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**LOCAL SPECIALTY TROUPE
POPULAR AT NEW EMPIRE.**

The local specialty troupe between pictures at the New Empire last Wednesday evening proved one of the most popular numbers ever given at the local theatre. From the darkened opening showing the five colored gentlemen playing "seven come eleven" to the bright final dance the audience enjoyed every minute of the troupe's stay on the stage. The troupe included Mrs. C. J. Appel, Mrs. J. A. Theriault, Miss Irene Carswell, Miss Laura Brazeau, Miss Mary Donovan, Mr. C. J. Appel, Mr. Jas. Geils, Mr. M. Downey, Mr. Jean Colombo and Mr. Waterson. The black-face artists were suitably and amusingly costumed for the occasion, and their songs, dances, monologues and choruses were excellent. They all put a vim and talent into the work that would have done credit to professionals. One of the special features of the number was the clog dance given by Mrs. C. J. Appel. The audience would not be denied an encore to this dance. Of course the dancing of Mr. Downey was also popular, while the singing of Jas. Geils as usual delighted the audience. The trio was another popular item, while the song by Mrs. Theriault pleased all. Mrs. Theriault's fine trained voice delighted this audience just as it has always pleased the other audiences favored by hearing her sing. One more feature worthy of a special note was the "old man's dance" by Jean Colombo. It was a work of art and perfect harmony. The tremblings of the "old man" kept perfect time to the music, and the high kicks, stopped by the "rheumatiz," harmonized exactly in the time and tone and movement. One or two good local allusions added to the interest of the entertainment given by the minstrels. In addition the pictures were unusually good, so the show Wednesday evening last is generally voted as a "Special." It will be of interest to all to learn that Manager Appel is endeavoring to hold the troupe for further appearances. Indeed, he would be glad to extend its scope and form a local theatrical club for the presentation of the lighter forms of entertainment. Already the troupe has been offered the lion's share of the house for a visit to the South Porcupine theatre.

**NEWEST NAME FOR BOOZE
GIVEN AS "MACHINERY."**

Four large boxes labelled "machinery," were last week taken off a Montreal train at Mattawa. The police were suspicious of the cases as no Mattawa firm was expecting any new machinery or parts, and there was no person known by the name on the address labels on the boxes. When the boxes were opened by the authorities, it was found that they did contain a certain amount of old and worn machine parts, and a number of cases of modern rye whiskey. The number and ingenuity of the means and methods used for bringing liquor into New Ontario knock the spots off the O.T.A. A returned soldier in Timmins, for instance, has a plan all worked out for the bringing in of liquor from Montreal by airships. All he asks before going into the game is an aeroplane and about \$2000 capital. He would have a landing place in Mountjoy, he says, and bring the liquor up town afterwards. Apparently he does not know the people of Mountjoy if he imagines that they would thus allow their township to be used as a landing place for liquor—and the liquor to be taken away later.

Mr. T. E. Godson, K.C. Mining Commissioner, will be at Haileybury tomorrow (Thursday) for the hearing of a number of cases in dispute. Five cases will be before the Mining Commissioner, these including Horace Paterson vs. R. A. P. Mining and Development Company.

**GOVERNMENT CRITICIZED
REGARDING NORTH LAND.**

In the Ontario Legislature at Toronto last week, Mr. C. M. Bowman, Chief Liberal Whip for the Province, made a strenuous speech in which the Government was strongly attacked for its expenditures in the North Land. "Out of a total of something like five million dollars expended up to the present time in New Ontario," said Mr Bowman, "over four millions appear to have been spent upon roads exclusively. Miles and miles of roads have been built where there are no settlers and where there will not be settlers for many years. The better policy would have been to select certain districts suitable for agricultural purposes in a comparatively small area, and developing them for settlement, building roads, providing schools and churches, drainage, and all the other things necessary to establish a prosperous community. This would have been better than allowing settlement over such an immense area where roads can not be built to link up the settlements." Speakers for the Government have made reply to

Mr. Bowman's criticisms and shown that the Government has tried honestly to do all possible to help along the great North Land. It will be recognized that it is much easier to criticize than to do things right, but at the same time Mr. Bowman's address was worthy of special consideration for the one idea at least that it contained regarding settlement in restricted a-

reas. Years ago The Advance advocated some such plan for the North Land. The method used for the settlement of the returned soldiers at Kapuskasing has the right foundation. The settlers are grouped within a reasonable area, and so there are enough of them that the cost of maintaining roads, schools, etc., is not too burdensome. In many of the dis-

tricts of the North Land, however, the settlers are so widely separated that it is beyond the power of the few to keep up schools or roads. The community plan of settlement, as at Kapuskasing, would have simplified the problems of roads and schools for this country. And roads and schools are the two most pressing needs of the North Land.

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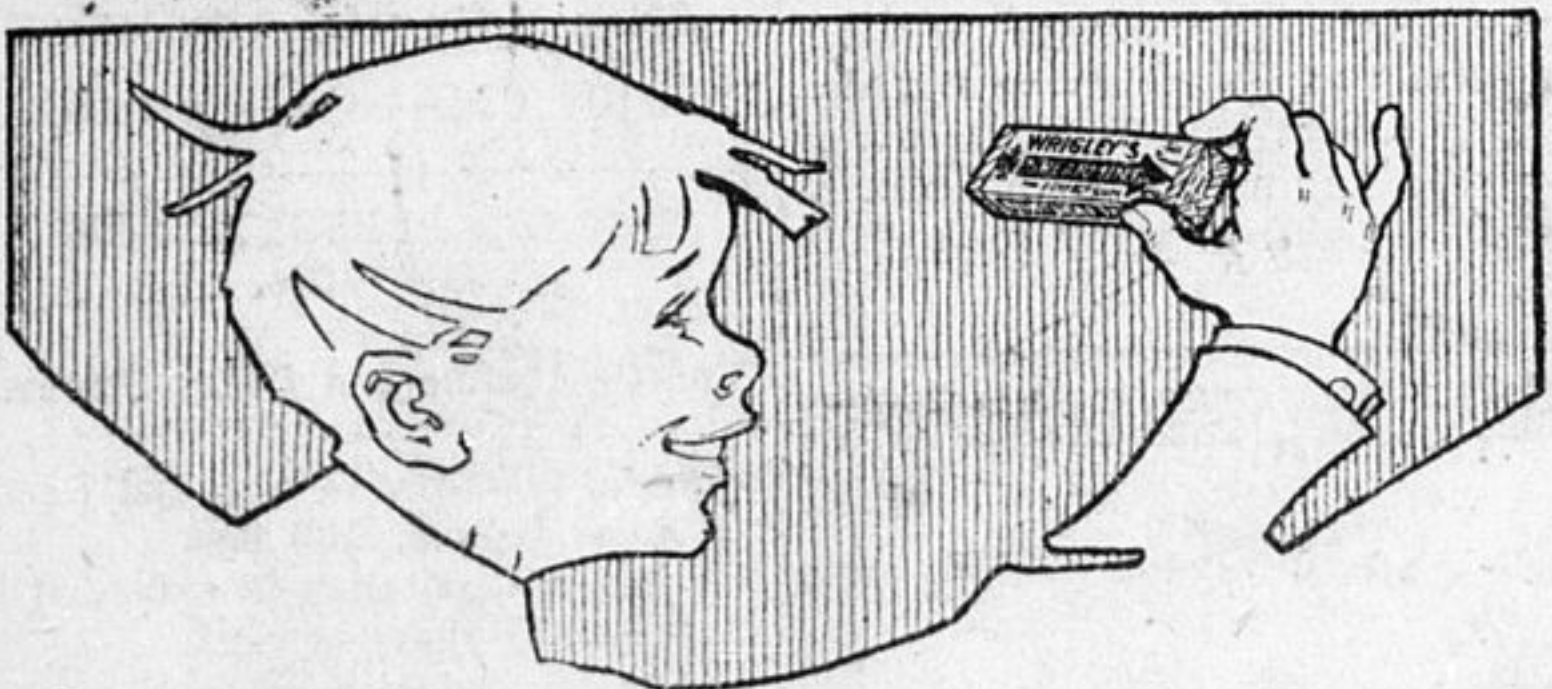
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