

THE BRITISH WHIG SIXTY YEARS



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Attached is one of the best job printing offices in Canada.

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"Castor oil is becoming scarce," says a newspaper headline. Cheers from the small boy and girl are quite in order.

The Separate School Board, by electing all its trustees by acclamation, has set a good example for the City Council.

Two more Hun attacks against the Verdun front have been thrown back. Verdun should be a word of fearful significance to Germany after the war.

"Broke, but happy. Happy New Year!" is the cheerful salutation of the editor of the Belleville Intelligencer. We like to see a man come up smiling like that.

The very fact that the Kaiser consents to negotiate with Trotzky is proof that he no longer believes he can conquer the world with the shining German sword.

This is a great afternoon for the soldiers' kiddies. May God bless them, each and every one, and may they be as happy and fare as well on all the Christmas yet to be.

During 1917 the C.P.R. built over 10,000 box cars at the Angus shops, Montreal, not to speak of those it ordered from outside. The company announces that even with this it could do with more cars.

The German Government has suspended for three days the publication of The Vorwaerts, of Berlin, for criticizing the food administration. The editor ought to be getting pretty well used to it by this time.

The Dominion Railway Commission has consented to allow the railways to increase their freight rates. About the only thing left in this topsy-turvy world that hasn't advanced in price is the subscription rate of this great family journal.

The Germans make use of every possible means to win the war for them. Even the dog is called upon to render war-time service. German courier dogs are in very general use as a means of communication between different battalions and regiments.

A Christian Science relief committee has done excellent work at Halifax. A number of Scientists, representing the First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, hastened to Halifax in a special train plentifully supplied with cash and tons of food and clothing.

Electric canoes are becoming very popular on the Thames and other English rivers. They have many advantages over the gasoline-driven launch, as they are silent and free from vibration. A canoe equipped with a thirty cell battery has a capacity for one day's run.

"Keep Ontario fish at home," advises the Toronto Mail and Empire. But supposing the fish in Kingston harbor won't stay at home, but prefer to pay a friendly visit to their fellows who rest their fins against the Cape Vincent breakwater or gambol about the New York Central dock at Clayton, what are you going to do about it?

Camouflage, the newest word to be incorporated into the English language, is derived from the

French word "camouflet," meaning smoke puffed in the face of a sleeping person. Camouflage means military mystification, the disguising of ships, guns and military positions so that they may escape the enemy's observation. Thus ships are no longer painted battleship grey, but have the shape of a bow painted near the stern in order to deceive the submarine commander as to the direction in which the vessel is travelling.

LEAVE IT TO LABOR. A vacancy at the City Council board, caused by the resignation of Ald. G. W. Bell, a representative of St. Lawrence ward, was never filled. If the mayor and aldermen are returned by acclamation, as the great majority of the people desire, who will be Ald. Bell's successor? Would it not be a gracious and deserving tribute to labor to allow this seat to be filled by one of its representatives? The Trades and Labor Council has long wished to have a voice in municipal affairs. The workingman is entitled to participation in a council which controls the expenditure of the taxes he so largely pays. Rather than bring on a party contest, suppose both sides leave it to labor to agree upon a man to stand as their representative?

THE U-BOATS' FAILURE. Britain is yet far from starvation. The submarine sinkings are decreasing while foreign trade is increasing. Germany's threat to starve the Mother Country into submission is now seen to be impossible. Rationing prevails as in most other war-ridden lands, and the inability to procure abundant supplies is perhaps due more to lack of transportation than to actual lack of food. The thoroughness characteristic of the British will carry them through this crisis. Theatres, halls and other public buildings in both England and Scotland are packed to the very roof with reserve stores of wheat. Meanwhile her foreign trade shows great activity, despite the utmost efforts of the enemy to destroy it. The official figures for the three months ending Nov. 30th have just been made public. British imports for September, 1917, amounted to \$86,299,668; October, \$94,260,963; November, \$109,789,023. For the corresponding months of 1916 the import figures were: September, \$77,440,188; October, \$81,159,873; November, \$88,934,806. Comparison of export figures for the same three months shows a satisfactory increase in the total. The future will probably show still greater increases, due to the fact that the submarine menace is now being better counteracted and that England has her shipbuilding situation well in hand. The German U-boat campaign has failed to put Great Britain out of business, as von Tirpitz boastfully declared it would.

CONSERVING THE COAL. Governments of Allied countries are to-day insistently calling upon their peoples to save. The need for thrift and economy is very apparent and very great. "We are conserving our food supplies to a certain extent, but what of our coal supplies? The shortage in fuel, for which we in Ontario are dependent on the United States, is very marked. The duty of every citizen, therefore, lies in making a ton of coal go as far as possible. The following editorial from the Saturday Evening Post should be read with care by every man who shakes down a furnace: "We need in the next twelve months a hundred million tons more coal than we produced during the last twelve months." Production may be increased by fifty million tons. The other fifty million tons must be saved. "This is a war of industrial production, and that means coal. It is worth fabulous prices in France and Italy now. For winning the war a shovel of coal counts for as much as a loaf of wheat bread. "We have always burned coal extravagantly. In factories and homes defective appliances and careless stoking waste millions of tons. "A furnace or stove without proper dampers will consume twice the coal in a strong wind, with no more heat. Dampers cost little. Look to them. If your furnace is out of repair it not only wastes the nation's coal, but wastes your money. "In office buildings, apartments and houses our custom is to keep up a roaring fire, and then moderate the temperature by opening the windows. Reasonably careful stoking alone will save millions of tons. Look at the ashes. Through worn grates or defective combustion you may be throwing away a lot of slightly burned fuel. "We have got to save coal and many other things. There simply is not enough to go round for the old free-and-easy peace programme and the new war programme. The people we know are more than ready to do all the situation demands. "They require only intelligent, authoritative direction as to just what to do. "The Government asked them, with specific directions, to save food; and they are doing it. The Government now asks them to save coal. They will do that. They will meet every requirement the war lays upon them."

Lazy men evidently don't believe in the theory that God helps those who help themselves. If the young man mixes old rye with the wild oats he sows he is pretty sure to raise a disturbance.

PUBLIC OPINION

A Think Tank. (Ottawa Citizen) Still, remember that the tank that had most to do with the British advance was the think tank on Byng's shoulders.

A Remarkable Man. (Woodstock Sentinel-Review) The late Joseph Hobson, civil engineer, who died in Hamilton the other day, must have been a remarkable man. Not only did he design the St. Clair Tunnel and several notable bridges, but he refused a knighthood.

Support the Government. (Belleville Intelligencer) Let us not forget that merely electing a Union Government does not solve all the troubles of the war—that Government to properly represent the people must have fair and honest support from the people, and it will be a blessing instead of a hardship to send our political clothes to the cleaners until after the war.

What We Are Fighting For. (Ottawa Citizen) John R. Rathon, editor of the Providence Journal, in an address before the Canadian Club of New York, said: "What is Great Britain fighting for? Because she realizes that she is facing the probable loss of everything she loves, her spiritual, religious and material storehouses, her liberty, her law, and her language." Yes, this is what Britain and the Empire are fighting for and what Canada has pledged herself anew to preserve.

Pro and Con. In these days of soaring prices only the price of liberty has not changed. It is the same to-day as it was in '61. Many a girl who enjoys fooling with a soldier's rifle couldn't score 16 in the kitchen range.

In a small town it is harder for a grass widow to live above suspicion than under a howling gale. It is much better to think proudly of what we are going to do to-morrow—than to dwell fondly on what we have done to-day.

Selling the truth in these days is just as essential as telling the truth. A war garden is a place where people cultivate some thought and a whole lot of blisters.

Only a Wesleyan. Here is one out of The Echo: The Swedish drill instructor was putting the men through it, and while the younger ones seemed to get on all right, one or two of the older men looked a bit puffed. At last one man, who had been younger in his day, told the instructor that he was too old for that sort of practice. "But how old are you?" "Forty-one next month," was the reply. "Why?" exclaimed the instructor, "the Romans used to do this sort of exercise at the age of sixty." "Perhaps," they did," said the perspiring private; "but I'm not a Roman; I'm a Wesleyan."

Rippling Rhymes

JAY WALKERS

Jay walkers add to our vexations; they violate all regulations; in city streets and country byways they laugh to scorn the rules of highways. As I go chugging in my motor, I oft run down and squash some voter, some chuckle-headed human being being, who goes around with eyes unseeing. I know that speed's a thing unholy, so I drive carefully and slowly, and toot my horn at every crossing, where traffic cops the mob are bossing. But little profit is there in it, for in a sad and fateful minute the square-head rushes, in a hurry, from back of yonder standing sursey, and lands right by the path before me; a dizzy sickness rushes o'er me, as my big car climbs up his person, and people gather round me, cursing! They tell how they would like to lynch me, while brassbound cops come up and pinch me. The man on foot is never erring; the motorist all blame is bearing. The walkers wander, and when they get beneath a wagon because of zigzagging, the people cry, "Let 'em shang the chuffer, who this makes worthy walkers suffer!"

-WALT MASON.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN



SPREAD DEATH BY WHOLESALE

Plot to Poison Red Cross Bandages is Unearthed.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 28.—A plot to poison Red Cross bandages and spread wholesale death among the soldiers of America and her Allies has been exposed and frustrated here. Revelations of the conspiracy were made to-day when it became known the Department of Justice agents were hunting the perpetrators of the deed. Three thousand four hundred surgical dressings, rolled by patriotic women in Toledo, were infected with a mysterious greenish poison while in transit between Toledo and Cleveland. Immediately every one of the 3,400 bandages was burned. They were destroyed secretly in the rear of the Red Cross warehouse here. Every effort was made to keep the matter secret, and it was successful until today. Officials of the lake division of the Red Cross refused to discuss the poisoned bandages, but the authoritative information was obtained that the bandages had been destroyed, and that Government agents, aided by only slender clues, were trying to solve the mystery. The poisoned bandages were part of the periodical shipments received at the local headquarters of the lake division from Red Cross headquarters in other cities in the division, which comprises Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. The box of bandages arrived here from the Toledo chapter last week and were taken to the warehouse. While women were examining the huge quantity of surgical dressings as to specifications, a dark greenish substance was noticed on one of the bandages. Investigation showed that all of the bandages in the box had been treated with poison.

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MONEY TO SUPPORT FOREIGN MISSIONS

Over Twenty Million Dollars Subscribed to Carry on Work.

New York, Dec. 28.—Foreign Missions in the United States and Canada received total subscriptions of \$20,407,861 in 1917, of which \$12,166,864 was from the United States and \$1,240,997 from Canada, according to a report by the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, made public here. Nineteen organizations in Canada and 178 in the United States are represented in the figures. While the combined total is almost exactly that of a year ago, the figures show that Canada, regardless of the burdens she has subscribed approximately \$100,000 more than a year ago, while the United States contributed the same amount less. There are at work in the mission lands of Asia, Africa and Oceania, the report continues, "8,576 missionaries from the United States, and 782 from Canada. The native staff working with these North American missionaries number 40,502. In addition, there are 1,559 American and 104 Canadian missionaries at work in Latin America and 250 in certain European countries. There are 498 physicians, including 167 women, at work in 68 hospitals, and 537 dispensaries in areas where medical need is the greatest. More than 1,100,000 communicants are related to the growing churches in the various lands which these missionaries from North America are helping to organize and develop."

CIVIL WAR ECONOMIES.

Present Generation Has No Conception of Self-Denial.

Let any persons who think wheatless and meatless diets are a hardship listen to the venerable men and women whose memory takes them back to the Civil War. One of them, who was a resident of a town in Central New York, recalls that even in well-to-do families genuine coffee was unknown for a long time. Roasted barley, parched corn, chicory roots and even dandelion roots, dried and roasted, were used as coffee substitutes. White or granulated sugar were also a rarity, and only on the table for company. Brown sugar and even old-fashioned black molasses, were used for sweetening. Honey, apple butter, fruit jams and even lard were used as substitutes for butter. Butter was scarce and dear, for those times, and bread and molasses, bread and honey, and even bread and ham fat were considered plenty good enough for all but the very old people. In those days nearly every family in town kept a cow. Those who didn't, as a rule, went without milk. The papers of that day emphasized the fact that coffee and tea were more nutritious when used without milk. In those days there were no movies or cheap amusements of any kind, picture postal cards were unknown and children didn't stop in a candy shop to spend anywhere from a nickel to a quarter a day. A child thought himself lucky if he had contrived to get possession of a penny. The fact is, the present generation has no conception of the hard times brought on by the Civil War in the North—to say nothing of the abject misery and want that prevailed in the South.

Distinguished Doubles. Winston Churchill has a double, who, when last heard of, was a waiter in a Plymouth hotel, while Lord Charles Beresford also possesses a double in a waiter who is his exact counterpart. As a matter of fact, we probably all have doubles somewhere or other. King Edward had quite a number, and it has been said that the resemblance was encouraged, and that the occasional cheering and playing of the National Anthem were enjoyed immensely. King George and the ex-Czar of Russia are much alike, and there is a gentleman in Massachusetts who is exactly like Col. Roosevelt, even to the teeth and the smile. So close was the resemblance and the smile, Sir, Gerard Du Maurier, the popular actor, and the late Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, that at a dinner party one night a lady addressed Du Maurier as "Sir Alma," and assured him that he was "really not a bit like that Mr. Du Maurier, as people make out"—Tit-Bits.

Coal is being delivered to Brantford citizens in quarter-ton lots, 100 tons having been received yesterday for the civic fuel centre, which had more than 100 applications since Monday. The Chinese defeated the Bolsheviks and captured Harbin.

Bibbys The Weather for Woollens We Have the Goods. PURE WOOL SWEATERS and SWEATER COATS. PURE WOOL SOCKS. PURE WOOL GLOVES. PURE WOOL FLANNEL SHIRTS. SEE BIBBYS ENGLISH STORM ULSTERS. PURE WOOL NECKSCARFS. SOLDIERS' WOOLLEN KHAKI SHIRTS. PENMAN'S PURE WOOL UNDERWEAR. WOOL AVIATION CAPS. BRITANNIA PURE WOOL UNDERWEAR. SEE BIBBYS WORKING MEN'S FUR LINED JACKETS, at \$6.75 to \$10.00. Bibbys - Limited

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TABLE WATERS. White Rock Poland Tally-Ho Vichy Celestine Imported Dry Ginger Ale Imported Ginger Beer Gurd's Ginger Ale Gurd's Soda Water. Jas. REDDEN & Co. Phones 26 and 990.

CRAWFORD COAL SALES Will Be For CASH. At price current for the month when the order is given. The Coal situation in the United States compels this action. Foot of Queen St. Phone 9.

Canadian Editor Tries Again. "I fear that the National News is about to be revived," says the Liverpool Post correspondent. "It presents an example of audacity, for the running of a Sunday paper in war time is no light task. When it ended in June, possibly those who had appreciated its rather brilliant standard of writing hardly believed in its promised resurrection. The Canadian editor, Mr. De Beck, has plenty of persistent enterprise behind his gold pincenes and under his high forehead." This enterprising Canadian is endeavoring to give a Sunday paper to London.

Mother Knew Papa. Little Tommy, who is of rather an enquiring turn of mind, and who had been gazing at his father's somewhat rosy countenance for some time at last said: "Papa, what makes your face and nose so dre'fly red?" "The east wind, of course," answered papa, rather hastily. "Do not talk so much, Thomas, and pass me the beer." It was then that a voice came from the other end of the table in dulcet tones, saying: "Tommy, dear, pass your papa the east wind, and be careful not to spill it on the clean cloth."

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. CURES ALL KIDNEY DISEASES. RHEUMATISM, BRUISES, GRAVEL, DIABETES, BARKER'S. 23 THE PRINCE...