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**MORE FOR PROTECTION
MEANS LESS FOR RELIEF**

Government Should See NOW That North Towns Are Made as Safe As Possible from Bush Menace.

At the Board of Trade meeting on Thursday evening Mr. Chas. M. Auer had some clippings from current news papers relating to the cash contributions so generously donated for relief work among the fire sufferers of the recent disaster in central Temiskaming. These figures made no pretence of being anything like a complete list of the donations yet they totalled close to half a million dollars. Counting the gifts of clothing, provisions and supplies, the final total is likely to materially exceed the half million mark. The people of Ontario, it may be said are generous and noble enough to give half a million dollars for relief. Is it possible that the people of Ontario are so niggardly and unfeeling as to refuse even lesser sums for PREVENTION? The response to the call for relief after the disaster was a credit to the humanity of the people of Ontario. Will the response to the appeal now being made for preventative measures be treated with indifference? This idea should be very carefully considered by the Ontario Government at this time. It appears to the Advance that the people of Ontario would much prefer to spend a little money for prevention of disasters, rather than a lot for relief. Half a million dollars would go a long way to remove the bush fire menace from the towns of the North Land. And The Advance believes that the people of Ontario will give gladly and generously for preventative measures just as they gave so nobly for relief.

Timmins is in no more dangerous position than any other North Land town. Indeed, this town is probably better situated so far as the bush menace goes than most North Land towns. In addition this town has spent money without stint for fire protection purposes. Timmins has done practically all that may be done by any town to secure the safety of its people and their property. But it is not right to disguise the fact that this town is menaced by the bush on at least one side. Year after year the Government has been urged to have this menace removed. Resolutions, delegations, interviews, etc., etc.,

have been used in vain. During the next few days another delegation is to approach the Government in the matter. Will this delegation meet or more success than previous ones? After urgent appeals to two successive Governments, and extending over a period of some six or seven years of urging and argument, less than \$5000 has been expended directly by the Province to date to assist in relieving the town of the bush fire menace. The bush hazard, to the south and southwest especially, is a menace to practically ten thousand persons in this Camp, to say nothing of the danger to property. Relief funds may help to counter-act property losses, but what man or woman in this Province would have even one life lost for all the Relief funds that ever existed. The Government would do well to take a leaf out of the book of Timmins in the matter of fire menace. Here, "Prevention" is the point always emphasized by the Fire Department, the idea being to use every possible means to prevent fires and in cases where fire does start to prevent its spread. Within the borders of the municipality Timmins has done wonders for fire prevention and fire protection, in view of all the difficulties and conditions. Its one fire menace now is beyond its jurisdiction. The Government alone has the authority and power to see that Timmins is made reasonably safe from the danger of bush fires. The Government may rest assured that it will have the general support of the people of the Province in dealing with the question. The people will not object to reasonable expenditures that will mean the protection of human life from a real menace. Certain small strips of bush near Timmins should be removed at once. The delegation from here will impress this fact upon the Government. The Government should not be deterred from immediate action by the comparatively small expenditure required. The people of Ontario would prefer to spend a little for prevention rather than a lot for relief after disaster has come and human lives are sacrificed.

**FIRST MINE IN NORTH TO
INSTALL OIL-DRIVEN PLANT**

The Hattie Gold Mines, Coulson Township, Painkiller Lake district, has the distinction of being the first North Land mine to instal an oil-driven mine plant. The plant is now in active operation and is proving satisfactory and economical. According to reports the cost of operating this oil-driven plant is only about 60 per cent. of what it would cost to operate by steam. If the plant at the Hattie continues to work smoothly and successfully it is probable that it will be the first of many similar plants for the newer mines of the North Land.

**TEMISKAMING MUTUAL
INSURANCE CO. HARD HIT**

The recent fire in central Temiskaming was a serious blow to the Temiskaming Mutual Fire Insurance Company. This Mutual Co. had its headquarters at New Liskeard, and its shareholders, chiefly farmers in the New Liskeard area, were also its policy-holders. So many of the policy-holders were burned out that the Temiskaming Mutual did not seem to have much chance to meet its liabilities to the policy-holders. However, the Temiskaming Mutual was a member of the Mutual Fire Underwriters' Association of Ontario, and the executive of that association held a meeting to see what could be done to help out. The Ontario Mutual Underwriters represent 72 mutual companies in the Province, and these companies carry approximately \$435,000,000 worth of fire insurance. The suggestion of the Executive was that each policy-holder in all the 72 companies be assessed a small amount to help out the Temiskaming Mutual. The amount suggested was 12 cent on each \$1000.00 worth of insurance carried. This would bring in around \$52,200.00 which would more than meet all the liabilities of the Temiskaming Mutual. Also, it would not be felt by the policy-holders of the various Mutual companies, most of the policies being for less than \$5,000.00.

The Temiskaming Mutual Fire Insurance Company was organized about two years ago, and as its rates are on the low side as usual with Mutual companies, it has not had time to grow any surplus to meet the unusual demands made by such a fire as the recent devastating one. The Temiskaming Mutual has some 243 members with insurance carried of about \$400,000.00. The loss in the recent fire is estimated to total between \$32,000.00 and \$50,000.00 which from an eight to a twelfth of the full amount carried. If the Mutual companies carry out the suggestion of the Mutual Underwriters' Executive, and it is understood they will, the Temiskaming Mutual Fire Insurance Co. will be able to pay all losses in full and carry on business as before. It is to be hoped that some such plan may be adequate so that the Liskeard farmers may not suffer the further loss of insurance.

LOST—SMALL PURSE, ON THIRD AVENUE, Timmins, containing small sum of money. Finder please return to McIntyre Mercantile Co., Schumacher. Reward. -43.

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