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EDITORIALS

DEMANDS PURITY IN COUNTRY'S POLITICS

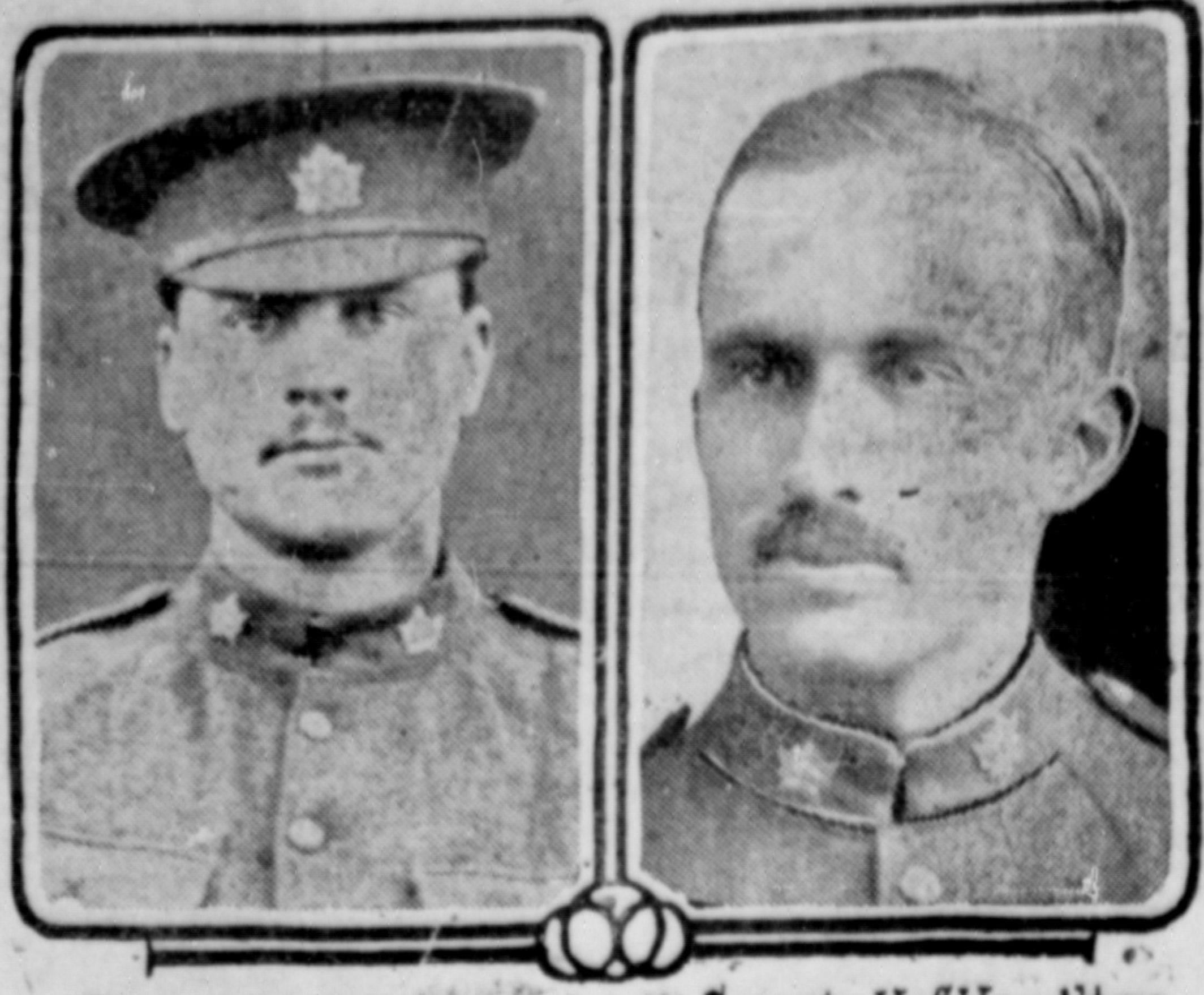
One gathers from a perusal of W. T. R. Preston's "Life and Times of Lord Strathcona," that the late peer was a selfish man, that the author of the book had a well defined bitterness towards the former Canadian High Commissioner in London, that each was jealous of the other's activities. An unmistakable "personal" touch, therefore, runs through the whole of the volume. It gives the shady side of many things, of lives and events. The chief good to be extracted from its leaves is a burning appeal,—conscious on the author's part sometimes, standing out in the facts chronicled at other times—for greater political purity in Canada.

Mr. Preston says toward the end of the volume:

"No country can afford to have its public interests overshadowed by the active influence of a great corporation. This is particularly objectionable if such a corporation has developed under bounty drawn from the public exchequer. Corporations have a proper position in every country but their place as corporate bodies, is not at the ballot box. The ballot is a personal possession, not corporate or collective in its character. It is the nation's "pearl of great price." The rich and poor must stand upon a perfect equality with the ballot and at the ballot box. There is no liberty of action when a powerful corporation, either secretly or openly, attempts to dominate elections. Such corporate monstrosities must be throttled.

"If the genius of statesmanship has not discovered a way to enact legislation, punishing with utmost severity all possible attempts to interfere with the liberty of the subject, the sooner it is done the better. If it is not done now, it will be done later, and then 'vested interests' will suffer. The Dominion Legislature is a parliament, possessing full parliamentary powers. And with public opinion behind it, there is no influence to stand in its way. The solution of this problem has long since been settled in British politics, but it has yet to be solved in the most important colony of the Empire.

"The general public had not time nor opportunity, amid the struggles for home and family, to watch too closely the actions of those who so loudly claimed to be patriotic. Canadians as a class are actuated by high principles. This heritage has fallen to them from the noble bands of English, Scotch, Irish and French who emigrated to Canada in its earlier years, and whose self-sacrificing toil laid the foundation of an honest race. The people had every reason to believe that the standards of honor and honesty that prevailed in the ordinary walks of life were finding expression in the administration of government. That the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada should be the medium of creating private wealth is as repugnant to them as it is to the electors of Great Britain. They believed that the British ideal existed in their own manner and form of government. No other conception of public life



Pte. Jack Davis * Sgt. H. Hamilton

FIRST VICTIMS FROM FIRST CONTINGENT.

The first casualties reported from the main contingent following their baptism of fire in the trenches are Private Jack Davis, of Renfrew, Ont., and Sergeant H. S. Hamilton, of the 51st "Soo" Rifles. Both are members of the 2nd Battalion of the 1st Brigade, which is composed of detachments from Ontario regiments. Both men were wounded by shrapnel.

President Wilson says that no nation has the right to change the rules of warfare because the methods of war have changed. No doubt there ought to be due respect for law. Also the law must be modified from time to time according to the conditions in which it operates. International law cannot be exactly the same thing today as in the days of bows and arrows and mail-clad knights.

The use of submarines against merchant shipping introduces a new question. The law and custom, as explained by Mr. Asquith, is that a captured merchant vessel must be brought before a prize court, where the regularity of the capture may be challenged, and where neutrals may recover their cargoes. The sinking of the ship is to be resorted to only in extreme cases. Mr. Asquith proceeds:

"It is upon this basis that all previous discussions of the law for regulating warfare at sea have proceeded. A German submarine, however, fulfills none of the obligations; she enjoys no local command of the waters in which she operates; she does not take her capture within the jurisdiction of the prize court; she carries no prize crew which she can put on board a captured prize; she uses no effective means of discriminating between a neutral and an enemy vessel; she does not receive on board for safety the crew and passengers of the vessel she sinks; her methods of warfare are, therefore entirely outside the scope of any of the international instruments regulating operations against commerce in times of war. The German declaration substitutes indiscriminate destruction for regulated capture."

Germany has treated the law of nations at sea as a negligible scrap of paper. If the old law is in force, Germany has no standing. If a change in the law is required, the only question is how to make the new law as humane and convenient as possible. The British proposal is not to sink the ship that is under investigation, but to carry it to a port where there is a prize court. The policy tends to save life and to save property. It tends also to shorten the duration of the war, and to hasten the advance in civilization which will fol-

BANISH BULLY BOWSER

STRIKERS IN EVERETT MOB NONUNION MEN

Attempt to Wreck Auto Carrying Employees From the Shull Shingle Mill.

Everett, March 13.—The first serious trouble since the beginning of the dispute between mill men and shingle weavers in this city occurred Monday, when a mob tried to block nonunion workmen who came from the Shull mill, the only plant in the city now operating.

An attempt was made to wreck the automobile used in carrying employees to and from the plant by tearing up portions of the tramway. No serious damage resulted.

One man was struck over the head with a lunch pail and one man arrested.

WOMAN DOG DRIVER IS LOST IN NORTH

Blizzard Swoops Down on Mrs. Dalquist's Team and Searchers Can Find No Trace.

Nome, Alaska, March 13.—Mrs. Emma Dalquist, proprietor of the roadhouse at Safety, twenty-two miles east of here, is lost in a blizzard and no trace of her can be found. Mrs. Dalquist, driving a dog team, left Safety for Nome. Soon after she set out a terrific blizzard began and has been raging ever since. A. A. (Scotty) Allen, the racing dog driver; Joe Sheldon, Mr. Dalquist and scores of Eskimos with dog teams have been out seeking the lost woman, but have met with no success. The storm is sweeping toward the sea, and it is feared that Mrs. Dalquist's dog team was blown off the trail along the beach out onto the ice field which covers Norton Sound.

Bachelors Called to Colors

Havre, March 8.—A decree calling to the colors all bachelors between the ages of 18 and 25 and all men who have married since November has been signed by King Albert of Belgium. It applies to Belgians in West Flanders, in France and Great Britain.

DIFFICULT TO GIVE SOLDIERS FRANCHISE

No Record of the Place of Their Enlistment—New Zealand System Unsuitable.

Ottawa, March 13.—How to work out a scheme of conferring the franchise upon soldiers of the expeditionary forces in the event of an election occurring while they are at the front has been seriously considered by a special committee of the House.

"If we could find a way of giving every soldier a vote irrespective of qualifications, there would be considerable to say in favor of it," declared Hon. Mr. Doherty. "I have made inquiries at the Militia Department, and find no record of the place where they enlisted from, and all signed at Valcartier."

Mr. Doherty alluded to the New Zealand system, where the soldier leaves his envelope marked for the government or the opposition, and Mr. Murphy observed that at a dissolution time in Canada there is neither government nor opposition.

The commission finally decided to let the matter stand over for a while and ponder about it.

prevails in the minds of the masses of the Canadian people. The lives of men like Brown, Mackenzie, Holton and Dorion more properly represent the characteristics of this people than the record of those, living or dead, who have caused other considerations to prevail in high places." Therein is a message for every citizen of Canada, Liberal or Conservative in color. Both political parties have sinned in political impurity. Each promises better things but does not perform. The non-partisan public, which is now growing to respectable proportions, has been disgusted, but the time will come when politics will have to toe the line. Canada has little, if anything to learn from the United States of political tricks. The soul of Canadian politics is largely in the pockets of Canadian breeches. At some future time, politics and the people will reason together.—Monetary Times.

CITIZENS APPOINT STRONG OFFICERS

Boyd C. Affleck is the New President and a Strong Committee Was Elected to Assist Him.

New Hazelton.—The New Hazelton Citizens' Association held a reorganization meeting in the Assembly Hall on Tuesday night and there was a representative gathering. President W. J. MacKenzie occupied the chair and after opening the meeting declared that the first business was the election of officers for the ensuing year. He announced that as he had been president for the past two and a half years that he wished to retire now and desired that a new president be elected. C. H. Sawle, the secretary for the same length of time, made a similar announcement. The following officers were then chosen:

President—B. C. Affleck.
 Vice President—G. O. Graham.
 Secretary—E. B. Tatchell.
 Treasurer—James Richmond.
 Executive Committee—F. C. McKinnon, A. M. Ruddy, George Wall, George Walker, G. Hodgins.

George Wall was re-elected fire chief, and A. M. Ruddy and Roy McDonald were elected lieutenants. It was decided that a fire alarm be erected in the lower end of the town and A. M. Ruddy was authorized to secure same and have the fire department erect it in a suitable place.

The fire warden of the town will see that all business places and residences in town provide a ladder long enough to scale the wall of the building, and also a ladder on the roof.

The executive committee will consider the annual fee to be charged for membership and report at the next meeting, which will be held the first Monday in April, unless announced otherwise. The executive was also authorized to act on several other matters of importance to the welfare of New Hazelton.—Omineca Herald.

McBRIDE'S DAY IS DONE

Stick to the tasks whatever they are. John Bull shows no signs of weakening on his—Monetary Times.

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Scoop Will Need Help On This Job

Drawn for The Daily News by "Hop"

SCOOP IM STARTING A TIPS ON HEALTH COLUMN AND WANT YOU TO HANDLE IT AS THE MEDICAL EDITOR—HERE ARE SOME LETTERS THAT CAME TODAY

YOUR JOB WILL BE TO PUBLISH ANSWERS TO ALL LETTERS ASKING MEDICAL ADVICE—LOOK THOSE QUERIES OVER AND GET ME UP A BUNCH OF ANSWERS FOR TODAY

HERES TH' FIRST MEDICAL QUERY—DEAR DOCTOR—MY LEFT KNEE CRACKS WHEN I SIT DOWN—SHOULD I HAVE AN X-RAY TAKEN—IS IT DUE TO USE OF TOBACCO—OR A SIGN OF PYORRHOEA?

I'D LIKE TO GET YOUR WHOLESALE PRICE ON CONSULTATIONS DOC—I MAY HAVE AS MANY AS FIFTY THINGS WRONG WITH ME A DAY—

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