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### Moral Suggested by the Experience of Australia

The following is an editorial article from a recent issue of The Toronto Star:—

"Concern is expressed in gold mining circles regarding the upward trend in both federal and provincial tax rates. Representations have been made to Ottawa on behalf of the mines and assurance has been given that the question will be considered from every angle before action is taken.

"While the increases in taxes are a very serious matter it is felt that in mining circles whatever additional levies are placed on general industry should be applicable to gold mines. On the other hand, however, it is held the proposal that the exemption of gold mine earnings for depletion be cut from 50 to 40 per cent will work an unfair hardship on the leading branch of one of Canada's most important basic industries.

"It might be pointed out that due to

the fact a producing mine is faced with constantly wasting assets—in other words, that every ton of ore hoisted and treated reduces by so much the real value of the property—it has been the practice to allow mining enterprises to consider a portion of earnings, whether or not it is set aside as a reserve a return of capital invested, and this portion has been exempt from taxation.

"By reducing this exempted portion from 50 to 40 per cent, the taxable amount is increased from 50 to 60 per cent and with indications pointing to an increase in the corporation tax from the present rate of 10 per cent to 12 1/2 per cent, the extent of the increased burden can readily be seen. For instance, with 50 per cent. exemption and present rate the tax per ton milled on Ontario ores last year was about 42 per cent. with a 40 per cent. exemption and proposed increases by Ontario and federal governments that tax would be 56 cents per ton.

"Inadvisability of imposing taxation beyond the elastic limit for gold mines would appear to be well illustrated by conditions now existing in Australia. Having made conditions there so onerous many mines were forced to close down, the government now sees its mistake and to rehabilitate the industry has offered for the next ten years to pay a bonus of one pound sterling per ounce of gold produced by any mine in excess of that mine's average for 1928 and 1929. Results of this plan to date, however, indicate resuscitation was too long delayed."

### CHANGED FROM DRY TO WET ON THE WAY TO CHURCH

Among the definitions given of news one prominent one is that of something unusual and out of the ordinary. Under such a definition the following paragraph from The North Bay Nugget should receive prominence. Even in the days of many years ago when church-going was followed more closely by most people anyone thus changing from "dry" to "wet" would hesitate about continuing on to church. The Nugget's story is as follows:—

Even in this revolutionary age, when the modern youth at times seem impossible (although perhaps they are just misunderstood)—and some religious bodies have tried every conceivable stunt to keep their congregations intact, a few still get out to church no matter what the cost. And we have plenty of evidence to prove our contention. For instance—coming across Memorial Park at an early hour on a recent morning we espied a lady, of perhaps middle age, feeling her way, with Bible or prayer book in hand, over the dangerously slippery walks enroute to one of the various houses of worship. Reaching the street, which, by the way, was covered with water in that particular section, her feet suddenly went from under and in a flash she was seated in a most embarrassing position and in a decidedly damp spot. But turn back and go home for such a trifle? Never, without so much as a survey of the damage done, or even a backward glance, she continued on in the same direction. On to church—wet or dry.—C.B.N.

Try The Advance Want Advertisements

### Only Way to Right Present Conditions

Millionaire Lawyer in New York Spends his Fortune to Wage War Against the Real Cause of the Depression.

For some time past The Advance has been calling attention to what appears to be the only plan whereby the present conditions can be properly and permanently remedied. The matter seems to be so self-evident that it is hard to understand how the Governments persist in evading the issue, except through pressure from those who do not wish to bear their share. In Canada there is no lack of anything, not even money, yet there is unemployment and hardship. "The trouble is faulty distribution," the economists say. Governments are hard pressed to find ways and means to balance budgets. Cutting wages is the favourite way to make economies and this simply adds to the existing troubles. Special industries are singled out for oppressive taxation, which is another way to add to the difficulties of the times. All sorts of taxes are imposed on various lines of business and industry, and practically all of these are simply turned over for either the public or the employees to bear, thus increasing the trouble for those least able to pay it. It does seem certain that the only equitable way to secure the needed revenue is through income tax. Income tax can not be passed on to the public or anybody else. It comes chiefly from those able to bear it. Most of those having large incomes owe their big returns to the privileges and concessions secured from the public in general. From these facts alone it surely is evidently that in this country, as in the Old Country, the Governments when looking for needed revenue should centre less on business and industry and more on incomes. It would seem that if exemptions on income were decreased and taxes on larger incomes were augmented the situation would be better met.

There will be general interest in the story of a New York millionaire lawyer who has tackled the problem and is spending his fortune to tell the world. The story of this lawyer is summarized as follows:—

**Spending Millions for His Country**  
From an office high up in one of New York's towering skyscrapers, Harrison E. Fryberger is waging a one-man war against the depression.

It is a curious situation—a capitalistic lawyer who amassed a fortune in minority stockholders' litigations now stands ready and willing to spend every dime of his wealth in an effort to effect a readjustment of the capitalistic system.

Fryberger's determination to do something about poverty in this richest of nations was born of a dramatic tragedy he witnessed in the summer of 1930. Following a vacation on the Riviera he was returning to his home in Minneapolis, where he was a corporation lawyer. At South Bend, Ind., a young woman leaped in front of his train. Investigation revealed that she had been penniless and hungry.

**Brooded Over Conditions**  
During the remainder of his journey the attorney brooded over what he had seen. Next day at his office, associates found they were unable to interest him in the progress of the business. Fryberger locked himself in his private office, not for morbid contemplation of the woman's act, but to try to plan against conditions that made common occurrences of such tragedies.

"The unwelcome truth was brought home to me," he said, "that although this country had more money, more food and clothing than ever before, hundreds of thousands of our citizens were broke, jobless, undernourished and so broken in morale that many of them preferred death."

So Fryberger put his practice in the hands of astonished associates, locked his bachelor quarters in Minneapolis, and began travelling. For months he wandered about the United States and Europe, interviewing manufacturers, politicians, financiers, men on the streets. He studied London's dole, New York's unemployment relief, Soviet Russia, Vienna's apartments for workers.

He came back alarmed at the progress of Communism and convinced that capitalism must meet the present situation and show America the way out. Fryberger started to write some magazine articles, which speedily grew to the proportions of a book. He took the material to several publishers, but says he found them too timid to issue such a frank discussion.

**Became Own Publisher**  
Fryberger rented an office in New York, organized his own Advance Publishing Company, and put out the book himself. He called it "The Abolition of Poverty," and in it incorporated his ideas and observations.

He is still there, thin, gray-haired, dynamic and intensely busy. He still looks out over the city, impressive symbol of capitalism, and plans for a day of reckoning. He hopes he won't be called a Bolshevik because he has theories about the decentralization of wealth. He likes to recall that his ancestral background has been pure American for more than two centuries.

He doesn't know just how much money he has—or had when he started his one-man crusade. But his income for the last year of his law practice was about \$200,000. He owns four thousand acres of land in Minnesota and valuable oil properties in the west, but he says:

"Four per cent. of our population own 80 per cent. of our national wealth. And that's wrong, even if I happen to be among the 4 per cent. Money isn't

doing me any good. I'd be happier if I could return to my law practice. And I guess I'll have to, one of these days."

With his book, magazine articles, radio talks and letters to legislators, Fryberger is attempting to advance his ideas. These are, briefly:

That a radical and intricate system of taxation is the principal remedy. He would not permit an heir-at-law to inherit more than \$100,000. A survey he made reveals that by means of this virtual confiscation of estates, State treasuries would receive about \$1,500,000,000 annually.

He would allow widows to inherit the full estate, on the theory that wives contribute to their husband's success. He also would protect the rights of adult heirs who actually have aided in creating fortunes.

He wants income taxes greatly increased in the upper brackets, and "the regulation rather than the abolition of stock exchanges." He is opposed to the sales tax.

He would outlaw the chain store, and the chain-store system in other kinds of business.

"I believe in big business," he declared, "and I don't care how great a fortune any man is able to pile up for himself. The basic principle of capitalism, as I see it, is the reward of individual initiative. But that principle is violated at the outset by any system that permits huge fortunes to pass into the hands of heirs who have not earned them."

Pembroke Standard-Observer.—Well, Howard Ferguson is not afraid to come back and face the music. It is more than probable that he will make some others wish that his name had not been mentioned in connection with the Beauharnois and Hydro matters.

### Says Health of the Indians is Not Bad

Officer Claims Reports About Indians in Patricia District are Not Accurate and that Conditions are Misrepresented.

A couple of weeks ago The Advance referred to the recurring stories as to conditions among the Indians in the far North. It was pointed out in these columns that every so often there was sure to be stories coming from the North picturing the Indians as living, or dying, under the most depressing conditions. As often as such reports would be published there would be official denials until the public found it difficult to judge as to the facts of the case. Special mention was made in The Advance to the last story as to the hardships endured by the Indians in the Patricia district. This story was contained in the column, "Grab Samples" in The Northern Miner. In view of the fact that the column, "Grab Samples," was very carefully and thoughtfully compiled, The Advance believed it merited the attention of the authorities. In the article in "Grab Samples" a number of charges were suggested, and The Advance considered that the authorities were called upon for an explanation or denial in the matters at issue. It was not suggested that "Grab Samples" was to be considered as infallible, but it was pointed out that the writer of "Grab Samples" had won a name for cleverness and for fairness and so it appeared that the authorities should take note of what the writer in question had to say as to conditions among the natives.

Evidently the authorities agree with this idea and see that some sort of explanation is due the public in the matter. It is recognized by all that Canada feels responsibility in regard to the Indians, and also that the people of the Dominion do not favour any neglect or hardship being unnecessarily endured by the original inhabitants of this country.

Accordingly, last week the people had an opportunity to read an official view of the question at issue. The official view was made plain in a letter to The Toronto Globe. This letter is given herewith in full as it appeared in The Globe on Saturday of last week:—

To the Editor of The Globe:—Several articles have recently been published in your paper regarding the conditions of the Indians inhabiting the District of Patricia, to which I wish to take exception, as many of the statements made are not in accordance with the facts.

For several years it has been my duty to visit the Indians of the most remote districts of Ontario to pay them their annuity and to look into their general welfare. Before leaving Ottawa, I have been instructed to see that no Indians should unduly suffer for food or clothing. Acting under these instructions, I have always authorized the trading companies to see that the department's requirements in this respect are carried out.

Letters have been received from Cat Lake and from Trout Lake regarding the satisfactory conditions of the Indians, and today I am enclosing to you a copy of an unsolicited letter received from Mr. J. A. Macdonald, the missionary teacher at Fort Hope, which should ease the minds of the public that these Indians are not enduring the privations and hardships which the articles recently published would have them believe. The letter follows:

"Fort Hope Indian Mission, Tashota P.O., Ontario, March 18.  
"H. N. Awrey, Esq., Department of Indians Affairs, Ottawa, Ont.:  
"Dear Mr. Awrey: I received the biscuits you set me last fall, for which I thank you. The invoices were sent to me, and if the department requires them I shall be glad to send them out by next mail.

"The Indians in this district are doing fine; there has been no sickness, and only two deaths, and those were small children. Every one so far reports a good winter for the hunter, that is, plenty of food.

"I understand that false rumours have been sent in to Ottawa, saying that the Indians in this district were starving. I have made inquiries from Indians and traders far and wide, and they all say that this winter has been one of the best for them for many years, so that I am prepared to say that your Indians are the best off in this part of the country at the present time. Your department has supplied them with plenty of clothes, and there is plenty of food, so I must say that there are no complaints to be made from this part of the country. (Sgd.) J. A. Macdonald."

H. N. Awrey,  
Paying Officer, Treaty 9.

Ottawa.  
Possibly, it is too much to expect that this letter will settle the matter for all time. It is of value in the meantime, however, insofar as it shows the public that the Indians are not suffering as severely as the people in general have been led to believe by many. The testimony of the missionary at Fort Hope should also be of special value in convincing the public that some at least of the stories circulated in the matter have been overdrawn, to say the least.

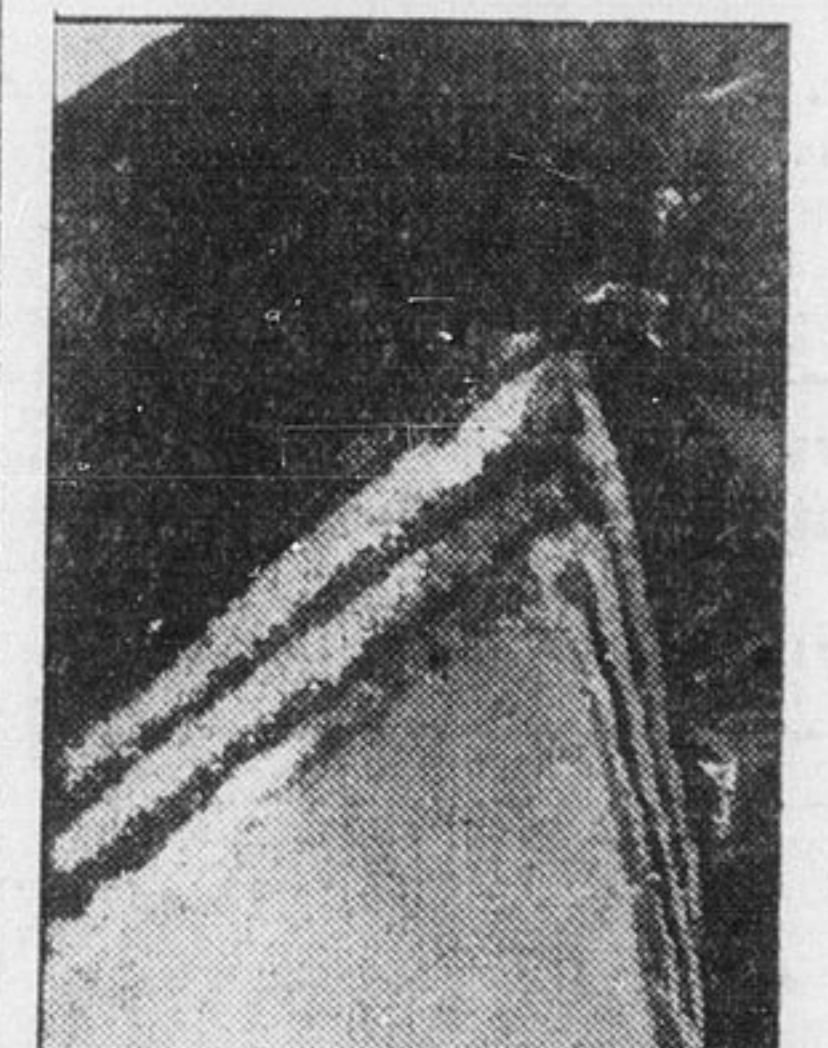
Pembroke Standard-Observer:—Both of the railways are running week-end excursions between Toronto and Montreal and back for \$5 in order to make it interesting for the buses. If the railways will continue this game throughout Canada the buses will soon find out that they cannot compete with the railways.

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### EDITOR ADVISES READERS TO LIE, STEAL, DRINK, SWEAR

There is a newspaper in Kansas the editor of which is openly advising readers to lie, steal, drink and swear. He thus explains his stand:

"When you lie, let it be down to pleasant dreams; when you steal, let it be away from immoral associates; when you drink, let it be pure water; when you swear, let it be that you will support your home paper, pay your subscription and not send your job work away from home."



### Madame Lacroix's delicious CHOCOLATE LAYER CAKE

- 3/4 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup milk
- 2 1/2 cups pastry flour (or 2 cups and 3 tablespoons of bread flour)
- 3 teaspoons Magic Baking Powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Cream butter; add sugar, a little at a time, beating until light; add beaten yolks and flavoring; add flour, sifted with salt and baking powder, alternately with milk. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Bake in 3 moderate layer cake pans in moderate oven at 375° F. about 20 minutes. Recipe for Chocolate Icing and Filling is in the Magic Cook Book.

### Why Magic Baking Powder is used exclusively at this Montreal School of Domestic Science

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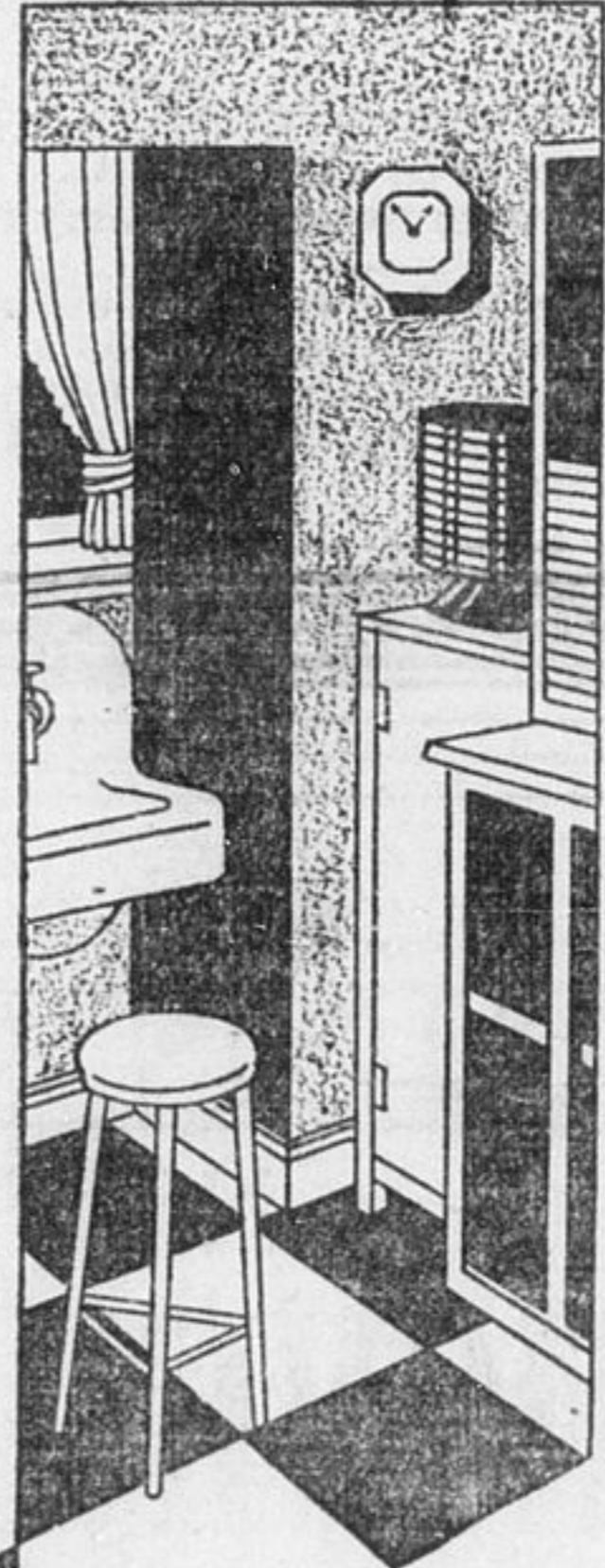


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