

The St. John Standard

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H. V. MACKINNON, Managing Editor.
ALFRED E. MCGINLEY, Editor.
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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1917.

"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved."—H. M. The King.
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

THE GRIT PRESS AND SIR SAM

When Sir Sam Hughes was Minister of Militia in the Canadian Government there was nothing too vile for the Grit press to say about him. In mobilizing and organizing the first Canadian contingent he did a wonderful work but was accorded but scant recognition by the very Liberal organs that today are hailing him as a hero, and printing his correspondence with the Premier as an evidence that Sir Robert Borden's Government is incompetent. Such newspapers appear to be well content to take Sir Sam's letters as authoritative opinions on the competency of the administration although the same newspapers were formerly accused to regard the ex-Minister of Militia almost as a dangerous lunatic.

From one end of Canada to the other the Liberal newspapers of a few months ago attacked Sir Sam Hughes without mercy. He was, we are told, making Canada a subject for ridicule and handicapping her efforts to participate to the fullest extent in the war. By the same authorities as was adjudged guilty of almost criminal conduct in connection with the Shell Committee and John Wesley Allison. The Liberal Monthly, which claims to be the organ of Sir Wilfrid Laurier even went so far as to intimate that Sir Sam was insane, and the Premier was roundly berated because he retained him in the cabinet.

But what a change has come over the Liberal organs of "public" opinion. Today Sir Sam Hughes is a wise man, and we learn that the members of the Government are quaking in their shoes for fear that, when he speaks on Thursday he may say things. Suppose he does; suppose he does not, in the aggressive style that is all his own, that the Government has done things he did not want done, and left undone things he did want done, how, in the face of their previous attacks, can the Liberal press accept his judgment as to the wisdom of doing or not doing those things?

While a member of the Government, Sir Sam was the object of the condemnation of every Liberal newspaper in Canada. Now that he is a private member of the House they discover him to be possessed of mines of wisdom, the existence of which they never before suspected. It is absurd, but merely on a par with other absurdities, of which the Liberal newspapers are guilty in their effort to play the political game.

MORE GRIT UNTRUTHS.

That George W. Kyte, Liberal member for Richmond, should arise in the House of Commons and give utterance to statements that he knows to be untrue, is no particularly new experience for him. Yesterday, however, to judge from the Canadian Press report of the debate, he was more than usually reckless, and this time turned his attention to the appointment of officers in the Canadian forces and in Canadian recruiting and other war work. Mr. Kyte declared in effect that for a Maritime Province officer to obtain preferment he must be a Conservative. A similar statement had been made previously by Mr. Alphard Copp, Liberal member for Westmorland, but in his case it was ascribed to ignorance. Mr. Kyte, however, has been a member of the Canadian House of Commons longer than his Westmorland colleague and knew better.

In the selection of officers for appointments overseas, or for important posts in connection with military matters in Canada, no attention has been paid to their political affiliations. Mr. Kyte and Mr. Copp can obtain striking evidence of this if they desire it. Mr. Kyte, in his own province, can turn to the cases of Major J. K. Mackay, a close friend and supporter of E. M. McDonald, Liberal member for Pictou, or to Mr. McDonald's son. He can refer to Major Chisholm of Antigonish, a relative of the former Liberal member for that county, and going into his own island of Cape Breton to Lieutenant W. F. Carroll, Liberal member for Cape Breton South, who enlisted as a private in May last and was speedily given a commission. There are numerous other examples in Mr. Kyte's province

which stand as living reputations of his statement. Mr. Copp has even more evidence against him. Brigadier General McLean was an active and aggressive Liberal while the Big Wind of the Tantramar was still at school. Lieutenant Col. James L. McAvity, chief recruiting officer for this province, has a record of years as a prominent member of the Liberal party. Other members of the McAvity family have not been hampered in their military careers by the fact of their politics. Lieutenant Col. A. E. G. Mackenzie, now commanding the "Fighting 26th," was a Liberal candidate in Restigouche county, while Mr. Copp's own law partner had no difficulty in securing an important military post despite his business association with the man who now seeks to misrepresent the Government's disposition in the matter of such appointments.

Messrs. Kyte and Copp are members of Parliament as members of the Liberal opposition. It is the function of an opposition and opposition members to criticize an administration and such criticism, at times, may be beneficial. But it is not the function of public men to deliberately misrepresent the actions of political opponents, even though by so doing they may hope to gain some temporary political advantage.

"INFORMATION WANTED."

Under this heading the Telegraph, yesterday morning, expressed concern over the operations of the New Brunswick Farm Settlement Board and demanded that a full return of the Board's activities should at once be presented to the public.

Either the editor of the Telegraph is suffering from severe mental strain, or the office boy was in control of that newspaper's editorial column on Sunday night. Every year since the Farm Settlement Board's appointment there has been a return of the very information for which the Telegraph asks and some of the facts for which it professes such burning curiosity have been published in its own columns. If not, it was only because our contemporary's Political Fictionist was too busy manufacturing fiction to look for facts, for all necessary information has been available at all times.

The Telegraph may recall certain definite statements it made in connection with one property purchased by the Farm Settlement Board which were proven to be absolutely untrue. In that case there was too much information to suit that newspaper. Every transaction in which the Farm Settlement Board has engaged is above board and open and all information concerning it can be obtained from the secretary. But the Telegraph is not as anxious for information as it is to create prejudice against an organization which by the excellence and value of its work has already justified its existence many times over.

On Saturday morning last the Telegraph gave large first page headlines to a charge by J. G. Turritt of Assiniboia that Sir Robert Borden had made a statement to the effect that he was opposed to recruiting. Yesterday the Premier gave a complete and unmistakable denial to the Turritt charge. It remains to be seen what sort of headlines the Telegraph will use this morning.

European War Veterans. At a meeting of the European War Veterans' Association in their rooms, Charlotte street, last night, two returned heroes were elected to membership. The two new members are Harry Armstrong of the Third Division Signalling Corps, and Sergeant Thomas Meehan, formerly of the 26th Battalion. The association passed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. J. H. Pittelton for donations of music and books. A motion was passed that all members rejoicing overseas units be kept in good standing in the association until their return home.

A Skating Party. The members of the Senior Employed Bible Class of the Y. M. C. A. with their lady friends, and accompanied by C. J. Legge, the class leader, met at the Y. M. C. A. building last night and from there they proceeded to the Queens rink where skating was indulged in. They returned later to the Y. M. C. A., where an informal programme was carried out.

CAMPOBELLO RESENTS U.S. PAPER'S SQUIBS

John P. Calder, Inspector of Fisheries Objection to Slurring Remarks of Eastport Sentinel Regarding Canada and Empire.

We are in receipt of the following copy of a letter forwarded during the week to the editor of the Eastport Sentinel by John P. Calder of Campobello, inspector of fisheries:
To the Editor of the Eastport Sentinel:—
My attention having been called to recent editorial squibs in your paper with regard to certain phases of the present war, and also having in mind other unkind references in your paper in connection with the same subject, I desire to make use of your valuable space for the purpose of placing before your readers the views of a Canadian on those matters, even though your remarks are unworthy of answer.

Several weeks ago you stated that "We should worry our German U-boats as long as the Phalarope is stationed at Campobello and the mighty Curlew is 'outside.'"
The St. Croix Courier commented on the slurring remarks, and you this week-end your reply thereto with the following sentence: "But never mind, if you noble patriots, devotion and self sacrifice of the women of the Empire. The last words of Edith Cavell as she bared her breast to the Hun bullets and thanked God that she had the opportunity to die for her Country more truly represents the attitude of our women in the great struggle."

In so far as your remarks about the Phalarope and Curlew affording protection against submarine attacks, or four latest effort in which you say that it won't be necessary for some time yet to place a mine in the St. Croix harbor for safety I can only reiterate that such crude jokes are unworthy of being noticed. The safety of these islands, however, from such attacks and the attendant horrors of German invasion rests not on these small fishery patrol boats, but rather on the greatest institution in all the world—the navy of Britain. If the time unfortunately should come when we were threatened with an attack it would be of no use to tow us into the St. Croix harbor if such were possible, for no place on the American continent would then afford us a haven of refuge. Rest assured that the safety of the islands of Passamaquoddy along with all other portions of the North America continent depends on the ability of the British Navy to keep the German fleet bottled up in the Kiel Canal, or to sink them if they come out.

No doubt you are aware that certain American papers are debarred from entering Canada on account of the hostile attitude assumed by them and that the remedy could be applied to your case if your remarks were worthy of consideration. However we content ourselves with taking a charitable view of your writings and conclude that you really are attempting to be humorous.
Such being the case we harbor no ill-feelings towards you for your unkind remarks and will try and bid them from our memories along with the many bitter disappointments we have experienced.

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have received from the President in connection with activities of the U-boats, which you find a fit subject for jest, but which in reality is a serious menace to the commerce of the world and one of Germany's greatest practical assets. I would call your attention to the fact that the war had gone on for more than a year before Germany took the plunge to let her submarines loose again at merchant shipping. The first notice given out by the Kaiser in connection with the limited campaign they were to carry on called forth a vigorous protest from your President. Germany was told that such steps would be in violation of international law and contrary to the dictates of humanity; she was further told that if American lives were endangered by such method she would be held to "strict accountability." Since then the newspapers have enlarged their field of operations until they have taken in nearly every sea in the world, both enemy and neutral ships are being ruthlessly destroyed by them, the world is repeatedly shocked by the frightful losses of innocent lives and no action is taken.

The newspapers during the past few days have contained accounts of the havoc wrought to shipping by a German raider in the South Atlantic. Among others a number of American ships were sunk. What about the principle laid down by your Government in the "Pye" case, which was that belligerents had no right to sink captive ships at sea but must take them before a Prize Court?
Is that matter to become the subject of "notes," and is German gold to be offered in payment for these outrages, as is to be done in connection with the cruel murders of your fellow citizens by U boat commanders? Again when U 53 operated from Newport and sank so many ships and a clear path for the cruel torpedoes was left by your destroyer fleet, even though the destroyers were engaged in rescuing victims you cannot blame us from contrasting their inaction to the stand taken by Chichester on that famous day at Manila Bay when he moored the British ships between the German fleet and the one commanded by the late Admiral Dewey and informed the German commander "that blood was thicker than water." We are also compelled to note that Germany was to be held to "strict accountability" for the loss of American lives only, while in a note of protest to Great Britain in connection with delay in mails and freight the President stated that he was acting as the champion of the rights of neutrals. No mention made of neutral rights in connection with the illegal and barbarous German submarine warfare but their champion when dealing with the legal blockade being maintained by England. The hardest pill of all for us to swallow was the recent speech of your ambassador at Berlin, who gave a clean character certificate to all

the German butchers and assured them of the great friendship of the United States. When we come to add to the foregoing your own nasty references, is it to be wondered at that we feel disappointed, to say the least over these matters?
In closing, Mr. Editor, I desire to pay my tribute to the American people, many of whom spend their numbers with us, and practically all of whom are heart and soul with England her Allies in the titanic struggle. We have the kindest feeling toward the people of Eastport, who have generously responded when called on to contribute for patriotic purposes. We have the greatest respect and admiration for the thousands of young Americans who have enlisted in the Canadian army to battle the modern Hun, which a celebrated American has designated as being the pledge of North America to the Allies of the world. Finally, you and we have a common ancestry, common ideals and a common destiny, and we believe it will take more than the mistakes of governments or the jibes of newspaper editors to disturb the very pleasant relations which happily exist between the people of the two countries.
Very truly yours,
John P. Calder.
Campobello, Jan. 22nd, 1917.

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There are many imitations of this great treatment for coughs, colds, croup, bronchitis and whooping cough. They usually have some sale on the merits of the original, but it should be remembered that they are like it in name only.
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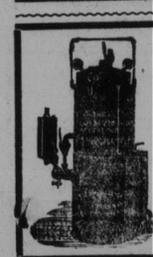
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