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CARVELL GIVES COL. SAM HUGHES A THRUST.

Minister of Militia Wants to Purify Camps—But Puts Militia in Politics.

In the House of Commons last week Col. Sam Hughes said he had an idea of seeking aid from the church and W.C.T.U. in keeping the militia morally clean. He said:

The three great agencies for the upbringing of a clean robust Canadian citizenship were the school, the church and the militia, in the order named. The demoralizing forces with which these agencies were energetically contending were the two gross evils of liquor and tobacco.

Col. Sam intimated that he had embarked on a national military revival, and spoke eloquently concerning "the evils of the improper language on a horse on the street corners of every village in Canada and the hateful influence of the bars and low groceries in the cities and towns."

But Mr. Carvell believed that faith without works was dead. He inquired of the minister as to the character of the caretakers he was appointing in charge of the armories, who would come closely in contact with the young citizen soldiery in the making, in their drills and recreations.

The Colonel was glad of the question. It enabled him to announce farther that all caretakers must be soldiers of good standing.

"Then," asked Mr. Carvell, "why did the minister when he took office dismiss the caretaker of the armory at Woodstock, a veteran of the 10th Field Battery and a man of unblemished character and appoint in his place a man who runs a beer saloon and laments hell?"

And the worthy minister had to admit that the dragon which had vanquished his high ideals in this instance was politics. The Colonel explained that it was advisable to have "a good Tory" for such a position when one could be found. He knew the dismissed caretaker was an old and efficient soldier and had been reported to be "a very good man," but he had been most offensive in his allegiance to Laurier and Liberalism.

The minister announced that his initial aim was to get good Tories, "but," he added withunction, "if we can't get a good Tory I give notice now we will have to look around and find somebody else."

Mr. MacDonald was surprised to hear that Toryism was the first essential of qualification for the militia under the old regime. He had innocently imagined the minister would consider it a duty to keep the militia out of politics.

Mr. Nesbitt wanted to know if trouble should arise or the country be attacked would the militia be called out according to politics.

The Colonel claimed he had been misunderstood. "What I meant," he explained, "was that if two men had equal qualifications the Tory would get the job."

"Then we are to understand that there is to be politics in the militia in future?" queried Mr. Carvell.

"If that's politics, then it's politics," was the Colonel's laconic rejoinder.

Both Messrs. Carvell and MacDonald questioned the wisdom of Col. Hughes' proposal to take all cadets between the ages of twelve and fourteen years into camp for training.

Mr. Carvell was a bit cynical over the Colonel's idea of the camp as a saint maker who would desire a young boy of his to "enter the pearly gates" of the military camp at the age of twelve years. He regretted to say he knew of many promising young men who had been led to take their first drink in the military camp. If the militia had definitely determined to seek the co-operation of the clergy and the W.C.T.U. at the camps, however, he had no doubt an improvement would be made.

HOT FAMILY QUARREL.

An Example of the Scenes in the House of Dissension on Parliament Hill.

"A house divided against itself must fall" is an old biblical adage and a true one. Not alone by the heckling of the Opposition is the Conservative government pestered, but when there is nothing else doing the members quarrel among themselves.

Here is an instance that occurred a few days ago:

Oliver J. Wilcox, Conservative of North Essex, assailed Hon. Col. Sam Hughes over the purchase of the twelve Ford automobiles for the officers of the militia department with a bitterness which brought the house instantly to an expectant silence. He had three objections to the purchase. They were not needed and the military staff was already getting sufficient salary for the services rendered. The purchase was not made by tender but by private sale and the government had paid \$1,219 more for the machines than the advertised price. He absolutely refused to support it "because it is wrong and I know it." "I would not have brought this matter up at all," declared Mr. Wilcox, "if the minister had not spoken to me as he did when I approached him in Room 16, but now I absolutely refuse to support it because it is wrong."

The minister of militia rose in wrath. "I will tell the house what occurred," said he. "When we made the purchase knowing that the Ford machine was manufactured in his riding, I notified him of what we had done. He turned round to me and said: 'Can't you put in a word with that concern to help me?' I told him I would and I notified the agent accordingly. Shortly after he came to me and said he wanted the contract changed as the head of the Ford firm was a Grit. I told him that it made no difference, that I new the employees would be intelligent enough to vote Tory anyway. He then said it wouldn't do that I must change the contract to some other firm manufacturing automobiles in his riding. I never heard of one of them before. His excuse was that the head of the firm we were dealing with was a Grit. I finally said to him: 'I don't know whether he is a Grit or not, and what's more I don't care.' Subsequently I met him again after other things had transpired, and I think he knows how I take of him."

"Did the member for North Essex complain because the contract was not awarded by tender, as he alleges now?" asked Mr. MacDonald.

"The matter of tenders was never mentioned," replied Col. Hughes.

Mr. Wilcox angrily replied that he had not attempted to bulldoze anyone but that, unless he was to be consulted when anything affecting his constituency was concerned he might as well stay at home.

During the whole incident Premier Borden and the other cabinet ministers sat glumly in their seats in manifest disgust at this repeated evidence of internal dissension and lack of discipline within the ranks.

It might be noted that almost anyone can buy a Ford car at a discount from the advertised price. One would suppose that bought in dozen lots they would come still cheaper. But Mr. Wilcox says they cost \$1,219 more.

A Charlotte Co. View.

If Premier Fleming would be treated fairly by the public he must treat the public fairly. The public has a right to know how and where the public money has been expended. They have a right to know who those "various persons" are who have received such large amounts. They have a right to know whether these moneys were used for legitimate purposes, or whether they were used for illegitimate purposes; and since the auditor-general has not given the facts, it is the duty of the opposition to ask for them. It would be a queer kind of an opposition that would ask of such a peculiar condition of things to pass unchallenged.—St. Andrews Beacon.

Slaughter of Game Nearly 5000 Head.

Many big game animals were killed in the province last year. In Hastings, Gloucester and Northumberland 687 moose, 240 caribou, and 713 deer fell before the hunters' rifles. In Albert, Kings, Kent and Westmorland the number was 516 moose and 608 deer. In Carleton, Victoria, Charlotte and Madawaska the totals were 289 moose, eight caribou and 240 deer, while in York, Sunbury, Queens and St. John, 240 moose, eighteen caribou, and 619 deer bit the dust. The totals are 2,132 moose, 268 caribou and 2,750 deer.—Chatham Commercial.

"Various Persons" Will Cover a Multitude of Sins.

An individual said to hail from the interior of Carleton Co. has been to Fredericton on a visit and writes a letter to the Carleton Sentinel saying: "I will keep my promise and write you a good long letter, although I can't tell you half I've seen and heard. I have had a mighty nice trip here and interesting."

Fredericton ain't changed much since I was here to the legislature twenty years ago. That is, it ain't changed enough so that I couldn't get round all right. Of course besides the old crowd, I saw lots of new faces.

In the last four years they have created a lot of new offices and given each one an assistant, a clerk and a stenographer and these were mostly strangers to me. The way they do, they create an office, appoint an official and give him an assistant and raise the salary. Then they add a clerk and raise the salary again. The last thing is a stenographer and some more salary.

I saw Premier Fleming. He's a fine looking man and they say shaves once a week. I hadn't only just told him who I was and where I was from when he shook hands with me and said there wasn't any need of telling him any more that he knew me the minute he saw me and asked about everybody in Rockland. Then he told me he would be a candidate and he wanted office again. He said the office only paid him salary, fees and travelling expenses and all about \$5000 a year.

He told me that most of his life had been spent in Carleton County where it was customary to promise everyone everything they wanted and then take it yourself if you could get hold of it. He spoke of that great institution, the Woodstock bridge, that has been for a year kept in a condition to accommodate "various persons." "But," says he, "there was no sense in bragging about it, for it really ain't a thing some men would be proud of."

He was so gentlemanly and polite that he reminded me of those fellows that work the shell game.

He had a stack of letters on his desk asking about the route of the Valley Railway and said he was busy answering them until I interrupted him.

He said the railway took up most of his attention, but he managed to carry the sheep and along as a sort of side line. "Mr. Diffin," says he, "I am in a trying position building the railway for the people and not building it for the C. P. R. This railroad building," says he, "is tough business, and I tell you a man don't know where he'll bring up when he starts in trying to make a railroad, and at Centerville, Andover and Grand Falls, all at one time."

"And there ain't no way to toll which is the right place except by asking Frank Carvell, and he and I and the C. P. R. ain't on good terms; so there you are."

"I've been doing great work for the country lately, Diffin," says he, along about the third hour of his conversation. "I protected the Valley Railway against the assaults of envious men from other sections."

"Do you know," he went on impressively, "they started the ridiculous story, that just because I rode to Montreal in Van Horn's private car, I was tendered and accepted advice on building railways." At this point he was almost crying. It was said, and I made up my mind that if this province couldn't afford to pay a few thousand dollars for not building a railroad, I would move away to some more liberal country.

Mr. Fleming seemed to understand his subject and was interested in it.

And he's an almighty good man too. He said so and he repeated it so many times that I could see he believed it and was certain of it.

I told him I was going to see Munroe and asked him what he thought of him. "Donald is all right," he said, "but he lacks my experience and which are rare, but he's all right; he is a little too impetuous perhaps, but honest, and has some ability and a little strength. He's different from me because I was never any hand to push myself ahead. In the long run, Mr. Diffin, modesty pays."

Before leaving I said, "Mr. Fleming how does the Valley Railroad stand today?"

"Still here," says he, "and quite likely to stay no matter how much the people kick about it."

"We've got it and we've got to pay for it."

"I knew we had to pay for it," says I, "but I didn't know as we had it; I thought the C. P. R. had it."

"I'm in both we's," says he. "I see that was where he had the advantage of us farmers. We were only in one."

I don't know as I blame him. I would have liked to have got in myself. If a man gets a show and the public don't it's the public's fault, be-



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cause the public is bigger than one man, no matter who he is, although usually not so well united.

There is much more I could tell you in this letter but I will leave it for next week. Let me say in conclusion that Mr. Fleming is a Conservative.

I often think that the Liberal party is not grateful enough for the blessings it enjoys.

Yours truly,

CYRUS A. DIFFIN.

P.S.—"Various Persons" illustrates the fact that two little words of frank explanation will straighten out a whole lot of misunderstanding, in regard to the Woodstock bridge.

Suicide in Houlton Store.

Harmond Lindsey of Littleton, aged 40 years and unmarried, went into the store of the Putnam Hardware Co. in Houlton about 6.45 Tuesday morning, asked to look at a revolver, was handed one of 38 calibre and fitting a cartridge in it fired a bullet into his head before the horrified clerk could make a move to prevent him and dropped to the floor dead. No cause can be ascribed for the deed.

It was shortly after Mr. Currie, clerk in the Putnam store, opened the place Tuesday morning when Lindsey made his appearance and asked to look at revolvers. He was shown several and was handed one of 38 calibre. He looked it over carefully, inquired for cartridges and was given a box from which he selected one and put it in the chamber. He appeared so careless about handling it that Mr. Currie cautioned him that it was loaded, whereupon Lindsey stepped back from the counter, removed his hat and fired the implement into his head right back of the ear. Death must have been instantaneous and it all happened so quickly that Mr. Currie was almost stunned by the sudden tragedy he had witnessed.

Coroner Bozzel was notified and took charge of the remains. Lindsey resides with his father and mother on a farm in Littleton and is reported to have been a quiet, unassuming man of good habits and was supposedly in good health. In Houlton Tuesday morning no one could be found who could offer any reason for his taking his own life. He was a shingle sawyer by trade.

Children are much more likely to contract the contagious diseases when they have colds. Whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever and consumption are diseases that are often contracted when the child has a cold. That is why all medical authorities say beware of colds. For the quick cure of colds you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It can always be depended upon, and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.

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