

# OUR BRIGADE OF KNIGHTS KEEPS UP TO STRENGTH

The Borden Cabinet Although in Office Only  
Four Years Already Has Six With More  
To Come.

## KNIGHTS IN OTTAWA GETTING PLENTIFUL

Knights of Pythias, Knights of Columbus, Knights  
St. Michael and St. George and Ten Knights  
in a Bar Room.

(By H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, Jan. 24.—The present year of grace starts with one hundred and twenty knights scattered throughout the length and breadth of Canada.

Although they have not been violently employed so far there is reason to believe that the military authorities look upon them as our first line of defence and would not hesitate to mobilize them in case of real danger such as an invasion by the Esquimaux.

Looking over the list in the Parliamentary Guide, one is struck with the fact that fully fifty per cent. of the knights are concentrated in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto, and fully seventy-five per cent in Eastern Canada. Thus the bulk of the force is within easy reach. Ottawa has the largest number of any single city in Canada, and this no doubt was also done with a military purpose. It is not without significance that Major General Sam recently became a knight himself and thus got into direct touch with this gallant company. When the fighting is over and Sir Sam leads our heroes on to Berlin, he will be found riding at the head of a select brigade of knights and honorary colonels. In view of the glory in store the shiered ranks of knights and honorary colonels are constantly filling up and will soon be in bottle array.

### Sir Sam's Charge.

When the first contingent left Quebec, Major General Sam stood on the King's Wharf and waved them farewell. "Good-bye, boys," he shouted. "Got be with you; I can't go." He left them in the hands of the Almighty as the next best. But the knights and the honorary colonels he will take charge of himself.

As a Knight of the Bath—mostly electric—Sir Sam has a soft spot in his head for this order but he shows no partiality. Knights of St. Michael and St. George, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Columbus, Ten Knights in a Bar Room—they all get a square deal from Sam.

Rumor has it that he is urging the government to make the full complement of Knights Bachelor on the ground that single men should go first. Sam does not like the way the married men are singing in the trenches—he considers it a reflection on matrimony that so many good fellows should seek peace on the firing line. It is therefore his policy to correct this tendency by creating enough Knights Bachelor to repair the wastage.

### Too Many Knights.

To the casual stranger it looks as if there were too many knights in Ottawa—they are forever getting under one's feet—but this is a deliberate plan to make Ottawa the most homelike place for knights in Canada.

With this object the citizens of Ottawa heartily agree and mention is made in the city's publicity literature of the knight air which is always salubrious except when the sulphite mill over in Hull belches a little brimstone.

To the same end the hardware merchants advertise knight keys, knight bells, knight lanterns, knight lamps, and such like matters; the drug stores make a specialty of deadly knight-shade; and the doctors, one and all, profess to cure knight sweats. It seems that knight sweats are very prevalent both before and after, the knight's lady doing the sweating until he gets the title, and the knight himself sweating forever afterwards to keep up the social pace. Such is the minute attention paid to the wants of knights in Ottawa that a Sparks street book store displays prominently in its windows a Knight's Calendar which tells the knights what to do with their days and how to fill them with beautiful and chivalrous deeds,

such as playing golf and lifting high-balls.

What's more, knights in Montreal and Toronto are encouraged to run down to Ottawa to spend the weekend and take something back.

### Some Striking Knights.

Knights like Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann, within easy striking distance of Ottawa, frequently avail themselves of this privilege to visit the Capital and make a strike. They roll down from Toronto in their knight cars and without the aid of a mask or other disguise succeeded in digging up a lot of money. The Shell Committee is also a favorite resort for knight hawks, half a dozen of whom may generally be seen hanging around for crumbs.

Ottawa affords every convenience for knights who want to keep fit. The parliamentary library devotes a special section to their clothes, telling how to fold them neatly, how to ward off moths, and how to prevent dress swords from rusting by using them to comb the hair or cut the bread. Other books instruct the novice knight how to wear his coat, where to pin his medals and when to leave his collar off.

It appears that some days are Colar Days with the knights and some days are not, the latter probably when heavy work is to be done. Curiously enough, no knight has been seen yet within the precincts of Parliament without his collar, and no doubt the absence of this aid to hauteur would be considered eccentric. In the Mother Country radical knights may sometimes appear in public without their collars as a matter of principle, but in Canada it is held to be bad form.

In days of old, when a knight dressed for action, he called in the plumber, who charged him 60c. an hour and his time going and coming. But that expensive and inconvenient period is long gone by, and nowadays when a knight would don his war paint he sends for the ladies' tailor and the man milliner to button him up and tell him whether his feathers are on straight. Ottawa has a large number of these useful artificers, and their bills are said to be fairly reasonable.

### The Round Table.

Another form of entertainment for knights is said to be the Round Table, which is held at the residence of one of the leading knights of Ottawa.

Visiting knights are cordially invited to attend these sittings and to handle the chips that are passed by the knights in a curious sort of tournament, in which four one-spots invariably prove better than four kings or four queens. This is the only disloyalty in which the knights indulge, and that by way of a joke. Even knights have their sense of humor. Incidentally a white chip costs a dollar, jackpots after three or better. Needless to say, the knights wear their knight robes at these gatherings and when the party breaks up each knight takes his little knight cap and then rides home with the milkman.

The Borden Government is doing its best to keep the knights up to full strength. The Cabinet has six to its credit in four years, five inside and



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## Opposition Platform

The following platform was adopted at the Opposition Convention held in St. John recently:  
In the event of the Opposition being returned to power, we pledge ourselves:—

### NO PARTIZAN CONTROL OF CROWN LANDS.

1. We pledge ourselves to completely reorganize the Crown Lands Department, so that its administration shall be entirely severed from politics and administered on sound business principles under systematic plans by a non-partizan commission specially appointed for that purpose, responsible to the Legislature and working in co-operation with the Dominion Commission of Conservation.

### TAKE THE HIGHWAYS OUT OF POLITICS.

2. We pledge ourselves to take the highways out of politics, giving the expenditure of the money collected from the people and the control of the labor, together with the Government appropriations, into the hands of supervisors, chosen by the people of each parish, to whom a detailed and audited account must be rendered every year at the annual meeting, and a duplicate thereof forwarded to the Department of Public Works, the work of the supervisors to be under the inspection of a competent provincial engineer.

We also pledge ourselves to set aside the money collected from the licenses upon automobiles and other motor vehicles, together with an equal appropriation from the revenues of the Province each year, to pay the interest upon the bonds to provide for permanent roads, which shall be constructed as rapidly as possible.

### PROHIBITION PROVINCE WIDE.

3. We pledge ourselves at the first session of the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within the Province to the fullest extent allowed by the Constitution, and within three months after the passage of said Act to submit the same by referendum to the electors of the Province, and should the majority of votes cast be in favor of the said law, then to bring the same into force by proclamation within one year thereafter.

### ELECTION LAW.

4. (a) To amend the electoral law so as to make it impossible for members of the Legislature to traffic with the Government and still retain their seats.

(b) To make it possible for young men, when they reach the age of 21 years, to register their names and be placed forthwith upon the voters' lists, instead of waiting for the tedious machinery of revision as it now exists.

(c) To divide the counties into electoral districts which shall each be represented by one member.

(d) We will also consider amendments to the election law to make bribery in municipal as well as provincial elections impossible.

### PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

5. To obtain at once a correct statement of the financial condition of the Province in order that the people may have definite knowledge of the vastly increased public debt and the enormous obligations of guaranteed bonds they will be called upon to pay; and to so reduce the cost of the administration of affairs and the number of useless officials as to avoid the necessity for direct taxation now confronting us.

### AGRICULTURE.

6. To give the farmers all the practical assistance that the resources of the Province will permit, to improve agricultural methods and the quality and quantity of the stock upon the farm; to reduce the enormous salary list in the department, and to spend the educational grant received from the Federal Government without regard for political patronage.

### VALLEY RAILWAY.

7. To complete the Valley Railway from a point on the Trans-continental Railway at or near Grand Falls, to St. John, and insist upon the Dominion Government carrying out the terms of the original legislation and allow the Province forty per cent. of the gross earnings thereof.

### EDUCATION.

8. To always maintain and improve the educational service of the Province and to co-operate with the Federal Government in carrying out the recommendations of the commission upon technical education.

### IMMIGRATION.

9. The inauguration of a vigorous immigration policy to properly place before intending immigrants, whose number will be large after termination of the war, the advantages of the agricultural possibilities of New Brunswick.

one on the outside looking in. They all have their distinctive styles, which will be worked into their coat-of-arms when the Herald's College gets round to them. For instance, Sir Robert Borden is known as the Knight of the Lion's Mane, said mane being thick and flossy and parted in the middle. Sir Thomas White is the Knight of the Golden Fleece, the fleecing being done by way of the tariff. Sir George Perley, who looks not unlike an undertaker off duty, is styled the Knight of the Gilded Casket, said casket being the High Commissioner's job in London. Sir George Foster, who is always as cheerful as a drink of water, is known as the Knight of the Rueful Countenance, said ruefulness being due to his lack of control over the Finance Department. Sir Herbert Ames, the human cash register, is the Knight of the Dancing Decimals. Sir Sham is known as the Knight of the Paper Shoes.

### A Famous Peer.

Baron Shaughnessy has not chosen a name yet from one of his sleeping cars, and meanwhile Col. George Ham has invented a label for him. Until the Herald's College fixes him up regularly the Baron will be known as "The Peer that made Milwaukee famous." George is very original.

## FACTS ABOUT RHEUMATISM

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## WAS THE PERSIA SUNK BY A BRITISH SUB?

(Canadian Press.)

Washington, Jan. 24.—Unofficial despatches from abroad indicating that Turkey might acknowledge that one of her submarines sunk the British liner Persia, promises to revive the diplomatic features of the disaster. State department officials had no dispatches on the subject today from Ambassador Morrenhan. Neither had they received any word from Ambassador Penfield at Vienna transmitting Austria's official disavowal of any connection with the disaster, reported unofficially last week.



SCENE FROM "MY MADONNA," WITH MADAME PETROVA,  
AT GAIETY THEATRE, TODAY.

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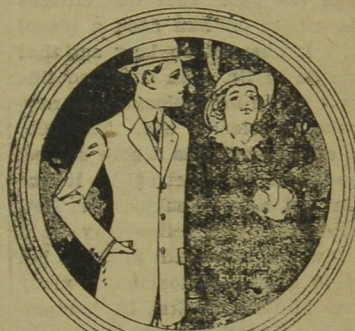
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