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## HON. MR. BOWMAN TALKS ABOUT FOREST RANGING

Services to Be Re-Organized. Fire  
Wastage to be Stopped, Etc.

According to the despatches from Toronto last week, Hon. Beniah Bowman, while his estimates were under discussion in the Legislature, informed the House that important changes were contemplated in the Department of Lands and Forests. There would be changes particularly in the forest ranging service which he thought greatly needed improvement. Ontario last year, Hon. Mr. Bowman said, suffered a heavy loss through forest fires and it would be the policy of the Government to take measures to eliminate this fire wastage as far as possible. He pointed out that one change would be the building up of a permanent fire ranging service, with experienced men who would be in the employ of the Department all the year. In reply to Mr. Mageau, of Sturgeon Falls, Hon. Mr. Bowman gave assurance that he was alive to the necessity for getting experienced men rather than "college boys."

Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, the last Minister of Lands, Forests & Mines, did become fully seized of the necessity for more practical protection from forest fires for the North Land, and there is reason for believing that he would have done something of value had not other influences at Toronto prevented. Hon. Beniah Bowman will find the same influences at work against his plans—the chief foes being "ignorance of the country and its conditions," and a "false economy" that thinks that it is nearly criminal to extend money anywhere but in the southern parts of the Province. However, in any efforts he may make for the betterment of the North's protection from the fire menace, Hon. Beniah Bowman may be sure of very hearty co-operation and appreciation from the people of the North-Land. Also, he may know that expenditures in forest fire protection are truly "economies" in the best sense of the word. The amounts already spent in years gone by on "relief" would, if properly expended for "prevention" have made the "relief funds" much less likely to be called for. The protection of life of course is the great question and something that should be placed above all thought of money, but the property to be safeguarded by proper methods is also something to be considered in this forest fire protection question.

## TALK ALSO ABOUT THE PORCUPINE V. N. T. MINES.

The annual meeting of the Porcupine V. N. T. Gold Mines is to be held in Toronto on May 27th. It is suggested by many that at this meeting some plan will be submitted to shareholders regarding the re-opening of the mine at an early date. The "man about town" generally has a "hunch" that the V. N. T. is going to resume operations before very long. The V. N. T. property is equipped with a mill having a capacity of about 100 tons a day. At the 600-foot level there has been much development work done with results much better than on the upper levels. It is thought that the V. N. T. will strike its best in mining at depth.

## AGE LIMIT FOR JUNIORS CHANGED IN FOOTBALL.

The Northern Ontario Football Association at its recent meeting at Iroquois Falls decided to change the age limit for members of the Junior League to 17 instead of 16 years of age. The matter was brought up by the representatives from Timmins, who pointed out that the rule as adopted by the annual meeting practically made a junior league an impossibility, as well as debarring many young lads, who were early in the senior class, from active football. After some discussion and consideration the rule was amended so that all boys who were not over 17 on April 30th of this year are eligible for the Junior League. An other important ruling in the matter of the Junior League was the adopting of the rule that a member of the Junior League may play two games during a season with the Seniors, but if he play three games with the Seniors he will be disqualified thereafter from playing with the Juniors. The rule is much more lenient than that obtaining in hockey and other sports in this matter. The N. O. F. A. idea is that a promising junior should not be debarred from playing with the Seniors to fill in an occasion, while at the same time it is recognized that a lad good enough to play three or more games with the Seniors must be about in the Senior class of player.

At the meeting of the N. O. F. A. at Schumacher the schedules for the King and Dickson cups, as given elsewhere in this issue, were also adopted.

## TO FINANCE GOLD REEF FOR EXPLORATION WORK.

An effort is being made at present to finance the Gold Reef Mining Company, the plan to be adopted being the underwriting of a large block of shares, it is said. This would provide finances to carry out an extensive exploration and development campaign. It is said that diamond drilling on the Gold Reef in the past indicated the existence of payable ore at depth. A number of very rich showings of free gold were found on the property when it was first opened up and there were other encouraging signs. The Gold Reef is north-east of the Davidson, and recently there has been special interest in this part of the Porcupine. There may be considerable activity in this part of the Camp this summer from all accounts.

Haileybury is now in proud possession of the captured German gun given as a trophy to the District of Temiskaming for its high standing in the last Victory Loan campaign.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Shillington, of Haileybury, are on a visit to Texas and other points south. Mr. Shillington has material interests in Texas oil properties and during the past few months has paid several visits to the south as matters of special importance have arisen.

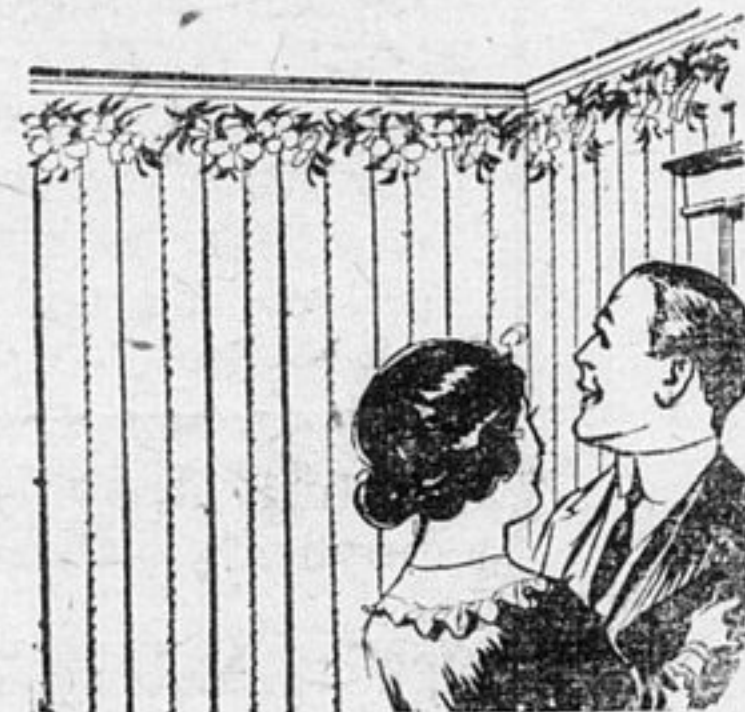
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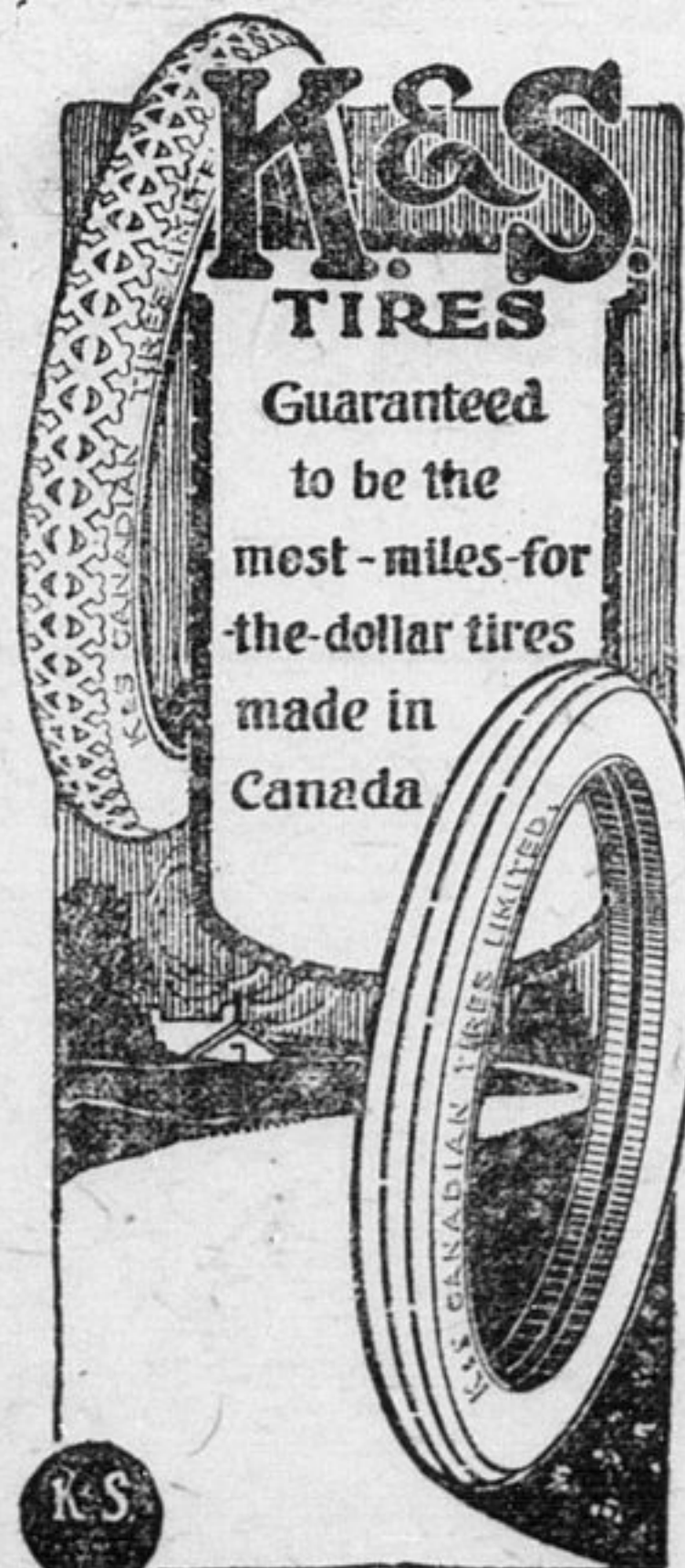
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