

# Sir Sam's Usefulness as a Film Hero is Curtailed

**Cannot Pose for the Movies in the Autumn Months When the Light is Bad--Mr. F. B. McCurdy Will Remain on the Job as Under Secretary--This Will Give Sir Sam More Time to Attend Parades and Act as an Ornament.**

(By H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, Oct. 29.—Secretary McCurdy will stay on the job as a sort of test to Sir Sam. Secretary McCurdy's slow smile will be used to cool off indignant army contractors. This will leave most of Sir Sam's time free to act as an ornament, a parade Napoleon, a thing he dearly loves.

Holding parades is one of the best things Sir Sam does, and that riding a horse for the moving pictures when the light is good.

Now that the Autumn rains on him, most days are dull days and Sam's usefulness as a film hero is somewhat curtailed. But ever and anon the sun breaks through and then Sam gets his chance.

Sir Sam is still the Minister of Militia and Master of the Administration. For all we know he still broods over the Shell Committee, colloquies with Allison, influences the purchase of supplies and acts as boss generally. He certainly sells fish to the British War Office, acts as godfather to the M. P.'s of the British Isles, and creates Overseas Military Councils, which includes such of his family as are not already drawing fat salaries from the Government. Sir Sam is still boss. He is more than that. He is to act as the Bright Spot of the Borden Government.

## Can Be a Bright Spot.

Sir Sam is to have every facility for being a Bright Spot. Along these lines he may go as far as he likes and the Government won't do a thing to stop him. On the contrary, they will be tickled to death if Bright Spotting keeps him busy enough to prevent him doing any real harm. The difficulty is to find picturesque assignments for him, and when they do find them the rain comes along as it did at Camp Borden the other day, and upsets the arrangements.

Yes, Sam is to be the Bright Spot, the Man on Horseback. The close season for reviews is at hand, but Sam ought to be able to slip one or two in before winter puts the kibosh on that sort of thing.

In another fortnight Camp Borden will shut up shop for the winter, the army will strike tents and steal away to comfortable Toronto, or elsewhere, and Sam's sand-stricken field of glory will be left to the north wind and the caretakers. Rumor has it that Camp Borden isn't going to be a military camp forever.

Camp Borden a Townsite.  
Hush, little swamp-hole,  
Don't you cry,

You'll be a townsite  
Bye and bye.

Back of this rumor is the fact that Camp Borden was laid out, not as a camp, but as a townsite. It has a permanent water-works, a sewage system with septic tanks, cement roads, electric lights—everything, in fact, except adaptability for the purpose for which it was constructed.

Camp Borden, with its sand and its mosquitoes, has earned the dislike of every soldier quartered there. No one has a good word to say for it as a camp. But there are worse town sites. Sir Sam himself has been connected with worse ones in the prairie west. It is a tremendous white elephant and has no prospect whatever of making good as a military camp. Nobody would be surprised if some real estate operator came along and bought up, say, at a hundred thousand dollars, a plant for which the Government paid a million. The Government could charge up the nine hundred thousand dollars difference to profit and loss.

What is \$900,000 to a Government that blew in six millions on Ross rifles after the British War Office had reported that they were all wrong as service weapons, and recommended that they be discarded? The money loss is the least part of it. Think of the Canadian boys who fell at Ypres because their Ross rifles jammed and they could not return the fire of the Germans, who were shooting out own Ontario nickel back at us because the Borden Government had left it to the Nickel Trust's honor not to sell to the enemy!

## A Lieutenant General.

But why speak of these matters? Sir Sam's mistakes have been made—somebody else can shoulder them. Sir Sam's pleasure is to act as the Bright Spot. As a preparation for his new sphere of endeavor the British War Office has conferred on Sir Sam the rank and title of Honorary Lieutenant-General. Some bonehead will ask, why he was a Major General before. New he's a Lieutenant-General. Are they letting him down? Not at all. Sam's rising. From the bottom of the ladder major looks like a bigger adjective than lieutenant as qualifying a general, but Sam is so near the top that from now on the adjectives have the reverse English.

As a Lieutenant General Sam is so high up that he couldn't be higher unless he was a Field Marshal. As every fan knows, there are two kinds of Field Marshal, outfield and infield. In case of further promotion Sir Sam would be an infield Marshal because his party is in office. If you're out you stay

out. Look at General Lessard, a brave man and a brilliant soldier, but doomed to inaction because Sam's idea is that this is a strictly Tory war which does not include South African heroes who happen to be Liberals.

## An Honorary One.

To resume. Sir Sam is an Honorary Lieutenant-General. The word "honorary" signifies of course that he does not run any risks with it. Like the honorary colonels, all the honorary lieutenant-generals are expected to perform the social duties of their high estate, said duties involving no peril to life or limb. As an Honorary Lieutenant-General, Sir Sam will have the most conspicuous and influential position in Canada, as an arm chair strategist. None of the Rideau Club generals will be able to dispute his word. What he says goes—including his remarks about the Ypres salient. His rank as Honorary Lieutenant-General confers this right upon him. So far as clubhouse tactics go, Honorary Lieut. General Sir Sam Hughes is the supreme authority in Canada.

That's what his new job means. He is, so to speak, the fountain of honor; ariness in this part of His Majesty's overseas dominions—honorary colonels, honorary Ross rifles, honorary manoeuvres of all sorts.

## An Extra Crown.

As Honorary Lieut. General, Sir Sam will sport an extra crown on his shoulder straps and an inch more of red band on his cap. On dress occasions he will wear a full grown rubber plant and a helmet inlaid with diamonds instead of a chapeau bras with feathers.

Moreover, the British War Office, not to dim his splendor by comparison, has issued an order that no Canadian Honorary Colonel shall wear his uniform anywhere within the purlieus of the Three Kingdoms. This means that when Sir Sam visits London he shines alone on Piccadilly and the Strand, and gathers all the salutes from both sexes.

It seems a pity that the regulation could not be extended to Canada, where honorary colonels are working themselves to death travelling as much as 500 miles to attend afternoon tea at the Governor General's. What hardships these heroes put up with! Often and often they have to dress on the train.

A young man always likes to have a girl keep on loving him even after he has quit.

## A New Blood-Food Has Been Discovered That Works Wonders

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## EMPRESS OF ASIA ON PACIFIC ROUTE

Montreal, Oct. 29.—The Canadian Pacific steamer "Empress of Asia," sails from Vancouver next Thursday for Hong Kong via Japan and Manila, with full complement passengers.

The first and second cabin passenger list includes a number of United States government employees assigned to government service at Manila, including Judge T. Astreel, of Washington, D. C.; Mr. A. G. Daniels and Mr. W. T. Knox, president and treasurer respectively of the Adventist Church, who are taking out a large party of missionaries destined to China. There are also two bishops among the passengers, Bishop D. T. Huntington of Hartford, Conn., and Bishop F. R. Graves, of St. Louis, Mo.

## Cook's Cotton Root Compound.

A safe, reliable regulating medicine. Sold in three degrees of strength—No. 1, \$1; No. 2, \$2; No. 3, \$5 per box. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Free pamphlet. Address: THE COOK MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, ONT. (Formerly Windsor.)

## PREDICTS CLOSEST ELECTION IN 32 YEARS

Plattsburg, N. Y., Oct. 29.—Howard D. Hadley, a newspaper man of this city, who has travelled 30,000 miles through 36 states in the last four months, writing national politics for a New York paper, returned to his home here on Saturday. After looking carefully into conditions in New York, he says:

"This bids fair to be the closest election in 32 years. I think Hughes will win, but it's no landslide either way. Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio, Connecticut and of course Indiana, are the storm centres.

"The women who are leaders in the movement for woman suffrage by federal amendment, are doing most effective work for Hughes in the 12 suffrage states. Hughes will carry all of them, largely through the efforts of these women.

"The dries are likely to put at least five more states in the prohibition column this fall, i.e., Michigan, South Dakota, Montana, Utah and Nebraska.

"The Republicans may get the House of representatives by a narrow margin. The Democrats are likely to retain control of the Senate.

"Jeannette Rankin, Republican, is almost certain to be elected Congresswoman (or Congresswoman) at-large from Montana, the first woman to sit in the House of Representatives at Washington.

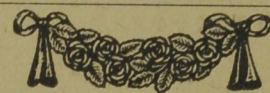
"Grant Miller, a Socialist, is making a desperate fight for United States Senator in Nevada, and may defeat both Pittman, Dem., the present incumbent, and his Republican opponent."

The world might be better off if more girls would cultivate a garden patch rather than their voices.

Many a man knows that a woman's expense account is one of the most expensive things he has to count on.

One old bachelor can keep 100 women guessing who is going to marry him.

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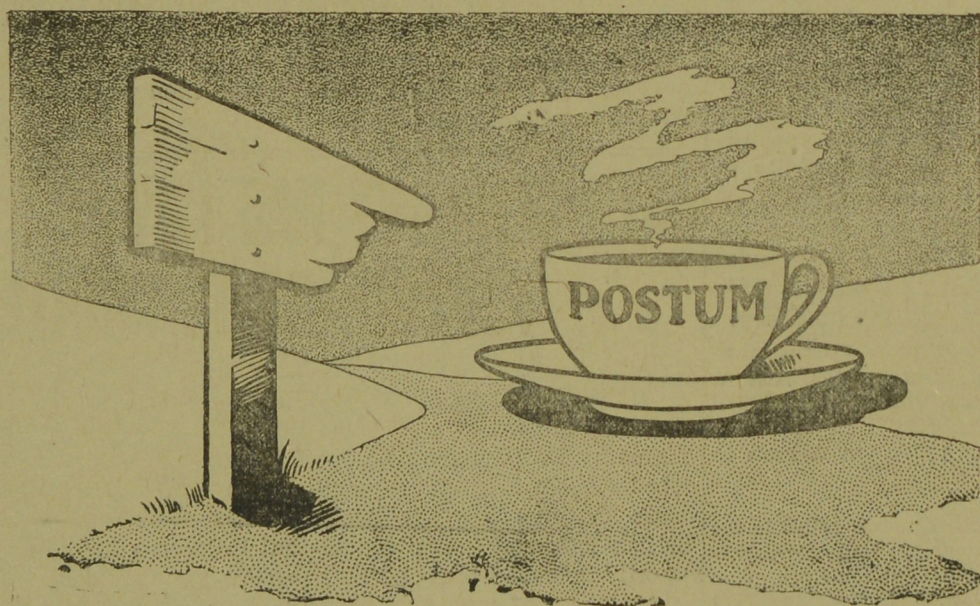
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