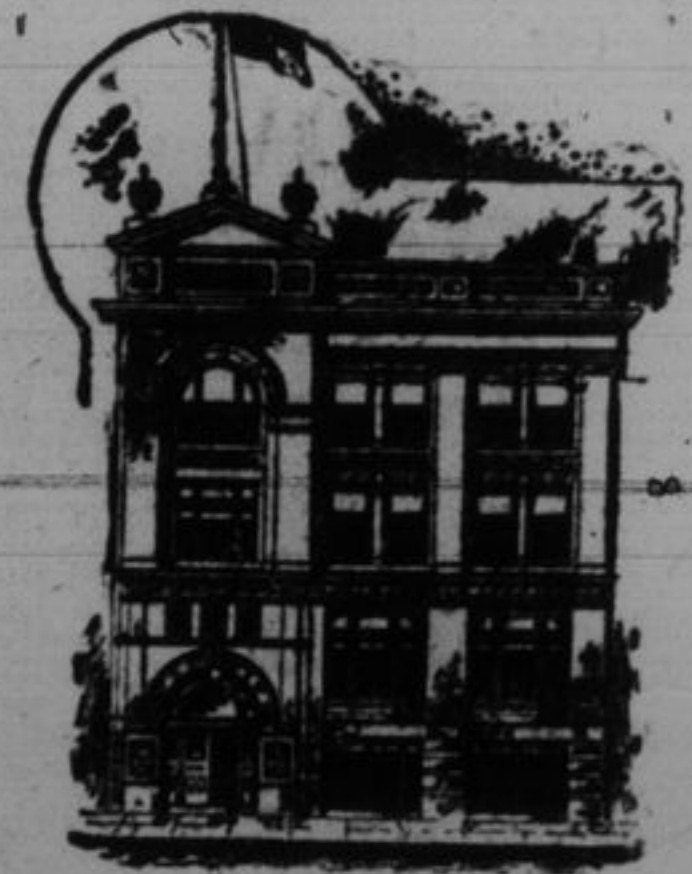


THE BRITISH WHIG 88TH YEAR.



Published Daily and Semi-Weekly by THE BRITISH WHIG PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED

J. G. EDLERT, President; Lennox A. Giddie, Editor and Managing Director

TELEPHONES: Business Office 242, Editorial Rooms 229, Job Office 292

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: (Daily Edition) One year, delivered in city \$6.00; One year, if paid in advance \$5.00; One year, by mail to rural offices \$2.50; One year, to United States \$3.00; One year, to United States (Semi-Weekly Edition) \$1.50; One year, by mail, cash \$1.00; One year, if not paid in advance \$1.50; One year, to United States \$1.50

OUT-OF-TOWN REPRESENTATIVES: F. Calder, 22 St. John St., Montreal; F. W. Thompson, 199 King St. E., Toronto.

Letters to the Editor are published only over the actual name of the writer. Attached is one of the best job printing offices in Canada.

The circulation of THE BRITISH WHIG is authenticated by the ABC Audit Bureau of Circulations.

God, to be employed, should it please Him, in work among the heathen. A year later, the family emigrated and settled in Pictou, Nova Scotia. John Geddie was trained for the ministry, licensed to preach and sent to Prince Edward Island where he was called. In 1843 an overture was sent to the Synod and in 1844 a memorial to presbyteries praying that a foreign missionary committee be appointed and a missionary sent out. Of the three presbyteries concerned, Pictou and Truro voted against it and Prince Edward in favor of it. When the synod met, the motion to enter the foreign work was opposed in these terms: "Feeling that they are not prepared to enjoin on congregations to make an effort on behalf of missions, consistent with other claims, they feel themselves unable to embark in the cause." The motion to send out a missionary was carried by a majority of six, though actually four-fifths of the ministry was opposed to the move and almost all the monied people in the congregations. John Geddie left for the South Sea Islands, and in 1848 was settled in Annetum. On his monument, there is this legend: "When he landed in 1848 there were no Christians here and when he left in 1872 there were no heathen." He learned the language, built houses and schools which the natives burned. He found them cannibals, great feuds were maintained between tribes, widows were strangled, infanticide was general, theft was not respectable, licentiousness was a besetting sin, revenge a sacred duty, the language of impiety and impurity was so common that a native could not speak without blending his ordinary conversation with it. Yet at the end of twenty-four years there had been a great change.

terprete that last vote of the province as conclusive, there is no need for a referendum at all. They hold that the Dominion government should have accepted that vote and immediately enforced the prohibition of importation as a necessary sequence. The British North America Act, however, governed inter-provincial trade and importation which were important stipulations in the Act of Confederation and, therefore, really outside of the control of the Dominion parliament. Indeed, many constitutional authorities question the right of any province to place restrictions upon free importation by referendum or otherwise, even for the purpose of enforcing temperance. Under these circumstances the Dominion authorities decided to leave the matter entirely in the hands of the people themselves. Already some of the provinces have voted against importation, notably Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia. Ontario voted on Monday, and the New Brunswick legislature, now in session, is calling upon the Dominion government for a similar referendum. Prince Edward Island has been absolutely dry for over thirty years. Quebec and British Columbia are experimenting with government control, but only a matter of time until they take advantage of the opportunity to line up with the rest of Canada and ban the importation of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes.

It is therefore seen that vast strides have been made in the temperance cause, although we are not yet in a position to judge accurately the results of prohibition. By carrying the referendum on Monday the province on Ontario will pass under complete prohibition, and all must concede that it will bring about a more satisfactory state of affairs than that which now prevails. At all events, it will give the provincial government an opportunity to try out the O.T.A. under the most favorable conditions, and if it be found a failure the only recourse will be some system of government control. All thinking persons who appreciate the labors of those who have brought about the present state of temperance in Ontario must vote "Yes" on Monday. To vote for importation is to prevent the effective enforcement of the law, leave the way open for the traffic of bootleggers and others who profit from the illicit sale of liquor and rob the people of the effect of their well expressed emphatically in 1919. The issue is clear: Do we want liquor imported into the province or not? This is the only question on the ballot to be used, and all who vote should bear in mind that no matter how they vote they cannot change the present law, as the government is bound to continue to enforce it as best it can but it is surely not fair to either the government, or to the people themselves, to continue the present unsatisfactory state of affairs. By voting "Yes" the rich and the poor will be placed in exactly the same position for none will be able to procure intoxicating liquor except for medicinal use for which the law makes ample provision. Let us all give prohibition a fair trial. This is all that we are asked to do.

BITS OF BY-PLAY By LUKE McLUKE Copyright, 1920, by The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Always. When mere man gets back from a trip. His wife has the tight dope. She knows he'll dig out of his grip A cake of hotel soap.

Man Brute: "Do you regard thirteen as an unlucky number?" asked Mr. Naybor. "Sure I do!" growled Mr. Gabb. "My wife is always saying that she could have married a dozen men before she met me!"

Bang! Boo-Hoo! My Bonnie went down in the cellar. A leaking gas pipe for to see. He lighted a match to locate it— Oh, bring back my Boo-n-n-ies to me!

Things To Worry About. The edges on \$20 gold pieces are likely to wear holes in the lining of your pockets.

Course Not: "Wouldn't you like to live in South America, where a fellow can get all he wants to drink?" asked the Fat Man with the Red Nose. "Not for me!" replied the Thin Man with the Pale Face. "Why, it is 100 in the shade there all the time!" "Well," argued the Fat Man wistfully, "You don't have to stay in the shade, do you?"

Orful! This White Mule is a funny thing. He careful how you use the juice; Two drinks make you feel like a King. Ten drinks make you feel like a Deuce.

Oops! "Smith hasn't been married very long, has he?" said Jones. "I don't know," replied Brown. "What makes you think so?" "He acts so polite to his wife when he is out with her," replied Jones.

Same Old Story! Though in training camp the Phenom Shows up Vets and swats the ball. He'll be digging up potatoes On the farm before next Fall.

Notice: If Asa Dimonds, of Philadelphia, Penn. will report at the Names, Is Names Club we can use him in a poker deck.

Be Keerful! Before the Japs start anything they should look over this list of peaceful communities to be found in the U. S. A.: Slaughter, Texas. Gore, Oklahoma. Battle, Louisiana. War, W. Va. Blood, Ky. Scrap, Texas.

Walt Mason THE POET PHILOSOPHER

PRESENTATIONS. At times I've had forebodings dire, which made me sad and blue; disaster, like a house afire, would climb my frame, I knew, and I would drop my trusty lyre, and sound the loud boo-boo. "I know that evil's on the way, I feel it in my bones," at times like these I used to say, in melancholy tones, "and hence my pained alackaday, my moan and mournful moans." And since I thus expected ill, the ill would sometimes come, and hand to me a bitter pill that made my innards numb; my cheer-up song I'd cease to trill, my well-known harp was dumb. But years have passed as they go; they left a bunch with me; and now I do not look for woe, but bank on coming glee; there's happiness in store I know, and blessings good to see. At times the dire forebodings strive to get me in their grip, my spirit they would curb and drive and scourge as with a whip, but where they're dared they cannot thrive—I bid the blamed things skip. Presentiments are silly fakes for souls to entertain, and yet full many a spirit breaks beneath their deadly strain before that weary spirit wakes to know that they are vain. —WALT MASON. See Bibby's \$22 Men's Suits.

One can but wonder whether John Geddie could have invested his life for the world anywhere else where the returns would have been so large, and we are of the opinion that his work constitutes a fine apologetic for the Christian gospel. While we cannot test all the work and influence of Christianity, because so many results lie behind the veil, yet, here, we can see its power in the regeneration of character; in the opening up of sources of the highest moral energy; in a degree of religious assurance to which no other religion can claim and inasmuch as men do not gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles, we can say that this religion which contributed the highest elements of the spiritual life of mankind, must be rooted in everlasting truth. We are entitled to trust it and we are bound to propagate it.

VOTE FOR PROHIBITION. The people of Ontario in October, 1919, voted for prohibition but today they have not obtained what they voted for.

The Whig, always an advocate of temperance, gave its support in each successive step toward the attainment of the goal aimed at by all people earnestly endeavoring to wipe out the evils associated with the liquor traffic. We have now reached within sight of that goal, and in view of the great benefits experienced during the period of war-time prohibition that was rendered effective by federal order-in-council that prohibited the importation of intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes, it would be clearly an act of folly in the people not to vote against importation when they have the opportunity to do so on Monday next.

For the first time in our history the liquor question became divorced from politics when the Drury government came into power and found itself faced with an overwhelming vote of the people against licensing the sale of intoxicating liquor, and in favor of the continuance of the Ontario Temperance Act that had been put into force as a war measure by their predecessors.

While that act received the support of the Dominion Order-in-Council from 1916 to 1919, the evils of drink were undoubtedly reduced to a minimum, for stocks of liquor could not be obtained by either private individuals or bootleggers. The Dominion government, however, could not prohibit inter-provincial trade without a referendum, and the order-in-council had to be rescinded one year after the war. The withdrawal of this order-in-council opened the flood gates; and the past year has seen an enormous traffic in liquor. It has been estimated that more liquor has been consumed and sold in the province during the past twelve months than during any single year under license, and Quebec dealers have become millionaires.

It was not the fault of the Ontario government that this traffic assumed such proportions, because it was powerless to stop it except where it had conclusive evidence that liquor was being sold. The Dominion government was appealed to, and it passed a bill calling for a referendum on the question of prohibiting importation into any province that asked for it. The Ontario legislature, believing that it was acting in conformity with the wishes of the people, carried a motion asking the Dominion government for a referendum as the only means of rendering the Ontario Temperance Act effective. To a great many people who in-

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See Bibby's \$22 Men's Suits.

PROHIBITION MASS MEETING ALLEN THEATRE SUNDAY, 4 P.M. SPEAKERS: Mr. John A. Patterson, K. C., Toronto, and Principal R. Bruce Taylor, of Queen's University. ORCHESTRA IN ATTENDANCE MAYOR NICKLE WILL PRESIDE All are invited. Doors Open 3.30 p.m.

War doesn't pay unless the vanquished does. Happy packers, they can can their troubles, but the rest of us can't. The bee believes in armament. But he doesn't have to pay taxes on it. Yip teaches us that an island no greater than a mustard seed can move whole nations. Germany may conceal her gold, but she isn't at all backward about revealing her brass. In a period of deflation, put up or shut up means put up more collateral or shut up shop. Whatever your opinion may be on the question of importation, it is your duty to vote on Monday. Perhaps Mr. Ford's attitude may be explained by the fact that nearly all Jews prefer better cars. The sun never sets on the British Empire's troubles, is the seemingly truthful remark of the Flint Journal. And the reason, the Lenin-Trotsky regime is in desperate straits is because it is out of everything else. Hereafter we shall know enough to make each belligerent post a cash forfeit before sitting in the game. We can't hope to settle this prohibition controversy until we make up our minds to try it and see how it works. The only driver more dangerous than a pretty woman is the man who is watching a pretty woman pedestrian. The waste of war may have left the Allies short of a great many things, but patience isn't one of them. If prohibition of liquor is barred as a result of the vote on Monday, the enforcement of prohibition laws will be a much easier matter. The people who think that advertising adds to the cost of goods are about the same ones who think that labor-saving machinery adds to the cost of the product. Those who are in favor of government liquor control should remember that the first logical step in this direction would be to cut off importation by the individual. The St. Thomas, Ont., horticultural society in its annual report says: "War is being waged upon the billboard nuisance and the tacking of cards and signs upon fences and other places without permission of the owner." Campers and travellers were responsible for 246 fires starting in the British Columbia forests. This was a considerable reduction from the previous year, credit for which is given to the education work done by the newspapers. THE MISSIONARY IDEA. On the 10th of April, 1815, just a couple of months before the battle of Waterloo, there was born in Banffshire, Scotland, a baby to the Geddie family, whom the parents named John. When he was a few days old, he was stricken with a severe illness. His parents made a vow that if he were spared to them, they would devote him to the service of

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W. R. Robinson, Nananee, has accepted a position with the Hydro Electric at Nipigon.