

SIMCOE VETERAN CHARGES THAT AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO PURCHASE HIS SILENCE

**Disabled War Veteran Makes Sharp Rejoinder
to Statement of Postmaster General Veniot
—Says He Was Offered a Job in Brantford—
Alleges Political Partizanship.**

(Mail and Empire.)

Simcoe, Oct. 14—G. E. Whitaker, disabled war veteran, deprived of the Simcoe postmastership after announcement of his appointment, today broke his long silence and issued a warm reply to statements of Hon. P. J. Veniot, Postmaster-General.

Whitaker was shown a statement this afternoon said to have been made in an interview by the Postmaster-General at Sydney, N. S., that "after the Simcoe meeting Whitaker came up and shook hands with me, said he understood the whole business and admitted that he was not capable of filling the position."

To this the Simcoe veteran gave an absolute denial and then proceeded to relate steps that he claimed had been taken by the Liberal party to secure his silence.

In the following reply Whitaker has thrown down the gauntlet to the Postmaster-General.

Challenges Veniot.

"If Mr. Veniot is correctly reported, that he says is an absolute lie. His motive for attributing these statements to me is very clear in that such a declaration on my part would absolve Mr. Veniot and his followers from all suspicion of patronage in my case. I had not intended to say anything more for publication about my side of the question, but in view of this absolute fabrication, I feel compelled to make public what actually happened in this regard from the beginning and further to expose certain untruths contained in Mr. Veniot's address at Simcoe."

"Last Summer, after word of the appointment of Mr. Bowyer to the postmastership had come through, I was approached by a member of the local Liberal executive, presumably delegated by W. H. Taylor, M. P., the Liberal member for Norfolk, and was offered a proposition somewhat as follows: The local Liberals, backed by the member, were to agree to lend me their support in securing an appointment at Brantford, Ont. In return I was to promise to maintain a discreet silence in regard to my treatment at the hands of the Postmaster-General and not to be seen conversing in public with any person known to be of the Conservative stripe. In addition I was to be bound by the conditions of a letter which they were to submit for my signature and which was to be made public prior to the public announcement of my appointment."

"The purport of this letter was to be to the effect: 1. That I had no grievance against the local Liberal member or any of his followers."

"2. That I was now satisfied that I would not have been physically able to handle the position of postmaster at Simcoe. 3. That I felt duly grateful to the Postal Department for their foresight in refusing to allow me in spite of myself, to assume a position the duties of which they considered in the kindness of their heart to be far too onerous for a man in my position."

"After due consideration of the principles and ethics involved in this proposition, I, as an ex-soldier of His Majesty's forces, could not bring myself to be a party to a dishonorable and untruthful scheme of this kind. Consequently my answer to their plan of barter could only be a flat refusal."

"On the night of Oct. 3, the evening before Mr. Veniot's meeting in Simcoe, my friend, Sam Morris, of Port Dover, also an amputation case, had a conversation with a prominent Simcoe man. They were attending a meeting in Port Dover in connection with proposed improvements to the harbor at which Hon. J. C. Elliott, Minister of Public Works, was present. In the course of their conversation, the Simcoe man stated that the local Liberal party was prepared to secure for me any job which I would be able to handle, and at this time suggested that Mr. Morris get in touch with me and arrange an interview with the Government party the fol-

lowing night in Simcoe, to discuss the possibility of finding me a position.

"Accordingly the interview was arranged through Mr. Morris. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Morris accompanied me to the platform where we secured the attention of Mr. Taylor, M. P., who at once brought up my refusal of the Brantford proposition. I reiterated my stand in this regard. He then expressed his willingness to remove the conditions of acceptance referred to above since he admitted being responsible for having them attached to the proposal."

"It was at this time that Mr. Veniot approached us, and after shaking hands with us as a matter of course, he stated that he would help me get the position. He remarked that I was not to consider the post-office episode a personal matter and that he wished me no hard feelings."

This was all that was said between us and after shaking hands again, Mr. Veniot bade me good-bye.

Calls Statement Absolute Lie.

"The statements which he attributes to me as having been uttered at this meeting are not true and constitute a deliberate attempt to lead the public astray, as well as a contemptible effort to justify his position by shifting the onus for his high-handed conduct from his own shoulders."

"Before departing, Mr. Taylor said that we would have a talk about the matter of the Brantford position. Ten days have elapsed and I have heard nothing more about it. In any event I could not conscientiously become a party to such an arrangement which savours of the same vile political patronage as has permeated the entire case. I wash my hands entirely of all dealings with the men who in my heart I believe have been guilty of the basest treachery to a man who fought for his country and sacrificed both limbs on the fields of France."

"Now in regard to Mr. Veniot's address at Simcoe, I wish to clear up certain misleading statements made by him on that occasion."

"In the first place he attacked The Globe for its statement that an inspector had been sent to Simcoe and had made a report without seeing me. Mr. Veniot read a letter dated March, 5, 1928 made by an inspector in which the latter says he interviewed me. I do not dispute this, but I do assert again most emphatically that in the month of June last, following my appointment by the civil service commission an inspector was sent to Simcoe to report on my case and left town without seeing me. Mr. Veniot says he did not send an inspector. Why would the civil service commission send him after having sent out my appointment? Can Mr. Veniot truthfully deny his knowledge of this inspector's visit?"

Mr. Veniot made much capital out of the fact that I had stated that my business was not a paying one. As a matter of fact I had owned the business only about four months and naturally had not the chance to discover if it were a profitable business. I would never have made any declaration about it if the civil service commission had not advised me that if I wished to show that I was not properly re-established, it would be necessary for me to take an affidavit to the effect that my business was not paying."

"Mr. Veniot has now used this affidavit as an instrument to prove that I lost nothing by selling my business. I can only say that if I had not received my notice of appointment as postmaster I would still be the owner of that business and I am sure that I could have made a success of it."

Says Minister's Memory Short.

"Mr. Veniot declared that he never to his memory, told me that I would be physically fit to handle the position. Mr. Veniot has a very short memory. He made that very statement in the corridor of the House of Commons when I went to Ottawa in the first place to interview him about

the position in March, 1927. Certainly he will not have the temerity to deny that he gave me every reason to suppose that I had more than an equal chance of securing the position."

"Personally I resented very keenly Mr. Veniot's reference to my pension. As I understand the subject of pensions, the amount of a returned man's pension is entirely and exclusively his own business, and I believe that Mr. Veniot both overstepped the bounds of good sportsmanship and of the law when he used my pension as a justification for his action in vetoing my appointment by the Civil Service Commission. Surely when a man is considered physically fit for a position by a competent board of officers, he should not be subject to disqualification because he is receiving a certain amount of compensation for injuries of a nature which no amount of monetary consideration can possibly recompense."

"In Mr. Veniot's speech he made a great affair of Bowyer's enlistment under an assumed name because he was under age, and stated that he was doubly worthy on this account. Apparently Mr. Veniot did not trouble about an outsiders service in his zeal to get Bowyer on the job at the request of his party healers. Had he done so, he would have found that I enlisted under my own name at the age of 16."

"Mr. Veniot said that he had received letters from parties in and about town recommending civilians for the appointment, and that he had replied to these letters advising that a returned soldier was going to get the job."

"He went on to say that there were nine returned men on the list of applicants submitted by the qualifying officer and two of these were ahead of me, one, he says, named Smith, was disqualified as a non-resident, the act requiring that an applicant be a resident of the county for at least one year prior to the advertising of the vacancy."

Claims Bowyer Non-Resident.

"The other applicant was C. R. Bowyer. I state here unreservedly that Bowyer should also have been disqualified on the same grounds because it was well-known locally that he had been a resident of Simcoe since his return from overseas only since this position has been vacant. As I said in a previous statement, one wonders how this residence clause has been overcome in his case. Mr. Veniot has never attempted to explain this phase of Bowyer's appointment. Let him refer to the file which, he says, is open to the public and see what proof there is concerning my statement."

"This leaves me at the head of the list so far as the returned soldiers are concerned, and if one is to take Mr. Veniot's statements literally, I cannot see why I am not entitled to the appointment."

"I feel that I have been the victim of a vicious system which allows full play for political patronage. Mr. Veniot may have justified his action in the eyes of some people who were quite willing to be convinced, but his recent statements have only added weight to my absolute conviction that politics and politics alone deprived me of the Simcoe postmastership."

"As I have stated before, if through the instrumentality of my case, other returned soldiers are saved the humiliation and injustice which has been my lot, then I will be amply repaid for the deplorable treatment meted out to me."

WAR VETERAN BACK TO LIFE

Chesley, Ont., Oct. 18—The name of Joost Van Os, war veteran who has returned from the grave, is to be stricken pronto from the town's memorial tablet, "before Armistice Day at any rate, we hope," declared Mayor W. P. Krug. "I do not think there should be any red-tape about it as far as Ottawa is concerned. They were advised that Van Os was still alive at the time of his discharge from the hospital and evidently did not think it worth while to advise us of the mistake. We will simply send the tablet to the man who made it and have Jack's name taken off."

It has been estimated by some mathematical shark that the average housewife walks a quarter of a mile in making a lemon pie and there isn't a cough in a carload.

Home made Candy

Treat the folks this Easter-time to candy of your own make! None tastes so delicious, none so perfectly satisfies, none so pure and good for all as the candy you make in your own kitchen. Use Borden's St. Charles when the recipe calls for milk—its creamy richness improves the flavor, adds to the food value of all candy. Here are a few tested recipes made with Borden's St. Charles—try them—they will delight you—

Three Layer Candy

PECAN FUDGE

2 cups granulated sugar
1 tablespoon butter
pinch soda
¾ cup pecans (broken)
1 cup Borden's St. Charles Milk
1 teaspoonful vanilla
1 tablespoon corn syrup

Place sugar, milk, syrup, butter and soda on stove. Boil until it forms soft ball when tested in cold water. Remove, whip, add flavor and nuts. When creamy pour in buttered pan.

Butter Fondant

4 cups granulated sugar
1 cup corn syrup
¼ teaspoon salt
1 tall tin Borden's St. Charles Milk
¾ lb. butter

Mix sugar, milk, syrup and butter. Add salt. Place over slow flame, stir constantly and boil until it forms a soft ball when tested in ice cold water or 238 degrees with candy thermometer. Remove and pour on to a platter which has been slightly sprinkled with cold water. When cool to blood heat, beat with wooden ladle until the whole becomes creamy and firm.

Cream Peppermint Drops

½ cup Borden's St. Charles Milk
3½ tablespoons water
2 cups granulated sugar
½ teaspoon cream of tartar
2 drops oil of peppermint

Combine the first three ingredients in a saucepan and boil gently without stirring until a soft ball will form when a little is tried in cold water. Cool till tepid, then flavor, beat till creamy and quickly drop on oiled pans in small rounds from the tip of a teaspoon.

Send for free recipe book to
The Borden Co. Limited
MONTREAL

68-27

**Borden's
ST. CHARLES
MILK**



JOB PRINTING

**All work guaranteed Finest Quality
and Artistic Workmanship
The Largest Plant in the City**

**We Aim to Satisfy The Most
Exacting Customer**

LETTER HEADS
PROGRAMMES ENVELOPES CIRCULARS
BILL HEADS WEDDING INVITATIONS
REPORTS POSTERS CARDS BOOKS
BUTTER WRAPPERS HONEY LABELS
LEGAL FORMS AUCTION SALE HANGERS
and all other JOB PRINTING WORK
Come in and see our sample of any of the above
Orders by Mail Promptly Attended to

No Job too large or too small to receive our
immediate attention

MAIL PRINTING CO.
FREDERICTON, N. B.