

### KIRKLAND LAKE ACCUSED OF BEING WIDE-OPEN TOWN

Report of Brewery Inspector Reflects on Conditions in Kirkland Lake Gold Camp.

A week or two ago it was the whole North Land that was accused of being given over to wine, women and cards. The Premier, the Minister of Mines, the head of the Provincial

Police force and others in a position to know made sharp denial of insinuations that conditions were bad in the North. Now it is Kirkland Lake that is receiving undesired and probably undeserved notoriety on the plea that conditions are not good at Kirkland Lake. The truth is that Kirkland Lake is as good as the average town down south, so far as the law and decency are concerned. Indeed, it is likely that Kirkland Lake is much better than most Old Ontario towns. For a mining camp Kirkland Lake is most orderly and

circumspect. The facts, however, are not so much what is wanted. What is desired, apparently, is a nice little bunch of sensationalism. One man who knows Kirkland Lake is emphatic in denying the stories regarding bad conditions in Kirkland Lake. "What little truth there may be in the stories is more than overshadowed by the exaggerations," says one old-timer of the North. But what is a lie or two between friends!

The story, however, has been widely circulated as to Kirkland Lake's situation. Here is one sample despatch:

"That Chief Johnston, of Kirkland Lake, is to have authority to hire whatever help he may require in policing the municipality, and that the police are to be provided with an automobile, are decisions reached by the Teek township council, following upon a report by J. Tripp, the brewery inspector, who complained of conditions here, both by letter and by personal interview with members of the council. Chief Johnston had maintained that it was difficult in many cases to get convictions, he considered he was handicapped in not having sufficient men, and he asked for another officer and a car.

"In his reports, Mr. Tripp complained that there was considerable bootlegging and crime in town, and he thought the time had come when the police should clean up Kirkland Lake. He had been notified by the Liquor Control Board, he said, to be careful in his duties and he wanted the council to have his report before bringing affairs to the attention of the board. Council felt the report should be made to the provincial authorities, and not to the municipality. Mr. Tripp told council that its members and the police were being freely criticized in Kirkland Lake.

"The inspector said he was responsible to the board to see that the purchasing of beer did not become an abuse. The limit was five cases per week, but he knew, Mr. Tripp said, of instances where 15 cases were sent to one house by means of several permits held by different people. In a club he had visited there had been gambling in progress, the inspector reported. Mr. Tripp who told the council he had heard the police were taking "hush money," suggested that "spotters" should be hired to have the law enforced in Kirkland Lake."

In the notes from The Nugget files of fifteen years ago, The North Bay Nugget says:—The first conveyance on wheels to travel between Swastika and Kirkland Lake went out this week. This rig was driven by Bob Martin of the Kirkland Lake hotel, and his first passenger was Frank Evans of the Teek Hughes mine."

### CANADA'S RADIO CONTROL SYSTEM DUE FOR CHANGE

Hon. P. J. Cardin Sketches Proposed New Plan Based on British System

Timmins has perhaps as large a number of radio owners for its population as any town in Canada. Further it may be noted that in the very early days of radio the interest here exceeded that even in the cities. Mr. M. J. Caveney, of Sandy Falls, who lived for a time in Timmins, conducting a regular radio shop here, was not only a pioneer of radio in the North, but he was also a genuine pioneer of radio for this province. To-day the general interest here in radio is so pronounced that anything in regard to the welfare of radio will receive special notice. Accordingly The Advance is making this rather lengthy reference to the debate in the House of Commons last week when a tentative scheme of national broadcasting which the government has under consideration was discussed. Reference was also made to the contrasting treatment of the International Bible Students' Association and The Toronto Star in the matter of radio broadcasting.

Hon. Mr. Cardin, minister in charge of radio, declared the inevitability of some scheme of national broadcasting and went on to deny that he had treated the International Bible Students with any injustices, or the Toronto Daily Star with undue partiality.

"We have made up our mind," he declared in communicating the view of the Government, "that there must be a change in the broadcasting situation in Canada. We have reached the point where it is impossible for a member of the Government or for the Government itself to exercise the discretionary power which is given by the law and by the regulations as they stand at present, for the very reason that the moment the minister in charge exercises his discretion the matter becomes a political football all over Canada. This is not desirable, although I admit it is a logical consequence of the law and regulations as they stand to day. We should change that situation and take radio broadcasting licenses away from the influences of all sorts which are brought to bear by all shades of political parties. This will avoid trouble for the Minister and the Government and, I think, will result in greater satisfaction to the public at large."

Declaring that the Government was not prepared to evolve a scheme at the moment because it did not have all the information which it desired in its possession, Hon. Mr. Cardin sketched, nevertheless, the general plan which the Government had in mind.

"We are inclined to follow," he said, "that plan which had been established and which is operating at present in England; our idea would be to establish a company, the shares of which would be the property of the Canadian Government, and appoint special men who are called governors in England, to look after the issuing of licenses and the regulation of everything else in regard to this important business."

In the investigation which it was proposed to have a commission make during the recess, Hon. Mr. Cardin stated, the feasibility of such a scheme would be fully studied.

The remainder of the time upon the radio estimates was devoted principally to a discussion of the cancellation of the license of the International Bible Students and of the full-time broadcasting privileges which the Toronto Daily Star had been accorded. Hon. Mr. Cardin denied that he had acted arbitrarily in the one case and in a partisan manner in the other, and proceeded to lay down the principle upon which he disposed of the privileges of the air.

"We speak and we hear very much," Hon. Mr. Cardin declared, "about the freedom of the air. I do not hesitate to say that the air is as free as it ever was before. But the use of the air has never been free, and as far as radio is concerned, the use of the air cannot be free, because if it were open to anyone to use the few channels of communication that we have in the radio service the result would be chaos. This is a matter which has to be regulated or controlled

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ed for otherwise there is not liberty or advantage to anyone. "I have always understood," Hon. Mr. Cardin further argued, "that my freedom and my liberty stops where my neighbour's begins, and I cannot invade the path upon which my neighbour is travelling. I have to respect his rights as much as I expect him to value mine. Honorable gentlemen who have spoken already have spoken of the freedom of the air, but freedom only for broadcasting people. I am for the freedom of the air in the interests of the listeners in first of all, and I think that no broadcasting station has any right simply under the phrase 'the freedom of the air' to impose upon me or upon anybody else his convictions or opinions and to force me to listen to them the whole day or night; that is the position."

J. S. Woodsworth (Labor, North Centre Winnipeg) interrupted to inquire why the minister should cancel the license of such an organization as the International Bible Students and then grant a license to a firm of whisky distillers.

Hon. Mr. Cardin replied that he had already indicated the grounds upon which he had taken his position. He could not set forth any more plainly, and must be prepared to meet disagreement from any members to whom they did not appeal as sufficient.

Mr. Geary returned to the question of the privileges which had been accorded the Toronto Daily Star. One station—namely, CJYC—had had its license cancelled, he declared, and another—namely, CFRB—had been transferred to another wave length, with the result that the Toronto Star station had been left in exclusive possession of the 840 kilocycle wave length.

"This is an extraordinary consequence," Mr. Geary contended, adding: "I may not blame the minister personally, but I do suggest that strong recommendations were made to the Government to clear the road."

Hon. Mr. Cardin averred that he could not be accused of partisanship in the matter since he had accorded similar treatment to the London Free Press and the Halifax Herald, both of which were Conservative papers. He contended that where an exclusive wave length was available a newspaper had the best right to it, and declared that where he must choose between such a broadcasting agency and another, he would favour the news-

paper. "The contention," he conceded, "is that the Toronto Star is not an important station, and that it should not be given the advantage of a single wave length. Well, I am free to admit that the Toronto Star is not a very strong station, but I would point out that a station can always and very easily be improved. The radio industry and radio science are developing more and more, a station which is not very effective to-day may be improved materially."

### WHAT STYLE DIPLOMATS FOR DOMINION OF CANADA?

The Ottawa Journal last week deals with the matter of Canada's growing list of ambassadors, etc., in the following words that sound somewhat sarcastic, don't they know:—

"Are our diplomatists, when we send them abroad, going to be bluff fellows who will tell it to the foreigners straight—and through interpreters? Or are they going to be sleek gentlemen, merrily in picking the right spoon, and who will wear spats, one-button coats, and the inevitable gardenia? It being the duty of all to take a stand, let us say at once, and without hedging, that we're for spats and gardenias. Diplomacy, after all is not a profession. It is a fine art. A good hand-of-tea-to-a-Duchess often fits neatly into a crisis where an abler man who made a noise with his soup would be hopelessly inadequate. He is, to begin with, likely to know two or three languages, including his own; and in the present fallen state of the world a talent for saying musical nothings to the wife of a Foreign Minister may actually be of the most practical service with the most august and dominant power. If any of our he-men doubt this, then we advise them to go up to the parliamentary library and get Mr. Burrell to oblige them with a load of memoirs by diplomatists. We have neglected our work and family as much as any reading such books, but they at least convinced us that most treaties, wars, compacts, covenants and intrigues of all sorts originate in the atmosphere of teas, tennis and dinners. A real ambassador has simply got to have "It."

### PRODUCTION AT THE DOME MINES FOR MONTH OF MAY

Production of Dome Mines for the month of May, according to an official statement, amounted to \$300,687, as compared with \$275,941 the previous month and \$325,997 in May 1927. For the first five months of the current year the output totalled \$1,545,757, against \$1,608,371 for the corresponding period of 1927. For the past few months production has shown considerable irregularity, but it will be recalled that at the company's annual meeting General Manager H. P. DePencier stated that this was to be expected.

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