

The Porcupine Advance

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Timmins, Ont., Thursday, Nov. 8th, 1934

CURTAINS FOR COMIC OPERA

Within a few weeks the citizens of Timmins will have opportunity to remedy the mistake made last year when a group of most unsuitable men were allowed to take places on the town council. The year has been one of comic opera when solid sense and patriotic action were needed. The antics of the council and the absurdity of most of the attitudes assumed during the year may be amusing, but it must be remembered that the town has had to pay a heavy price for the comic opera. Not only has taxation been increased at a time when there was reason to expect a reduction in rates, but there has also been a spirit of bitterness aroused that previously was lacking in the town. By its attitude on many important questions the present council has created unnecessary ill-will and enmity and generally it may be said that the town is in much more undesirable condition than it was a year ago. It is a well-known axiom of democracy that the people have a right to make a mistake. The right to make the mistake of electing the wrong type of men to the town council may be conceded, but it would appear to be folly to allow the error to be repeated.

It is quite a number of years since Timmins had a council that promised as much at the opening of the season and had as little to show at the close. Starting out on the false assumption that whatever had been done in the past was wrong, the 1934 council has shown little originality, except in making mistakes. Unfortunately, the only new thing the new council has given the town is a strange spirit of rudeness and ill-will. Economy was the excuse at the opening of the year for actions that seemed detrimental to the best service of the town. As the months have passed, however, economy has apparently been forgotten and the costs of the various services have increased without any increase in efficiency. Other promises have been equally neglected. The road to Sudbury, the increase in mine taxation, the new town hall, the reduction in civic staff, the lowering of costs—all heralded with brass band tactics—have one by one proven impractical or impossible of accomplishment. It is only in the last few months that the police department has been able to recover from the disorganization into which it was wantonly and unnecessarily thrown by the action of the council. The fire department has been similarly weakened by the improper interference of the council and will take time to return to its former efficiency and harmony. One of the chief criticisms made of the 1933 council by the present members of the town council was the suggestion that the old council was not responsive enough to the wishes of the people. The truth is that never in the history of the town has there been a council that so openly flouted the wishes of the people as the present council. It will be recalled that some weeks ago the largest petition ever presented to a Timmins council, backed up by representatives of the board of trade, the Canadian Legion and other important bodies and individual ratepayers, was flouted without even the courtesy of explanation or excuse. The record of the present council seems to be a succession of blunders, too often apparently from ill-will as much as from error. Of course, the present council has done some things well, but this has apparently been when they followed the common-sense procedure of previous councils, and that is something that the 1934 council has appeared to wish to avoid.

As the campaign opens for the coming election the details of the record of the council will no doubt be given in detail. The men who were so critical of others will not likely escape the dissecting of their actions and motives. In the meantime, it seems to be incumbent on each and every citizen to take an active interest in the municipal situation and to assure the best possible council for 1935. There are forces at work now to capture the municipal council for the coming year for their own purposes. These forces care little whether it be a venal or simply an inexperienced and foolish type of council. The plan is to serve certain private and improper ends. The people in general, the ratepayers who wish the town affairs well conducted and the town itself orderly and decent, should give time and attention necessary to make certain of the fact that the 1935 council will be one of good-will, efficiency, honesty and fairness to all. No good citizen should leave it to others, but should take keen and active part himself and herself to assure for the town of Timmins a truly representative council for the coming year.

DO TOLL-GATES FLOURISH?

During the recent provincial election campaign there was much talk about alleged toll-gates in connection with the liquor bought by the Ontario Liquor Commission. The suggestion was made that influence was necessary to assure the purchase of any particular brand of liquor by the Commission and that to secure the necessary influence the payment of certain tolls or charges was required. Mr. Hepburn and his fellow-campaigners promised an investigation into what they termed the "liquor toll-gate charges." In the meantime, however, the toll-gate charges have been left to await the outcome of other charges and other political enquiries. Now, however, Judge Ross, of St. Thomas, has been commissioned by the Hepburn government to conduct an enquiry into the so-called toll-gate charges. Mr. A. G. Slaght is to act as counsel for the government, or it might be said, for the prosecution. If this particular enquiry does not disclose more wrong-doing than shown by the other public enquiries carried on so far for political effect, then the matter will certainly not be worth its cost.

The public in general is not greatly interested now in these political enquiries. So far they have assumed so complete a political cast that they have lost the power to impress the people. The "toll-gate" charges may or may not prove different to the previous allegations on which enquiries were based. There is, however, one point on which there will be very general regret. That is the fact that the toll-gate charges are strictly restricted to affairs only to the end of last year. There would be much increased interest if the scope of the judicial enquiry were to include all matters in connection with the liquor question up to the present. The rumors of a toll-gate in regard to liquor matters have not ceased with the change of government. Reports have been current that there has been some sort of a toll-gate in regard to the issuing of the wine and beer licenses. No doubt the reply will be made that there is no truth in such rumors. That may well be the fact. It may be equally true that the charges about any toll-gate previous to December, 1933, is also without foundation. The purpose of enquiries is supposed to be the confirming of the truth or falsity of charges made. It does not seem that

any particular purpose will be served by an enquiry into the alleged toll-gate charges in 1933 and previously. At this date it is not likely that any money will be returned to the province or anyone sent to jail, even though it should be shown that the alleged toll-gate charges were true. In the case of the suggestions that there has been a toll-gate for wine and beer licenses, much good would be done by proving the reports either true or false. If the reports are false, it would be interesting to know why some licenses were awarded to people utterly unworthy according to the records, and who were not favourably reported upon by Liberal party leaders in the locality concerned. If the charges were proven false, it would also relieve some good citizens from the evil aspersions cast upon them by those who may have ulterior purposes to serve. If the charges on the other hand were proven true, it would likely be found that the keepers of the toll-gate were not local people at all, and the public would certainly be interested in knowing who they really were.

Has the Hepburn Government the courage to have a real investigation into the alleged toll-gates that may have been kept not only under former governments but also under the present administration? There will be no prize for the answer to that question. It is too easy.

THE BUSH TROUBLE OVER

Word from Cochrane is to the effect that the trouble in regard to the bush workers is over and the men are back at work. Somewhat similar reports come from Sault Ste. Marie. For this no thanks are due the authorities, though it is cheerfully admitted that the police did all they could to protect decent people, and Hon. Peter Heenan did his best to help the workers to a settlement. Neither Hon. Mr. Heenan nor the police were able to do much, for two reasons. One of these reasons was the fact that the trouble was no labour dispute but simply a pastime of the red element. The other reason was that the local authorities did not have the support of the Attorney-General in Toronto. "God bless you!" the Attorney-General had said some months ago to the people responsible for the trouble. "We have the fear of the reds in the Attorney-General," the alien agitators said, as they prepared to carry on to the limit the policy of stoning the police, terrorizing the workers, looting camp stores and generally having what they consider a good time. Not only were men threatened if they remained at work, but there were a number of cases of actual violence, with one contractor and a camp clerk seriously injured. A number of camps were looted, and in general affairs were under the direction of the reds in the background. Through it all the Attorney-General had the effrontery to continue saying that there was no serious trouble. The Attorney-General was apparently timid enough about his own safety, but a whale of a brave fellow when it was only some decent loyal citizen who was being beaten up or ordered about in his country by aliens. In the meantime the Attorney-General talked about "strikers" and "strike-breakers." As a matter of fact there were no "strike-breakers," but rather decent, loyal fellows who wanted to remain at work but were ordered around by a group of malcontents. Neither was there a "strike" but rather a walk-out, largely forced by violence and threats of violence. Any grievances the men had were lost sight of in the situation that developed—a situation seldom paralleled in British territory. The outcome was inevitable. Eventually the patience of a law-abiding people was exhausted. When a crowd of thugs attacked the police at Cochrane last week the citizens took a hand and assisted the police to clear up the whole situation. It only took a few minutes. Faced by the violence they had been so free to use upon others the thugs ran so fast that few of them could be caught. Only a few were placed under arrest and these were left to their fate. The bold pirates of the Northern bush, those who had whispered violence to others for months, failed to return. Instead they sent a woman to see to the concluding of what the men had started.

All that the people of the North asked of the Toronto authorities was that decent law-abiding men should be allowed to go about their affairs unmolested. The police would have been glad to have seen to this had they been left alone. Contrary to the suggestions of some of the authorities in Toronto no one desired the police "to take sides" in any labour dispute. They did expect the police to be left free to see that law and order were maintained. The police would have been able to do this without any difficulty had they been untrammelled. As it was, however, it looked for a time as if it would be necessary to call out the militia to assure the safety of ordinary decent, law-abiding men, women and children. Cochrane, however, had to clean up on these fellows once before, and they know how to do it and do it well. It is a disgrace to the country, however, that citizens should be forced to take such action. The Advance would emphasize the fact that the police were not to blame. They did their best under the handicaps forced upon them.

The Attorney-General can not plead that he was not informed of what was going on. At the very start of the trouble Mr. Wicks called the attention of the Attorney-General to the thuggery commenced, and asked for protection. Later a leading Liberal at Iroquois Falls, himself a respected union labour man, wrote the Attorney-General explaining the actual situation in the North. Settlers in the North who were interfered with also communicated with Toronto and asked for protection. The man who was stern and indignant because Stratford citizens chased a mischief-maker from their city, could not see any particular harm or damage in loyal men being beaten up, goods stolen and other depredations committed.

Word this week from Toronto is to the effect that Premier Hepburn is likely to ask for Hon. Mr. Roebuck's resignation. Hon. Mr. Hepburn is said to be annoyed at Hon. Mr. Roebuck because he has been talking too much. It would be more to the premier's credit if his grievance against the Attorney-General was that this official had failed to act when he should have moved for the protection of loyal, law-abiding people.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Buy a Poppy on Saturday! Wear a Poppy on Saturday! This is but a small thing to do in remembrance of the 60,000 Canadians who gave their lives overseas in the battle for the safety of others. It is but a small tribute to the 500,000 gallant Canadians who enlisted in the great war. It is but a small return to the 160,000 Canadians who returned injured or disabled from the battle. Buying a poppy means helping the disabled veterans who make the poppies. It means contributing to the assistance of the returned soldiers and their families who may be in need. Buy a poppy on Saturday! Wear a poppy on Saturday!

E. L. Banner has been appointed manager of the Old Home Week to be held at North Bay next year. That looks like a good start. The parade should be all right with a good Banner at the head.

A newspaper heading says that a magazine salesman was committed for trial at Halleybury. Yes! but not simply for being a magazine salesman.

Hon. Mr. Hepburn says that Hon. Mr. Roebuck has been only voicing his own personal opinion in talking about codes for Ontario industries. The matter has not been dealt with by the cabinet and so anything Hon. Mr. Roebuck may say is not official. This is a polite way of saying

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Honour Roll of the Schumacher School

Standing of the Pupils in the Various Classes at the Schumacher Public School for Month of October.

The following is the honour roll for the Schumacher public school:— Names in order of merit.

Room 1—A. E. Murphy, teacher—Sr. IV—Frank Fowler and Ivan MacDonald, equal.

Jr. IV—Marie Ostershek. Room 2—Wm. K. Wylie, teacher—Sr. IV—Mildred Mirkovich, Bette MacMillan, Allan Cripps, John McDonald, Norma Maskery, James Waite and Arthur Gray, equal; Fred McNaughton, Janet Wallace, Nancy Heppelwhite, Nellie Harris, Annie Butkovich, Margaret Boyce, Frank Corris, Jean Dugera. Sr. III—A. V. Coleman, teacher—Betty Fulton, Joseph Napier, Jean Cowden, Pearl Tisdale.

Jr. IV—W. B. Sparks, teacher—Rosa Butkovich, Annie Innarrell, Victoria Laham, Jean McGrath, Irene Slezak, Sam Pataran, Marguerite Keizer, Alex Bell, June Lavereau, Hector Bembarrier and Ronald Montigny, equal; Edna Fraser and Walter Miller, equal; Donald Webber; Burnett MacDonald and George Holjevac equal; Tommy Kovich. Sr. III—Catharine McDonald, teacher—Clara Bucovich, Jean McWhinnie, Isabel Flowers, Margaret Innes, Lillian Cummings, Billy Welt, Paul Laine, Louise Delich, Rcsa Bojtos, Bobby Boyce, John Sisik, Margaret Bojtas, Steve Potocny, Harry Thompson, Ruby Nelson, Ellen McCain, Vance Rafuse, Mabel Costain, Ethel Prest, Jean Laughren.

Jr. III—C. Duxfield, teacher—Vera Jenkin, Katie Pecanic, Irene Montigny, Gildo Pellizzari, Isabel Fraser, Bryan Robinson, Helen MacQuarrie, Bruno Bertol, Catherine Byron.

Jr. III—Laura B. Small, teacher—Kirby Joyner, Jean Lafferty, Elva Raycroft, Elizabeth Sandul, Jean Urquhart, Ruby Prentice, Alta Fisher, Ruth Matson, Shirley McMaster, Eda Battagelli. Form II—Helen N. Venier, teacher—Ruth Westerholm, Anthony Lavereau, June Asseltine, Ruth Sky, Nilma Arimini, Mary Perkovic, Annie Krazingric, Annie Perkovic.

Second—H. M. Lee, teacher—Robert Dye, Norman Cripps, Hazel Trollope, Madeline Laham, Lorraine Fournier, Fern Stitt, Margaret Bennett, Elma Fabbro, Dino Grampaoli, Nellie Robinson, Agnes Rubich, Eric Prentice, Ariel Bjorkman, Eleanor Warner.

First Class—M. K. O'Keefe, teacher—Olive Wurm, Eileen Soucie, Danica Fergo, Enza Narduzzi, Annie Kwacz, Leugi Batochia, Jean Shields, Eileen Hall, June Sutherland.

Class Second—Evelyn Douglas, Johnny Sangster, Jack Douglas, Cora Pearson, Ferman Turcott, Betty Heath, Norma Créney, Howard Brown.

Class First—M. G. Bristow, teacher—Patricia Campbell, Noame Arimini, Dorothy Blough, Kathryn Lafontaine, Burrell Small, Irving Fraser, Johnny Marchiori, Keith Hannah, Sadie Poukunen, Ronald Keller, Ellen Sampson, Glennie Byron, Mike Fenic, Laura Fowler, Karlo Krcel, Alex Wrong, Joyce Hicks, Leonard Mangotic, Eileen Fawkes, Harvey Greer, Lewis Scofield, Boni Leno.

Class I—M. A. Curran, teacher—Lily McGowan, Jean Mackey, Jack King, Roy Jenkin, Angeline Mateljan; Betty Killins and Osborne Williams, equal; Dan Bjorkman; Ruth Pitcher and Guissippina Ametta, equal; Jessie Scullion, Evelyn Mackey; Jean Percival and Marion Brown equal; Ernie Monk and Alma Boyce, equal; Merla King, Made-

lein Pataran, Robert Cousineau, Joan Prentice; Kathleen Corris and Irene Kyriainen, equal.

Class Sr. Pr.—E. M. Bush, teacher—Andy Sliz, Nancy Robson, Jack Waite, Barbara Hayward, Josie Prentice, John Kovich, Cecilia Gotesco, Bunny Estelle, Eddy Morandin, Junior Manette, Katharine Lowenstein, Fay Keizer, Jack Keller, Sadie Watson, Mildred Graham, Meiba Greer, Irene Cousineau, Howard Costain, Miriam Bjorkman.

Class Pr.—Loreta M. Dube, teacher—Margaret Boissouhault, Charlie Chulig, Angelo Cimetta, Elso Fabello, Dean Hawley, Ian Johnson, Mary Kallak, Bernice Kyle, Rickardo Mateljan, Lola McCarthy, Leon McFarland, Edna Sangster, Shirley Wigmore.

Class K.P.—L. I. Lang, teacher—Morning—Percy Davis, Orville Hicks, Stanley Bagdonovich, Shirley Kyle, Glenwood Cameron, Edwin Hall.

Afternoon—Dino Narduzzi, Sheila Bassett, Betty Gilbert, Douglas McDonald.

Veterans Object to Method of Dismissal

Toronto Branch of Legion Makes Emphatic Protest at Discourtesy Shown to Col. J. I. MacLaren, of the T. & N. O.

A resolution was passed last week by the 19th Battalion Branch of the Canadian Legion at Toronto giving a vote of censure on the manner in which the Hepburn Government effected the dis-

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missal from the T. & N. O. Railway Commission of Col. J. I. MacLaren, and characterizing Premier Hepburn's conduct in this connection "as unbecoming to the prime minister of this province." Col. MacLaren was the first commanding officer of the 19th Battalion and is popular and highly regarded by the members of the branch of the Legion bearing the name of the battalion. The resolution expressed "strong protest against the discourteous manner" in which Col. MacLaren was advised of his dismissal. In thus expressing the opinion of the branch of the Legion, the resolution voices the feelings of large bodies of public opinion. While the dismissal of the T. & N. O. Commissioners was not in conformity with public opinion, there is also special resentment at the crude and boorish way

in which the Government went about this political activity.

In commenting on the resolution, the secretary of the branch, V. E. Thompson, voices a very general opinion when he says:—"Surely a faithful servant of the government should receive notice of his dismissal in a more dignified manner than to have it announced through the press that 'he is fired and stays fired.'"

Saint John Telegraph-Journal.—Constitutionally Canada is unquestionably a confederation. It is doubtful whether a confederation can ever be completely a single nation in the fullest sense; there will always be conflicting loyalties, and Canada therefore has some way to go before her nationality is complete.

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Shankless Pork Shoulders lb. 15¢

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Finnan Haddies lb. 17¢ Large Select Oysters Pint 55¢ Jar 33¢

Salmon Piece 15¢ Sliced 17¢ Scallops Fresh lb. 42¢

PICKLES PICNIC BRAND Sweet Mixed 28-oz. Jar 29¢ S.O.S. For Pots and Pans 8-pd 4-pd Pkg. Pkg. 23¢ 14¢

MAGIC Baking Powder 34¢ 1-lb. Tin

New Season's Mincemeat 2 lbs. 25¢ 23¢ 14¢

PRINCESS SOAP FLAKES 2 for 27¢

Shredded Wheat 2 Pkgs. 25¢ New Dates - 2 lbs. 23¢

Tomato Juice No. 1 Tin 4 for 25¢ Peel Lemon and Orange lb. 23¢

Bisto - Large Pkg. 23¢ Coconut Desiccated Shredded or lb. 21¢

JAM GLASSCO'S RASPBERRY, STRAWBERRY, BLACK-CURRANT with added Pectin 3 1/2-oz. Jar 33¢

that Hon. Mr. Roebuck has been talking too much. When Hon. Mr. Hepburn turns to politeness, what does it signify?

It could only happen at the Hotel de Ville:—"You're absolutely incompetent and worse. Here's \$500.00 as a mark of appreciation for your good services."

"I don't see any sign of the promised new town hall," says a ratepayer. Why friend didn't you see the sign, "Hotel de Ville?"

A relief officer was held a prisoner for a lengthy term of hours one day last week. The reeve of one of the townships near Toronto was chased by a mob. In both cases the onus for the disorder and breach of law was placed on men on

relief who are seeking better terms. There is also talk of a "strike" among those on relief. Most people feel that those on relief should be used as generously as possible, but it does seem a fact that care should be taken to prevent certain men from making relief into a regular "racket."

Ward Two Conservative Association in Toronto last week passed a resolution forbidding any member of the executive from accepting any government position. None of them will be tempted to accept any provincial government position at present.

In selecting the next town council the ratepayers should be careful to see that men are not elected to work private grudges or personal aims and purposes.

A. R. Globe, general manager of Chromium Mining and Smelting Corporation, in a progress report to shareholders states that the company has acquired 15 additional claims, bringing its total holdings to approximately 1,900 acres. Smelting tests have been carried out by H. O. Symmes preparatory to starting smelting operations this month. Diamond drilling is proceeding, and this campaign has been increased to 5,000 feet. The last hole put down to the west is said to have intersected the best mineralization so far encountered on the property.