



**National Archives of Canada
Canadian Archives Branch**

**Archives nationales du Canada
Direction des archives canadiennes**

SIR SAM HUGHES and FAMILY collection

MG 27 II D 23

**Finding Aid No. 2180 /
Instrument de recherche no 2180**

**Prepared in 2002 by the Economic and
Governance Archives Section**

**Préparé en 2002 par le Section des
archives sur l' économie et la gestion
publique**

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Biographical Entries

Sam Hughes (1853-1921) was born in the township of Darlington, Durham County, Canada West. Educated locally and at the Toronto Normal School, he taught briefly in the Belleville, Lifford and Bowmanville public schools, during which time he married Caroline J. Preston in 1872. She died soon after marriage, and in 1875 he married Mary E. Burk, with whom he had one son, Garnet Burk Hughes, and two daughters. Beginning in 1875, Sam taught at the Toronto Collegiate Institute, attending the University of Toronto part time (B.A., 1880). In 1885, he abandoned teaching for journalism, becoming the owner of the Lindsay *Warder*, a leading Conservative paper, serving as its Editor until 1897. This position soon brought him into political prominence and he contested the riding of North Victoria in 1891, unsuccessfully. He entered the House of Commons in a by-election in 1892, representing the constituency of North Victoria until 1904, and the enlarged riding of Victoria and Haliburton from 1904 until his death. During the Conservative party's years in opposition, Hughes did not play a prominent part.

When the Conservative ministry of Robert Borden took office in October 1911, Hughes received the post of Minister of Militia and Defence. He and his family had long held an interest in military activities. At the age of 13, Hughes had enlisted in the 45th (West Durham) Battalion. He served during the Fenian Raids of 1870, was commissioned in 1873, and became the Colonel of the 45th in 1897. Refused a commission with the Canadian expeditionary force during the South African War, he travelled there as a civilian and secured employment with the British Army, first as a transport officer and later as an intelligence officer. In 1907, he was elected President of the Dominion Rifle Association and served on the committee that recommended the adoption of the Ross rifle by the Canadian militia. As Minister of Militia and Defence, Hughes worked to strengthen and increase the militia forces of Canada. This included improved training opportunities, the opening of new armouries, pay increases, and enlargement of the cadet corps.

When war was declared in August 1914, Hughes set to work to mobilize the first Canadian contingent, abandoning earlier mobilization plans. At Valcartier, near Quebec, a camp capable of accommodating 30,000 troops was quickly prepared, and through his insistence, a Shell Board was created to supervise the manufacture of munitions. Hughes also accompanied the first contingent of Canadian troops overseas. He was promoted to Major-General with the Canadian militia in 1914, invested a Knight Commander of the Bath in 1915, and made an honorary Lieutenant-General in the British Army in 1916.

. . . Sir Sam Hughes continued

Sir Sam Hughes continued . . .

Hughes' methods and frankness of speech soon made him a target of criticism. His mobilization and recruiting plans came under fire and, although exonerated, his haste and excessive trust in his friends involved him in the Kyte charges concerning the award of shell orders. His insistence upon the Ross rifle, proven unreliable in the field, further eroded his position. The climax came when, contrary to the wishes of the Prime Minister, he set up an overseas military council. Hughes was compelled to resign as Minister in November 1916, to sit the remainder of his days in the back benches of the House of Commons. On his death, in August 1921, Sir Sam was given a state funeral.

Garnet Burk Hughes (1880-1937) was the only son of Sir Sam Hughes and his second wife, Mary E. Burk Hughes. Educated at the Royal Military College, upon graduation in 1901 he was placed on the Reserve of Officers as a Lieutenant of Engineers. Employed as a civil engineer, he married Elizabeth Irene Bayliss Newling in 1910, in Victoria, BC, with whom he had one son, Samuel Harvey Shirecliffe Hughes. He retained an interest in the military and was made an infantry Major on the formation of the 50th Regiment in Victoria in 1913. He was made Brigade Major of the 3rd Infantry Brigade in 1914, and in 1915 he served as a General Staff Officer with the 2nd Canadian Division. For his services, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order in 1915. Promoted to Brigadier, he was given command of the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade later in 1915, and in 1917 was promoted to Major-General to command the 5th Canadian Infantry Division in England. Postwar, he was engaged in engineering and industrial work in Canada, England, Greece and Mexico.

Samuel Harvey Shirecliffe Hughes (1913 -) was born in Victoria, BC, the only child of Garnet Burk Hughes and Elizabeth Irene Bayliss Newling Hughes. Educated in England and Canada, he received degrees from the University of Toronto (B.A., 1934) and Oxford University (B.A., 1936 and M.A., 1951). From 1936 to 1939, he served as a History Master at Ridley College in St. Catharines, Ontario. In July 1940, he married Helen Beatrice Spencer, with whom he had two children, Lynn Spencer Hughes and Samuel Garnet Hughes. He served with the Canadian Army during the Second World War, going overseas with the Governor General's Horse Guards as a Lieutenant in 1941. In 1942, he transferred to the Canadian Intelligence Corps, serving with the 1st Canadian Infantry Division in Italy during 1943 and 1944. He was later attached to the Historical Section of the General Staff, serving as a Lieutenant-Colonel on retirement in 1946.

Postwar, he read law with L.B. Spencer of Welland, Ontario, before being called to the Bar of Ontario in 1947. An Alderman for Welland, 1953 to 1955, he later served as Chairman of the Ontario Highway Transport Board, 1955 to 1958, and as Chairman of the Canadian Civil Service Commission, 1959 to 1962. He was made a Justice of the Supreme Court of Ontario, serving from 1958 to 1959 and 1962 to 1988, during which time he conducted several Royal Commissions for the Ontario Government. Following his retirement from the Ontario bench, he was appointed to conduct the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Response of the Newfoundland Criminal Justice System to Complaints (Mount Cashell).

Sir Sam Hughes and Family collection

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Container	File	File Title	Date
SIR SAM HUGHES			
1. Biographical and Political Life			
1	1	Biographical notes of Sir Sam Hughes - includes Militia Commissions (See also Vol. 12 and Vol. 16, File 1)	1894, 1898, 1900 - 1921
1	2	Notes for autobiography	c. 1918
1	3	Autobiography	c. 1918
1	4	Early Life - correspondence, testimonials and news clippings relating to the early life of Sir Sam Hughes	1872 - 1885
1	5	Early Political Life - correspondence, editorials and returns for the riding of North Victoria	1889 - 1896
1	6	Early Political Correspondence - Correspondents include: John Abbott Mackenzie Bowell John Carling John A. Macdonald Dalton McCarthy Charles Tupper Dr. J.W. Wood	1891 1891 1890 1887 - 1891 1889 - 1890 1888 1889 - 1891
1	7	Political Correspondence	1912 - 1920
1	8	Robert Borden / Sam Hughes Correspondence	1916 - 1918
1	9	Letter of Robert Borden requesting the resignation of Hughes as Minister. (Includes letter from Army Historical Section about the significance of the letter.)	9 Nov 1916 1957
1	10	Sam Hughes - Letter of retirement	26 May 1921

Container	File	File Title	Date
1	11	Printed Speeches of Sam Hughes - subjects include:	
		Active Militia -- Training of Officers	14 Apr 1902
		Canadian North-West	17 Apr 1902
		South African War -- Terms of Peace	23 Apr 1902
		Full Partnership Union of Great Britain and Her Colonies	13 Mar 1903
		Opposing Separate School Clauses	4 Apr 1905
		Full Partnership Union of Great Britain and Her Colonies	11 Feb 1907
		Canadian Assistance to the Imperial Navy	17 Feb 1910
		Relative Cost of the Militia Force of Canada	c. 1913
		Canadian Military Matters	30 Jan 1917
		To Constituents of Victoria and Haldimand Counties	28 Apr 1917
1	12	Speaking Notes - Militia and Defence	1914
1	13	Speaking Notes - War Work	1916
1	14	Speaking Notes - National Service	1916
1	15	Speaking Notes - Shell Committee	1916
1	16	Speaking Notes - Ships Sailing	1916
		Sir Sam Hughes - Political Cartoon (See Vol. 16, File 2)	1917
1	17	Speech to Canadian Club	8 Jan 1917
1	18	Speaking Notes - Canadian Military Matters	30 Jan 1917
1	19	Speaking Notes - Compulsory Overseas Service	1917
1	20	Itinerary of a motor trip through England and Scotland, 9 - 15 September 1916 (Acquired in 1977 from Robert Park, Lucerne, Quebec)	1916
1	21	Letter to E. Brockington, regarding unauthorized alterations to Hughes' car (Acquired in 1977 from Robert Park, Lucerne, Quebec)	23 Apr 1920
1	22	Resolution of the Council for Victoria County in tribute to Sir Sam Hughes	16 Nov 1921

Container	File	File Title	Date
SIR SAM HUGHES			
2. South Africa			
2	1	Return of all copies of correspondence that passed between Major General Hutton and Lieutenant Colonel Sam Hughes in connection with his volunteering for service in South Africa [original]	19 Feb 1900
2	2	Return of all copies of correspondence that passed between Major General Hutton and Lieutenant Colonel Sam Hughes in connection with his volunteering for service in South Africa [transcript]	19 Feb 1900
2	3	Copies of correspondence in connection with Lieutenant Colonel Sam Hughes volunteering for service in South Africa	1897 - 1899
2	4	Speech of Lt.-Col. Sam Hughes	25 Feb 1901
2	5	Return of all copies of correspondence that passed between Major General Hutton and Lieutenant Colonel Sam Hughes in connection with his volunteering for service in South Africa [original]	25 Feb 1901
2	6	Hutton / Hughes controversy	1900 - 1916
2	7	Correspondence concerning Hughes service in South Africa	1899
2	8	Correspondence concerning Hughes service in South Africa	1900
2	9	Telegrams and orders concerning Hughes service in South Africa	1900
2	10	Field notes kept in South Africa by Sam Hughes	5 Feb 1900 - 7 Apr 1900
2	11	Field notes kept in South Africa by Sam Hughes	1 Mar 1900 - 1 Apr 1900
2	12	Field notes kept in South Africa by Sam Hughes	2 May 1900 - 22 May 1900
2	13	Field notes kept in South Africa by Sam Hughes	13 May 1900 - 31 May 1900

Container	File	File Title	Date
2	14	Field notes kept in South Africa by Sam Hughes	31 May 1900 - 26 June 1900; 19-20 July 1900
2	15	Letter to Hughes in Afrikaner	7 April 1900
2	16	Notes and Address Book	n.d., 14 Aug 1900
2	17	Maps of South Africa and the Boer Republics	1899

SIR SAM HUGHES

3. Militia and Defence

3	1	Militia Field Manoeuvres, Toronto - includes General Orders, Plans and List of Umpires	1898
3	2	Ross Rifle - Memorandum	1908
3	3	Ross Rifle - Memoranda and correspondence	1912, 1918, 1920
3	4	First Canadian Cadet Tournament - Souvenir Program	1913
3	5	Valcartier Camp Souvenir and post cards	1914
3	6	<i>Where Duty Leads</i> - broadsheet issued over the name of Sam Hughes to soldiers at Valcartier (Acquired in 1985 from Lynn Sullivan of Penetanguishene)	1914
3	7	Shell Committee - Minutes	2 Sept 1914 - 29 Nov 1915
3	8	Appointments to Canadian Corps	1915
3	9	Report from Ypres	1915
3	10	Narrative of St. Julian	1915
3	11	Narrative	June 1915
3	12	Memo on War Situation	15 Aug 1915
3	13	War Diary - 1st Canadian Division	Aug 1915

Container	File	File Title	Date
3	14	War Diary - 1st Canadian Division	Sept 1915
3	15	War Diaries - Canadian Corps	Oct 1915
3	16	War Narrative	Oct 1915
3	17	Report from Saint Omer	10 Oct 1915
3	18	War Diaries - Canadian Corps	Nov 1915
3	19	War Diaries - Canadian Corps	Dec 1915
3	20	Reports of Special Operations	1915
4	1	War Diaries - Canadian Corps	Jan 1916
4	2	Narrative of Operations - 6th Brigade	Jan 1916
4	3	War Diaries - Canadian Corps	Feb 1916
4	4	War Diaries - Canadian Corps	March 1916
4	5	Correspondence from Sir Max Aitken	1916
4	6	<i>Canadian War Pictorial</i> , No. 1	1916
4	7	Shell Committee Report	1916
4	8	Private Letters from Officers	1915 - 1917
4	9	Colonel H.A. Bruce and the Canadian Army Medical Service - correspondence and reports	1916 - 1919
4	10	Diary of A.D.M.S.	Oct - Nov 1917
4	11	Boston Chamber of Commerce Dinner - news clippings	Mar 1917
4	12	Capture of Vimy Ridge - narrative	1917
4	13	Visit to Verdun Battlefields - Report of Arthur Currie	1917
4	14	Report from Cambrai	1918
4	15	War Poetry	n.d., 1906, 1918
4	16	Sam Hughes - extract from E.W. Morrison Manuscript	n.d.
4	17	Conscription	1917 - 1919

Container	File	File Title	Date
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SIR SAM HUGHES**4. Scrapbooks**

5	1	Scrapbook	Oct 1911 - Dec 1912
6	1	Scrapbook	Aug 1912 - Apr 1913
7	1	Scrapbook	June 1913 - Nov 1913
8	1	Scrapbook	Sept 1913 - Dec 1913
9	1	Scrapbook	1913 - 1914
10	1	Scrapbook	June 1915 - Apr 1916
11	1	Scrapbook	June 1915 - May 1916
12	1	Tribute Album	Aug 1921

SIR SAM HUGHES**5. Estate**

13	1	Estate Matters	1913 - 1924
13	2	Estate Matters	1925 - 1936
13	3	Estate Matters - Family Correspondence	1932 - 1935

Container	File	File Title	Date
GARNET BURK HUGHES			
1. Military Papers			
14	1	Education - includes entrance results, military certificates, reports and correspondence	1891 - 1901
14	2	Equipment Returns of Captain G.B. Hughes Company, 45th Battalion	1898
14	3	Record of Service with Honours and Awards	1915 - 1919
14	4	Correspondence with Sir Sam Hughes	1917 - 1919
14	5	General Military Correspondence	1913 - 1917
14	6	General Military Correspondence	1918
14	7	5th Canadian Infantry Division - History	1918
14	8	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Funding for History	1918
14	9	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Organization	1917
14	10	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Diary	Jan 1917 - Jan 1918
14	11	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Formation and Strength	1917 - 1918
14	12	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Training	Apr - July 1917
14	13	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Education and Recreation	1918
14	14	5th Canadian Infantry Division - Inspections	1917
14	15	5th Canadian Infantry Division - German Documents	1916 - 1917
14	16	Personal Correspondence	1918
14	17	Miscellaneous Documents	1915 - 1918
14	18	Draft Copy of British Official History - Chapter VII, Ypres, 1915 (Maps removed. See Oversize - Vol. 16, File 3)	1926
14	19	Draft Copy of British Official History - Chapter VIII, Ypres, 1915 (Maps removed. See Oversize - Vol. 16, File 3)	1926

Container	File	File Title	Date
14	20	Draft Copy of British Official History - Chapter IX, Ypres, 1915 (Maps removed. See Oversize - Vol. 16, File 3)	1926
14	21	Draft Copy of British Official History - Chapter X, Ypres, 1915 (Maps removed. See Oversize - Vol. 16, File 3)	1926
14	22	Canadian Expeditionary Force History - draft, correspondence	1934 - 1936
14	23	Canadian Expeditionary Force History - Ross Rifle	1934
14	24	Draft History of Festubert and Givenchy, 1915, by Garnet Burk Hughes	1935

GARNET BURK HUGHES

2. Family and Personal Papers

15	1	Canadian Society of Civil Engineers - Certificate of Membership	1919
15	2	Passport	1922 - 1928
15	3	Article on Greece	1920
15	4	Report of Trip to Russia	1923
15	5	Calverton Cottage - lease, correspondence, inventory	1924 - 1929
15	6	Elizabeth Irene Bayliss Newling Hughes - correspondence and notes	1924 - 1927
15	7	Elizabeth Irene Bayliss Newling Hughes - medical and funeral expenses	1927 - 1929
15	8	Dominion Rifle Association - Portrait of Sir Sam Hughes	1926 - 1927
15	9	Nova Scotia Fisheries	1927 - 1928
15	10	Miscellaneous Personal and Family Correspondence	1932 - 1936

Container	File	File Title	Date
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SAMUEL HARVEY SHIRECLIFFE HUGHES

1. Personal

15	11	Stoke Park School - correspondence, grades, fees	1923 - 1927, 1930, 1932
15	12	Poetry	1924 - 1925
15	13	Correspondence	1924 - 1926
15	14	Stowe School - correspondence, grades, fees	1925 - 1934
15	15	Correspondence	1927 - 1928
15	16	Upper Canada College - grades, tuition fees and prize list	1929 - 1930
		University of Toronto, Faculty of Arts, Class and Prize Lists (See Oversize - Vol. 16, File 4)	1931 - 1934
15	17	Correspondence	1934
15	18	Correspondence	1935
15	19	Correspondence	1936 - 1937
15	20	Military Correspondence	1940 - 1946
15	21	Correspondence	1945 - 1946
15	22	Sir Sam Hughes - articles by S.H.S. Hughes and Leslie Frost	1950, c.1964
15	23	Harold Mayne Daly - correspondence and notes concerning Sir Sam Hughes	1949 - 1950
15	24	Harold Mayne Daly - forwarding original documents concerning Sir Sam Hughes	n.d., 1916 - 1920, 1966

OVERSIZE

1. Items Removed to Oversize Container

16	1	Sir Sam Hughes - Commission as Captain, 45 Battalion	5 July 1878
16	2	Sir Sam Hughes - Political Cartoon	1917

Container	File	File Title	Date
16	3	Garnet Burke Hughes - Maps of 2nd Battle of Ypres, 23 April - 4 May 1917 (Removed from Vol. 14, Files 18 - 21)	1926
16	4	Samuel Harvey Shirecliffe Hughes - University of Toronto, Faculty of Arts, Class and Prize Lists	1931 - 1934