

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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SIGN OF BETTER TIMES

One of the surest signs that the present depression is nearly over is the fact that some newspapers and public men are beginning to worry now over the next depression. The Northern Tribune, of Kapuskasing, for instance says that the next depression may be more severe and come more quickly, unless there is a world-wide effort to correct many economic ills.

There will be many who will feel that the world should get rid of the present depression before wasting any anxiety over the next. At the same time it should be remembered that the only time to deal effectively with any regular depression is before the pest arrives. In the matter of depressions, as in many other things, prevention is better than cure. So the apparent worrying about a depression in the future may be more practical foresight than pessimism. A large measure of the credit for the fact that the depression seems now to be dying away is given to the promise held out by the agreements made at the recent Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa. If the Conference can achieve results at this date in relieving the depression it is logical to believe that had the good work of the Conference been carried out three or four years ago the depression would have been stayed off, at least in large measure, so far as the British Empire was concerned.

There are many hopeful signs of better times in the immediate future. Business and industry seem to be reviving and with their revival there will be a general improvement all along the line. Activity in the stock market shows that people are recovering their courage and their venturesomeness. The stiffening of prices of commodities is certain to have a beneficial effect on the whole spirit of trade and industry. There is reason to believe that if the Governments this year were to institute a programme of employment such as was attempted last year the present depression would be completely smashed. With the Governments showing the right lead, industry and trade would revive so quickly that the present depression would be a thing of the past in remarkably short time. Unless the Governments take some such action, however, thoughtful people will insist on seeing the last of the present depression before worrying any about others that are to come.

Direct relief measures will do no more than keep the present depression lingering along. Direct relief, charity, the state and all such measures, are useful only in keeping the more serious cases from starvation in the immediate present. Employment on the other hand gives the country value for the money spent, it relieves real cases of distress even more effectively than direct relief, and it builds up both the country and its people. There is also every reason to believe that relief through employment will cost the country as little as direct relief. The bills for direct relief will be staggering this year, unless people are actually to suffer serious want. The situation may be again mentioned as resolving itself into this—The Dominion of Canada needs so much work done for its progress and betterment that it seems the best of policy to proceed with this vitally needed development effort, while at the same time the country has wealth and resources enough to warrant the prosecution of this needed work with full assurance that it is but good investment and the money can be secured to pay it all.

No one should forget that there are some people who have made money out of the present depression, or expect to do so before the end. Newspapers have been fond of quoting the fact that every depression in the history of the world has been followed by a period of outstanding prosperity. It would be well to remember the other fact in this connection, namely, that after each of the modern-day depressions the world has emerged with a greater percentage of the total wealth in a fewer hands. To change the possibility of this condition will tend to make depressions less burdensome and also less frequent. Only in prosperous times can the ordinary man hope for success or profit. When the high finance rings are forced into the same category as the ordinary man there will be fewer and smaller depressions.

For the immediate present it would seem that the first thought should be to get out of the present depression. The next thought should be to be ready to face the coming better times in the right attitude. Then, with the establishment of the new prosperity there should be determination to protect against depressions of the future, so far as that is possible, and it is possible to a greater extent than most people realize.

It may be said that it is not so much the present economic system that is at fault, as the abuse of that system. It should be remembered that no system contemplates, or can contemplate to-day a plan whereby everything comes in and nothing goes out. There are those in supposedly high place in the financial world who would apparently like to be as fully czars of this country as Soviet ring enslaves the Russian hordes. The brilliant conception of one of these financiers was that the depression could only be cured by a slashing of wages. The modern idea is that money as well as labour must take its responsibilities along with its privileges. Some further safeguards for the common interests may be needed, but the chief requirement for the remedying of the present depression and the avoiding of future ones is the realization that with privileges must go responsibilities and that all must do their part honestly and equitably for the common good in times of common need.

HELP THE TRANSIENTS

The report of the Provincial Advisory Relief Committee touched on an important phase of relief work when it referred to the necessity for more effective measures in dealing with the transient unemployed. At the present time there is very grave danger of the establishment in this country of a large army of men travelling from place to place and existing in precarious way on charity and less desirable means. These men are liable to be called tramps and hoboes and for the present many of them are not deserving of such titles. They are transients only through the force of circumstances and the lack of opportunity. Most of them had a regular home and the attitude of the tramp or the travelling beggar when they commenced their travels on the highways and the railroads. They simply felt themselves forced to move. They could not secure work or a chance for a fair livelihood where they happened to be when the force of the depression hit the country. With the faith in the greenness of far fields and with the hope that somewhere else

they might do better, they travelled here and there. Had the Governments continued their plans for relief through employment the situation would not have been so bad as it is. The transients would have gravitated to the places where employment could be obtained. Other places would have pointed them to centres where there was work to be done. The inauguration of direct relief, however, has turned the transient into a burden to many municipalities, a curse to himself, and a danger to the country. Unless something is done the travelling transient, starting out honestly enough, perhaps, in a search for work, will find ways and means to keep existence in nomadic fashion. To many such a life will have more appeal than the eating of the bitter bread of direct relief. The ingenious and the venturesome will enjoy the life of the transient with all its drawbacks more than to be a commonplace object of direct charity under municipal auspices. The danger lies in the fact that the transients, if allowed to continue as they have been doing, will actually found a new branch of the social order and establish themselves as a feature of Canadian life. For years Canada has been practically free of the tramp, the hobo, the bum. In a land like Canada, with all the work to be done here, with all the opportunities presenting itself if this country is to prosper and advance, there is surely no room or place for any Order of the Hobo. Yet the creation of such an army of wanderers is inevitable unless action is taken.

Already the railroads have been forced to take action to break-up the numerous gangs stealing rides on the railroads, committing petty thefts on railway property, and interfering with railway employees. To numerous towns the transients are a serious nuisance and a costly curse. The towns of the North, despite the efforts of the T. & N. O. to prevent these transients from flocking in here by "sidedoor pullman," have found these wanderers one of the burdens of the day.

No one withholds sympathy from these travellers, but circumstances gradually force towns to make their stay unpleasant and to warn them away. No town or city can afford to attempt to care for these transients for this. In the first place each town and city has found that it can not possibly take on its shoulders the impossible burden of the transient unemployed. Then again there is the fact that the town asked to care for transients is being unjustly imposed upon. It has all it can do to care for its own needy. There is the feeling that other municipalities have attempted to shift their responsibilities. In the third place there is the suspicion naturally attaching to the transient himself. Why was it necessary for him to move from the place where he was known? If the case were an honest one of need, would he not be cared for by his own people and in his own town? Each town is looking after its own needy, why do these transients seek the unknown?

As the report of the Provincial Advisory Relief Committee points out, some method must be adopted to deal with the transients in fair way. So long as the Governments persist in passing on from one authority to another the responsibility for relief, the only logical plan would be to return the transients to the municipalities responsible. The suggestion of the Advisory Relief Committee that three months be the standard to make residence is unfair. It would mean that towns that have helped the transients from humane considerations would be saddled with a responsibility that is decidedly not theirs. It would mean that towns like Kirkland Lake and Timmins would be victimized in most unjust way. The only fair way would be to follow the plan adopted in other Government regulations and to have the town of residence at the time of the depression's first serious stage considered as the place responsible for the transient. To return all the transients to their proper places where they may receive relief as needed and deserved will prove a costly matter, but much less costly to the country than the building up of a permanent army of tramps. There is, of course, another and a better way,—the providing of employment, rather than direct relief. Employment would make the transient unnecessary. Employment would give him the chance he deserves in so many cases, and in the other cases it would take away both reason and excuse for travelling up and down the land and living as no man should be forced to live in this day and generation, in this country of Canada.

BRITISH JUSTICE WINS

When Toronto's woman magistrate Miss Margaret Patterson, was reported as having sentenced a man to ten days in jail for failing to pay a debt of \$150, there was considerable comment along the line that Canada was forgetting the principles of British justice and fair play. It is pleasing to know that the final court of all—the court of public opinion—will not countenance so flagrant a transgression of the principles of British justice as that implied in the newspaper reports of the case referred to. The newspapers gave much prominence to one part of the complete story and so fair play resulted for the man concerned. He was a returned soldier, unemployed, and in need. Because he could not pay his rent, it was necessary for him to move what little furniture he had to other quarters. The man who looked after the transportation of the furniture refused to wait for his pay and entered suit against the man for the charges, \$150, under the Master and Servant Act. The magistrate ordered payment but when he failed to do so, committed him to jail for ten days. At once there was heated objection to such procedure and a lawyer stepped forward and paid the \$150 and costs and secured the release of the unfortunate man. In the meantime, the case was drawn to the attention of the Attorney-General, who censured the magistrate for being too severe without knowledge of the facts of the case. The magistrate also was criticized for allowing the charge to proceed under the Master and Servants Act. The case should never have been allowed to proceed under this section, which is designed for the speedy protection of poor people whose employers may attempt to evade payment of wages. The charge for the moving of the furniture was a debt pure and simple, the carter in no way being an employee in the meaning of the act. The magistrate erred chiefly in allowing the use of the Master and Servants Act for the collection of a common debt. In the further procedure the law was followed, but no law can be a good law if it is invoked on unjust terms. There is this to be said in favour of the magistrate—that the man pleaded guilty to the charge and said he would pay in a few days as he expected some money to come to him in that time. Without enquiry it would appear to the magistrate that he had scorned the law when he failed to pay. That is the point that should be remembered—that the magistrate failed to make enough enquiry, that she neglected the patient questioning that so many cases require. The whole incident is not a disgrace to British justice or to the kindness of the law, as some appear to believe. Instead it suggests how carefully the majority of magistrates administer the law and the patience and humane feeling with which they endeavour to temper justice with mercy. With the thousands of cases heard each week in the province of Ontario the wonder is that there are so few errors of judgment and so few hardships on the poor and humble who lack the assurance to defend themselves and the money to purchase legal help. The very fact of the unusualness of the case was what

Falconbridge Wins from Kirkland Lake

Game at the Dome in Ontario Cup Finals Gives Falconbridge a 5-0 Victory, with Brilliant Football Played by the Falcons Especially.

South Porcupine, Sept. 7th, 1932. Special To The Advance. Falconbridge and Kirkland Lake Football team tied at the latter place on Saturday last and Falconbridge chose Dome grounds as their "home" for the play-off of this tie in the first round for the Ontario Cup. The game was played on Monday evening and in spite of a drizzly rain there was a fair attendance. The Falcons made a very favourable impression on football fans and the consensus of opinion is that they are birds which it will be difficult to stop in their flight for the Ontario Cup. They played clean, spectacular football throughout and went home victors in the 5-0 score. Their goalie was outstanding and the significance of unlucky "13" is all shot to pieces for he played with a huge 13 on his back and could not have had more luck if it had been a combined clover of horse-shoe, four-leaved clover and swastika. W. Barron, of Schumacher, refereed.

The teams lined up:—Falconbridge—goal, Wallace; backs, Brown, Armstrong half-backs, Aird, Davidson, Petterson; forwards, McAllister, Pritchard, Sathrang, McMillan and McVie; spares, Gregg, Day, Inglis. Lake Shore—goal, Soutar; backs, Ramsay, McKellar; half backs, MacDonald, Rankin and Bull; forwards, Simpson, Fernie, McKendry, Figg, Hurst; spares, Daly, Parsons and McMurray. From the first whistle Falconbridge dominated for awhile, then play was so balanced the leather seldom got far from mid-field. Kirkland Lake were unfortunate around the net, their efforts either going too high or to one side. The backs gave Wallace wonderful protection, making many well planned sallies of the Lake Shore seem spineless and weak. Sathrang booted in the first, picking up a neat pass from McVie. Pritchard brought comment for his clever trapping of the ball. Within five minutes of finish McVie crossed to McAllister who turned it in to Pritchard for a score. Then



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made it news and prompted the newspapers to feature it so much. It will likely be a long time before there is another such possible miscarriage of justice in Ontario. British law and fair play held sway in Ontario chiefly because the great majority of magistrates give time and attention and care and thought to see that even the poorest and the least vocal of accused persons have a fair deal and all the leniency that may be given.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

A man claiming to speak for the Canadian Labour Defence League informed the Toronto Globe last week that the said league did not choose five delegates at a recent meeting to attend a congress in Russia, as alleged in a newspaper report. Last week circulars put around in Timmins in the dead of night and purporting to be issued by the same Canadian Labour Defence League not only stated that the five men had been selected by the aforesaid league to go to Russia, but it named the five men chosen and gave the further information that "the Soviet Union has granted the International Red Aid the right to hold their congress in Moscow in November." There need be no question as to which of these Canadian Labour Defence League fellows is telling the truth. Anyone looking for truth from the Canadian Labour Defence League should be disappointed. Even the name isn't true; it isn't Canadian, it's dead against labour, doesn't care about defence and isn't a league in any proper way. The explanation of the difference between the Toronto and Timmins versions of the Canadian Labour Defence League may be explained in this way:—Because the Toronto fellow says no delegates have been chosen, it must be true they were selected, and the names given by the Timmins man are no doubt wrong so that makes his end of it true to form.

Robt. Gardiner, the leader of the Progressive Party in the Dominion, does not agree with the communists or the reds in reference to methods for righting conditions contrary to the opinions of the party. "There is no use talking revolution," he says, "After the revolution," he adds, "you would still have the problems to solve." Tom Moore, the noted Labour leader, so long prominent in the Labour Council, recently expressed himself along similar lines. Revolution would only bring chaos, in Mr. Moore's opinion. Men like

a penalty kick was taken by Sathrang so in less than another minute the Falcons were three-up for that half. In the second session Parsons and Daly were on for the Lake Shore. Play started at a faster clip than featured the first. A corner from Hurst was skied over by Rankin. Ramsay was doing great work. In fact all the Lake Shore were working like demons to thwart the jinx that hovered near them. But that jinx still persisted when they got around the net. In one of the rushes down field Hurst was accidentally kicked on the ankle and had to be carried off the field—a limp mass. McMurray took his place. Aird brought the ball down and Sathrang put on the finishing touch for a fourth corner. The Lake Shore seemed to lose heart after that and also some of their good sporting disposition, disputing the referee's decisions and showing for them, an unusual trend to rough it. The Falcons seemed to be able to shoot on that net from any angle whatever and swooped down on that ball with uncanny precision wherever it was. Another goal off the boot of McVie from McAllister made the fifth, the game going to the Southerners 5-0. Soutar made nine stops in the first to six for Wallace. In the second Soutar was called on twelve times to Wallace's seven.

Report Anthracite in Moosonee Area

Confirmation, However is Lacking Though T. & N. O. Sends Expert to Investigate. Ottawa Mine Dept. Official Dubious.

The report last week-end was to the effect that anthracite coal had been found in large quantity in the Moosonee area, along the Mattagami river, and not far from James Bay extension of the T. & N. O. The report seemed to originate in North Bay, but no official information about the reported find could be obtained at the Bay. The best that could be found there was that the T. & N. O. was sending its mining expert Arthur A. Cole, to investigate. The report said that samples had been sent to Ottawa for analysis. Enquiries at Ottawa failed to support this part of the report. Indeed, one expert at Ottawa doubted the probability of anthracite coal being found in the area mentioned. Enquiry at Toronto was no more encouraging, the Ontario department of mines being unable to confirm or deny the report.

Accordingly the report to the present is no more than a mere report. Nevertheless it is interesting to follow the report and its treatment from the angles of the three centres referred to—North Bay, Toronto, and Ottawa.

First, here is one despatch from North Bay:—"Unconfirmed reports reached here that two immense deposits of anthracite coal had been found in the vicinity of the Moosonee extension of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. One deposit was said to have been discovered on the Mattagami river, within five or six miles of the railway extension, while another was reported to have been located at Hannah Bay, 30 miles from Moosonee. Samples were said to have been forwarded to Ottawa for fuel testing, but George Lee, chairman of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway Commission was unable to verify the report. The railway, he said, had sent its mining engineer, Arthur Cole, Hallybury, into the area to check reports of the two finds."

That statement about samples being sent to Ottawa for analysis, brings Ottawa into the picture. Here is a despatch from Ottawa:—"No information has been received at the Department of Mines here bearing upon the reported discovery of 'immense deposits' of anthracite coal in Northern Ontario. A despatch yesterday from North Bay

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stated that reports reaching there described an important find at two points on the Moosonee extension of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. "I would be inclined to doubt the existence of anthracite in commercially important quantities in that district," a high official of the Mines Department said, when shown the report. He would not say, however, that such a discovery was impossible. A check-up of the laboratories conducted by the Mines Branch failed to discover any record of samples having been forwarded here for testing. It was possible, however, that specimens sent in by private individuals were tested in the ordinary course and no record sent to the Minister's office."

Ottawa being thus dropped out as it were, there still remained Toronto to deal with. Next follows the despatch in the matter sent out from Toronto:—"Hon. Charles McCrea, Ontario Minister of Mines, to-day was unable to confirm or deny reports that vast fields of anthracite coal had been found near the Northern end of the Moosonee extension of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway. "We had heard 'smoking car' rumours concerning supposed discoveries, but have had no verification," he said. He added, he

would not say such a discovery was impossible, but would offer no further comment pending confirmation of the reports."

After dealing with the various despatches as above there remains nothing but the reports that the finds were made. It would be a great thing if the stories were founded on fact. It would mean a great thing for the North Land if the reports were founded on the fact. Anthracite in the far north would prove a wonderful thing for the country. However, it would not be well simply to believe the report because all hope is true. It is better to wait and see, though in the meantime all may surely hope that the report is founded on facts not fancies.

Mines Said to Seek Way to Cheap Power

Plan of Central Compressor Plant for All Mines of Kirkland Lake Area Now Reported as Planned.

From Kirkland Lake this week comes despatches to the effect that a central compressor plant, capable of supplying air for the operation of all mines of the Kirkland Lake area has been proposed as a method for defeating the present arrangements under which mines of the district are bound by contracts lasting the life of the mines to take power at a rate reaching as high as \$50.00 per horsepower. The fact that electric energy is being sold in other sections of the province as low as \$20.00, and lower, is being emphasized, and contrast made between these low rates and the cost of power in the North to the mines. The present agitation no doubt is given special impetus by the entry of the Hydro Electric Commission into the North, with the further fact that the price set by the Hydro for power in the North is given as \$22.00 per horse power for large users.

There will be many who will remember that the North would have gone without electric power when the need was vital had it been left to the Hydro to supply the requirements. The Hydro for years refused to consider the North at all. Of course, there will be others who will take the stand that it is "better late than never." However, it does appear that the situation will be an embarrassing one, to say the least, if the older mines under life contracts, are required to pay up to \$50.00 per horse power, while newer properties may secure Hydro power at \$22.00 or so. One solution proposed is that the Government take over the whole power situation in the North. That solution might be adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned. The plan said to be proposed at Kirkland Lake is designed to offset the terms of the life contracts which will naturally appear doubly burdensome in contrast to contracts with the Hydro available to new mines. The Hydro will soon be seeking customers for its power in the North and it may be good policy to consider the possibilities of the field already in existence, but held under contracts upheld by the courts. This feature of the case seems worthy of consideration as a possible means of providing all the mines with cheaper power and opening a big market to the Hydro, while not dealing unjustly with the pioneers of power in the North. All would be delighted to see all the mines enjoy the cheapest possible power. The men who put their money into mining took a big chance, and few would grudge them good returns. The men who put their money into supplying power to the North were equally venturesome and are entitled to some consideration now. In the meantime the public should not be stampeded either way, but the question should be dealt with from the standpoint of the public interests and for the broadest measure of advantage to all concerned.

Blairmore (Alberta) Enterprise:—Times are so bad now that the girls are walking both ways.

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Gardiner and Moore may be considered radical in their opinion, but in British countries no one is afraid of radicals. In the march forward of ideas what is radical to-day may be a commonplace to-morrow. British people, however, do not take kindly to the disloyal and the traitor under guise. It is believed—and the past with its great progress has amply proved it true—that under British democracy there is full opportunity for the will of the majority to make its way and for ideas to be proven right or expedient by lawful means.

Last week Sudbury Legion and Citizens' Band was awarded second place in the band contest conducted as a feature of the Toronto Exhibition. The Sudbury Star says that the decision was jeered by the crowd, Sudbury's band having won first place in popular favour. From independent critics and outside sources as well as from the reception and applause given the Sudbury band, The Sudbury Star is convinced that injustice was done in the judging. Ten years ago Timmins had a somewhat similar experience at the Toronto band contests. On that occasion Brampton was given first place, just as it was this year, though the consensus of opinion was that the judges erred. Nearly every year certain bands seem to be favoured in these contests, though the final judges,—the people,—do not mean agree. As a suggestion, how would it be for the Exhibition people to have a special class for the judge's favourites and another class for competition on merit?

An Ottawa writer on meteorological subjects is quoted as saying that if radio broadcasting were stopped there would be decided improvement in the weather. If some of the broadcasting were stopped there would be improvement in the radio anyway.

Among the badly-needed works in this section of country is the road to connect Sudbury, Shiningtree, Matachewan, McArthur, Porcupine and other mining camps. Such a road would help the unemployment question and would prove a valuable factor in the development of the North.

There are only a couple of months more summer likely in this North Land. Some Toronto people have already started paying coal bills.