

## PUBLIC OPINION

## WOLGAST AND WELSH

Winnipeg, 27th Jan., 1913.

Editor, CANADIAN COURIER:

Sir:—In your issue of January 25th I see that a New York-Canadian contradicts your statement that Freddie Welsh is THE light-weight champion of the world. I do not wish to have an argument with the aforesaid Canadian, but why did Wolgast so persistently refuse to meet Welsh? It is answered by Welsh's story of his knockout of Wolgast in a private boxing gymnasium. I think that every loyal Britisher should uphold Welsh's claim to the championship, and I welcome the patriotism shown by your most valuable paper.

I remain, sir,

Yours faithfully,

A SCOTSMAN.

## INDIAN AND WHITE MAN

Sorel, P.Q., Jan. 26.

Editor, CANADIAN COURIER:

Sir:—As a subscriber to your valuable magazine I was very much instructed in the article on "Sex Crimes and the Indian." I would like if you would let me know what happens to the Indian. We may differ upon lots of things, but when it comes to a case like this, well, we might ask ourselves what would we do? Well, for me I would do just as the Indian did, white man or no white man. The article is very good and full of common sense.

Thanking you, I am truly yours,

ROBERT OGILVIE.

## TEACHERS AND HISTORY

Portage la Prairie, Man.,

Jan. 27, 1913.

Editor, CANADIAN COURIER:

Sir:—I cannot help but express my gratitude for the past numbers of The Courier, especially the issue of January 25th. It was an interesting issue. In the first place, Dr. Macdonald's article was very suggestive, and inspirational. I only wish your constituency could be more widely extended, and that such discussions as his and Prof. Kylie's and your own remarks be read by business and professional men.

By the way, in placing the blame for widespread indifference, I think a share of the blame should be placed against the pulpit, press and commercial interests. They are all "in it." Do not blame the schoolmaster (who too often is a school "marm") too much. His influence is not so great as it should be. I must confess, however, that our teaching of history, especially that on our High School course, is too much ancient history. The time must come when the history of the main outlying portions of our Empire will be as important as the history of Persia or the wars with Zenobia. These are all-important, and contain much wheat; but I fear sometimes we teachers thresh much straw (and incidentally some boys) for a few grains of wheat, and neglect whole fields of material laden with the golden grain from the fields of our own land's history.

But I have written longer than I had intended, and wish only to express my delight with The Courier.

I am, yours very truly,

E. K. MARSHALL, M.A.,

Victoria School.

## THE NAVY QUESTION

Hamilton, Jan. 20.

Editor, CANADIAN COURIER:

Sir,—I am thoroughly in accord with your position on the navy question now before Parliament. I also note that you are greatly disappointed in not being able to create discussion of this question. Personally, I believe the main reason for that is not that Canadians are too busy with their own affairs, but that they are really not impressed with the need of the country at present for such protection.

The newspapers in general have made

it such a party question that much of what they say does not carry any weight because it is only considered as a means to an end for the party. The question is too large for any one party to decide just what course shall be followed without that course being voted upon almost unanimously by Parliament or coming before the people.

Since subscribing for The Courier I have learned to look for it with a great deal of pleasure, and I wish you a happy and prosperous year.

Yours truly,

F. C. ABBOTT.

Melfort, Sask., Jan. 26th, 1913.

To the Editor Canadian Courier:

Sir,—For the second time, referring to the Canadian naval debate in your last issue, you deplore what you call the lack of interest shown in this question by the Canadian public. Now, may not this very apparent lack of interest be an actual proof of the country's satisfaction with Mr. Borden's concrete proposals? Out here in the West we are not caring very much just now what the politicians are saying, or have said in the past. We are glad that something of some weight is about to be done. If Dr. Macdonald, of the Globe, is right, and we accept his dictum of considering this question from the point of view of "Canada" first and the Empire afterwards, your strenuous fight for a purely Canadian navy may be all right. As a Canadian, I believed Reciprocity was not a good national policy two years ago. As a citizen of Saskatchewan, I was not sure but it might be a benefit to the grain grower. From a provincial point of view, and according to Dr. Macdonald's argument, I should have voted for the pact. Taking the national viewpoint, I voted against it. What is good national policy must in the long run benefit Saskatchewan, a component part of the nation. Similarly, if we strengthen the British navy, and thus incidentally strengthen the British Empire, how can Canada escape being benefited and strengthened? Our entire defence to-day is in our militia and the British navy. Strengthen either of these and we strengthen our defence, and incidentally the great empire of which Canada is a part. Speaking personally I believe this country would show much more self-respect and common sense by at once declaring for straight independence, than by accepting British protection, while afraid to contribute to its support.

ALCHMITZ SHADD.

## What Manufacturers Think

WHAT the manufacturers think on the navy question may be gathered from an editorial in a recent issue of the "Canadian Manufacturer," which runs as follows:

"The Opposition newspapers have been making a good deal of capital out of the recent speeches of two Government supporters in the House of Commons on the naval question.

"It is held that the speeches of these two members—Messrs. Edwards and Cockshutt—indicate that permanent contributions to the British navy and not the creation of a home built Canadian fleet, is the policy of the Government.

"I have read in Hansard the official verbatim report of these two gentlemen, and while I was unable to discover any definite statement to that effect, yet enough was certainly said to leave a doubt in my mind regarding the bona fides of the permanent naval policy of the Government.

"I quite realize that in their zeal for the emergency policy of the Government as defined by the Premier early in December they could not be expected to eulogize that of the Opposition as subsequently outlined by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. But it seems to me they went too far when they belittled to the extent they did the possibility of Canada being able to either build or man ships of war.

"It will be remembered that when the Premier brought down his bill for an emergency contribution of three Dreadnoughts to the British navy, he inti-

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