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JULY 19, 1916

TO OUR READERS

The size of The Observer is reduced this week from six to four pages. The cause is the midsummer slump in advertising, and does not indicate any curtailment of reading matter. In fact, this week we are giving two columns more matter than

correspondents are not so active title of Baron Borden of Nova as when there are long winter Scotia, said Nova Scotia standing evenings to put in. Neverthe- not only for the province he less we want to print the news comes from, but also for the of the county. Correspondents bank in which he is a large who have not stationery will shareholder. Sir Robert has a please let us know and kindly massive, constitutional mind and let us have the district news would much enjoy being an imearly in the week.

## THE NEXT HIGH

By H. F. GADSBY.

Ottawa, July 13.-London dispatches announce that Sir George -Perley is on his way home to enjoy a well earned vacation. While he is in this country—and he bids fair to remain here—the whole question of a permanent appointment as High Commissioner will be discussed. Sir George Foster is the locum tenens during Sir George Perley's absense from England.

The chances are that neither of the Sir Georges will get the job for keeps. Sir George Foster vows that he does not want it, which is probably true; and Sir George Perley never expected to do more than warm the place for a little while until the real thing came along. In fact, Sir George Perley is the official chair-warmer for the Borden Government. He is a safe man. There is no danger of his burning any chair he sits on. The chair will be there ready for its permanent occupant when the time comes. Consequently Sir George Perley has at one time or another been Acting Minister for everybody in the Cabinet. As a second fiddler he is hard to beat. The consummation of his vicarious career occurred when he was sent to London as High Commissioner pro tem; his colleagues being confident that he would not set the Thames on fire or create any discontinuance in the office.

Possible candidates for the position are plentiful enough. Without half trying I can mention provide for a rainy day by anthree-Premier Borden, the Honorable Bob Rogers and Major-General Sir Sam Hughes. There is also a dark horse who can brush them all aside and have it if he likes-I mean the man behind the Throne-Baron Shaugh- make the High Commissionernessy. If the Baron's aspirations | ship pay for itself instead of lead to a country gentlemen's being a source of expense as it is life in England, with a town now. If the Honorable Bob has house, a seat in the House of not pressed his claims before it Lords, the High Commissioner- is because he preferred to stay ship for Canada to put an edge in Canada and face any music he on his importance, and ultimately was responsible for, thus dif-

is to take an air line to anything he wants in the gift of the Canadian Government.

Moreover, the Baron is persona grata with the royal family in the shape of the Duke of Connaught, whose honored guest he frequently was Rideau Hall. Indeed, the Duke was very fond of the Baron, whose percentage of week-ends at Government House averaged twice as many as any other public man's in Canada. If Baron Shaughnessy elects to spend the sunset of his days in England, he will have a glorious time and the entree to exclusive circles which Strathcona never achieved. What is more, he would make as shrewd a High Commissioner as Canada ever had in London, with a wide practical outlook on Canada's needs and resources, not to mention his life long experience in handling the most comprehensive enterprise in the Dominion. The Baron may choose however to remain Canada, until the railway problem is solved in a way that doesn't give the C. P. R. the worst of it. When that last bit is done the Baron may consent to dismiss himself in peace to the larger glories of British politics.

The candidate next in order is Sir Robert Borden, who would have no objection to a landed During the summer district estate, say it Surrey, and the perial statesman with purple copinions. Sir Robert has no children, and as England has always been generous with peer ages for Canadians who had no families to carry on, the title would be an easy matter. Sin Robert is no lover of the strife and clamor of Canadian politics. His is a temperament that demore placid triumphs. sires This war has been a great worry to him, especially the Sam Hughes part of it, a thorn in his side which he is obliged to cherish. It is a matter of general comment that the Premier has aged ten years in the last two and that he wears a haunted look. Only his strong sense of duty has kept him at a post which daily increases his burdens. Sir Robert is no quitterhe will go through with it if it kills him-but he would probably welcome the chance to get away from these alarms and reap a little ease and dignity in the Mother Country, where the noise this fair Canada of ours makes over its politics would be softened by distance. It you asked Sir Robert what he thinks of it right now he would probably reply that it sounds too much like a Sousa march played on the bagpipes to be grateful to sensitive ear. Besides, Sir. Robert cannot fail to have noticed that now is a good time for disappearing. Several of his colleagues have heard the Yumblings of the next general election and have sought permanent shelter-Messrs. Coderre and Pelletier on the bench, Nantel on the Railway Commission, Speakturbance that might mean his er Sproule in the Senate. Besides, quite a few of the rank and file show the same tendency to take care of their health and

nexing Government jobs. The honorable Bob Rogers is another candidate-perhaps the briskest one of the lot. The Honorable Bob has a business head on him and would probably



Sir Rodmond Roblin and two of his colleagues trying to keep the mud out of their eyes-it's a sad they can't lose Sam in any other sight and calculated to draw tears from a harder heart than Bob's. The chances are that after the war, Westminister Hall, built I believe by William Rufus, The last time I was in England and other relatives in this county.

Duff-Meredith Commission. If company being in Cuba for some the War Lord get a good white time.

wash for his costly friendship with Colonel John Wesley Allison he may stay at home and ead a khaki election, vice Premier Borden translated. If the report isn't wholly satisfactory Sir Sam may decide that his future lies in England. He may decide it, or his colleagues may decide it for him-in any case way than Sam chooses to be lost.

### Back from U. S. to Enlist

George W. Robertson is visitwill have to be reconstructed. ing his mother in East Coldstream the roof was showing the ravages Mr. Robertson came direct from of time. This is Bob's chance. Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where As High Commissioner he would he held a responsible position in be right on the spot and would be the United States Militia, but he able to give the Superintendent threw up his job to go overseas, of Works plenty of good advice, and has enlisted in the Construcbased on his experience with tion Corps in St. John. Although Parliament Buildings in Ottawa yet a young man, he has had an and Winnipeg. At any rate he extensive military service. He would know how to let the con- drilled at Sussex when he was but tract so the contractor wouldn't a lad: at the time of the South African war he enlisted, but he Last but not least comes Major- was sent to do garrison, duty at General Sir Sam. What be- Halitax. Then he went to the comes of him depends largely on United States and has been six the report-or reports-of the years in the U.S. Militia, his

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Mr. W. J. Talbot, Edenwold, Sask., ney-Liver Pills and Nerve Food as a pany, Limited. Toronto

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British Empire—if the Baron wants it, I repeat, he can have it, because the Baron is the C. P. R. country has no charms for Bob.

made flesh, and all he has to do Tom Kelly heading for jail and The Home Treatment Co., - Grand Falls, N. B.

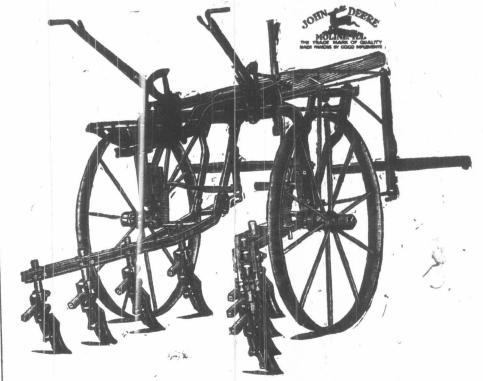
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