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H. F. McRAE, EDITOR AND MANAGER

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EDITORIALS

One thing stands out conspicuous and insistent in all this sordid and shameless mess of graft and selfishness at Ottawa: that one thing is the supreme national necessity for an investigation into each and every department involved in the war supplies scandals. That investigation must be impartial and thorough. There must be no shielding of any man. If any man's conduct has been crooked he deserves no pity. If he talked "patriotism" on the platform and "did" graft in his factory or through his office he is the less to be pitied, even as the hypocrite is more contemptible than the crook. If any man has been merely "weax" his exposure may warn other mere weaklings away from Big Business.

One other thing: the firms that have proved their incapacity or their unwillingness or honest failure to manufacture for the government honest goods at honest prices ought not be allowed to go on robbing the country, endangering the lives of Canadian soldiers, and making the good name of Canada a rank offence in all the business world. The government is already highly blameworthy in that, as the sworn evidence shows, some of the firms have gone on, month after month, manufacturing soldiers' boots by the thousand pairs on bad models and out of materials condemned by the governments own experts as "shoddy" and "rotten." The soldiers are still being supplied with those condemned boots, and the country will be expected to pay for all this villainy out of the taxes of the people. In itself that thing means complicity in crime.

A third thing: it is almost an insult to the intelligence of the people of Canada for the government to ask authority to spend \$100,000,000 of the people's money for war purposes, some \$15,000,000 of it for more supplies, without any assurance that the expenditures will be in any way different, so far as incompetence and graft are concerned, from what the past seven months have revealed. The Cabinet ministers responsible for letting these contracts to party friends and to middlemen with a "pull" are still members of the government, with the same authority and power they have had all through all these months of "exploitation," and with the

same political ideals and ethical standards. Will the Ethiopian change his morals even if he seems to change his skin?

One thing more: has not the time come for honorable and capable manufacturers and business firms to interfere and make public protest against nefarious business of this vulture brood of middlemen who, without taking business risks, and often without either business standing or capital, have secured government contracts, made honest business their servitor, and by their graft brought Canada's commercial honor into disgrace before the world? If the motto "Made in Canada" is not to become a by-word and a hissing, Canada's uncompromised manufacturers must interfere.—The Toronto Globe.

PRINCE RUPERT CADET CORPS.

Orders by George Leek, Cadet Instructor, for the Week Ending April 10, 1915:
 Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.—Drill in uniform.
 Saturday, 9:30 a. m.—Drill, not in uniform. Bring your lunch with you. 79-84
 ROBT. RITCHIE, C. C.

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GEORGE WILTSE,
 Better known as "Hooks," for years a member of the New York Giants' pitching sta, who has been appointed manager of the Jersey City team of the International League.

WAR IS NOT A CHARACTER BUILDER

You can hardly go amiss by pointing at random to any young, healthy man in any crowd and saying, "He will make a good soldier." To say that he will give a satisfactory account of himself under the much more trying conditions of ordinary life is a very different matter. To say that war develops heroism and character is the greatest nonsense. What it develops is blind obedience to a shoulder strap. A man meets twenty situations in civil life that really try his character to every one he meets in war.

More than 2,000 years ago a Greek dramatist made one of his women characters exclaim: "They say, while they fight with the spear, we, in our homes, lead a life without danger. They say amiss; for I would rather thrice endure the shock of arms than once bring forth a child." So would any one else who is sufficiently informed of the two conditions to judge between them.—Saturday Evening Post.

PASSION PLAYER BECOMES SOLDIER

The dispatches inform us that Anton Lang has gone to war. For fifteen years Anton Lang has been known as the Christ of the "Passion Play" given by the peasants of Obereammergau in conformity with an ancient vow.

But what does this dispatch mean? Nothing save this—that another peasant has been ordered to the front under penalty of being shot. Anton Lang is a peasant. So long as the younger peasants lasted, he was free of war service. When finally the younger peasants had been killed or wounded, the older peasants were ordered out. And Anton Lang is 41 years old.

There is no significance whatsoever in the dispatch, save this, that it doesn't matter a straw who a man is or what he is—under militarism he is food for cannon whenever he is needed.

Anton Lang didn't volunteer. In his close following of the life of Christ he did not reach the conclusion that his duty to God lay in the killing of his fellow men.—Detroit News.

LIBERALS FOUGHT FOR BRITISH PREFERENCE

The offer of the Liberals at Ottawa to withdraw all opposition to a new tariff, provided the clause increasing the duties on imports from the Motherland was dropped, secured scant consideration in the House of Commons from the members of the Borden government. It will be more justly dealt with and more favorably regarded by the electorate should it become one of the issues in a general election. Behind the government stand not a few men who are as strongly opposed to the importation of goods from Great Britain as from the United States or any other foreign competing country. They know that under normal conditions the duties on British goods could not have been increased without serious protest from the mass of the Canadian people, and they have done and still are doing all they can to mask the protectionist features of the increase behind the idea that it is not a tariff measure, but a war-time necessity based entirely upon the need for more revenue.

In offering to withdraw the amendment, which was regarded by the government as a motion of want of confidence, provided the taxation upon British goods was permitted to remain as it had been before Mr. White's budget was brought down, the Hon. Geo. P. Graham spoke for Canadian Liberalism. His words should have the widest possible publicity, not only in Canada, but in Great Britain, where there must be sore disappointment over an increase in the Canadian duties upon British goods at the present time of stress and strain. Mr. Graham said, in part:

"The fact remains that to the extent of 5 per cent it will be more difficult to do business with Great Britain after this proposed legislation becomes law than it was before. Let me put it this way to the Minister: Great Britain is giving us \$150,000,000, the interest on which at 4 1/2 per cent is \$6,500,000. We import from the Motherland about \$133,000,000 worth of goods yearly, the duties on which at 5 per cent would amount to \$6,550,000. There is, therefore, but a slight difference between the interest we are going to pay the Motherland on the money we are getting from her and the value of the barrier we are placing against British trade. That is, we say to the Motherland: We want your money and we will pretend to pay you interest, but we will put up a barrier against your trade which will enable us to get the money back from you.

"At a time when we have as our allies the great nations of the world—Great Britain is not our ally; Great Britain is ourselves—is it a time to take such a course as this? The world is largely controlled by sentiment. Is it a time for the Dominion of Canada, whose men are fighting side by side with the sons of the Mother Country, to put up trade barriers against Great Britain, who is supplying us with money? The Minister of Finance himself told us that we could not get our money except by the consent of the British government. When our sons are fighting side by side with Tommy Atkins in the trenches, is that the time for the daughter to put up a trade barrier against the great mother of the household? Even if my honorable friend were right—and I do not admit for a moment that he is—are the interests of Canada which might be served by these proposals paramount to the great object lesson that would be given to the world at the present time if, while compelled to raise taxation against the goods coming from other countries, we should not increase the taxation against Britain, who is bearing so large a part of the burden of the world's war at the present time? The Finance Minister ought to see to it—and this is the gist of the amendment to the Right Honorable Leader—that the tariff against Great Britain be not raised at the present time. I have not consulted with my leader, but I think I am safe in making the proposition that if the Finance Minister will agree not to raise this barrier against trade with Great Britain at the present time we will withdraw the proposed amendment."

The offer was not accepted. In the division that followed the Conservatives were lined up solidly in favor of the increase of duties on British goods. There is still a final court of appeal, before which the case must come. Whether the government goes to the country this year or next, Liberals will insist upon placing the facts before the electors, Sir Wilfrid Laurier's amendment deprecating the increase of taxation upon British goods represents one of the cardinal principles of Liberalism in Canada. Upon this principle the party takes its stand, and for it Liberals will fight, no matter who the assailant of British preference may be.—Toronto Globe.

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The Girls' Chapter of the I. O. D. E. will hold a dance on Friday, April 16, in St. Andrew's Hall. The funds raised will be used for patriotic purposes. 79-80

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THERE'S CERTAINLY CLASS TO MY NEW STENOGR— I COULD DICTATE ALL DAY JUST TO BE NEAR HER—OH MISS PILLOW— TAKE A LETTER PLEASE!

SHIRT-BUTTON AND COLLAR—DEAR SIR— I HAVE YOURS OF TH' 18TH AT HAND AND NOTE THAT—

—AND NOTE THAT— —AND—AND NOTE—

—AND NOTE THAT— —AND—UH— PARDON ME A MOMENT

I FIND IT RATHER HARD TO GAZE INTO THOSE LAMPS OF YOURS—AND KEEP MY MIND ON BIZ NUSS— WHERE DID I LEAVE OFF?

—AND NOTE THAT—