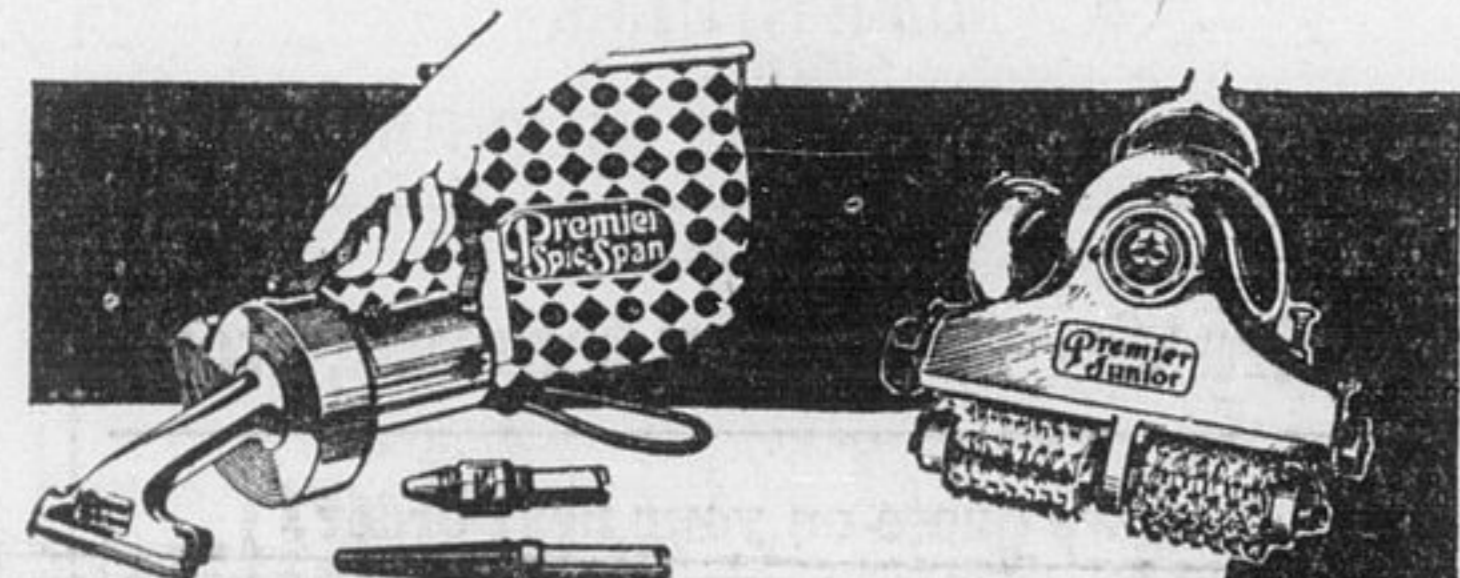


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**NORTH AMERICAN LIFE**

**Ex-Service Men Ask Work Not Charity**

Another Letter from "Only an Ex-Soldier." Recalls the Attitude of the Aliens Here During the War.

In its issue of July 9th The Advance published a letter from a writer signing himself for publication as "Only an Ex-Soldier." It would be apparent to anyone reading the comment made on the letter in these columns, that The Advance sympathized with "Only an Ex-Soldier," as indeed it does with all ex-soldiers. The sympathy with the ex-soldier in misfortune was all the more apparent because The Advance differed from some of the statements made by the writer of the letter. This week The Advance is publishing another letter from this same ex-soldier, and confesses that its sympathies are still more with this man, whose letter given herewith displays the qualities of manhood that have helped to make the British nation truly great. The letter is restrained in tone and yet by implication it holds to what he originally advocated—that the ex-service man should not be discriminated against for the benefit of those whose loyalty is in question. The Advance has been repeatedly assured that the ex-soldier is given the preference in the matter of employment at the mines and elsewhere in this camp. If this preference is given, no harm will be done by the letter. If the preference is missed sometimes a little publicity may prevent undue preference to aliens and especially to those who are not loyal to Canada and Britain. The first consideration should surely be given to loyal men, and the ex-service men have proven their loyalty as no one else could do. "Only an Ex-Soldier" need not particularly worry because his letter in cold print seemed a little different to what he intended. That is a very common occurrence. "Only an Ex-Soldier" was good sport enough that he did not try, as so many do, to "blame it on the newspaper." As for his closing sentence in this second letter, it hits the nail on the head. Good fellows do not want charity; they want honest work. This is the problem that the governments must face; the problem of providing work for all loyal men. In the meantime, however, the Legion is doing a notable service in helping the ex-soldier, and it should not be forgotten that one of the best services given by the Legion is in helping men to help themselves by placing them in touch with work that may be available.

The Advance apologizes for so lengthy an introduction, but there was not time to make it shorter. Here is the letter referred to:—

Timmins, July 15th, 1931  
To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir:—I thank you for publishing my letter in The Advance dated July 9th. The letter read a little different to what I intended it to do. In the first place I did not mean all foreigners. For instance, we have the Scandinavians with us, and I myself, put them on the same level as British subjects. I thank you for the way you replied to that letter.

I notice in this week's Advance (July 16th) that the secretary of the Legion has taken the matter up. He talks about foreigners being loyal to their adopted country. Yes, the Germans and Austrians were supposed to be loyal who were living in the different parts of the British Empire until the fourth of August, 1914. Then they suddenly became more loyal still (to the Fatherland). This "Red" stuff is smudging inside a lot of these so-called loyal foreigners, and some day we will see it burst into flames.

The secretary of the legion says:—"Forget that you were soldiers!" Why should we forget? Men that went through the early stages of the war, and fought in the second battle of Ypres, can they ever forget? I for one will never forget that I was a soldier. I am proud to think that I did my little bit to hold the old Empire together. The secretary of the Legion goes on to say that there are a lot wearing the badge of the Legion that are not entitled to wear it. Well, all I can say is that if a man will stoop to a thing like that he is not much good. I, myself, am not a member of the Legion.

It is very good of the Legion to be feeding and housing ex-service men. But real ex-service men don't want charity; they only want honest work.

—"ONLY AN EX-SOLDIER."

Toronto Mail and Empire:—One of these days a judge is going to get the shock of his life when he fines Solloway and Mills \$250,000 and finds that they haven't got it.

**Proposed New Ontario Council Not Desired**

One of the newspapers in this part of the North that toyed with the idea of "compromise" in regard to the choice of the route of the Trans-Canada highway was The Halleyburian. This is not said now with any idea of censure upon the Halleyburian paper. That paper has a full right to any opinions it may hold or fail to hold. The matter is mentioned now to show that The Halleyburian can not be accused of prejudice against other parts of the North. In the opinion of The Advance The Halleyburian has been included to pay too much attention to the plausible pronouncements of interested parties in other parts of the North to the detriment of this particular section. This, of course, is only the opinion of The Advance, but everyone but The Cochrane Northland Post and Mr. Wood of Iroquois Falls will agree that The Advance has won the right also to hold an opinion. The question is simply resurrected now to show that The Halleyburian has learned by experience that it does not pay to assist the propaganda artists of Sault Ste. Marie to put over their schemes for the sole benefit of the Sault. The Halleyburian in an editorial article on the proposed "council for New Ontario" has the following to say last week:—

"The proposal emanating a few weeks ago from Sault Ste. Marie, and endorsed by the cities of Port Arthur and Fort William, that a 'General Council of New Ontario' be formed in order to co-operate with all sections of the country north of the French-River in an attempt to solve their several problems, looks alright on paper. As it is outlined in letters from J. W. Curran who was appointed to send out invitations and arrange for a general meeting in August, the proposal reads well, but whether it is practical or not remains to be seen.

"We have carefully read all the available information so far, have had a short talk with one of the sponsors of the movement, Mr. J. A. McPhail, also of Sault Ste. Marie, and have watched the progress of a convention of northern municipalities last week, and we have rather grave doubts of the benefits to be derived from such an organization. It was made plain at the highway convention in North Bay on July 8th just how much chance this section of the North has in any argument with the people from the Soo, when the question goes to a vote. Sheer weight of numbers would eliminate the Temiskaming and Cochrane districts from any hope of carrying any controversial point in a general council such as is proposed.

"In the literature sent out it is stated that 'The three largest cities in the North have undertaken the project.' That's just the point. When the three largest cities in the North come to a convention which was to consist of three representatives from each municipality, one of them with 23 delegates, what can the more sparsely settled districts hope to gain? Does it not look more like something originated chiefly for the benefit of the 'Three largest cities in the North?' We may be too critical, too suspicious, but they did not do much last week at North Bay to inspire confidence in their altruistic motives in regard to the general welfare of New Ontario."

**RENOWNED SWIMMERS TO BE IN NORTH IN NEAR FUTURE**

"Observer" writing in the "Sportology" column of The North Bay Nugget last week says:—

"Recent announcements from England and Timmins indicates that the North Country will be over-run by renowned professional swimmers in the near future. Both centres have been promised a display by a coterie of famed natural artists, all of whom have shown their wares as prize winners in the Wrigley and Canadian National Exhibition marathons. Moreover, they are in training for this year's splashes, and their visits to the Northern centres are part of the prescribed course of training. Their backers appear to think that it would be preferable to have them dip in a variety of waters rather than feed on the Lake Ontario variety solely.

"It is reported that the party to visit these parts will include: Marvin Nelson, winner of the C.N.E. marathon last year; Isador Spondor, runner-up in that event; Marguerite Ravoit, first prize taker in last year's splash for the fair sex; Ernst Vierkotter, the famous German swimmer; A. Keating, another front rank professional, and Clarence Reed, holder of the world's professional record for short distances. It is claimed the latter will try to beat his record for the century splash while sojourning in the North.

"No date has been appointed for their appearance at Englehart, but arrangements have been made for the Timmins display during the 'Week of Wonders,' sponsored by the Canadian Legion, which opens on August 3."

**NOT A DRAP WASTED**

The chief engineer was an old seafaring Scot. He accepted a drink of Spey Royal from his foreman, but clipped a clothes pin on his nose while drinking it.

"Look here, Sandy," objected the foreman, "my whiskey doesn't smell so bad as that."

"Whist mon, no. It smells gude as all that."

"Then why the clothes pin?"

"Mon, if I should smell it whist drinkin' it, 'twould make my mouth water, an' I dinna want to dilute my drinks wi' onythin'."

—Exchange

**ANOTHER STORY OF THE LOST CHARLIE ROSS, OF NORTH**

Another story featuring the "lost Charlie Ross" of the North is told last week by The Northern Miner as follows:—

"During the construction of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, a party of engineers ordered a heavy supply of medicine to see them safely through the Christmas period of the year. The medicine, packed in wooden cases, containing 12 each in quart bottle size, to the extent of one toboggan load, included all the best known cordials and stimulants then manufactured in Canada. The consignment lay at Englehart in the fall of 1905, awaiting a safe man to transport it overland to the railway.

"There now enters on the scene, one Charlie Ross, a well-known prospector, who was the best man available for the job and, in fact, the only one familiar with that country. To quote Charlie's own words, 'Son, I had a hell of a trip. I had one toboggan and one toboggan with four dogs to carry the camp outfit and the food. You might imagine that we cut the food supply to the very minimum, and one of the rules was that the wet goods had to be delivered absolutely intact not later than December 23rd at the engineers' camp. We had practically completed the trip when I noticed that there was only one more bannock, so unbeknownst to my companion I dumped the baking powder into the flour bag and told my pal Bill to go down to the waterfall near where we were camped and to gather up three or four spoonful of the frozen fume in order that the bread would rise.

"Bill at first refused, as in all his experience he had never heard of frozen fume being used to make bread rise. However, I convinced him that he was about to see something new and he went down and mixed up the fume with the flour, then I made one of the finest bannocks of the whole trip. It raised four inches in the pan and when Bill saw it his jaw dropped like a folding bed. His eyes stuck out and he said it was the most marvelous thing he had ever heard of. We delivered the whiskey intact.

"Probably you have often heard what wonderful fellows these engineers were. Would you believe it when I delivered that whiskey there they never so much as asked me if I had a throat."

**NUMBER OF DEATHS IN 1930 IN CANADA FROM VIOLENCE**

According to a report issued to-day by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the number deaths in Canada from external violence during the year 1930 (preliminary figures) was 7,468 as compared with 7,151 in 1929, 6,925 in 1928, 6,288 in 1927 and 5,869 in 1926. The rate per 100,000 population was 75 in 1930 as against 73 in 1929, 72, in 1928, 66 in 1927 and 63 in 1926.

Suicides in 1930 showed a marked increase over the preceding year, the number being 1,007 against 835 and the rate 10.1 against 8.5. In 1926 the number of suicides was 680 and the rate 7.3.

Homicides numbered 212 in 1930 giving a rate of 2.1 per 100,000. In 1929 the number of homicides was 182 and the rate 1.9. In 1926 the corresponding figures were 126 and 1.3.

There were 6,249 accidental deaths in 1930, 6,134 in 1929, 6,024 in 1928, 5,385 in 1927 and 5,063 in 1926. The rate from this cause was 63 per 100,000 in 1929 and 1930, as compared with 62.5 in 1928, 57 in 1927 and 54 in 1926.

Drownings in 1930 numbered 1,057 or 17 per cent. of the total of fatal accidents. Deaths from traffic accidents were 2,077 or 33 per cent of the total. Automobile fatalities, numbering 1,289, amounted to 21 per cent. of all accidental deaths. Excluding those cases where an automobile was involved, there were 371 deaths from railroad accidents and 41 from street-car accidents. Thirty-three persons were killed during the year in aeroplane and balloon accidents.


**NORTH BAY OPINION ON THE PROPOSED NORTH COUNCIL**

In an editorial article on the proposal fostered at Sault Ste. Marie that an "unofficial legislature," or "Northern Council" be organized for "the whole of the North," as the Sault propaganda phrases it, but really for the Sault itself as the scheme is designed, The North Bay Nugget last week says:—

"Press despatches this week carry to a more or less interested world the news that an organization consisting of Port Arthur, Fort William and Sault Ste. Marie has been started, to be the 'voice of the North.' It is supposed to represent Northern Ontario apparently, and a further conference is to be held to complete the organization. Its mainspring seems to be a strong dislike of this part of Northern Ontario and the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railroad in particular. Its aim, by the same token, appears to be to get some of the money now being spent by the government in this part of the country. Having its inception in the Sault, and with that city leading it, the new organization is not likely to represent anybody much, but the three cities concerned in the start of the association. Certainly if it can do anything to help the people in that area, it would be a good thing, but if it proposes to do it at the expense of other parts of the province, which seems to be the general idea, then it is far from good. The unfortunate part of it is that in Old Ontario a good many people will accept it at its press agents' value, and really believe that it represents the Northern part of the province when it is actually nothing of the kind."

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