

IT MUST HAVE BEEN IN THE BARREN LANDS, FAR NORTH

Most people in Timmins have heard about the dog who was shot in the South End some years ago. Here is a companion story to that one. This one is from the Far West, from Blairmore, Alberta, to be exact, and it is told by The Enterprise of that town:—

"Where did the truck hit the complainant?" asked the defendant's attorney, of the attending physician at the damage trial.

"He was struck at the junction of the dorsal and cervical vertebrae," the doctor replied.

Jim Swanson arose from his seat in the jury box and addressed the court: "Wait a minute, Ye Honor—I've lived in this country high over twenty years. I know every cross-road for miles around, but I hain't never heard of no such place as that. I think the case is a frame-up."

WHEN THE RAT WAS READY TO MEET ALL COMPETITION

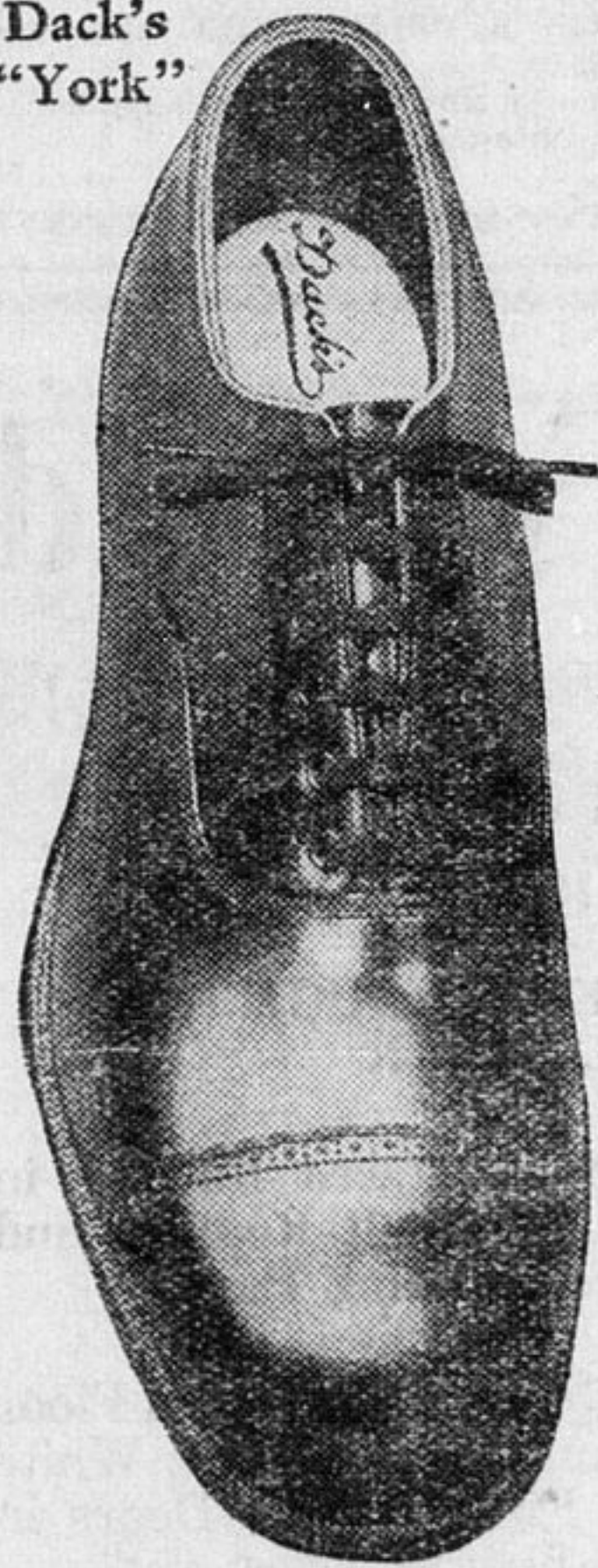
In a recent issue The New Liskeard Speaker reproduces a number of "natural history" notes from The Advance, concluding with the following paragraph:—

"Cobb's rat story would fit in here. The lonely backwoodsman had returned from the frontier store and entered his cabin when his flask slipped from his hands and the contents spread over the floor. Very much disgusted he threw himself on his bed. Then an emaciated old rat, minus an ear and part of a tail came in. It sniffed and tasted the liquor, paraded around the room several times in a most dignified manner, and then sat up and called out as plainly as any rat could call out: "Now, send along your cat."

Mr. A. K. Roberts, formerly of Cobalt, has entered into partnership with Mr. Gerald D. O'Meara, formerly of Kirkland Lake, and they will practice law together in Toronto. The firm of Roberts & Mowat will continue in the North at both Cobalt and Kirkland Lake, Mr. W. H. Mowat spending Monday and Tuesday each week at Cobalt, and the balance of the week at Kirkland Lake.



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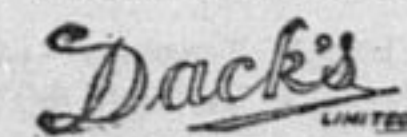
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Contrasting O. T. A. and Conditions Under L. C. A.

References have been made in The Advance recently to the notable improvement of conditions in regard to sobriety and good order under the Ontario Liquor Control Act as contrasted with the old Ontario Temperance Act conditions. It is quite frankly admitted that there is room for further improvement even in this imperfect world where few things work out as well as they should. At the same time thoughtful people will argue that the L.C.A. has been a great improvement over the O.T.A. and will be even better as new regulations are designed and enforced to meet special needs of the case. Mention was made in these columns of the fine order in Timmins on election night. It has also been shown by quotations from other newspapers in the North that the improvement has been general through this part of the country. The quotations given in these columns from other newspapers of the North showed that election night on Oct. 30th, 1929, was a very distinct improvement over some past election nights in the matter of sobriety and orderliness. It is true that the quotations referred to may be said to have come from newspapers that were openly opposed to the Ontario Temperance Act, and so, perhaps, inclined to accept the L.C.A. with leniency or special favour. On the other hand the quotation given below is from a newspaper that did not condemn the O.T.A. and has shown no special favour for the L. C. A., except to uphold the idea of giving the plan a fair trial as a matter of good citizenship. It will be noted that The New Liskeard Speaker does not attempt to prove that conditions under the L.C.A. are not better than under the O.T.A. Instead The Speaker contents itself with suggesting why there would naturally be an improvement, irrespective of the special virtue of the L.C.A. The Speaker's particular point is that immediately following prohibition there were many who found it difficult to break away from liquor drinking after being used to it so long, while the restriction in force under the Ontario Temperance Act helped to educate people to more moderate use of liquor. Which may be as it may be. The fact of improvement seems to be conceded, and that is a big advance. If improvement can be secured, then by following along the successful lines continued improvement may be hoped for with confidence.

The article in The New Liskeard Speaker to which reference is made is as follows:—

"Two gentlemen, one of Haileybury, and the other of New Liskeard, visited the streets of Cobalt and their respective home towns during election night for the avowed purpose of being able to contrast the condition of the electors, or celebrants, with those of former election nights—occasions they were familiar with from away back. It was suggested to us that the behavior of the citizens was such as to indicate that under the L. C. A. things were not so bad as had been represented. Indeed, we were told the improvement was so marked as to justify us in mentioning the fact editorially.

"In instituting comparisons between the working of the O. T. A., and the L. C. A., it should be borne in mind that the prohibition act came into effect almost unexpectedly following years of free liquor. Men and women had grown up accustomed to have permission to buy as much liquor as they wished, with no restriction, while many grocers gave it away to good customers. There is a story which would fit in here: A man had presented a poor man with a keg of whiskey. A week or so later, passing the home of the recipient of the liquor the donor called, expecting to have a drink, but was disappointed. He was assured that all the liquor had been consumed, and the explanation given was that "A keg of licker don't go far in a large family which is too poor to buy a cow." It is a fact that in those days at bees and celebrations whiskey was handed out in a dipper from the "patent" pail.

"The point we make is that immediately following prohibition in the Province there were many people who found it difficult to break away from the use of intoxicants but ten years of restriction in the use of liquor has had a good effect, and it is hoped conditions will continue to improve."

HOW LONG IS A WEEK?

"Peter Simple" in the Morning Post.

In the current number of the Ministry of Labor Gazette there is an article headed "Five-Day Working Week in Russia." One expects accuracy in an official publication and the use of the word "week" in this connection is inaccurate. This "week" in Russia, according to the recent Soviet order, consists of four work days and one rest day. A five-day working week may look attractive to our working men, but let us reckon it up. Under this Soviet order the workman in a year would get 72 or 73 days off in a year—one-fifth of 365. Our workmen generally get 72 or 73 days off in a year—52 Sundays and 52 half-days on Saturdays. This Russian thing is not a five-day working week at all, and it is misleading for our own Ministry of Labor so to describe it. I know the Communists call it a five-day working week, but that is only another example of their misleading propaganda.

The Haileyburian last week says:—"Miss Shillington, of Timmins, a former member of the local public school staff, was down to spend the holiday with friends here."

PECULIAR FORM OF SNEAK THIEVERY IN SUDBURY NOW

Turkeys Dressed for the Oven Taken from Back Porch. Other Thanksgiving Dinners Stolen en bloc at Nickel Town.

Sudbury recently has suffered from a particularly aggravating type of sneak thievery—the stealing of Thanksgiving dinners from porches and kitchens. There have been a number of thefts recently of food, in many cases complete dinners being taken away by the sneak thieves, but The Sudbury Star considers the taking of a Thanksgiving dinner as perhaps the lowest and meanest kind of theft. It could be worse, however. Perhaps some Sudbury sneak thief will swipe somebody's Christmas dinner complete. It is to be hoped not, but the sneak thieves appear to be working up to some such crime by present indications.

In regard to the theft of Thanksgiving dinners, The Sudbury Star writes graphically and feelingly. In one article last week on the matter, The Sudbury Star said:—

"In the annals of crime are recorded many low and despicable deeds that have been committed by persons apparently lacking in even the instincts of decency. Laurels for the unenviable title of the 'meanest thief' are occasionally handed to persons who would steal pennies from a blind man, take candies from a child or embezzle the funds of a Ladies' Aid society. But in the opinion of Town Clerk W. J. Ross no depraved villain ever walked than the person or persons unknown who last Sunday evening stole his Thanksgiving turkey. The theft was the culmination of a series of petty larceny of a similar nature that have occurred around Sudbury during the past few weeks. In this case, Mrs. Ross and her family feel that they have perfect justification for considering that insult was added to injury. For it was not only an ordinary turkey theft, but the person who took the fowl also took the results of considerable culinary work that had been administered to the bird in preparation for the Thanksgiving dinner. Everything had been completed and the turkey ready for the oven. Plucked, cleaned and stuffed, it lay in the roasting pan, a noble bird, a sight that would have tickled the palate of any epicure. And in insatiable greed the thief even carried away the roasting pan as well. A similar experience was the lot of the Thomas family on Oak St., who lost their complete Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday night soon after it was delivered. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thomas, Oak St., had ordered a large chicken for their Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday and in addition a large roast of pork to help over the week-end. Chicken and roast were delivered and left on a table close to the front door which is in full view of a street light. Within half an hour the double dinner had disappeared and Mrs. Thomas was forced to anxiously seek another fowl for the Thanksgiving dinner. The thefts are similar in nature to many others that have recently been perpetrated in Sudbury and apparently a new sort of crime has struck the town. In addition to newly delivered groceries and meats that have been left in accessible positions around the door, bottles of milk are starting to disappear. From reports received by the police these petty thefts are apparently most common in the vicinity of Drinkwater St. The unusual number of passing vagrants who have been attracted into the district are believed to be responsible."

NO OPEN SEASON IN NORTH FOR CAUSING ANY DAMAGE

Reference has been made in The Advance to the cost and damages imposed upon the parents of some boys for injury done to an automobile on Halloween. Magistrate Atkinson, who is always kind to boys and never inclined to be hard upon any boyish escapades, made it quite plain that boys and parents alike must be taught that youngsters have no right to cause loss and damage to others on Halloween or at any other time. The parents of boys who ran an automobile into a deep ditch and smashed the machine were required to pay the damage resulting from their silly trick. At Cobalt the court also impressed the lesson that Halloween is no excuse for senseless damage to property. Two young men at North Cobalt tore down a sign on Halloween, apparently not stopping to think that they were destroying property and causing the owner of the sign a direct loss. So far as the actual results were concerned they might as well have held up the owner of the sign and stolen cash from him. There is no earthly reason in common sense why any merchant or anybody else should be put to loss and inconvenience on Halloween or any other evening. The young men were given a week to restore the sign and to pay costs of \$14.00 each. They were also given a warning in regard to the necessity for using common sense and consideration for others on all occasions.

REV. J. H. EVANS, POWASSAN, NEW PASTOR AT COBALT

Rev. J. H. Evans, of Powassan, has succeeded Rev. H. F. Cocks as rector of the St. James Anglican church at Cobalt. Rev. Mr. Cocks has taken over his new duties as rector of the Anglican church at Paris, Ontario. Rev. Mr. Cocks took a prominent part in many public affairs in Cobalt and before leaving for Paris he was the recipient of a number of presentations expressive of the appreciation felt for his services and the good wishes that follow him to his new location.

OFFICIAL POISONERS FOR ST. JOSEPH'S ISLAND NOW

Two official exterminators have been appointed to conduct a campaign against wolves on St. Joseph's Island, Manitoulin area. Poison will be used in the island attack, and the two hunters will be the official poisoners. In payment, they will receive the regular Government bounty of \$15, plus a bonus of \$5 from the townships on the island. Last year 300 deer were killed on St.

WHISTLING SWAN SHOT AT STONEY POINT, NEAR SAULT

Here is another "nature note" for readers interested:—While hunting black ducks at Stoney Point, Goulais Bay, Tom Hardt, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., brought down a huge bird, believed to be a whistling swan. The bird weighs 22 pounds and has a wing Joseph's, which is one of the reasons residents are anxious to make the island a game preserve.

spread of 82 inches. It is 42 inches long. Hardt and his father had taken a 30.30 rifle along, in the hope that they would see a deer. Presently four of the birds were seen in the air, 100 yards away and flying southeast. Tom fired at the small flock, and brought down the leader. The bird is white with the exception of his feet, which are black and its head and neck, which are light slate colour.

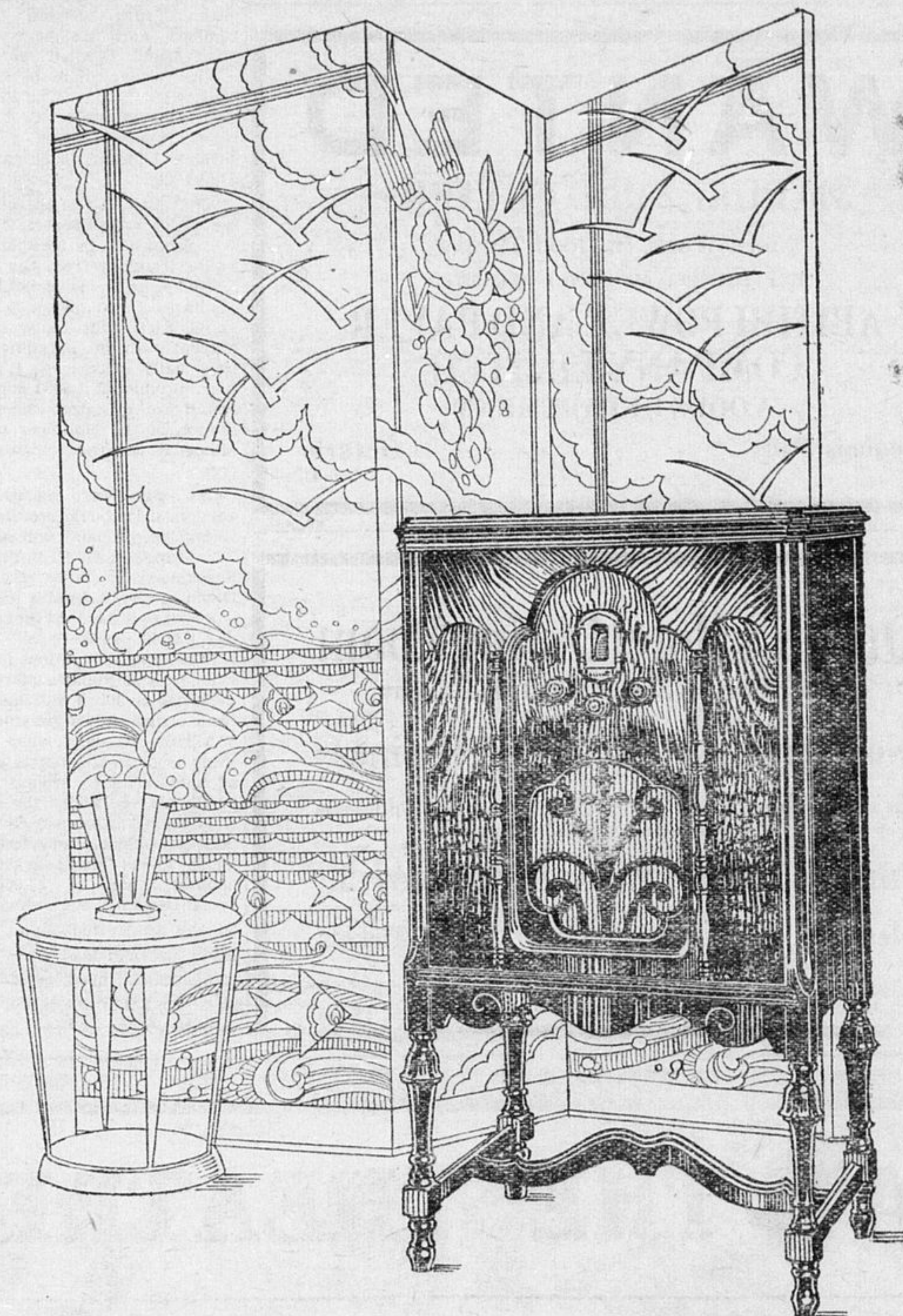
MIGHT HIT HIS THUMB

(Vancouver Province)
In a previous campaign Premier Ferguson is said to have threatened to nail the hides of his opponents to the barn door. If he carries out his threat he will be as busy as a nailer for the next few days.

Perth Courier:—A woman is more influenced by what she suspects than by what she is told.

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