

Britain, at war, was the chivalrous nation, as in the rescue of a few subjects in Abyssinia or the Soudan, at immense cost. Her position in the Transvaal War was more chivalrous than the world, ever jealous of the powerful, will grant. Canadians were not sending contingents simply for love of Motherland—and there is no dearer name than mother. They were going to the aid of a fellow colony, invaded with a lust of conquest, fired by 15 years of hatred and of earnest preparation. Hill fighters were difficult to subdue, as one Indian, Almighty Voice, demonstrated in our own Northwest, but the tide was turning and victory will soon be in the air. There were two great pictures of late—Britain effectually standing guard when all Europe would have crushed the United States in a war of emancipation, and the same Britain now standing with her back against the wall, meeting the bitterness of many nations with proud reliance in her strength and justice. She, two years ago, laid the cement for a solid structure of a century's good-will in Anglo-Saxondom. Soon she will spread the foundations of a great South-African federation, to be realized as a blessing to even her implacable foes.

Mr. A. F. Wallis, who also replied to this toast, emphasized three points which were manifested by the South-African War—the deep-rooted patriotism of the British in the Motherland; that British soldiers had lost none of that sterling courage of former generations, and that it was the Empire that was fighting as one man. From every red daub on the map they were rushing to Africa to defend the flag. He agreed with A. Conan Doyle, who had expressed the opinion that Kruger should get a monument for “consolidating the Empire.”

The toast of “The Canadian Press” was proposed by president-elect J. S. Willison, of *The Globe*, who prefaced his remarks with an expression of his appreciation of the honor his brother editors had done him in electing him their president. In associating the name of Hon. G. E. Foster with this toast, Mr. Willison expressed the respect and admiration which Mr. Foster's abilities created, and hoped that he would deal frankly with the press when replying to the toast. “And I only hope” he interjected, “that the burden of what he shall say to us shall rest easier on his conscience than many of the things we say for the politicians rest on ours.” He claimed that with all its faults the Canadian press loved the country it serves; that as a news gathering agency it would compare with any press in the world, and that it treats questions of social, commercial or national import with a full sense of responsibility and patriotism.

Hon. Mr. Foster was warmly received. After a short reference to his own experience in the editorial chair of *The St. John Sun*, he stated his conviction that the gathering of the members of the association together for social intercourse and the exchange of ideas was bound to contribute to the advancement of the Canadian press generally as well as to the individual members who attend. It was well that the press should advance, too, for the newspaper had become the magazine of the people, and a tremendous responsibility rested on the newspapermen of Canada. The press might uplift or do great injury to the public life of Canada. He maintained that conditions would be much improved if papers on either side of politics would some-

times ascribe good qualities to the other party and to its leaders. The press was, moreover, the greatest educative factor in teaching the love of Canada and the Empire. In this respect the whole Canadian press deserved eulogy for the influence it has exerted.

Mr. David Creighton, who proposed the next toast, “The War Correspondent,” made a brief reference to his experience as correspondent of *The Owen Sound Times*, while a member of the volunteer force organized in 1866 to repel the Fenian Raids, then referred to the difficulties and danger that the modern war correspondents had to face, expressing the conviction that they were of as sturdy and courageous quality as the soldiers whose battles they describe. The names of H. P. Donly, of *The Simcoe Reformer* and A. F. Pirie, of *The Dundas Banner*, were associated with this toast.

Hal. B. Donly claimed experience as a war correspondent, as he had gone to Long Point, on Lake Erie, to report a prize fight, but which was prevented from taking place by a company of militia. He considered the Canadian war correspondents men of the right stamp, who would do honor to the Dominion.

A. F. Pirie prefaced his remarks by a word of congratulation to the retiring president for the work that had been done in the past year; to the association on their choice of Mr. Willison as president elect, and to Mr. Foster for the thought and foresight of his remarks. He paid a high compliment to the courage and work, not only of the Canadian correspondents, but of the correspondents of the Motherland. They were all true Britons.

In proposing the toast of “The Reading Public,” Mr. Andrew Pattullo, M.P.P., voiced the thought that the closer an editor was in touch with his public, the more he understood and sympathized with it, the more valuable his paper will become to that public, and the more weight he will have with the community.

Mr. D. McGillicuddy, in replying to the toast, spoke as a member of the great reading public. He claimed the work of a newspaper was not to express the opinions of any man, but to present the news of the day. But news, he insisted, did not consist in the private affairs of the individual. A newspaper should be clean, honest and fearless, and free, at all times, from rabid partizanship. Though the Canadian press had its faults, he concluded, it was a press the country might be proud of.

The proceedings then terminated.

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Buntin, Gillies & Co., wholesale stationers, Hamilton, will in future be represented in Montreal by the new firm of Little & Roger. Both these gentlemen have for some years been prominently connected with a leading firm of wholesale stationers in Montreal. Their knowledge of the trade, energy and ability insures success, and those who know the line of goods carried in stock by the Hamilton firm and their business methods predict that they will secure a good share of the Montreal business. Centrally located and commodious offices and sample-rooms have been rented in the Mechanics' Building, St. James street, where the resident agents will be glad to see the trade.