

# The Porcupine Advance

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## THIS FUNNY WORLD

It has been remarked before in these columns and will no doubt be noted again and again in the future that this is a funny world—this North Land. Nevertheless, it is not nearly so funny as some of the people who are in it.

For instance, there is the case of kidnapping. Some daily newspapers and some other quite weakly, no matter how often they may be published, had a strange yarn about David Meisner, a suspect in the Labatt kidnapping case, being seen in Timmins.

A few hours after the story appeared about Meisner being seen in Timmins, this particular suspect gave himself up to the authorities at Detroit, Michigan, United States of America, Funny World. As Timmins and Detroit are several hundred miles apart, Mr. Meisner could not be in both places at the one time. He was there, so he couldn't be here. That is the way with this funny world.

But imaginative people in this funny world—the North Land—are hard to convince. If it wasn't Meisner, then it must have been Pegram! So poor Pegram was mercilessly chased through column after column of newspaper space! Then it was discovered that Pegram was in reality in Detroit or Cincinnati or some place, and so on account of the funniness of this world he couldn't be in two places at the one time any more than Meisner.

Meisner not here! Pegram not here! Then it must have been Labatt himself! But Mr. Labatt has never left London! Why bring that up?

Anyway there was somebody here. That much at least must be conceded. Then why not Mr. Frahm, chief of detectives at Detroit. Well, here he is under another name, registering at a Timmins hotel, perhaps, at the Hotel de Ville, and at the same time sitting in his office in Detroit giving out interviews and what-not. Isn't it a funny world—this North Land! There's no getting away from Mr. Frahm. He even had his clothes pressed here. He must be a better man than Sherlock Holmes for the honest Sherlock didn't help the pressing parlours, any if Conan Doyle is to be believed. But times change. There was once a police chief in Timmins who frequently mentioned his pyjamas. If a police chief could have pyjamas, why couldn't a chief of detectives have his clothes pressed? Especially if his own business wasn't pressing! Certainly, there is no place where he could have pressing done better than in Timmins. Perhaps, that is why he came to Timmins.

Then there was an Inspector Gardner here as well. He was only from Toronto, so it wasn't as difficult for him to be in two places at the one time, the places not being so far apart.

Then there was that other man, not even given a name. He was the most reasonable character of all. It is an easy thing for a man without a definite name to be in two places at the one time, if he has two names. He could be in Chicago, for instance, under the one name, and in Timmins under another name. That would be a good alibi. It is remarkable what enterprise can do.

Seriously, even sadly, The Advance does not really believe that Mr. Meisner was here! Nor Mr. Pegram! Nor Mr. Frahm. The unnamed man is another question. It is always hard to say just what an unnamed man will do or where he may be. Frankly, however, it doesn't appear likely that any of them were here, any more than Mr. Dillinger. It is more likely that it was only two other men, though not necessarily man and wife. Probably the two were the Rainbow and the Endeavour.

Fortunately, however, they can't get away, the roads being so bad, and Mr. Hepburn closing down the extension north of Cochrane and giving the only hotel at Moosonee back to the Indians.

## THE RIGHT TO WORK

Much has been heard about the right to work. There has been a belief that man has an inalienable right to work and to provide himself and his dependents with the necessities of life and even the luxuries. There has been suggestion made that the wicked capitalists for their own evil ends have in some manner or another been depriving men of this right to work and that this has been in large measure the cause of the depression and the resulting return of the Hepburn party to power in Ontario, not to mention the present council of the town of Timmins. It is not too much to say that certain people arrogate to themselves the right to work others for their own ends.

Just at the present time, however, there is another example of men being deprived of the right to work, and this time the matter can not be blamed on the capitalists. From the district around Iroquois Falls comes the complaint of many that they have been deprived of the right to work by a group of alien agitators. Recently what was termed a strike vote was taken in the camps in the Abitibi area. Although it is claimed that only fifteen per cent. of the men voted for a strike, the strike was called by the organized minority. The men had their demands met last year with material increases in wages granted. Then this year there were further voluntary increases in wages given, while conditions in the camps are said to be quite satisfactory. The men in general in the camps are reported as contented with conditions and with the rate of pay. As noted above only fifteen per cent. of them wished any trouble. But despite all this there were orders from the self-constituted leaders that there should be a walk-out. Some of the bolder of the men objected to quitting work. They claimed the right to work. But taunts and threats were their portion. One camp was forced out. Then the men from that camp, or at least a portion of them, marched to another camp and practically forced the second camp to quit work. Then the same pressure was brought to bear on a third camp. So the plan went along. Unless a halt is called, there is danger of all the camps being closed. At some of the camps it is said the "strike" was enforced by threats alone. At a few actual violence was resorted to. At one camp some men are said to have been injured, though not seriously. It may be argued that no more violence is used than is necessary. In one camp the great majority are said to be not only ready to continue work but anxious and determined to do so. The result may not be desirable, if the professional strike-makers and the camp workers clash.

Last year the same sort of trouble was attempted, but the authorities gave some protection to those desiring to work. This year, it is doubtful if there are enough provincial police available to assure to the peaceful workers their "right to work."

It is a rather remarkable situation for this country that men having won the "right to work" from the capitalist class should be faced with the necessity for battling the

organized reds for the same right to work. The communist element has been permitted to perfect its organization to disrupt industry and deny men the right to work. The Attorney-General even went so far as to call down the blessing of heaven upon the communists and their efforts to take from the ordinary man the right to work. Whether the government of Ontario intends to leave the honest worker to worry out his own salvation remains to be seen. If all accounts are to be believed, the situation in the Abitibi camps may be summarized as follows:—the majority are satisfied with the wages and with conditions—at least as much satisfied as men can be and remain progressive and ambitious. The majority are willing and ready to go on with their work. An organized minority, however, call upon them to strike, and enforce their wishes along this line by threats and even by actual violence. The situation seems to be the responsibility of the government. The government must decide whether proper protection will be given to those ready to work, or whether they are to be left to work the matter out for themselves. If there is no enforcement by law by the authorities, then in this country it seems certain that domination by alien agitators will not be tamely accepted but that the men themselves will be forced to adopt such methods as will assure them protection of the principle of the right to work. It seems to be a question of law opposed to communism. If the law fails to check the dominance of the bolshevik something in the nature of fascism is sure to result. That has been the result elsewhere. It seems to be the responsibility of the government to see that no such situation arises. When the trouble commenced in the bush The Advance urged the government to make a thorough investigation, see if there were improper conditions or too low wages in the industry, and insist upon remedies, and on the other hand to take steps to see that no alien agitators were allowed to make a political football out of the forestry industries or play fast and loose with the men engaged therein. The government has had men studying the whole question in the last few days. Hon. Peter Heenan, himself a labour man, has been at Iroquois Falls and should know the conditions of employment and the attitude of the men. The employers should not be allowed to impose on the men, nor should a group of self-styled leaders be permitted to interfere by threats or actual violence with the rights of the workers.

## RESULTS OF THE BY-ELECTIONS

The Liberal party won four out of five of the by-elections held on Monday for Federal seats. The lone seat won for the Conservatives was that of East Toronto, carried by T. L. Church, noted for his seven terms as mayor of Toronto, for his personal popularity that won him a place in the Dominion House, and also for the fact that at the last general election for the Dominion he was the victim of a form of machine politics that caused one of the few defeats he has had in political life. There is reason to believe that this defeat was a factor in bringing him victory on Monday. After the public has time to consider the matter and recognize the features of a case there is always a public tendency to give a square deal. For a time prejudice may swing the public but given time enough and a fighting spirit like that of T. L. Church, a public man may confidently expect some recognition of his sincerity and service to the public.

The result of the by-elections on Monday are taken by many to indicate what will happen to the Dominion Government when the general voting occurs. This is a rather exaggerated view to take and scarcely upheld by the facts of the case. Out of the five seats in which by-elections were held, two were what may be termed sure Liberal seats. West Elgin was the seat vacated by no less a personage than Hon. Mitchell Hepburn. Kenora was the seat carried by Hon. Peter Heenan for several past elections. North York has been referred to as a Conservative seat, but it would be more in keeping with the facts to say that it was Col. Herb. Lennox's seat, for his personal popularity was the factor in winning that seat in recent years. In the last election before his death he won by only 298 votes in a poll of over 20,000 votes. Frontenac was traditionally Conservative but local conditions not generally known to the public may have affected the result.

The Liberals no doubt will draw many morals from the result of Monday's voting, chief of which will be the idea that the Bennett Government should immediately appeal to the people. Such an appeal would not be warranted. The fact is that the results are like the Dionne quintuplets, assuming an undue importance in some minds because all five elections resulted on the one day. Had these by-elections been held singly the results would seem much less impressive. The date for an election appeal should be governed by altogether different considerations than the results of two by-elections. The Bennett Government still has so large a majority that a general election is scarcely warranted until it comes in the due course of events.

There are two morals that the Conservatives may draw from the by-elections. The first of these morals is the value of outstanding candidates such as T. L. Church always proves to be. The second moral is allied to the first. It is that the most energetic fight must be made if the people are to be thoroughly informed on the question of the day. Defensive fighting is neither as spectacular nor as appealing as the tactics of attack. Governments are always at a disadvantage in this respect. It means that to be on even terms with the opposition forces they must make the defence so spirited that it assumes the nature of attack. T. L. Church is the type of public man who knows this fact. Another point that the Conservatives should not overlook is the political sagacity of Hon. W. Lyon Mackenzie King. Before the election Hon. Mr. King foretold the winning of four of the five seats. Had he lost one or two of these he would have heard nothing about it, but his forecast being upheld by results it is a talking point that will be of value later. The temper of the people all over the world to-day is to go against any and every government. Australia was an exception to the rule, but local conditions may explain this.

Perhaps the most outstanding moral of the political moment, however, is the fact that there is nothing to be gained by any uncertainty as to the date of an election. The Henry Government made a mistake in thinking otherwise. As it developed, the opposition was more prepared for the election than the government side. Hon. Mr. Bennett apparently would do well to announce the approximate date of the general election now. The opposition is prepared and doubt about actual dates is not of material moment, while appearing to be lack of confidence in the public.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The Ministerial Association of Temiskaming is asking for earlier closing of the beer parlours. The general opinion seems to be that the earlier the beer parlours are closed the better for the communities.

Daily papers suggested that Meisner, suspect in the Labatt kidnapping was at Timmins. When Meisner was taken in charge at Detroit, they said it was Pegram. Now it looks as if Pegram was a thousand miles from Timmins. Probably it's only a case of Labatt's that is at the bottom of all the rumours here.

A Toronto firm last week had on display an assortment of derby hats that attracted much attention, but no buyers. The derbies were in colours, red, orange, blue, brown and

## Notable Rush on to Jellioce Gold Camp

Area Flanking Sturgeon River Now Staked Solid in Old-Time Dash. Many Notable Prospectors Take Part in Rush.

At present there are several gold rushes. Even an old-time established gold camp like the Porcupine area is experiencing something in the nature of an old-time boom. There is revival in other camps, while the new camps are all doing remarkably well. But the Jellioce gold camp seems to be getting the big end of the "rush" business. There is a regular old-time rush to Jellioce district, and in addition nearly everybody is talking about this Jellioce camp. Here is what one writer says about it in a recent issue of one of the leading dailies—The Toronto Mail and Empire:—

"Canada's newest gold rush, said by old-timers to be the fastest race of its kind since the Yukon rush of '98, is setting a new high-water mark in the glamarous hunt for gold.

"Within four weeks a picturesque mineralized break, 25 miles long and from five to 10 miles wide, flanking the Sturgeon River, has been staked solid in the mad rush to acquire ground. The entire area north of Lake Superior and due east to Lake Nipigon has become the scene of feverish activity.

"More than 125 square miles of territory have been recorded for mining purposes in the over-taxed government office at Port Arthur. More than 400 veteran, experienced prospectors, including in their ranks almost all the names well-known in northern prospecting annals in the last 25 years, have rushed into this territory. Surface showings of almost fantastic value have been uncovered.

"Supplies to feed men quartered in tents in the bush are being rushed by air and water from this base on the Canadian National Railways to provide for the impending weeks of the in-between season. A corduroy road is being thrust through the bush and over it supplies and machinery will move into the Sturgeon country after snow falls.

"Meanwhile the rush continues unabated, and, having reached the extreme western limit on the edge of Lake Nipigon, begins to reach out east and north.

"It began when two prospectors, Ross Barnum and Jack Green, uncovered rich veins on the surface along the Sturgeon River, northwest of Jellioce. "Rumours of the find began to leak out along the north's grapevine telegraph almost before the discovery had been recorded at Port Arthur. Within two days old-timers whose names are written large in the saga of the gold hunt, were on their way to the field, equipped with packsacks, blankets, tents, food and canoes.

"Lyn Brookbank staked on Windigokan Lake and optioned his find to the Connell interests. The Kenney brothers and their partner, Greg. Brennan, found rich showings which are being prospected under the eye of Dr. McCartney for Casey. Barnum and Green established a tie-up with United States Smelters. Jack Woods and Tom Brown struck a rich show and optioned it to Coniagas. The two Moshers, Penelton, Miron, Coleman, Jerry Byrne, Martin Shunsby, Springer, Edwards, Charlie Taylor, Jack Knox and the McFarlane boys, all of them names well known among those who hunt the yellow metal, were among the early comers.

"Scouts for mining companies soon hastened into the country to hunt for ground to stake or buy.

"Airplanes appeared and began to rush freight and prospecting parties into the hinterland. Long freight trains began rolling down from Longlac to Jellioce, disrupting the passenger service as the business of carrying persons was thrust aside to await carriage of goods.

"In the field the rush to prospect developed into a rush to stake. Conservative prospectors discovered that a pause to sample outcrops resulted in their being staked in by faster-moving men who staked first and examined afterwards.

"Within the space of little more than days the Sturgeon River has been claimed in a solid line from a point north of Mile 45 on the Longlac-Port Arthur Railway five miles west to the edge of Lake Nipigon.

"Now the rush is speeding east and north into new ground while in the area actually staked in the first stampede the ring of hand-steeled on rock resonates through the bush.

"Not since the Porcupine rush, and possibly not since that of the Yukon has a greater rush been seen in this country, the old-timers say. And it appears to be only the beginning."

A further despatch from Jellioce gives the following summary of the conditions and the country as viewed by another writer. This writer puts the matter as follows:—

"Latest reports from Jellioce and vicinity tell of an increasing rush of prospectors to the Sturgeon River field. Already, it is stated, 240 square miles of territory have been staked, and mining scouts, prospectors and geologists are being attracted to the scene.

"Over a belt in the Sturgeon River area approximately 56 miles long and 16 miles wide, the hunt for gold has reached feverish proportions. Since January 1 last 3,800 claims have been reported. The mining recorder's staff at Port Arthur has been increased

three times and from September 1 to September 15, 450 claims were recorded. The office is issuing 30 licenses per day.

"From the east and westbound trains nightly old and new prospectors, step off at Jellioce, and the one store at that time is frequently exhausted of its supplies.

"The city of Port Arthur reports that the new gold discoveries have had considerable effect on the unemployment situation there, with not one able-bodied man now on relief in the city, according to government authorities.

"The scene of the prospecting activity is within 200 miles of Port Arthur. Bardmore is 127 miles distant, while Jellioce is 149 miles away. Little Long Lac is 175 miles east."

"Add to the above, the government report upon the new Sturgeon River area! One of the things about the Dept. of Mines in recent years has been the way the department gets out official reports on any new areas and does it in very prompt fashion as well as in effective way. No sooner do prospectors start a rush than the department is either equal or ahead of them in the procuring of the necessary information and data. There were several references in The Advance in recent years as to the speed with which the government department checked up upon the work of the prospectors and mining men and gave valuable descriptions of the geology and prospects of new areas. The excellent reports, noteworthy for accuracy have been of notable service to prospectors and others. The fact that Hon. Chas. McCre has seen to it that the reports are issued at the earliest possible moment has added materially to the value of the government surveys. The new Minister of Mines seems to have fol-

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lowed the policy of the Henry Government in this matter. The case of the Jellioce gold camp is a case in point. There was a time when the department reports were not likely to be published until a camp was either proven a success or else given up as hopeless for the immediate present. In the case of the Jellioce camp, however, the "rush" is scarcely under way before a concise report by the Dept. of Mines is ready for the benefit of the prospector and mining man. Word from Toronto last week was to the effect that the first official government report upon the new Sturgeon River area reached the government last week and was considered Thursday by Hon. Paul Leduc, minister of mines.

H. C. Rickaby, provincial geologist, and Dr. E. L. Bruce of Queen's University, have been studying the Sturgeon River field for some 10 days and presented their initial findings to the minister of mines Thursday night.

The two officials of the department of mines confined their investigation to two of the major group of discoveries, the first lying north of the Windigokan and comprising the Brooklands,

Knox and Stringer Exploration claims, and the second along the Sturgeon River made up of Algoma Exploration, (U.S. Smelters) Sturgeon River Gold property (Coniagas option) and the Brennan-Kenty.

The report of the two experts is technical in the extreme and neither the minister of mines nor his deputies would comment. Said the geologists: "The geology consisting of greenstones with bands of sediments probably in folded intruded by diorite, porphyry, etc., is quite favourable. Several of the veins show good widths and lengths with favourable mineralization.

"While most of the information up to date as regards values is based on panning or on the presence of visible gold, it would appear that any one of the showings on the above groups of claims would rank as an important discovery.

"The fact that all these discoveries along with several others in the same general area have been made in the comparatively short space of three months makes the importance of the area impressive."

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Cattell's SPAGHETTI	16-oz tin	<b>10¢</b>
AYLMER RASPBERRIES	No. 2 tin	<b>21¢</b>
Heinz TOMATO SOUP	Small tin	<b>10¢</b>
Campbell's PORK and BEANS	28-oz tin	<b>11¢</b>
Domino WAX BEANS	No. 2 tin	<b>15¢</b>
Perfection Polishes	Are Good Values	
FLOOR	1-lb. tin	<b>25¢</b>
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old hats, and after every splurge of fashion go back to the derby or the fedora of their fancy, or to the cap which is the ideal of many in the matter of hats.

A moose made a ferocious attack on a motor car on Monday. Oh, yes, it was at Sault Ste. Marie.

The only kidnapers caught round Timmins are the kidnapers caught napping.

Thos. W. Curry, for several years a conductor on the Nipissing Central Railway, died on Wednesday last week at Toronto General hospital. He was in his 50th year and was a native of Russell County. The funeral on Friday was with I.O.O.F. honours, the late Mr. Curry having been a prominent Oddfellow.