

THE BRITISH WHIG 1817 YEAR.



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All hair tonic raises its hopes.

Another thing that is silent and strong is Limberger.

Some wives use a quick-working poison, and some try everything.

The music we like best in a movie theatre is the "Refrain from Talking."

At any rate distance would lend enchantment in the case of near beer.

Some kind friend should lend Spain a book about England and Ireland.

A conversationalist is a man who would save what the other fellow is exploiting.

The most prolific cause of war is the conviction that one can lick the other fellow.

A lot of men who dance now could not get by if skirts were long enough to step on.

If you think the idea of self-determination did not take hold, study modern children.

The dry candidate has his sorrows. People who invite him to dine won't offer him a drink.

The happiest people are those young enough to think the back seat was made to hold six.

French is an easy language to learn. The hard part is to make Frenchmen understand it.

The world progresses. Once mud was used to make houses; now it is used as political argument.

Japan is still sore about immigration. Well, doubtless it is more trouble to smuggle them in.

The Russian soviet says that kissing is a vice of the bourgeois, one of whom we are gladly which.

Corkscrews and hairpins are out, and the League of Nations may yet ruin it's manufacture of spurs.

What this country needs is some form of recreation that won't exhaust you much more than work.

The thing that makes the capitalistic system hateful to everybody is mediocre ability as a money getter.

If at twelve he believes in Santa Claus, at twenty-five he believes he is the only man who ever kissed her.

Any free citizen can do as he pleases, except for his conscience, his wife, his landlord and the neighbors.

Correct this sentence: "He is a student, not an athlete," said his mother; "but he is the idol of his class."

Personally, we don't believe the story about the hen that developed a taste for clay and is now laying brick.

The grandmother who used to die when the team played at home is the gay lady with bobbed hair in the third row.

BIBLE THOUGHT: BE SURE YOUR SIN WILL FIND YOU OUT. Numbers 32:23.

DRY AND WET AREAS.

A more detailed consideration of the figures of the plebiscite polling than was possible yesterday suggests that perhaps the significance of the prohibition vote is somewhat greater than the mere figures of its plurality show. It is deeply regrettable that the vote splits up such a marked opposition between town and country; but when that opposition does develop it is usually safe to conclude that the sober and considered opinion of the old Ontario type of citizen is better expressed by the country vote than by the city. Of the majorities against prohibition, no less than eighty thousand was piled up in four great urban centres, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa and Windsor. Now nobody will deny that all four of these centres contain large bodies of residents, some of them more or less transient, who are much more recent arrivals in Ontario than the typical resident of the smaller cities or the rural parts, and who have not as yet acquired much of the Ontario conception of community life and public morals. We are far from suggesting that these residents belonging to non-Ontario racial stocks are not entitled to the full franchise, and that their vote is not to be taken just as seriously as that of the grandsons of Ontario farmers of three generations of standing; and we deeply deplore the division which this plebiscite has set up, or rather has deepened, between the crowded centres of immigration and the sparsely settled areas where the inhabitants are nearly all old settlers. But we much prefer that the old Ontarians should enforce their views upon the newcomers than that the newcomers should by a narrow majority enforce their views upon a strongly convinced and determined Old-Ontario. Kingston is, we imagine, the most thoroughly Ontarian—certainly the most thoroughly British—of all the cities which find themselves in the "wet" column, with the possible exception of London, whose wet majority, in relation to the size of the place, is almost negligible. Of the other cities which show substantial wet majorities, besides the four already named, many have large foreign elements in their population, such as Fort William, Port Arthur, Sault Ste. Marie and Welland, and Kitchener has an element which, while no longer to be described as foreign, has never assimilated the Ontario feeling on the subject of the pleasures of the palate.

Against the hundred thousand or so of a wet majority rolled up by these places (and we have little hesitation in crediting it very largely to the non-Ontario elements), the other small cities and an overwhelming muster-roll of towns and counties piled up majorities sufficient to offset the large or foreign cities and to give the Ontario Temperance Act a fairly substantial net endorsement. In the dry cities it is interesting to note such thoroughly Ontarian places as Brantford, Oshawa, Owen Sound and Peterboro, with their populations of skilled artisans with permanent jobs, usually owning their own house and garden and often also their own car. The dry towns read like a list of the birthplaces of famous Ontarians, so thoroughly do their names recall the fine old days of the little red school-house and the old-style community life that produced the Ontario character of to-day; but the wet towns are largely lumber and mining settlements, with a few border towns tured by the prospect of floods of American money.

The typical "Old Man Ontario" is evidently still convinced of the value and effectiveness of prohibition. But there are growing up in the midst of his territory large groups of people who are not such typical Ontarians, unless we are to consider the type as undergoing considerable modification. In matters in which the Ontario ideal involves marked interference with individual liberty, as in prohibition, anti-gambling legislation, and other phases of moral reform, it is vitally important that the Old Ontarians should not set into too violent conflict with the more recent elements of the population. It will be good statesmanship on the part of the prohibition forces to devote the next few years to an effort to win more support in the cities, rather than to vote the cities down with an overwhelming rural majority.

VINDICATING PUBLIC HONESTY.

The impressive sentences meted out by justice yesterday to a prominent financier of the city of Toronto and a former treasurer of the Province of Ontario should do much to establish a clearer concept of public honesty in the minds of the people, and especially of those who have to do with public funds. There has been a growing feeling for some years that the law had ceased to be able to distinguish between right and wrong in transactions involving public money, or at least that the administrators of the law were not anxious to have the distinction maintained. The Jarvis-Smith episode shows very clearly that that is an error. Politicians and their friends who seek to make an illegitimate

profit out of their control of the public treasury still do so at their grievous peril. They may not always be caught—a possibility which they share with every other kind of criminal,—but if they are caught they will pay the penalty. No amount of personal sympathy with at least one of the guilty in this particular case can override the satisfaction that comes of so thorough a vindication of justice.

In some respects the transactions which are sending Jarvis and Smith to prison were exceptionally mean ones. Peter Smith in particular was a member of a government, and a leader of a party, which obtained office largely by the violence of its denunciations of the corruptness of all the older parties and their leaders and the shrillness of its own claims to purity. While he was in office, circumstances developed which made the Canadian dollar worth a great deal more in sterling money than it had ever been before. It was thus possible for the province to buy up its own bonds from British holders, who had bought and would sell them in sterling, for a very much lower price than anybody had ever expected. But the provincial treasurer decided not to go into the market himself, or through an agent working on commission, and thus buy the bonds direct at the market price. Instead he gave to Mr. Jarvis an order for the bonds at a price much above the market, thereby depriving the province of a large part of the real profits of the transaction: It was argued in defence, and doubtless the guilty parties argued to themselves, that there was in a sense no loss to the province, as it still got back its bonds at a lower price than their redemption value. But the casuistry of that argument is as evident to the ordinary business mind as it was to the court.

The late U.F.O. government was fond of assuring the people of Ontario that it did not consist of professional politicians, but of plain farmers and business men. But every man who engages in politics must be either a professional or an amateur, and if being governed by amateurs means being governed by administrators such as the Hon. Peter Smith, the province may well conclude that it is safer to be governed by professionals. It is creditable to the honesty but not to the intelligence of Mr. Smith's colleagues in the cabinet, that they seem to have been unaware of what he was doing. A cabinet of professionals would have been much better posted.

DR. JOHN WATSON.

Only a very small number of persons ever concern themselves about philosophy, but the results of their concern with it are of gigantic importance. In some mysterious manner, the ideas which the philosophers of one generation have formulated are filtered down into the minds of the masses of the succeeding generation and there become the main-springs of action of millions of individuals and of vast communities. The world war was a clash of philosophies as much as a clash of economic rivalries. Nations fight because they make rival claims to the same thing; but the facts upon which they base their claims are identical, and it is the philosophic use that they make of the facts that leads them to their different and irreconcilable conclusions.

The community of great philosophers thinking in the world at any given time is a very small one, and its members are all well known to one-another. The same is true of the community of great scientists. The number of brains engaged today in thinking new thoughts about the electron, or about the principle of relativity, is probably so small that their owners could assemble easily in one of the minor classrooms of Queen's University; and with the exception of one or two very recent arrivals, every member of each group would be known to, and pretty accurately assessed by, every other member of the group to which he belonged. It is interesting, and should be a matter of pride, to Kingstonians and Canadians generally to realize that if the productive philosophers of the present age were thus to assemble in a single room their gathering could not be complete without the presence of a popular and unassuming resident of this city who for over fifty years has performed the arduous task of instructing university youth in the methods of the highest thinking.

Dr. John Watson, who was banqueting by his colleagues this week on the occasion of his laying down his active instructional duties, is a world figure. Philosophers never get much public recognition during their lifetimes, unless, as in the case of Mr. Bertrand Russell, the consistent practice of their philosophy causes them to be sent to jail by people who are still practicing the philosophy of the preceding generation. Dr. Watson's name therefore does not often occur in big headlines. But it will never be possible to write the history of the British philosophy of the last years of the nineteenth century and the dawn of the twentieth, without mentioning his

name and crediting to him a substantially important contribution.

Undergraduates are apt to think that they and their predecessors alone make and modify the "university spirit" of which they are so justly proud. It would probably astonish the average Queen's student to be told that the "Queen's spirit" was in large measure the work of the veteran instructor in a subject which most of them doubtless regard as immemorially removed from all contact with the things of actuality. But this theory was advanced by Principal Bruce Taylor at the Watson dinner, and was generally approved by the diners; and we suspect that there is a great deal in it. Great traditions are established and maintained by great minds; and the Queen's spirit is too great a tradition to be credited exclusively to undergraduates. To have helped in making a philosophy and a university is a work upon which any man may well look back with pride. If Dr. Watson is not looking back with pride today, it is merely because he refuses to look back at all, having plenty of work yet before him to look forward to. That he may long live to perform it is the ardent wish of all who know him or know what he has done.

KINGSTON IN 1854

Sidelights From Our Files

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

May 25.—The festivities of yesterday went off gallantly. The whole city and nearly half the country were on the quai vive the entire day. Numerous visitors came from Watertown and Cape Vincent.

The review of all the troops in garrison took place shortly before twelve o'clock, and lasted two hours. It was really a splendid display of military manoeuvres. The Queen's color was trooped and afterwards an excellent sham fight took place. A royal salute of twenty-one guns was fired from Fort Henry; the Royal Artillery on the ground fired another royal salute and the infantry fired three several feus de joie.

Shortly after two o'clock, the grand procession was formed, including the mayor and council, the Judge, sheriff, city member and county member and the bar, preceded by two good bands. On their return, some of the gentlemen mounted one of the stands in the Market Square and delivered some capital patriotic speeches.

From five till six o'clock, the climbing of the grassy pole occurred, in which amusement several excellent hats were bravely won. This amusement was accompanied with a gratuitous distribution of several barrels of Kingston ale to the admiring crowd.

From eight until ten o'clock the display of fireworks took place in the Market Square. These had been purchased in New York by Mr. McMillan for the city council and were a judicious outlay of money. Two stages had been erected to let them off properly, and they were displayed to great effect. The private fireworks in the streets, particularly those of the boys were good and incessant, to the great benefit of the tailors and dressmakers.

The glorious day was terminated by a grand military concert given by Mr. S. Dork, director of the band of the 64th Regt., under the patronage of Col. Young. The concert did not commence till very late and was not ended till near midnight.

You can't kiss a girl these days who doesn't know how.

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Two Years for Arson. Woodstock, Oct. 25.—James Davidson, 17-year-old, was sentenced by Magistrate Paterson to-day to two years in Portsmouth penitentiary for willfully setting fire to the barn of his employer, B. O. Dixon, East Oxford. The fire caused a property loss of \$9,000.

Fakenham Man Killed. Ottawa, Oct. 24.—Struck by an automobile as he stepped from the sidewalk early yesterday morning, Michael Sheelock, of Fakenham, sustained injuries from which he died in a local hospital an hour after.

Once mushrooms were the most dangerous things in cellars. That was back before prohibition. Our idea of a catastrophe is a football hero with arms so sore he can't hug a woman. Next thing you know everybody will be talking about Christmas.

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