

THE BRITISH WHIG 91ST YEAR.



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

J. G. Elliot, President; James A. Gold, Editor and Managing Director

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Attached is one of the best job printing offices in Canada.

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For that matter, when the cat's away the husband will play.

Some are bent with toil, and some get crooked trying to avoid it.

The hinterland knows little of culture. There is scarcely a billboard in sight.

What we need now is a magazine full of articles showing how famous men got poor.

One good way to popularize classical music is to steal it and use it in a popular song.

If a man has the same friends now as in 1902, it simply means that he hasn't grown much.

It is fine to winter in the south and loiter about in a bathing suit if you don't mind the cold.

The worst cynics are those who but recently and unprofitably believed in Santa Claus.

A hick town is one where there is less picking of pockets and more picking of teeth on Main Street.

You can say one thing for henpeckery. Husbands under a thumb are seldom under indictment.

Hitching your wagon to a star is fine, but don't let your little boy hitch his to the rear of an auto.

"We must get at the bottom of this thing," said the surgeon, as he glanced at the patient's purse.

The career of many a fine washwoman has been utterly ruined by her ambition to become a movie star.

"There's an electric thrill in curly bobbed hair," says a novelist. Well, there ought to be. It's an electric curl.

We are becoming so cultured that only eighteen per cent. of the people quote Shakespeare and credit it to the Bible.

There are compensations. In a town where merchants don't believe in advertising, there is no parking problem.

Correct this sentence: "It's a snappy sex story, dad," said the flapper, "and I know you won't mind buying it for me."

A woman down east rates for \$15,000.00 for shattered nerves. At this distance it looks as though her nerve is pretty good.

When a man is trimmed by a big fellow and tries to regain self-respect by being hateful to the insignificant, he is called a grinch.

There was one consolation about a cold wave in the severe winters of our fathers. It wasn't necessary to call a plumber afterward.

The number of new books published last year was less than in 1922, but the reading public did not suffer on account of the decrease.

Scientists claim to be able to predict earthquakes with accuracy. If he wishes to do something worth while let him predict something that we would welcome.

BIBLE THOUGHT THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE HAVE IN HIM. THAT, IF WE ASK ANY THING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARETH US.—1 John 5:14.

CATCHING THE PUBLIC.

We take it for granted that this continent leads the world in all forms of commercial advertising. Certainly no other part of the world spends as we do on publicity. But what proportion of this is spent to advantage? Out of thirty consecutive advertisements in one of this month's magazines one-half depend for their primary appeal on the charms of a well-fed young lady. Alone she might be quite effective, but in that crowd she is as useful as a plain tombstone in a full churchyard. Uniformity, conservatism, has defeated the first object of advertising, which is to attract attention.

Two steps in advertising in advance of anything we have attempted were taken in England at the New Year. One was the voluntary removal by several of the large oil companies of all their display signs from along country roads. They excused themselves—as all charitable acts must nowadays be excused—on business grounds. People were displeased by that form of advertising so it was withdrawn. May the practice increase and sales never grow less!

The other novelty was the commissioning by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway of seventeen leading members of the Royal Academy to design the posters of places and industries along their line. The artist was given simply the place name and allowed perfect freedom in his treatment of the subject. Reproductions will be made by the best color printing methods. No lettering save the artist's name will appear on the picture and very little on the border. Thus the railway plans to turn its stations into open air picture galleries for the benefit of the thousands who have idle moments there. There should be a distinct gain both to the company and to the public from this accession of beauty to those cinderly temples.

HIS BRIGHT IDEA.

Premier Ferguson's announcement of pending changes in the system of allocating school grants will arouse the interest of many a hard-pressed taxpayer. At present the Provincial Educational Act provides for apportioning grants strictly according to school standards. The progressive school is substantially rewarded while the backward draws a minimum. But this comes hard on the many rural districts which are too poor to be progressive. As the costs of building, maintenance and salaries have doubled and trebled the number of taxpayers has steadily dwindled through the decline in rural population. In the West, schools have closed in hundreds of districts while in the East tax-rates of twenty and even thirty mills for school purposes are not unknown. Obviously this figure is impossible to maintain and closed schools or reduced salaries with inferior teaching are in immediate prospect.

Consolidated schools would be in many cases the ideal solution were it not for their high first cost. To make the county responsible, so that poorer districts would be carried by the stronger, has been suggested. The premier's plan is to give each district a very modest lump sum and to pool the remainder of the grant. Payments from this fund will be made to schools according to their merits as judged by the responsible minister upon the report of the local school inspector. Extra assistance can thus be given to struggling districts while the well-to-do are left to pay their own way as they ought. The scheme may well be an improvement on the present system. But under faulty or party administration—for the minister of education decides what each school shall receive—it affords province-wide scope for influence and petty patronage. From this point of view it suggests serious dangers, nor is Mr. Ferguson's previous ministerial record altogether reassuring.

NEED FOR RETRENCHMENT.

In a letter published in Monday's Whig, Professor J. Macgillivray, of Queen's University, called the attention of our readers to the need of the city council practicing economy this year, especially as regards the laying down of new pavements. This matter was dealt with by the Whig on Tuesday.

There are, however, other matters contained in Mr. Macgillivray's letter that are worthy of attention. He is quite right in speaking of the "high-handed and expensive ways of the Utilities Commission." He asks "Why go to the extra expense of a new out-of-the-way office when our City Hall as there with room enough and to spare? Why should not the Board of Education be also housed in the City Buildings? It would be a saving in rent, fuel, and pay-roll." These very things were advocated by the Whig last year when the Utilities Commission first proposed to buy the Queen street property and to compel the citizens to travel all the way down there to pay their bills. The indignation of the public was aroused when this exposure of extravagance and indifference to the public's requirements was made by the Whig. That resentment bore fruit when Commissioner R. E. Burns was defeated at the last municipal election, and if we are not greatly mistaken, Commissioners H. C. Nickle and R.

N. F. McFarlane will also feel the result of public condemnation of their "high-handed and expensive ways," when next they appeal before the electors. The Whig has also advocated the removal of the Board of Education to the City Buildings, but the Utilities Commission has set such an example of extravagance and indifference that one can scarcely expect any other public body like the Board of Education to insist upon going in the opposition direction. It is, however, a healthful and encouraging sign to see professors of the university taking an interest in civic problems. Some of them are already serving on the Board of Education, and on other public bodies. Citizens generally will welcome a still greater degree of interest from this quarter.

The City Council went on record last year as opposing the "high-handed and expensive ways of the Utilities Commission," but it was powerless to stop their determination to spend money foolishly. Again, if there be a large amount of unemployment in the city it is far better for the council to give these men work in street-paving than to hand them out doles as charity. These men do not want charity; they would much prefer honest work. The Whig agrees, however, that the paving scheme might be restricted to meet the demands of unemployment only. The City Treasurer has suggested—and it is a wise suggestion—that the cost of paving in one year should not exceed the cost of street-paving bonds retired in that year. We would thus be keeping the city debt on a level at least.

HAVING A HOBBY.

A symposium on the hobbies of well-known persons is being published by Success Magazine. The persons interviewed include almost every line of activity, and the hobbies cover a wide range. Book collecting, fishing, golf, the study of history, carpenter work, playing bridge, writing poems, raising chickens, building motor boats, collecting pictures—these are but a few of the hobbies mentioned in the symposium. There is enough variety here to give almost anybody something interesting to do in his spare time.

The point of the symposium is that almost everybody who has accomplished anything great in his life has a hobby. The ordinary round of duties is likely to become a drudgery if it is not relieved by some outside interest that takes the mind away from the treadmill for a time. No one can do his best work who does not get away from it sometimes. There are many people who are inclined to jeer at the business man who takes an occasional afternoon off for a game of golf or for a fishing trip. It seems to indicate to these persons that he is not attending as strictly to his business as he should. As a matter of fact he is adopting the very best method of attending to his work. He is keeping his mind and body at their best. Very often the proper way to attend to business is not to attend to it.

PRISON ENQUIRY OVERDUE.

In a statement broadcasted by the Canadian Press, Limited, Brigadier-General W. S. Hughes, superintendent of penitentiaries, characterized the report that a convict named Fenton had been placed in a dungeon in the local penitentiary as "ridiculous." He admitted that there were dungeons at the penitentiary but stated that none of them had been used since the time of the Fenian raid. It would seem that Mr. Hughes' memory is rather short—that is, if he is correctly reported. Men who are in a position to know deliberately declare that Fenton was placed in the dungeon for refusing to testify in a recent police-court case, and that he stayed there until his removal to hospital. It is common knowledge that a number of convicts were confined to the dungeon following a rebellion which broke out among them a couple of years ago. It was also brought out in evidence at the last public investigation of penitentiary affairs that the dungeons were in use.

The time has come when a thorough investigation should be conducted into the management of the Portsmouth penitentiary. Every official is suspicious of every other one, and no man feels his position or reputation to be safe. All semblance of esprit de corps has disappeared, and a thorough investigation is the only thing that will save the institution from calamity, to say nothing of putting an end to the injustice that is being continually shown to honourable, straight-forward officials who would like to serve the state to the best of their ability. The new Minister of Justice can scarcely refuse the many requests that have doubtless been made to him to order such an investigation. The mere fact that four convicts were able to prepare and effect their escape a few months ago is proof positive that something is wrong. If things continue as they are the public may expect that the further results of the policy now being pursued will be more disastrous still.

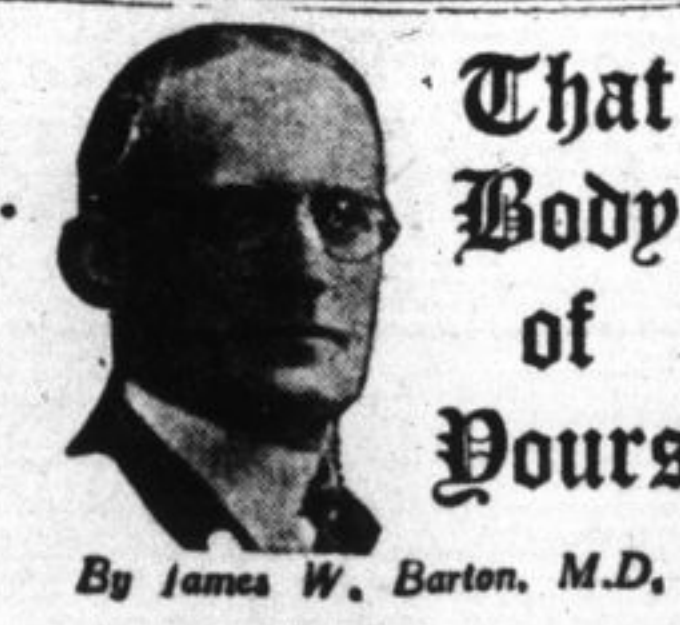
\$100,000 Gift to University.

Philadelphia, Feb. 6.—Announcement was made today of a gift of \$100,000 to the Catholic University, Washington, D.C., by Martin Maloney, papal marquis, of this city. The money is to be used for the construction of an annex to the chemical laboratory at the university. The annex will contain an auditorium with a seating capacity of 900 and will be completed within a year.

The fellow who always has an eye for business usually runs his business for his I.

A single burman tree has been known to shelter 7,000 men at one time.

"Buy Princess Pat goods." Gibson's.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Yours

Being Careful About Mumps. That a mild epidemic of mumps seems to be about this year is well known to physicians and parents.

Unfortunately a number of "grown ups" are also affected, so that a few words about this trouble might be of interest and of service. It is simply an inflammation of one of the salivary glands—the glands that manufacture the saliva in the mouth.

The strange thing about it is that it does not seem to interfere with the saliva in any way, no change in its composition. You remember what the youngster looks like with a well developed case of mumps. There is a swelling of the neck just below the ear, which actually lifts the lobe of the ear out of its place.

In fact it is the displacement of the lobe of the ear upward and outward that is one of the sure signs of mumps. The lobe stands at such a distance outward that it is plainly noticeable.

Sometimes the swelling extends beyond the region beneath the ear right over to the entire cheek, over to the eye, or even down into the neck to the collar bone.

Another peculiar thing about the swelling is, that although it stretches the skin until it is shiny, the skin never becomes red as it does in other swellings.

Sometimes there is no pain worth speaking about, but other times, especially in adults, the pain is severe, and the act of chewing or swallowing greatly increases the pain.

There is, of course, some temperature, but only for two or three days. Now why do I write about it? Because as it takes two or three weeks to properly develop, you may wonder just what is coming over you when mumps is under way in your system.

Further, that the possibility of being infected lasts also for a long time, as much as six weeks sometimes.

Also that although fortunately in the majority of cases there are no painful affections in other parts of the body very often the reverse of the idea, therefore, is to take mumps seriously until all the swelling is gone, and you are free from pain and temperature.

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LOOKING FOR A KING.

European Principality Which Have Been "in the Market." The newly-constituted State of Albania is looking for a king. "An English gentleman preferred." The salary is not stated, but the civil list of the new monarch, whoever he may be, is unlikely to be a very extravagant one, seeing that the entire revenue of the country amounts to no more than about \$800,000.

This, by the way, is not the only occasion on which a European principality has been "in the market," so to speak. The late Duke of Edinburgh, afterwards Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and Gotha, Queen Victoria's second son, was once offered the throne of Greece, and so certain were the Greeks that he would accept that they actually had him proclaimed King at Athens.

Not only this, but number of coins were struck bearing the new "monarch's" effigy. These are now greatly prized by collectors. It is perhaps unnecessary to add that, on news of these events reaching Windsor, the proffered honor was promptly declined.

Some time previously the Greek throne had been offered to the grandfather of the present Earl of Derby, who also declined it. Following the refusal, the vacant throne was hawked round amongst the princelings in Europe, to be eventually accepted by the Grand Duke Otto of Bavaria, whom his ungrateful subjects later deposed.

In 1878, following on the Russo-Turkish war, Sir Henry Drummond Wolff might, had he so minded, have been king of the then newly-formed principality of Rumania.

He was acting at the time as British High Commissioner there, when one morning a delegation of leading notables came to offer him the throne, assuring him of the support of Rumania, and suggesting that he should be crowned forthwith at Philippopolis.

Sir Henry pretended to treat the matter as a huge joke; whereas the delegates retired in high dudgeon. This same crown was afterwards declined by Prince Alexander Yorgovics, probably for similar reasons to that which had previously induced the Count of Flanders to decline the honor of ruling over the turbulent principality of the sister principality of Albania.

Said this astute individual, when offered the crown by the President of the Council of Ministers: "If you can guarantee that I shall not be assassinated, as was M. Catargi, or interned for life in a dungeon, like Petrovski, my answer is 'Yes.' Otherwise it is 'No.'" The ministers looked askance at each other, then silently withdrew.

Not always, however, have offers of this description been declined. Many years ago Sir James Brooke, an ex-officer in the old East India Company's service was offered, as accepted, the crown of Sarawak, in Borneo, over which country his descendant the present Rajah Brooke, still reigns, it having been constituted an independent State under British protection in 1858.—Montreal Herald and Weekly Star.

Bones Betray Age. X-ray of Tut-Ankh-Amen's mummy will settle the dispute as to his age when he died, says Prof. Henders Petrie. A few years ago X-ray photographs were admitted in an Indian law court as evidence of age. The case concerned a transfer of property by a certain Behari Lal, who was alleged to be under twenty one years of age, and therefore debarred from executing the transfer. Eight X-ray plates were produced showing the condition of Behari Lal's bones with regard to the joining of the cartilages to the shafts of the bones, and expert witnesses agreed that these plates showed that the age of the fourth was between eighteen years and nineteen and one-half years. So there need be no uncertainty about a lady's age in future.



Charwoman's A.C.

"With the assistance of a well-known firm of solicitors and two of the ablest counsel in this court, Mr. London, Eng., in granting a decree nisi to a poor woman who had obtained her living by charring."

"I think facts of this sort deserve to be known, continued his lordship. "The subject has been one of public discussion on recent occasions, and there is at the present time much doubt as to whether the existing arrangements for facilitating settlement of matters of this kind for poor persons can be carried on."

"I want to point out that if there is good will throughout the legal profession, such as has been shown in this case, there would be no difficulty in maintaining the system, which to my mind is creditable to the profession and very advantageous to the poorer applicants."

Chums. Chums is a terrier. He has been rescued after living for 14 days in a 150 foot water shaft in the hills at Portesham, Dorset, Eng. When the dog was lost from a picnic party a search revealed the old shaft hidden by undergrowth, but it was not till two weeks later that a Portland naval engineer, on examining the shaft with the aid of a small searchlight discovered that the dog was moving at the bottom. He and his wife lowered into the shaft some condensed milk, which the dog lapped up. At midnight an old tea chest with food in it, and worked from the top of the shaft, was lowered, and into this the dog crawled and was pulled to the surface. Though terribly emaciated, he was still frisky and wagged his tail in gratitude to his rescuers.

Ocean Swells and Ocean Waves. The two words really mean the same thing, but in practical use a distinction is made. Swell is the name given to ocean waves not produced by wind in the locality in which they are met. They are, however, set in motion by storms occurring at a distance.

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