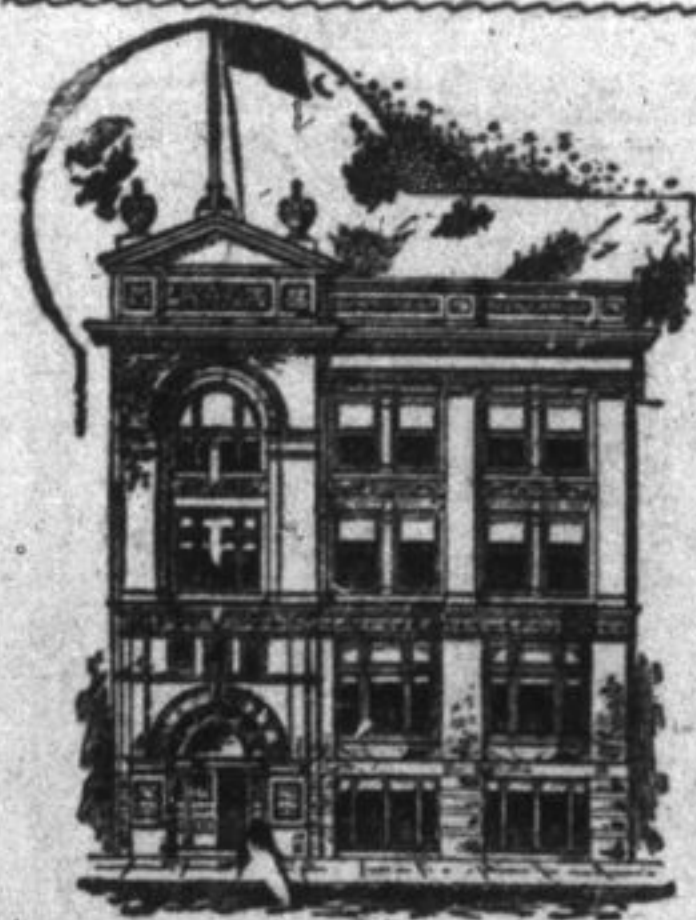


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CRITICS AND THEIR TALK.

Sir Sam Hughes is inviting the contempt of all sensibly-minded people by his destructive criticism of the new government. It is of small account what he or anyone else thinks about it, or about the circumstances under which it was formed. There had to be a general destruction of the partition walls that divided men politically before a Union Government could be formed. When the walls went down there had to be a general subsidence of current political opinion and existing political prejudices, before men who had criticized each other most severely, could be expected to live and work in harmony.

To meet the necessities of the hour the keenest politicians had to act as statesmen, or men who were willing to serve and advance the interests of the state rather than the party. The Union Government, under these circumstances, became an accomplished fact, and gradually the men of Canada, liberals and conservatives, have realized the wisdom of giving it a fair and honest trial. The spokesmen of the country may rave, and to no purpose. This Union Government has been formed for a bigger purpose than to ladle out patronage, or study the ambitions of party men. The question of the hour is not, then, whether the old government could or could not have won in a party election. The premier, alone it is said, rose above party considerations and accepted certain prominent and progressive liberals as his colleagues. The old parties had better forget their dreams and buckle into the fight with the determination that until the war is over they have no time to think of anything else.

Sir Sam Hughes is simply a disturber of the peace. He cannot deceive anyone with his tremendous pretensions. He had his chance to do big things and failed in many particulars. It is his part now to disappear from the public view, and feed, like all of his kind, upon his conceits. Hon. Mr. Meighen, too, must forget the past. He cannot minimize the influence and affection with which Sir Wilfrid Laurier has been regarded by the liberals, and through his attacks upon Sir Wilfrid and Hon. Messrs. Calder and Crear must harden by this time, after their experience in Regina with him, advised the secretary of state to change his tactics, or quit their company. If Union Government be the best thing, and both Hughes and Meighen say it is, its success will depend upon the manner in which it is supported.

Will the boys, the Scouts, the Cadets, and all the rest of them be in the Victory Loan parade? Will they? Wait until the publicity committee completes its programme.

NO MORE JOB LOTS.

It is announced from Ottawa, on behalf of the Government, that the spoils system is at an end. The list of political favorites, which has so long decorated the offices of the ministers, will be destroyed, or put away for a while. The purchasing committee, with which the militia department has been experimenting, on a limited scale, will be continued. It will be tried out in all the departments.

Michaelis remains chancellor of Germany because the Kaiser wills it so. The day will come, however, when the chancellor will be appointed by the Reichstag and go out of office when it votes a want of

ing bureau. All supplies will be bought on tender after public advertisement or circular addressed to all known sources of supply. It means a saving of millions to the country and adds another potent objection to any policy that favors a return to party government on the old lines.

This will not be welcome news in some quarters. The men who have been selected to do Government work, all during the war, virtually at their own prices, because they belonged to the conservative party, because they believed in the spoils system, because they had become so rich they could afford to give away some of their wealth, will feel that evil days has fallen upon them.

They may hope that an end will come to this new order of things very soon. It may, however, last long enough, and be recognized as an improvement which the war has brought about and with every expectation that it will remain.

Winnipeg is the centre of political confusion, with labor candidates, Laurier and union liberals, single taxers and conservatives in the field. If the electors are queered it will not be the candidates' faults.

THE PROMISE WAS DISCOUNTED

Rev. Mr. Boyd made an honest and heroic offer to meet the requirements of the farmers with beated crops, and if he did not find conveyances and places for all who reported on Saturday for service in the field the fault was not his. Mr. Boyd is a busy man. He has many calls upon his time, but his is a keen sense of public duty and he has never hesitated about doing anything which has for its aim the public well-being. As a member of the Board of Trade he has been ever active and alert, and if all the members were similarly minded the public interests would be studied to a greater advantage. The Whig knows about the trouble he took in providing help for the farmers and sympathizes with him in any disappointment which attended the Saturday assembling of helpers. Evidently the promised assistance of the school boys was discounted, and this is to be sincerely regretted.

The men who succeeded best with their gardens this year will prepare now for next year's crop. The soil that is turned up or ridged for the winter will grow the best food later on.

A REPUGNANT IDEA.

It is announced that on the recommendation of the militia department all the medical services will be placed under the direction of the Army Medical Corps. "It is stated also," says the same authority, "that the Military Hospitals' Commission is to be changed in the readjustment as under the Union Government it is said to have lost its political value." Here is the most surprising thought that the treatment of our wounded and disabled soldiers was originally committed to a commission with political designs. Can any one who is interested in this hospital work, and realizes its connection with our social life, imagine a Government that would make it contingent upon political considerations? The reflection is repugnant in the extreme.

A conservative spouter refers to the new government as a mechanical one, whatever that may be. Who can give the correct definition?

WILSON AS A PROPHET.

Sir John Willison was repudiated by the Toronto Conservative Club at a recent meeting. He had, in an article which he contributed to the New York Tribune, hinted that the end of the war would see the disappearance of the conservative party, and Vice-President Le Viscont wanted to know who gave him authority to speak for the conservative party. Who? Was Sir John not the prophet of the Borden Government, its counsellor and friend? And since it is no more, is he not authorized to moralize as he pleases and give vent to his reflections?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

All detached military officers must comply with the Military Service Act "just as other active militia officers or as the ordinary citizen."

Judged by their vaporings, it is time a few political organizations in Toronto followed the example of the political organizations of Regina and went out of business.

Sir Sam Hughes wants to know "who talked of union government first." It is very certain that he did not, though after all his criticism of it he professes to be its supporter.

Here is a warning—that the conservatives (machine men) are invading Saskatchewan and conspiring to run a party campaign. The Union Government will have reason to repent of this.

Michaelis remains chancellor of Germany because the Kaiser wills it so. The day will come, however, when the chancellor will be appointed by the Reichstag and go out of office when it votes a want of

confidence in him. The absolute rule of the present is, and cannot be, accepted by the democracy.

The interference of the Union Government in the elections is resented. At the same time it must be interested in preventing, if possible, defeat of the union cause, which is the success of Canada in the war.

What is Kingston's objective in the Victory War Loan, the canvass for which begins in two weeks? Only \$600,000. A lot of money? Yes; but \$800,000 was subscribed on the last loan without a canvass.

PUBLIC OPINION

It Must Not. (Toronto Globe) The Liberty Loan drive in the United States is assured of success. The Victory Loan drive in Canada must not fail.

The War Loan Next. (Guelph Herald) Anything you have left over after helping the Red Cross you can put in to the War Loan. No man need carry a wad of money around these days.

Looks That Way. (Toronto Globe) Professor Robertson says that beef will be taken off the Canadian dietary next spring. We may yet have to fall back on bacon.

It Might Be. (London Advertiser) Would it not be permissible to allow Sir Joseph Flavelle to deduct the amount of campaign subscription from the profits of the William Davies Company?

Something is Coming. (Hamilton Herald) Pretty soon Colonel Wattersson's slogan "To hell with the Hohenzollerns" may be echoed from the German warships and the German side of the battlefield. There's no telling.

More German Rascality. (Ottawa Citizen) German medical agents have been arrested in Seattle for offering to perform throat operations on men eligible for military service so as to render them exempt. The law might do a little throaty operating in a case like this without much compunction.

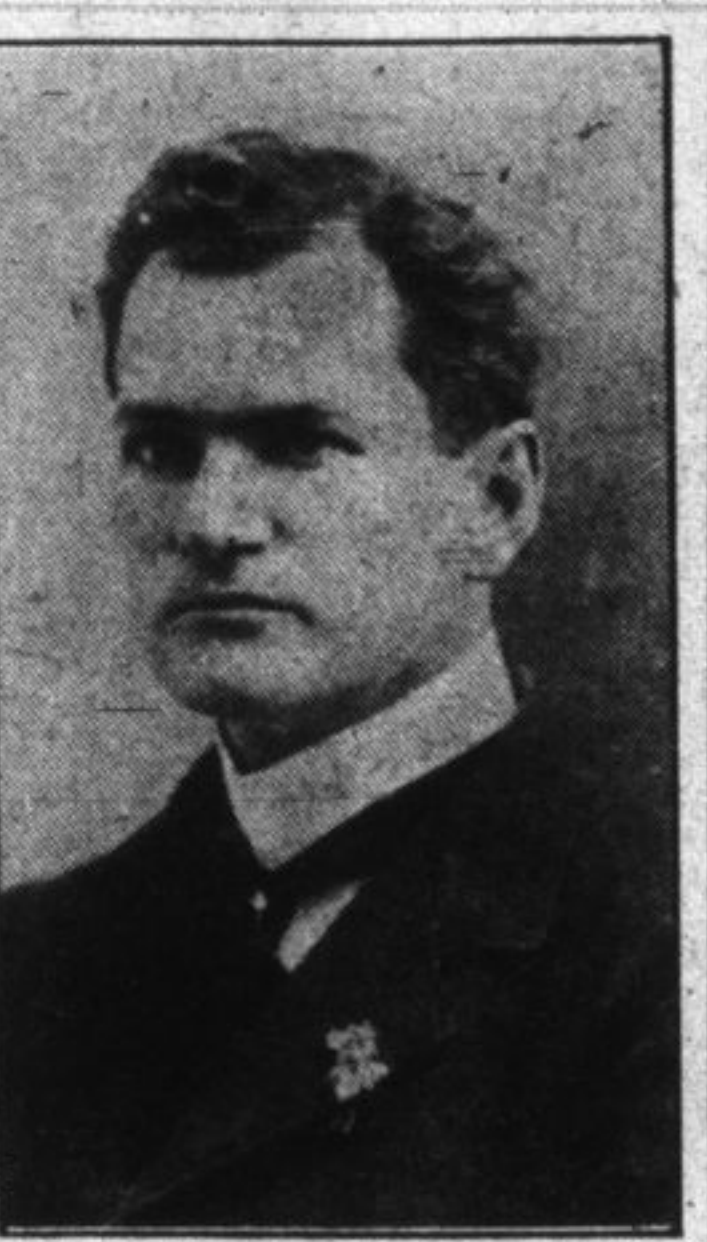
Our Girls Object. (Hamilton Herald) The most unpopular English newspaper among the Canadian girls is sure to be the London Daily Mail when the girls learn that the Mail is promoting a campaign the aim of which is to marry off as many English girls as possible to Canadian soldiers in England.

A Very Fishy Story. (Toronto Mail) Newfoundland has piled up nearly 200,000,000 pounds of fish awaiting shipment to export it. Cannot this store of food be sent to Canada? Mr. Hanson reports British agents buying up Nova Scotia fish intended for transport to interior Canada. Why can't the Newfoundland surplus be taken? There is something fishy in this situation.

CONTEMPORARY OPINION

The Machine at Work.

Ottawa Citizen. There are evidences throughout the country that the party machine—the Conservative party machine—is attempting to control the new administration and to dictate its roster of candidates. Some local associations which have hitherto found the disposal and dispensation of patronage the height of their official duties have suddenly become convinced of the necessity of winning the war, particularly since winning the war became synonymous in their minds with the retention of their privileges. Some of these organizations in their zeal have decided to change their familiar appellations to more high-sounding and superficially patriotic titles. It is the machine element in the new administration, or the machine element which would identify itself with the new administration, which constitutes the real danger at this time. The way to combat this influence is to permit the electors free choice of their candidates. Union government members will have no party patronage to dispense and with this necessary lubricant lacking the local party machines will soon find their way to the junk heap, where they rightfully belong in a real democracy.



WILLIAM T. MINNES. Who succeeds J. H. Walker, K.C., on the Military Exemption Board.

The Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin says that Maximilian Harden, whose radical utterances have caused on several occasions the suspension of his newspaper, the Zukunft, has been forbidden to deliver lectures.

King Ludwig of Bavaria and Chancellor Michaelis were denounced as the two great obstacles to peace by Deputy Symon, a Socialist, in the Bavarian Diet.

Col. Dan T. Moore, commander of the 310th Field Artillery at Camp Meade, Mass., is the man who knocked Teddy Roosevelt blind. He punished him with the gloves.

Cipriano Castro, former president of Venezuela, has been requested by the government to leave Trinidad.

Rippling Rhymes

AUTUMN WEATHER. The nights are bleak and chilly, the wind has dismal note; fall weather gets my billy (the garden name for goat). In summer I am healthy, as lanky as can be; no ailments punk or stealthy are bringing grief to me. Existence then is sweeter, although in heat I fry, the while I shoo the skeeter, and swat the noisome fly. But when the frost falls whitely upon the autumn world, and wire-edged zephyrs nightly grow colder and more cold, I feel rheumatic twinges, I feel lumbago's shock, and all my joints and hinges are creaking as I walk. The doctor and the plumber are busy with my bones, and so I long for summer, with useless sighs and groans; just as I long for autumn, when summer is on deck, and there's no top or bottom to sizzling heat, by heck. Alas! There is no season that suits me to the ground; I always find some reason to raise a doleful sound. I'm always longing, yearning, for something that is past, for summer weather burning, or winter's angry blast.

—WALT MASON.

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