



WHO SAID POLICEMEN HAD A HARD TIME?

"Oh, to be a Roman policeman at Epiphany time," particularly if he's popular. Here we see one of the traffic policemen receiving a bottle of wine from a motorist at Epiphany in Rome. At this season of the year the guardians of the law in Rome are showered with bottles of wine and spirits, food hamper, mysterious parcels, cakes, candy, and many other delicacies, by grateful pedestrians and automobile drivers. Crowds of holidaymakers gather on the street corners to watch the presentations.

Tie-up of Power in Commercial League

T. & N. O. Switched Power Team onto Blind Siding, Gambles do Worst to The Advance in Commercial Bowling.

The Power held the T. & N. O. to a two-all tie in the Commercial bowling league last Friday, while The Advance were unable to make any headway against Gambles and got their usual one point.

Egg-fruit was the order of the evening, there being no less than fifty-six eggs gathered, the electrician and the railroaders splitting a couple of dozen between them, while the printers gathered twenty-one of the remaining thirty-two.

The games between the T. & N. O. and the Power were close.

The electricians took the first by 30 pins. The railroaders came back in the second which gave them not only the game but a point for highest total, for the third was close, only 20 pins separating them. And what a noise! By the way, what was Army going to do with that lemon he had in his pocket?

The fruiterers kept pace with the top teams by taking three points from the lowly printers.

Mrs. Doe took her place on the newspaper's side again! And how Henry

loves her! She defeated him the first game and took a rest for the second game. Then Henry refused to play against her in the third stanza.

Alton found his mark once again and was the only man who could do anything with the pins.

The honour roll was again hung up with—R. Bellevue and A. Saint, T. & N. O., 687 and 606; E. Saloman and W. McHugh, 672 and 612; O. Alton, Advance, 653.

ADVANCE			
P. Hornby	127	140	430
O. Alton	215	206	232
W. Devine	150	146	150
J. Doe	124	141	108
G. Wallingford	169	203	125
Totals	785	836	778
GAMBLES			
J. Gagnon	145	247	184
C. Canie	155	167	169
G. Eddy	127	141	268
H. Horester	124	211	335
P. Nicholson	179	164	108
L. Bussiere	186	128	314
Totals	730	905	800
Gambles win 3 pts.; Advance, 1 pt.			
T. & N. O.			
C. Armstrong	164	191	169
R. Bellevue	161	299	227
E. Fleming	144	150	294
A. Leach	164	194	223
A. Saint	169	211	226
J. Toal	189	189	189
Totals	802	1045	1034
POWER			
B. McHugh	200	196	216
W. McQuarrie	158	151	188
J. Faithful	116	116	116
E. Towers	156	128	150
E. Saloman	208	234	230
A. McFarlane	227	270	497
Totals	838	936	1054
T. & N. O. win 2 pts.; Power win 2 points.			

Detroit News.—There is a report that Greta Garbo is going to marry her director. In other words she will be doing her own directing soon.

Considers Land Settlement Plan is Working Fairly Well

Rev. J. C. Cochrane Made Comprehensive Investigation of the Plan and its Working in Practical Way. Synopsis of His Findings. Benefits of the Land Settlement Scheme as Outlined After Careful Review.

The matter of the "back-to-the-land" plan is of vital importance to the North Land and for this reason there has been special attention paid to the objections and complaints made in reference to the working out of the scheme. Not perhaps as much has been heard in its favour as should have been given out and on this account The Advance welcomed the comprehensive report made by Rev. J. C. Cochrane, Superintendent of Northern Missions for the United Church, who undertook a thorough investigation of the farm settlement plan being carried on by the Dominion and provincial governments.

The following gives a summary of the report with a few of the highlights of the report:—

Back-to-the-Land

The last two years have witnessed quite an extensive internal migration within the province of Ontario which is the direct result of economic conditions affecting not only this province but every province in the Dominion—indeed they are common to the whole world.

In times of prosperity the drift of population is toward industrial centres with their strong attraction of cash incomes, stated hours of labour, modern conveniences and the educational and social advantages of the more populous communities. Under normal conditions the urban centres have been the successful competitors of the rural districts in their attractiveness for the population.

Periods of depression bring a change of outlook. The advantages of living upon the land begin to make themselves apparent. Where unemployment is so widespread and long continued as in the case of the depression now upon us, it is to be expected that there should be a "back-to-the-land" movement.

Assisted Land Settlement

Many countries are taking advantage of this attitude of mind and are attempting to correct the disproportion of urban and rural population by assisted land settlement. That this is a costly undertaking is beyond dispute, but apparently no country has discovered any other method of meeting a condition where urban populations have outgrown proportions which permit successful economic functioning. These schemes may differ in detail in various countries, or in different provinces within the same country, but the principle underlying all is the same—financial assistance to the citizen who desires to establish himself on the land.

In Ontario the scheme is known as "the Relief Land Settlement Plan." Its purpose is to provide the citizen with both financial assistance and supervision as he makes the transition from industry to agriculture. A fund of \$600 is provided to assist the settler in getting a start on a homestead in the Clay Belt of Northern Ontario. This sum is made by contributions of \$200 each from the Federal and Provincial Governments and the municipality from which the settler migrates. This amount is not a loan charged against the settler's homestead, as has been sometimes understood, but a grant of money under the control of supervisors to assist families in financing the initial cost of establishing themselves on a homestead.

It is perhaps to be expected that any such a plan should come under a barrage of criticism. This may be expected from various sources—from political opposition, since it is fostered by the Government; from individuals who are not satisfied with the experiment and who use the public press to make known their dissatisfaction; from those who believe its administration has been faulty and unwise, and from officials of municipalities participating who feel their citizens have not had a fair deal.

Complexities of Land Settlement and Relief.

First of all may I say that the present situation with respect to the settlement of people on the homesteads of Northern Ontario presents many complexities which cannot be understood apart from a study of the situation. Much of the dissatisfaction and unrest arises out of misunderstanding. Before any intelligent criticism can be offered on the situation one must know where to allocate responsibility.

It ought to be understood by those who are not in touch with the situation that all the settlers who have come to northern homesteads recently have not come under the Relief Land Settlement plan. Many have come on their own responsibility and without planned assistance. If such a settler takes up a homestead in an unorganized township he may apply and secure direct relief if his circumstances warrant it. The settler receiving direct relief is not limited to any flat rate monthly. The amount he receives is determined by his needs.

If such a settler should take up a homestead in an organized township he cannot secure relief of any kind unless the township provides 20 per cent. of the amount given. Few, if any, townships in the North are able to do this; consequently the settler in an organized township may experience hardship and difficulty, but it is rather suggestive of what can be done without assistance when one finds some of these settlers getting along very well.

Under the Relief Land Settlement plan a settler may be settled in either an organized or an unorganized township, but it makes no difference to the assistance he receives. Out of the \$600 which stands to his credit he is able to buy material for the necessary buildings on his homestead and also a cow

or horse, some chickens, etc. He is allowed a flat rate of \$10 per month for groceries. The \$600 grant is to be spread over the first two years of his occupancy of his homestead, but he may draw up to \$500 the first year.

Synopsis of the Information Secured
Mr. Wm. Magludery, Secretary of the Relief Land Settlement Committee, furnished a list of 221 families settled on Northern Ontario homesteads under this scheme. Of this number 125 were visited. Practically every community where these people have been located was visited in order that the survey might be as complete as was possible to make it in a limited time. Communities in the following townships were visited: Savard, Henwood, Brethour, Daek, Marquis, Teely, Stock, Currie, Bowman, Machin, O'Brien, Idington, McCrea, Casgrain and Hanna.

In each case the information was obtained by a personal interview with the settler and his family. There was no attempt to influence the expression of opinion and the utmost frankness was encouraged. The following questionnaire was used to obtain the information desired:
Name, address, race, No. in family, former residence, residence on homestead, farming experience, distance from school, distance from church, church preference, unaided, direct relief, relief land settlement, what progress, what stock, have you vegetables for winter, complaints, suggestions, remarks.

The following is a synopsis of the information secured:

No. of families satisfied with prospects and determined to stay by the land, 81.

No. who are experiencing difficulty in getting along and are doubtful of the outcome, 16.

No. who were non-committal about their intentions to remain on land, 7.

No. who were dissatisfied and determined to leave because they saw no future on the land, 21.

Average length of residence on homestead of those visited, 9 1-2 months.

No. with homes erected of a fairly comfortable type, 125.

No. with either stables or barns as well as a house, 85.

Average amount of land cleared by settler in 9 1-2 months, 4 1-2 acres.

Those able to raise vegetables sufficient for winter supply, 85. (An additional number had raised a partial supply.)

Average size of family of the homes visited, 5.

Some Observations
To those who are acquainted with the problems of helping people it is well known that the more you do for people of a certain type, the more difficult it is to place them. There is this danger about assisted land settlement. Our sturdy pioneer forefathers received no government assistance and did little complaining. I have no hesitation in saying that the hardships of present day pioneering are not to be compared with those of fifty years ago. It will be a mistake to encourage these people to think that the government should do everything for them. Character and independence are not developed by that method. The settler must be encouraged to attain the status of independence as soon as possible, if this scheme is to be successful.

It would be difficult to over-emphasize the dangers of uncontrolled sentimentality in connection with this situation. Some of the less scrupulous of these settlers are becoming wise to the personal benefits of publicity. Letters appear from them in the public press and as a result some good-hearted people send them assistance of various kinds. Usually it is the people who are making no effort to take advantage of their opportunity who do the most complaining, and if the newspapers are really concerned about the public good rather than sensational news-mongering they will investigate the authenticity of some of the complaints before publishing them. Much harm has been done the North Country by the publication of complaints from people who will never make good in any country or in any situation and whose opinions of the country are not worth the paper on which they are written, but are taken at face value by an unsuspecting public. In one home I visited the settler and his wife were bitter in their complaints of the way they had been treated and the prospects of the country. Recently a complaint that they were in a state of semi-starvation found its way into the public press. However, the public ought to also have known that this man refused to work on the roads to augment the amount available for the purchase of groceries and clothing. When I asked him about cutting the pulpwood on his homestead he made the excuse that he got his feet wet at the job. He had been busy before my arrival in building snow-slides in front of his house for his children's play. Certainly there are no prospects in the North Country for the man who is not willing to work hard to make a home for himself and his family.

Officials from municipalities who visit their former citizens should be

careful of their statements to the settlers. I found one community bristling with antagonism against the Relief Land Settlement administration because a visiting official stated that a certain sum of money provided for them as they left the municipality was a gift. The Relief Land Settlement officials had charged this amount against their \$600 fund. I took this grievance up with the supervisors and have since received a copy of the auditors statement showing that this municipality had requested the Government to credit this amount on the \$200 they provided in each case. There had been a change in the officials of the municipality and the visiting official did not know the facts, but his unfounded statement caused much discontent and unrest.

While churches of all denominations are wrestling with the problem of decreased incomes for missionary work, I feel that there has been a heroic effort on the part of many ministers in the North to keep in touch with these new settlers. I was pleased to find that most ministers were able to act as guides in locating these communities and had personally visited these people in their homes. Occasional religious services have been held in a central home in some of these communities, or in schoolhouses where they are available. Some of the ministers have travelled fifty miles to hold these occasional services and all are men whose charges already cover large areas. It would be idle to pretend that the situation is being adequately dealt with from the viewpoint of the religious interests of these people. Sunday schools and worship services are urgently needed and there is a great challenge to the church in this opportunity. If the church does not minister to these people in their need, it is folly to expect to secure their allegiance when the hardships of the early pioneering experiences are largely past. It is in this period of re-adjustment that these people need the ministrations of the church and the fortifying power of religious faith.

Conclusion

I think the Relief Land Settlement plan is worth while. I have already indicated that mistakes of its early administration are being corrected. While it is impossible to predict with any assurance the measure of its success because of the uncertainty of the conditions controlling the returns from agriculture, I think the whole enterprise has already been justified from the expressions of satisfaction of the great majority of those I visited.

Which is the Better as Prophet of the Weather?

Some months ago H. A. Preston, lodtomer of the North, wrote The Advance saying that his reading of the signs led him to believe that the present winter would be a severe one. He foretold the cold snap in December, and warned against still worse to come. "Look out for 55 below zero in January," he said. The only comfort he gave was that it was to be an early spring. His prophecy in regard to the first part of the winter has turned out to be just right. What about his further forecasts? Will there be intense cold in February for a time? And will the spring be an early one?

Rev. A. J. Bruce, who is looked upon as the weather sage of Copper Cliff, has a slightly different, and more hopeful message. "The backbone of winter has been broken," he says, and adds that we can expect it much easier from now on. The sun is getting higher and its rays are getting stronger. We may have more snow, but we certainly won't get any more 40 below zero weather. About the first two weeks in March I expect to see storms and blizzards. They will be uncomfortable, but of short duration."

So, there are the two cases! Watch and see which is right, if either.

Bank of Nova Scotia in Very Strong Position

An exceptionally strong cash and liquid position, an increase in deposits of approximately \$5,000,000 and satisfactory earnings are features of the 1933 Annual Report of The Bank of Nova Scotia now being sent to the shareholders.

The cash held consisting of current coin, Dominion notes, United States and other foreign currencies and deposit in the Central Gold Reserve is 15.65 percent of liabilities to the public compared with 14.09 per cent. of the previous year. Similarly readily available assets are approximately 61 percent of public liabilities. These percentages indicate the unusually strong working capital position of the Bank, enabling it to give full assistance to industry and enterprise in any expansion of business that may occur.

The bank's investments, all shown at not exceeding market value, are \$79,190,271, the increase of \$4,001,291 for the year being entirely represented in Dominion, provincial and municipal securities.

Total deposits at \$207,992,360 are up roundly \$5,000,000 or 2.4 percent over last year, the increase being mainly in non-interest-bearing deposits.

Notwithstanding the continuation of the business depression, which now happily shows some signs of lifting, the Bank has made an excellent showing in respect to earnings. They amount to \$2,035,900 or a reduction of only \$267,534 compared with last year. Out of these earnings the Bank paid dividends amounting to \$1,500,000, wrote \$250,000 off Bank Premises, contributed \$115,000 to the Officers' Pension Fund and paid the Dominion Government \$112,000 taxes on its circulation. \$637,124 is carried forward in the Profit and Loss Account.

It is of interest to note that the Statement now issued is the 102nd Annual Report of the Bank, having been established in 1832. This fine old Bank has paid dividends uninterrupted since its incorporation.

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Good Work Accomplished by Community Welfare Council

The following is an editorial article from a recent issue of The Toronto Mail and Empire dealing with the work accomplished by the Community Welfare Council of Ontario. The Mail and Empire says:—

"The new Canadian is not to be left a stranger in a strange land if the Community Welfare Council of Ontario can avoid it. A young man, born in the Ukraine, came to this country seven years ago, not knowing his own name in English. To-day, he is a graduate from Toronto University, having taken an average of 75 per cent. on three English essays, one of which was on the lake poets.

"The Council placed this young man in Kirkland Lake, where through friendly contacts, visiting in the homes, advising people regarding services provided for their needs, putting them in touch with Canadian institutions, but especially by teaching them English, he is blazing a path that means hope and happiness to many fine people whom circumstances have directed to become sojourners with us. Four classes in English, each two hours in length for both men and women, have about forty enrolled. One is a mother of five, whose husband is out of work, and who is taking this opportunity of becoming better qualified for life.

There are families in the vicinity of Kirkland Lake that are living in shacks built out of poles carried on people's backs from the woods. The total cost in money has in no case exceeded \$25. Fathers, mothers, and their children, are living in a degree of comfort in these little cottages. To these the brilliant young student has brought new hope and cheer. As soon as the community discovered the value of the work being done for them, it rose to the occasion and assumed full responsibility financially.

Other communities scattered throughout Northern Ontario need, perhaps, more than anything else, such a worker. This programme, in the opinion of the Council, is a valuable extension of its leisure programme. It is, essentially an attempt to make use of opportunity that would be thrown away or diverted to activities that would but despoil. The interest taken

in the parents is largely because of their children, who will be important factors in our social life. The child looks large on the Council's horizon both in regard to the work for the new Canadian and for the more settled parts of our province.

The Community Welfare Council is also engaged in promoting a proper cultural and profitable use of leisure time in old Ontario. The radio has been used for this purpose, lectures having been already delivered over the air by the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, Dr. George H. Lock, Mr. J. Campbell McInnis, Mrs. H. P. Plumpre, Mr. Arthur Lismer, Dr. E. A. Hardy, Dr. G. I. Christie, Dr. F. G. Conboy, president of the Council, and others on the importance of education, the drama, music, community beautification and art, in the wise use of leisure.

The Council aims to make these broadcasts as practical and helpful, especially to residents of rural Ontario, as is possible. Hon. W. G. Martin is to speak on the radio on the 27th instant on the subject of "Leisure and Welfare." We are glad to know that plans are taking shape for such an expansion for the Summer school in connection with the University of Toronto as will prove informative and stimulating to attendants from all parts of the province.

MET ONLY TO FIND THEY SHOULD HAVE MET BEFORE

The K-Ray, official publication of the Kiwanis of the Ontario-Quebec-Maritime District, in its current issue says:—"Two Canadian Kiwanians were in Lakeland, Florida, last winter at the same time. Both attended the local Kiwanis Club there and both golfed at the same place. But they never met. All this came to light Wednesday, January 17th, when George Lake, of Timmins and Ab. Willard, of Galt, shook hands across the table when lunching with the Toronto Kiwanis Club."

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