

THE BRITISH WHIG 85TH YEAR.



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The ice crop is safe, anyway.

Any New Year resolutions broken yet?

Encourage home trade and home industries.

Nobody gets a chance to swear off. The Government does it for him.

Poor old Russia! She doesn't know where she's going, but she's on her way—to what?

Labor has at last been given a place at the council board. And labor knows who championed its cause.

As the Cleveland Plain Dealer aptly enquires: "What is it that has taken the French out of the French-Canadian?"

The Germans, Austrians and Turks are getting quite a few good, stiff punches on various parts of their military anatomy, so to speak.

The Government has conscripted the manhood of Canada. May it now equalize things by conscripting the wealth of Canada?

Toronto has declared emphatically in favor of public ownership of the street railway system. Wonder how Kingston would vote on a similar proposition?

No one these days can sit back and wait. He must be up and doing. Admiral Jellicoe in England and the Union Government in Canada here meet on common ground.

It took the British 700 years to encompass the fall of Jerusalem. As an example of bull-dog tenacity this is a record. The Hun must today realize what he is up against when he defies the Anglo-Saxon race.

The Kaiser, in a New Year order, again proclaims: "Forward with God to fresh deeds!" Fresh deeds of what—brutality and devilishness? To link the name of the Almighty with Hun atrocities is the essence of hypocrisy.

To-day is a red-letter day for military Canada. The new army starts to-day to report for duty. They will add, we feel sure, additional glory to the record made by the immortal First Contingent and those who followed them.

A record of forty-six years on the staff of the Portsmouth Penitentiary is a service to be proud of. The Whig heartily congratulates Michael J. Kennedy on such an unusual achievement. The staff of the institution are also deserving of praise in recognizing the value of his services, as shown by the presentation of a valuable gold watch. If the timepiece is as faithful in its duty as Michael has been in his, it will not lose a second of time in the next few hundred years.

FRONTENAC WARD. The Whig has already stated its reasons for advocating the return by acclamation of the Mayor, Utilities Commissioners and City Council. Those same reasons hold good in respect to Frontenac Ward. The three representatives of that ward in last year's council were able and energetic aldermen, and deserved to be returned to Council. Ald. Wright

was fortunate enough to find a seat without opposition in another ward, but forces were at work to make this impossible for Aldermen Corbett and Smith. The movement succeeded, and so an election has been forced.

THIS YEAR'S TAX RATE.

The fact that the City Council closed the year with a surplus of over \$2,000, instead of carrying an overdraft as has been usual during the past ten years, was due to increased license fees (thanks to these being fully collected), an additional \$1,300 in taxes not estimated and \$780 rent of the paving plant which was used by the Militia Department in building the road to Barfield camp. Street lighting for 1917 cost about \$22,000, but there is hope of this amount being reduced in 1918 through the coming of Hydro-Electric Commission power. When this reduction comes then the citizens may feel like meeting the desire of the member of the Utilities Commission and doing some enthusiastic over Kingston's good fortune in being linked up with Trent power, which the late Seymour Company was instrumental in harnessing for the benefit of this district.

The total tax rate paid by the ratepayers of Kingston during 1917 was 29 1/2 mills. As there is a small surplus from last year, instead of the usual overdraft, and with the possibility of the street lighting rates being reduced, it would appear hopeful that this year's Council will not be called upon to increase the rate. Thirty mills of taxation looks big, but it must be remembered that the size of a tax rate depends upon the assessment. Kingston property is not assessed high. If it was increased the tax rate could be lowered, but it is hardly likely that such a plan will be followed.

AN APPEAL TO FARMERS.

Many have been the demands upon the generosity of the Canadian people during the war. The response, on every occasion, has been prompt and liberal as befitted a young and prosperous nation. And now still another cause requires their support. A British Empire Fund is being raised by voluntary contributions to render first-aid in the restoration of agriculture on farms in the devastated regions of France, Belgium, Serbia, Rumania and Italy. The object is to help in reinstating the peasant farmers in the invaded countries of our Allies. This will be done by gifts of seed, livestock, implements, etc., to enable them to make a fresh start. This is above all things a farmers' cause, and should strongly appeal to all tillers of the soil. The ministers of agriculture and the leaders of the agricultural organizations in the various provinces have expressed themselves as entirely in sympathy with the movement to extend practical financial aid to their brother farmers who have suffered so greatly. The British Whig, along with other organizations, will receive and acknowledge contributions.

The farmers of our Allies, in the devastated regions, have lost everything in the war. In some places the land itself is torn beyond any possible recovery into use for growing crops. The farmers of the whole British Empire want to help these brother farmers to get on their feet as soon as they obtain possession of their farms. They have nothing left with which to begin farming again. Their houses and machinery have been destroyed by the Huns. We want to help them for the sake of the good name of Canada; we want to help them because we have prospered while they have suffered. Our dairymen, our grain-growers, our livestock men, our poultrymen and fruit-growers and our country women should remember and help their kindred across the seas. Think kindly, therefore, of giving some aid to the peasant farmers in war-stricken Europe who have endured more suffering than we in Canada can ever realize.

A RECORD OF MERIT.

When the full story of the war is written the work done by the Medical Services will come in for a large share of the praise and honor due to our armies, so that the record of the work done by No. 7 (Queen's) Canadian General Hospital is of special interest. This story has just come from the publisher's hands and is contained in a neat, well-bound little volume, for a copy of which the Whig has to thank Col. Etherington, the commanding officer of the unit.

The book tells of the mobilization of the unit, then known as No. 5 Canadian Stationary Hospital, at Kingston on March 26th, 1915. Then follows a graphic description of its work on St. Martin's Plains in England, and its transfer for service to Egypt in August, 1915. After eight months of hard work at Cairo, the unit increased in size until it passed into the category of general hospitals by becoming No. 7 (Queen's) Canadian General Hospital, with an establishment of 1,040 beds. As such it was transferred to France in April, 1916, and since then it has done splendid service as

a base hospital in France. The volume, which is intended to be a New Year greeting from the hospital to its friends and supporters at home, is one of surpassing interest. Step by step it shows the development of the unit from a stationary hospital of 200 beds to its present status with accommodation for 2,300 patients. It is a story of hard, patient toil, of hardships conquered by ceaseless devotion to duty, and of the wonderful things which are being done to alleviate the sufferings of our sick and wounded soldiers. A special word of praise is given to the nursing sisters, whose zeal and untiring energy have made hospital life a pleasure for the soldiers and who have brought comfort and ease to many a suffering hero.

Interesting descriptions are given of the various departments of the hospital, especially of the surgical, pathological and X-ray departments. The book is profusely illustrated by photographs of the hospital, its staff and of various departments. It concludes with a cordial note of thanks to all the societies and individuals who have lent valuable assistance to the hospital since its formation. The whole work is intensely interesting to Kingstonians, for it records the story of one of the finest units which ever left the Limestone City. Those who have the good fortune to obtain a copy will have in their possession a record of war work which will become more and more valuable with passing years. A debt of gratitude is due Col. F. Etherington, O.C., for the production and publication of this fine history of his unit.

PUBLIC OPINION

Get Together. (Grandford Expositor.) If the twentieth century is Canada's it is time she got together so as to make the most of it for herself.

A Missing Spirit. (St. Thomas Journal.) The spirit of the holiday season fills the air, but the spirit that used to accompany it (prior to a certain September) are happily absent.

Canada's Advantage. (Quebec Herald.) Von Tirpitz says "It is only a question of keeping cool." If that's all, we can see where Canada can safely be relied upon to win the war.

The Important Point. (London Advertiser.) Germany wants her colonies back, but the most important point is: Do the colonies wish to go back under German rule?

Unacceptable. (Philadelphia Record.) America, England, France and Italy are not going to accept a peace arranged between German and Austrian jugglers, and Russian anarchists.

Give Kiddies a Chance. (Grandford Expositor.) Be considerate of others. You want them to be considerate of you.

Don't bug the wrong side of the road in order to take a corner at high speed. There may be a car coming from the opposite direction and the driver needs all the room you can give him.

Don't pass a horse at high speed; give him a chance to get acquainted with an automobile. If you see a horse is frightened, speak to him gently. Your "whoa, boy," will mean more than his driver's. It will go far toward convincing his intelligence that your car is not such a strange monster after all.

Don't take chances. Don't assume that the other driver will play safe—he may take the same chance you are going to take. Drive slowly in entering or leaving a public garage.

Don't pass another car going the same direction while turning a corner. Don't try to pass on the right of a car going in the same direction. In passing a car standing at the side of the road, sound warning and exercise extreme caution.

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DON'TS FOR CAR DRIVERS

LONG LIST OF INSTRUCTIONS WHICH SHOULD BE FOLLOWED

Accidents Can Only Be Avoided by Proper Care — Exercise Caution and Common Sense. Safety for the motorist!

Volumes have been written and volumes will be written about how to secure it, but all in vain unless the motorist himself adheres to the careful suggestions of those who have had wide experience among car users who have paid the price of carelessness.

In this advanced age of the automobile, the motorist is as safe in his car as he is in his armchair at home — provided he is not careless. It is the man who "takes a chance," either through ignorance or because of a natural recklessness, that is a menace to himself and others.

There follows a list of DON'TS and a mob of suggestions:

Maxims for Motorists. Come to a full stop before passing standing trolley cars.

Slow down and proceed with caution at intersecting streets, blind corners, school crossings and bridges.

Come to a full stop before crossing railroad tracks.

Always give signal when preparing to turn or stop.

Always give signal so that the man in back will know what you are going to do.

Don't back up without first looking behind you.

Don't Take Chances. Don't stop suddenly.

In passing another car going the same direction turn out at least 75 feet back of it in order to get a clear view of the road ahead. If there is another car coming, don't try to pass.

Don't pass another car going in the same direction while turning a corner.

Don't try to pass on the right of a car going in the same direction.

In passing a car standing at the side of the road, sound warning and exercise extreme caution.

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Bibbys The Store That Keeps the Prices Down Don't Worry About High Prices Watch This Space For January Prices Something different every few days. See our window display of young men's overcoats, marked at \$15.00. Other stores ask \$20 and \$22.50. Bibbys Limited

Be careful in passing the front of a standing-trolley car.

Pedestrians Have Rights. Look out for children loafing from behind a trolley car which is standing and which came from the opposite direction.

In day driving, look out for the "jay walker"—he is sure to walk out into the street between the regular crosswalks.

Don't forget that a pedestrian is more apt to skid on an icy pavement than you are.

The man who runs across the road in front of you just as it is getting dark may be hurrying home for supper. It takes him longer to get there than it does you, so give him a chance.

Look out for boys stealing rides on trolleys.

Don't drive fast with a soft tire or one that is nearly worn out.

Don't allow your spotlight to shine in the faces of drivers of approaching cars.

Whatever alcohol you use, put it in the radiator.

Install a good device for cleaning rain or snow from the windshield.

See that your brakes are properly set if you leave your car on an incline, and also turn your front wheels toward the curb.

Watch for the pedestrian who tries to cross the street after you have received the traffic officer's signal to go ahead.

Exercise caution when being towed or in towing another car. Don't hurry; take corners slowly; look out for pedestrians who may try to cut between the cars, not observing the tow rope.

If you stop on the road to make a repair or a tire change, see that the car is as far as possible from the travelled portion of the road.

If forced to stop at night, don't allow anything or anyone to stand so as to hide the tail light from the view of approaching cars.

If working on the left or road side of the car, exercise extreme care.

Look Ahead, Not Behind. Don't try to talk to persons in the tonneau if you are driving.

In using an elevator, don't drive on or off before the elevator comes to a full stop at proper level.

Don't run the motor in a closed garage. The carbon monoxide in exhaust gases is odorless and colorless and a small percentage of it in the air is fatal.

Don't park your car and leave headlights undimmed.

Don't allow children to drive. Don't employ an incompetent chauffeur. Insist on good recommendations before hiring.

Persons should not be allowed to drive alone until they have become experienced operators.

Install a good no-glare device in your lights and keep your lights adjusted.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

We tender our hearty thanks for the confidence shown us during the year that is past and extend to them sincerest good wishes for the New Year.

DR. CHOWN'S DRUG STORE

185 Princess Street. Phone 343.

Stop, Look, Listen!

AND BUY Our Christmas Goods Are Here. Come and buy early and often at

The Bon Marche

Phone 1844. Cor. King & Earl

Carpenter and Builder W. R. BILLENNESS

Specializing Store Fronts and Fixtures. Remodeling Buildings of all kinds. ESTIMATES AND EXPERIENCE Address 272 University Ave.

Have Your Car Overhauled and Stored for the Winter

AT THE Central Garage, 233 KING ST. ED. WALSH, Proprietor.

GREETINGS 1918

May health and happiness attend you throughout the year. Jas. REDDEN & Co. Phones 20 and 990.

ATTENTION! United Grocery 138 Princess St.

First shipment of government fish to arrive this week. Also a large shipment of the famous Chinese Lilies. SPECIAL THIS WEEK: Martin's Potato Flour, regular price 25c, sale price 22c. Corn Starch, regular price 15c, sale price, 2 for 25c. 500 lbs choice dairy butter, 47c lb. Overalls, Hosiery, all sizes. See our window for Christmas candies, stockings and chocolates.

United Grocery. BEN LEE & CO.

COAL CUSTOMERS Please Notice!

On and after first of May Coal Sales will be for Cash Only. BOOTH & CO. Phone 133.

JOHN M. PATRICK

Sewing Machines, Umbrellas, Suit Cases, Trunks repaired and 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

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.

Rippling Rhymes

BY COMPARISON

When anything goes wrong with me I don't rear up and curse, but think of chaps across the sea, who suffer nine times worse. I have rheumatics in my bones, these marrowbones of mine, and sometimes I would hand out groans, and shed some tears of brine; and then I think of men who fight in trenches far away; they crunch water through the night, and toil through mud by day. They have so many kinds of aches, so many sores and sprains; they think rheumatic twinges fancies, mere imitation pains. Then I'm ashamed to roar and bellow and cuss my luck ill starred; I take my little tinhorn grief and plant it in the yard. Sometimes depression comes alone, and burdens down my soul; I feel that things are going wrong, and hope is in the hole. Presentiments of coming ill through all my being flow; and then I think of Kaiser Bill, who's cornered human woe. How long would any ill of mine compare with his? And now the sun begins to shine, and I remark, "Gee whizz!" Though you may feel misfortune's prod, affliction's jolt and jar, if you will only look around you'll see how blest you are.

—WALT MASON.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN

By GENE BYRNES



Gene Byrnes