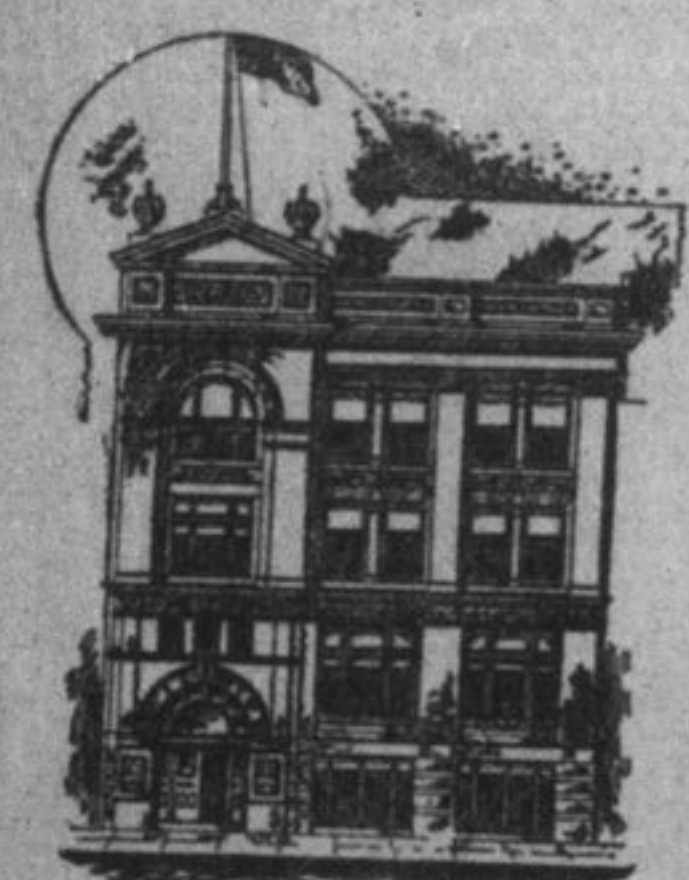


THE BRITISH WHIG 87TH YEAR.



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A fine example of the "ultimate consumer" is a tippler of wood alcohol

Italy is leaning toward prohibition—a Hittite. The sale of liquor containing more than twenty per cent. of alcohol is forbidden, on Sunday

"What will happen when the railroads go back to private ownership?" asks the Literary Digest. Perhaps in that event they will show a profit instead of a deficit

The curling matches last week—that is, the ice curling matches—were won by the married women by a large number of points. They knew how to sweep

Kingston's federal member, the minister of justice, announces a policy of economy. He is indeed a brave man who has the courage to advocate economy these days

The cost of coal and gasoline has just been advanced. Turst John D. in losing no time getting back the millions he donated to medical research with a little bit to the good

The Prince of Wales is shipping thoroughbred horses, cattle and sheep to his recently acquired Alberta ranch. The prince seems to be as much interested in Canada as Canada was in the prince

By a vote of nearly three to one Ottawa has decided not to adopt the single tax system. Vancouver and Edmonton tried out the experiment, but soon found it impracticable. Like many another proposal, practice disproves the theory

The public library is in need of large sums to equip the new building donated by Mr. Chown. Those upon whose prosperity has smiled should respond in a generous manner. We can't all be Carnegies, but we all can help to advance the educational interests of the city

The city industries committee has an excellent chairman this year in the person of Ald. N. B. Steacy. A better selection could not have been made. Much of the future prosperity of the city depends upon the work of this committee during the present year

The next session of the federal parliament, scheduled to open on Feb. 26th, promises to be a brief one. No controversial issues are in sight, except possibly that touching the proposed Dominion Franchise Act. Sir Henry Drayton, minister of finance, wants expenditures cut to \$300,000,000, a proposal which will be nationally popular

President Leggett, of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association, declared before the annual meeting that Leeds was the banner dairy county of Ontario, thanks, largely, to the excellent work done by the late Senator Derbyshire, of Brockville. It is pleasant to know that in many respects Leeds occupies an enviable position in the province

The Court of Appeals has ruled that the Provincial Board of Health has no power to interfere with Toronto in the smallpox matter—or in any other matter of health or sanitation,—which prompts the Ottawa Journal to state that it has, therefore, no power in regard to any Ontario municipality. If the board is useless because it is powerless, what right has it to existence?

WRECKING RUSSIA.

That the Allies are still far from having any clear or intelligent policy toward Russia is quite evident. After two years of persistence in the policy of military intervention, England and France, with the connivance of the United States and the co-operation, for her own purposes, of Japan, have managed to produce nothing but ignominious failure on three fronts, with the prospect that the Denikine adventure will presently come to the same end. Professing to spend all this blood and treasure on behalf of the "poor, suffering, enslaved Russian people," we have succeeded merely in making their sufferings worse, in starving thousands of them to death, and, as one writer points out, in preventing an otherwise inevitable tendency toward liberalism and moderation in the Soviet government itself. It is hard to recall any instance in history where ignorance and selfishness have achieved such inexorable, such terrible, results. In large part the tragedy is due to the fact that the policies of the Allies have been subject to no sort of popular control, but have been worked out in secret by men who, as it now begins to appear, failed in an astonishing degree to acquaint themselves with the facts of the situation they sought to alter. For the United States, thanks to the senate's delay in ratifying the treaty, this is still true, and that country may yet have cause to regret it even more than at present.

GOING TO COLLEGE AT SEVENTY.

A few days ago news despatches informed us that Karl Dulman, one of the Welland Canal dynamiters who had served a term in Portsmouth penitentiary, "was going to take a college course in the United States, despite the fact that he had reached seventy years of age. He is now residing in Philadelphia;—and, having won a scholarship against a large field of competitors, is preparing to enter the University of Pennsylvania as a freshman next autumn. The man of seventy is usually regarded as having run his race, as having lost his power to learn, as awaiting only the "nunc dimittis" of death. The face of this old man may be wrinkled as are the faces of septuagenarians, but it is turned forward instead of backward. His heart is young—and so, evidently, is his mind.

THE REASON WHY

Why Has a Long Coat Buttons on the Back? The buttons on the back of a long coat, i. e., one with skirts, had a more sensible reason originally. At one time the skirts of such coats were made very long, and when the wearer moved quickly the tails of the coat flapped about the legs, and interfered with progress. So an ingenious gentleman had buttons sewed on to the back and buttonholes made in the corner of his coat. Then when he was in a hurry he simply buttoned up his skirts and went his way comfortably.

THRIFTLESS.

There's an ancient weary fellow working for me, doing chores; and his lift is sad and yellow, and his days and nights are bores. He is crippled and rheumatic, and he pines a feeble hoof, and his home is in an attic where the rain falls through the roof. I could weep when I behold him; he'll be hopeless in his woes, till the boneyard sods enfold him, and he has his long repose. And his youth was gay and glided, and he wildly spent his wage, while the wise youth wrought and builded for the years of wintry age. Once this old man was a master in the trade that he had learned, but he blew his money faster than the ding-donged stuff was earned; and he made no wise provision for the days of want and dread; life was sunny and elysian—why should people look ahead? Why put down the shining shilling in a quantity of brine, when a sport could make a killing in the haunts of cards and wine? Why consider a tomorrow when today is good enough? Going broke, a sport could borrow on his watch and kindred stuff. Now around my house he tinkers, and no hope is in human can enchant him, he is dead to every thrill; and some day the town will plant him in the boneyard on the hill.

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Canada-East and West

Dominion Happenings of Other Days.

The First Library.

With magnificent public and institutions everywhere in Canada as they are now it is quite difficult to imagine a day when books were few and reading matter difficult to obtain. But the early settlers suffered a great privation from loss of books in their little cabins while even the officers in the cities found it almost equally hard to secure pleasant reading. So in 1779 Haldimand, the Governor of Quebec, wrote to Richard Cumberland, the novelist, and urged him to collect some books and have them sent to Quebec. After a long delay five big cases of the works of the day arrived from London. They were a treat to the little colony and formed the basis of the first library in the country. Later they passed into the hands of the Literary and Historical Society of that city.

What Is Education?

The truth is that "education" is finally and maturely picked up in the fields and streets, among men and women and realities, much more effectively and really than in the formal courses of schools and universities. However and wherever it or missed, "education" is multifarious and protean, hard to grasp or define. One of the best concrete illustrations of it was made by Lord Morley. He said, in effect, that "an educated man knows when a thing has been proved and when it hasn't."

PILES

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Rippling Rhymes

There are plenty of men and women to-day who are old at forty. There are also plenty of men and women who are young at seventy. Age is not so much a matter of years as it is of point of view and of attitude toward life. Any man or woman who fails to keep young in these tremendous days of mental, moral and physical activity and stimulus has only himself or herself to blame. Keep in close touch with life, and the contact will keep old age away from your heart and your mind.

SYSTEMATIC GIVING.

When tithing was required by law, it was a burden, whether amongst the ancient Jews, or in modern countries, where a Christian church was nationally "established." Such donations, regularly exacted and unwillingly paid, certainly damaged the influence of religion, gave rise to popular resentment against the clergy, and checked the natural impulses of generosity.

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