

The Chatham Daily Planet.

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SPECIAL SALE

—OF—

Dainty Outing Hats

Outing Hats for Summer wear, in some of the very newest shapes direct from New York, that we sell on Tuesday—Regular 2.50 and 3.00, your choice at \$1.50.

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Some very nice lines on sale at almost half price, if you need a hat or bonnet, for anyone, old or young, you can secure them here now, and money saving prices.

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Pretty stripes in different shades, about twenty patterns to choose from, just right for Summer Gowns, Children's Dresses, etc. Regular price 50c, on sale special at 25c

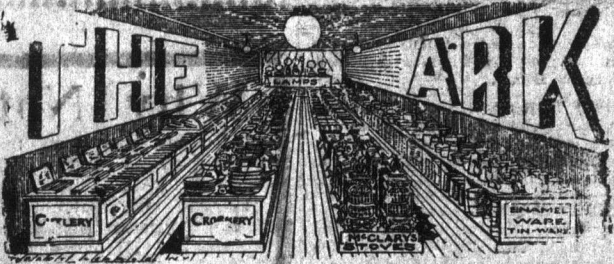
Great Value in White Shirt Waists

We invite your inspection of our special line of White Shirtwaists, these are just the newest, daintiest and best line of the season, and are not only right up to the minute in style, but are economically priced—

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THOS. STONE & SON,

Members of the Canadian Dry Goods Purchasing Syndicate, we save you Dollars.



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Just received a shipment of **Bohemian Art Glass Table and Water Sets.**

These are superior to anything ever offered in this line. If you are looking for something choice for a Wedding Gift, come and see what we have to offer you. Perhaps you would prefer a piece of Fancy China, we have the very choicest in sets and odd pieces.

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THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CLOTHING

This is the best finished and most up-to-date ready-to-wear Clothing manufactured in Canada.

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EARL OF DUNDONALD ACTED SOLELY IN INTEREST OF THE CANADIAN MILITIA

In a Straightforward Statement He Says He Has Been Persistently Hampered By Party Politicians in the Cabinet Ever Since He Took Command.

FISHER AFFAIR FINAL INCIDENT

The Task at Last Became a Hopeless One.

How the Force Suffers From Being in the Control of Men Who Place Office Before All Else.

Lord Dundonald's promised statement of his position in connection with his public protest against political interference in militia matters, and his subsequent dismissal from the position of General Officer Commanding, which has been eagerly awaited by the Canadian people, was issued on Saturday.

Following is the full text of the statement:—

Considering it desirable that I should lay before the people of Canada a statement of my position with reference to the difficulty between myself and the Government of Canada, I may say:—

I was fully aware of the gravity of the step which I took in making a public protest. I was fully aware that it was an unusual step. I decided to take it because I was convinced



THE EARL OF DUNDONALD, The Scotchman who has Loyally Sacrificed Himself for the Benefit of Canada's Militia.

that it was the only means of serving the militia of Canada.

I have for two years been General Officer Commanding the Militia. I have worked hard to improve the force, to devise a scheme of reorganization, to create and organize numerous departments, and to revise the system of training. I have sedulously avoided taking any part of interest in Canadian politics.

NEVER IMPOSED POLICY.

In all of my work I have endeavored to keep steadily in view the nature of my post. I have not sought to impose my policy upon the Minister or upon the Cabinet. I have sought to carry out the plans approved by the Government. In the technical administration of the force I hold that I should be given a fairly free hand.

At the same time I was careful to ascertain and consider the views of all persons interested. I acquired a smaller measure of freedom than is accorded to the general managers of important commercial companies. To make a railway pay it is necessary to leave details matters of administration largely to the expert official in charge of the system. The managing of a military force is expert work, and the safety of the country is surely as important as the success of a railway. My claim for freedom extended only to the technical side of my work. I had no desire to force my policy upon the Ministry.

INTERFERENCE FROM THE FIRST.

In my efforts I was constantly hampered by interference with that particular part of my work. This interference began very soon after my arrival. It has continued incessantly ever since. Mr. Fisher's interest in the affairs of the 13th Scottish Light Dragoons was simply the final incident in a long list of various phases of obstruction.

My only reason for remaining in my post was to benefit the militia of Canada, but my efforts were so persistently blocked that I came to look upon the case as a hopeless one. I was forced to reflect very seriously upon what I could do to effect my object—the improvement of the militia. It seemed to me that, imperfect as is the training, great as is the lack

of armament, numerous as are the faults of detail, there lies behind all these evils a far greater evil—the indifference of the men who govern the country to the welfare of the force.

TO LET DAYLIGHT IN.

It seemed to me that the best way to help the militia of Canada was to let daylight into the working of the system.

I realized, moreover, that the new Militia Bill would soon be discussed in Parliament, and that it was my duty to give a warning of certain dangers before it was too late.

I might have lodged an official protest with the Government. I cannot see that this would have been of any avail. It would have been simply one more document in a pigeon hole.

A course, offering many attractions, was to resign and issue a public statement giving my reasons. So far as I personally was concerned, this would have been by far the easier and more pleasant course. The objection was that by so doing I would give neither the Government nor the people of Canada any real opportunity to pass judgment upon the matter brought to their attention. My protest would have been made, it is true, but not in a manner that would have attracted attention to the evil.

PUBLIC PROTEST PREFERRED.

It seemed better to make a public protest and to leave with the Government the option of heeding it, or of upholding the system which is detrimental to the efficiency of the national defence.

I was in this frame of mind when Mr. Fisher's interference with the 13th Scottish Light Dragoons came to a head. It precipitated my resolution to speak out, no matter what the consequences.

II.

I may now pass from the general aspect of the matter to a few particular instances, where not I but

protest. In the House of Commons at various times he described this part of the report as "private," "confidential," and "secret." It was marked neither "private," "confidential," nor "secret." When the Minister made these statements he had been explicitly informed by me that I desired its publication. He went so far on one occasion as to compare the report to the secret report on Canadian defence. With that report my report had no analogy.

When I presented my report for 1903, Sir Frederick Borden told me that certain portions were too strong and might embarrass him. I modified it, and again sent it in. Without further reference to me he struck out whole pages and separate paragraphs, all of which I had intended should be made public. Among the portions eliminated were references to the condition of the permanent corps—which I pronounced in many respects unsatisfactory.

THE ORDINANCE CORPS MATTER.

Last year, for instance, the permanent corps, with an establishment of 995, were 207 under strength, had 277 enlistments and 154 desertions. The two small instructional batteries at Kingston were practically reduced to one. The dissatisfaction in the permanent corps, and its urgent requirements, had been pointed out by me upon the Minister ever since I came to the country.

A more recent instance occurred in connection with the organization of the ordinance corps. The establishment of this corps was fixed at a colonel, a lieutenant-colonel—with three lieutenant-colonels. This was a larger establishment than I would have recommended had I been unhampered; but Sir Frederick Borden was anxious to have a number of senior and highly paid posts, and the scheme which he desired was carried out.

"A FOREIGNER"

(Sergeant Brown (Montreal), of the Royal 65th Victoria Fusiliers—and of the First Contingent—reads Sir Wilfred's speech in the mess after the evening parade, and speaks his mind.)

"A foreigner," boys! That beats me; I can't get over that. It fuses me entirely; I don't know where I'm at. The Union Jack is upon the wall; it doesn't look forlorn; And I wonder if I'm a "foreigner," too, in the country where I was born.

Sir Wilfred calls him "a foreigner," alien in mind and in heart.

Then were we a "foreign" legion serving the Queen for hire,

When we marched with Roberts across the veldt, trying to do our part,

By the Gordons' side in the long days' march, or Cronje's pitiless fire!

I wonder if I'm a "foreigner." Was I serving a "foreign" Queen?

Have I lost my Canadian birthright in the places where I have been?

I have never been under a different flag from the one on the wall there now,

But neither has Lord Dundonald; and yet he's a "foreigner!" How?

Gordons, Shropshires and Cornwalls: Boys of the Old Brigade,

Was it a stranger's welcome we got from you comrades? No!

He lost my Canadian birthright in the places where I have been?

You did not know we were "foreigners" till our Premier told you so.

I am sorry about Sir Wilfred; I thought him a right good kind;

And I'm sorry I gave him a vote or two before he showed us his mind;

But I'll never give him another while the Modder grass grows green

O'er my comrades who died 'neath a "foreign" flag in the pay of a "foreign" Queen.

THE CASE OF COL. GREGORY.

Soon after this I went to the Northwest. As soon as I had left Ottawa the Minister of Militia ordered the Adjutant-General to prepare an order increasing the number of lieutenant-colonels to five, thus giving seven officers of the rank of lieutenant-colonel and upwards to a corps of about 100 men. In this connection it must be remembered that the most elementary requirements of the militia were neglected for want of money.

The case of Col. Gregory of the 2nd Dragoons has been placed before the public. The excellent work done by him during his command showed itself in the fine state into which he had brought his regiment. I was anxious, for the sake of the regiment, for reasons into which I need not go, to extend his command for another year. Recently Major Glasgow was gazetted second in command, immediately afterwards the Minister of Militia sent me a short minute to say that he did not desire Col. Gregory's command extended for another year. This was a most unusual procedure for a minister to adopt, and I was entirely within the scope of my duty to inform the Minister of Militia that I considered best in the interest of the 2nd Dra-

LIVING IN A FOOL'S PARADISE

Such is the Position of the Canadian People.

Parts of His Reports Purposely Held Back by the Minister Who is Accused of Falsehood.

Goons, from a military point of view. The action taken by him certainly was not conducive to the interests of the regiment.

THE SCOTTISH LIGHT DRAGOONS.

It is perhaps here necessary to say how difficult it is to get qualified officers for the militia. This difficulty was accentuated in the comparatively small area of the Eastern Townships, where the number of cavalry officers had been increased from 28 to 102, and the number of squadrons from 4 to 20, since May, 1903. The only possible way to get the new corps officer was to get local support and trust the opinion of the commanding officer entrusted with the duty of raising the regiment.

The whole details of the interference with the officers entrusted by me with the duty of organizing the 13th Scottish Light Dragoons have already been made public.

That Mr. Fisher's motives were po-

"BENEATH CONTEMPT"

Statesmanlike Statement of the Pompous Puppet at the Head of the Militia Department.

Toronto, June 20.—Sir Frederick Borden, minister of militia, when asked concerning Lord Dundonald's straight-forward statement, merely replied, with a pompous wave of his hand:—

"I have no desire to make a reply to the statement just now. It is beneath contempt. You can say that if you like."

And he turned angrily away from the interviewer.



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Canvas Shoes is the thing this season. Just right for the Sea Shore, Tennis, Outing, Yachting and all kinds of Summer wear.

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\$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.00, and \$2.50.

Don't see how you can get through the Summer without a pair.

Tuprill,

THE SHOE MAN.

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