

THE BRITISH WHIG BOTH YEARS.



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A good Canadian is one who grows red every time he sees a flag.

The sands in the hour-glass are fast running out for Germany.

There are Germans who still declare the Kaiser's aim was for peace. Well, he was a darn bad shot.

The small boy is again the tariff, at least that which puts a tax on soda water and makes castor oil free.

Anything to discredit Wilson, seems to be the attitude of the Republicans in the United States these days.

If one judges by the segments of meat, pie, etc., granted in the restaurants, peace is still far away. Top war prices prevail.

Summer is really here. July has taken the place of June. And the probabilities say we are to have more of it.

Almost every class has had a hand in strikes, except June brides. But then they are so mild and pretty and patient. Just now, only.

Sherman had the right view. At least the German people are fully convinced as to his contention. And, believe us, we would like to see the Germans get the hottest kind of dose.

They spilled Ireland's beans. This is what Irish Americans did with characteristic Sinn Fein impetuosity. The Rochester, N. Y., Herald says "that is what meddlers are always apt to do."

Make the most of the daylight saving, for next year standard time will once more rule. The United States Senate has cooked the goose for us. The United States railways gave Canada her happy hours this season.

The Buffalo Courier is convinced that "no one result of the war's comradeship has been more gratifying than the closer drawing together of the interests of the two North American people of common tongue and ancestry." Hear! Hear!

What Canada needs to-day is strong, aggressive leadership, and she needs it badly. The man who puts patriotism ahead of opportunism, who will stand fast for the right as he sees it instead of trimming his sails to every passing breeze, would be welcomed as the saviour of his country.

The German reply to the peace proposals, remarks the New York World, reveal "an air of ruffling swagger, which is characteristically Prussian." Its haughty and domineering form is as disagreeable as anything that was put forward by Germany even in the days when she seemed to be winning the war.

The Paton Manufacturing Company, Sherbrooke, Que., which the proprietor says wasn't operated "for the glory of God or of anybody else," and which made a profit of 72.9 per cent. for the year ending Jan. 31st last, was projected by a 42 1/2 per cent. tariff at a time when a demand for the downward revision of the tariff was demanded. This is a fact

that will not be overlooked. Mr. Paton has unconsciously dealt a severe blow to the high protectionist.

QUEEN'S MEDICAL DEAN HONORED.

Dr. J. Cameron Connell, dean of Queen's Medical College, Kingston, has been honored with the highest position in the gift of the medical profession of Canada, having been chosen as president of the Dominion Medical Council. Dr. Connell has a wide reputation not only as an eye, ear and throat specialist, but as the head of Queen's medical school, which has reached a very high standard under his direction. Dr. Connell's latest activity is in connection with the enlargement of the Kingston General Hospital so that institution may be the means of retaining the university medical school here, for Ottawa is still seeking the transfer of the Queen's medical department to the capital.

THE WHALE.

The application of the psychological test for "reactions" in the case of most people would bring, in response to the word whale, the instant associated idea—Jonah. The popular mind links the two, as inseparably as ham and eggs, Damon and Pythias, and Jot and Tittle. It regards the whale primarily as the first submarine, or houseboat.

Old man Jonah lived in a whale, in a little back room, 'way down by the tail.

But times are changing, and the whale is in-process of changing with them, from being a container to a thing contained. Whale beef is exceedingly good, and has become popular in many places. It is used extensively throughout Canada, and Boston, it is said, has added it to beans and codfish as a staple of diet.

Now we are told by worried western papers that the Pacific whale fishing for food supply is being carried on so recklessly that whole herds are in danger of going the way of the dodo and the mammoth. It is hard to believe, but it is true. Let us extend the game laws and conserve the world's cetacean supply.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE.

The interesting news comes from London that an order-in-council has been issued revolutionizing the order of precedence. Under the new decree the speaker of the house of commons, instead of tagging along after the dukes, the marquises and the belted earls, will hereafter precede them. In fact, the speaker will "follow immediately after the lord president of the council."

Only six persons will now stand between the fountainhead of royalty and the speaker of the house of commons. These six persons will be the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord High Chancellor, the Lord Archbishop of York, the Prime Minister, the Lord High Treasurer and the Lord President of the Council. The despatches do not indicate what the order of precedence will be for the Lord High Executioner, who made Gilbert's sparkling libretto famous. This upheaval in the order of precedence, it is explained in the order-in-council, has been made "in accord with the great dignity and importance of the high office" to which the speaker of the house of commons is called.

Thus a problem that has long vexed some of the most thoughtful minds in England is solved and the highest authority in the popular branch of the mother of parliaments gets the bulge on a long list of dukes, marquises and earls. The myriad peoples of the British Empire—including, no doubt, at least one representative Kingstonian—will be greatly relieved by the momentous decision.

PUBLIC OPINION

Not Around Here. (Philadelphia Record) So far nobody has been seriously injured by the "sudden drop" in the prices of meat predicted by the packers.

The Best Way. (Toronto Star) It should be a condition of tariff protection that the protected industry should be satisfied with a reasonable profit. The excess profits tax is the best way of ensuring the fulfillment of that condition.

The Usual Way. (Glasgow Mercury) The Royal Commission investigating the high food prices could get about all the information they want by calling two witnesses, Flaville and "that man, O'Connor." Both of these can tell the secrets of the whole scheme. By following the usual custom, the report will be made somewhere about next year. And meantime, the people continue to pay.

Pernicious Need. (Vancouver Sun) Dr. Adam Shortt thinks industrial unrest would be cured by greater production. This sounds much like the Kansas philosopher's advice to his fellow-citizens to raise more corn and less hell. But Dr. Shortt is partly right in his contention that the construction of public works will not remedy the situation. What is needed is to get men into employment that will be permanent.

Letters to the Editor

Reconstruction of the Militia. Kingston, June 19.—(To the Editor): Following the argument for reconstruction of the Militia, there is another reason which has been strongly emphasized in favor of a change, and that is that for the service rendered it was unnecessarily costly. Compared with the Swiss system, and even Australia, it would appear to be excessive and yet it could not have been the fifty cents a day which the men received, which was not extravagant, but its proportion to that received by the officers. The Swiss system is a good system from the standpoint of expense, but has some features in no way suitable for Canada. How to obtain the service needed on less outlay is the problem, and I can conceive of no plan that is not purely selfish that will obviate or lessen the expense unless it is conducted upon patriotic grounds. Love of country and not financial gain or remuneration is the golden key that will open the way to the solution of this difficult situation. Britain is the only country in the world that could have raised an army of the magnitude of that in the last war by voluntary enlistment. Even the great Republic to the south of us, with her hundred millions of people, could not have accomplished it, and knowing this they did not try but resorted to conscription from the start. Universal military service has been mentioned as the only equitable service for Canada, as under it all classes would be treated alike. According to the new articles of war instituted by the big four no more armies are to be raised by conscription, and yet a whole volume could be written in favor of such a system and the strongest argument in its favor is that it reduced all classes to a common level. The rich had nothing over the poor, if politics or pull were not allowed to interfere, but unhappily they did in this war and very many young men who went overseas never reached the firing line because their fathers had the pull, so they received positions in Britain, not because they were better able to fill these staff positions but solely because of the pull of their rich parents were able to exercise. Of course there were many exceptions but they prove the rule. Universal service, since the big four have passed a law against conscription in military matters, might afford controversial ground for objections. Compulsory service of any kind seems objectionable in a free country as some people like to advance the threadbare argument of interference with the liberty of the subject and yet there are so many things in every free country that we are compelled to do that we forget that our liberties are interfered with. We are compelled to pay taxes, to send our children to school, to obey the law, to respect other people's property rights and yet we do not consider them as interfering with our liberties. Prohibition is another law that some think interferes with their liberty, but as it is for the good of the whole people it is an essential part of other law upon the statute book of any country. —J. GALLOWAY.

An Empire Calendar.

The Black Hole of Calcutta, June 20, 1756.

One of the penalties which the British Empire has had to pay for the position of India has been that many brave lives have been sacrificed and many terrible deeds, of suffering had to be endured by the courageous men and women on whose shoulders the burden of conquest has fallen. Of all the deeds of cruelty with which the early days of the Indian Empire are smothered, none is more tragic and none more terrible than the record of the imprisonment of British subjects in the Black Hole of Calcutta, which took place one hundred and sixty-three years ago to-day. On the other hand, out of evil came good, for the horror of their sufferings proved a stimulus to Clive and Admiral Watson to punish the malefactors, and Calcutta was restored to British rule. The author of this crime was Suraj-ud-Dowlah, who succeeded his grandfather, Ali Kahn, in 1756, when a lad of nineteen years of age. His un governable temper early led to a rupture with the British, and less than two months after he succeeded to the throne, he marched on Calcutta with a large army. The immediate cause of his taking this step was anger at one of his relatives, who, he believed, had done him a terrible wrong, and was plotting to unseat him from his throne. As soon as the news arrived that Suraj-ud-Dowlah was on his way with a large force, the majority of the English who were then resident in Calcutta fled down the river in their ships. The remainder surrendered after feeble resistance, and were thrown into the Black Hole or military prison of Fort William. The room was only 16 feet by 14 1/2 feet in size, and contained two small windows, both of which were barred with iron. Being the month of June, the heat of the night was most oppressive. When the door of the prison was opened next morning, only 23 out of 146 were found to be alive. The Black Hole led directly to the battle of Plassey, which is adopted by historians as the date of the birth of the British Empire in the East.

Russian Cruiser Torpedoed. (Canada Press Dispatch) London, June 20.—The Russian cruiser Oleg was sunk, on Wednesday, by a British submarine. It is announced in a Russian wireless despatch.

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Rippling Rhymes

WORKING In wartime's long and dreadful night they told us we must work or fight, and so we worked, or fought; the husky man secured a gun, and sought the spoor of vandal Hun; the balance of us wrought. We fat men left our gilded lairs, our hammocks and our easy chairs, and tilled the fertile soil; we pawed around and trilled our song, and tried to show the passing through new curves in honest toil. "When war is done," we said, "gadooks, again we'll seek our ignloons, and back on beds of ease, for dreams or idle games; we have no time for languid ease; we have to work like humble bees around our quilting frames. With labor we are face to face; alas, it is a groundhog case, we have to work or die! we have to rustle for the bones; there is no place for dream-in-g dromes beneath the bending sky. —WALT MASON.

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