

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The case of Aurelio Lago, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Timmins for many years, has attracted more than passing attention. Many daily and weekly newspapers commenting on his valiant battle for British justice. "Tony" as he has been popularly known here for many years, was an employee of the Hollinger Mine, being one of the staff of the refinery. Some months ago, without any warning, he was discharged from the service of the mine, and on enquiring as to why he was thus thrown out of employment, he says that he was told that he had been high-grading. His reaction to the charge was that of an honest man. He denied earnestly any wrong-doing and demanded to be faced with his accuser. Eventually, he was given to understand that the provincial police were the ones to suggest that he had done wrong, and again like an honest man, Lago faced the provincial officers and demanded proof or retraction of the charge. In earnest determination to clear his good name, Mr. Lago says that he was able to extract from the mine management the admission that they had nothing against him, while the provincial police adopted a similar attitude. He was taken back into the employ of the mine, but in a humbler position and with considerably decreased pay. All through the months that have intervened since he was first accused Mr. Lago has continued to demand that his name be fully cleared of any aspersions cast upon it, and that he be relieved from the monetary loss that followed the charge. He impounded the mine and the provincial police in the matter. He wrote the district headquarters of the provincial police. He addressed the attorney-general. Eventually, he wrote a detailed account of the whole matter for publication in The Advance, in the belief that publicity of the facts of the case might set him right in the eyes of the people. Those who have known Tony Lago for the many years he has lived in Timmins did not need any assurance of his honesty or integrity. Those who did not know him could scarcely avoid believing in the earnest, open letter that he wrote. It was inconceivable that such a letter should be written by any but an honest and a fearless man, jealous for his good name. Publicity did set him right in the eyes of the public. There still remains the righting of the financial injury that has been done him. If the provincial police and the Hollinger Mine are as big as they should be, the word will be given out openly and straightly that Aurelio Lago is the honest man all believe him to be, and that he will not be penalized in any way because he was falsely accused. It will increase the respect of the public for all concerned, if Mr. Lago is fully exonerated in frank way and if he is given as good a position or better than his merit had earned for him before this unfortunate matter developed. In this British country there will be admiration for Aurelio Lago in his battle for British justice, and there will not be contentment until he is given that British fair play.

A settler near Timmins, who had to build a private road on his own account, some time ago suffered much annoyance and inconvenience through the improper use of this roadway by some of the general public, and especially by the young couples in automobiles. They blocked the use of the road for the man who built it at his own expense. They littered the property with empty bottles and other trash. They never left a single drop in any bottle they threw onto the landscape. Eventually, the patience of the settler was exhausted. The ordinary sign, "Please Keep Out" was no more efficacious than the one proclaiming the fact that the road was strictly private property. So the settler put up a sign that read the way he felt. The sign was about a foot and a half by two and a half feet in size, and it was placed at the centre top of the gate. On a white background were printed in large black letters the words, "Private Road. Keep to Hell Out." The sign has worked. There has been no more trouble for that settler with the illegal use of his road. Apparently the transients who used to open the gate, and never shut it again, understand what the sign means and also they understand that the settler means what the sign says. A couple of weeks ago some tourists from Michigan were seen taking a snapshot of the gate and sign. They kept a respectable distance from the gate. "That settler knows just what he wants and how to say it," was one of the comments of the tourists. Probably some such language will be necessary eventually to impress upon the Government the fact that the settlers need roads that they cannot build themselves.

This has been called the golden age, the mechanical age, the electrical age, the airway age, and what-not. Sometimes it looks like the Runt Age. There are Tom Thumb golf courses, baby automobiles, "short" stock markets, tabloid newspapers, a wee Canadian navy, and a small-time prospect of peace.

It would appear that something should be done about the methods employed by those in charge of the work of putting through the power line for the Hydro Electric Commission in this district. The treatment given to the men employed has been just cause for considerable complaint. Last week The Advance called attention to the heartless action of a smart-aleck foreman in causing some men to take an entirely unnecessary and wearisome walk previous to discharging them without apparently any fair reason being given. Some weeks previously reference was made to the charge that a foreman who had friends and acquaintances in the Sudbury district was unfairly discriminating against local men while applicants from the Sudbury area appeared to be improperly welcomed to the work. This week The Advance learns of another case where poor judgment or poor system seems to unfairly penalize the workmen on the transmission line. A man who was working on this public work was forced by illness to leave the job. His health since then has not made it possible for him to return. The fact that he is ill, of course, makes it all the more necessary for him to secure the little money due him. An ordinary private corporation would no doubt have sent this worker his cheque with no more comment than to regret his illness. A different attitude was taken in the case in question. When the man made enquiries as to how he could get his back pay, he was coolly informed, he says, that the only place he would be paid was at the scene of the work, some twenty miles of a walk after a trip on the boat up the river. The man is not well enough for such a trip, but even if he were it appears to be a ridiculous procedure to expect any worker to follow. The cost of such a trip in money, time and strength would spoil the pay cheque at the one end of the

return journey. Surely the Government of Ontario has not reached such a condition as indicated by this sort of action on the part of those in charge of the building of the transmission line through this area. The Government of Ontario should set an example in the treatment of employees, as The Advance said last week in discussing the other cases. Further, as The Advance also noted last week, there is every reason to believe that the Government is most desirous to use its employees well and to set a fair example to other industries in this regard. Consequently, it is not too much to say that something should be done, and done at once, to counteract the influence of the impression made by the undesirable type of action and attitude assumed by those in charge of the building of the transmission line. The Government of Ontario has shown too much sympathy and understanding in regard to the welfare of the working man to permit smart-aleckism, unfairness and burdensome methods to prevail on a Government work like the building of this power transmission line.

In recent issues The Northern Miner seems to be suggesting that the well-known firm of pork and beans has done more for the North Land than the T. & N. O. or the Associated Boards of Trade. However large pork and beans may be in the life of the people of this North, these cooked animals are by no means indispensable. Bannock and bacon look better, sound better, taste better, and are better. Vitamines elbow each other in bannocks and bacon. It is not so with pork and beans. The prospectors would be sadly handicapped if they had to lug around pork and beans, and the prospectors have done more to open this country and develop this country than any other force. Ask the prospector who is the most important gentleman ever coming to this North! And he will answer, with The Advance, "Why, haywire, of course!" Beans once used are gone forever, but haywire is a useful joy forever. Without haywire no pork or beans would ever have been able to reach this country. As The Advance said last week, the North Land's greatness is founded upon the flower of the North, good old haywire. The Northern Miner may extol pork and beans, but to forget haywire is to neglect the very spirit of the North. The Northern Miner has published a recipe for the cooking of pork and beans. If The Northern Miner would print a list of some of the uses that have been made of haywire in this North, the mining paper would have a serial story that could run for a year or more. It takes an artist to cook pork and beans; anybody can eat them. Anybody can use haywire, but even a bear can't eat it. The Advance thus spills the beans, simply to say once more:—"All hail, haywire! Flower of the North!"

Of the 968 men registered in Sudbury as unemployed, 747 are aliens, some of them single men, and some with families in the countries from which they came. In Sault Ste. Marie only twenty per cent. of the unemployed are of Canadian or other British origin. Figures from other towns and cities in Ontario give somewhat similar startling facts. In this district the percentage of unemployed foreigners is not so large as in Sudbury or Sault Ste. Marie, but that is no matter for special congratulation. Here, unfortunately, there are foreigners in good positions, while Canadian and other British people seek work. It is evident both in such places as Sudbury and the Sault, and in other centres like Timmins, that the very presence of the foreigner is largely responsible for unemployment. It is better that the foreigner should be the one unemployed, rather than that Canadians or other Britishers should beg for work. The facts noted, however, surely make it evident that the agitation against the government and religion of this country carried on for some years past by aliens believed to be paid by a foreign government should be stopped at once. In Sudbury and elsewhere these alien agitators have made attempt to use the misfortune of the unemployed to work their evil purposes and propaganda. This is surely adding insult to injury. Some plans should be found to rid the country of the evil agitators from foreign lands. If it is actually impossible to send them back to the European lands they pretend to say are perfect in their eyes in form of government and standard of living, then provision should be made to keep the law-breakers in jail, where at least their power for disturbance will be minimized. It is surely apparent that the country has to support them in any event.

The persistence of the special placers from Sault Ste. Marie and other places in that section of the North Land may be commended, but the other qualities displayed in their advocacy of a wrong route for the Trans-Canada highway are not to be admired. They approached the meeting of the Northern Associated Boards of Trade some weeks ago in full force pretending to bring basis for a compromise. The "compromise" they offered was no more than the suggestion that this part of the North uphold them in urging their choice of a route for the highway. Since that meeting there has been no change in the attitude of the Sault Ste. Marie section advocates. Their motto still appear to be that unless they have their way they will block the construction of any other route. The onus seems to be altogether upon them. The Advance sees no possible compromise, unless the attitude of the Northwesterners changes materially. At present what this part of the North is asked to do is to drop their own rights and assist Sault Ste. Marie and some others in foisting upon Canada a route for the Trans-Canada highway that is neither the logical nor the economical one.

In commenting on an article in The Advance recently in regard to some special lawlessness in Cochrane, The Northland Post last week said:—"We have not observed any white feathers floating over the home town of our contemporary, but that hardly justifies the black feathers floating over our own." That is at least an approach to the right spirit. The Advance has never held that Timmins is angelic. There are evidences of disregard for law here that The Advance regrets and would gladly see removed. However, it does seem as if the flaunting of law and order brings swift punishment here. If a case should arise where the "black feathers" cloud the sky over Timmins, The Advance would welcome and seek the aid of every other newspaper in the North to clear the air and kill the birds that make the town's sky black and murky.

The colours on the face of Canadian postage stamps are to be changed in the next month or so. It would also be greatly appreciated if the authorities would change the flavour of the horse's hoof glue in the back of the stamp.

The success accompanying the attempt to organize the settlers in the North shows the need which the pioneers of this country suffer. Wherever the plans for the settlers' association have been explained, the settlers have shown notable readiness to join the organization in the hope that something may be accomplished by union and co-operation. The settlers of the North are only too sadly sure that something is badly needed to improve their chances for success and progress.

The attendance at the church parade held on Sunday by the Canadian Legion and at the services at the cenotaph on Armistice Day under the same auspices show that there are still lots of loyal people in this country, though the noise made by some of the communists tempts people occasionally to think otherwise.

Game in British Empire Liable to Extinction

In a recent issue The Nature Magazine refers to the sun setting upon the game life of the British Empire. The article is worth reading and considering, especially with a sort of a local application to the North Land and the Porcupine. The Nature Magazine says: "The sun never sets on the British flag, but the sun is setting for many varieties of wild life that once flourished within the bounds of the Empire. To save the remnant, and bring back, if possible, those species threatened with destruction, the Society for the Preservation of the Fauna of the Empire was founded several years ago, and immediately began to accomplish important conservation results. Recently, the citizens of the United States contributed more than \$8,000, \$1,000 of which was the gift of the American Nature Association, toward the furthering of the work. Some of the achievements of the Society have been to influence the establishment of game preserves in Uganda, Kenya, the Sudan and Nyasaland, to promote game laws in Africa, to establish game wardens, influence native governments to protect rare species and stop the slaughter of game, and to institute educational campaigns, the effect of which is greater than any number of prohibitions. The organization has as its aims the establishment of more game reserves out of the power of land speculators, the arbitration of game matters with colonial and economic developments, and the education of the public by all legitimate means of publicity."

PLANNING TO ELIMINATE ANOTHER CURVE ON HIGHWAY

The Halleyburian last week says:—"Another bad curve on the Ferguson highway, between Halleybury and Cobalt, will be eliminated, if plans of the Northern Development Branch, to be submitted to the Cobalt Public School Board by D. J. Miller, district engineer, are carried out. The proposal is to straighten out the road at 104, near the O'Brien mill, by building a new section which would run partly through the grounds of the public school at that point. Some 25 feet of the school property would be required. If the proposal is put into effect, the new piece of road will not only eliminate a bad curve, but will reduce the grade on the slope towards the Cobalt side. The small bridge at the bottom of the slope will be missed and it is generally considered that it would be a great improvement."

Pay Teachers' Costs and May Appeal Court Case

Apparently there is a majority of the public school supporters at Mileage 104, Cobalt, standing firmly behind Lorne Piercey, principal at the school there, who was recently convicted on a charge of assault laid by the parents of a young girl whom he had strapped. A meeting of the citizens of Mileage 104 was held last week to discuss the matter and a collection was taken up and the amount raised to pay the court costs of \$26.25, which the teachers had to pay as a result of the court case. The meeting also appointed a deputation of four ladies to wait upon the school board at its next meeting with the purpose of expressing to that body the satisfaction of most of the ratepayers with Mr. Piercey's teaching and methods of discipline. Further, a committee of three men was appointed to get legal advice on the case with a view to seeing what might be done in the way of an appeal to the District Judge at Halleybury from the decision of the magistrate who heard the case and who gave a suspended sentence to the teacher, allowing him to go, with the payment of the court costs. The magistrate did not consider the punishment of the child to be justified under all the circumstances.

TEMAGAMI MAN RELEASED AFTER SERVING SEVEN WEEKS

Another chapter was added last week to what has been called "the brown paper case." Some weeks ago E. Roy, of Temagami, was convicted at Cobalt by Magistrate Atkinson, of illegal possession of liquor, and sentenced to three months. The sentence was appealed to Judge Hartman, but the latter upheld the decision of the magistrate. Then the case was taken to the Second Divisional Court at Toronto where the conviction was quashed last week. Roy was released, but in the meantime he had served seven weeks of his sentence. On Sept. 13th, Roy was sentenced by the magistrate. The case arose from the fact that when Roy was stopped by a provincial officer at Goward, he had liquor in his car, though he had no permit, the permit having been lifted when he was accused of supplying liquor to an Indian. Roy's story was that he purchased the liquor on an order given to him by a man named Brindle, the original order being on brown wrapping paper. He said that he copied off this order on Halleybury hotel letter paper, because the brown paper order seemed to be somewhat odd or uncouth, or words to that effect. The

Second Divisional Court at Toronto agreed with the suggestion of Roy's counsel that if anybody was to blame in the matter it would be the liquor vendor who accepted the order.

HAD TO TAKE SETTLER 17 MILES BY CANOE AND WAGON

Fred Coenen, a Dutch settler living north of Cochrane, was accidentally shot in the arm on Thursday last while on a hunting trip and it was necessary to carry him seventeen miles by canoe and wagon to get him to the hospital at Cochrane for treatment. He was hunting rabbits and in climbing over a fallen tree his rifle caught. He jerked the gun to free it, and it discharged, both barrels striking the unfortunate man. One charge entered his arm at the wrist, while the other struck the fleshy part of his arm above the elbow, taking away considerable flesh. It was feared for a time that he might lose his injured arm, but reports from Cochrane hospital suggest that this will not likely be necessary as he is making good progress to recovery.

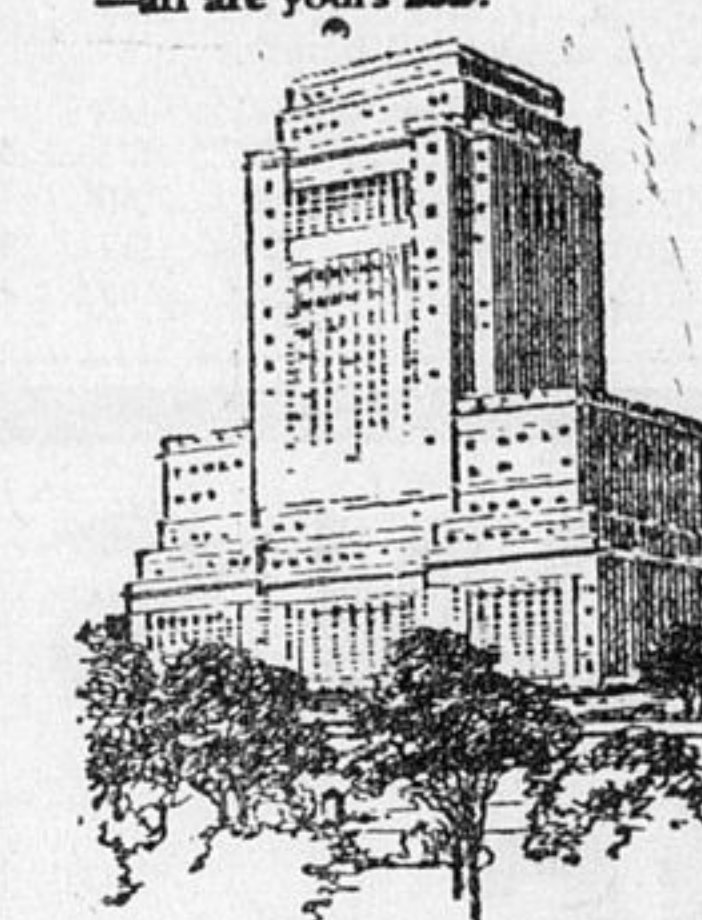


SHOP EARLY 35 SHOPPING DAYS to Christmas

Pembroke Observer:—John Bull does not want his food taxed. If he lived in Canada he would find so many things taxed that one more tax would not matter.

LOOK AHEAD...

LIFE is at its noon tide now. Youth and vigour, the ability to earn and the freedom to spend—all are yours now.



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MILK BORDEN'S ST. CHARLES PURE AND ECONOMICAL 2 TALL TINS 25c

- Large Pkg. Chipso 21c
A Real Tonic Toddy, Large Tin 53c
Benson's Cornstarch 2 Pkgs. 25c
Palmolive Soap Cake 7c
Bulk Cocoa 2 lbs. 29c
Quality Candies
Jelly Beans lb. 19c
Bon-Bons lb. 25c
Creams lb. 25c
New Peel, Lemon, Orange . . lb. 19c
Sea King Lobster, 1/2's . . . . . 35c
New Dates . . . . . 2 lbs. 25c
Reckoned Currants . . . . . lb. 15c
New Mince-meat . . . . . 2 lbs. 29c
New Brazil Nuts . . . . . lb. 25c

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