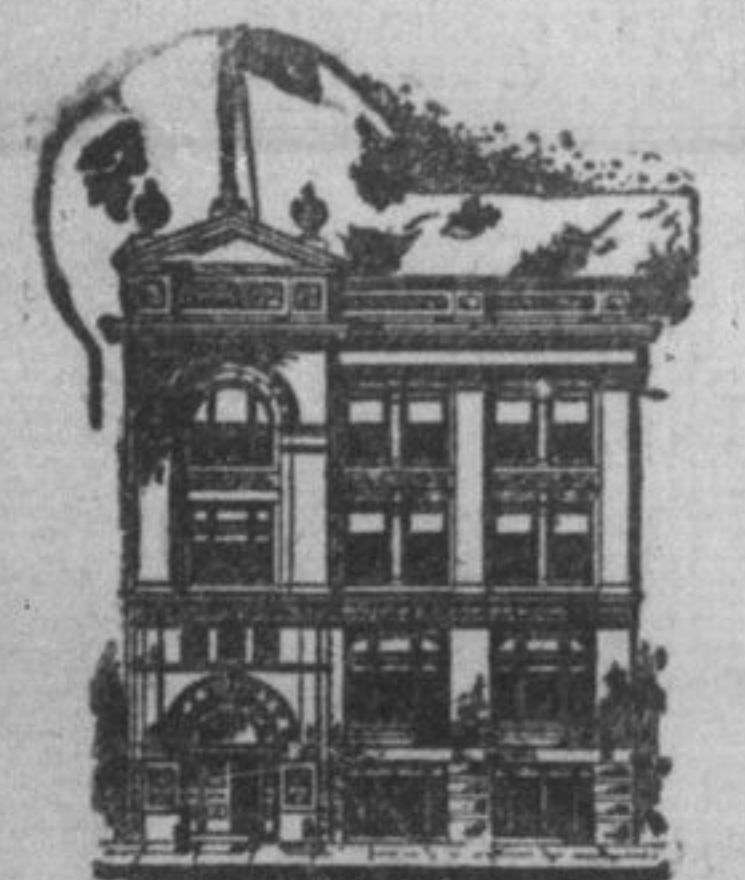


THE BRITISH WHIG 86TH YEAR



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The Germans have not improved any since the great war; they are again using poison gas, this time against Riga.

Guelph will permit its citizens to read and report the record of their gas meters. The Guelphites must be unusually honest people to inspire such trust. One wonders if the future will justify the confidence.

Next spring Canadian airmen state they will be prepared to take part in international events. At Toronto on Tuesday Canadian pilots and observers took preliminary steps to make Canada the greatest flying centre in the world.

The latest national figure to break down under nervous strain in Samuel Gompers, the veteran labor leader. The people of the United States, no less than organized labor itself, can ill afford to be deprived of his wise and conservative leadership.

Another smashing blow has been dealt the Red army if the Russian soviet government 33,000 prisoners and much booty having just been captured in the Siberian region. A few more such defeats and the Bolshevik rule will be at an end.

A decrease of over \$32,000,000 in Canada's volume of trade for the six months ending Sept. 30th, reveals an undesirable state of affairs. It illustrates, for one thing, the very unsettled condition of our industries and points to the need of greater production.

The Anglican church Congress in England is much perturbed over the question of Spiritualism. Several prominent churchmen have made a partial defence of the belief, though others strongly oppose it. The war has brought many changes of opinion, though none quite as radical as this.

THE ASSESSOR'S REPORT: The report of Ed. Moore, assessment Commissioner, has been made public, and will be found in another column of to-day's Whig. It is a most interesting and satisfactory document, with the single exception of the item relating to population. During the past year the city, instead of increasing in population, shows a decrease of 476, due to the closing of several industries and the removal of officers and soldiers and their families. The population now stands at 23,261.

In 1917, when Assessor Mooers took office, the total civic income amounted to \$485,840. In 1920 he had increased this to \$944,600, or a betterment of \$458,760. This is a splendid record and shows the thoroughness with which Mr. Mooers has done his work. The record is all the more remarkable when one remembers that the valuation on land and buildings had not been increased. The total valuation of the buildings of the city has gone up about \$90,000, but this is due almost solely to new construction. The increase in business tax, income tax, statute labor, etc., must be very gratifying to the Council and to the city at large, amply showing that the city commissioner is a man well qualified for the duties of the office.

The exemptions now total the large sum of \$3,715,540, this being an increase of \$93,100 over last year. The increase is largely due to the new Sydenham Hospital, a government institution which is placed

In the exemption column. The value of the exempted property is enormous, and its increase suggests that the city should urge legislation to provide relief from this burden. Churches, provincial and federal buildings, etc., are at present exempted from taxation, although the funds at large is called upon to provide for to supply them with fire protection, police protection, streets, street lighting, etc. These are services that are necessary to the properties enjoying exemption and services which they should be called upon to pay in some part at least.

PERSIA TAKES ON A FOSTER MOTHER.

A few weeks ago without flourish of trumpets Great Britain quietly announced that it had taken the government of Persia under its protecting wing. The words were hardly uttered before there was an outcry, especially in the United States, and charges were wildly made that Great Britain had gone behind the back of the Powers with whom she was associated and had quietly concluded a treaty which was all to the advantage of Britain. Persia was pictured by the American cartoonists as a mild lamb being guarded by the ferocious British Lion and the charges of land-grabbing and the partition of territory without reference to the will of the people in direct opposition to the expressed intention of permitting self-determination, were freely levelled at Britain.

Then the storm passed over. The reason that it died down was because, when the thinking men of the country came to examine the terms of the treaty that had been drawn up, they could find no flaws in the arrangement and one great newspaper was forced to confess that "it would be difficult to find an instance of an engagement between a great power and weak power more thoroughly unexceptionable than the Anglo-Persian agreement." and Lord Curzon cut the ground from the feet of the opposition when he declared that Great Britain was ready and anxious to submit the agreement to the League of Nations for its approval and to stand by its acceptance or rejection.

Persia, a kingdom of Western Asia, is bounded on the north by Trans-Caucasian Russia, the Caspian Sea and Russia Central Asia; east of Afghanistan and Beluchistan; south by the Persian Gulf and west by Asiatic Turkey. It extends for 700 miles north and south and 900 miles east and west, with an area of about 636,000 square miles and an estimated population of 10,000,000. Its language and literature go back to the earliest dawn of history and it has long been a country noted for its cultivation of the drama, poetry and philosophy. It has been swept by wars since the days when the Assyrians laid it waste.

Until the time of the great war Persia came under the sphere of influence of Great Britain and Russia. Russia controlling a section of the northern part, Great Britain a section in the south, leaving a central belt controlled by neither government. The infamous peace pact signed at Brest-Litovsk in 1918 included a provision for the recognition of the political and economic independence and territorial integrity of both Persia and Afghanistan, and this would have suited Germany, who knew the weakness of Persia and that she could not walk alone to-day and would have seized the opportunity for peaceful penetration. The very fact that Germany worked for an independent Persia should have put on their guard those critics who to-day object to the Anglo-Persian agreement. The fact, however, remains that Persia has been too weak to walk alone for half a century back and the government and the people have gradually grown weaker. Had it not been for the conquest of Turkestan by the Russians it is probable that the north-eastern part of the country would have gradually been made uninhabitable by the Turcomans, whose raids were being carried further and further afield every year. The Kurds and the Bakhtaris on the west and the Baluchists on the east would soon have completed the ruin of the unfortunate country. In return for freeing the country from the menace of these robber bands Russia demanded commercial trade privileges and just before the war with China the position of Great Britain in Persia was a most serious one. After their collapse in Manchuria Russia was ready to coo to terms with England and to surrender some of the former ambitions. These projects included invasion of India and it was not until the Peace of Portsmouth had been concluded that Britain was free from this menace. Then the war came and Persia, although nominally a neutral, was invaded by Turks, Kurds and Russians. The utter helplessness of Persia was seen when the German legation at Teheran organized a non-descript body of soldiery which for a time held the country in constant fear and nearly secured the person of the young Shah. If there was anything else to prove Persia's weakness this should show that she is hardly yet able to walk alone.

The break-up of the Turkish and Russian empires has left a vacuum

irritating an influx of Bolshevism. The fate of the attractive, intellectual and defenceless people of Persia, if such a movement were to overrun the country, would be a reproach to civilization. Moreover war has brought Persia closer to Britain her long-time friend and protector than ever she was before. She now finds Britain posted all along her western flank in Mesopotamia, securing her frontier from Kurds and Turks. British troops have marched through the north-west to the Caspian and where they have appeared Persians have discovered that the arson and pillage with which the name of soldier has long been associated in their minds no longer stands good. They find soldiers who pay for all they take and treat the inhabitants with humanity and kindness.

With the disappearance of the Russian power all the avenues of trade have passed into British hands. There will be an opening for the building up and development of a trade that has never yet had a chance. The improvement of communication by the building of railways and highways will be the first step. Prosperity will not come with a rush. The population in the north-west has been sadly depleted by famine and pestilence. Eastern Persia is largely irremediably desert, but there are large tracts of good land and splendid opportunities for an enormous trade. Britain is unquestionably more interested than any other nation in the future of Persia, and the future prosperity of the country could hardly have been founded on more hopeful lines than those that are contained in the Anglo-Persian agreement.

31,000 Came to Canada. London, Oct. 18. — Government passengers returns to the end of June in and out of Great Britain show: Canada, outward, 31,000; inward, 23,000; Australia, outward, 8,000; inward, 2,500; South Africa, outward, 1,500; inward, 5,000; United States, outward, 11,500; inward, 24,000.

INDIGESTION. "Pape's Diapepsin" is the quickest, surest relief for a Sour, Acid, Gassy Stomach—Distress vanishes!

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Rippling Rhymes

THE STORM. The clouds are black, the thunder roars, there are big doings out of doors. The winds like dippy demons shriek, the universe has sprung a leak; the rain is pouring in a flood, and all the landscape turns to mud. The storm is not a thing of chance, my name is Ebenezer Pance, and every time I plan a jaunt or picnic in some woodland haunt, inviting friends to go along and make their lives one grand sweet song, the elements remark, "Nay, nay!" and bring along a beastly day. The skies are dark, the winds are bleak; this thing will last at least a week. Oh, other men abroad may ride, and tour the smiling countryside; for them the well known sun will shine, the stars will not take in their sign; the winds will whisper, soft and low, and not like merry blitzen blow; the skies, an airy blue, will seem to them as good as new. But when I make vacation schemes to sally to the bubbling streams, and spend a day, or maybe four, far from the bug-house city's roar, the elements remark, "The toff! We'll show them now where he gets off!" And then the streaks of lightning fly; the sable clouds obscure the sky, with awful pomp and circumstance; my name is Ebenezer Pance.

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Canada-East and West

Dominion Happenings of Other Days.

Shooting the Rapids. Thousands each summer now enjoy the thrill of shooting the St. Lawrence rapids; it is one of the many delightful experiences of the Dominion of Canada. But until October 19, 1840, no large steamer had ever attempted to run the leaping waters between Kingston and Montreal. The Indians in their little canoes were undaunted by the foaming rapids and made frequent trips through the most violent timbermen were accustomed to bring their rafts through the Lachine rapids in the days when such rafts were common on the river. But with the advent of steam navigation and the disappearance largely of the rafts the rapids were left un-navigated.

Up to 1837 the lake steamers did not venture farther down from Toronto than Kingston, but soon after that date the attractions of the Thousand Islands became so well known that little steamers plied to that part of the river and to Prescott. From that town the "Dolphin" sailed every morning to the head of the Longue Sault Rapids. Passengers reached Montreal the same night by stage to Cornwall, thence through Lake St. Francis by steamer. At Coteau du Lac they took the stage to the Cascades where a small vessel, the Chieftain, brought them to Lachine. A stage coach ride of six miles completed the trip to Montreal. It was not until 1848 when the enlarged Lachine Canal was opened that the Upper Canada steamers began to run all the St. Lawrence rapids as they do now. But in 1840 the late Hon. John Hamilton had built a powerful ship, the "Ontario" with the expectation that she would run all the rapids. Failing to do so she was sold to a Quebec firm for use between Montreal and that city, but she had to be delivered by the new owners. On Oct. 19 of that year the ship made a safe trip through every descent of the river, the first large ship to do so. But there is no record of any other vessel making the attempt for several years. Only one ship ever ascended the rapids; that was the Dolphin, when she was towed up by twenty yoke of oxen in 1838.

BIBBY'S HATS. Kingston's One Price Clothing House. The Fall 'Dress Up'. As usual, we are more than adequately equipped with a resplendent "DRESS UP SHOW" of the finest ready for service clothing, featuring particularly the season's finer creations—those "breezy" ones with that indefinable "crackle" to them that all young "Up-to-the-minute" dressers look for, faultlessly correct in every detail. The latest models and colorings—creations that have been worked out by the foremost fashion artists, thereby exemplifying the embodiment of superlative excellence. The last word in style—the cream of the best. See our Raverhall Suits in All-Wool Worsted and Cheviots at \$45.00. See our new Overcoat—the Ace at \$35.00. See our Claude Suits in fancy Worsteds at \$35.00. See our Blue Suits, all wool indigo, at \$35.00, \$40.00, \$45.00. See our new Overcoat—the Admiral, \$37.50. See our new Overcoat—the Chesty, \$25.00. See our new Overcoat—the Ace at \$35.00. —Fine Gloves. —Fine Hats. —Fine Underwear. —Nobby Shoes. —Classy Neckwear. —Dressy Shirts. SHOES BIBBY'S SHOES. Men's and Boys' Stores 78, 80, 82, 84 Princess St.

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