

the English papers as coming from the English editors themselves, but in reality written for them by these tooters. I am going to give the House a sample of these editorials. These comments, so-called original editorial comments, in the papers are telegraphed back to Canada and all over this country as the opinions of the great English public. Perhaps the hon. minister (Mr. Sifton) does not know how the thing is run and is a stranger to the way the thing is managed. We will give him details of it, and perhaps, if he will consult the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Fisher), he will get a pointer or two.

Now, Sir, I have here one of this class of articles undoubtedly written by an official of this government. I am not saying that he does it during his office hours, or he has not a perfect right to express his views if he can get paid for it, and there may be no great harm in that. This editorial is undoubtedly written by one of the agents of the Minister of Agriculture and published all over as the opinion of the great British public, of that hon. gentleman. Here it is. I may say that it is headed 'The World's Greatest Farmer.'

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. He might have added 'The New Minister of Militia.' The editorial reads:

Canada confidently looks forward to being at no distant date the granary of the empire, and even now the man who is her Minister of Agriculture may be described with scarcely any exaggeration as the greatest farmer of the world.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. HENDERSON. Did I understand the hon. gentleman—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. HENDERSON. I was going to ask hon. gentleman if he said the greatest farmer or the greatest failure?

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. I am not expressing my own views, I am simply reading from the extract.

Mr. MACPHERSON. Do not work off these minstrel jokes.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES—(reading):

This is especially the case with regard to the present Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Sydney Fisher, whose name is prominently before the public in connection with Lord Dundonald and the Dominion militia.

Mr. BENNETT. The best advertisement he ever had.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES—(reading):

He is a practical farmer himself.

I do not see my hon. friend from Compton (Mr. Pope) here, or he would query that assertion.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES.

On a considerable scale, his fine property, Alva Farm, which is situated in the eastern townships of the province of Quebec, being one of the best in the Dominion.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. It is a little early in the morning for the hon. gentlemen to be so filled with enthusiasm.

Mr. GALLIHER. We cannot help it, you are so nice and genial.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. If it occurred at the usual hour in the evening, we would not be surprised. But at this early hour of the morning—

Mr. MACPHERSON. You would be able to make your speech.

Mr. SPEAKER. Order.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Note how well posted these English editors are on this great genius who occupies the position of Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada. They even know of his most beautiful farm 'Alva,' in the eastern townships.

But as Minister of Agriculture he has a unique opportunity. The government maintains in several parts of Canada large experimental farms for the purpose of exploiting the latest ideas with respect to agriculture. New methods and theories, ranging over the whole area of farming operations are carefully considered, tried and adopted, if successful, while the results arrived at are given the widest publicity. How important all this is to a nation of farmers like the Canadians is easily understood.

It is a fortunate thing for Canada, now developing enormously on her agricultural side in Manitoba and the Northwest, that Mr. Fisher is not only a thoroughly competent farmer himself, but also that he brings to his work a highly-trained intelligence and an inspiring enthusiasm.

And this is the gentleman who opposed the establishment of experimental farms in this country with all his might and main for many a long year until he happened, through the influence of his paper and his position, to again become a member of this House, when this aggregation came into power, and, forsooth, they had to put him in some place, and the place where he could do the least damage was in the portfolio of Minister of Agriculture.

Though he is an excellent farmer, it will not do to think of him as a 'horny-handed son of the soil.' He is a man who has been educated at McGill University, Montreal, and Trinity College, Cambridge. His father, a Scotchman, was a well known Montreal physician.

Note, Sir, how accurately this poor, deluded British editor is posted on this great genius from Canada.

His superb—

Listen; hold your breath, please.