

# THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE

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## CONFERENCE ON COST OF LIVING COMMENCES WORK

Committees Formed at First Meeting And Good Work Starts With Best Spirit Shown

The first meeting of the Conference called to consider the high cost of living and to seek the causes and then remedies for the problems was held on Wednesday evening of last week in the Council Chambers, Timmins. The following were present as representatives chosen by the various bodies and interests asked to co-operate:—The Mines—Mr. Brigham, of the Hollinger; Mr. Laux, of the Dome; Messrs. J. Shewan and Geo. N. Deckert, of the McIntyre-Porcupine. For Tisdale Township—Councillor Muskett. Miners' Union—Messrs. L. S. Newton, P. O'Neill, L. Duesharm, N. McKinnon, H. Charlebois. Town Council of Timmins—Mayor McInnis, Councillor A. Brazeau, Councillor E. J. Longmore. Timmins Board of Trade—Messrs. R. J. Jemmett, J. W. Reed, J. A. Devaney, T. F. King and D. Ostrosser. Goldfields Branch of the Great War Veterans' Association—Messrs G. A. Smith, P. Dougall, J. T. Macgregor, P. Macaulay. Mr. Geo. A. Smith, President of the G. W. V. A. was elected chairman of the conference and Mr. H. W. Hooker, secretary. Then the resolution forwarded by the G. W. V. A. of Timmins was read to explain the purpose of the conference. This resolution published on several recent occasions in these columns referred to the prevailing industrial unrest, giving the chief cause of the discontent of the people as the high cost of living, and inviting Labor, Merchant, Mine Owners and others to co-operate with the G. W. V. A. in seeking to solve the problem. The chairman followed this resolution by saying:—"The time has come for action, direct and prompt. Delay, and yet more delay, has been almost the sole cause of unrest and discontent among the people. We believe a remedy dealing with such a vital question as the prices on foodstuffs and the necessities of life will greatly relieve the present unrest. And the Goldfield Branch of the G. W. V. A. wish it to be clearly understood that we serve no party no "interests," and no combines, but we do wish to serve Canada, to our utmost."

After this came a general discussion. Mr. J. A. Devaney pointed out that the conference should seek to learn if there were overcharge in prices by local merchants. He quoted prices here and at Iroquois Falls for children's boots to suggest how comparisons might be made. Dr. McInnis explained that at present he had an open mind on the question of the profits of local merchants. It was up to the Conference to gather information, etc., to show whether local profits were exorbitant, and to seek remedies for the high cost of living, no matter what the cause might be.

Councillor Muskett in a brief but helpful address showed the success of co-operative stores in Great Britain. He thought they might be equally successful here and so prove of particular value in reducing the cost of living. Mr. P. Dougall had a word of defence for the commercial travellers. Instead of adding to the cost of living as many thought they did, they helped keep down that cost by their useful service. Without the travellers calling here the merchants would have to go to the big centres to buy their goods, so the total expense would be much greater than at present.

Mr. Laux, of the Dome Mines, suggested that a "Grievance Committee" be formed to enquire into local prices and find out if exorbitant charges were made. Customers could report what they thought to be high prices and the Committee could then investigate. Mr. Laux also referred to the fact that the Dome Mines Store had recently made a big reduction in the prices of all goods handled, but the Dome was putting up the loss so entailed.

A suggestion by Mr. Geo. N. Deckert was to the effect that some saving might be secured by local merchants by larger shipments to reduce transportation cost. Mr. Brigham expressed his sympathy with the purpose of the meeting and offered full co-operation in the work of the Conference.

An interesting and valuable address Mr. Macaulay took up the issue in the cost of living in recent years. He noted figures to indicate the increase in the cost of different lines of necessities, and also touched

## PRINCE OF WALES TO VISIT HERE IN AUGUST

Official Notice Received of Coming of Heir to Throne. Exact Date Not Set

Dr. McInnis, Mayor of Timmins, received word this week of the expected visit to Timmins and the Porcupine Camp of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The exact date has not yet been set, but will likely be known by the end of this week. Dr. McInnis is going to North Bay this week in connection with the expected royal visit and definite arrangements will likely be completed during the Mayor's visit to the Bay. The Prince of Wales is to make a tour of Canada and on his way to the West will visit Timmins and the Porcupine. It is expected now that he will be here some time during the month of August, and the purpose is to give the royal visitor a royal good time when in Timmins.

H. R. H. Edward Albert, now Prince of Wales, was born June 28th, 1894, the eldest son of King George and Queen Mary, (then Prince and Princess of Wales). He was created Prince of Wales on June 22, 1910. Some years ago he entered the Royal Navy as a Cadet and served in that service until after the war commenced. Then he enlisted with the First Grenadier Guards and saw much service in the Great War.

## MCINTYRE WINS AGAIN IN FOOTBALL SERIES

In the district Football League series of games McIntyre added another to its list of wins on Saturday evening when after a close but gentlemanly game Timmins-Football Club lost to the McIntyres, the score being 1 to 0. The game was played at Schumacher and a number from Timmins went over to view the game and all agree that it was one of the very best matches held in the district this year. McIntyre was shy its star player, Bancke Northey, who was laid up from injuries received in the Iroquois Falls game of the previous week, but replaced him with another player and certainly had a good team for the occasion. Timmins was also in hard luck, on account of the fact that the captain of the team, one of the best of the Timmins line-up, J. Staples, was not able to play on the team, not being entirely recovered from the injury received in the game here with the Porcupine-Dome. By calling on some of the old-timers, however, Timmins managed to take over a team and McIntyre had to work hard for the close win. At the end of the first half it was a no-score game, but in the second half the McIntyres managed to get in one goal, and despite the most earnest efforts of the Timmins boys they were unable to equalize the score. The game thus ended a win for McIntyre, 1 to 0, but the Timmins team were satisfied in that they put up a good game, were fairly defeated, and had the knowledge that both sides played a gentlemanly and square game all round. The many spectators also enjoyed the game thoroughly and used the visitors in first-class manner. The game thus had the good feature of making the best of feeling between the two teams, and all were satisfied. The line-up for Timmins was:—Hallowell, Geroux, Fields, Roberts, Hoole, Stevens, Bridger, Mullin, Keith, White, Hodge. For McIntyre the players included:—Williams, Coris, Lynn, Bewey, Norris, Prie, McCluskey, Burns, Callan, Brier.

Oscar Robertson refereed the game. As usual, "Slim" made some spectacular stops in goal his first work being, according to custom, one of the features that particularly pleased the crowd.

## ORANGE CELEBRATION AT HAILEYBURY ON TWELFTH

The Orangemen of the North Lake this year are to celebrate the "Glorious Twelfth" at Haileybury and a big day is planned for Saturday, no less than six members of parliament being expected among the special speakers for the day. Refreshments will be served on the grounds for the convenience of visitors who wish to remain there through the day. A number from Timmins and district expect to go down for the celebration on Saturday. The special train will leave Timmins at 4.20 a. m., the returning train for all points north leaving Haileybury at 6 p. m. Dr. Williams, Past Grand Master of Ontario West, of Woodstock, Ont., is among the distinguished visitors expected at Haileybury for the day.

## MINES AND LABOR TO CONFER ON FRIDAY

There is to be a meeting of the representatives of the mines and of labor at the McIntyre office on Friday afternoon to talk over the questions of interest and importance to the men and mines. Five mines,—the Hollinger, the McIntyre, the Dome, the Porcupine-Crown, and the Davidson, will be represented at the meeting. The Labor interests will be represented by Mr. J. R. Hawley and Mr. John Muskett, Councillor of the Township of Tisdale. This meeting will consider and discuss any matter affecting the welfare and progress of the mines and the men and there will be general confidence that good will result. As The Advance has suggested in previous issues the outside talk of the possibility of labor troubles in this Camp may safely be said to be unfounded. Perhaps, the joint meeting referred to may have some effect in making this clear to the outsiders who seem to have a penchant for discovering troubles and difficulties that do not exist for those closer the scene of action. Neither the men nor the mines show any disposition other than to do all possible to avoid misunderstanding and difficulty. The mines in the Porcupine Camp, and particularly the five named have shown the most sincere desire to do all possible to make conditions as good as can be for the men and to add any comforts and advantages for the people in general in the Camp. There are many recent indications of the good spirit on the part of the mines, and the men show an equally reasonable and commendable spirit. Added to this now is the fact of the two "getting together." The average thoughtful citizen will feel now that everything is practically settled. Neither side is unreasonable or unfair, and both friendly disposed towards the other it will not be difficult to come to mutual understanding and arrangement, so that everything will be so clearly and so openly "jake" that outside pessimists will have no room for idle talk and the Camp will prosper and progress to the mutual advantage and satisfaction of all.

## Notes, Comments and Opinions Of Interest To Mining World

According to despatches from Cobalt the price of silver averaged a fraction of a cent above \$1.10 per ounce during June, and so an additional bonus will likely be paid by the Cobalt Mines. The bonuses paid, including this new one, will total \$1.50 a day.

The Patricia plant and mill at Boston Creek was destroyed by the bush fires last week, and the buildings on the Cotter property were also burned down. The other plants in the district were saved by the rainfall on Friday.

The Pas Herald says:—Messrs. H. M. Paull, Black and Hague, the latter two Australian soldiers, are touring the copper fields. Mr. Hague is a newspaperman and his impressions of the mineral fields will be the subject of several newspaper articles he will write for the London Times.

The West Shiningtree Camp is showing considerable activity these days; among the properties being actively developed may be mentioned:—Wasapika, Miller-Adair, Reel-Foisy, Gilbert Bennett, Atlas, West Tree, Herriek, Anzac, Knox, Queen of Sheba, and George Caswell claims, quite an imposing list for a new camp.

The shaft at the Davidson is being continued from the 500-foot level, now being down close to the 600-foot level. The shaft has persisted in ore averaging about \$12.00 per ton in gold, which exceeds the expectations. As indications are for better values at depth, developments at the property will be watched now with special interest.

One of the items of interested discussion in mining circles is the suggestion that the Dome Mines will issue monthly reports giving a summary of the progress of work at the mines, including the amount of ore treated, the amount of gold recovered and the cost per ton of ore treated. Mr. J. S. Baehle, president of the Dome Mines, is quoted as favoring the monthly report to shareholders.

## NEWS OF FIGHT RECEIVED BY WIRE FROM RINGSIDE

Through the enterprise of the local office of Hamilton B. Wills, the news of the contest for the world's heavy-weight boxing championship was received here as the fight progressed, by special wire direct from the ringside at Toledo. The office of the brokerage firm was crowded Friday afternoon at the time the contest commenced, and interest was high. While all thoroughly appreciated the excellent wire service given by the Hamilton B. Wills staff, there was much disappointment in the crowd when it became apparent, as it did almost from the opening of the event, that Willard was putting up no sort of a fight at all. The battle was perhaps the speediest and most one-sided that ever decided a big pugilistic event. To all intents and purpose big Jess Willard, the belt holder, was whipped by Jack Dempsey in the first round. Indeed Dempsey thought he had been given the decision and was leaving the ring after the first round, in which he had knocked Willard down seven times. He was called back and the "fight," if such it could be called, continued for two more rounds, the referee in the third round giving the decision to Dempsey, Willard being completely out of the fight. The attendance at the fight was about half what was expected and spectators lost heavily on the sale of tickets. There was only a comparatively small amount of betting in Toledo, and the wagers throughout the country generally were not as numerous nor as heavy as in former similar events. Of course, there are now many who can say, "I told you so" regarding the ability of Willard as a pugilist, while others, with perhaps more foundation, take the stand "Mr. Fix It" is liable to be around before the fight, just as "Mr. Fix It" comes to Timmins to the New Empire Theatre a week after the contest.

Mr. Jas. Staples went down to North Bay on Thursday last to meet his wife and little daughter just arrived from England to join him here. Mr. and Mrs. Staples and little daughter returned here on Saturday and will reside in the Camp.

## TENDER OF L. MASCIOLI FOUND TO BE LOWEST

Three Other Firms Tender on Waterworks Extensions and Sewers Installation

At the special meeting of the Town Council last night the tenders for the work of putting in the new waterworks extensions and installing the sewerage system were opened and the tender of Mr. Leo Mascioli was found to be the lowest and was accepted by the Council. It is understood that Mr. Mascioli's tender was in the neighborhood of \$50,000.00, being for the work of construction only, the town supplying all materials. The tender covers both the waterworks extensions and the sewers, and as soon as the contracts are formally signed the work will be gone on with. There were three other tenders:—Hill-Clark-Francis, McCausland & Anderson, and Wilde & Co., (of Sault Ste Marie). The Mayor and all the members of Council, except Councillor Stador, were present at the special meeting. The formal by-laws in connection with the waterworks and sewerage construction were given their due readings and passed and everything made ready for the work to proceed. There will be general satisfaction when Mr. Mascioli commences on the work, for there is general confidence in his ability to complete the work in first-class shape and general satisfaction that a local man wins the contract.

## TOWN LEAGUE BASEBALL GAMES IN NEXT FEW DAYS

In the Town League Baseball series a number of interesting games are scheduled for the next few days. Tomorrow (Thursday) evening McIntyre and Hollinger play at Schumacher. On July 13th Hollinger and Firemen play once more and the Firemen are out to reverse the result of the previous game while the Hollinger are out to see that they suffer no such reverse. On Wednesday evening of next week (July 16th) the Firemen and McIntyre play here.

## WAR VETERANS MAY HAVE BIG DAY HERE JULY 19th

Saturday, July 19th, is set apart as the National Holiday to observe the victory of the Allied Armies and the signing of the Peace With Victory. The Goldfield Branch of the Great War Veterans Association have been considering the giving of a big day here on that date, and a meeting of the Veterans has been called for Friday evening of this week when the matter will likely be decided. The Veterans had intended sharing with the Baseball Club in the organization of a Sports Day on Civic Holiday here, but many of the members consider that the National Holiday this month would be even more appropriate as "the Day" for the Veterans. If the Veterans decide to have a big day here on the 19th the Civic Holiday event will be reserved for the Baseball boys. No doubt the question will be dealt with at the meeting on Friday night, and for this reason a full attendance of the Veterans is asked for by the officials of the Branch.

## WINNER OF PRIZE SOLD 470 TAGS FOR JULY 1ST.

The winner of the special prize given for the young lady selling the most tags for the First of July event here was Miss Jean Roberts who sold 470 tags. Miss Maggie Cole was a close second with 463 tags sold, while Miss Beatrice McCracken was not far behind, having 427 tags sold to her credit. Miss Solina Moses sold 360 tags. Miss Edith Haughland sold 107. The one or two others selling tags disposed of only a few, the real contest from the beginning being between the five young ladies mentioned. Last week when figures were published as to the number of tags sold, all the returns were not included, so the figures were lower than those given above. With all the returns in, however, the tag selling concluded in the order suggested last week:—Jean Roberts (470); Maggie Cole, (463); Beatrice McCracken, (427); Solina Moses, (360); and Edith Haughland, (107).

Serg. Robt. Callum, who went overseas with the Pioneers, returned to the Camp last week. He is one of the old-timers of the Porcupine and is busy these days greeting old friends and acquaintances.

## HEAVY RAINS CHECKED FIRE MENACE IN NORTH

Much Damage, but No Loss of Life From Bush Fires in the District

The several bush fires raging in the district last week did considerable property damage and on Wednesday looked threatening for still further damage, but fortunately there was no loss of life and the rain on Thursday and Friday and the cooler weather since did away with all immediate danger to the settlements. As more than one man remarked, the rains last week were worth a million dollars to this district.

One of the heavy sufferers from the fire was Col. Worthington whose total loss will be easily \$25,000.00. His lumber, mill, logs, barns, outbuildings, etc., were destroyed by the fire and only the most strenuous efforts of the Colonel and a gang of his men over a stretch of many hours saved the residence on the property his house being about the only property left on the whole big estate. Within a few yards of the house on all sides the fire scorched and blackened and destroyed, and only the most heroic and persistent efforts saved the house. The smoke and heat were terrific, and several times the house caught fire. Timbers were thrown into the river to save them from the fire, but the wind drove them against the banks and the fierce heat consumed them, logs and lumber burning right in the river. Much sympathy is felt for Col. Worthington, one of the pioneers in lumber mill and other lines here, who has surmounted all sorts of difficulties and was just building a big business after years of gallant effort.

Another heavy loser was Mr. T. Lawlor, whose loss will be fully \$3,000. Others have lost quantities of green timber, hard to estimate as to value, but the total value will be considerable, though the individual losses may not seem large. No other buildings were destroyed and fortunately no lives lost in the fire. The rain damped this fire, but another smaller bush fire has started from some brush. This brush was one of the dangers in the district and Wednesday permission was said to be given by the fire rangers for the firing of this brush on Desotell's farm. After the rain the fire livened up and got away. A large force of men are now busy fighting this fire and keeping it in line where it will do little harm.

One of the oddities of the bush fires to the south and west of the town was that though over four miles were burned along the Transmission line, the power was not interfered with. In the fire back of the Success Mines some of the poles were burned but the wires and guys held them up; it may be the same with some of the poles near the other fire.

Reports of the destruction of several mining plants in the northern part Tisdale were unfounded, though there were fires there that placed them in some danger and had to be fought back. One of the serious fires was that behind the Success Mine. The rain damped it, and stopped immediate danger, but this week it is in progress again on a small scale. No settlements, however, are endangered, and the fire rangers are on the job, though they could secure better men easier if the Govt. paid more wages. Porquiss Junction was seriously threatened on Wednesday last, but after strenuous work the fire was fought away and the rain finished the good work. On account of the smoke and heat one day trains waited a distance up the line for connections.

At Iroquois Falls there was also some danger last week, but the good work of the fire brigade there turned the danger. Several settlers in the district were burned out, but no lives lost.

At Connaught and other points along the line there were bush fires and some damage done, but in each case the rain was the great fire-fighter. Around Haileybury there were also serious fires, but the rain again turned the menace. At Cochrane there was also some danger, while west of Cochrane several fires of large proportions were in progress.

In all cases the danger to settlements was much exaggerated in the reports appearing in the outside press. Indeed some of the reports were criminal in view of the alarm needless created in the minds of relatives and friends in the south. Scores of telegrams were received here showing this unnecessary alarm, while the town was in no immediate danger.