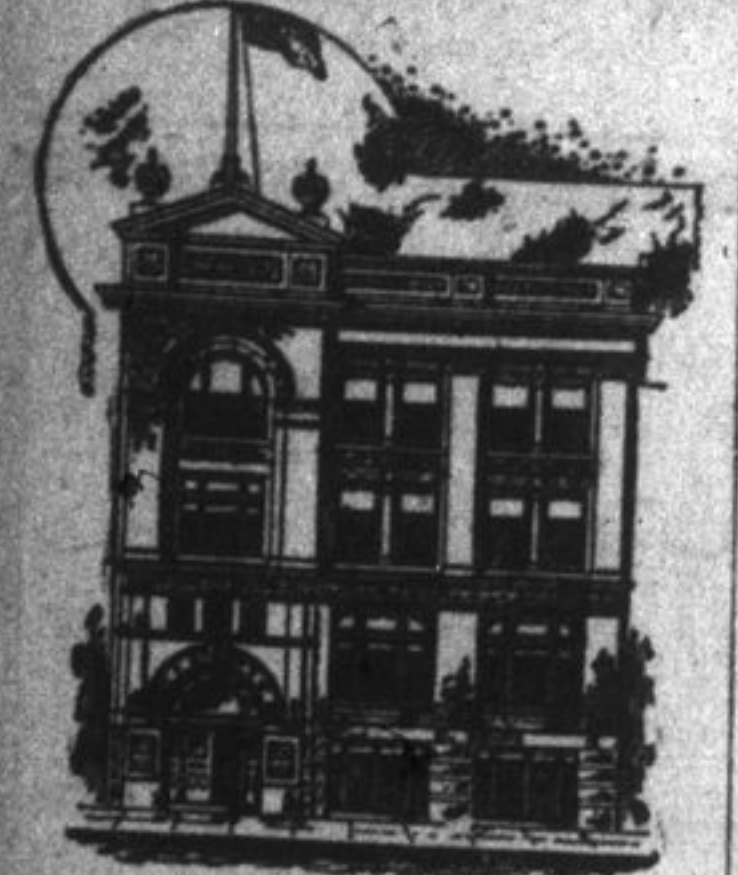


THE BRITISH WHIG 93RD YEAR.



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THE POWER QUESTION.

It will be a great disappointment to Kingston and other Eastern Ontario centres to learn that the power recently purchased from Quebec is to be taken direct to Toronto for distribution in Toronto and western Ontario.

When the announcement of the securing of 230,000 horsepower from the Ottawa River was announced, Premier Ferguson gave out a statement in which he said:

"The entering into of a contract by the commission for this supply of power in the East enables it, in addition to supplying power in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of the Niagara District, to provide for the needs of Eastern Ontario between Ottawa and the Niagara District. The large high-tension transmission lines traversing the whole of the territory between Ottawa and Toronto will have a capacity of from 300,000 to 400,000 horsepower, and may be tapped at one or more points to meet the demands of the districts intervening, thus protecting the future demands of the municipalities and industries of the East."

This seems to be definite enough and led the people of Kingston and other eastern points to assume that the line would be run close enough to permit of tapping.

Telegraphing from Toronto to the British Whig, on the day the new power deal was announced, Hon. W. F. Nickle, member for Kingston, said:

"The announcement today of the consummation of negotiations for Hydro purchase of approximately 230,000 horsepower annually from the Ottawa and tributary developments will release an adequate immediate supply for eastern and western requirements. I trust the offered opportunity may bring fresh industries to Kingston and Frontenac and stimulate industrial activity and also relieve domestic power users' requirements."

Either Premier Ferguson and Attorney-General Nickle were not aware of the plans of the Hydro Commission or else these plans have since been changed. The announcement made at the meeting of the Public Utilities Commission, yesterday, will come as a keen disappointment to Kingston and neighboring towns, and unless the Attorney-General can use his influence to have the plans of the Hydro Commission rearranged, it looks as though the great boon we thought we were getting a couple of weeks ago will not come our way after all.

NOT ALL ROSY OVER THERE.

The other day a Whig representative, while chatting with a young Kingston man who had recently returned from Detroit, learned that this young man could do better right in Kingston at a fair wage than he could in Detroit, where wages were higher. That others are finding the same thing is testified to as follows in the last issue of the Renslow Mercury:

A young man of Renslow, one of the brightest and best, took up residence in Detroit recently and is now working for one of the big corporations there. What is his wage? Something to attract other Canadians to that city? No; he is paid fifty cents per hour, which over there is at the rate of four dollars per day. After paying for board and

lodging and squaring with the laundry managers, he will have little or nothing left. And yet we are told that in a country where the tariff is high wages are high and everybody generally has "a high old time."

TERRIBLE CONDITIONS.

"England is a garden full of broken blossoms. The children are broken because their bodies are ruined and their souls soiled while they are still children."

So said Mrs. Manning at the National Union of Teachers' Conference at Portsmouth, Eng., when the housing conditions in relation to school children were being discussed. And it is a pitiful picture to contemplate. The overcrowding, the vile smells, the unsanitary rooms, unlovely and poverty stricken surroundings and the schools, in such circumstances, were cases in a desert of drab monotony. Whatever advantages Nature had given them at the outset, they slipped into a world of physical and not infrequently moral handicaps, which limited them throughout childhood and in after life. How vital the housing problem was to the children who spent the most impressionable years of their lives there was known intimately to those who had daily contact with the children and their products.

Ald. Conway moved a resolution calling attention to the serious effects of overcrowding upon the children, and urged that all possible steps be taken to meet the grave deficiency of houses. He added these pointed words: "We could not rear an Imperial race in the slums. We might as well expect flowers to bloom in cellars."

Fifteen years ago Lord Leverhulme said that 20,000 deaths every year were due to overcrowding. There was always a brisk trade in baby coffins in the overcrowded and slum neighborhoods.

The resolution was adopted. What an object lesson this picture is to Canadian cities! Every possible endeavor should be made to wipe out slum conditions in our rapidly developing cities. Canadian children are too precious to be permitted to be reared in such atmosphere. Let the lesson sink deep into the minds of our civic administrators.

AN EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM.

Referring to the question raised by the principal of a high school as to the hardship involved in having to provide accommodation for an extra dozen pupils, who are attending school only to put in time until they are entitled to leave to get into something else, and who meanwhile, are gaining nothing while costing the ratepayers a lot of money, and the teachers a lot more worry, The Orillia Packet thinks that the Premier might very well give some consideration to the problem of how to save high schools from this handicap. The attendance of pupils who are not preparing for professional life, and not intent on making the best use of their time, is a drag on the progress of those who are. In class work it is almost impossible to get on faster than the slowest. The class must move on as a whole. By insisting on keeping those who do not want to attend at school until they are sixteen, many of them are spoiled for work and fall into idle habits from which they may take a long time to recover. Technical schools in the city overcome this to some extent, but the many high schools in the towns and even villages cannot give manual training courses. This important educational problem should be given consideration immediately.

THE HEALTHFUL TOMATO.

For centuries the tomato has been adjudged the most healthful of foods, and medical science is constantly finding new virtues in it.

That tomatoes are the most easily and quickly digestible of all the fruits and vegetables, is a statement vouched for by the American Medical Association journal.

On many hospital diet lists, tomatoes are put ahead of all other foods designed to reduce obesity. Tomatoes are very effective blood cleansers. Their natural health acids regulate and tone up the stomach, and are a natural corrective for the kidneys. The tomato is recommended and specified by celebrated physicians and specialists in Europe as well as in America in the food treatment for diabetes.

Spring and early summer bring a craving for the healthful acidity of tomatoes. The delicious and refreshing flavor of tomatoes comes from the health acids which abound in this palatable vegetable. The tomato is, therefore, a natural and proper "spring tonic."

Nor is it necessary to wait for new-grown ripe tomatoes to enjoy this tonic. As a matter of fact, canned tomatoes are to be preferred because they are more truly "fresh" and possess in full measure all the food and health virtues of the naturally matured vegetables. For deli-

cate children, invalids and convalescent patients, many doctors now prescribe tomatoes or tomato juice. A typical testimonial is that given by a noted Chicago physician, Dr. Hugo Friedstein: "There is no doubt about it, the curative value of the tomato is extraordinary. Its vitamin content alone is accomplishing the undreamed of in the feeding of infants and invalids."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Some one should nominate Jack Frost as Queen of the May.

Henry Ford is not much of a politician, but he's a good advertiser.

Isn't there going to be any Queen of the May Mother? Not this year if we want to deck her in flowers?

In spring we all wish we had a nice little farm, but in the fall our love does not diminish for the city.

"Men don't hide behind their wives' skirts any more," remarks The Montreal Herald in a spirit of resignation.

The possibility of Britain having another Queen Elizabeth and another Elisabethan era makes a strong appeal to the popular imagination.

On the matter of coal supplies something ought to be done to join the great fuel demand in Ontario with the enormous fuel supplies in Alberta and in Nova Scotia.

A New York woman is suing a dancing partner for \$50,000 because he fell on her, breaking her leg in eight places and did not apologize. He certainly made a bad break!

A New York window-cleaner has been making an income estimated at \$100,000 a year. After he cleaned up the window he stepped into the room and cleaned out the jewel cases.

On the highways these spring days the courtesy of the motorist is put to test. It is the time when the spirit of the real gentleman reveals itself or where the manifestation of selfishness creeps out.

Thirteen of the States in the United States have more than 5,000 one-teacher schools apiece, and Iowa, Illinois and Pennsylvania have the astonishing number of 7,000 each. The total number for the whole country is 168,000. They need reforms over there.

Premier Taschereau of Quebec tells the film producers that the authorities will not renounce their censorship. The Censor Board knows what is best for the people and will not change the regulations even in face of the threat to cut off the films. Sensible decision. Ontario might be freed from impure taint entirely if the same resolute spirit that is manifested in Quebec animated the authorities in Queen's Park.

Before any modification of the proposed tariff reductions are given consideration, the automobile manufacturers should open their books unreservedly for the inspection of the Tariff Board and its experts and show, if they can, how much more it costs to manufacture automobiles in Canada than it does in the United States, and prove, if they can, what justification there is for a higher tariff than the new Budget provides for.

After gazing attentively at the page of ladies' portraits in Saturday's paper, the Winnipeg Free Press says: "We arrived at the opinion that the heading which said the ladies were diploma writers at the University might readily be changed. They look like the successful winners in an international beauty contest. Manitoba is really a very lovely place." Yes, but did you ever look over a company of Kingston femininity? There you get a real picture.

News and Views.

A Word for the Charlestown. Washington Post: There is always a way of salvation, and the Charlestown is doing wonders for muscles almost ruined by the silver habit.

What the Charge Was. Stratford Beacon-Herald: A Detroit man was sent to jail for 30 days for biting an officer in the leg. The charge was making an attack on a limb of the law.

Tolerance and All That. Toronto Star: The man who thinks there is nothing but bigotry on every side of him is very probably a fine sample of it himself.

With Reservations. Detroit News: Because a Virginia groom refused to say "I do" and insisted on qualifying with "I will do the best I can," the preacher refused to go on and the wedding was called off. The innocent third party in the case seems to have been the bride, who appears to have done the best she could.

Co-operation. Co-operative News (British): Righteousness must ever prevail and Co-operation is synonymous with



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righteousness. We are entitled to say so; for the cause which seeks to destroy conceits, falsehoods, dishonesty, oppression and human misery by destroying their roots, and to establish equity, justice and brotherhood, not only among neighbors, but among all men of all races, is but surely pursuing the path of righteousness.

SEAN O'CASEY

(T. P. O'Connor in London Sunday Times)

I had the honor one day last week of a visit from Sean O'Casey and Lady Gregory. Lady Gregory I have regarded for years as the finest woman Ireland has produced for two generations, the real creator of that marvellous movement, the Abbey Theatre. Playwrights, and the literature with which theatre is associated. Years before the war and the other developments of world and Irish history, I remember, during a visit to Dublin, being enormously struck with the immense number of new movements which were springing up all around Ireland. This lady on my right was trying to cultivate the art of glass manufacture, especially with a view to the windows in the Irish churches; this man on my left was transforming Ireland in the transfer of land from the old landlords to the peasantry; another was turning the awful hovels in which the laborers lived into clean cottages with an acre of land attached; and yet few of them realized that the woman who was doing most for the intellectual resurrection of Ireland was this quiet little lady from the west of Ireland.

Without the Abbey Theatre Sean O'Casey could not have existed. He is rather like what I expected, except that he is older—I thought him under 30—he is about 40 years of age. He is shy until he gets to know you; tall, rather thin, with long stories of suffering, privation, and profound and somewhat sombre reflection in his expression. He has gone through most of the gamuts of human trial in his years of life in the slums and in the capricious destinies of the working man in Dublin, always sure of small wages and not always sure of employment. He had a youth of somewhat uncertain health; but he maintains that the working man of Dublin is naturally tough, and when he has passed a certain period of life—infant mortality is terribly high and tuberculosis is always a menace—the working man, himself as an example, can stand anything.

His experiences as one of the poor among the poor would make him lean to the side of poverty; and I rather think he is in politics an adherent of the Labor party. But he has too impartial and clear a mind to be a partisan; he is eminently fitted to be the dramatist of the times in which he lives; he is the dramatist of disillusion, and disillusion is the dominating mood of Ireland to-day. He is immensely touched by the kindness he has received from the people of London; it is needless to say that, with all his strong spirit of Irish nationality, he is quite free from any absurd racial prejudices. He will remain in London till the production of his new play—"The Plough and the Stars"—already produced in Dublin. He started late, but he has an immense future.

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BIBLE THOUGHT. IF I FORGET THEE, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.—Psalm 137:5.