

THE BRITISH WHIG



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So is work, Sherman, when one knows the fish are biting. The birth rate is declining. Automobiles don't cry at night.

Some men are born with consciences, and others marry them. Boys will be boys. So, for that matter, will old chaps of sixty.

An empty head isn't a total loss. It affords more room for argument. One of the homely substances successfully used in the making of gold is sand.

The step to elect Hindenburg president of Germany is another goose step. Adam stood in the new Garden and saw Eve. "Here comes the first chicken," he growled.

Yet surely there is no piety in listening to dull conjecturing that calls itself a sermon. Some of the best spring fiction is that offered the boss as an excuse for being late again.

Well, if they change jobs man will have a more competent vocabulary when the cake burns. One of the charming things about modesty is that it never inspires anybody to write memoirs.

Correct this sentence: "Everybody will be there," said she, "and I hate a crowd; let's not go." Another way to become acquainted with some of our leading families is to be a bill collector.

Hell has some good points. All the folks are gnashing their teeth and haven't time to talk. Onion production in Canada last year is estimated at 1,095,000 bushels, but love will find a way.

One way to keep Germany from arming is to show her that she will have a fair chance without it. The final test of pure religion is to keep on loving men whom you no longer need in your business.

Don't call a spade a spade. Call it a sexless contrivance employed by yokels and get a reputation. The only excuse for discussing business at lunch is that it justifies you in charging the lunch to the house.

Experts are unable to determine the origin of grapefruit. Perhaps it just appeared one morning for breakfast. If it will be sent by mail C. O. D., and you have only to sign on the dotted line, how easy it is to think you want it.

Ignorance causes fights. About 97 per cent. of them originate in the conviction that the other fellow is easy to lick. BIBLE THOUGHT

A LOVE FEAST:—Dinner is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.—Proverbs 15:17.

A NEEDED CHANGE. The attention of Parliament was called on Tuesday last to an obvious blemish in our law respecting naturalization. Up to a few years ago it was an easy matter for a Canadian returning to his native country, after having for any reason accepted citizenship abroad, to recover his status. But, through what seems to have been either a blunder or an oversight, the law was changed so as to keep him an alien for five years. If he marries before the expiry of those five years of ostracism, his wife also loses all rights as to the franchise and so on.

No one has ever been able to suggest the faintest reason for this harsh and indefensible change. We ought to be so glad to see our wandering children returning to the national fold that we would be willing to make their repatriation as easy and speedy as possible. Instead, we treat them as suspects. We shut the door in their face. We punish them. We humiliate them. We do all we can to suggest we do not want them. Such a situation is intolerable, and is unquestionably contrary to popular will. Therefore, no time should be lost in amending the law.

AN OLD-FASHIONED GAME. The jolly game of "trust-busting," in which many a politician made a star reputation, is going out of fashion, according to the Bank of America of New York. The war taught us too good a lesson of the value of combination. Here in Canada the Imperial Munitions Board performed wonders of organization and production that could not be duplicated now. The Imperial Food Board also developed a system of credits and huge purchase which it would be advantageous to maintain always. The producer secured the best price he had ever received and yet the spread between that and the price to the consumer was kept at a minimum.

In many ways a large organization can perform services impossible to a scattered number of small, competing units. For a century the tendency has been all in the direction of increasing the size of industrial units. So that "trust-busting" was an attempt to turn back the hands of the clock. And like most such attempts it has proved to be almost futile. Perhaps one of the reasons why large corporations are no longer regarded with such disfavor is that because they are growingly abandoning their old "public be damned" attitude. But if large corporations are a good thing, it is not wise to leave them free of restraint. The lust for power and the opportunities for gratification upon which it feeds are often too much for men. Their point of view becomes warped and the most unjust procedure seems to them perfectly justifiable.

The present attempt of the Canadian Government to curb the rates charged by the Atlantic Shipping Combine is not trust-breaking in the old sense at all. As the Hon. George P. Graham made plain in his speech in Kingston, it is a reward to an independent company in return for allowing the Canadian Government to fix the rate. The government does not care whether a combine exists or not. What does matter is that shipping lines, often owned by railway companies, should not be able by a raise in ocean rates to rob the farmer of the benefit of a reduction in the railway rates. The latter are under the control of a Railway Commission but the ocean rates are not. The arrangement with Mr. Peterson is simply a logical attempt to extend that jurisdiction to at least one line of ships. If Mr. Peterson gives lower rates the saving to Canadian shippers will be millions of dollars above the Government subsidy. If the rates are not lowered there is no subsidy and the experiment costs Canada not a cent.

AN ALARMING DISEASE. We are always, for obvious reasons, concerned in the things which affect the social evolution of our neighbors across the international boundary. That boundary is very real in one sense, and yet wholly unrecognized in many other senses. Hence, we should be alarmed by the announcement that a new, or comparatively new, disease is taking heavy toll among the American people. Dr. William S. Sadler has diagnosed it as "Americantia." Since it is contagious, rather than infectious, we may assume that when it comes to be identified on this side of the line it will be known as "Canadantia." By any name it will be deadly.

In his report to the Gorgas Memorial Institute, Dr. Sadler confirms the hitherto only suspected fact that "more Americans are dying from heart disease, Bright's disease, apoplexy and high blood pressure, between the ages of 40 and 50, than any other white people." To us there is at least the color of comfort in such a statement. We form at least one group of "other white people." But when this eminent diagnostician identifies as the cause "the hurry, bustle and incessant drive of the American temperament," the suspicion at once arises that we may not be long immune. No one can compare the social and

commercial conditions of to-day with those of a generation ago without discerning at least one salient change. We are doing nearly everything faster than we did then. We have permitted ourselves to glorify mere gain in pace. Almost daily we are asked to pat somebody on the back for having "broken the record." But in what respect can we flatter ourselves with real progress if, at the same time, we are breeding diseases from which we might be free and which shorten our lives? No man can be said to have won any worthwhile success at fifty, from the personal point of view, if his wife is a widow.

WOMEN AND VOTES. The people of Bermuda have just voted against female suffrage. Before anyone leaps to conclusions about the matter, it should be remembered that this British colony out in the Atlantic has social conditions somewhat different from those which obtain in Canada. An overwhelming majority of the population is colored, and, while the people of that race have adequate representation in the legislature and municipal bodies, it has always been deemed expedient to attach a property qualification to the franchise. That seems to have been the controlling factor in the recent decision, coupled with a desire to avoid complications in such a mixed community.

The Bermuda incident is in no direct way connected with the meeting of the League of Women Voters at Richmond, Virginia, the other day; but the two things have a similar significance. At that meeting one of the speakers made the following observation: "Man is not crazy about doing anything. He is just crazy to find out things. If the league can get hold of the information which man has uncovered in his mad rush to investigate, but has never used, it can do a wonderful work in moulding public opinion."

Just what was meant by this cryptic reference to the male of the species will perhaps never be known. Probably it was merely intended as a declaration that women have no monopoly as respects curiosity. Be that as it may, we rather incline to the view that man's overbearing responsiveness to the nudge of the interrogation mark has been a good thing for humanity, whether or not he has put to a good use all he has found out. That may have been the meaning. If so, it should at the same time be frankly admitted that he has not been close-mouthed about it. Married men at least tell their wives everything, as wives must acknowledge.

If, on the other hand, this was a slam at scientific research, it was ill-considered. The sex line is not drawn in that important matter. Indeed, women are in growing numbers becoming participants in that noble quest. The case of Madame Curie's joint work with her husband in the discovery of radium is strikingly in point. Scores of other splendid examples could be given. And surely women share in the benefits of all advances in human knowledge.

WEATHER FORECASTS. The science of forecasting the weather is approaching perfection. It is based on the operation of fixed laws, and, subject to certain qualifications, is as well established as any other branch of modern science. The daily forecasts are made after information has been received from about sixty points scattered all over North America, and follow the assumption that results grow inevitably out of the conditions thus disclosed. Those conditions, for the most part, relate to barometric pressure and degrees of temperature. In other words, scientists now understand the meteorological laws which cause rainfall, heat and cold, storms of varying intensity and so on.

It has been observed, however, that the predictions which appear in the daily papers cover only a period of twenty-four hours. Such information is of great social and economic value. But of perhaps greater value would be a reliable forecast of conditions for an entire season, as, for example, whether we are to have a cold or a mild winter, a very hot or a moderate summer; and to that possibility scientists are now directing their attention. In the April issue of The Journal of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, reference is made to this matter as follows:

"While dealing with the subject of forecasting one must not omit to mention the valuable study that Sir Frederick Stupart is carrying on in connection with the character of the Canadian winters and the atmospheric conditions that produce them. He finds that in normal seasons North Pacific cyclonic areas usually move south-eastward with their centres well off the coast until at about the latitude of Northern British Columbia, they enter the continent, while anti-cyclonic conditions of moderate intensity with low temperature prevail in the Yukon and the Mackenzie River. In certain

years the Pacific cyclonic areas are less intense and enter the continent farther south, while great anti-cyclonic developments occur in the far north and sweep south eastward over Canada, accompanied by severe cold waves which not infrequently reach the Atlantic coast. These conditions led to abnormally cold winters in Canada. In other years the Pacific cyclonic areas appear to be of such intensity that they force their way into the continent in high latitudes and actually prevent the formation of anti-cyclonic areas and their concomitant low temperatures. These conditions lead to mild winters in Canada. There appears to be a connection between the temperature of the North Pacific ocean and the Japanese Current and the characters of the winters in Canada, and the Meteorological Service is investigating the subject."

Here is at least a promising commencement. As time proceeds, the systematic study of atmospheric conditions may lead to the discovery of a constant law governing the intensity of our winters and summers. In these times of intensive research, with fresh triumphs of almost daily occurrence, it does not do to place any limits on the possibilities of human genius.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

A Wise Dentist. In a former article I spoke of a physician, who, when he felt that certain teeth should be extracted in a certain case, always told the dentist that as long as the teeth were not removed, he could blame these teeth for the patient's illness.

A dental friend tells me that he always talks to the physician in this way. "Remember I am also interested in the patient's health, and I wouldn't do anything that would prevent him from getting well. I am willing to extract the teeth if you say so, but I don't like to see him lose such good chewing teeth. I would like to try and treat those abscesses for a little time. Sometimes I have been able to save the teeth and sometimes I've failed. Just let me have two or three months to see what I can do."

The physician is usually willing to meet him this far, and so he treats the teeth regularly, cleansing out the abscesses, and inserting an anti-septic dressing. He can usually see improvement in about six weeks if there is going to be any at all. In another six weeks there will be a marked improvement, and another X-Ray is taken. This will show the improvement made, and the physician and the patient are satisfied.

In other words it simply means that if the abscess is just at the root of the teeth, that very often the anti-septic treatments are sufficient to clear it up. If however the condition has gone on past the tooth, and the infection has got into the bony socket of the jaw bone, into which the tooth fits, then the treatment is of no avail, and the tooth must be extracted. And then this bony socket itself must be cleared out, and antiseptic treatments given, to prevent further trouble in the bone of the jaw.

This all looks like good sense in the light of our present knowledge of these teeth infections. It also gives the patient the benefit of the co-operation of doctor and dentist, and the best possible results are thus obtained.

They Went To Canada. An interesting story was told by Principal Gandier in his address at the dinner given in connection with the unveiling of Professor Kilpatrick's portrait in Knox College. He repeated a conversation which he had had some years ago with the late Principal T. M. Lindsay, of Glasgow. Principal Lindsay referred to a remark which had been made to him by Dr. Edward Caird of Glasgow University, afterwards Master of Balliol College, Oxford. Dr. Caird said: "The two finest minds that ever passed through any classes in Glasgow went to Canada—John Watson of Queen's University, and T. B. Kilpatrick of Knox College."

Princess Marie Ostrogradsky, once the reigning beauty of St. Petersburg, is reduced to starvation at Nice.

The murders in Paris are placed at the door of the French cabinet.

Renfrew Residence Burns. Renfrew, April 27.—The residence of D. S. Bell, manager of the Renfrew planing mills, was badly damaged Friday night by fire which broke out from an unknown cause. The chimney had earlier in the evening been burning and the firemen were summoned, but nothing further was feared from it. It is supposed now that a spark from the chimney caused the second fire. Nearly all the furniture was saved. The loss will be about \$2,000. Insurance is carried.

Pupil Given \$225 Damages. Brockville, April 27.—Damages amounting to \$225 have been awarded James Merritt, a pupil in a school near Prescott, as the result of a civil action taken by him against Good Halliday, his teacher, for alleged undue punishment. Merritt sued for \$500 damages and the action was heard by Judge Dowley in county court.

Canada's Story Day by Day. By B. Odwen Davies. APRIL 27. It is to be wondered at that the early settlers in the New France did not at once set about producing their own supplies of grain, instead of depending upon supplies from France. But for many years Hebert, Quebec's first farmer, was the only farmer in the country, and the little town below the cliffs looked eagerly for the dainties which were grown by the pioneer on the heights. On this day in 1628 Sieur Couillard, who was married to one of Hebert's daughters, used the first plough, drawn by oxen, in Canada, and Champlain himself records the fact, as one of importance. Couillard was a friend of Champlain, who was present at his wedding and who was godfather to his little daughter. Couillard lived with Hebert in the great stone manor house and after Hebert's death he took his place and worked the farm. It was in this house that in 1632, when Canada reverted to France after being occupied for three years by the English under Kirke, that mass was held to celebrate the event. Inside page

Written by Torontoites. Brockville, April 27.—Reaching to obtain bananas for customer, W. J. Holmes, grocer, Winchester, was bitten by a large tarantula, which he promptly crushed under his foot. Although the bit of the tarantula is said to be poisonous, Mr. Holmes is suffering little ill-effects.

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