

A British Article That Fits the Case in Canada.

## AN ARMY OF HARPIES

THE MEN WHO ARE PROLONGING THE WAR BY CORRUPTION.

[By A. G. HALE, in John Bull, London, England.]

In the days of the Spartans, men who made a profit out of their own kinsmen in time of war were off-eaters. No name, no phrase we can coin today will better fit, or more aptly describe similar men of our own nationality who even at this hour are fattening upon the British public, whilst the foe stands in arms against us.

Off-eaters they are—unclean, degenerate—who make a profit out of the necessities of the dependents of the gallant men who are fighting by land and sea for this nation's rights. Nay, more; some of these parasites make a profit out of the warriors themselves—can any name in our vocabulary be base enough to fit these shameless ones who prey upon the needs of the soldiers?

They are like lice nesting in a lion's mane, and we must rid the land of them. A little time ago I wrote, with all the force at my command, on this subject, and pointed out that, in all probability, some of these "off-eaters" would use a portion of their plunder to purchase titles, by subscribing to party funds in exchange for "honors."

That article in John Bull was taken cognizance of in high places; the Lords made it the subject of a two-hours' debate, and nearly every speaker admitted the truth of my contentions. But the Lords did nothing. I warn the Peers that the people of Great Britain do not mean to allow this matter to rest. It shall not be shelved. If noble lords will not make a real and determined effort to keep their order and their house clean, the people will clean it for them. It is not enough for the Upper Chamber to know and admit that "honors" are prostituted; it is their duty to the nation to stop prostitution, and stop it now. John Bull is the voice articulate of millions of sane, sound men and women of all kinds and conditions; and those people say in tones unmistakable that the plundering of the public purse has to cease, and that no stolen money shall buy admission to the ranks of peerage.

## Lord Curzon's Admissions.

On the floor of the House of Lords, Lord Curzon is reported to have admitted that "party whips" accept money in return for titles, and he had the supreme impudence to defend the rotten system. It was an admission which, in my judgment, placed these party whips on a par with a common "fence," or receiver of stolen goods. If the noble lord has been correctly reported, his arguments do as little credit to his mentality as to his political morality. Had Lord Curzon been the champion of a crusade started to obliterate the peerage, he could have uttered nothing more damning to his order than his defence of a system which, to my mind, is devoid of common decency and bankrupt in morality. His noble colleague, Lord Salisbury, walked on higher ground and spoke like a true-born English gentleman—not mincing matters, or cloaking the foulness below the surface. If Lord Curzon's statements are to be accepted as the standard of political morality, then the sooner the whole existing state of affairs in politics is swept away in an indignant burst of national feeling the better for the welfare of the Empire—for, according to his reported line of logic, the House of Commons can be corrupted by money and the House of Lords be made the dumping ground for the rich but unsavory. I knew that this thing stank to heaven, but I did not think that any noble lord would so far demean himself as to profess to enjoy the stench.

There has recently been talk amongst our public men of putting an end to the putrid practice of robbery within the law that has been flagrantly in evidence here ever since war was declared; but nothing worth while has been done. Vast sums of money have been, and are being,

drawn as "commissions" for doing nothing. Millions have been paid out of the public purse during the past three years on grounds that no person in private business would entertain for a moment. I would give names and amounts, but in almost every case brought to my notice the information has been tendered under the seal of confidence. But that which a private individual cannot do, a public official could easily achieve if backed by a government that really meant to stop this awful drain on the public purse. Many big men stand suspect; they have books and banking accounts that can, and should, be examined.

## PROLONGING THE WAR.

The corruption in high places is prolonging the war; and every day the war is prolonged men are being maimed and killed. We give a man to the gallows for assisting at a single murder; what shall be done to the men who, by their greed of personal gain, create obstacles that compel our armies to fight, and to render themselves accessories before the fact in the matter of unnecessary butchery? I know it is an awful assertion to place before the public, but it is my belief that this war would have been won, and well won, by the end of the third year, if it had not been for the great army of harpies who have been enriching themselves out of the carnage. Yet we must go on until Germany is absolutely and utterly crushed; until her militarism is a thing of the past; until a permanent peace is assured—and it can never be assured until Germany is rendered powerless for evil. I believe she will be crushed. British democracy will not consent to a peace that does not bring retribution and justice in its wake. I do not consider that day distant; but that is no reason why we should allow our own stable to become unutterably foul. It is foul, now, almost beyond belief, and the men who should punish with an iron hand—careless alike of wealth, rank or social status—seem to stand ever ready to whitewash those of the culprits who have made for themselves a golden shield. Think of it—a shield made out of the pickings and stealings from our own people! I confess I can see no way out of the tangled maze of corruption unless the masses bestir themselves. The masses need a great Tribune—a man of granite, who will smite—and smite to the bone. I am not concerned so much about Germany now—I think she is nearly done with. It is the aftermath. Are we to come out clean; or are we to carry this foul fungus, that has grown in the lap of war, into the days of peace? If so, God help us! For the nation's sacrifices will be vain. We want a stern reckoning—a grim payment of our claim against those of our blood who have been vampires. They say they will appeal to the law and the law will uphold them because they have kept just within the law. But law does not always represent justice—and it is justice, not law, that must be our guiding star—the stern uncompromising justice embodied in the Ten Commandments. One of the ten says, unequivocally, "Thou shalt not steal." It does not say anything about pardon because you steal within the law. And if I have read the British character aright, the people as a whole are no longer going to be satisfied with nicely adjusted legal quibbles. The question they are going to ask is, "Did you give value, in money or in kind, for the thousands you filched from the public purse?"

A plain question, easily answered by all honest men—but, in its straightforward simplicity, a fiercely fatal question for all homed-made rascals to reply to. They may let meat, wheat and potatoes alone for a while now, but they are after your coal this winter—watch it!

## GIANTS HAVE ROUGH AND TOUGH PATH TO TRAVEL NEXT SEASON

McGraw's Crew Should Be Easier Than Ever to Handle Next Year.

N. Y. FANS SPECULATING Club Still Looks Strong on Paper, But What Will Happen When They Play?

New York fans already are beginning to speculate on the chances of the Giants in 1918. Prior to the world's series many of the club's admirers believed it was the strongest team ever managed by McGraw. However, world series in the past have shattered the reputations of a good many clubs, and you don't hear so much about the Giants being compared to the old Orioles, the great Cubs and the latter-day Athletics as you did two months ago.

No one knew how strong or weak the Giants really were. They were so far in front after July that their mettle never was tested until the world's series. They then proceeded to blow to the White Sox. Chicago had a good team this year, but it did not approach the Athletics of 1910, 1911 and 1912, or the Red Sox of 1915 and 1916 in baseball sense or all-round ability.

The loss of the world's series by the Giants may have quite an effect on next year's National League pennant race. Had the Giants won the regular season, they would have been more firmly believed in themselves more firmly than before. They would have been considered their own right invincible. Having lost the series the way they did the Giants may not be so sure of themselves next season, while other teams will not hold the same respect for their prowess in 1917. Unquestionably all teams will play harder against the Giants next year than they did in the past season.

Psychology of it. Of course it may be argued that the loss of the world's series does not affect the strength of the Giants any more than the loss of a series to an inferior team during the regular season. This is true in part, but the psychology of having a world's series is far different than losing one during the regular season. Plays during the championship season are played with a different attitude. Next year, the world's series plays stick in the minds of the fans for years after they occur.

Time only will tell how the unmerciful panning of Zimmerman after the last game of the series will affect Heinie's play in 1918. It was this player's misfortune to cap the most brilliant season of his career by a home play which made him the laughing-stock of the nation. Fred Snodgrass never was the same player after he muffed Heinie's fly in the 1912 series. Heinie is another big "if" on the 1918 Giants. Charley, through his poor physical condition, sagged quite a bit in his work in 1917, and toward the end of the season got into the bad graces of his club and team mates by taking a vacation without permission. A trade was called during the world's series, but this feud may break out again next year.

Question of Harmony. McGraw received quite a few compliments last season because of his ability to keep harmony on his infield, with Zimmerman, Fletcher and Herzog component parts. Conditions at the end of last season may make it a little harder to retain this harmony in 1918.

However, this is no attempt to be pessimistic. The chances of the 1918 Giants, on paper the club still looks far the best of any club in the National League. The Philadelphia Phillies, the only club which gave the Giants the semblance of a fight last season, is deteriorating with age, while the Cardinals, which finished third, will surely miss Huggins, who was the brains of the club.

Matty's Reds, which kicked up quite a fuss at one season last, should give the Giants their toughest opposition next year, though Matthews must find a second baseman and at least one more reliable pitcher. Eller with last year's experience should fit in well with Toney and Schneider.

## SPORT NOTES

The London Military Hockey Club, as the soldier puckchangers will be called, have plenty of material to work. In the ranks of the units training here are some noted ice-artists: Russell Sandcock and Davidson, formerly of Woodstock; Gieves of Ingersoll; Shuter, McPhillips and Howson of London; Rutherford of Mount Forest; Norman of Elmira; Storey of Ingersoll; Miles of Queen's University, with four others, Cameron, Elliott, Glen, and Fowler of the 5th Battery are a few of the bright spots.

Indirectly the resignation of President Barrow may be a boon to the Leafs. Barrow had a hard fight against the members of the league who desired to run things as cheaply as possible, and before this year was winning. The entry of the United States into the struggle overseas gave the cheapskates an opportunity to renew their howls for lower expenditures. They won the battle this time, and the league is losing a high-salaried executive who knew his business. The condition of the international has brought about a revival of the rumor that Toronto will be given the Washington franchise in the American League. Without competent leadership the international may not see the season out.

Once again the practice of the London Hermits had to be postponed owing to lack of ice. The sooner all arrangements regarding the use of ice are made so much better chances the team will have in the series. They cannot begin to get into shape until they have the slippery under them.

George Stevens, formerly one of the best-known horsemen in the country, died at Quebec on Friday. Mr. Stevens was best known on the American tracks, where his string was very popular with the fans. He was owner of the famous sire, Clear Grit.

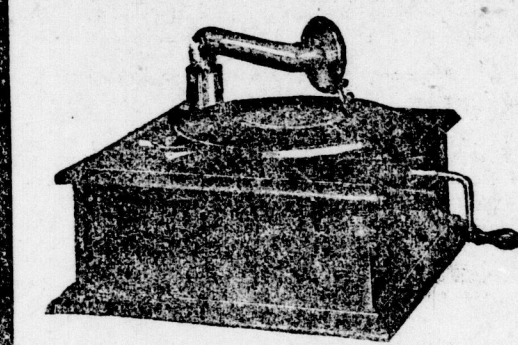
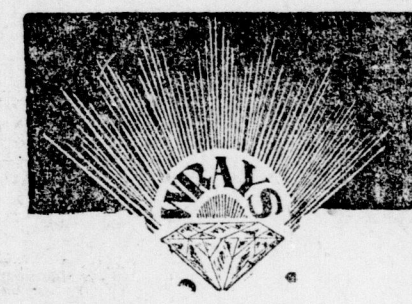
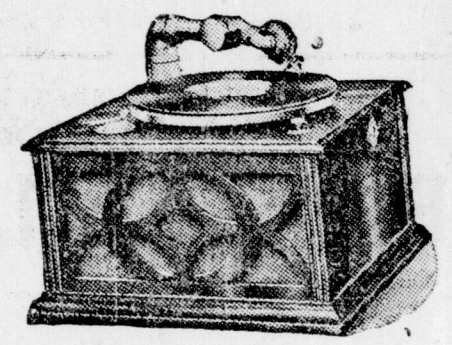
Two big baseball deals in one city within a week is some record. Connie Mack started something when he let Bush, Schang and Strunk go to the Boston Sox. In exchange the Athletics got \$50,000 and three players.

This is the third time Connie has cut into a quick of his team. First, he let out Bender, Plank and Coose; later he relieved himself of Jack Barry, "Home-Run" Baker, Eddie Collins and Shawkey.

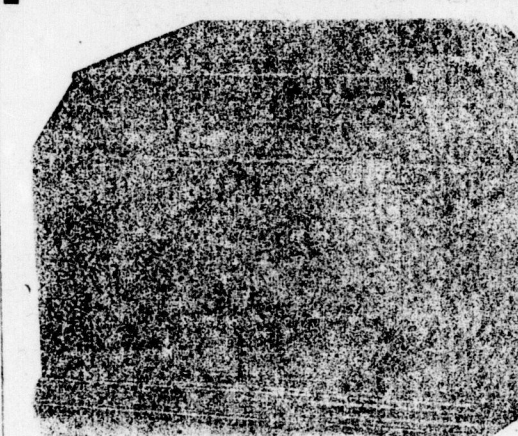
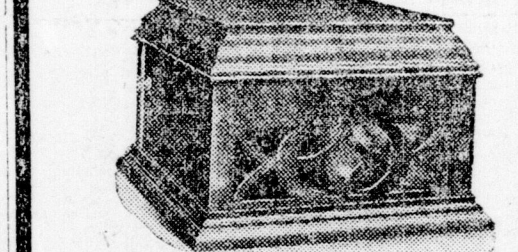
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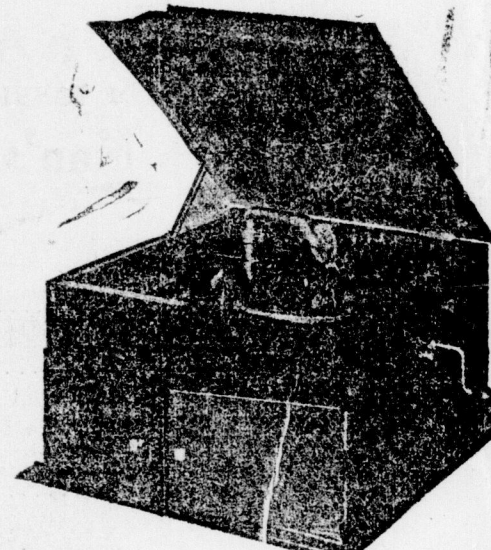
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## Expenditure of Borden Government Shows Alarming Increase Over Expenditure of 1910-11

| Department of                               | 1910-11     | 1915-16     | Increase  | Percentage   |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Justice                                     | \$1,292,401 | \$1,477,238 | \$184,837 | 14 per cent  |
| Arts, Agriculture and Statistics            | 1,319,906   | 3,452,152   | 2,132,246 | 162 per cent |
| Civil Government                            | 4,462,094   | 6,408,556   | 1,946,462 | 43 per cent  |
| Fisheries                                   | 760,734     | 1,115,303   | 354,569   | 47 per cent  |
| Mines (Geological Survey)                   | 244,274     | 462,787     | 218,513   | 89 per cent  |
| Immigration                                 | 1,073,129   | 1,207,489   | 134,360   | 12 per cent  |
| Indians                                     | 1,449,961   | 2,150,223   | 700,262   | 48 per cent  |
| Mounted Police                              | 713,812     | 1,235,622   | 521,810   | 73 per cent  |
| Ocean and River Service                     | 869,164     | 1,212,917   | 343,753   | 40 per cent  |
| Penitentiaries                              | 527,760     | 916,318     | 388,558   | 74 per cent  |
| Police                                      | 64,434      | 116,664     | 52,230    | 81 per cent  |
| Public Works (Consolidated Account)         | 8,621,431   | 12,639,262  | 4,017,831 | 47 per cent  |
| Public Works Capital Account                | 3,742,717   | 8,471,228   | 4,728,511 | 126 per cent |
| Public Works (Collection Revenue)           | 554,868     | 837,377     | 282,509   | 51 per cent  |
| Steamship Inspection                        | 412,818     | 61,834      | 22,066    | 5 per cent   |
| Administration of Yukon Territory           | 302,674     | 344,575     | 40,901    | 13 per cent  |
| Adulteration of Food                        | 21,245      | 44,721      | 23,476    | 111 per cent |
| Customs                                     | 2,187,174   | 3,635,399   | 1,448,225 | 66 per cent  |
| Dominion Lands                              | 1,804,259   | 3,415,297   | 1,611,037 | 89 per cent  |
| Excise                                      | 7,036,559   | 8,975,771   | 1,939,212 | 28 per cent  |
| Postoffice                                  | 7,954,222   | 16,009,138  | 8,054,916 | 101 per cent |
| Railways and Canals (Collection of Revenue) | 11,123,250  | 20,777,829  | 9,654,579 | 87 per cent  |
| Weights and Measures                        | 105,365     | 305,215     | 199,850   | 188 per cent |

The above figures were taken from the Public Accounts Blue Book, issued by the Government.

## Let the People Rule, Not the Big Interests!

(From the Toronto Globe of September 24, 1917.)

"In Canada today there is less poverty, it is true, than before the war, but the high cost of living has neutralized the phantom in wages and TAKEN AWAY WITH ONE HAND WHAT THE OTHER HAS GIVEN.

The poor are those who, disorganized and open to attack, are PREYED UPON BY THE WEALTHY AND POWERFUL TRUSTS AND COMBINATIONS, WHO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR ORGANIZATION AND ENTRENCHED POSITIONS TO MAKE WAR ON THE WEAK AND HELPLESS.

What is the remedy?

There is one remedy only. The people must organize in the only way in which it is possible to prove effective.

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA MUST BE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

The rule of the Big Interests is a gross anachronism in this pulsating age, when the free nations of the earth are fighting to the death the tyranny of autocratic power.

The Big Interests are all-powerful in the dominion today because government in this country no longer is government by the people.

THE BIG INTERESTS WILL BE OVERTHROWN WHEN THE PEOPLE SEIZE THE REINS OF GOVERNMENT.

