

THE BRITISH WHIG 86TH YEAR.



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The effects of prohibition are far-reaching. Why, even winter has lost its "kick" now.

A few more restrictive laws and everybody will be able to join in that grand old song, "Every Day Will Be Sunday By-and-by."

The members of parliament are agitating for an increase in salary. For all that some of them do their services would be dear if they were given gratis.

In giving returned men the preference of their pulpits, the Presbyterian church is moving abreast of the times. These men alone are capable of correctly sensing the needs of men to-day.

The question of the tariff promises to be the big bone of contention in Canadian politics during the next few months. The western people are waiting anxiously to see what the budget will bring forth.

F. B. McCurdy, M.P. for Queen's-Shelburne, wants the civil service to give returned soldiers the preference. This matter needs to be fought out to the hilt, for so far the soldier has not been getting a square deal from the civil service commission.

It is rather strange that, after last year's splendid results, there should be any doubt about repeating the daylight saving scheme. The "Father of Daylight Saving" had better look out, or his child will die at an early age.

France's losses during the war amounted to twenty billion dollars. If this is not made good by the exacting of a large indemnity from the Germans, France will be in a perilous financial position. Full reparation must be made by the Huns for these losses.

The death rate from tuberculosis in England during the past few years has been cut down 50% by the erection of sanitary dwellings in which sunlight has easy access. This is one aspect of the housing problem that the local committee should bear in mind.

The plans of the government for settling soldiers on the land will not meet with the approval of the soldiers so long as they have to buy the land from the government on the terms laid down under the proposed act, which does not give the soldier any advantage over the pre-war homesteader.

Not a few representative manufacturers have stated within the past week that they would not object to seeing the 7 1/2% war tax removed from the customs schedule. Such a concession to public sentiment is remarkable. Hitherto the manufacturers have insisted upon a tariff as high as Haman's gallows.

"Le Soleil" of Quebec, is mourning because there is no prospect of any territory being granted to Canada as a reward for her services during the war. In all other provinces it is clearly understood that we did not back up the Mother Country in the hope of territorial gain, but for the sacred cause of freedom and liberty.

MEN WHO LOOMED BIG.

Attention has been drawn to the great loss Kingston has sustained of late by the death and retirement of several of its citizens who loomed big in the business world. Senator H. W. Richardson and J. J. Harty, heads of large interests, and Robert Mesk, a leader of the people, have passed hence, while the Hon. William Harty and Cornelius Birmingham, men of large means and great influence, have retired from public and business life that made them leaders. Who among Kingston's citizenship can measure up to these men and do for the Limestone City anything like what they did? Is Kingston not very much the poorer without them? This city has reason to revere the memory of the departed and honor the two men who have retired to spend the rest of their days in quietude.

BRITAIN'S PEACEFUL REVOLUTION.

The labor changes in Great Britain are full of interest and significance at the present time, when in European countries the masses of the people are using means of bloodshed and violence to attain their ends. The huge mass meeting recently held in London is unique in history as the turning point in the great revolution that has taken place in the national life of the country. The people have had their eyes opened by the war; class ties and barriers have been broken down, and the masses of the working people have shown that they are the most potent factor in the life of the nation, and that they intend to be treated as such in the future. Their demands for shorter working hours, for better working and living conditions, and for better food laws and a score of other reforms vital to life, are all the result of the greater enlightenment that has come to them during the war.

But the significant part of the great upheaval is that it has all been accomplished peacefully, and with almost complete harmony on both sides. Apart from a few isolated disturbances as a result of strikes there has been no breaking of the law. Such a state of affairs is a great tribute to the democracy of Britain and to the wisdom of not only the statesmen, but also of the labor leaders. While the countries of Europe struggle in bloodshed and destruction for their rights, the enlightened and educated people of Great Britain make their demands in an intelligent way, and their justice is at once admitted. This is a great object lesson in the powers of democracy, a lesson which should not be lost upon the less fortunate countries of the world.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY SCHEME.

Kingston cannot hope for any relief in the library situation by way of the Carnegie Corporation. A letter received by the Whig states that until the abnormal conditions created by war have subsided, no favorable reply can be made to any request for a library building for Kingston. This decision leaves open as the best scheme the project of building a memorial library. It is generally admitted that a memorial of some kind to the soldiers who have fallen in the war should be erected, and no better type of memorial than a library could possibly be suggested. The educating of our citizens, both present and future, in the ideals for which these men fell is a work of great importance, and the library is the one great channel through which this work can be done. In Kingston the library, in size, position and scope, is a disgrace to the city, and it is essential that we have a modern free public library.

The cost of such a building, roughly estimated, would be about seventy-five thousand dollars, and that is the fund which must be raised for the meeting of the city's needs in this respect. To raise such a sum means hard work, but in the cause of education, and as a memorial to those who fell in the war, it is not by any means an unattainable objective. The library board is prepared to take the matter in hand as soon as it finds that it has the support of those who can be of greatest service. Every one is agreed as to the necessity of the library, and the only point which needs consideration is that of finance.

The Whig is heart and soul with the library board in promoting the memorial fund. It is realized that this fund could not be raised in two weeks or three weeks as the funds for patriotic purposes were raised. The campaign would have to be a continuous one. Men of means and interest in education would have to be approached with a view to obtaining substantial subscriptions, which could, perhaps, be spread over an extended period. Relatives of men who have fallen in action would probably be only too willing to help the fund along, and there is little doubt that the objective would be attained. The thing only needs a start. The Whig has hoped that action would be the result of the suggestions made, and looks to the members of the library board

to start the ball rolling in order that the matter be brought to a head, and that Kingston may have a library that will be a credit to the city.

AN ANGLO-SAXON ALLIANCE FOR PEACE.

At the preliminary Peace Conference the constitution of the League of Nations, or the League of Peace, as it has been called, was drawn up and approved by the representatives of the nations concerned. This is a great step in the right direction, a step which will do much to preserve the peace of the world for generations to come.

But the peoples of the world must not expect too much from it. The league is not an absolute cure for war. So long as the contracting nations agree among themselves, it will be effective, but there can be no guarantee that nations, with ideals and instincts entirely different, will be bound in perpetuity by the articles of its constitution. The league will be effective only so long as every nation within it considers itself bound by its terms. Other treaties have been made, but as the world has seen, when the time came when one of the high contracting parties found that treaty a stumbling block, it became a scrap of paper. So, without appearing to cast a wet blanket on the aspirations of those who are managing the affairs of the world, it must be pointed out that we should not expect too much from the League of Nations.

The greatest possible hope for the preservation of world peace, and for the prevention of such a catastrophe as that through which we have just passed, lies, not in the League of Nations, but in an alliance of the entire English-speaking race throughout the world. The Anglo-Saxon race to-day is the most powerful of all the races. It embraces the entire British Empire and the United States of America. These two great peoples, bound together by ties not only of language but also of blood, are alike in many respects. They have the same ideals, the same love of freedom, the same literature, the same high standards of honor, and the same common interests. Bound together, not essentially by treaty, but by the ties of a close relationship, they hold in their hands the future peace of the world and the betterment of the world's civilization. This relationship, then, is one which should be fostered and encouraged, until the two peoples become, in policy and interests, as one, having as their aim the preservation of peace on earth.

At the present time the relations of the United States and Britain are better than at any time since the days of the American revolution. The sons of these two countries have fought shoulder to shoulder on a common battlefield for the cause of right and justice, and these ideals have the first place in the constitution of both nations. The tie of a common speech renders easier the cementing of the bonds of friendship and closer relations, and the world's greatest hope for the future is that these bonds should be drawn still closer.

We in Canada have a splendid opportunity to bring about this happy condition. We serve as the immediate connecting link between Britain and the United States, and can do more than any other part of the empire to form the great alliance of the Anglo-Saxon race for peace. It is Canada's privilege and opportunity to serve the world by establishing firmly, and increasing whenever possible, the present good relations which exist. Even although the two nations have fought side by side, there is much that can be done to bring them closer to each other, and the people of Canada must be ever ready and eager to do their share to draw firmly together the two nations which can do more to ensure the peace of the world than any other human agency.

The House of Commons had another chance to unanimously cheer another hero Tuesday afternoon when Col. Peck, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., member for Skeena, B.C., who was wounded twice at the front, took his seat on the Unionist side.

Rippling Rhymes

HEART FAILURE

To-day I sought the grocer's store to buy an artichoke; my soul was sad, my head was sore, for I was nearly broke. Through four long years of stress and strife I've seen the prices rise; the cost of things has spoiled my life, and kept me heaving sighs. No matter what I wished to buy, a peck-nife or a pup, I always heard the merchant cry, "The prices have gone up." So I was full of unshed tears, and I was grim and cross; I wore crane tassels on my ears, I felt a total loss. I bought my artichoke and cried, "How much are yonder eggs?" A lot of hen fruit I'd desired, displayed in crates and eggs. The grocer glanced my way, and seemed to wear a frown, and then mought I heard him say, "The price of eggs is down." I said, "My ears are on the blink, or else I am insane; I'll have to see the doc. I think—just make that spiel again!" The grocer looked with dreamy eyes upon the drowsy town, and said, between a brace of sighs, "The price of eggs is down." Oh, yes, I'm convalescent now; I got this broken head, and this big bruise upon my brow, when I fell over doc. —WALT MASON.

Britain's Part in the War.

No. 7. Britain's Share in Supplying Munitions.

When the war commenced, the factories of Britain were engaged in the production of the necessities of the comforts and the amenities conformable to a pacific civilization. Throughout the whole length and breadth of Britain there were only three national arsenals, and the labour employed in the manufacture of munitions was but a drop in the ocean of industrial effort. With a supreme effort, however, Britain adjusted herself to the new and unparalleled conditions, and effected a complete industrial revolution. She became one immense arsenal, her man and woman power mobilized, her industries placed upon a war footing, her every thought and energy concentrated upon the one task of supplying her fighting forces with their essential needs.

The very face of Britain was changed. New factories sprung up by the thousand, and where previously there was meagre and sleepy fields, acres of buildings, throbbing with the deep pulse of mighty machines, were built. The number of firms in Britain engaged on munitions contracts at the close of the war was well over ten thousand, and the national arsenal had increased from more than two hundred. Although some six million men were withdrawn from industry for service with the colours, their places were eagerly filled, and on munition work alone nearly three million men and women were constantly employed. The output of munitions of all kinds which resulted from this wholesale revolution was so stupendous as to appear almost miraculous. Represented merely in statistics, it numbs the mind, and baffles the imagination. One aspect may be illustrated best, however, by saying that, whereas, during the Somme offensive of July, 1916, Britain was issuing weekly to her armies on the western front an amount of ammunition equal to the entire stock available for her land service at the outbreak of war, during the battles of the fall of 1918, the British army fired daily more than double the volume of shells that was expended in the whole month of July, 1916. And at the end of the hostilities in November the output was such as to ensure that, had the war continued, the record would also have been left far behind in 1919.

To make another comparison. During the first five weeks of the German offensive which commenced in March, 1918, nearly one thousand of our guns and between four and five hundred of our machine guns were captured or destroyed, while the amount of ammunition lost in dumps amounted to about two weeks' total manufacture. None the less, by the end of April all these losses had been more than made good, and there were actually in the serviceable guns—a whole and more, and more ammunition available than there were when the battle opened.

In aeroplane construction again the output has been accelerated and increased to a remarkable degree. British factories last fall were making in a single week more machines than were made during the whole year of 1914. In a single month in the whole of 1915, and in a single quarter more than in the whole of 1916. It is obviously impossible to give the exact figures, but the output for the whole of 1918 was several times what it was in 1917. All this has been done through the whole-hearted co-operation of labour, without which it would have been impossible to supply the vast armies of the trench warfare with the material they required. The aid in munitions given by America in the early stages of the war helped the situation considerably, but it was more than counterbalanced by the fact that when the American armies took the field every piece of artillery and every shell at their disposal came from the munition factories of Great Britain and France, and that only in the closing days of the war did a battery of American-made guns see active service. That fact demonstrates once more that in this field also Britain was the greatest of all the Allies.

Victor Martin, Calgary, was sentenced to a month in jail for giving his wife a sleeping powder. He said he administered powders so that she could not go out nights.

For Agonizing Corns You Can't Beat It.

Certainly not. "Putnam's" has 'em all beat a mile. It's a marvel on corns and foot lumps, acts like magic. Why for nearly fifty years Putnam's Extractor has been the standard remedy, the dependable one, the sure kind, it never disappoints. It's painless too. Think of it! Paint it on to-night, in the morning the pain is all gone. Small wonder the sale of Putnam's Corn Extractor is so large, 25c. at dealers everywhere.

Rippling Rhymes

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OVERHEARD

PLACE—PRINCESS ST. TIME—5 O'CLOCK. 1st Lady—Oh yes! I have quite recovered from the flu, you know. My doctor gave me a prescription for a good tonic and— 2nd Lady—Where did you have your prescription filled? 1st Lady—Why, at Chown's Drug Store, and I always go there now because whenever I get anything there it seems to do the work intended. Just a chance remark perhaps, but it gave me a pleasant thrill and we assure you that your wants will be attended to in like manner at Dr. A. P. Chown's Drug Store 185 Princess St. Phone 348 Sick Room Requisites

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