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### Sad Death of Carl Axelson in the West

Man who Spoke Here Last January on "The Truth About Russia," Passes Away, Supposedly by his own Hand, but Questions are Asked.

Those who met Carl Axelson on his visit in January of this year to the town of Timmins will feel interest and regret in the recent report of his death at his home in Bengville, Alberta. Although the late Mr. Axelson held communist beliefs and to some extent set Russia ahead of the country where he was living and earning his way, he had the excuse that he was not born here and that in some way not easily understood to the average man he was not specially required to give loyalty to this country. Mr. Axelson spoke in

Timmins on Jan. 5th, of this year, and the following day he gave an interview to The Advance in regard to Russia. He was fair enough to make certain admissions in regard to conditions as he saw them in Russia, but like others he pointed out the fact that he dared not be quoted on certain topics. When asked why he did not move to Russia and live there in the joy that communists should feel, his answer was to the effect that he did not want to lose his home in this country and all that he had worked for. There was something of reasonableness and feeling of responsibility about this man that marked him from the ordinary alien red. Because of this fact The Advance would like to see his death fully investigated. He did not appear the type of man who would commit suicide. Was there pressure brought to bear upon him that induced him to the rash act? Was he ordered to do something that his innate manliness refused to permit him to do? These are questions that it may be possible to answer. Of course, he mixed himself with a class of alien who boast of their scorn for religion, loyalty and regard for others. Is it possible for a man of the type of Axelson to continue his association with such people and under foreign dictation without eventually finding himself in a position where death might prove a release? Of course, the logical end of the attitude of the aliens that Axelson followed means little more than death in the end. Knowing Axelson and knowing the men to whom he unfortunately gave his confidence, the wonder is likely to continue as to whether his death was due to disgust and disillusionment at the sad situation into which he may have realized he had drifted, or whether those whom he had allowed to declare themselves as masters of his life and fate had not forced his own ending in one way or another.

The sad death of Carl Axelson was referred to last week in the editorial column of The Hanna Herald, of Hanna, Alberta. The editorial bore the caption, "Carl Axelson Passes," and read as follows:—

"Carl Axelson of Bingville, the stormy petrel of the agrarian movement in Alberta, died by his own hand the other day. His body was found hanging from a beam in his barn by the little daughter of his housekeeper. Thus ended the life of a man who gathered quite a following among the left wing farmers of this province.

"Carl Axelson was one of those curious characters which spring up in popular movements from time to time. Intensely sincere, terribly earnest, forceful and active, Axelson preached his gospel the length and breadth of the province, even invading Saskatchewan to lend his energy to the advancement of the movement there. He was admittedly a communist and possessed sufficient courage to suffer even physical violence in preaching the gospel he advocated. At a number of points in northern Alberta he was made the target for an egg throwing contest. This did not daunt him in the least.

"Carl Axelson was a well educated man but he taught himself. He was an omnivorous reader and a good speaker, earnestness making up for any lack of polish. He entered the federal election as Communist candidate in the Athabasca riding last spring, where he was pretty much of a stranger, and polled five thousand votes. He held meetings in school houses and halls throughout rural Alberta generally attracting large audiences. Contrary to the general run of such men, he made no money out of his speech-making campaigns; he died a poor man.

"While in life Carl Axelson was scorned and opposed from almost every quarter, in his death there is no ridicule. He sleeps peacefully after life's fitful fever."

#### ON THE WAY TO ATTEND THE WORSHIP OF HIS DIVINITY

(From The Drumheller Mail)

When on his way to evening service, the new minister of the village met a rising young business man of the place, whom he was anxious to interest in his church.

"Good evening, my young friend," he said solemnly, "do you ever attend a place of worship?"

"Yes indeed, sir; every Sunday night," was the reply. "I'm on my way to see her now."

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### Interesting Facts in Census Figures

"Ladies Live Longer After They Pass Forty-five." There are 372,296 More Men than Women in the Dominion of Canada.

Blue books are usually supposed to deserve the title "blue" by making those with a chance to study them feel "blue" at the very thought of reading them. This, like some other popular ideas, is not quite in keeping with the facts of the case. As a truth, it may be noted that often the very statistics and data that appears the most forbidding may contain facts and information of great interest and usefulness when studied properly. The census department does issue reams of statistics that do not seem of much general interest. When comparisons are made, however, the situation seems different. A large array of very striking and valuable information may be gleaned from the census figures when compared and weighed in the right way.

Recent bulletins issued by the census department at Ottawa have the full value of news and have been featured on that account.

All things being equal, a baby boy has a better chance of reaching the age of forty-five, but his baby sister, if she lives to be 45, has almost twice as good a chance of living to be 100, according to a census recently issued from Ottawa on ages by sex for Canada and the provinces.

In every province more males are born than females, and in Ontario the proportion is 1,030 to 1,000. In the whole of Canada there are 5,374,541 males and 5,002,245 females, giving the girls a break in picking a mate. In Ontario the numbers are 1,748,844 males and 1,682,839 females. In the Yukon, with a population of 4,320, there are exactly two men for every woman.

More women than men, however, die between the ages of 20 and 45, but more men than women between 45 and 100. The report shows that for every 1,630 girls born in Canada, 1,022 boys are born. Until the age of 14 both sexes remain proportionately the same. Between 15 and 20 the proportion of boys declines to 1,021 males for every 1,000 females. Above 20 the mortality among women is higher, and in the age group between 20 and 24 there are 1,036 males for every 1,000 females.

The proportion of males to females steadily increases until in the age group 45 to 49 there are 1,219 men for every 1,000 women. From then on the men apparently die off faster than the women, and by the time the age group 80 to 84 is reached, for the first time women outnumber men, and there are only 944 men for every 1,000 women. At the age of 99 there are 836 men for every 1,000 women, and over 100 years, 831 men for every 1,000 women.

Back in pioneer days on the prairies according to the census of 1901 and 1911, the number of men often outnumbered the women two to one, due to immigration of young men, but as the prairie provinces get older the proportion of male and female more closely resemble those in the east. Only once in 150 years have women outnumbered men in this country, and that was in the first census after the war, in 1921, when in the age group between 20 and 24 there were 974 men for every 1,000 women.

Apparently the drift from the farm to the city has been greater among women than among men, for in the cities women outnumber men. There are 2,801,278 women and 2,772,250 men living in urban centres in Canada, and 2,200,967 women and 2,602,021 men living on farms in Canada. Cities in the four western provinces count more men than women, but the five eastern provinces more than make up the differences. In Quebec 30,338 more women live in cities than men, while Ontario cities have 38,253 more women than men.

In Ontario 1,335,691 persons live on farms and 2,095,992 in cities, towns and villages. In the whole of Canada the rural population is 4,802,985 and the urban population is 5,573,798.

#### TORONTO CANOEISTS THOUGHT TO BE LOST IN THE NORTH

There is fear now that two Toronto young men named McCullough are lost in the North. They are much overdue on a canoe trip they had attempted from James Bay to Amos, Que. They had planned, according to despatches from Amos, to follow the Harricanaw river from James Bay to the Transcontinental line at Amos. They left on the trip early in the summer and are now weeks overdue. Search has been made for them but without result. General Airways Ltd. used airships in a search of the whole country but no trace of any kind has been found of the missing brothers. Trappers questioned in the matter all say that they have not seen any signs of the canoeists.

### Kiwanis Convention September 18 to 20

Sault Ste. Marie Club will be Host to Kiwanis Clubs of the Ontario-Quebec-Maritime District of the Kiwanis.

Sault Ste. Marie Kiwanis Club will play host to the other 45 Kiwanis Clubs of Eastern Canada September 18th, 19th, 20th. The occasion will be the annual convention of the Ontario-Quebec-Maritime District of Kiwanis International. Governor Charles A. Fowler of Halifax, N.S., will preside.

Sunday evening, September 18th will witness the opening of the convention with a religious musicale. The general sessions on Monday and Tuesday, together with the group conferences, will review in detail the achievements of the past year and lay plans for continued effort and extension of the work.

But busy Kiwanians require relaxation from arduous toil and they will discover in a fine programme of entertainment prepared for the ladies and themselves which will reach fullest expression in the Governor's banquet and ball on Monday evening.

While the work of Kiwanis and other service clubs has in past years met with public favour the present unusual world conditions have brought a growing appreciation of this human welfare work. With every section of Eastern Canada represented at Sault Ste. Marie the results of the convention will have far reaching effects both civic and national.

#### THIS SEEMS TO COME UNDER DANA'S DEFINITION OF NEWS

Dana's definition of news is more or less famous. He said that if a dog bit a man that wasn't news, but if a man bit a dog was news. If this definition of news had been held to in its literal meaning, half the population of Hollywood would have been chewing dog's ears all the time to get their name in the paper. Nevertheless, the idea that prompted Dana's illustration still has consideration around a newspaper office, and under this principle it may be noted that when a motor driver runs a car that isn't news, but when a motor car runs a driver there should be space for the item. At North Bay last week there was such a case. It was a case where a car actually ran away, carrying its owner with it and yet having him powerless to do anything but just go along. It took a brick wall to stop the car. The story is told by The North Bay Nugget as follows:—"John M. Childerose, 92 Wainmsley Boulevard, Toronto, suffered body bruises and his car was damaged slightly in a peculiar accident that occurred on Main street west, just west of Ferguson street at about 2:45 yesterday afternoon. The vehicle was parked in front of the Huntington and Smith store when Mr. Childerose, unaware that it was in gear, straddled the front bumper and applied the crank. With a sudden lurch the car started across the street the wheels having been turned to the left, with owner sprawled over the front. Reaching the opposite side of the street, the vehicle, travelling at a fair rate of speed, passed through a small space between two parked cars and came to a sudden stop against the brick wall of the I.O.O.F. building, causing Mr. Childerose to be thrown into a doorway. The front bumper was broken, a fender dented and other damage done to the front of the car, and a few bricks chipped in the building wall. Mrs. Childerose was occupying the rear seat of the car. A pedestrian, passing the building at the time, was forced to step aside quickly to avoid being struck. Mr. Childerose, who is visiting in the city at present, was at one time news editor of the Cobalt Nugget."

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