

The Porcupine Advance

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ORIGIN OF PLAN

The success of the recent Christmas Seal campaign in the Porcupine district may have roused interest in the origin of this plan for raising money to fight tuberculosis. This plan has been in use in the Porcupine for several years, being sponsored by the Lions Club and conducted by a committee appointed each year for the purpose. It is true that the campaign in this district has proved unusually successful, but this is largely due to the interest and effort put forward by the committee and supported by the generous thoughtfulness of the people of the town and district. The plan is in general use throughout Canada, with varying degrees of success, but it must be admitted that in general it is specially effective, not only raising needed funds but at the same time inspiring increasing interest in the purpose for which the money is sought. The Canadian Tuberculosis Association issues the Christmas Seals. These are sent out to a list of names, together with a letter explaining what has been done to fight tuberculosis in the past and suggesting what is needed for the future. Those receiving the seals are asked to remit a dollar or more for the seals, this money to go to the fund for fighting tuberculosis in the locality. The attractive seals are used for placing on letters and parcels and so they give further publicity to the cause.

One of the items recently sent out from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics explains the origin of the plan. The Christmas Seal plan for raising funds for work among the tubercular needy was launched in Denmark in 1904 by a village postmaster. To-day, the item says, over forty different countries issue these stamps. It was Einar Holboell, the postmaster in a small Danish village, who caught the idea that letters and packages might not only carry a message of hope to sufferers from tuberculosis, but also that the plan might be utilized to raise funds. He was sorting the mail when the idea came to him, and he took early opportunity to pass along the thought that was in his mind. The next year, the plan was accepted and sponsored by the King and Queen of Denmark, the first official Christmas seal carrying the portrait of Queen Louise of Denmark. In Denmark, the plan not only raised needed money but it roused much public interest. Other nations seized upon the idea, and within a generation, the Christmas seal was travelling the whole globe on its mission of cheer and help. In 1927, the originator of the plan, Einar Holboell, the Danish village postmaster, was rightly honoured by having his portrait on the seals that year.

The first sale of Christmas seals in Canada was in 1908, the plan then being sponsored by the National Sanitarium Association. Every year in Canada a large amount of money is raised by the plan and is devoted to the maintenance of hospitals, the establishment of clinics for diagnosis of the disease, surveys among school children, public health nursing services and summer camps for the ailing.

It may be added that in recent years, the plan has been localized in a way that makes it particularly effective. Local committees in each case are appointed to conduct the campaign in the various sections of the country. The money coming from the sale of the seals is devoted to the work in the locality where the funds are raised. The advantages of this plan are obvious. It is not so many years ago that the prevalence of tuberculosis in the Porcupine was truly alarming. It is pleasing indeed to note that the fight against tuberculosis in the Porcupine is meeting with noteworthy success. The Christmas seals are providing the sinews of war in the battle, so it is not too much to say that the Christmas seal idea is of special interest to all in the Porcupine.

To those who may be impressed with the fact that the happy idea of a humble Danish postmaster has spread all over the world to the whole world's benefit, it may be well to call to attention the other thought that arises—the lesson suggested by the fact that forty countries in the world are allies in the war against tuberculosis, using the same weapons and co-operating for victory. The world will truly deserve the name civilized, when a similar spirit of co-operation and offensive and defensive alliance is shown to all the enemies of man by all the nations, and when there are no militarist nations for aggression and no pacifist nations in the fight against disease.

NO DIPLOMACY

A valued reader of The Advance this week took exception to an editorial in Monday's Advance. He thought it too diplomatic, apparently because it suggested that Britain had shown more speed and effectiveness in dealing with the unemployment problem than has been evidenced to date by Canada. The accusation of diplomacy was founded on the thought that compliments were implied to Premier Chamberlain, the former pre-

mier, Mr. Baldwin, and other British public men, the praise being offered as a sort of salve for the harsh things that might be said, or thought, about these Empire leaders for their timid attitude towards dictators and aggressive nations. The reader's idea apparently was that the Empire leaders had failed to uphold Britain's honour and standing in the world at large, and so should not receive even a hint of praise for anything else that they might do. The Advance still believes that a firm stand by Great Britain against the presumption of the dictators might have averted war with perhaps more surety than it has actually been postponed. Against this, however, is the fact that it is a matter of theory, while the possibility of devastating war is not open to question. It is doubtful whether or not even history itself will be able to give an unquestioned answer in this matter.

In the editorial article, however, The Advance was not concerned with any thought of diplomacy, or seeking to soften any blows in regard to world policy by kind words about home affairs. The whole purpose of the editorial was to hold up the handling of the unemployment problem in the home land as an inspiration to Canadian governments to do something about the unemployed in this country. There may be difference of opinion as to whether the British government adopted the noblest attitude in regard to the protection of Czechoslovakia, for instance. That was not, however, the question at issue. The issue was the unemployment problem. It was pointed out that the British government was faced with such a problem and attacked it with courage and vision. It was not left to right itself. The government did not sit back and wait for some miracle—or for another government to take over the solution of the question. Canada is faced to-day with an unemployment problem that overshadows all the petty questions that are given greater prominence in the House of Parliament. Not only is unemployment causing present distress, but it is undermining the whole future of the nation. The record shows that it is holding back Canada's return to prosperity, and making new problems for the people to face. There is a possible solution for it to-day if the matter is resolutely faced as it was in the Old Land. If the policy of drift is allowed to continue, however, Canada will pay a terrible price in the future for its inaction and indifference. The record shows that the situation is not improving to any perceptible degree. Unless something is done there will be a large class of men who have never worked, never been given the opportunity to work, and this in a country where work on all hands is crying out to be done. To maintain thousands at public expense and at the same time to deprive them of the privilege of doing anything for the public welfare and advancement is an impossible situation for a sensible country. Something should be done to face and to solve the unemployment problem. The Old Land did it. If to say this is to be diplomatic, then diplomacy is sadly needed at the present time in Canada.

COMPLICATIONS

In a reference on Monday to Mr. George McCullagh's Leadership League, it was pointed out that there were many difficulties in the way of the full platform of the League being put into action. It appeared that one plank in the platform seemed to cancel some other plank. For instance, how can more adequate defence of the country be speeded, and at the same time taxes be reduced? The fact of the matter is that the world is so complicated these days that too often when people start out to do something they think needs doing, they find that they have started something else that they didn't want at all.

This idea is aptly illustrated by affairs in the Leadership League itself. It is estimated, for example that over 200,000 ballots have been mailed in the past few days to members of parliament at Ottawa, and this is only the beginning. The suggestion is further made that the most of the members intend to reply to all those ballots from voters in their constituencies. Think what all this means. Surely all this additional mail will mean additional postal employees will be necessary. Judging from the pictures in The Globe and Mail, scores of young ladies are also employed counting and sorting the membership coupons of the Leadership League. That means more employment. Thus in ten days the Leadership League, before any of its policies have been even placed in concrete form, has actually created some employment. That is one of the main objects of the League—to beat unemployment. On the other hand, however, the letters to members at Ottawa, and the replies from them, all travel free of postage. That means that the employment created also means expense to the country—and that is by no means another name for reduced taxation. All this, of course, is not the fault or failure of the Leadership League. It is simply the fact of the complicated nature of the modern world, where so many things have reflex actions that are not expected until they occur. A cynic might be tempted to suggest that the Leadership League will do as much harm as good and as much good as harm, and that the various planks in its platform will just about overbalance each other. Even were all this the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, it would not condemn the Leadership League. There is one thing that the Leadership League has done that is all good—no balancing or offsetting or

Threatens Drastic Action



Hachiro Arita, Japanese foreign minister, has instructed his ambassador to Russia to inform the Soviets drastic action will be taken by Japan unless Russia forfeits her fishing rights in Siberian waters.

Some Improvement in Relief Situation

Hon. Eric Cross Makes Statement on Conditions

Twenty of the 40 Ontario municipalities in which relief is a major problem, showed improvement in the calendar year 1938, according to a survey made public today by Hon. Eric Cross.

The Minister of Public Welfare disclosed statistics showing that relief in this group of municipalities which provide Ontario with 85 per cent of its relief had decreased by 1.9 per cent from 1937 and by 22.2 per cent from 1936.

"Although this is encouraging," Mr. Cross said, "it hardly presents a true picture of the relief situation inasmuch as employment slackened off during the six months of 1938 and this situation is continuing in 1939. I am afraid that by the close of our fiscal year, March 31st, relief costs will be actually equal to, or perhaps higher than for fiscal 1937-8."

During the year just closed, the greatest improvement was shown by the town of Collingwood, with a decline in expenditures from 1937 by 36.4 per cent. Sandwich East was next with a 24.4 decrease, while Ottawa and Windsor followed with 24.1 and 24.0 decreases respectively. Other municipalities to show improvement in 1938 over 1937 are shown as follows:—Riverside 23.1%; Port William 23.0%; Sandwich West 15.4%; Eastview 14.8%; Scarborough 13.5%; Toronto Twp. 13.2%; Midland 9.5%; York East 8.6%; Port Arthur 8.3%; St. Thomas 7.8%; Guelph 6.9%; St. James 6.8%; North Bay 5.4%; Kitchener 3.2%; Niagara Falls 0.8%; Etobicoke 0.6%.

Of the remaining 20 municipalities, the increase in relief costs over 1937 ranged in 1938 from 0.6% in York Township, to 47.9% in Sault Ste. Marie, and 58.4% in Oshawa.

Increases were shown as follows in 1938: Kingston 2.7%; London 3.4%; Hawkesbury 3.5%; Sturgeon Falls 3.7%; St. Catharines 3.8%; York North 4.1%; Long Branch 4.5%; Brantford 4.8%; Mimico 5.3%; Hamilton 5.8%; Toronto 5.8%; Stratford 6.7%; Trenton 6.7%; New Toronto 9.3%; Welland 21.7%; Sudbury 22.8%; Peterborough 29.4%.

"A significant feature of 1938 figures," Mr. Cross observed, "is the fact that while relief costs rose appreciably in Hamilton and Toronto, two other large cities, Ottawa and Windsor, showed marked reductions, involving \$436,075 in Ottawa and \$427,375 in Windsor. In both latter cities our inspectors did intensive work during the year and recommended improved methods of administration. It is evident that such surveys serve a most useful purpose and it is our intention to continue them to the limit of our ability."

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The motion picture, "Jesse James," showing this week at the Palace theatre, attracted crowded houses to every performance, and the picture is hailed here as one of the outstanding offerings of the screen in recent years. As usual, a few liberties have been taken with the facts in the case, but this is an artistic privilege that leaves little room for criticism in the case of this picture. While the actual facts of the life of the notorious train robber are modified for the purposes of the film story, there is no glorifying of lawlessness nor any scorn for those who uphold the law. The film will not have evil influence on the minds of those who see it. Indeed, to the thoughtful it may prove a telling lesson of the folly and futility of law defiance. There is one interesting departure from the factual, however, that recalls an incident in this district. In the film, the suggestion is made that Jesse James was turned to lawless ways by the brutal tactics of the purchasers of a railway right-of-way. Some years ago a young man from a town north of Timmins who was convicted of highway robbery and similar crimes excused his waywardness by the claim that the police had hounded his father for years. Enquiry proved that it was true that the police had chased the father from town to town in an effort to bring him to justice—for deserting his

New Laboratory at Ottawa for Minerals

Only Laboratory in Canada Fully Equipped for Investigation of Industrial Minerals.

The Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa, advises that the construction of a new laboratory and office building to house its Industrial Minerals division has been completed, and that the building is now in use. It is the only laboratory in Canada fully equipped for investigations of industrial minerals, as well as all branches of ceramics. Erected adjacent to the ore dressing, metallurgical, and fuel testing laboratories so as to enable closer co-operation between these units, the building is also being used, temporarily, to provide office space for the Mineral Economics division.

Of brick, concrete, and steel construction, it is 100 feet long by 60 feet wide, and is five storeys high. The equipment includes apparatus for testing building materials by the application of compressive loads up to 600,000 pounds, and tensile loads up to 200,000 pounds; for the determination of hardness, toughness, resistance to abrasion, and to impact; and a freezing chamber for the investigation of the effect of severe climatic conditions on building materials. There is machinery also for crushing, grinding, washing, screening, and tempering of ceramic materials; and for the production of ceramic ware by several processes. One floor is being used for the examination, classification, and storage of mineral samples, ceramic materials, and products; and on another are the laboratories for the preparation of ceramic materials and products, and for research and testing on ceramic and road materials.

Two floors are occupied by offices, and provide space also for records, a microscopic laboratory and photographic dark room, and the library. On the top floor are laboratories for the testing of ceramic raw materials and products; for tests and research on refractories, pottery, glazes, and plasters; and for the chemical investigation of industrial waters. Considerable space in the building is occupied by the many kilns and furnaces used for determinations of fusion points, and the investigation of the effects of heat treatment on ceramic ware and minerals, in which temperatures in excess of 3000 degrees F. may be obtained. Adjoining the new building is the milling laboratory, where large and small scale tests on crushing, grinding, screening, washing, and purification of industrial minerals are carried out.

The greatly enlarged laboratory space will permit the installation of additional equipment from time to time, and will increase the investigational facilities for routine testing and research. Problems encountered by processors and manufacturers can be investigated in more detail, to the advantage of the industry.

Falls Horticultural Society Makes Plans

Mrs. R. P. Kinkel of Buffalo - Ankerite Donates Prizes for Wild Flowers and Essay.

Iroquois Fall, Feb. 23.—(Special to The Advance)—The Iroquois Falls Horticultural Society held their first meeting of the new year on Monday night at which time elaborate plans were drawn up for the coming season.

After having heard the Secretary's report on the finances which showed a substantial balance, together with the passing of several letters, the meeting got under way with the appointing of committees to work on the different sections. At this time, Mr. E. M. Pawker, mill manager, was appointed Honorary President, and Mrs. Lock, appointed as Director to represent An-

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sonville. The Directors expressed their hope that they would be able to issue premiums against this year to members, and also instead of giving gladioli, they would have peonies this year, which would be distributed later in the summer for fall planting.

A very interesting point during this meeting, was the presentation of a lovely engraved diploma given by the Ontario Horticultural Society to a recommended person of outstanding accomplishments and merits in this work. It had been unanimously decided some time ago that this rightfully belonged to Mr. W. Stables, and on Monday evening, Mrs. H. Townsley, vice-president, in a most appropriate manner presented Mr. Stables with the cherished script.

A considerable prize increase was made in the flower section, when an additional \$40 was voted to these winners, which enables the Society to make all first prizes, \$1, all seconds, 75 cents; and all thirds, 50 cents.

The flower gardens will also be heavily competed for, when \$20 is at stake, having been donated by Messrs. J. B. and J. H. Broughton, of Monteth.

Another section of the show, which will give good awards, will be the children's wild flower collection and short essay, a prize of \$7.50 has been put up by Mrs. R. P. Kinkel, of Buffalo-Ankerite.

The annual exhibition will be held this year in the Iroquois Falls, on hall, on Tuesday, August 29th, and will be under the guidance of the following committees:

Gardens, Special Flowers and Junior Gardens—Mr. O. S. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Townsley.
Vegetable Section—Mr. S. J. Ollivier, Mr. R. Bean and Mr. F. Bean.
Flower Class—Mrs. H. Townsley, Mr. H. Wall, and Mr. W. Stables.
Domestic Science, Fancy Work, including the Junior Division—Mrs. E. Eaton, Mrs. C. Rowe, Mrs. R. Locke, and Mrs. E. A. Columbus.

Contributions have been received from unions, business men and prominent persons, which results in increased encouragement to carry on, though adverse working conditions continue to exist in this district.

Germany May Yet Repent Both Austria and Sudeten

Lack of raw materials, made worse by the conquest of predominantly urban and industrial Austria and Sudetenland, is forcing an economic crisis in Nazi Germany, state a copy-righted article by Science Service. It continues:

Germany is to-day farther away from self-sufficiency than at any time

family and leaving them in dire poverty.

A local gentleman told the other day of an interesting experience he had in adding a clipping to one of his scrapbooks. The clipping was one in reference to Nazi persecution of a German citizen because it had been discovered that his grandmother had Jewish blood in her veins. "The only place where there was a space for this latest clipping," said the local gentleman, "was alongside one taken many years ago from a London, England, newspaper. The old yellowed clipping in the book told about the late Queen Victoria's interest and pride in tracing her descent from the House of David."

In a recent address to the Boy Scouts, Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, took occasion to note that there were too many "isms" in Canada at the present time. He mentioned Communism, Nazism, Fascism, but said that the most poisonous of all was Pessimism. He might well have added Defeatism to the list, and on the other hand, he might have advocated two "isms" badly needing emphasis and practice in this land to-day—Optimism and Canadianism.

The Leadership League platform is not complete. There should have been some special reference to the prospector. How to assure the prospector a square deal is a real problem for Canada to-day.

Timmins enjoying temperature of 28 below zero, and New York city suffering from intense heat. It's a small world after all!



"Mother Was Irritable"

"She couldn't seem to interest herself in anything. Her eyes wouldn't let her read for long and her head ached when she did much knitting or fancy work. Her putting around the house nearly drove us mad. Proper glasses prescribed by Mr. Curtis restored our happy home. Mother is perfectly content now. The cost was very little and we paid it in four or five instalments so that it seemed like nothing at all."

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