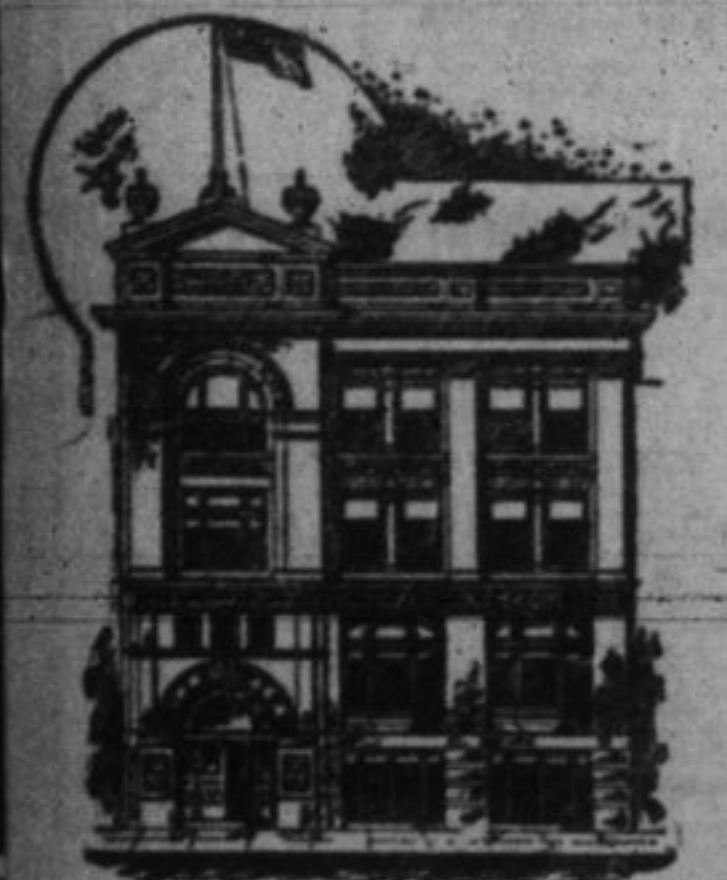


THE BRITISH WHIG
SEVENTH YEAR.



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KINGSTON AS TERMINAL.

It is interesting to know that the owners of big steamship lines operating in the grain trade in the upper lakes, are thinking about trade into Lake Ontario when the Welland Canal is completed. And they are talking in terms as if they were suggesting and outlined by the Dominion Marine Association, that Kingston is the logical terminal for discharge of cargoes from Fort William, Port Arthur and Chicago. Kingston's harbor is ample and accessible to the largest lake craft. Shippers do not intend sending the real big steamers into the St. Lawrence river. It is a tortuous channel through the Thousand Islands and there are already enough narrow channels between the head of the lakes and Kingston "without venturing into another." The Financial Post comments that the clear-sighted opinions of a practical shipping man, quoted by the Whig a few days ago, "express in the main, the opinion of other Americans interested in the Great Lakes grain and other carrying trade."

Mr. Kenneth Wilson in an article in the Post on "Canada's Inland Waterways" says that with the opening of the new Welland Canal there are only two alternatives, either facilities must be provided for transshipment, at Kingston, or else the St. Lawrence must be deepened below Lake Ontario so that the 20-ft. freighters may proceed to Montreal. Kingston has a natural harbor but if there is to be transshipment here there must be elevator and harbor facilities which would cost at least \$50,000,000 or \$60,000,000 to construct. Already at Oswego there is a steel elevator which has a capacity of 2,000,000 bushels and although present freight rates are unfavorable to its use the new Welland canal may open up this American channel, if Canada does not provide her own facilities. If Canada is to reap the benefit of her Welland investment she must be prepared to develop either Kingston or the St. Lawrence.

Mr. Wilson has stated the real crux of the matter. The Welland Canal will be ready in 1930 and so far only preliminary work has been done on the enlargement of the St. Lawrence Canal. The only alternative for Canada "to reap the benefit of her Welland investment" is to develop Kingston with all speed as the natural transshipping point.

The British Whig is repeating what has been often told here but it is worth recalling to stimulate Kingston to follow up vigorously with the government to recognize Kingston as the terminal for deep water navigation from the upper lakes. The government is working on the proposition, as a recent letter shows, which stated that "very considerable progress has been made. We have in mind the selection of the most advantageous transshipping point and the completion of transfer facilities at that point, to be available on the opening of the Welland ship canal."

LIMIT THE OUTPUT.

Canada manufactures immense quantities of pulp, paper and lumber, and to get results great areas are stripped of trees. Is this desirable? We are much impressed with the suggestion of the Toronto Star, that the ideal that governments and people should hold before them is the limitation of cutting to one-

fortieth of the annual growth so that at the end of every forty year period the limits would be ready for re-cutting as a result of natural reforestation. And the fire peril should be fought so scientifically and with such financial resources as to maintain unimpaired in perpetuity the people's heritage.

The output of our paper mills already exceeds that of the United States and has a value of 200 million dollars yearly. Our lumber brings in another 145 million dollars, and capital is pouring in to establish industries to sweep out lands of their choice stocks of trees.

STANDS FOR A SQUARE DEAL.

Canadians are glad to hear of the constructive programme and policy of their new Minister of Immigration, Robert Forke, who is at once cautious and enterprising, and who has taken hold of his new duties with promising enthusiasm, remarks the Chicago-Canadian which is an admirer of the minister. He came to Canada forty years ago and has nothing to learn about the drawbacks and advantages of her farming communities. His ambition is to fill the vacant spaces from coast to coast with the best blood and brains available, European and American. And he wants to spread the influx of newcomers over the entire Dominion, giving a square deal to the Maritimes as well as to the Prairie Provinces.

Canada's wealth is sufficient to double her population, says Minister Forke, and take care of fresh millions of home-seekers from Great Britain, Germany, Scandinavia and other lands, and their coming would bring increased prosperity, wipe out unemployment and establish the perpetual boom that should prevail across the boundary. Mr. Forke has the popular confidence. One of his recent sayings is characteristic: "The best immigration policy I know of is to make the people who live here happy, contented and prosperous."

ON THE PATHWAY TO HEALTH.

Tremendous strides have been made since 1907, when an active campaign was started against tuberculosis in the United States. The death rate from the dreaded "white plague" has been cut 55 per cent, and that means an annual saving in the year of 1926 of 100,000 lives. From an economic viewpoint the savings have been enormous. The loss from tuberculosis, in sickness and death, in 1907 was estimated at \$550,000,000. The loss last year would have been a billion dollars if the 1907 rate applied during 1925. It is a triumph to medicine. It is more than that; it is a triumph to neighborly influence and example. In the old town hall, the friendly meeting place, wherever friends gathered, the campaign has been carried on.

If people are to escape the fates of Chinese, Mayans, Aztecs and Incas we must live as neighbors. The fundamentals of health are habits and customs, and the circle in which one move is no more elevated than any of its members. Disease is an incident that proves the power of many clean and friendly hands.

EMPIRE SETTLEMENT.

The Saskatoon Star thinks there will be general agreement with the decision of the Anglican Synod of Rupert's Land, that a wider application of the British Empire settlement scheme in the Prairie Provinces be advocated. Several thousand men, women and children have already been brought out from Great Britain under these auspices, and while it is too early to say all will achieve success, there seems to be no doubt that the plan is working very well, within its somewhat limited scope. If the British Government will agree to extension of the scheme on a wider basis there is little doubt that it will bring a splendid class of settlers to the West, of the best stock and under initial conditions that will give them a real opportunity to achieve prosperity.

INFANT MORTALITY IN FRANCE.

The infant mortality in France cuts the population very materially. The birth rate is not declining as some infer, but the terrible death rate is credited to the ignorance of workers and peasants. As one instance there are 100,000 deaths every year from diarrhoea. Overcrowding in the cities, an entire absence of sanitation in many "picturesque" old towns, and insufficient hospital and medical service for the poor are largely responsible for the maladies which cut down in the first few years after birth the child population of France like a scythe. But more responsible than all these, perhaps, is the almost total ignorance of the hygiene of child-rearing among the workers and peasants.

Lord Lee gave the British nation a home for prime ministers; the King gives Lord Lee a royal residence. The King, adds the London Advertiser, probably decided "that one good house deserved another!"

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The British coal strike has created a Brazilian transfer crisis. How small the world is!

We are to do our Christmas voting early this year. Twice we visit the booths in December.

This is apple week. We have a weakness for McIntosh Reds. A hint is all that is necessary.

The combined deficits of the past three years of the Ferguson government is placed by Mr. Sinclair at \$28,000,000.

The St. Catharines Standard believes that the coming election is one occasion where many a man won't vote the same stripe as his grandfather did!

Queen Marie of Rumania is fifty-one years of age. We know older girls' who say they are thirty-two. But queens' ages are recorded and available for publicity.

The federal government is to be urged to encourage emigration from Sweden to Canada. A good hardy race to put on the farms of the Dominion. Gather them in.

A scientist says that the constituents of man's body are worth 38 cents. This thought, remarks the Hamilton Spectator, should cheer those who have occasion to "feel like a nickel."

Qualified electors who fail to vote at the forthcoming municipal elections in Mexico may be punished by fine or imprisonment. And no doubt the people who do vote will be expected to vote "right."

The first woman in the British Empire to obtain the degree of Bachelor of Architecture is Miss Norah Dunphy, of Llandudno. This degree was conferred by the University of Liverpool on this clever woman, and it exempts her from the final examination of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Dr. Joseph Calvin, a missionary in China, home on furlough, says the troubles in that old land is due to the transition from a monarchy to a republic. When a stable government is reached, Dr. Calvin foresees better days for China, "when the rest of the world will gaze upon it with pride and envy."

Niagara Falls is called the Green of Ontario. It is traditionally recognized as the place for a honeymoon, and the plighting of troths. But does it give lasting pleasure? In the most important step of life isn't it nicer to be with friends and loved ones to share the gladness and the joys that peculiarly belong to that most hallowed period—one's wedding day.

In the past few days the papers have been talking of seedless apples grown in Quebec. The story is old. In 1922 such an apple was found and each regurgiter year the fact is narrated. The one found at Abbotsford was apparently a freak, and all efforts to trace the origin of the tree have to date failed. The tree has not borne any more seedless apples since 1922.

Walter Christie, Presque Isle, Me., produced this year 154,000 barrels of potatoes on 1,100 acres, much better than an average crop. Selling at \$4 a barrel against an estimated production cost of \$1.70, he has apparently cleared \$354,000. That kind of a human-interest story is likely to go round the world, as illustrating the ways of a country where you can almost pick up gold in the street. It takes no account of three bad years for Aroostock County previous to 1925.

What Ontario People Fear. Toronto Globe: The people of Ontario are not likely to be much concerned with alarmist reports of the scientists that the American Continent is gradually sinking into the ocean until the present campaign is over. It is a flood of whiskey, more than a deluge of water, they are afraid of.

A Pair of Them. Judge—It seems strange to me that you could keep on robbing that enormous corporation for so long without being caught.

Prisoner—Well, the corporation was pretty busy itself.—Life.

QUEER QUIRKS OF NATURE BY ARTHUR N. PACK President American Nature Ass'n. American plane tree, the botanists tell us it should be called, but sycamore it has long been called and sycamore it will probably remain. It is rated as our largest and tallest deciduous tree, but attains perfection only in the stream banks and moist valleys of our southern states. In city streets or dooryards it reaches only a moderate size. The "button balls" consist of innumerable winged seeds growing from a hard central core. These wings assist in the dispersal of seeds, bearing them up so that the wind transports them to some distance from the parent tree. The smooth light-green bark of the sycamore makes it one of our most ornamental trees, and, when seen at a distance, the trunks stand out sharply among their darker companions. This character is accentuated in the early spring when

News and Views.

A Close Second. Border Cities Star: The president of Yale university has twenty-five degrees, thus running a close second to Mr. Fahrenheit.

Has the Conservative Instinct. Ottawa Journal: A candidate for alderman has to be a long distance back in the line not to be introduced as "Our next member at Toronto," or "The future Prime Minister."

But That Was Years Ago. Shelburne Economist: The other day we came across a clipping that said: "A Toronto alderman has stated in public that he thinks there should be a law to compel women to wear shorter skirts on the streets." But the clipping was in a 1903 scrap book.

Sir Joseph Flavelle's Views. London Advertiser: Sir Joseph Flavelle lays an unerring finger on the weakest spot in Mr. Ferguson's liquor scheme when he points to the provision for the return of the private sale of beer in hotels. So inveterate a Conservative must have felt a pang when he issued a public denunciation of the government's policy.

Two Sorts of People. Chicago Herald-Examiner: There are two kinds of people who are dangerous. One is the kind which, believing nothing in particular, can see no reason why anybody should exchange his views. That attitude expresses at best only a sort of flabby cynicism. And the other is the kind which, admitting no possibility that they are wrong, determine at all cost to bring others to their own point of view. That is at best only a sort of violent obstinacy.

A Fortunate People. St. Thomas Times-Journal: Another "great constitutional issue" has cropped up at Ottawa. Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux gave a reception, as Speaker of the House of Commons, to Queen Marie, and it has since been pointed out that, with the old Parliament dissolved and the new one not yet convened, there is no Speaker. "Usurpation of authority" is alleged. If the people of Canada have nothing to worry about, except such things they are fortunate indeed.

Mr. Nickle as Leader?

(Border Cities Star) F. G. H. Williams, in a letter to the Toronto Globe, suggests that Hon. W. F. Nickle, late Attorney-General of Ontario, be selected as Leader of the Federal Conservative party. Apparently Mr. Williams is a Conservative himself, for he says: "I nominate W. F. Nickle as the best name to be submitted to the national Conservative convention whenever it meets. Mr. Nickle would make an ideal leader. He has proved his worth in both the Commons and the Legislature."

Stranger things have happened. Even those who disagree with Mr. Ferguson's former Cabinet colleague, admit his abilities, his courage and his resourcefulness. The late member for Kingston has had, as Mr. Williams points out, experience in both Federal and Provincial fields. He proved himself a front-bencher at both Ottawa and Toronto. He is qualified, in many ways, for the leadership of his party.

If he has any aspirations in this direction, there is, of course, the obstacle that he broods with his Provincial Leader, and that the break has not been beneficial to the party's interests. This sort of argument goes a long way in strictly partisan circles. It cannot be questioned, though, that the scope and influence of these circles have been greatly narrowed in recent years. In all the talk of Conservative Leadership, however, the belief persists that Mr. Meighen is really on a holiday, and that he will eventually return to the helm. Some persons who should know, say that he is through forever—but forever is a long time.

A Pair of Them. Judge—It seems strange to me that you could keep on robbing that enormous corporation for so long without being caught. Prisoner—Well, the corporation was pretty busy itself.—Life.

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He's Down. "What is absolutely certain is that stupidity, just like intelligence, is hereditary and—" "That's a nice way to talk about your parents."—Le Petit Bleu, Paris.

No Wonder. "How is it I didn't see you at the charity meeting last night?" "It was I who passed the plate around."—Heywood Advertiser.

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