

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

The Star cannot undertake to return unused letters.

Sir Sam and His Inner History.

Editor of The Star: I have read with amazement in the press what purports to be a report of a speech of Sir Sam Hughes, ex-Minister of War, giving what he terms to be some of the inner history of the causes that lie at the root of Quebec's attitude in the present crisis.

If he is correctly reported, then one cannot come to any other conclusion than that the one man who is mainly responsible for the present unhappy condition of our sister Province is Sir Sam Hughes himself.

In the course of his characteristicly rambling remarks, he admits that he knew all about these traitorous proceedings in our midst on the part of certain priests that had been expelled from France.

He also explains the measures taken to meet the case or rather what was not taken to stamp it out.

He tells us that he left it to the discretion of some petty officer to take such action as he might deem advisable.

Surely this was pitifully lame and weak.

Here was a nest of traitors, busily engaged in spreading **sedition**, poisoning the life and loyalty of some of our citizens, in their most vulnerable part, working right under the nose of a Minister of the Crown, whose sworn duty, I take it, was to take every measure possible to put a stop at once, to every such proceeding, that the citizens of our land may be protected from the enemy and his emissaries from without and especially from within.

If the explanation and admissions of this ex-Minister are to be taken at their face value, then indeed is poor Quebec more to be pitied than blamed, at the present time, in that she was not properly and adequately protected by those in high places whose duty it was to protect, and who instead permitted her to be debauched and poisoned.

If the glimpse we have had behind the scenes is as the ex-Minister states, only some of the inner history of Quebec's misfortunes, then the sooner that we are in possession of the facts, the better for every true Canadian, regardless of his parentage.

It seems to the writer that it is the Government's plain duty to impartially probe these things to the bottom, that the responsibility should be placed where it belongs.

Frequently the victim has to suffer for the guilty, and it would almost seem that this was a case in point. If this is so, then we English-speaking Canadians have done our unfortunate fellow-citizens in Quebec a gross and cruel wrong.

In any event an investigation such as here indicated, cannot injure anyone, except the guilty, and it may be productive of a great deal of good, in that it might allay a great deal of the suspicion and hard feeling that have been aroused in the past, through ignorance of the facts, which, apparently, have been distorted and perverted by political hacks and shysters.

HILTON HOFFMAN.

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