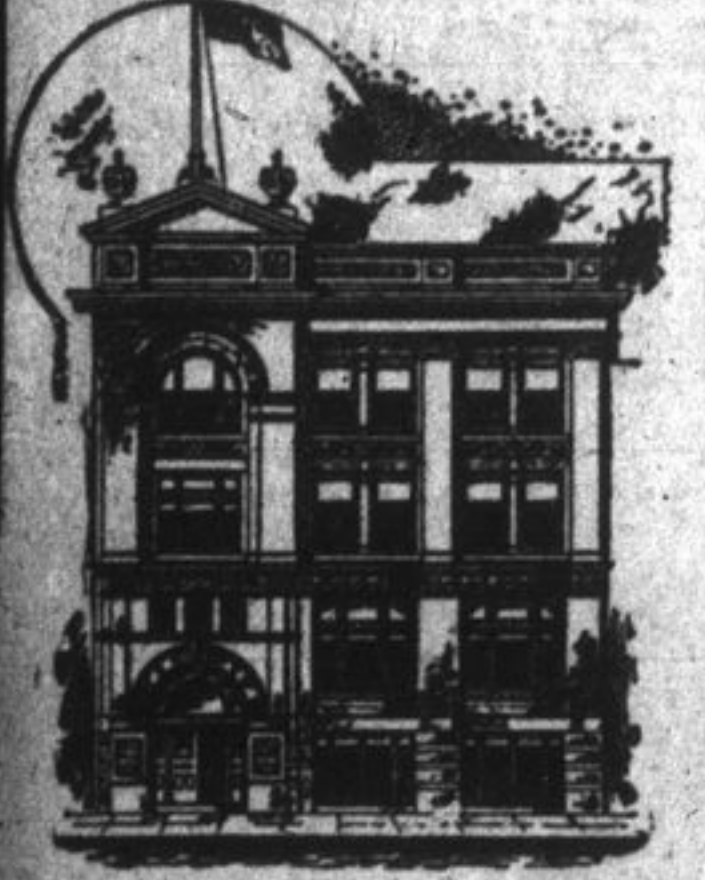


THE BRITISH WHIG
82RD YEAR.



Published Daily and Semi-weekly by
THE BRITISH WHIG PUBLISHING
CO. LIMITED, KINGSTON, ONT.
W. RUPERT DAVIES, President

TELEPHONES
Business Office 243
Editorial Rooms 2612
General 2613
Job Department 2614

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
(Daily Edition)
One year, in city \$7.50
One year, by mail to rural offices, \$2.50
One year, to United States \$5.00
(Semi-Weekly Edition)
One year, by mail, cash \$1.50
One year, to United States \$3.00

OUT-OF-TOWN REPRESENTATIVES:
TORONTO—F. W. Thompson, 109 King
Street West, Toronto
MONTREAL—F. Calder, 23 St. John
Street, Montreal
NEW YORK—Ingraham-Powers, Inc.,
350 Madison Avenue
CHICAGO—Ingraham-Powers, Inc., 19
South La Salle Street

Letters to the Editor are published
only over the actual name of the
writer.

The circulation of The British Whig
is authenticated by the Audit Bureau of
Circulations.

OUT INCOME TAXATION.

The President of the United States
has reduced federal taxation by
\$387,000,000, and more than \$200-
000,000 of this will be for the benefit
of personal income taxpayers.

Under the new law, a married man
with two children, will have to
make more than \$4,300 before he is
subject to any tax, having an exemption
of \$3,500 and an allowance of
\$400 for each child under 18 years
of age.

Besides the widespread tax reduction,
the bill makes several changes in
the administrative sections of the
law and repeal of the provision allowing
the publication of amounts of
income tax payments.

The tax revision is in part:
Income taxes: Increase in the personal
exemptions from \$1,000 to \$1,500
for single persons and from \$2,500
to \$3,500 for married persons.

Reduction in the normal rates
from 3 to 1-2 per cent, on the first
\$4,000 of taxable income, from 4 to
3 per cent, on the next \$4,000, and
from six to five per cent on the remainder.

In Canada the people cannot hope
for any heavy reductions, our war
bill was so large, as we were in the
war years ahead of the United States,
but it should be the constant aim of
the Dominion Government to irrevocably
set its face against increased
expenditures and an earnest purpose
to economize in those commitments
that have yearly to be faced. We are
carrying immense interest charges
that the United States is not com-
pelled to meet as it was able to wipe
out the war debt from its yearly
federal income. But we should early
plan to make reductions so that by
1926 we will have wiped out the
debts that war forced upon us.

LEVEL CROSSING SPECTRE.

Under the foregoing title the last
issue of the Canadian National Rail-
way Magazine has an article that
ought to be widely reproduced in the
newspapers of Canada. The subject
is presented from the point of
view of the man in the railway cab.
The article contains the following
striking statement:

"During the year 1925, statistics
compiled by the Board of Railway
Commissioners of Canada show there
were 214 automobile accidents at
highway grade crossings, in which
53 persons were killed and 341 persons
injured."

It is hardly fair to call these acci-
dents, or at least a very large num-
ber of them. If a reckless motorist
strives to beat a fast-express to a
crossing, and fails, it is not an acci-
dent. It is a stupid, wilful and reck-
less disregard of human life. It is
easy to stop a motor at a railway
crossing, but it is not possible to stop
a fast train, with its tremendous
speed and heavy weight. The motor-
ist who takes such chances is a reck-
less fool. The pity of it is that he
sacrifices other lives oftentimes with
his own. An experienced railway en-
gineer, whose views are set forth,
has this to say about these reckless
drivers:

"You would be surprised to know
how many motorists strike trains in
the second and even the third coach
back in attempts to beat us. If we
had tried to stop, we might have just
succeeded in slowing enough so that
our pilot would have struck and
destroyed them instead of them
striking us."

The article depicts the engineer of
a fast train straining his eyes on ap-

PROACHING A LEVEL CROSSING, observing
an automobile rushing for the cross-
ing. He blows his whistle: "A thrill
of horror seizes him, enfolds him." Perhaps
the speeding auto comes to
a stop a few feet from the track. The
driver of it thinks it a great joke
and waves his hand at the engineer.
He little thinks of the mental torture
which he imposed on the engineer,
who is "clammy from head to foot"
in consequence of the motorist's
dare-devil conduct. "To the engineer
in the cab of your train they are the
ever-recurring, permanent, hair-raising
hazards, and terrors of a life of
service." The fact is that there
ought to be nation-wide laws requir-
ing motor drivers to stop at a safe
distance from railway crossings, with
severe penalties for violation.

THE PULSE OF INDUSTRY.

The United States Steel corpora-
tion has just completed a quarter
century of existence as a corporate
body. Its development is a romance
of industry, affirms the Watertown,
N.Y., Standard. When United States
Steel stock was first placed on the
market in 1901 it sold at \$55 a
share as compared with \$135 at its
highest point in 1925. In 1904,
when the "trusts" were under fire
in and out of congress it fell as low
as \$8.40. United States Steel had
to fight its way. It took power and
genius to bring the corporation to
the position it now occupies.

The corporation has paid out in
the twenty-five years of its exis-
tence about \$6,500,000,000 in
wages and about \$2,000,000,000 in
dividends. Its current annual payroll
is about \$450,000,000, paid to about
250,000 workers. Its total assets are
worth about \$2,500,000,000. The
gross sales of the corporation were
\$560,000,000 in 1902 and in 1924
were \$1,263,000,000. Its gross busi-
ness for twenty-five years was \$23,000,000,000—more than the
national debt. Net earnings in that
period were \$2,125,000,000.
Call it a trust or what you will,
United States Steel now is, and for
some years has been, the most potent
factor in American industry. The
volume of its filled and unfilled
orders is regarded as the key to the
country's economic condition, the
rise and fall of its stock as the
barometer on 'change. It hasn't a
monopoly in steel, but the ramifications
of the organization make it a
highly potent influence. It is in a
very real sense the pulse of industry
in America.

BODY AND BRAIN.

Professor Pearson, of the Depart-
ment of Applied Statistics of the
University of London, says we are
no nearer today than fifty years ago
in measuring intelligence by aid of
physical measurements whether they
be merely statical or dynamical. On
the whole he says those persons with
a slow respiration rate, a lower pulse
rate, and a lower body temperature
are slightly more intelligent. Those
with the greater vital capacity have
the quicker reaction times or greater
mental agility. He says, how-
ever, that such association for the
purpose of prognosis is without
value.

It is of the order of association in
mental characters of second cousins.
The accuracy of the prediction is of
the same order as if it were reason-
able to predict the intelligence of a
man from that of his second cousin,
or of a woman from that of her first
cousin once removed. In other words
he does not believe that any investi-
gation has so far found an individ-
ual's mental agility from a measure
of his or her vital capacity.
What has been found is that ath-
letic proficiency is a considerably
closer measure of intelligence, but
Professor Pearson points out that
the simple reason for this is that
such proficiency has a large mental
factor. In the main, however, it is
so far impossible to predict anything
useful of mind from the measurement,
statical or dynamical, of the body.

THE DEADLY CHIP.

Here's a new recipe for long life,
from a marine engineer eighty-six
years old.

"Don't go around with a chip on
your shoulder."

Sure, many a man has survived
to a hale old age by avoiding fights.
There is always the danger of get-
ting a knockout blow in a scrap
that you have started yourself. And
the mood of belligerency that puts
the chip on the shoulder and dares
the other fellow to knock it off is
probably using up nervous energy
that might prolong life.

Yet there is something to be said
for aggressiveness. At least it pre-
serves an interest in life while life
lasts. The fellow looking for a
fight, physical or verbal, is not bor-
ed. And boredom may be worse than
premature death.

Anyway, "we live in deeds, not
years."
And what would happen to
society—the aggregate lives of all
of us—if there were no aggressive
members poking up the rest?

Strong hearts never tell their own
croakings. They prove their strength
by concealing their own pains and
sympathizing with others.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A Pittsburgh tourists' bureau con-
fesses in writing that it never heard
of the Thousand Islands.

An optimist is a man who feels
complimented when somebody steals
his car from among so many, re-
marks the Baltimore Sun.

The consistent advertising of its
goods in the newspaper is a part of
the service of every modern store
which aims to serve the public.

The day is coming when politics
will be the country's good at all
times, and the best way to effect it.
The millennium will be appearing at
that time.

Mr. Meighen and his lieutenants
may be weak in statesmanship and
strategy. But no one can call them
speechless, is a Toronto Globe com-
ment.

Ford has decided to build a cloth
factory. He apparently thinks that
his cars do not loom enough. We
will get into a web if we say much
more!

An investigator finds that the de-
cline in the American birth rate is
largely due to the higher cost of
babies. People feel that they can't
afford them.

Toronto aldermen raise their own
salaries. They knew the people
wouldn't do it; hence, followed the
old saw that "if you want a thing
well done do it yourself."

At the present time in Canada
and the United States 100,000
women and girls earn a livelihood
as telephone operators. That's one
line that is always busy.

The Winnipeg Free Press speaks
of "the pin-headed environment of
the Ontario populace." It sounds
severe—but we know it has a head
anyway. Do you catch the point?
Ouch!

The Conservative leader in Sas-
katchewan, Dr. Anderson, has re-
signed and is going into business.
During his career the party made
slow and disappointing progress. He
gave it up as a bad job.

There are seven constituencies in
Ontario that are not represented in
the legislature of the province. There
are no statistics to show the number
of constituencies that are misrepresented.

"A Railway Miracle" is the term
which the Montreal Herald applies
to the remarkable improvement
which has taken place in the position
of the Canadian National Rail-
ways during the last few years.

There's a big future for the boy
who is as keen of work or study, as
he is of play. What a boost it would
give to business and all lines of pro-
duction, if everyone was as intent on
breaking records as the sports most-
ly are.

If the Conservative leaders had
been wise, comments The Vancouver
Star, they would have accepted the
decision of the House and allowed
the Government the necessary time
to prepare for the real work of the
session.

In the Legislature Mr. MacBride
urged that a well-written sketch of
the late Sir Adam Beck be included
among the contents of the next issue
of public school readers. A good
suggestion. A dozen other bio-
ographies of eminent Canadians
might also be added.

The Boston florist, who was the
author of the phrase, "Say it with
flowers," has been presented with a
handsome gold medal by United
States florists. The author of "And
so on along that line," has not been
discovered yet and when he is it
should be said to him with a bou-
quet of bludgeons.

There is a proposal to change the
constitution so that both branches
of Congress and the President and
the vice-president shall take office
in January instead of March. Such
a resolution has passed the Senate
by a vote of 73 to 2. In the House
a resolution looking to the same re-
sult has been introduced, and it is
thought that it will pass that body.

Some merchants advertise their
goods and sell them. Other mer-
chants do no advertising, and, conse-
quently, little business. The wise
merchant, when he receives a ship-
ment of goods, which he knows the
public wants, does not whisper the
event down a bottomless well. He
comes boldly forth in the newspaper
pages and heralds his wares.

Professor K. F. Mather of Har-
vard University, a geologist and seism-
ologist of note, says that eventually
the earth will not be large
enough for its population. The
world's population, as near as can
be estimated, is about 1,500,000,000.
Professor Mather thinks that the
earth is capable of supporting
four billion or perhaps ten billion
souls, so there is no immediate
danger that there will be an S. R. O.
sign hanging on the earth.

News and Views.

Either Will Help.
Armpit Chronicle: It is said you
don't have to be insane or suffering
from St. Vitus disease to do the lat-
est dance, but at least either of
those afflictions will help a little.

Party Politics.
Toronto Star: It is complained
that in Canada "politicians are
maneuvering for party advantage."
If anyone knows of any country in
which politicians are not doing that
it would be interesting to know
where it is. It is as natural for po-
litical parties to do that as it is for
birds to fly.

Direction Action.
Los Angeles Times: The co-eds in
the Missouri colleges are driving all
the boys on the water wagon. They
are doing it by pledging themselves
to have nothing to do with lips that
touch liquor. They boycott the lad
with the Scotch breath. If this idea
could be extended over the land it
would be worth a whole army of en-
forcement officers.

Uneven Distribution.
Cleveland Plain Dealer: Reduc-
tions made since the war have
thrown an increasing measure of
the tax burden on the lower middle
class, to the advantage of the
groups both below and above, but
to this tendency a halt must be called
sooner or later. Government ex-
penses do not promise to decrease at
a rate in the future sufficient to
narrow the base of taxation much
further.

Playgrounds and Progress.
Boston Transcript: Towns and
cities are coming more and more to
realize that in the future what they
offer in recreational advantages will
be scrutinized as carefully as what
they possess in the way of housing,
transportation and power facilities,
when it comes to the establishment
of industry. The day is at hand when
it will not do to boast about in-
crease in population unless it can be
shown that along with the growth
which contribute to make a town or
city a good place in which to live
and do business, and not the least
among these things will be count-
ed the playgrounds and all the other
recreational advantages.

The Shrivelled Dollar

(Winnipeg Free Press)
The Washington Post editorially
struggles with the indisputable fact
that the farmer's dollar had a pur-
chasing power of 100 cents, or bet-
ter, during the lifetime of the Un-
derwood tariff law, but has been
dropping year by year under the
Emergency and the Fordney Mc-
Cumber tariff acts. It argues that
the war in Europe made a tremen-
dous demand for food, which ceased
in 1921, with a consequent fall in
prices. But it must be remembered
that there was a similar falling off
in demand for manufactured pro-
ducts of almost every kind. Why
is there not the same equality in
1926 between agriculture and in-
dustry as existed under the Under-
wood tariff law in 1913?

It is further argued that post-war
deflation of currency and credit
caused a general fall in prices, and
that the farmer is no worse off than
anyone else. With this, the farmer
will scarcely agree. There has been
a one-sided deflation. The farmer
may get the same number of dollars
for his products as he did in 1913,
but they are only 60 cent dollars.
This is largely caused by tariff
legislation. The farmer has to pay
the artificially high American price
for what he buys, and he has to
sell his great staple crops at the
world price fixed by supply and de-
mand. Hence the exchange value,
or purchasing power of his dollar,
has declined in a startling manner
since the passage of the Fordney
McCumber Act. It stood at 85 cents
in 1922, when the Fordney McCum-
ber Tariff Act was passed. It
dropped to 61.3 cents in 1923; rose
to 62.4 cents in 1924, and fell back
to 60.3 cents in 1925.
These are the figures furnished by
the Republican Secretary of Agri-
culture to Congress. It will take a
good many editorials to explain how
the farmers can live under an
economic system which confiscates
40 per cent of the earnings of
United States agriculture for the
upkeep of industry.

Meighen Once Applied Gag

(Brantford Expositor)
If the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen
ever thinks of the past, he must
have some mingled feelings as he
recalls that memorable day in the
session of 1912, when he applied
the "gag" to the chivarious Sir
Wilfrid Laurier. Fourteen years
later it was used against himself.
On that occasion Sir Wilfrid quoted
the words of Shakespeare: "This
even-handed justice commends the
ingredients of our poison'd chalice
to our own lips," and he added:
"The poison that he offers to us
to-day will come to his own lips at
some future day."

Never "Wild and Woolly"

(Edmonton Bulletin)
Viewed in perspective it is a re-
markable fact that western Canada
never was "wild and woolly." There
is not in its record of settlement
any chapter which corresponds with
that period in the history of the de-
velopment of the western States

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