

CU5417/2.1

Adami's story about the C.A.M.C. squabble, taken down by H.C. during its recital, in Oxford the summer of 1920.

G. Carleton Jones - son of old Lt. Gov. of Nova Scotia, an intense 'grit.' *and* for long years an opponent of Sir Charles Tupper the Conservative. In years before '67 old Jones had strongly fought against Confederation. ('Grit' = a Liberal). The son Carleton Jones had been A.D.C. to father at Gov. House - at school in Edinburgh - M.D. at King's College, London. In practice a short time at Halifax; suddenly determined to go into Army Medical Corps. He . . . was the one decent capable full-time official. No one like him. Laurier a Liberal in power and he made rapid advance. In 1906 he was appointed Director of Medical Services in Canada (Look up Adami's book). In 1909+ Conservatives came into power with Sam Hughes who is leader of *Georgians* in Ontario, as Minister of Militia. One of first of Hughes' acts was to turn out Carleton Jones son of the leading Grit. A round-robin went out from Birkett and others to Hughes, begging he be kept in, else all would resign. With a bad grace Hughes kept Carleton Jones in. But he was at Ottawa simply a civil servant and learned duty of civil servant to obey orders and be — to Chief.

Sam Hughes had been in S. Africa in Boer War - idea that he was a great soldier - very incompetent, though brave &c. Thought he knew everything. He was now Minister of Militia - did well at first - full of go and vigour. Worked hard - enormous enthusiasm & brought together with celerity the 1st Contingent. Did it so well he got a swelled head - acted as the Commander-in-Chief of Canadian troops. Would take review, putting himself *in front* of the Duke of Connaught. Got a special service wagon - a particular trench spade - suspicion of making money - done without authority of War Office. Repudiated by English, the Canadians a part & portion of Imperial Army.

Hughes began sending telegrams & letters to Kitchener & G.O.C. in France. They refused to answer his letters. Hughes get idea British Army was effete & the time had come for him to separate off Canadian troops as separate army. Could do nothing in France but in England his opportunity, as War Office did not want to offend. Sam Hughes saw chance. No proper Adg. Gen. in England. Everything run (regarding troops, supplies &c) in Eng. thro Gen. Carson as Sam Hughes' representative. Everything would tend to go through Carson's office: he had some power but in general had to send to Hughes to get per-

mission. Great block resulted, especially in relation to medicine. Men in open hospital tents. Carson said could not be done - a policy of making it difficult to run things.

Presently Hughes, in 1916, appointed a small informal army council of heads of dept.'s - Carleton Jones on it but never asked to attend. A Col. Reid on it and he was practically Quartermaster-Gen. tho no official position. This man began to make arrangements regarding hospital convalescents in contravention to British regulations. Idea to get Canadians out of British into Canadian Convalescent Hospitals. A Convalescent Centre was put up at Folkestone - Casualty Clearing Assembly Centre. Maj. Reid a hectoring person - had been a bicycle agent - a Conservative in politics - a bully of Hughes's own kind. Jones expostulated at action of opposition to British regulations. Reid's attitude in great opposition. Frightful time resulted in these months .°. No recommendation of Jones' accepted for 9 mos. Hughes kept them all back - i.e. promotions held up. Only one promotion - a friend of Hughes at Shorncliffe & a few made directly by Sam Hughes in Canada. Everything done to neutralize Jones's efforts.

Finally a regulation from Hughes that all Canadians be put in Canadian Hospitals. Then the fun began. Lady Drummond of Can. Red Cross wrote a powerful letter to Times expostulating, because good for Canadians to mix with English (Adami really wrote and corrected it). From a military point of view the thing was impossible.

Then the fat in the fire. Hughes mad. Things fast & furious.

Herbert Bruce had not joined up - looking after himself. Wanted to be top if he joined up. Old man had been in militia & outranked him. He got permission from Sam Hughes to pay a flying visit - made him a Col. - came over in mufti. In June 1915 he came over, with personal instructions from Sam Hughes 'to see everything.' Carleton in bad fix - could not send to France - He sent him to Cliveden - there a week and demanded from Jones to send him to France. Some time to get his papers - had to be attached there, & so was attached to No. 2 on coast. Then he proceeded to go in mufti - went to Paris without orders - went to Belgium - got arrested at Abbeville for camera. Could not do anything right. No idea of discipline. Got idea Jones was against him. Left France without his papers - got back somehow. Did not re-

port himself. Went straight to Liverpool.

Back with Hughes in 1916 and Sam Hughes took strong action and wanted inquiry into C.A.M.C. matters. Put Bruce at head of Committee of Inquiry. To investigate the action of Gen. Carleton Jones. Courts of Inquiry are made of Peers. Hughes did not regard this and appointed Bruce, Wallace Scott (his nephew), Col. Reid a civilian, Col. Wilson &c. All Ontario men, personal friends of Bruce all but one - Hunter of Winnipeg - a Scotchman, a good man who was SecY.

This Comiittee had carte blanche to make inquiry. All disgruntled people got their ears, & so Hughes had a mass of material. All worked up by Bruce who came with his report and recommendations all prepared. Idea to smash up Carleton Jones and the present form of R.A.M.C. Took 3 months in England for inquiry and in Sept. they published their printed report - patients not properly looked after - slashing attack, espec. on V.A.D.'s. Jones given under a week to reply - this impossible. Everyone worked hard - very little found. Hughes trying to demonstrate that R.A.M.C. run badly & wrong system; he could therefore appeal to Canadians to cut free from British & have own army.

The recommendations absolutely impossible - separate hospitals in France, Eng, &c. Bruce's complete of army system was his undoing. At end of week Bruce was put in command and in Carleton Jones's place.

At this juncture W.O. writes Adami to ask what is going on. The G.O.C. France refused to let the committee of Bruce do any investigations in France. Here was Jones's weakness. He had only to go to Keogh and protest or to Lord Derby and the Army Council. Because the Court of Inquiry was against all Military Procedures. Jones considered his bread & butter and did not go to superior. Keogh said he regarded the D.M.S. Canada directly under him, but preferred to let him fight out alone.

Simultaneously with this, Osler had been practically the one C.A.M.C. Consultant - Beechborough, Hyde Park (Officers' Hosp) & Cliveden. W.O. wrote Bruce - got cheeky letter in return. Resigned.

Meanwhile at Cliveden: Lt. Col Gorrell (a phys. at Ottawa) and another Dr. Shillington of Ottawa had been cordial supporters of Carleton Jones in the early days in getting up lectures &c. Jones partly from friendship &c. had to

recognize these men. They were made O.C.'s of early hospitals - one of them, viz. Gorrell, O.C. at Cliveden. An able administrator but not a gentleman. Did run Cliveden at a lower price per head than any hosp. in England. At the same time he & Shillington had become involved in some provincial land & oil deals, - hard up - get-rich-Wallingford types - the need to make some ready money - Gorrell brought & sold Red Cross supplies - people in Canada bought socks in Canada with notes in the toes to soldiers. G. kept this money in a big box in his office. Money found on him by Bruce & his party.

Osler who was keen on Gorrell much upset. Miss Campbell the Matron sent away. W.O. felt it very much - a granddaughter of old Campbell, Dean at McGill. Subsequently sent to No. 1. at Etaples. Jones thought there is going to be talk, and got her out for her sake. She thought she was not being trusted. She appealed to W.O. and he took it up. At this period he resigned, i.e. Oct. 1916. Had very little effect. Hughes felt it very much. Adami in Canada in Oct. 1916 & told Hughes he was going to resign. Told Hughes not done according to army system. Adami saw Borden & then Hughes resigned.

Osler's withdrawal made people in Canada see something was wrong - had a great deal to ruin Hughes. Osler's position was only an honorary one - was never 'called up.' Adami thinks an Hon. Col., C.A.M.C., as well as an Hon. Lt. Col. in Territorials. W.O. never wore anything but a Lt. Col's marks. Wynn of Morning Post went to France and found Hughes's influence there very bad, - changed lists. Round-robin sent by officers in France to Borden about same time, - i.e. Osler, Lady Drummond, Adami, round-robin - all made Borden see Hughes could not go on.

Osler was never reinstated Adami thinks, but must have been, as visited. Lady Astor knew all about it. Gorrell committed suicide finally. Kept putting off his trial.

After the findings of 1st Report, Gen. Carleton Jones removed as acting D.M.S. and Bruce put in charge of whole affairs of C.A.M.C. Was there Nov-Dec. Nothing he suggested was ever carried out - quietly blocked him - B's office was absolute chaos - strikes of typists &c, &c. Bruce shelved by a 2nd Report and sent back to Canada. Jones brought back early in January.

Perley sent over as Overseas Minister - did not know which side to take.

Jones should have stood out - sent back to Canada however - made inspection of hospitals. Gen. Foster brought back from France to take the place.

The General Army Council = heads of different War Office Depts. - Keogh not on it but under Adj. Gen.

The Med. Army Council - created toward end of war. Jones, Moynihan, Stiles, & an equivalent med. group (W.O. not on it Adami thinks). General policies &c. left to them for regulations & orthopaedics got recognized.

- Almost from the first W.O. used to go to War Office - a civilian board, & he was consulted.

Keogh's great virtue - picking out right man, - civilian or officer, - and would trust him. E.g. first gas trouble - socks & urinateⁱⁿ them - then ammonia - then Shipley the physicist - chlorine expert said ammonia all wrong. Keogh thoroughly trusted Osler and Jones. K. would suffer fools gladly - espec. old Duchesses - but nothing would happen.

W.O. lost more weight over this episode than any of his illnesses.