



**A Mid-morning Pick-me-up**

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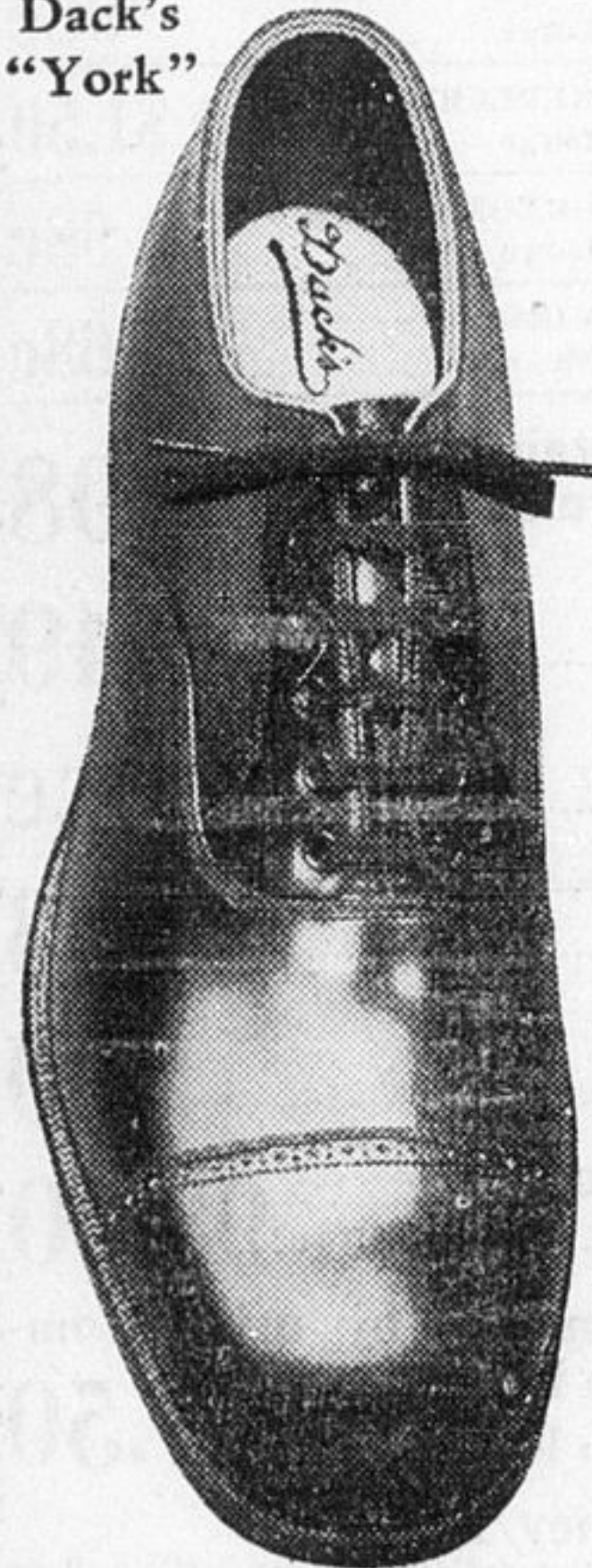
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## Reply to Open Letter About North by Hon. W. Finlayson

**Cochrane Northland Post Takes Up the Points Made by the Minister of Lands and Forests, and Answers Them on Behalf of the North Land. Gives Credit to Interest and Sympathy of the Premier for the North.**

Some weeks ago S. B. Gundy wrote a letter to the press about the attitude of the North Land, which the Toronto man suggested was ungrateful for all the favours of the South. To Mr. Gundy's letter the Northland Post of Cochrane made reply, this answer being published in The Advance last week. Next, Hon. Mr. Finlayson replied to The Northland Post, this reply being published elsewhere in this issue. Finally, The Northland Post editorially replies to Hon. Mr. Finlayson, this latter reply being given below. The Northland Post's editorial last week says:—

"In another column appears a letter from Hon. William Finlayson Minister of Lands and Forests, taking umbrage at our editorial of the 15th of March. While the letter does not carry Mr. Finlayson's autographic signature, we have no reason to doubt that it is official and has been sent by his direction.

"If Mr. Finlayson could have heard the universal favourable comments on our editorial he would realize that we did not altogether express our personal opinion but rather reflected the general opinion of most of the people here and in so doing we avoided any harping tone in our comments but tried to place the situation before him and the Government as it actually exists here, which to our mind certainly comes under the category of constructive criticism. Neither Mr. Finlayson nor the other members of the Government realize the downright hostile feeling which universally exists here, and opening their eyes to such prevailing conditions and opinions should be considered as a helpful act and was in no way meant to "try to harass the Government and create difficulties."

"Personally we are aware that Premier Ferguson has his heart and soul in the North County. We have too many instances of his helpful and keen interest which he has taken in the solving of the problems here, to doubt this in the least. We also believe in the sincerity of Mr. Finlayson to foster the development here, but we are convinced that, as far as colonization and land settlement is concerned, he has a totally wrong conception of the situation here and up to now has only succeeded in alienating the confidence of the settlers here who have the firm impression that they are not wanted here and that it is the intention of the Government to conserve the entire North as a forest reserve. If it had not been for the practical and timely assistance of Hon. J. S. Martin, Minister of Agriculture, in providing opportunities and means to the more advanced settlers here by which they could augment their livestock holdings, starting creameries with Government assistance and generally helping the dairy industry here, the exodus of settlers from here would have been far more serious than it has been of late years, and goodness knows it has been serious enough.

"It is probably unfortunate that Mr. Finlayson inherited, as he states, a great deal of difficulty in the Cochrane District, especially as he mentions, in connection with pulp farmers, but after all, these difficulties were the outcrop of lax administration on the part of the Government and the bonafide settler should not have been penalized for the misdeeds of others.

"As far as the undisposed slash between Cochrane and Hearst is concerned, we never underestimated the serious danger of such, but we have always felt that the ground force of the Forestry Branch have exerted all efforts to minimize such danger to the utmost. Yet in the successive wet years it was a matter of impossibility to avoid a larger accumulation of slash than safety permitted, but all along, the fire rangers did their full duty to assist in the cleaning up and whenever opportunities warranted it, fires were set out and the cleaning up process was continued. The fire hazard will be with us for a number of years yet, but if the fire rangers continue their watchfulness as in the past it will not take on holocaust proportions. Eternal vigilance and burning of slash at opportune times is the price of safety.

"The further complicated situation as stated by Mr. Finlayson, caused by the failure of a colonization effort, on account of which the Department had to pay two hundred thousand dollars to get the property back, requires a few words in explanation.

"When in 1910 the late Hon. Frank Cochrane, then Minister of Lands and Forests, called for tenders for the Abitibi limits, and the establishing of a paper mill at Iroquois Falls, no adequate bids were received in spite of all personal efforts on the part of the

Minister to get the development here started. It was just after this failure to get bids that United States capital showed willingness to come in and they were given two townships on the National Transcontinental which they expected to colonize along the lines followed out by them in Michigan where the conditions are similar. They put very considerable money into this venture but were handicapped right from the start. The failure of the Grand Trunk to take over the Transcontinental and operate same kept them at the mercy of contractors, keeping up an indifferent and arbitrary operation of the line at tremendous expense to the road's clients and when finally the Federal Government took over the operation of the line in 1915 the war was on and stopped all colonization efforts. The post war period did not improve matters and the original ideas under which these colonization efforts had been started had to be abandoned, although considerable had been sunk in this enterprise. But when the year following the starting of operations in these townships another call for tenders for the Abitibi limits was issued, the deal was closed, owing to the faith which these American capitalists had shown in the future of this country by lavish expenditure of real money. From that time dated the development here, and paying back what our American friends had put in on money and reclaiming the land does not appear too high a price, considering that they were the first to back up their confidence with hard cash. In the face of the then prevailing idea that this was the land of stunted poplars, as even the late Premier Whitney chose to call it.

"As far as the alleged inaccuracies in our editorial are concerned, we will be quite frank and tell Mr. Finlayson that we have nothing to retract, even after carefully considering the points which he emphasizes. The "mis-statement that Northern Ontario in some mysterious way pays money to the southern part of the province" has been made by others and as late as last Monday Hon. Chas. McCrea, Minister of Mines, told a Toronto audience that "one of the most interesting and astounding mineral developments in the world is proceeding in the Northern part of our province. If Toronto is making progress, if it is building skyscrapers and its industries are flourishing, you can attribute 75 per cent. of it to the North."

"Coming to facts, Mr. Finlayson states that the expenditures in Northern Ontario for all Provincial Services amounts to over nine million dollars, but he fails to itemize either expenditures or revenues and from our experience some years ago it is extremely difficult to arrive at such details. We were able, however, at that time, to disprove allegations of similar effect as made by Mr. Finlayson in a broad sweeping way.

"Be that as it may, it does not follow that this excess of expenditures over revenue could be considered as a nett loss to the Province. On the contrary, the Province as a whole is profiting through the development of Northern Ontario in the accumulation of assets at a vast ratio to which the present excess of expenditures over revenues if we should admit such must appear infinitesimal. Besides, the industrial and commercial interests in Old Ontario are benefitting in the ever increasing extension of the markets of the North Country to a degree which even these interests do not yet fully grasp.

"And if we admit that the Province is putting money in development of Northern Ontario, are not the people here, who have to endure the privations and hardships of pioneer life in their consistent efforts to help in the development, entitled to special consideration from the Province as a whole, who benefit through the life work of these pioneers?

"We conclude in admitting that we would not have stressed the point as to whether the North owes the South or the South owes the North, had it not been for the unfortunate quotation of Mr. Gundy's of the "thankless child."

### WEST INDIES TRADE

St. John Telegraph-Journal  
The Canadian Manufacturers' Association deny "rumours that Canadian trade was not fostered in the West Indies." It is further declared that products of the Dominion are finding an ever-increasing sale in the British West Indies. The last statement is not denied, but the testimony of West Indies importers, who ought to know, and who expressed their views very frankly to representatives of the Telegraph-Journal and the Evening Times-Globe, is that Canadians have not been taking full advantage of their opportunities in that market, and that their business methods, in too many cases, do not compare favourably with those of British and American competitors.

The Passing Show (London, Eng.): It have been proved that a cold can be caught from a person forty feet away. It seems that up-to-date germs are equipped with gliders and are adept at making accurate landings.

### Nearly Four Millions for Roads in the North

A total of \$3,735,753.32 was expended by the northern development department on the maintenance and construction of roads in New Ontario during the year ending Oct. 31 last, according to a report presented in the legislature. Of this amount \$359,383.68 was spent on colonization roads.

Other activities of the department included the rendering of assistance to creameries being operated in the North and the purchase of cattle and seed grain for settlers on a loan basis. For the financing of cattle purchases the department spent \$11,388.57, and for seed grain \$12,341.10. Aid to creameries and grain elevators totalled \$2,175.

The net amount of loans issued was \$52,850. It is stated that there were 377 applications for loans received and 174 granted. The average loan over the several years in which the department has been in operation has been \$355.07, says the report.

F. Dane, settlers' loan commissioner, states that the settlers have met their principal and interest payments in a most gratifying manner. "The reports coming from the different districts," he continues, "are to the effect that they have had a very wet season and while crops seem good, the settlers were evidently unable to harvest them. The pioneer spirit is still in the people of the North and they are looking forward with great expectations to the coming summer when they hope to be able to make up their losses."

Simcoe Reformer:—Widespread approval has greeted the action of the House of Commons in turning down the bill to create a divorce court in the Province of Ontario. Few Canadians desire to see the establishment of a divorce mill here that could be likened to those in many of the United States, where divorce may be secured with the same facility as a marriage license.

### FIRE AT SWASTIKA CAFE DOES DAMAGE OF \$2,000

The Northern News last week says: "Fire which broke out about 5.15 on Wednesday morning in the Swastika Cafe at Swastika, gutted the interior of the building before it was extinguished. The place was well alight when the firemen arrived on the scene. The cause of the blaze which started at the rear of the building has not yet been determined. The Chinamen employed in the cafe and four boarders made their escape without difficulty. There was a good pressure of water, but this was interfered with to some extent by stones getting into the nozzles, and it was necessary to get two nozzles from Kirkland Lake. Fortunately this trouble was quickly got over, but it was two and half hours before the fire-out signal could be given. The loss is estimated at around \$2,000."

### PROCEEDINGS ARE ROUTINE AT HILLTOP MINE'S ANNUAL

Attendance was very light at the annual meeting of Hilltop Gold Mines last week and proceedings were of a routine nature. Out of a total of 4,028,905 shares outstanding, 786,093 shares were represented by stockholders present in person and 1,246,617 shares by proxy. A. C. Thorburn, vice-president, acted as chairman.

Everything was ready for the resumption of operations, according to the directors' report. Towards the end of last year the directors and some of the large shareholders donated a total of 500,000 shares to the treasury which enabled the company to wipe off nearly all of its liabilities. The directors are working on a financial programme to raise \$50,000, with good prospects of its completion in the near future. Mining will then be resumed at both the present property and the Round Lake claims.

Directors were re-elected, with the exception that H. J. Scott, of Toronto, replaced A. M. Woolnough, the former president.

Toronto Mail and Empire:—The advice given to people troubled with approaching corpulence to reach for a cigarette every time they feel the need of a sweet is good only in certain circumstances. What is one to do, for instance, when the craving asserts itself in church?

**For All Who Need Cod-liver Oil Scott's Emulsion**

## Ice Box Cookies--new idea

Make the dough in a roll and keep it overnight in the ice box or a cool place . . . next day you can slice it quickly for baking, without extra flour to keep it from sticking.

### Try This Purity Cookie Recipe

1 cup butter, 2 cups brown sugar, 2 eggs, 3/4 cups Purity Flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 cup nuts and raisins, chopped (optional).

### A Hint from a Baking Expert

"Purity is a strong, rich flour with great expanding qualities . . . if your cake recipe calls for ordinary pastry flour use 1 tablespoon less per cup of Purity. If milk is called for use half milk and half water (lukewarm), when using Purity Flour, as milk alone tends to make the cake dry."

### Of all the Ingredients

in a recipe, Flour is the most important. Buy Purity and be safe. It is unexcelled in quality because it is milled with particular care from selected Western hard wheat . . . a perfect flour for pastry, cakes, buns and bread.



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