

# The St. John Standard

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Register Your Letters.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1916.

"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 KYTE CHARGES.

Before the Meredith-Duff Commission, on Thursday afternoon, E. V. Cadwell, of the American Ammunition Company, testified that he, E. V. Cadwell, and B. F. Youkum, had made an agreement as to the division of \$1,000,000 of profits, not commissions, as erroneously reported, and on this testimony such partisan Grit newspapers as the Telegraph and Times base a contention that the Kyte charges have been absolutely proven. In fact the Times editor speaks familiarly of the sum as "That Million Rakeoff."

Close and confidential relations with certain Grit politicians and ward heelers whose names will readily suggest themselves has probably given to the Times editor such intimate acquaintance with the term "rakeoff," as indicating illegal profits in connection with Central Railway steals, "sawdust wharves" and similar deals, that it comes easily to his pen. However, in the case of Messrs. Youkum et al, it seems to have been misapplied.

Let us glance briefly at the facts. The gentlemen concerned in the agreement of division were stockholders in the American Ammunition Company, which had secured a large contract for fuses at a figure which may have been high, but it should not be forgotten that, high or not, it permitted the finished shell, fuse and all, to be supplied to the British Government AT A PRICE LOWER THAN THE BRITISH AGENT WAS PREPARED TO PAY. Consequently, it could not have been exorbitant for the agent of the British Government could hardly be accused of wasting the Empire's money solely that an American company might make a profit.

Mr. Cadwell also stated under oath, and this fact is conveniently ignored by the Times editor, that the million "WAS NOT TO COME OUT OF THE ADVANCE MONIES BUT FROM PAYMENTS AFTER DELIVERIES." Mr. Kyte claimed it was to be from the advance money—money which was supposed to be used in legitimately financing the undertaking, and so far as any evidence to the contrary is concerned, was so used.

Mr. Kyte desired to create the impression that the million was STOLEN FROM THE PEOPLE BEFORE THE WORK WAS DONE. Mr. Cadwell's evidence shows that it was not to be divided until AFTER THE WORK WAS DONE, DELIVERED AND SETTLED FOR.

Mr. Kyte and the editor of the Times claim it was a "rakeoff." Mr. Cadwell, under oath, shows that it was neither rakeoff nor graft, but PROFIT ON A RISKY UNDERTAKING, risky because a large initial plant outlay was required and because of uncertainty as to the continuance of the business. Will any independent business man say the meeting of three men to agree upon a division of profits, SUCH DIVISION NOT TO TAKE PLACE UNTIL AFTER THE PROFITS WERE LEGITIMATELY EARNED AND VALUE GIVEN, SAVORED EITHER OF "RAKEOFF" OR "GRAFT?" ON THE CONTRARY, IS NOT THE SAME THING DONE IN PRIVATE BUSINESS, AND LEGITIMATELY DONE?

Yet this is the flimsy thread on which Grit newspapers claim that the Kyte charges have been proven to the hilt.

The Kyte charges intimated that Sir Sam Hughes was a party to the war contracts, that he had profited from them, that there was something sinister and dirty about the whole business.

Has there been one word in the evidence of any of the witnesses to indicate that this was the fact?

Has there been one syllable to show that the Minister of Militia, members of the Shell Committee, members of the Borden Government, or men in any way connected with that Government, profited to the extent of one cent?

To ask the question is to answer it. The American Ammunition Company made and delivered fuses to the representatives of the British Government; these fuses were delivered at a price which was found satisfactory by the British agent; they were made in the United States after it had been found they could not be made in Canada in time to be of most value, and

to cap the climax, three members of the company doing the work actually had the audacity to meet together and agree as to how the profits should be divided after they had been earned.

What shameful criminality, what gross indecency.

The men who would do this thing would be almost as culpable as the directors of the Telegraph and Times who might gather to decide how they would spend their next dividend from the operation of those newspapers—provided, of course, there ever would be a dividend.

The Kyte charges have not been proven and are not likely to be proven. Yet the country is forced to waste time and money in order that a couple of Grit "shell experts" may have the opportunity of creating some political capital.

Members of the Government or of the Shell Committee have committed no crime. The real offence lies at the door of the men whose scandalous tongues have made such a nauseating spectacle possible.

## THE SAME OLD GAME.

Lloyd Harris, of the Russell Motor Car Company, of Toronto, was on the witness stand at Tuesday's session of the Meredith-Duff Commission and his evidence was largely of the nature of complaint that his firm had not secured a larger share of the shell making business. Taking their cue from Mr. Harris, Liberal newspapers all over Canada are now pounding the Borden Government—which had absolutely nothing to do with it—and the shell committee, which had, because orders for fuses were given to American instead of Canadian firms. Such criticism is merely the old Dreadnought game over again and is not worthy of a minute's serious thought.

It will be remembered that when the Borden Government introduced their naval aid policy the Premier announced that he had information from the British Admiralty of the existence of a menacing emergency which called for a prompt increase in the navy, and Canada's proposal was that money should be voted for the acquisition or construction of three capital ships to be built in English yards. The Liberals scoffed at the emergency idea and demanded that the ships should be built in Canada; this, in fact, was their favorite argument.

It was plainly shown at that time that to build and equip the plant necessary for such ships would involve an outlay of at least twice the cost of the Dreadnoughts and, more serious still, would have delayed construction for at least four years. As the Dreadnoughts were wanted at once the course taken by the Government was eminently sane and proper.

Subsequent developments have shown that there was an emergency, that the ships were needed at once and that the opposition of the Liberals could not be justified on any ground.

In the present case the Imperial authorities wanted munitions and wanted them at the front as speedily as possible. Canada was appealed to to take up the work and all Canadian firms able to undertake the task readily responded. It was found fuses could not be manufactured here, although as in the case of Dreadnoughts, it would be possible at great outlay of money and time to build and equip plants, train men to operate them and, eventually, turn out in Canada the finished shell, fuses and all. Had that been done Canada's quota of shells would not yet have reached the battle front.

But the Liberals ignoring the emergency of the case, ignoring the fact that the fuses were required without delay and had to be purchased where they could be most quickly delivered, ignoring everything save the desire to create prejudice against the Government, raised the cry that the fuses should be made in this country.

No one denies that fuses can be made in Canada but the proposition requires more time than the country can give to it. The fuses are needed, and at once. That is why they were made in American factories.

The enemies of the Government are merely attempting to play the old Dreadnought game over again but this time it is so shopworn and shoddy that it will no longer deceive.

Opposition Organizer Carter finds time to interview himself for the Daily Annapolis and predict all sorts of things for that Westmorland bye-election but he has not yet completed his little job of "digging" in Albert county. Mr. Carter also intimates that he will keep his fairy stories for the edification of the Westmorland electorate instead of running them in serial form in his St. John organs. The opposition organizer evidently believes in Safety First. For his peculiar talents country halls in Westmorland afford a safer field than the City of St. John. Contradiction and exposure are not likely to come quite so quickly.

Hon. Mr. Hazen did well when he recommended Mr. A. W. Sharpe as the official in charge of collecting Government war taxes in the Province of New Brunswick. Mr. Sharpe's long experience at City Hall has given him qualifications which should make him a most valuable official.

When working in this province Mr. Carvell had his "Man Friday." While operating in New York and Ottawa he used his "Man Rogers." But the methods employed were very similar.

No matter what the Meredith-Duff commission at Ottawa may develop the responsibility resting upon the men who incited the campaign of slander at this time will never be lightened.

Before the Carvell organs again refer to the mouthy member for Carleton as a noble patriot they should recall his spoken opinions of Sir John French and the Canadian soldier boys.

How eloquently silent the Telegraph and Times can be when expediency demands it. Take the case of Dr. Michael Clark's speech.

And, speaking of silence, who applied the "Maxim" to John Morrissey?

## HILLSBORO NOTES.

Hillsborough, May 8—Miss Mabel Morrison of St. John, was the guest of Mrs. Orris Dawson last week. Mrs. Charles Peterson of Moncton is the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Irving.

Mr. Gilbert Dawson has taken a position in the Bank of Nova Scotia here.

Miss Rosa Daley of Riverside, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. Frank Gillespie, during last week.

Miss Nellie Wallace is spending some time in Coverdale.

Mrs. Dwight Taylor is the guest of her parents at Salisbury.

J. H. Barrie was in St. John last week.

Kenneth Campbell, Fred Bray and Harold Clark have returned to their homes in St. John.

Miss Mildred Murray of Riverside, was in the village several days of last week.

Mrs. Jack Capson of Moncton, is visiting in the village.

Mrs. Anne Tower is the guest of her sister, Mrs. A. Edgett, at Harvey.

Miss Lulu Duffy of Sussex, visited friends here on Friday.

Mrs. Jordan Steeves and daughter, Miss Laura, were in Moncton on Friday.

Gordon Keith of Moncton, spent Sunday at his home here.

Rev. E. B. McIntosh and wife of Moncton, were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Dash for the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Steeves and family were guests at the home of Guilford Steeves, Wedon, on Sunday.

At Albert Mines the Albert County L. O. L. recently held their annual meeting. Representatives from four lodges were present and the following officers elected for the year: Worthy County Master, George W. Milton; Deputy County Master, Beecher C. Steeves; County Chaplain, Jordan J. Woodworth; Fin. Sec., H. J. Steeves; Rec. Sec., Fred Milton; Treasurer, Jordan Steeves; First Lecturer, Rollo F. Steeves; Second Lecturer, Albert W. Edgett; Director of Ceremonies, Joseph Milton.

Mrs. Dr. Somers of Moncton, was the guest of Mrs. I. M. Gross last week.

Mrs. Ernest Taylor of Moncton, visited her sister, Mrs. Bruce Steeves last week.

Mrs. C. J. Osman was in Sackville last week.

Mrs. Miedell leaves this week for Norway, where she and her little son will join her husband, Capt. P. Miedell.

Mrs. James Blake and Mrs. W. F. Taylor returned on Monday from Boston, where they were guests of friends.

Mrs. Wilbur and Miss Irene Buntin, who have been spending the winter

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## Little Benny's Note Book

### THE ASH MAN.

The ashman comes down our back street Yelling, Wo! Git up there; Wo! Depending on whether he wants his 2 mules To stop standing still or to go

One of them white all over.

And the other ones white and black, And they git up forward most of the time, But when there told to they git up back,

The white ones ears stick backyards

And the other ones ears stick front,

And the white ones name is Elizabeth

And the other ones name is Runt.

The ashman yells, Wo, Elizabeth, Runt!

And the waggin and the 2 mules stop,

And he reaches up the side of the waggin

And unclumps your ashes on the top,

Then he slams your ash can down so hard

It's a wonder it dont come apart,

And yells, Git up, Elizabeth, Runt!

And the waggin and the 2 mules start.

O its fun to watch the ashman

For whenever a strong wind blows,

A few of the ashes go in the waggin,

But most of them go on his clothes.

And if you treat him pullitely

In spite of the ash cans he smashes,

You mite be able to solve the mystery

Of wat he does with all the ashes.

ter here, have returned to their home in Coverdale.

Fred Edgett and Delbert Cameron, were in Moncton this week.

Mrs. Edgar West of Moncton, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Bruce Steeves.

The Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church will meet this week at the home of Mrs. William Robertson.

## WESTFIELD NOTES.

Among those from Westfield who attended the annual session of the diocesan branch of the Women's Auxiliary, which was held in St. John this week were Mrs. C. W. Nichols, Mrs. A. M. Woodman, Miss M. E. Hoyt, Miss Lingley, Mrs. Philip Nase.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Spencer and family and Mrs. Leonard and son are among Oncolette summer residents who have reopened their cottages.

Mrs. J. Kirtley, who has been the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Chesley Stevens, for the past week, returned to Westfield on Monday.

Miss Lois Lingley spent the weekend with friends in St. John.

R. M. Burden returned from Boston on Wednesday.

Miss Machum and Miss E. Ballentine were in St. John on Wednesday.

attending the Howard-Macaulay wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kirkpatrick expect to leave in a few days for New York to take passage on the S. S. New York for England, where they will spend three months. During their absence Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Tilton will occupy their cottage at Hillandale.

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