

# The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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## ABOUT THE WEATHER

The Advance has been asked to write an editorial on the weather,—asked by a reader, but whether friend or foe, who knows?

Until this year the beauty of the North Land weather was its variety,—something worth writing about,—glorious summer, crisp, sparkling winter, sometimes all in the one day. Now all the days are in the one winter. Why write about the weather when there is nothing known except winter? This winter is as persistent as the lies of a communist. Of course the winter must end, but it looks now as if it might be next winter before it does. It has been officially announced that the provincial elections will be held next summer. That, no doubt, is why people are so uncertain as to whether the elections will be in June or September. Of course there are some compensations. For instance, they are still having curling bonspiels at South Porcupine. Also, there is historical precedent for the present sort of thing, if that be any comfort. In 1917 (or some other year) old man Winter waited for May. All the speakers at the Sons of England banquet Monday night missed a great chance. One of them at least might have quoted the English poet, with variation:—"Oh, to be in England, Now that April's here."

Well, reader, there's your editorial on the weather! And you'll get better editorials, when there's better weather! That is what The Advance writes about the weather. What The Advance thinks about the weather is what the rest of you are thinking. That's why it is not published.

## EMPLOYMENT THE ONLY RELIEF

Ever since unemployment in Canada has been so serious that some form of relief was absolutely essential, The Advance has urged that the providing of employment is the only method by which any measure of permanent and desirable relief could be available. It has been argued that direct relief by its very nature only made matters worse. It starts vicious circles that require more and more relief. Direct relief not only pauperizes the country but it takes the soul of independence and spirit of initiative from those forced to accept its bitter charity.

To all this the invariable reply has been:—"Where will the money come from?" To this The Advance has retorted with the query:—"Where is the money to come from for the dire burden of direct relief?" To The Advance it has appeared that the final cost of direct relief promises to be much greater than the actual expenditure necessary for the providing of employment that would make direct relief unnecessary. In any case, it seems that even if employment cost more than direct relief, the extra cost would be well warranted. Employment would be a good investment. Direct relief is only a wasteful expenditure. After all the money expended on direct relief has been paid out the country has nothing to show for it except the fact that a number of people have been kept in existence on terms that the most of them will deplore. They have not starved to death, but they have eaten bitter bread. They have lost their independence, their cheerfulness, their industry, their gallant outlook on life. They are poorly equipped to resume the struggle of life. And with all this, the country is poorer, and the problem of unemployment is no nearer solution. Standards of living have been reduced, and ambition has been strangled.

On the other hand employment starts scores of happy circles that make for more employment. The unfortunate man subsisting on direct relief cannot support anyone else. He cannot even pay his taxes. The man in employment helps keep the butcher, the baker, the candlestick-maker. He is in position to contribute in some measure towards paying the taxes that are necessary if governments are to give relief through employment, or even through direct relief.

At the end of 1933 the town of Timmins was in much better financial condition than the most of towns of similar size. This was not due to any better position occupied by the town, because Timmins was in no better situation financially than other towns with equal advantages and opportunity. In large measure The Advance would credit the superior position of Timmins to the fact that the municipality avoided direct relief as much as possible. So far as the governments would permit it and circumstances would allow, Timmins confined itself to giving relief work rather than direct relief. In so far as the town was forced to depart from this policy, just so far as it levelled to the situation confronting most towns and cities. There is no doubt that the providing of employment as a relief measure has a tendency to reduce expenditures for relief. It is also the best method known to keep relief among the deserving. Further it is the method of relief that makes the most appeal to the minds and hearts of Canadians and other Britishers. "Give us a chance to make our own living," is the expression that is most used and thought by the people in general in this country.

As to the relative cost of employment and direct relief, there can be no question to the mind of the ordinary thoughtful man as to which plan is the more truly economical. The Advance is inclined to the belief that in actual dollars and cents the cost of direct relief will prove in the final analysis to be the more burdensome. Indeed, is it not a fact that direct relief has assumed so appalling a total cost that at present it is generally admitted that it can not be continued, but that the other method, the plan of providing employment, must be adopted to save the country from ruin?

Figures presented by the Minister of Finance recently were quoted this week by The Ottawa Journal to show what Canada has expended in the past four years for the relief of those suffering distress through unemployment. The Minister of Finance mentioned \$130,000,000 as being spent by the Dominion Government for relief during the past four years. To this large amount, the Ottawa newspaper points out there must be added the sums spent by the provinces and the municipalities. The taxpayers have provided a total of over \$300,000,000. The Ottawa Journal believes, for the relief of the unemployed during the past four years. If to this staggering total there is added the sums expended by private charities and philanthropic institutions, then the grand total will exceed \$100,000,000 a year in the past four years.

The Advance believes that if there had been well-planned expenditures to the extent of \$100,000,000 a year for public works of useful and needed kind this country and its people would be in much better position than they are in to-day. In addition the country would have something for its money. The people would feel better, and actually be much better than they are to-day. And the country itself

would face better times with an array of assets in the form of needed public works.

It may be admitted that three or four years ago, perhaps, the country was not in the mood for the better plan of providing employment rather than keeping body and soul together by direct relief. There may not have been a realization three or four years ago of the cost, direct and indirect, of direct relief. Probably it was not realized until more recent years the inescapable truth of one fact noted by The Ottawa Journal—that "the cost of relief must be kept within the limits of what can be paid by those able to pay taxes." There was yet another way in which the public were not ready, perhaps, for a complete programme of employment as the full measure of relief until experience and hard fact impressed the lesson. That was in the matter of discipline and response to the goodwill of those who had to meet the bills. Hon. Wm. Finlayson's plan some years ago for the creation of road camps as a relief measure created a clamour of disapproval because some one termed them labour battalions. In the United States they have been called "labour armies," and there has not been a murmur from the most frantic pacifist wishing a job. Canada to-day should be equally unafraid of names.

To-day it seems to be generally agreed that employment and employment only is the only sure safe, permanent and economical plan for remedying the present situation. The people are behind the Governments in this. What is urgently needed now is that the plans be speeded up so that the cure of the trouble be hastened and that Canada follow in the footsteps of Britain in the matter of returning to better times and better ways.

## GOLD TAX SHOULD BE MODIFIED

In one way it is unfortunate that there should appear in a certain or uncertain Toronto newspaper an editorial note suggesting that the protest against the proposed tax of ten per cent. on the gross production of gold in Canada proves only that the mining industry does not like taxation. Such an insinuation is both unsportsmanlike and unwarranted. It is unsportsmanlike in view of the part the gold mining industry has taken in the past few years in assisting Canada bear up under the depression, and also because the industry has accepted very heavy taxation with little complaint. It is unsportsmanlike because there had been definite assurance that no further taxation was planned for the gold mining industry, and the proposed new levy thus had the unpleasant nature of a disagreeable surprise. It was unwarranted because the truth of the matter is that the first and the chief objection has come not from the gold mines but from other bodies that are concerned with the general welfare of the country. The first protest against the tax, as sent out from the Porcupine, for instance, was not from the mines, but from the Timmins board of trade. The first protest from Toronto to Ottawa was issued by the Ontario Prospectors' and Developers' Association. From Sudbury, North Bay and other boards of trade and business groups, objection has been voiced against the proposed tax. Of course, the mining interests have added their opinions, but would it be fair to expect that they would see a burden placed upon their industry without some attempt to secure fair consideration. The point that The Advance is striving to make clear is that the chief opposition to the new levy comes from those who are indirectly rather than directly concerned and mainly because the honest belief is that the proposed tax will injure the country in general more than it will harm the mining industry. In all the protests against the proposed new gold tax emphasis is placed on the probable reduction in employment to follow so drastic and unexpected an impost. Some of those protesting have admitted their chief fear is that the ten per cent. tax on gross production may force a reduction in wages in the mining industry. Others have felt that it must of necessity mean a curtailment of operations in the mines that have been planning extended working of low grade properties. It is the small, the struggling mine that appears to be menaced. It would appear to be folly, indeed, at this time to prejudice or injure one of the few industries in Canada that have been able to weather the depression and to carry on for the advantage of the country as a whole. This is the sort of attitude that seems to be behind most of the protest against the proposed new tax.

Another point that has been stressed by those protesting against this new tax is the effect the new imposition will undoubtedly have upon foreign capital needed for the development of Canada's mining industry at this time. It is only a few weeks ago that direct assurance was given from Ottawa that no new imposts were planned on the mining industry. In view of this assurance, the drastic nature of the proposed new tax comes as a distinct shock. Elsewhere in this issue will be found a summary of the opinions registered against the proposed ten per cent. tax on gold production. Hon. W. A. Gordon, Minister of Mines in the Dominion Cabinet, appears to be strongly opposed to the new imposition in its present form. Hon. Chas. McCrear, Minister of Mines for Ontario, is quoted as expressing the opinion that some change must be made, and undoubtedly will be made, in the proposed imposition. The ideas of these men surely are entitled to more than passing consideration.

This editorial article commenced by suggesting that it was unfortunate in one way that one certain or uncertain newspaper should suggest that the whole outcry against the new tax was based on a selfish desire to avoid taxation. It may be added that in another way this suggestion may rouse the Government and the people in general to a complete survey of the situation. In such a case the result may not be as unfortunate as might be supposed at first thought. A thorough study of the protests against the new gold tax suggests that there is less selfishness than usual in the opposition. The protests after all are not so much against the tax itself, though assurance had been given that there would be no added taxation to hamper the success of this particular industry that was doing so much for the country. The protests are more against the form of the taxation than against the tax itself. To apply the tax against gross production, rather than against profits seems to be to hamper the small and struggling mine, to prejudice the number and the wages of the men employed in the industry, to menace the development of low-grade ventures.

The protests against this part of the new budget are not based on selfishness. The protests are made in fear of injury to the broader interests of the workers and the country as a whole. If the protests are not given the most patient hearing and the most sympathetic consideration, then it will have to be admitted that democratic principles are not held in the highest regard. If it can be shown that this tax can be imposed without injury to the country and without actual hardship to the industry and its employees, then protest will be withdrawn. It seems apparent that the tax as it stands on gross production can not fail to work injustice and injury, at least in some cases. Hon. Chas. McCrear seems to be right, as usual, in suggesting material modification of the proposed levy. Some other basis than that of gross production would appear to be necessary. The mine developing low-grade ore should have special consideration. The interests of the workers, both as to their numbers and their wages, must be fully guarded. The new basis of the tax must be developed with these considerations in view. The Government has already made one very serious mistake—that of attempting to impose the new tax without consulting the member of the cabinet in position to give it the best advice in the matter. It made another mistake in making this gold tax a surprise measure. It will

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## More Ties Result in Commercial Bowling

T. & N. O. Thought They Won the Match on Monday, but the Scores were Really Tied. Art's Art Broken.

Gambles met the T. & N. O. on Monday for the first of the play-offs on the three-team tie, and there was quite a comedy enacted after most of the players had gone home.

It was a fight to a finish, Gambles being 73 pins down going into the final game, and the fruiters were getting bad breaks until the final stages when Henry let loose and struck out the last five frames.

Art and Pete came to bat! Art made 30 pins on his last and Pete needed 15 pins to win out by one pin and only got 12. Gambles lost out by two pins, according to the scorer.

Army went round shaking hands, as tickled as punch. Well he will have to do it all over again tonight, as they did not win, for McHugh and Hornby were asked to check over the sheets and the latter found two pins for Canie and made the score even, and another string will have to be bowled tonight before the winners are declared and then they will roll against The Advance, the winners to meet the Power tomorrow (Friday) and Monday in the finals for the silverware.

Anyway here are the real scores of Monday's match:—

T. & N. O.			
Armstrong	309	207	201
Fleming	185	127	312
Leach	207	265	231
Belleveu	168	226	159
Saint	187	166	162
Allen			168
Totals	1056	991	921
Gambles			
Gagnon	221	169	191
Canie	176	227	128
Eddy	158	184	168
Horrister	205	180	301
Nicolson	187	269	204
Totals	947	1027	992

## Timmins Man is Freed on Theft Charge at Cobalt

George Carr, of Timmins, who had been held at Cobalt for 18 days after being released from Haileybury jail, where he had been committed by a sentence imposed at Kirkland Lake, came before Magistrate Atkinson at Cobalt on Saturday and was given his liberty when Acting Crown Attorney Pearlman said the crown had no evidence to offer and withdrew the charge.

## ELK LAKE MAN DRAWS TERM OF THREE MONTHS FOR THEFT

Last week Edward Charette, of Elk Lake, was sentenced to three months'

make a third and still more vital error if it attempts to crowd through this tax without modifying it for the good of the country at large.


## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

A radio announcer on Sunday gave the name of a well-known hymn as "By cool Salome's shady rill." As several readers have pointed out, it was Sileam that was the cool one, and Salome was a rather warm number. Possibly, the radio announcer meant to say, "By Shady Salome's cool rill."

Hon. Jas. Lyons, of Sault Ste. Marie, is in favour of the proposed ten per cent. tax on gold production. He seems to be about the only man who should know anything about it who is in favour of the imposition. It may be that Hon. Mr. Lyons believes the tax will raise ten million dollars and that is about the amount of extra money that will be needed to build the Trans-Canada highway along the rocky shore of Lake Superior.

Much newspaper publicity has been given to an incident in the professional life of Dr. Harrison Gross, of Winchester, Ontario. Dr. Gross was called recently to a maternity case in Mountain township and found the mother dying from loss of blood. To save the mother's life immediate action was imperative, and there was no help near, except what could be given by the young country doctor himself. With no equipment save what a country doctor always carries

imprisonment with hard labour when convicted of stealing \$72.00 from Neil Kennedy in an Elk Lake hotel two weeks previously. The money disappeared when Kennedy was asleep and suspicion attached to Charette who was subsequently found to have bills of the denominations Kennedy claimed to have received from the Hydro in wages. Charette admitted that he had been "broke," but explained the later possession of money by alleging that a man named Jim Hart had paid him some money on an old debt owing. Charette said that Hart had happened to come to Elk Lake and they had happened to meet and the money was paid over and there you are. However, the magistrate did not appear to believe the story told by Charette and as Hart did not appear to substantiate it, the explanation was not accepted.



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**LARD** PURE, FRESH AND SWEET One-pound package **11c**

COWAN'S COCOA - - 1-lb. tin **25c** DOMINO BAKING POWDER, lb. tin **21c**  
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HEINZ COOKED SPAGHETTI, tin **11c** KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES 2 Pkgs. **19c**  
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with him, and with no one even to hold a light for the operation, the young doctor performed one of the most notable blood transfusion operations in medical history. He drew from his own veins a pint of blood and administered it to the dying woman. No doubt he felt amply repaid by the fact that he saw life return to his patient, and eventually he witnessed her complete recovery. This true story makes one of the epics of medical history. It ranks among the glories of the story of the lives of the country medical practitioner. It is well, indeed, that newspapers should feature such stories. Yet there is reason to believe that it differs only in degree from the countless other evidences of resourcefulness, courage, self-sacrifice and devotion to duty that have been the hallmark of the country doctor—yes, and of the city doctor as well. It is more than an honour to the doctor—this true story—it is a glory and an inspiration for Canadians to know and to feel that bravery and ingenuity and supreme thought for others is the guiding force in the lives of real men to-day as in the days when heroes were more openly worshipped.

Some people may wonder why the newspapers have discontinued reporting the addresses of the gentleman named Smith whose specialty is telling about how that other gentleman, Tim Buck, was shot or half-shot or not shot at all. The reason is that the newspapers did their best for a time but Mr. Smith went into the witness box and took his solemn affidavit that he did not say what they said he said. So now, no doubt, they think, "Oh, what's the blinking use!"

## AEROPLANES USED IN THE DETECTION OF BLACKMAILERS

Recently a New Britain, Conn., business man found a box on his doorstep containing a carrier pigeon and a note informing him he was to place \$1,000 in a small container attached to the pigeon, release the bird and keep quiet, "or else." Police, informed of this extortion plot, engaged John Hadigan, local aviator, to follow the pigeon. Before releasing the bird its wings were stained a brilliant blue to aid its pursuit. Hadigan trailed the bird in a circuitous route, flying 15 miles out in the country, then returning to alight on a green shed in the centre of New Britain. After making sure of the location, Hadigan flew to the airport, got into a police car and dashed back to the green shed. The pigeon had been taken in by two men who have since been found guilty of attempted extortion and are serving prison terms. A new use for airplanes in crime prevention.

Sudbury Star:—At any rate, spring will soon be here with its rain and mud and mosquitoes and mushroom poisoning, which will cause us to forget our troubles.