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50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At all dealers or sent on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

ST. F. X. WON DEBATE.

On March 30, in the Opera House, Windsor, N.S., St. Francis and King's debaters argued on the following resolution: Resolved, That in the case of the incorporated towns and cities of Canada, the tax system should be gradually amended so as to make the future unearned increment of land the principal source of revenue. The visiting team, in supporting the resolution, had J. Walker (leader) of West Lake Ainslie; Stephen McEachern of Sydney, and P. H. McEvoy of Bathurst, N.B. King's was represented by H. T. Pimm (leader), W. G. Ernest and W. MacLeod. McEvoy proved to be the orator of the evening. The three judges, Mr. Justice Russell of Halifax, Prof. Stewart of Dalhousie, and President Borden of Mount Allison, were unanimous in awarding the decision to St. Francis team.

Back Benchers Were Pained Over Mr. Kyte's Revelations

Sir Sam's Ramifications in the United States With Yankee High-binders was News to Them---They Protested and Premier Borden was Compelled to Sit up and Take Notice---Can Sir Sam Explain?

(B. H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, April 8.—How the Government benches did buzz when George Kyte flung his charges at them—they buzzed like a swarm of blue-bottle flies disturbed at the honey pot! They are buzzing yet. The cable buzzes with SOS messages to Sam, "Come back and do your own explaining" or words to that effect. That is the great question of the day—can Sam come back—meaning has he got an answer ready?

For Sam has already wired his reply that he will return by the first boat to meet the charges against his dear friend Allison and the companies he got balled up with in the United States.

Sam has a cabled summary of the charges in his pocket, and can be studying the answers on his way over. He ought to arrive in Ottawa shortly after this article is in print.

He will read with relief the announcement that it is a Royal Commission and that its scope is strictly limited to the Kyte charges. Canada's War Lord will find this much more acceptable than does Sir Wilfrid Laurier who wants a committee of Parliament and full inquiry into all the transactions of the old Shell Committee.

Many Royal Commissions.

However, the Government is bound to confine the danger zone to one spot if it can. If Sam resigns he has threatened to pull down at least two more cabinet ministers with him. Here is a man who is worth saving as far as possible. Hence the Royal Commission and its narrow metes and bounds. There are already eighty-one Royal Commissions which have been appointed by the Borden Government since 1911. Their cost to the country is a quarter of a million dollars—the price, so to speak, of free and irresponsible government in Canada.

This Royal Commission on the Company Major General Sir Sam Hughes

Keeps is one more. That makes \$2. The more the merrier. Sir Sam has got his colleagues into a lot of trouble. He is the man around whom the pleasant fiction was built. "He may be eccentric, but he does things."

There seems to have been method in his madness. George Kyte has shown some of the things he does—to say the least of it he burns Canadian money, likewise British, by the millions.

A Desperate Measure.

This Royal Commission, stingy as it is, is a desperate measure to save the Government. It marks the end of Sir Sam's power over his colleagues. Sam must obey orders now, cancel his London banquets, put off the family reunions of Hughes colonels, and hike home to save his bacon if he can. If he can't he goes out. Even such a staunch supporter as Premier Borden has no use for a discredited War Lord.

The Royal Commission proves no change of heart in the Cabinet. It was brought about by dissatisfaction in the ranks of the Conservative party in the House. It was the silent vote that spoke up, the humble, honest back-benchers who were not sweet on Sir Sam and his vagaries.

They were pained and surprised at George Kyte's revelations. Sam's ramifications in the United States via Colonel J. Wesley Allison and his crowd of Yankee high-binders was news to them. There is reason to suppose that it wasn't news to his cabinet colleagues because when Premier Borden and Sir Sam came back from England last September they were met in New York by Allison and Yoakum who no doubt told them they were falling out with their partner, Eugene Lignanti, the flute player, and were settling up with as little noise as possible. Consequently the horror displayed by the Cabinet has more concern with the 11th Commandment, which reads: "Thou shalt not be found out."

Sir Sam's life long friend, soul mate, confidential adviser, disinterested patriot and chief money-saver to the Brit-

ish Empire, is in process of being found out. Hence the stern command to Sam to come back and face the music.

The Vice of the Country.

One finds in the Conservative rank and file every degree of indignation from lukewarm to boiling. "Stealing," said one of them, "not drinking, is the vice of this country." Others point out that in Russia they send grafters, however high placed, to Siberia, and that the course taken in France is a blank wall and a firing party.

It was bad enough for Major General Sir Sam Hughes to father a Shell Committee which overfed itself about \$80,000,000 worth, but to go outside the country to hand another twenty-two million dollars of Canadian money to a get-rich-quick gang of Yankee grafters of which Colonel J. Wesley Allison was the Wallingford and Benjamin Franklin Yoakum was the Blackie Daw—to lift these characters bodily out of the pages of George Randolph Chester and let them do their worst to Canada—well that was goading human nature too far.

Can Sir Sam Bluff It Out?

Sir Sam is probably studying his answers right now. Like Admiral Sir Joseph Porter he retires to the seclusion that a cabin grants and mugs the case up. Can he bluff it through? The answer is no. The time for hot air has gone by. If Sam wants to justify his war babies, here and in the United States, he will have to tell the facts. The Minister of Militia has three friends to explain to the public: Colonel Allison, his original soul mate, and two others, namely B. F. Yoakum, New York wind promoter, and Eugene Lignanti, flute player in the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Montreal, who fell out with his pals last September, at which time he was aware of contracts for the British and Canadian governments which would bring Yoakum and Allison \$1,600,000 in commissions.

On a Ten Per cent. Basis.

Incidentally Mr. Kyte's researches revealed the fact that Col. J. Wesley Allison's widely heralded patriotism was always on a ten per cent. basis. He couldn't possibly love the British Empire as he did for less. As Sir Sam has already stated that Col. Allison saved \$50,000,000 on contracts for the British government amounting to \$500,000,000, it would appear that 10 per cent. is his figure all round.

If he saved \$50,000,000 for the British Empire he saved \$50,000,000 for himself on the principle, no doubt, that a fair exchange is no robbery.

Sir Sam expressed a hope that Col. Allison would keep all his little bills for personal expenses and such and present these at the proper moment. There need be little fear. As a colonel, J. Wesley Allison is bound to make gallant charges and no doubt he will.

Sir Sam will observe that George Kyte has been calling his friend Col. J. Wesley Allison a liar and a perjurer. As a friend Col. Allison must be a great burden even to a jaunty weight carrier like Sir Sam Hughes. Most of the trouble barks back to him. As a true friend the best thing Colonel Sam can do for Col. John Wesley Allison is to give him a chance to appear before the Public Accounts Committee, by extradition or otherwise.

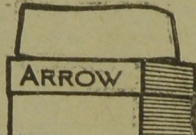
Took the Long End.

Benjamin Franklin Yoakum took the long end of the million dollar split. He likewise bears a historic name which inspires great confidence. He is a New York curb broker when he is on a peace footing. Evidently he is as keen as his illustrious namesake on making a fortune.

Lignanti, the flute player, is some Orpheus. Of old the god drew after him with his music sticks and stones and trees and rocks, and he almost drew Eurydice up—but he wasn't a patch on Lignanti, who after a year's performance on the war pipes drew out fifty thousand dollars cash and two hundred and sixteen thousand in promissory notes. Lignanti's success will encourage many young men to learn the flute—heaven knows there are enough trying right now.

Such are the facts and fancies that everybody is buzzing about. Some are sad, others angry, but one at least is cheerful, R. B. Bennett, who introduced a "joker" into his last speech to the effect that great reputations would be blasted. His calculations are that if Sam is shot out, R. B., on the well known principle that nature abhors a vacuum, will be shot in.

"ASHBY"



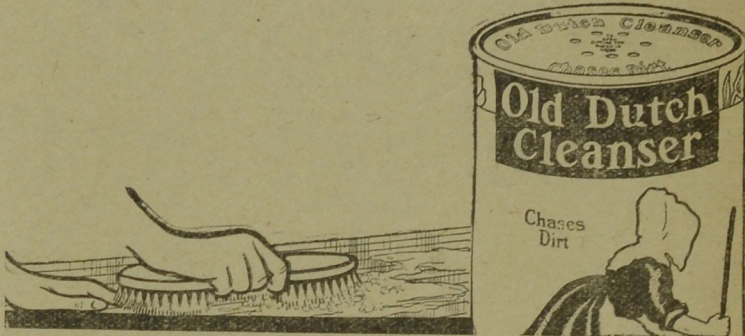
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