

# SIR SAM SEES "HIDDEN HAND"

## Launches Dramatic Attack on Roman Catholic Church in House

### INTRIGUES BEHIND SCENE

## Charges That it is Trying to Get Control of Children of **Canada**

(Staff Correspondence of The Globe.)

Ottawa, April 11.—General Sir Sam Hughes tried to start a religious war in the House of Commons this afternoon when a bill to amend the Juvenile Delinquents Act came up for second reading.

No sooner had the Minister in charge of the legislation mentioned that certain changes were desired by the Roman Catholic Church than there was a wild scramble for copies of the bill.

Mr. Joseph Archambault, the brilliant young Montrealer, who recently "spent a week in Toronto one Sunday," complained that the bill was not printed in French. The Speaker despatched a page to secure a copy of the French version. Then Dr. Charles Sheard of Toronto grumbled because "the bill has not been distributed yet."

The Acting Premier soothed his fellow-citizen by walking across the floor and handing the doctor his own personal bill file.

### Sir Sam Sees Something.

The Clerk of the House had the page boys on the jump distributing copies of the bill, and the members were just settling back to hear the explanation of Hon. Arthur Meighen when Sir Sam emerged from his dugout, shouting that he could not hear a word. It seemed that the proposed legislation affected the Roman Catholic Church and the Ruthenian Greek Catholic Corporation of **Canada**. The amendment was a definition covering the two Churches, or the two branches of the Church, the Eastern and the Western.

General Hughes at once saw what he characterized as "the hidden hand" getting in some fine work behind the scenes.

"What's the Holy Roman See?" he asked. "It's the old, old story. The Roman Catholic Church is trying to get control of the children of this country."

### "Intriguing Behind the Scenes."

He was going to call a spade a spade and speak plain Anglo-Saxon. It was well known, he declared, that the Roman Catholic Church plotted the assassination of the heir-apparent to the Austrian throne because he was non persona grata at Rome. "The hidden hand," he added, "interfered with the enlistment for the war of Canadian boys, and was always intriguing behind the scenes." The Roman Catholics were "getting their hands in."

### A General Mix-up.

Hon. Mr. Meighen started to argue the point with Sir Sam. In the middle of the argument Sir Sam interrupted to ask the Minister a question, and while the Acting Premier was obviously reproving Mr.

Meighen and advising him to be a little more tactful, the Deputy Speaker, Hon. Mr. Bolvin, and Gen. Hughes clashed. Sir Sam counselled the Deputy Speaker to "keep your seat," and urged the Minister to "lay the bill over until we can see what's behind the scenes." He complained that the members had not had an opportunity of looking into it.

"Why, it has already gone through one House of Parliament," replied Mr. Meighen. This meant that it had passed the Senate. Sir Sam retorted that he had never heard of it passing the upper House. Nor was this surprising when one took into account the fact that the Senate transacts in a day business that occupies the Commons for a month, and that the Senators only yesterday suspended the rules and put one bill through all three readings at one sitting.

### Trouble in Sight.

When General Hughes put up his fight his colleagues of the Orange Order, Mr. H. C. Hocken of Toronto and Dr. Edwards of Frontenac, were not in the House and Sir Sam eventually surrendered and allowed the bill to be read a second time. It was intimated later, however, that there may be a motion to divide the House when it comes up for third reading.