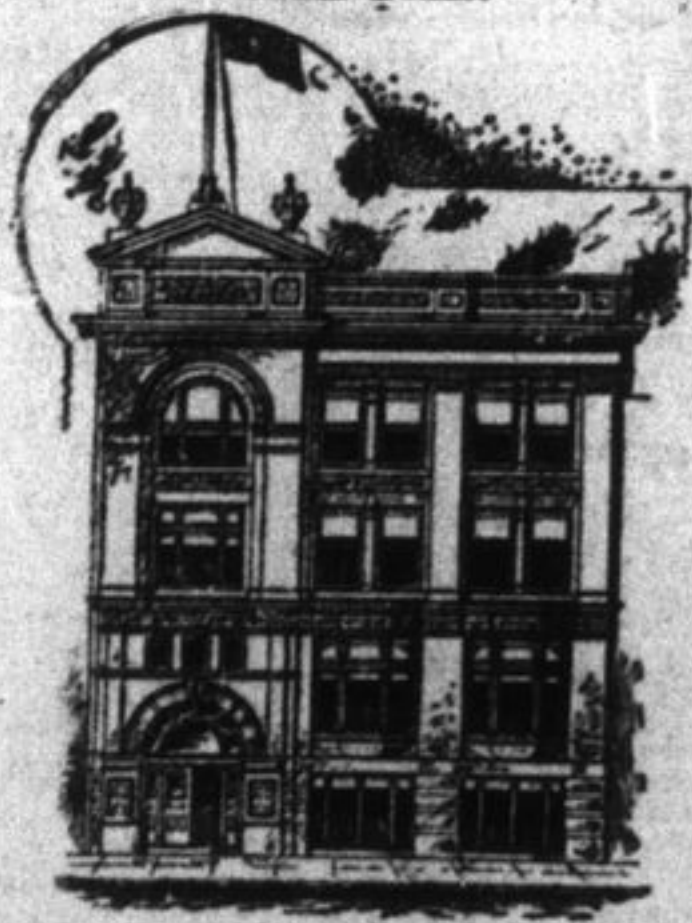


The British Whig 84TH YEAR



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WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

There is a new chapter upon the Ross rifle, and it comes from Ottawa. It is to the effect that the government papers have been entirely wrong in attributing to the Laurier government the blame for producing an arm, which, in service, has been found so faulty and so unsatisfactory.

The Ross rifle, at any time, was the product of the government, and was made by Sir Charles Ross at his factory in Quebec from specifications that were supplied to him.

The whole story about the Ross rifle has not been told, and will not be, until it has been released by the censor; but one thing is certain—the statement of the government press is not correct.

It was Mr. Rowell, who, in the legislature, last session, moved that the municipalities have control over the new power development scheme of the west.

AIDING THE AMERICANS.

The American manufacturers have not ceased to be astonished over the competition of the British shell makers in underbidding them for the last big order for the navy.

On the 14-inch shells the British company bid \$513 each for an order of 5,000 shells to be delivered in six months. This was more than 3200 lower than the best American bid.

In bidding against the Americans the British manufacturers entered into no slaughtering competition. The factories affected by the contract are engaged in the production of shells for the navy, and they have such a supply on hand, and the British Admiralty has been so well equipped, that in order to maintain their shops at their highest efficiency active service is necessary.

The Germany navy, it is said, has to be thanked for this. In what way? It is idle. It is keeping the British navy idle so far as its guns are concerned. The great North Sea fleet

patrols the ocean, but its guns are silent. Therefore the British munition shops, employed in the production of shells for battleships, is at liberty to give the Americans the munitions they want and at a minimum of cost.

President Wilson has made an appeal for aid in behalf of the Red Cross Fund. Since the war began America has contributed \$2,000,000 in Red Cross work in all the belligerent countries.

A CALL TO HARMONY.

The tour of the Quebecers through Ontario, and incidentally the accentuation of opinion, is very suggestive. Our public men, representing two provinces, of different nationalities and tongues, have been expressing sentiments of the most acceptable kind.

The men in arms, and in the fight, have not been influenced by any sectional or racial feelings. They have struggled side by side, having but one aim in mind, and that is the success of the Allies and the cause which they defend.

In the face of such bravery, the recital of which called for a tremendous ovation, it is deplorable that any one dare reflect upon the patriotism of any class in Canada. The Bonne Entente is something which deserves the warmest support of every Canadian, and the pity is that the campaign of a few days could not be extended to a campaign of several weeks in order that every part of Canada, in which there are different nationalities, might see how cordially men can co-operate in the greatest of all movements.

Those who suggested the Bonne Entente can afford to ignore the suspicion with which it was at first regarded by some misguided people. The Entente has behind it the strongest of public sympathy, and the organizers of it have the very sincere thanks of the Canadian people for the good they have already accomplished.

The colonels and others who are engaged in recruiting, or in any military service, should keep out of the elections. The ordinary laymen can handle local issues without their aid.

AUTHORITIES WILL DIFFER.

The meeting of the Dairyman's Association of Eastern Ontario led to some serious differences of opinion among the delegates upon certain questions. One was the payment of the patrons of cheese factories for the quality of their milk, rather than the quantity of it.

Now come the makers of butter and cheese with a distinct difference of opinion respecting the valuation of milk, and behind the movement is the Act which was passed by the Ontario Legislature, calling for this change in valuation. It is supported by Messrs. Zuehlit and Pablow, of Kingston, whose standing in the business is unchallenged.

But the minister of agriculture was represented by a Montreal buyer of dairy products, Mr. Ayer, and he was opposed to the new law which authorized the valuation of milk according to the proportion of butter fat which it contained. He held that a cheese made from a reasonably rich milk was more in demand than a very rich cheese.

What does this mean? Simply that the legislation is an advance of pub-

lic opinion. This seems remarkable, since the deputy minister of agriculture said the press had supported the change, and the press is supposed to reflect generally the mind of the people. Evidently in this case the press was what used to be called "a little previous."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The liberals of West Simcoe are working for the election of Mr. Scott, a life-long temperance man. The Rowell party, pledged to prohibition, are supporting him.

German bonds are being brought to America by the Deutschland for sale to German sympathizers. They are being peddled out most secretly and to the extent of \$25,000,000.

The Toronto Telegram is troubled over the prospects of Sir Adam Beck's great work being defeated in the province. It is the government of Ontario which the Telegram supports that menaced the scheme by the legislation of last year.

It is a question whether any information leaked out of the White House and caused the flurry on the stock market recently. It is not improbable that something may have been stolen, and the thief is not going to confess his sin.

Why are the liquor men still after the Hearst government? Because it took their money in the last election and then sold them out. So they declare. They do not expect to see a license government re-established, but they do expect to balance accounts.

The members of the second commission, appointed by Sir George Perley to review the Bruce commission's report, do not dispute that there were undesirable among the medicals appointed to serve in the war. He says the proportion was not unduly large.

Hon. Mr. Blondin becomes the post-master-general of Canada; Hon. Mr. Patenaude becomes the minister of inland revenue; and Hon. Mr. Seigny becomes the secretary of state. All these are nationalists. All the representatives of Quebec in the Borden government, excepting one, are of the same party. The nationalists are, therefore, the strength and hope of the present government.

KINGSTON EVENTS 25 YEARS AGO.

Mayor-elect Donald McIntyre has promised the mayor's medal for Queen's for this year.

Prof. Marshall has been appointed Queen's delegate to the bi-centenary festival of Trinity College, Dublin.

It has been decided by the Privy Council that Lieut.-Col. H. R. Smith, deputy sergeant-at-arms, is to succeed Lieut.-Col. Macdonald as sergeant-at-arms in the House of Commons at Ottawa.

Random Reels

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

THE PEG TOOTH

The Peg Tooth is an inferior substitute for the real article which is kept in place by hope and a poor brand of glue.

The teeth are justly considered a greater scourge to humanity than the double-tongued male gossip. From youth to old age they cause more trouble than the church member who always kicks but never pays. Nature intended the teeth to last for a lifetime, instead of breaking down at the hip-joint every now and then and having to be run into some dental office for repairs.

In former times, when a tooth gave way unexpectedly and left a large, gaping hole in the face of the owner, nothing was done about it. Then some ingenious dentist invented the Peg Tooth, which can be put in place crust.

Rippling Rhymes

ON THE WAGON

A legion recently swore off; they said, "We've had a plenty; no more we'll crowd up to the trough, and guzzle S. Prumetti." And now, while yet the pledge is young, they suffer every minute, and from a cask they'd knock the bung and drink the liquid in it. Cheer up—this speech is the worst, the first few weeks of striving to curb a million dollar thirst, and keep the pledge surviving. That thirst, by years of effort built, is not at once dejected, but in a little while 'twill wilt, when finding it's but in a little while come as from the dump you keep on gallivanting, when water from the village pump will seem to you, enchanting. Though water seems upon the blink, until you're on the wagon, you never poured a better drink into a cup of flagon. When you're as glad to see a mug of undiluted water, as you were glad to see a double all to bliss turn, and you will join the gladsome band that whoops around the cistern.

CLERKS GOING INTO OVERALLS

Toronto Star. It is said that wages paid in munition factories in the United States are so good that they tempt clerks away into overalls. Two youths who drew \$10 to \$12 a week as clerks have been drawing more than twice as much in powder works, and will soon be doing better than that.

There are, however, some objections to the change, other than a craving for good clothes and gentility. The work in the factories is too hard for men with soft hands and soft muscles. The employment is precarious. It will cease when the war is over, and the occasional worker who is not a skilled mechanic may have difficulty in finding another job.

Long periods of unemployment are more common for mechanics and laborers than for those in clerical positions. People talk in awe-stricken tones of mechanics earning five dollars a day, but they forget the many days of enforced idleness. The fact is that in the basic industries in the U. S. the workers are unemployed on the average one-fifth of the year.

The Price of Coal.

Toronto News. The people of Toronto and Ontario are interested in the news from Washington that the Government has discovered indications of illegal manipulation of coal prices. It is said that dealers are withholding fuel from the market and making as high as \$150 on a carload of anthracite. Such returns are exasperating to householders who are paying from \$9 to \$10 a ton. As the people of Ontario depend entirely upon the American mines for their coal they are helpless so far as regulating prices is concerned. They should, however, benefit if a reduction in quotations is forced across the line. It is not likely that the scarcity and dearth of labor wholly accounts for existing prices. One abuse is a control of mines and railways by the same groups of capitalists, who have a double opportunity to get the better of the public. The high coal prices of 1916-17 should be a powerful incentive to the people of this province to support the Hydro-Railroad project. Once the problem of cheap electric heat is solved Ontario will be independent of American coal. As little time as possible should be lost in securing control of all sources of supply and all operating plants.

GIRL DIES AS RESULT OF SUICIDE PACT

Her Sweetheart Fails to Keep Agreement to Swallow Tablets.

Baltimore, Jan. 10.—Esther Anderson, the 16-year-old girl who last Wednesday night swallowed three bichloride of mercury tablets as the result of what she said was a "suicide pact" with her sweetheart, Andrew Kuhn, 17 years old, died yesterday. Kuhn was not looked upon with favor by the girl's parents, and finally had been forbidden to come to the house.

Kuhn had given her three tablets, saying that he would take three also and that, since they could not be together in life, they would die together. She swallowed the three tablets, she said, but Kuhn, after tasting one of his, spat it out and complained that it was bitter. It is thought, however, that he did swallow a portion of one of the tablets.

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The best thing for steady use is just ordinary mulsified coconut oil (which is pure and greaseless), and is better than the most expensive soap or anything else you can use. One or two teaspoonfuls will cleanse the hair and scalp thoroughly. Simply moisten the hair with water and rub it in. It makes an abundance of rich, creamy lather, which rinses out easily, removing every particle of dust, dirt, dandruff and excessive oil. The hair dries quickly and evenly, and it leaves the scalp soft, and the hair fine and silky, bright, lustrous, fluffy and easy to manage.

You can get mulsified coconut oil at any pharmacy, it's very cheap, and a few ounces will supply every member of the family for months.

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