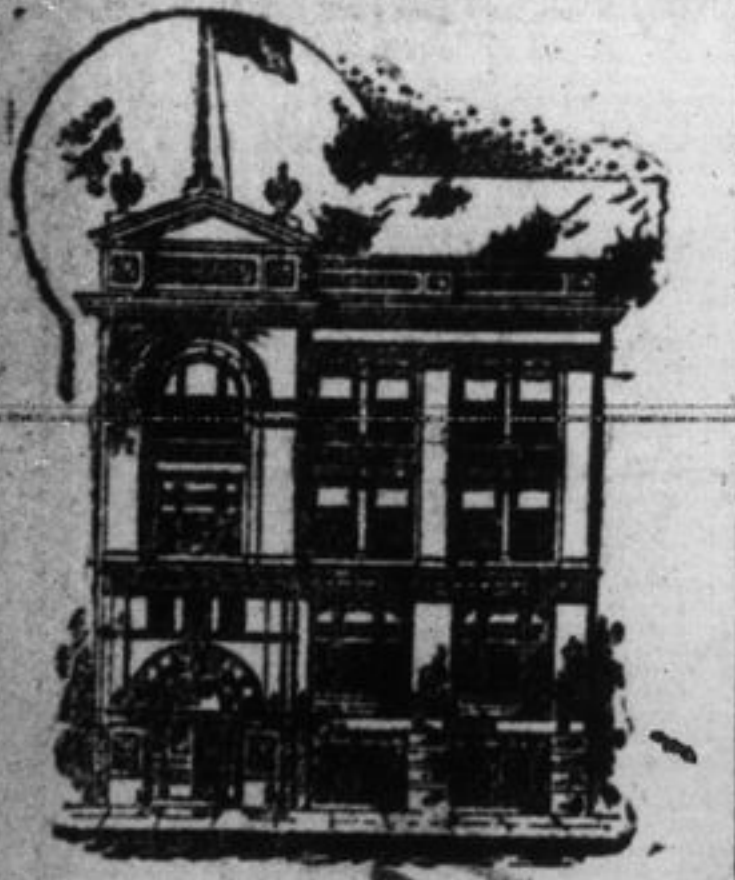


THE BRITISH WHIG 57th YEAR.



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It will be noted that Nature is kindly with her bumper crop of dandelions.

Privately owned wireless installations in the city put the Barfield station out of business. Cannot the government station on the hill compete with small private plants?

Mrs. Eleanor H. Porter, author of "Pollyanna," the "glad book," has passed to her reward. She produced a book that gladdened many a heart and that showed the way to happiness.

A British subject applied for enlistment at the Syracuse, N.Y., recruiting station last week. "So you were in the British army?" questioned the recruiting officer. "Well, did you distinguish yourself in any way?" "Oh, yes, I came back," was the ready reply. The officer must have turned away thoughtful.

The report presented to the city council on Tuesday night, re the results of collegiate institute examinations calls for further investigation. If some of the teachers are inefficient, or if the work of the students is interfered with by the presence of teachers-in-training, the board of education should be aware of the fact.

Good roads radiating in every direction for a distance of thirty miles from the city are advocated by A. M. Rankin, M.P.P., as means of increasing the city's trade. The idea is an excellent one and should have every support. Hundreds of other cities have found the plan very advantageous both for themselves and for the people in the adjacent territory.

GREY'S "RECREATION."

A modest little volume of forty odd pages has proved to be one of the most interesting books of the year in the literary world. The Houghton Mifflin Co., of Boston, has printed in book form the address of "Recreation" delivered by Viscount Grey of Fallodon at the Harvard Union last December. As an essay nothing better has been done in a decade, says one critic. Two brief quotations will reveal the character of the book.

Let it be admitted that recreation is only one of the things that makes for happiness in life. I do not even recommend it as the most important. There are at least four other things which are more or less under our own control, and which are essential to happiness. The first is some moral standard by which to guide our actions. The second is some satisfactory home life in the form of good relations with family or friends. The third is some form of work which justifies our existence to our own country and makes us good citizens. The fourth thing is some degree of leisure and the use of it in some way that makes us happy.

In the village of Titchborne there lives also the family of Titchborne, and in the old village church there is a tomb with recumbent figures of one of the Titchbornes and his wife, who lived in the time of James the First; on it is inscribed the statement that he chose to be buried with his wife in this chapel, which was built by his ancestor in the time of Henry the First. That shows a continuous record of one family in one place for some eight hundred years. I forget whether we had time to go into the church and look at it, but the songs of the birds which we had

come to hear are far more ancient. They must be the same songs that were heard by the inhabitants of England before the Romans came, for the songs of birds come down unchanged through great antiquity, and we are listening to-day, in whatever part of the world we may be, to songs which must have been familiar to races of men of which history has no knowledge and no record.

THE MARKET FOR FATS

A recent news cable from overseas announced that a whole ship-load of butter, sent to Germany by the Armour Company of Chicago, had been met with a refusal to buy there and would therefore have to be carried back to America. The shipment was not offered for sale in any of the other European countries.

From this fact a number of important conclusions may be reached. It is certainly very surprising that a cargo of fats of any kind should be refused by any of those countries which were only a short time ago ready to pay any price for just that very thing. It is vastly more surprising that it should be refused by Germany, above all other countries, Germany, which is now supposed to be suffering from a famine for food, money, and raw materials. This would show that Germany cannot be in very pressing need of fats, in fact cannot be in any need at all. Either the country is producing enough for its needs, or the countries of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and perhaps Great Britain can supply Germany's needs in that line at a better price than the American producers. The fact that the shipment was not offered for sale in any other country points out that the supply of fats in the other countries must be large.

It is rather ironical for one who dwells in North America to read in his daily paper that one of the most stricken of the countries of poor "war-stricken Europe" has refused a large cargo of that precious fat, which he himself, living in the land from whence it came, cannot afford to buy at the present prices. It is also rather strange that in this country, with the supposed shortage of every thinkable commodity driving the poor to desperation, such a quantity should be transported to a country which is, in a way, responsible for the suffering here, and to have that country very calmly refuse it.

The logical conclusion from this happening is, that if one load of produce is turned down in Europe, then successive shipments will meet with the same fate. Consequently, it is reasonable to believe that the supply in this part of the world should show a marked increase and the prices of fats in general come down proportionately. Fats, and particularly butter, may be kept in cold storage, but they may not be kept indefinitely. Also, cold storage costs money, and it is doubtful whether it would be worth while to hold back the supply. The result which should come about, and which may be hoped for, but not prophesied with any safety, is a general increase in the supply of fats and a simultaneous decrease in the prices.

FLAT HYDRO RATE.

There has been considerable agitation and restlessness in some of the cities of Western Ontario because of prevailing rates being paid for the Hydro-power from Niagara. As the direct result of the discontent there has been formed the Ontario Hydro Power Uniform Rate Association. Its numbers are already great and are being increased continuously by Hydro enthusiasts from all over Western Ontario. The object of the organization is to secure a uniform rate for all the cities using the Hydro power. J. P. Hume, of Goderich, H. F. Briscoe, of Chatham, and W. S. Bowden, of Goderich, are the principal officers.

As stated in the association's declaration of policy, they look on the Hydro-Electric Power Commission and all the systems under their control as a provincial institution, developed by the various municipalities, and therefore obliged to be administered for the benefit of the people as a whole and the province as a unit. The particular plan of the society is to secure a flat rate of approximately \$18.30 per horsepower, to apply to all cities, no matter how far they may be from Niagara nor how large or small the population of the cities may be.

It would seem that the claims of the organization are just, and that in some cases the difference in rates amounts to rank injustice. The city of Toronto pays \$14.50 for its power, while Guelph and Galt, which are at about an equal distance from the generating plant, each pay \$20. This is doubly unjust as it is recognized that at the present time the large cities are already over-crowded, and the discrimination in this direction does much to increase the distress. The city of Sarula pays \$38, as compared to \$11.50 paid by Niagara Falls.

It is believed that a uniform development of the Hydro throughout the province would help to relieve the conditions now existing in the larger cities and in densely populated districts. It would tend to lower the cost of living because of a shorter haul for provisions. The general con-

ditions prevailing in a town do much to regulate the social and moral habits of its people. Such being the case, and admitting that a uniform power rate would be a benefit to the conditions in western Ontario generally, it can easily be seen that its effects would be far-reaching.

The proposed scheme is not for the benefit of any one municipality or group of municipalities. Its originators state that they wish to abolish the complications and technicalities which now clutter the administration of the system. They honestly believe that the change would be for the greater industrial development and the general good of the whole province. Those rates which are now over \$20 would be decreased one-fifth every year for five years. Those which are below \$20 would be increased one-fifth every year for five years. Thus a general flat rate would be arrived at with the approximate, as it has been computed, at \$18.50 per horsepower.

This organization in western Ontario is of interest locally because it will be remembered that R. F. Elliott, chairman of the Kingston Utilities Committee, was really the originator of the plan and the agitation for uniform power rates. It was the meeting of the Eastern Ontario Hydro Association which tipped the balance and caused the government to appoint a committee to take some action in the matter. Since that time Mr. Elliott has expressed satisfaction at the reception his plan received throughout the whole province. There are now organizations all over Ontario for the purpose of securing a uniform rate and it is satisfying to know that a Kingstonian started the ball rolling.

PUBLIC OPINION

Between Two Fires. (London Free Press) Better marry, it costs too much to remain unmarried in Canada now-a-days.

If Germany Had Won. (London Free Press) We wouldn't have got off so well if the tax-collector had had a dachshund at his heels.

More and More "Raw." (Buffalo Courier) The one thing about sugar that is not refined is the price and that becomes more and more "raw."

FAMOUS QUOTATIONS AND THEIR ORIGIN

A SHOEMAKER SHOULD STICK TO HIS LAST. That a man should refrain from dabbling in matters of which he has no exact knowledge, is a self-evident truth. Yet we see all about us, every day, instances of the disregard of this principle, many of which have

unfortunate results. It is true that some men can do more than one thing well, but this does not affect the fundamental soundness of the principle. To Pliny the Elder, (Roman 23-79 A.D.) we owe the preservation of this proverb, although it existed among both the Romans and the Greeks long before his time. Pliny says:

"It was a custom with Apelles, to which he most tenaciously adhered, never to let a day pass, however busy he might be, without exercising himself by tracing some outline or other. It was also a practice with him, when he had completed a work, to exhibit to the view of the passers-by, in his studio, while he himself concealed behind the picture, would listen to the criticisms. Under these circumstances, they say he was censured by a shoemaker for having represented a pair of shoes with one latchet too few. The next day, the shoemaker, quite proud at seeing the former error corrected, thanks to his advice, began to criticize the leg; upon which Apelles, full of indignation, popped his head out and reminded him that a shoemaker should give an opinion beyond the shoes—an opinion which has passed into a proverbial saying."

Canada-East and West

Dominion Happenings of Other Days.

The Fall of Fort George.

On the 27th of May, 1813, during the course of the war between the United States and the British, Fort George was captured by the American armies. Following the capture of York late in the previous month the army under General Dearborn and the feet under Commodore Chauncey had left New York and concentrated at Niagara. The force consisted of about 7,000 men in all for land work with the navy in addition. To face these Major-General Vincent had about 2,300 soldiers of whom about one thousand were stationed in Fort George. The Americans wasted little time in getting ready for an attack on the place, flushed as they were with the victory at York such a short time before. At four o'clock on the morning of May 27th they started to move their troops across the river. The fighting lasted until about midday when the British found it impossible to resist longer. They abandoned Fort George and began a retreat to Beaver Dams, about twenty miles south, where a store of munitions and provisions of all kind had been prepared. It was impossible for Vincent with his little force to cope with the strong army of the invader, so his action in retreating was the only one he could take to save his troops from death or capture. But the losses, in spite of his retreat, were heavy, the British losing 443 men in killed, wounded and missing, while the United States had less than 150 men put out of action. Following the retreat every British post on the Niagara frontier had to be abandoned, the American army being left in full possession for the time. Vincent, too, not safe at Beaver Dams, continued his retirement to Burlington Heights.

Yes, Next? (St. Joseph Gazette) Doesn't the average family worry more about the price of gasoline than it does about the price of bread?

Rippling Rhymes

DER TAG. When a panic comes and swats us, bringing forty kinds of woe, and the sheriff comes and trots us to the court where bankrupts go, then we'll wonder, oh, we'll wonder, why, in booming, bulging times, when the trees were growing plunder, we refused to save some dimes. When the panic that's predicted by the wise men everywhere, comes along, and we're afflicted with a poor-house bill of fare, then we'll do some idle raving, and we'll kick ourselves a verst, for we didn't do our saving when the boom was at its worst. Now that everything seems sunny, and our chances are the best, it's the time to put some money, with some mothballs, in a chest; put it down with cedar shavings, so the insects won't annoy; for the man who has his savings in the wisest kind of boy. Soon this crazy boom may trundle to the tomb, in ghostly robes; then the man who has a bundle is the man who'll ride the globe. —WALT MASON.

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