

SUGGESTS "GRUBSTAKING" THE PIONEER SETTLERS

President of Frontier College Refers to the Hardships Endured by the Homesteaders

For years past The Advance has been urging the Government to give some special attention, consideration and help to the settlers in this country. It is only a week or two ago that The Advance referred to the situation of many of the settlers in this immediate district. The Children's Aid received complaints that certain youngsters were not receiving proper food and clothing and that they should be taken away. The complaint was founded on considerable fact in so far as the youngsters going rather "shy" on clothing and skimped on food, but it would have been a crime in these particular cases to take these children away from the good homes that were their own. The parents were honest, upright, industrious and well-meaning. Poverty was their only offence. All that could be done was to give them temporary help from private charity. At the same time their situation is too common to be adequately met by private relief. It is something that should have Government attention. The previous attitude of the Government forgetting all about the settlers, except to accuse them of setting bush fires, must be completely reversed. The Government must lend an intelligent helping hand to the settlers until they get established. Something of the need, and the way to remedy it, are indicated in a recent pronouncement by the president of the Frontier College. In editorially discussing the matter The North Bay Nugget last week says:—

"Mr. Alfred Fitzpatrick, president and principal of the Frontier college, is campaigning on behalf of the homesteaders. Out of his intimate experience of conditions on the borderland of civilization, he declares that the present method of leaving these hard-working and courageous people to themselves, to work out their own destiny as best they may, is not only bad for them but bad for the country. "It cannot be stressed too strongly," he says, "that a homestead is not a revenue producing farm, and no man can make a living while giving his time to clearing his land." Either the man must neglect his land and seek some other kind of occupation to support himself and his family—which will mean that his property will not be cleared for thirty years—or he will remain on his farm, and, if without means of security to offer a loan, it will be but a short time before the place will have to be abandoned. Even the man with a family whose members are able to go out and earn wages to send in to their parents cannot hope to clear his land, in wooded areas, in less than twenty-five years. The plight of the wife and family left on these undeveloped homesteads to carry on in the absence of the father, forced to make a living elsewhere, is distressing. The woman has to do the heaviest kind of work, hauling and cutting firewood for the winter months, gardening, as best as she can, on the little cleared patches in summer, and is faced continually with the most serious problems, not least of which is disease. Mosquitoes and flies do their fell work, and it is often out of the question to get skilled attention when sickness comes. It is in the direction of preventive measures that the solution of the problem lies. "In mere self-defence," says Mr. Fitzpatrick, "we should make conditions liveable on the frontier, for healthy cities are impossible so long as northern plague spots remain on the map."

"What is the suggested remedy for these unsatisfactory conditions? Mr. Fitzpatrick considers that society is under an obligation to come to the rescue of the homesteaders. He suggests that a "grub stake" of say, \$800 be advanced to every man willing to go on to the land and improve it, to be paid back in three or four years. This would mean the rapid development of the wooded areas. It would be possible for the homesteader to slash in windrows twenty-five acres the first winter, burn it two or three times, and plow and cultivate it within five or six years, provided he were supplied with the necessary funds to remain on the land and get the work done. "Prepared farms and assistance in cash and kind for the half-dozen or more years when living producing farms are being carved out of raw homesteads is a necessity if the problem of homes and work for the workless is to be solved in this generation," it is maintained.

"The duty of advancing these "grubstakes" rests with the cities, says The Hamilton Spectator. If these workers are prepared to go on to the homesteads and toil at the hard and unprofitable task of converting them into farm lands, it is only fair that the city dwellers, living in comfort and profiting by the exertions of the pioneers on the frontiers, should make some contribution to the work. By providing money for homesteaders, the cities would go a long way towards supplying a solution of their own unemployment problems. Part-time employees could be accommodated on these lands, to the great advantage of themselves and the province in general. Every willing worker has the right to an assurance of employment, and if it is not possible to provide it in the cities, it is the part of wisdom as well as of justice to assist the un-

employed to go where it may be found. Mr. Fitzpatrick cites the words of Sir Henry Thornton and of Hon. C. A. Magrath, to the effect that the assistance of needy settlers is one of the most important tasks before the country. "The presidents of our two great railways and not a few other big business men, while perhaps holding different views as to details, are at one in the matter of unified control and in the essential thing—the expenditure of large sums of money in assisting new settlers," he remarks."

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Laurin, of Hailbury, observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage last week. A surprise party visited the couple on the occasion, and many beautiful and costly gifts were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Laurin.

LOCAL SCOTSMAN HAS A SERIOUS PROBLEM NOW

Some time ago The Advance published a story about a Scotsman who put in a hard day's work at the break-up season, cleaning off the ice from the sidewalk to find a nickel which he had most unaccountably dropped in the snow sometime before Christmas. But now in very truth the originator of the story is hoist with his own petard, or bitten with his own dog, or any other similar expression you may care to use. He is sport enough, however, to tell the new and true story, at his own expense:—

The other evening he was turning over a few sods on his lawn, when, behold, as a sod left his spade and found rest again, grass down, on the bosom of Mother Earth, his face lit up with joyous ecstasy, for nestling

among the rootlets was the welcome form of a perfectly good nickel. He pounced upon it with avidity, lest a worm might seize it and cheat him of his treasure. What rapturous bliss was his portion, no tongue can tell!

He continued the labour, with joy in his work, and in a short time, beneficent fortune smiled upon him once again, although not with quite so rick a smile, for a second sod, in similar manner, yielded up a cent. Ye gods and little fishes, was ever man so fortunate!

But, alas, as Burns wrote, "Pleasures are like poppies spread; you seize the flower, the bloom is shed," so now the hero of the tale finds himself in the awkward predicament that his Scottish blood insists it to be absolutely incumbent upon him—to dig up the whole of his lawn. Well, who knows?

ENGLEHART CLERGYMAN LEAVING FOR MOOSE JAW

The Englehart Times last week says:—

"The Presbytery of North Bay-Temiskaming met in New Liskeard on Monday last, when a call from Huntsville to Rev. W. N. Ferguson was dealt with, and Rev. A. R. Ferguson of Englehart was appointed to conduct the Ordination and Induction Service as Moderator of the Presbytery, assisted by Rev. J. R. Sanderson of North Bay. A call from Knox and St. Paul's congregations in Moose Jaw to Rev. A. Ferguson of Englehart, was also received by the Presbytery and placed in Mr. Ferguson's hands. He will accept the call, and will preach his farewell sermon in Englehart on June 10th."

K. OF C. OF THE NORTH LAND GATHERS AT NORTH BAY

Members of the Knights of Columbus from all northern centres gathered at North Bay on Monday for the purpose of participating and assisting in the exemplification of the fourth degree of the order to be conferred on a class of 80 candidates by degreee officers from Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and Montreal. The class comprise candidates from North Bay, Sudbury, Chapleau, Cochrane, Timmins, Iroquois, New Liskeard, Cobalt, Hailbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Espanola, Sturgeon Falls, Mattawa, Callender, Renfrew, Pembroke and Ottawa.

The Englehart Times last week says:—"Mrs. John Gray left on Wednesday last to spend a few days with her son in Timmins."

THE 2ND ACT -- SCENE TWO !!

NOW for the BRANCH STORE STOCKS OF THE BUFFALO STORES BANKRUPT SALE

GET READY — EVERYBODY !!



A. E. Moss says
In justice to your family, your home and your pocketbook, don't fail to come. Every article in this Branch store will be cut to the core.
YOU BENEFIT

THIS BRANCH STORE HAS BEEN CLOSED TIGHT
While the liquidation of the main store took place

The doors will swing wide open to the buying public
Saturday Morning, June 9th
AT 10 O'CLOCK

A large staff of sales people are now preparing this stock for the crowds that are sure to come to the greatest bargain feast in years, we truly say---
If you can't buy your greatest bargains now, never expect to do so again

So you may know: This stock consists of
Clothing, Shoes & Furnishings
FOR
Men, Women and Children
AND IT'S ALL TO BE SACRIFICED REGARDLESS OF THE LOSS

The Call to Economy
Cutting prices still deeper for our necessity is your golden opportunity---Take full advantage of it for perhaps nothing like it will ever happen again in Timmins
AROUSE YOURSELF TO ACTION !!!
For you will find values that you will not forget for many a day
BUY NOW OR REGRET LATER

Remember--Time and tide wait for no man. The low prices stand out like a lighthouse
The time--Saturday. The Place--on the corner of
Mountjoy & Third Ave.
The Buffalo Stores Branch Stock