

"We Have Never Been in Such Distress," Say the Settlers

Petition Sent to Minister of Lands and Forests From Townships of Shackleton and Machin, Begging Relief. Other Sections in Equally Serious Condition.

For some time past The Advance has been calling attention to the hard lot endured by the settlers in this North Land. Some months ago reference was made to the situation of settlers in the area from Porquis Junction to Cochrane. Other references have been made to settlers nearer here. There is no question but that the settlers are having a difficult, almost an impossible situation. As The Advance has pointed out, the Government should go into the matter deeply and devise a proper remedy for the whole situation. Either the country should be taken out of settlement altogether, or the settlers should be given a better chance than they are receiving. Surely, it is recognized that the settlers are the real, permanent, hope of this new land. Are they not entitled to a fair show? The Advance publishes here-with an article from The Cochrane Northland Post editorial columns that sets out the situation in a way that should place the conditions fairly before the Government:—

"The Board of Trade is in receipt of a communication from the municipality of Shackleton and Machin townships, enclosing a petition sent by them to the Hon. William Finlayson, minister of Lands and Forests, pleading for alleviation of the hardships which the settlers of those townships are suffering and asking the Cochrane Board of Trade to support the petition, which in part reads:

"We are facing an actual crisis. Our present situation is intolerable. The settlers ask us to tell you the situation such as it is. There is no work here at all for them and they are without money and the merchants refuse to sell on credit. Consequence is many families are destitute and if there is no change in a short time many will be starving. Such a crisis has never been seen here before but with the Government's good will and help it is possible to remedy this misery. The way is this—we need roads in this district. Perhaps you are not aware that there are many settlers living on their lots who, for 5, 6 and 7 years have been awaiting roads to their homesteads. Then why would the Government not build these

roads when the settlers have no work and need to eat? The Government would kill two birds with one stone; build the roads which should be built, and prevent the settlers from starving. Permit us, honourable minister, to remind you respectfully of the promise which you held out in Cochrane at the time of your last visit to help our country. We have never been in such distress. Therefore we ask you and the Government to begin immediately the roads which are absolutely necessary to the settlers. Our request is seconded by Monsignor Halle, our Bishop, and the settlers demand with a loud voice that the Government act immediately."

"Something appears to be decidedly wrong with regard to the progress of the country west of here. One has only to travel east along the C. N. R. through out neighbouring province to be impressed by the prosperous looking farms in the claybelt in contrast to the rather spasmodic and crude development west of here.

"The same soil, the same class of people, both east and west, and yet there is a difference like between day and night. There must surely be some reason for it which calls for study and rectification.

"We have never been greatly impressed with the colonization policy followed in Northern Ontario as compared with that in Northern Quebec and have always felt that the bona-fide settler here does not receive the same encouragement as his brother in Quebec. Certainly the result of the past fifteen years development shows such great discrepancy between Quebec and Ontario that it calls for the best efforts of the Department of Lands and Forests to find a way out of the present impossible situation.

"We have always felt that the Northern Development Branch, if not exactly a misnomer, does not do all that the name implies. We have, for instance, the Ferguson Highway from North Bay to Cochrane, which this fall is expected to be completed to Hearst. There can hardly be any misapprehension that this highway must be considered as part of the Trans-Canada Highway and as such should have been constructed by the

Department of Public Works with the usual assistance from the Federal Government, in which case, the money spent for the construction by the Northern Development Branch would have been available for alleviating the distress of settlers.

"It is quite true that settling on the land by pulpwood farmers commonly known as flabber sharks, have been a detriment to the progress of agricultural development here, but after all, the remedy lies in the hands of the Department of Lands and Forests alone and surely steps could have been taken to prevent such abuse without penalizing the bona fide settler as it is done now through harsh measures in limiting cutting permits and thereby aggravating the hardships and distress of the real pioneer. If the Department of Lands and Forests cannot protect the bona-fide settler and assist him to become a real farmer, where can we look to for the development of the country. And the real development will not take place until the farms take the place of just cut-over lands.

"We certainly cannot see any advantage in the promiscuous granting of patents for homesteads to absentee owners who as land speculators await the time when the bona-fide settler has created surrounding farms by industrious application of cultivating the soil. We have some glaring examples of this practice right at the borders of our town. On some of these lots forlorn-looking shacks give a ghastly appearance of absentee occupation and may rightly be considered a deterrent to those who do not know that a lenient Government has shut an eye in granting the patent without enforcing existing regulations. It must appear to the stranger that the land had been deliberately abandoned and therefore these vacant lots stand as monuments of failure to them."

SOUTH PORCUPINE WINS SR. BASEBALL GAME 15-7.

In the Senior Baseball series, at South Porcupine last night, Timmins was defeated with a score of 15 to 7.

In the column reproducing items from The Nugget's files of fifteen years ago, The North Bay Nugget on Tuesday published this paragraph from The Nugget of July 17th, 1913: "If building operations can be taken as an indication of the future growth and stability of Timmins, the town will soon be among the banner communities of the Porcupine region. Since the end of the strike there has been unusual activity, and now twenty new buildings are in the course of construction."

Jasper National Park a Spot of Great Charm and Beauty

Canadian Weekly Newspapermen Find Canada's Beautiful Natural Park a Delightful Holiday Resort. Successful Convention at Edmonton. Timmins Publisher on Executive of Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Lake returned on Friday last from a visit to the West to the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association at Edmonton, Alberta, and the holiday trips enjoyed by the members of the association in the rightly world-famous beauty spots of the great Canadian West. Among the delightful places visited none could equal Jasper Park, the Dominion's wonderful national park at Jasper, Alberta. Probably, there is no other similar spot in the world more impressive and more restful and refreshing in its natural beauty, its magnificent scenery and the extent and variety of its attractions.

The trip to the West was a very pleasing one, the service of the Canadian National being of the very best. A day was spent at Winnipeg, where the pleasures of Winnipeg beach were enjoyed, the Winnipeg golf course tested out, and the various sights of the thriving modern city viewed. Another day was passed at Punnichy, Sask., a town of about 250 that has the distinction of having a newspaper of its own, with an intertype typesetting machine and other modern equipment.

Edmonton, Alberta, was reached on Tuesday evening and the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association opened its sessions in that thriving and kindly city on Wednesday. The convention was held at the Macdonald Hotel, a large and modern house of comfort and entertainment that gave the guests the acme of service and attention. The convention was a very successful one, over 250 members of the association and their ladies being present and many important papers, addresses and discussions taking place. Edmonton and Alberta gave the most genial and sincere welcome to the visiting Canadian newspapermen. On Wednesday at noon a luncheon in honour of the delegates was given by the Alberta Division of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association. A kindly and clever speech of welcome was given by Fred Turnbull, president of the Alberta division, appropriate response being made by S. N. Wynne, president of the C. W. N. A. Other speakers included: H. G. McCrea, secretary-treasurer of the Alberta division of the Daily Newspapers, and John M. Imrie, of The Edmonton Journal; and Hon. Mr. Browning, the premier of Alberta. In the evening a banquet was tendered the visitors by The Edmonton Bulletin and The Edmonton Journal. This delightful event was presided over by John M. Imrie, manager of The Journal, and one of the speakers of the evening was the Lieut.-Governor of the province, Hon. Wm. Egbert, and the Minister of Agriculture and Health, Hon. Geo. Hoadley, whose rare humour and wit were features of the evening.

The convention continued on Thursday, and so did the rain. It rained all Wednesday and Thursday, and like in this district, the West has been enjoying (?) too much rain this summer. Crops have been harmed by the extra downfall of water this season. Another particularly pleasing feature of the entertainment of the delegates was the luncheon for the ladies in the party, provided in elegant way by the Barber-Ellis Co., Clark Bros. & Co., the Provincial Paper Sales Co. and the Toronto Type Foundry Co. The Edmonton Rotarians also kindly and specially entertained the men at luncheon on Thursday.

At the convention the C. W. N. A. elected the following officers for the ensuing year:—

Immediate past President, S. N. Wynne, Yorkton, Sask.
 President, H. B. Anslow, Campbellton, N.B.
 1st Vice-President, Hugh Savage, Duncan, B.C.
 2nd Vice-President, Malcolm MacBeth, Milverton.
 Secretary and Treasurer, E. Roy Sayles, Renfrew, Ont.
 Directors were selected for each of the provinces, those for Ontario being:—
 Ontario—Lorne A. Eedy, St. Mary's; A. W. Marsh, Amherstburg; F. A. J. Daves, Carleton Place; J. A. MacLaren, Barrie; Geo. Mitchell, Hanover Port; Geo. Lake, Timmins; Fred Elliott, Alliston; W. A. Fry, Dunnville; D. Williams, Collingwood.
 On Thursday evening the Canadian National Railways provided one of their elegantly-appointed special trains to take the delegates to Jasper Park. It is impossible to describe the wonders and the beauties of Jasper Park in cold print. It must be seen to be appreciated, and it is well worth travelling thousands of miles to enjoy this delightful area of natural beauty and charm. Jasper Park is the largest national park on the continent. It covers an area of 4,400 square miles. It has aptly been described as a mountain kingdom of natural beauty, being as large as some European countries, and almost uncomparable for charm and attraction. It has all the appeal of natural scenery, the mountains, the lakes, the rivers, the rural beauty spots with all the conveniences and pleasures. The golf course is said to have cost over a million dollars, but it is worth every dollar of it. Swimming pools, tennis courts, excellent roads for motoring, fishing, boating, motor and saddle sight-seeing trips, camping, hiking, wonderful scenery at every turn—these are a few of the joys of Jasper Park. On one drive a buck deer, a bull moose with call, and Rocky Mountain sheep were seen close by. The district teems with interesting wild life. Bears and deer crossed the golf course, unafraid, but heedful of cries of "fore." In brief, it is a wonderful natural beauty spot unspoiled. Yet the advantages of modern life are all there also. There is the Jasper Park Lodge, with accommodation for 500 persons. Its service is perfect. Everything retains the look of nature, all the structures being finished beautifully in the natural wood. The Lodge, with its regular village street of handsome little cabins is a model of what may be done with wood to make beauty and utility. The service at the Lodge is something that the larger city hotels might envy. Mr. J. O'Brien, the manager of the Lodge, has the gifts of the ideal host.

Mr. Riddell, of the Canadian National Railways, looked after the details of the C.W.N.A. tour with a courtesy, tact and skill that meant perfect service, and the C.P.R. representative was equally successful.

On the return trip three days were spent at Winnipeg where the golf courses were again thoroughly tested and tried and found to be O.K.

Notes of Interest

Born—In Timmins, on Saturday, July 14th, to Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Brewer, 107 Birch st. south—a daughter.

Miss Iris Budd, now of Detroit, but formerly of Timmins, was visiting friends and relatives in town this week.

Born—At St. Mary's hospital, Timmins, Ont., on Tuesday, July 17th, 1928, Mr. and Mrs. John Power, Matagami Heights, a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wray left last week for Toronto where Mr. Wray has taken up his new duties as office manager of the Toronto office of the A. E. Moysey Co.

Mr. J. Guthro leaves this week with five men for the Guthro-Monek Syndicate property in the Red Lake district. A campaign of exploration and development work will be carried through on the property.

A very feeling little poem on the different "tenses" on the matter of gardens will appear in the next issue of The Advance written by a poet who speaks whereof he knows and feels, apparently.

According to the index of the House of Commons Debates, session 1928, just issued, Mr. J. A. Bradette, M.P. for this riding took part in six debates as follows during the session. Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne; Canadian National Railways, Municipal Taxation; Mining Industry and Tariff Reduction; Exportation of Pulpwood; Taxation of Railway Property; Spraying Chemicals.

Mr. and Mrs. Perrault, Miss Perrault and her brother, all of Rouyn, motored here on Saturday from the Quebec town to spend a few days with their brother, Mr. Wilfred Perrault, of the Timmins Police force. They returned by motor to Rouyn on Tuesday. They found the roads from Rouyn here to be in hard condition for travelling by motor, the strip at Ramore and another stretch near Golden City giving the most trouble.

A reception is being held this afternoon at the home of Mrs. John Gurnell, John street, in honour of Mrs. J. A. Melnis, past Regent of the Imperial Order Daughters of The Empire, at which she will be presented with a Life Membership in the Provincial Chapter. The hostesses will be Mrs. Booker, Mrs. W. D. Wat; and Mrs. Gurnell. The presentation will be made by Miss Ellen Cops, and the address read by Miss Kathleen MacNabb.

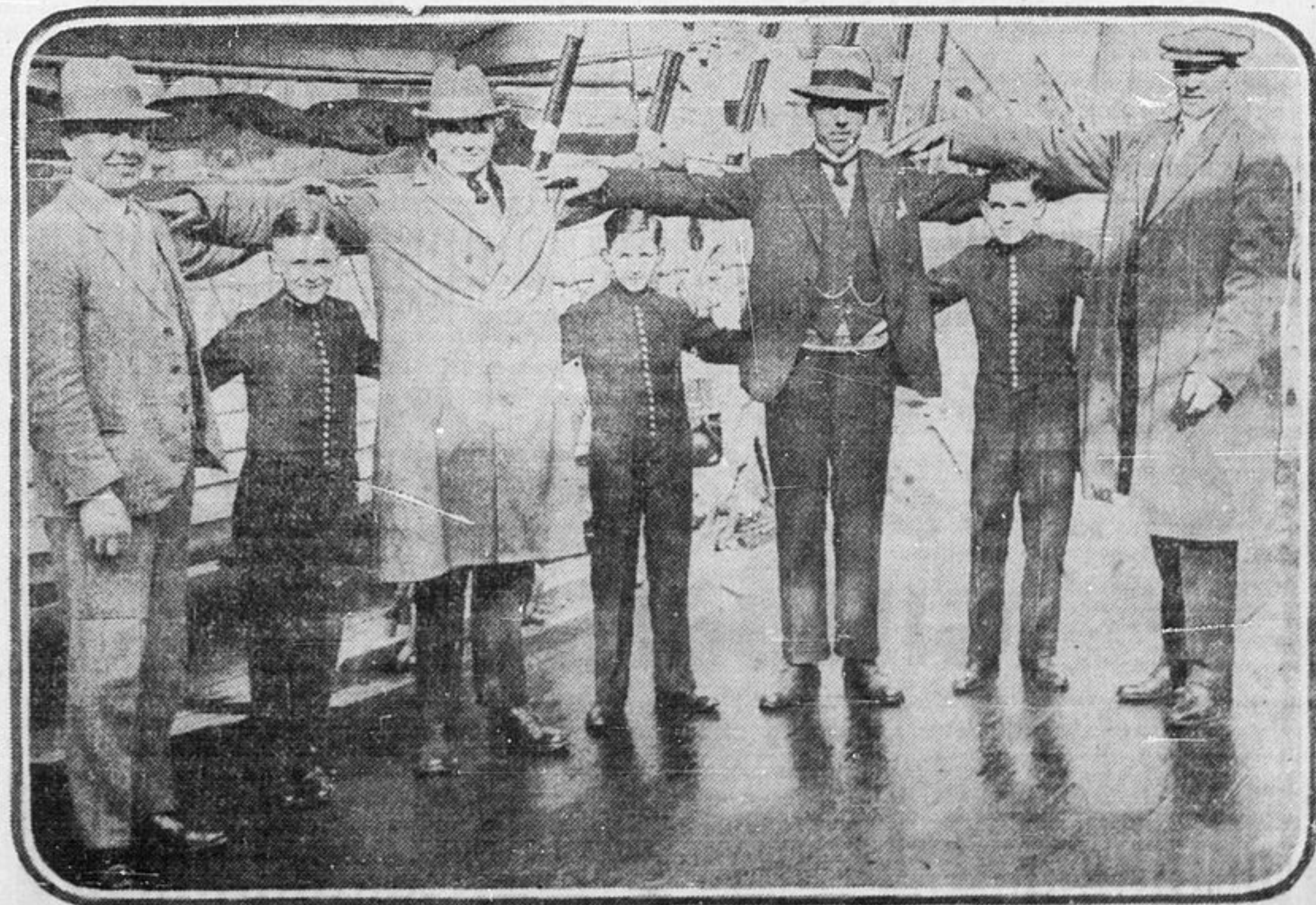
YOUTH DROWNS TRYING TO SAVE TWO OTHER BOYS

A despatch yesterday from North Bay says that Finlay Porter, 16 years of age, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Porter, of Maymont, Sask., was drowned on Monday when he went to the aid of his brother, Sheridan, 14 years, and his cousin, Noel Gagnon, of Smooth Rock Falls, when they slipped off a log on which they had been playing at a distance of ten feet from the shore, off Fisher's Point, on Lake Nonsbong, near Bonfield. When the log sank under the weight of the boys, Sheridan called for help and Noel Gagnon went to his assistance. Then the two lads seemed to get into difficulties in that speedy way that so often characterizes drowning accidents, and Finlay went to the help of his brother and cousin. Dr. Smith, of Lima, Ohio, noticing that the three lads were in danger gave very prompt assistance. He succeeded in getting Sheridan and Noel to safety, finding them then at the point of death. He had to spend some minutes reviving them. Then he went to the rescue of Finlay Porter, only to find that this brave lad had disappeared. The body was recovered some time afterwards and later shipped for interment at Maymont, Sask., where the father is agent for the C.N.R.

GOLFERS TO PAY VISIT TO IROQUOIS FALLS THIS WEEK

This week-end a party of golfers from Timmins club are going to pay a return visit to Iroquois Falls. Any golfers wishing to join in the trip should get in touch at once with Mr. J. R. Todd, or sign their names on the board at the club house.

Six-Footers from the Hebrides



Four stalwart crofters, all over six feet in height, who left the Hebrides where they "scratched a bare living by tending sheep", to settle in Ontario. They reached Canada this summer in high spirits. The picture shows three cabin boys comparing their stature with the settlers aboard the Anchor-Donaldson liner Letitia, on which the Hebrideans crossed the Atlantic to begin a new life.



Sales of Studebaker's Erskine Six during the first six months of 1928 exceeded the entire year of 1927 . . . have you seen the new and finer Erskine introduced this month?

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