

"I was in the Hughes' home at the corner of Glenelg and Lindsay Streets for sixty years and I have nothing but good things to say about Sir Sam Hughes and Lady Hughes and if I had anything bad to say I would not say it." The speaker was Margaret Crowley who lives with her brother Walter at 10 Needham Street.

With Confederation Year "just around the corner" would it not be worthwhile for a group in Lindsay to make a collection of articles which were at one time admired by hundreds of visitors to the Hughes' home and putting them on display and possibly having them preserved for posterity?

There is virtually nothing in Lindsay to honour the memory of this once great Canadian statesman, Canada's Minister of Militia in the time of World War One.

Margaret Crowley remembers Sir Sam's political campaigns, the time when he was proprietor and editor of a local newspaper, the days when he was Canada's War Lord, the days of recruiting in Lindsay and district, the days of military parades, the hours and hours spent in entertaining people of note from all parts of Canada and from countries beyond the Dominion and the weeks when Sir Sam rushed home to Lindsay to spend a few hours with his family and as hurriedly rushed back to Canada's capital.

"They were busy days, but

the Hughes family took matters in their stride," said Miss Crowley. "I often wonder what became of the very large painting of Sir Sam, and I also recall seeing a number of bronze and plaster busts of Sam—they would be precious items today. Then there was a number of very large tiger and bear skins and I think a lion skin with large heads, scattered on different floors in the home. I understand there is a very good oil painting of Sir Sam in the Lindsay Library. That is good. I think that there may be some souvenirs from the Hughes home in the Armoury. I wonder if any articles once belonging to Sir Sam are on view at the Lindsay Museum?"

It is interesting to note that Miss Crowley's memory is excellent and her health is good. "Yes, I well remember Garnet Hughes (Brigadier General), who was tall, straight and smart but he did not have the good looks of his father or his mother. The two daughters were very good to me. I was treated as a member of the family. Roby was about my own age and we could talk freely to each other, and Aileen, called 'Tweet', was a lovely girl. She had a lot of her father's get and go. She was athletic and I remember the trips she took with explorers and hunters to Africa and the time she returned to Lindsay with a live Tiger. It was a curiosity for the entire town. This young lady brought

back many skins from Africa. I did not see much of her after she married and went to live in Boston," said Miss Crowley.

Miss Crowley said Sir Sam was very athletic as a young man with a fine physique. "The great strain placed on him as the Minister of Militia hastened his death for he gave everything he had in filling the position. He had friends in abundance and he had enemies but I am sure his friends greatly outnumbered his enemies. He was a fine man."

Information received is to the effect that a number of oil paintings, as well as other valuable articles from the Hughes home are now located in the homes of in-laws of the family in Boston and in New York.



Sir Sam Hughes — From a photograph in the Public Archives of Canada.