

THE BRITISH WHIG



Published Daily by THE BRITISH WHIG PUBLISHING CO. LIMITED, KINGSTON, ONT.

TELEPHONE: Business Office 248, Editorial Rooms 2612, Social 2613, Job Department 2614

Subscription Rates: One year, in city \$7.50, One year, by mail to rural offices \$8.50, One year, in United States \$12.00

Out-of-town Representatives: Toronto - E. W. Thompson, 106 King Street West, Toronto; Montreal - William J. Crowley, 126 St. James Street; New York - Ingraham-Powers, Inc., 226 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 authorized by the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

OUR DIAMOND JUBILEE

The diamond jubilee celebration of Confederation is catching on splendidly. All over the Dominion interest in the event is increasing and all sorts of public bodies are making ready to mark the jubilee occasion.

1. A children's picnic in every community in the Dominion on July 1st.

2. Ten thousand beacon fires to be lit in every city, town and hamlet across Canada on the evening of Dominion Day.

3. A great national banquet at Ottawa, at which as many as possible of our leading public men should be gathered together.

4. Services of re-dedication and consecration on Sunday, July 2nd.

All are easy of accomplishment. The suggestions can be varied as desired, but as to the first, what would be more charming or more inspiring than to see our 3,000 and more school children marching down Princess street twelve abreast, dressed in white trimmed in national colors, bearing Union Jacks and at the Market Square sing, as they only can sing, Canada's national songs! It would be a rare treat and one that the children would never forget.

LORD LEE OF FAREHAM

The announcement that King George had granted a life lease of the royal residence, White Lodge, at Richmond, England, to Lord Lee of Fareham, is of more than usual interest to Kingston, for Lord Lee was a resident of this city thirty years ago. He was then known as Capt. Arthur H. Lee, professor of artillery in the Royal Military College of Canada.

A fine day in October is certainly a rare thing this year.

SHIRAZ THOUGHT

HEAR THOU IN HEAVEN! Thy dwelling-place, and we according to all that the strange folk to thee for; that all people of the earth may know Thy name, so fear thee, as do Thy people Israel.—1 Kings 8:43.

CONFIDENCE IN BRITAIN

The Milwaukee Journal has done a good turn by telling the people of the United States what Britain has done for them. It has called attention to many things that have been forgotten or ignored. Among them, the paper goes on to say, is the fact that for perhaps a hundred years "we have basked in perfect safety to carve out our economic fate: our destiny, perhaps, whilst England kept all from annoying us.

And the Journal sapiently adds: "We shall not take life so easily nor discuss our problems so lightly if the British empire gradually loses its key position in the world."

"That's one thought. Another comes bounding along after, and perhaps it's the English quarter of me that's talking now, for I can't help but joyously believe that in spite of gloomy deans, coal strikes, contumacious provinces, the distinguishedness of some of her politicians and all the rest of the ills that assail the old girl, England will muddle through, as she has so often done before, and bob-up serenely, her feathers somewhat disarranged, a bit groggy perhaps, but still on top and with a good chunk of the lace all those who were plucking her had gotten from each other.

IS THE WHITE RACE DECLINING?

Only 2,500,000 of the 12,500,000 babies born in the world every year are of white parentage. What a startling statement! The other ten millions are Africans, Orientals, Asiatics, and all other non-white people. Can the white race survive under such a handicap? A lecturer discussing this important issue points out that "the negro population in America to-day is 15,000,000 compared with 250,000 in 1790; that the white British people number 67,000,000 while in India alone there are 70,000,000 Mohammedans; that Japan's annual increase in population is more than ten times that of Australia."

But does it matter? A writer says that "mortality knows nothing of geographical boundaries or distinctions of race. Racial prejudices and fears are the fruits of differences in culture and color, not of color." An English clergyman holds that the world was not made for white people, it was made for mankind. A tremendous responsibility rests on the Anglo-Saxons in their relations to those of another hue. Education and christianity are the needs for all peoples and it is for the white races to spread these beneficent privileges.

PROVING MOSES

Thirty-three hundred years ago, according to historical and Scriptural records, the hosts of Israel, fleeing from Egyptian bondage, encamped in the middle of the Sinai peninsula south of Palestine, or the Land of Canaan, as it then was called. Water was scarce, and a revolt was threatened among the host which Moses had brought through the Red Sea. In his perplexity Moses invoked divine aid and was directed to a spot near at hand where, on his striking the face of a rock with his staff, water gushed out of the seeming solid wall of stone.

In an effort to confirm Biblical records by exploration and research amid historic sites Dr. William T. Ellis of Swarthmore recently visited the Sinai peninsula east of Egypt and South of Palestine. His explorations finally led him to the spot where to all appearances the miracle of Moses was performed, for in the centre of a dreary desert he was directed by native Arabs to a rock wall from which gushed a copious spring, sufficient to water a considerable valley. Moreover, it was found to be the only spring in all that region which answered the description contained in the Biblical account. As other bits of evidence seem to fit perfectly into the story of the Exodus, it is believed by Dr. Ellis that the spring he has rediscovered is the veritable fountain opened by the rod of Moses, more than three thousand years ago.

Those who fear that modern scholars will demolish religion and the Bible by their continual prying into the secrets of the past ought to take courage from recent explorations in the lands from which the Scriptures came, is the comment of the Waterbury, N.Y. Standard. Not only have the archaeologists and explorers found little or nothing that contradicts Holy Writ; on the contrary they have discovered a mass of corroborative evidence that will form the basis of a new understanding of the Bible. The discovery of a spring that answers the description of a living rock, in the midst of a desert, close beside the very road anciently travelled by migrating tribes of the desert, seems more like a verification of the Mosaic record than it does like a mere coincidence.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

After the football season all the students must settle down and get educated, in an Ottawa Journal wit-ticism.

The new auto license plates are ready. And right after Christmas cash will be needed to renew the tin records.

The Cuban hurricane did not hit us; the price for sugar will, for thirty per cent. of the Cuban crop was destroyed.

The Peabody Examiner advises Mr. Nettle to save all the approving resolutions. They may come in very handy in another campaign.

The United States is in the happy condition of enjoying probably the most soundly prosperous year of its history, is the conclusion of our neighbors across the border.

Jay Knox says the only time a genuine 100-per-cent native-born American ever gets a real hankering for a good look at a King or a Queen is in a poker game.

The child's faith in Santa Claus is intensified by snow flurries. They see him in the bluster and capering of the flakes. Glorious anticipations, and never may they be dissipated.

Hamilton is expecting a surplus in the civil treasury, if the taxes are paid in. The Spectator says it remains in the man who said he expected to make a good profit—if he sold his goods.

Wire hair is a prediction for the near future, when the women demand switches for hair adornment. Wire is now drawn fine enough for silky-like hair and is capable of being manipulated into any sort of coiffure.

After years of experimentation as to peat production in Eastern Ontario the committee on methods has agreed that the only process which can be economically employed in producing peat fuel is air drying. All other methods are too costly.

Last year motorists contributed, through payment of gasoline tax, over \$4,000,000 towards road improvement. Motorists do not object to this or even a higher contribution when satisfied that the total tax collection on gasoline was spent on roads and their upkeep.

Geologists report that the hill on which Canada's Parliament buildings are erected is gradually sinking. No wonder, snorts the Montreal Gazette. Could anything in the world be reasonably expected to stand up under the weighty utterance of some of our legislators?

Everybody "down east" will be glad to learn that the western provinces are making ready to manufacture binder twine—the natural product grows extensively on the land—paper and beet sugar. The demand is for immigrants to till the soil and make industry successful.

The honey crop of Manitoba for 1926 will amount to over 5,500,000 pounds, which is an increase of almost one-third over the same period last year, according to the Provincial Apiarist. In earlier years it was thought that honey could not be produced in commercial quantities in Manitoba.

The Stratford Beacon-Herald says that American automobiles carry the word "Canada." The motorists, it says, do not know that Canada is divided into provinces, and that this Canada is a greater in area than all the States in the Union put together. Perhaps not, but they are learning by travelling in Canada.

The New York brokers are saying that the actual situation in the cotton States will not be as acute as had been feared, because of the lateness of the crop in maturing and the fact that probably a very considerable amount of it will not be gathered. Likely our cotton will cost as much as ever.

Talking to advertising experts in Washington President Coolidge asserted that advertising was the most potent influence in adopting and changing the habits and modes of life, "affecting what we eat, what we wear and the work and play of the whole nation." Instead of competition being the life of trade as of old, he said, it was now "advertising."

Premier King's Smile. St. Thomas Times-Journal: On a dull day at the Imperial Conference the London newspapers wrote about Mackenzie King's smile. Which reminds us that this smile had, perhaps, as much to do with winning the recent elections as the Robb budget.

A SUNDAY THOUGHT

How Joy Is Earned. The following lines were written by a busy doctor who adds to his heavy practice much earnest Christian work: "The greatest thing in life" It is to do the present task; To think, to work, to love, to pray. To fill each moment of each day. Week in and out throughout the year. By helping men their burdens bear. The joy of life I early learned you ask? Is never given, it must be earned. In serving God by serving man "Through a self-forgetful, Christlike plan."

News and Views

Where Are the Old Folks? Philadelphia Inquirer: One reason more young people don't stay at home nights is because they're afraid to be alone in the house.

A Blow to False Prophets. Toronto Globe: Sir Henry Thornton's intimation that the National Railways will commence meeting all interest charges within three years will be more sad news for the false prophets.

He Will Have to be This Time. Ottawa Citizen: Mr. Ferguson "will be content with any verdict" Ontario may pronounce, he says. That is just what he said after the 1924 plebiscite. But he was not content.

Still Some Who Think. New York World: In spite of automobiles, radio, bridge whist, the movies and other often denounced enemies of reflection, there are still many people in the country who think and who seek the acquaintance of thinkers through the great freemasonry of books.

Quebec Viewpoint

La Patrie is critical of Hon. Mr. Nettle's action in resigning from the Ferguson Cabinet.

"The Hon. W. F. Nettle has resigned as Attorney-General of Ontario because he refuses to approve the new temperance policy of the Ferguson Government. Mr. Nettle thus displays his irreconcilable character, which approaches fanaticism. The experience of Quebec, and that of other provinces which have adopted the Quebec system of liquor control, have opened the eyes of every-body except Mr. Nettle. He remains a stickler for principle and his mind remains closed to the evidence of fact. A man of that calibre is never desirable in a government."

Le Devoir thinks that the result of the election campaign in Ontario is most uncertain.

"Will the new policy that Mr. Ferguson, Prime Minister of Ontario, will advocate before the electors during the campaign that he has inaugurated bring him a majority of the votes at the election which is fixed to take place on December 1st? It is very difficult to say. And the uncertainty is increasing, for every day there is added evidence of secessions in both the Conservative and Liberal ranks. Those who have been partisans of Mr. Ferguson up to the present time—such, for example, as Mr. Nettle, who was a Cabinet minister—have left him, whilst Liberals are breaking away from their party leader. The battle will be one of the most animated that the Conservatives have ever had to fight in Ontario. And the 'sliding' which was manifest in the direction of the Liberal party at the Federal general election in September last in fifteen of the Ontario constituencies will add to the inquietude of the Conservatives of the province."

Laurier in England

St. Thomas Times-Journal: The presence of the Prime Minister and his party at the Imperial Conference calls to mind Sir Wilfrid Laurier's exquisite description of British politics and British diplomacy, says the Farmer's Advocate. The following extract is from Dr. O. K. Skelton's book, "Life and Letters of Sir Wilfrid Laurier," and puts on record some observations made by the Liberal Chief Minister after one of his visits to England:

"A visit to England is in many ways a pleasure, even if it involves an uncomfortable voyage for a poor sailor. The throbs of the world's affairs in London, the stimulus of contact with men of high and disciplined capacity, the comfort of town and country life in a land cushioned with tradition, where leisure is an art and hospitality a science, makes a deep appeal. One felt the incessant and unrelenting organization of an imperialist campaign. We were looked upon not so much as individual men, but abstractly as colonial statesmen, to be impressed and hoodled. The Englishman is as business-like in his politics, particularly his external politics, as in business even if he covers his purposefulness with an air of polite indifference. Once convinced that the colonies were worth keeping, he bent to the work of drawing them closer with marvelous skill and persistence. In this campaign, which no

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QUEER QUIRKS OF NATURE About the year 1890 some well-meaning but misguided person, with that combination of genius and indifference to consequences which characterise those who persist in mixing fancies, brought a few starlings to Brooklyn from Europe. North America already had some 1,200 species of birds native to her shores and had just begun to realize that the English sparrow, brought from the same country a few years earlier, was anything but a desirable addition to her avifauna. Nevertheless the starlings were turned loose, and, like the sparrows and some other of our immigrants, found the land good. So they waxed fat and multiplied, and, as the time went by, found themselves crowded in the section about Brooklyn bridge. Then they fared forth in various directions, south, west, north and sought new homes. Slowly at first, and then as they grew in numbers and confidence, faster and farther they extended their possessions until they now are abundant in thousands of places. Their numbers no one can guess, but it must be among the millions. These millions of starlings have not occupied the country without competing with, and in many cases defeating, our own native species. Our woodpeckers and other hole-nesting birds have been the chief sufferers, and many have been dispossessed of their hard-earned homes by these aliens. There has, of course, been some competition for food in the case of many of our ground feeders, but so far apparently there has been enough for all. But the bird lover dreads to look forward to the time when this loud-voiced wanderer from overseas may take the place in our suburban groves of the beautiful red-headed woodpecker. One thousand tons of rails were recently shipped by steamer from one shipment from Rotterdam.

PUBLIC LIBRARY BULLETIN Children's Book Week November 4 to 11. Come to the Library Play, Terrace. Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Friday evening at 7.30 o'clock in Children's Library. Special display of illustrated books for Boys and Girls, Nov. 30th, 1926.

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