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CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND.

His Royal Highness, The Governor General, whose arduous and invaluable services for Canada and the Empire, especially since the War, have included active labors in connection with the Canadian Patriotic Fund, of which he is President, issued a second appeal on behalf of this fund on New Year's Day. The response to this appeal should be in full keeping with its importance as one of the foremost duties of the citizens of Canada, especially those who are unable to serve their country in the field. The text of the message was as follows:

"Somewhat over a year ago, as President of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, I made an appeal to the people of the Dominion for funds to assist the families of the gallant men who were going to the front. Though anticipating a generous response, I was hardly prepared for the magnificent manner in which the call was met. Monies have poured into the treasury of the Fund until the total contributions have reached and exceeded six million dollars.

"Large, however, as this sum appears, it has not greatly exceeded current demands and, if peace were declared in the immediate future, the entire surplus on hand would be required before all the men of the Expeditionary Force could again return home.

"To-day there are 25,000 families, comprising, it is estimated, 80,000 individuals dependent upon the Patriotic Fund.

"With further recruiting the demands upon the Fund will, with each succeeding month, continue to grow, so that it is estimated that, should the War continue during 1916, a sum amounting to some \$8,000,000 and probably more will be required. This would, however, only mean \$1 per head of the population for the people of Canada, and it is little indeed to ask of those who remain at home in comparison with the sacrifice in life and limb of those who are fighting in defence of the Nation.

"In spite of all the various calls that have been made for funds to aid our soldiers and sailors and the magnificent response that has been made in each and every case, I still feel assured that the warm hearts of all Canadians will respond to this further appeal to enable the Patriotic Fund to continue its splendid work during 1916 and take care of the families of those who are fighting for their Sovereign, the Empire, and the Dominion, on the battle-fields of Europe and on the High Seas.

(Signed) ARTHUR

President, Canadian Patriotic Fund.

Government House,

Ottawa, 1st January, 1916.

HIS LOVING FRIENDS

Tributes to the Minister of Militia from some leading Conservative Journals.

MONTREAL DAILY NEWS:

For spectacular stupidity it would be difficult to match the exploits of General Sir Sam Hughes.

TORONTO TELEGRAM:

The pomp and splendor in which the Minister of Militia and other civilian politicians travel might be reduced by the workings of that law of economy which surrounds sick and wounded soldiers with the rugged simplicity of a steerage passage home."

TORONTO NEWS:

Sir Sam denies the statement in a Toronto despatch, but that does not alter the fact that he referred to the London Home Guard company as "a lot of old boobs," and said "I am not going to have them hanging around," and "let them get out and fight."

WINNIPEG SATURDAY POST:

Hughes is fully convinced that the War was got up solely with the idea of giving him a chance to pose. The man is stark raving mad, and that is not an exaggerated figure of speech but a plain statement of fact. He struts and shouts and rants and imitates all those legendary manners of famous military characters, and he thinks that is war."

REGINA EVENING PROVINCE AND STANDARD:

We will not descend to the level of Billingsgate customarily employed by that gentleman himself. Suffice it to say that he is lacking in the instincts of a gentleman; that he is temperamentally unfit for any position of responsibility; that his vagaries are past all accounting and that his further retention of his position constitutes a menace to the country and his party. His lesser offences against decency, his disregard for truth and his lack of honor, speak for themselves.

TORONTO TELEGRAM:

Major General Sam Hughes says he will lead the Canadians to Berlin but it is to be hopefully feared that he will be seconded if General Election has anything to say about it.

CALGARY HERALD:

The Herald is ready to give credit to Sir Sam for the worth that he has shown in his position since the War began, but it is not blind to the fact that in many ways the Minister is a terribly broken reed, largely for the reason that he is a victim of exaggerated ego.

TORONTO TELEGRAM:

Canada's Militia Department seems to spend money like a drunken sailor—everywhere but in the dealings of that department with the soldiers.

WINNIPEG SATURDAY POST:

Sir Robert Borden might as well understand sooner or later that the Canadian people are becoming thoroughly disgusted with the Department of Militia. They are also becoming uneasy over his silence in matters of vital interest. Sir Robert is in plain need of a candid friend who will tell him these truths bluntly.

WINNIPEG TELEGRAM:

It would be a stroke of statesmanship that would arouse Canadians to the highest enthusiasm for Sir Robert Borden to ask His Royal Highness the Governor General to assume active as well as nominal command of the Canadian Military forces. and by such active participation put an end once and for all to the doubts, the hesitation, the suspicions and charges of political intrigue and favoritism, all of which have contributed to deter the nation at a time when it should be exercising its supreme powers to save itself.