

The Porcupine Advance
TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Last week there was an item in The St. Mary's Journal-Argus which concluded with a reference to the "freeing of the salves." Some people may think this is a typographical error, but it may not be. Around election time there is always too much "freeing of the salves."

Surely something can be done at once to remedy the condition of the one or two bad strips of roadway between Timmins and Porquiss Junction. There seems to be general agreement that a goodly quantity of gravel and the right sort of ditching would right the difficulty. It seems to be absurd to wait until the weather itself remedies the conditions. In the meantime the bad spots are giving the whole road a bad name with the result that tourists turn away from here, which is something not to be desired. Travellers on the road west of Cochrane have remarked on the way the roadway there is standing up under traffic. While the going is a little heavy there are no stretches where cars have to be pulled out. The use of good gravel, and lots of it, has made the road west of Cochrane available in good condition early in the season and it will get better as the days go along. This is a much newer stretch of road than the highway to Porquiss Junction. The latter road should be treated with much gravel and no sand.

For some time past the Iroquois Falls and Ansonville Board of Trade have been seeking to have a local newspaper established for the advantage of the two towns. Some weeks ago arrangements were made with one man in the business to start such a newspaper at Ansonville, but the matter has since been dropped by one or other of the parties concerned. More recently plans have been agreed upon with another gentleman to commence the desired newspaper. Those interested in the plans hope to have the Iroquois Falls and Ansonville newspaper under way by July 1st of this year. Everyone will wish Ansonville and Iroquois Falls the best of success in any such venture because a local newspaper is a very decided asset to any community. It would be well, however, for the people of Ansonville and Iroquois Falls to face the fact that under modern conditions the publication of a newspaper is a costly proceeding, and so the newspaper must have very general support to prosper and progress. Up to the present the Iroquois Falls and Ansonville Board of Trade would seem to have followed along lines that indicate the idea that the chief support of a newspaper lies in its subscription list. This, of course, is not the case. The newspaper that would succeed must have generous advertising patronage, and also in the case of a local newspaper must have a goodly volume of job printing work to keep the plant busy. The newspaper planned now for Iroquois Falls and Ansonville is announced as to be strictly a local newspaper. "No clippings from other newspapers will be used" is the suggestion made in one part of one of the announcements. Should such a line be strictly followed out the newspaper would be very local in its sphere and outlook. It may be noted that there are a few local newspapers that pretend to adhere to such a policy, but all it amounts to is that they do not credit the clippings to their source. On the one hand they accept responsibility for material that they can not vouch for, which is not fair to themselves, and on the other hand they do not credit other newspapers for the time, expense and effort spent in gathering news and views which is not fair to the other newspapers. No local newspaper can support correspondents in every section of any wide territory, and the local newspaper that confines its news and other material strictly to its own staff will not do as much for its readers as it might do.

A gentleman who was presumably an official in connection with the Ukrainian school or the Ukrainian hall or the Ukrainian society in this town called on The Advance last week to object to an editorial note in the last issue of this newspaper. The editorial note told about a child of seven years of age who was mauled and maltreated at one o'clock in the morning by a man who took her to the lower part of the town. The child said that she had been attending the Ukrainian school and that the man had met her after she left the hall and induced her to accompany him. The Advance wanted to know if there was a school in town that keeps children until after midnight and then lets them go home unaccompanied. And to this question The Advance added these others:—"What does such a school teach?" "What necessity is there for a Ukrainian school in this town?" "And why?" The Advance would still like to have these questions answered, and still more does this paper desire that an investigation be held by the proper authorities to discover the purpose of this Ukrainian school and the work it is accomplishing. The Ukrainian gentleman who asked the retraction last week was emphatic in declaring that the children were not kept to any late hours unless accompanied by their parents, and that the hall was closed each evening at ten o'clock or thereabouts. All of this may be as it may be, but the questions still remain as to the purpose or desirability of such schools as the Ukrainian school. There is a growing opinion that these foreign schools are not occupied with teaching loyalty to Canada. The gentleman who visited The Advance office last week suggested that music was one of the subjects taught at the Ukrainian school. That would be well, but of course there is even the danger of the wrong sort of music being featured. Canadians would be pleased to have Ukrainian children taught the classics in music. They would be delighted to have them expert at singing "God Save the King," "O, Canada," and similar songs. But for attention to be centred on "Red" songs would not be so pleasing to Canadians. "You would like the music of the youngsters," The Ukrainian gentleman told The Advance. "Yes," was the reply, "and we liked the music by the visiting Ukrainian orchestra a couple of years ago, but we certainly did not like the fact that this orchestra absolutely refused to sing or play "God Save the King," though earnestly requested to do so." In this country of Canada a school or orchestra or whatnot that bars the National Anthem certainly needs investigation. That is what The Advance would like to see—a thorough investigation of such schools as those conducted by foreigners with the idea of determining the purpose behind their activities. The foreigners in Canada have been well used. They have received a measure of liberty that may have turned their heads. Any cruelty or injustice they may have suffered in their own land is non-existent here. There is no excuse for disloyalty or ill-will on their part, and the people of this country will be both foolish and short-sighted

if they calmly permit agitation or action that may prove detrimental to this Canada of ours.

A gentleman who recently returned from Russia says that class distinctions there have been done away with. There are no longer any first-class and second-class railway coaches. All are on a level. The only difference permitted in railway coaches is that some have cushions and some have not. People pay more to travel in the cushioned cars, and the cushioned-car travellers and the uncushioned-car travellers are kept to their own spheres, but there are no class distinctions in Soviet Russia.

Last week The Acton Free Press had a front page article headed, "An Automobile Trip Through Northern Ontario." The article itself, however, showed that the motorists were not farther north than Sundridge, which is three hundred miles south of the real North and five hundred miles below the far North.

Kirkland Lake is recent months has spent over \$16,000.00, in equipment for fire-fighting and fire protection, as well as greatly strengthening its fire brigade force. The Northern News now wants to know why the town of Kirkland Lake is not enjoying reduced fire insurance rates. The fire insurance companies will have a ready answer. Indeed, they have a series of ready answers all ready. The town of Timmins has been through the whole procedure and so knows how it goes. Fifteen or sixteen years ago fire insurance rates in Timmins were practically prohibitive. The fire insurance underwriters pointed to the inevitable risks in such a country as this. The fire department equipment was not as it should be. The class of buildings made for a high rate of risk. Timmins spent about \$25,000.00 for fire-fighting and fire-protection equipment; there was a building-by-law passed and from its workings the percentage of fire-resisting structures was greatly increased; a fire brigade of unusual efficiency was organized and established, and other methods were adopted to reduce the fire risks. Then the town sought a material reduction of fire insurance rates, believing that even according to the fire underwriters such reductions were fairly earned. But the fire insurance companies then shifted their ground. The big risk in this country was from the bush fire menace, they said. Again Timmins went to work and there was no rest until the forest fire hazard had been eliminated. Apparently the fire insurance underwriters then had no recourse but to bring rates down to close to those charged in Southern Ontario towns of similar type to this. But there was another shift then. The fire insurance underwriters patiently explained that rates had to be set for the whole North Land area. The business throughout the North was really carried at a loss, and, of course, it would not do to make further reductions in rates for Timmins and thus increase the general loss for the whole North. Many people at first were inclined to resent with bitterness the shifting of the ground of argument on the part of the insurance underwriters. They felt that the town had been tricked into making large expenditures and giving special effort for improvement, without adequate return. A little thought, however, showed that Timmins has received material reductions in fire insurance rates in the past few years, and the money spent and the effort made for better conditions in town from a fire-safety standpoint have been well worth while for themselves alone in the added safety to life and property from the danger of fire. The Northern News, of Kirkland Lake, is doing good work in agitating for lower fire insurance rates. Rates in the North are undoubtedly too high from the standpoint of the people. But the town that gives thought and effort and money to better fire protection facilities will win some reductions in rates and also will have, the advantage of the increased safety following such methods

Direct promise has been made that the mail service to Toronto will be resumed as soon as possible. So far however, there is only the promise. The business men and others in the town and along the T. & N. O. are still suffering for the lack of this mail service. There is a loss to the Southern towns and cities through the discontinuance of the Toronto mail service. The longer it continues the greater the loss. The promise should be replaced by the actual service. Surely it does not take the Dominion postal department months to arrange a simple little matter like this.

For a number years past The Advance has been advocating the appointment of a Senator from the North Land to represent this important section of country in the Upper House. Despite the large population and immense area of this territory and its large proportion of the natural resources of the province, this section of Ontario has never had representation in the Senate. It is more important to the North Land than to other parts of the province that there be adequate representation in both houses. The needs of the North should be presented to the Senate as well as to the House of Commons and a good Senator from this district would be of great value in making the truth about the North more widely known. For several years The Advance received little support in advocating a Senator for the North, but recently there has been a growing tendency on the part of the press and the people in general to see the advantages of a Senator from the North Land. At the Liberal party convention that nominated Col. Mac Lang as the party candidate for the seat in South Temiskaming for the Dominion House in the approaching general election, a resolution was passed without dissent urging upon the Government the appointment of a Senator to represent the North. Many will take this to mean that the Liberal party will make such an appointment if returned to office, while it may be taken as a surety that the Conservative party will appoint a North Land man to the next available seat in the Senate if the party led by Hon. R. B. Bennett is asked to take over the administration of affairs.

A correspondent last week wrote to The Toronto Globe pointing out that in a recent editorial The Globe had made an error in natural history in suggesting that porcupines have the power to throw their quills. The great Porcupine camp, in whose honour no doubt all the little porcupines were named, should be accepted as a final authority on anything regarding porcupines. The old-timers here who have seen many porcupines in this Forcupine are agreed that the porcupine has no power to throw its quills. It spreads out its quills when attacked or offended and these quills being very lightly attached to the porcupine easily come away from the body, and this is particularly liable to happen if anything touches the quills as the outer points are barbed as well as sharp. Often the porcupine will be erecting the quills at that moment when a dog or other animal is rushing in on the porcupine. From a little distance it may appear as if the porcupine threw the quills at the approaching animal, but this is not the case. The porcupine, in a word, can let its quills go but can not throw them away. There are scores of dogs who have interviewed a porcupine once. A dog that has had its face filled with porcupine quills is hard to persuade that the little beast does not throw its quills. After a while, however, a dog accustomed to porcupines, discovers this natural history fact and then, keeping a respectable distance away from the porcupine, will circle round the animal cursing it in dog language for the looseness of its quills in the porcupine's hide and the tightness with which they grip other flesh.



HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY Above is a picture of Her Majesty in full court dress, including the State Jewels reserved for special occasions. Queen Mary presided at a number of the recent Royal Court Levees, when the King was unable to be present due to an attack of rheumatism.

TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY AS ADDITIONAL FIRE INSURANCE

The value of the Trans-Canada highway in the battle against forest fires is touched upon by The Northern Tribune in an editorial note. The Northern Tribune says:—"A trans-Canada highway route through Northern Ontario would constitute splendid fire insurance. Rapid communication is the modern method of fighting forest fires. The quicker personnel and equipment can be rushed to any threatened area, the better the chance for fighting under control any fire outbreaks reported, when every hour counts. As the North becomes intersected with good passable roads, there is a better chance of localizing the more serious conflagrations; and this is what counts a whole lot."

DEATH OF W. HARTFORD, JR., FORMERLY OF SHILLINGTON

The Shillington correspondent of The New Liskeard Speaker last week says: "The death occurred at Cochrane on Wednesday, May 28th, of Wm. Hartford, Jr., a former resident of this place in his 30th years. The deceased was the eldest son of W. H. Hartford, the first settler in this district, and spent his boyhood days here. Later he moved with his parents to Cochrane. The remains were brought here for burial on Friday and the body was laid to rest in Shillington Cemetery. The services were conducted at the church and grave by Rev. Mr. Macartney, of Monteth. The large crowd and the beautiful floral tributes testified to the high esteem in which the young man was held. The pall-bearers were: his brother-in-law, F. Chalmers, and three boyhood friends, Vernon Doey, Arthur Humphries and John Doey. The chief mourners were his devoted wife, and two small children, his sorrowing parents, three sisters and one brother, all of whom were with him at the last."

PATRICIA MINES ANNUAL WAS OF ROUTINE NATURE

The annual meeting of shareholders of Central Patricia Mines, Ltd., held yesterday was of routine nature, the board of directors being re-elected and the reports and balance sheet approved without question.

The shaft, which was down over 400 feet according to latest reports, should be completed by June 13, J. H. C. Waite, vice-president, who acted as chairman in the absence of President F. M. Connell, stated. Pumps and stations should be completed by July 1, and lateral work will then be carried out on the four levels. The first information is expected about Aug. 1, and it is estimated about 3,000 feet of driving will have been completed by the end of September.

The acquisition of 40 mining claims, including the Springer and Cookshutt groups, was approved by shareholders. Mr. Waite explained the deal involved the payment of \$5,326 in cash and 186,000 shares, part of the stock going to the original stakers of the properties and part to cover amounts already expended on the property. The claims were staked in the early days, he said, and were being secured to protect the strike of the ore zone to the west. The Springer group contains a promising showing and has been opened up to some extent on the surface.

Farmer's Advocate:—Strange as it may seem a great deal of money made on the farm in good years and in bad, goes into investments. Some of it is wisely invested and some of it is put into securities so worthless that it might as well have been used to kindle the morning fire. But farmers are not the only ones to play this little game and lose. Doctors, lawyers, ministers, college professors, government officials, school teachers, artisans, labourers, charwomen and all human kind take the long chances and often regret it. When one really desires a safe security it is a good plan to ask a banker for information before rather than after the deal is made.

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READ

the full details in the next issue of The Porcupine Advance

A Gripping Human Interest Story!

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