

three cheers and a tiger for Mr. Robertson, who, by his gracious, yet firm, refusal of these distinctions (now viewed more in the light of a joke than an honor), has achieved a far greater distinction than a title could bestow.

"The fact that one who has refused what beyond all question he so truly deserved proves he is a bigger man than many of those who have aspired to wake up some fine morning and see their names in the papers prefixed by a little word of three letters; and I have reason to believe that the sentiments briefly expressed in this letter will be shared and endorsed by many democratic Canadians, who will, in this case, consider it a privilege and an honor to take off their hats to Mr. John Ross Robertson.

"William J. Helm.
"Port Hope, Feb. 15."

Newmarket Era.

Referring to the recent refusal of Mr. J. Ross Robertson, of The Toronto Telegram, to accept the honor of knighthood recently tendered him, the Guelph Mercury remarks: "By so doing he has gained distinction and has endeared himself to the public of Canada. His many home benefactions and his well-directed philanthropy have earned for him a place higher than knighthood."

Sydney (Cape Breton) Record.

We think better of John Ross Robertson than we ever did before. His mind is not of the broadest, but he has had the good sense to decline one of these wooden-sword and tin-helmet knighthoods which are getting so cheap and so common. We see no particular objection to recognizing, by such means, real merit and real service; but when a Max Aitken gets one for political services, and a John Willison for services which, to whomsoever they have been given (and they have been given in opposite directions), are not such as justify honor at the King's hands, the thing begins to get a shabby look. If his Majesty really picked the new knights, no doubt he would make a

good job of it; but it is the Government at Ottawa that picks them for Canada. But Mr John Ross Robertson has declined. He will be the more respected for it.

Stirling (Ont.) Leader.

Among those to whom the late New Year honors of knighthood were offered was Mr. John Ross Robertson, editor of The Toronto Evening Telegram, but he declined the honor.

On the same day, it seems, Mr. Robertson declined a senatorship, which the Borden Government offered him, and, in the words of a well known politician, "It is the first time in the history of Canada that anyone declined a knighthood and a senatorship on the same day."

"There is no reason to give, beyond that I exercised the same right as the others who have accepted, and I declined—I hope graciously and gracefully," remarked Mr. Robertson.

Milton (Ont.) Champion.

John Ross Robertson, of The Toronto Telegram, has declined a knighthood and a senatorship, in which he showed self respect and good sense. Knighthoods have become too common in Canada, too often the reward of wealth rather than merit. Though Mr. Robertson is no spring chicken, he is far from senility, the usual qualification for the Senate.

Ottawa Journal.

It is understood that Sir Robert Borden offered to recommend J. Ross Robertson, of The Toronto Evening Telegram, for knighthood and a senatorship, but Mr. Robertson gratefully declined both honors.

Calgary Albertan.

If knighthood was really a reward of merit, John Ross Robertson would have been knighted years ago. At this late date he has the offer, and to his credit, not because he was displeased, but merely on principle, he declined it. A "Sir" at the front of the name would really weaken the name John Ross Robertson.