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FUTHRER PROOF OF THE VALUE OF FINLAYSON ACT

Reference to Decrease in Population of One Township Settled Fifty Years. False Sentiment Should be Dropped in the Matter.

Among the newspapers taking thoughtful and helpful part in the discussion of the act proposed by Hon. Mr. Finlayson for better settlement and for reforestation, none have been more informative or shown a more patriotic attitude than The New Liskeard Speaker. The Speaker is in particularly good position to speak on the question having a thorough knowledge from long residence in both places concerned—the Muskoka area and the North Land's Clay Belt. Last week The New Liskeard Speaker had another editorial article on the question and this article should prove of great advantage in giving the general public the right perspective on Hon. Mr. Finlayson's carefully considered plan. The Speaker says:—

"Mr. Mark Langford, of McLean, Muskoka, has a letter in the Bracebridge Gazette on the Hon. Wm. Finlayson's bill for removing unsuccessful farmers in the Free Grant Districts to better farming land and the planting of trees on the vacated and other lands in these districts.

"No man in Muskoka is better fitted to give information to Mr. Finlayson, nor is there any man whose word stands for more in Muskoka than our old friend, Mark Langford.

"Of course, Mr. Langford favours the Finlayson bill, and supports his views by quoting figures to show the decline of farming in his township. Leaving out reference to the decline in assessment the fact that whereas prior to 1875 there were 48 persons living on their farms in McLean, there were only 33 settlers living on their farms in that township in 1926, after a lapse of 50 years, shows that the township is not suited for purposes of agriculture.

"We quote the concluding words of Mr. Langford's letter below in short lines: "Some of our 2200 readers may think this a dark future but I assure them that I have the welfare of this township in mind as I have been a resident since the first log cabin was built in the year 1870. I have seen the growth, stagnation and decline of farming here and have no hesitation in saying that the hardships and privations endured and the labour expended in clearing land not fit for agriculture is nothing less than tragedy and that it was a colossal blunder when the townships of McLean and Ridout were opened for settlement under the Free Grant and Homestead Act of 1868."

"It may be seen that Mr. Langford refers to the sentimentalism of some of the old-time settlers as Mr. Ham-mell, ex-M.P., did in his letter. It seems to us that the sooner all persons concerned in the important matter the minister has in hand should forget sentimentality the better for them. The Government of to-day at least are not responsible for the "colossal blunder" of 1868. Mr. Finlayson is busy on a plan to make the best of that blunder, and surely he has the right to expect that the settlers who made the blunder of staying on this inferior land all these years will help him all they can. In our first reference to this subject two weeks ago, we stated that the Government would not remove any farmer in the Free Grant districts against his wish. Since then we notice by the Timmins Advance that Mr. Finlayson has made a statement to this effect. So, sentimentalists now living in the Free Grant districts may rest assured that they will not be disturbed. Indeed one cannot but sympathize with them. Years and years of toil has been wasted, and now many of them are unable to commence again on new uncleared land, no matter how good the soil, and free from rock and stones.

"We again repeat what we said two weeks ago, viz.: that farmers who are doing well in the Free Grant districts should stay there. The man who settles on a green bush farm in Temiskaming cannot make a living on his location for several years and it is best that this fact be known. Also, let the fact be known that when a man in the Clay Belt has his farm

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RED FOX WATCHED ON LAKE TEMISKAMING RECENTLY.

The Haileyburian last week says:— "Several citizens had a good view of a red fox on the ice of the lake here on Friday last. The animal had apparently come from somewhere down the lake and when observed was going in the direction of Dawson's Point. He came in fairly close to shore near the Haileybury wharf and could be plainly seen from Ferguson avenue. It is a rare occurrence for these animals to leave the woods and there is always something interesting in observing their movements."

CANADIANS SHOULD ATTEND WORLD POULTRY CONGRESS

Reference was made last week to the fact that Mr. D. R. McDonald will exhibit some of his prize-winning poultry at the World's Poultry Congress at Ottawa this summer. It is to be hoped that other poultry fanciers in Timmins and district will follow the same example. There are several poultry fanciers here who have birds that they need not be ashamed to exhibit against any others in their class. Furthermore, there seems to be special need for exhibits by Canadians, if the Dominion is to get the most possible out of Congress. The Congress will include leading poultry exhibits from all over the world, but that need not frighten Canadians, as is plain from what one celebrated poultry expert told a parliamentary committee last week. The poultry world is following the development of the industry in Canada and at the coming world's poultry congress Canadian exhibits will again dominate, according to F. C. Elford, poultry division, Dominion Experimental Farms, who addressed the agricultural committee of the House of Commons. Canada holds all records for egg-laying and while phenomenal production may not be desirable in the whole, its value as an advertisement for the Dominion has been great, Mr. Elford said. Mr. Elford said that at least 30 countries and probably 40 would be represented at the congress. The United States would send 3,000 accredited delegates and he stressed the need for a large attendance of Canadian delegates if the representatives of overseas countries were to go back home praising Canadian poultry and not United States poultry. The congress should be kept Canadian.

ONTARIO PRODUCTION OF GOLD IN FEBRUARY

Short Month of 28 Days Accounts for Apparent Slight Decrease in Production.

Returns from the gold mines of Ontario for the month of February received by the Ontario Department of Mines show the record of gold production for the second month of 1927 to be slightly below that for January, and also lower than the monthly average for 1926. This is due to February being a short month of 28 days. Comparative record of output of Ontario gold mines follows:—

Source and Period—	Ore Milled Tons	Crude Bullion
Porcupine—		
Calendar year 1926.....	3,180,943	\$23,810,626
Average per month.....	265,079	1,984,219
January, 1926.....	269,325	1,946,563
December, 1926.....	278,775	1,971,990
January, 1927.....	292,484	1,926,908
February, 1927.....	265,559	1,885,833
Kirkland Lake—		
Calendar year 1926.....	521,190	7,192,393
Average per month.....	42,777	599,458
January, 1926.....	34,167	575,128
December, 1926.....	52,853	718,407
January, 1927.....	50,696	600,354
February, 1927.....	50,103	592,230
Miscellaneous—		
Calendar year, 1926.....	538	4,979
Total for year 1926.....	3,700,695	31,180,671
Average per month.....	308,391	2,598,389
Total for January, 1926.....	303,492	2,521,691
Total for December, 1926.....	331,628	2,690,397
Total for January, 1927.....	343,180	2,527,262
Total for February, 1927.....	315,662	2,478,063

*This total includes the silver contained in the crude gold bullion marketed, but not the gold recovered in the refining of nickel-copper mattes. During February producing mines in order of output were as follows:—

Porcupine—(8)—Hollinger, Dome, McIntyre, Vipond, Ankerite, Consolidated West Dome Lake and Paymaster. March Gold Mines marketed gold produced in 1926.

Kirkland Lake—(7)—Lake Shore, Teck-Hughes, Wright-Hargreaves, Kirkland Lake Gold, Barry-Hollinger, Tough Oakes and Argonaut.

GIRLS' BOWLING TEAMS SCORES FOR MARCH 24th.

The following are the scores of the Girls' Bowling Teams, March 24th:—

A Team		
J. Morrison.....	153	199
G. Everett.....	118	129
M. Francis.....	81	100
L. McIntosh.....	88	153
V. Jackson.....	104	135
B Team		
F. McDonald.....	157	115
O. Ramsay.....	84	152
M. Taekaberry.....	122	90
M. Hanlon.....	109	152
G. Robinson.....	85	102
C Team		
M. Smith.....	230	142
N. McLeod.....	136	143
M. Morrison.....	113	159
M. Alway.....	154	82
M. Ferguson.....	139	175
D Team		
A. Hill.....	123	156
I. Carruthers.....	142	124
C. McDonald.....	117	159
K. Egan.....	81	106
J. Acheson.....	122	102
Substitutes		
H. Sprague.....	63	98
R. Garbutt.....	87	87
N. Treleaven.....	107	106
J. Bogie.....	118	99

VETERAN RECOVERING THE SIGHT OF HIS EYE

Last week's issue of The Northern News says:—

"Comrade Atwell, of the Cobalt Legion, who had one of his eyes painfully injured during the excavation of the High School basement, when a piece of rock which flew from the point of a drill he was operating, imbedded itself in the eyeball, is reported to be making good progress toward recovery of a fair portion of the sight of the eye. Following the accident he was taken to North Bay and the piece of rock was successfully extracted. Later however, a cataract formed. Last week through the efforts of the Canadian Legion, he was again sent to North Bay for treatment and an operation for the removal of the cataract was performed with such success that in a letter he states that he has recovered about 40 per cent. of his sight. A second operation was to be performed this week which it is hoped will give him back still more use of the damaged eye."

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