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The Canadian Legion in the Porcupine

By One Interested in their Welfare

"Gentlemen, Be Seated!"

The argument started a few weeks ago in this column has bought in quite a bunch of mail upon the subject of the change of method in addressing members of the Legion. In one letter the writer suggested I had forgotten "Bozo." Not so my friend as you will find out later. Then friend Harry, the "old salt," sent in a long letter, in which the scriptures were quoted. This is a little too long for publication, but gives good advice upon the subject. Harry's suggestion is to the effect that henceforth we be called "Loyal Comrades of the Legion." The secretary, although equipped with a machine for duplicating, says "No good! It's more work for me." So we're stuck again. One Irish member, strongly objects to being addressed as "Mac." He says, with all the general acceptance of the title "Comrade" that's what he is and always will be. Some branches in Toronto have taken the matter seriously and have banished the word comrade from the constitution, and on the top of that passed a motion that no "Red" berets be worn by their members. This is going a little on the far-fetched side, because the First Division of the Cana-

dian Corps designation colour was red, hence the beret. It seems evident now that all that has been written upon the matter will have to be discarded because the first suggestion, as advanced by Austin Neame, i.e., "Gentlemen, be seated," is soon to be adopted. There is a rumour going the rounds that the local branch is planning a minstrel show, and if this is a fact, of course the expression will be extensively used by the interlocutor, and may become a general phrase therefrom. Those taking part will also be christened with appropriate names and from these perhaps someone brainy enough may discover a way to rectify the situation and settle the argument. "Sambos," "Amos," "Darkey," "Massa," will be used but none seem suitable for the purpose. It has been suggested also to your correspondent that he take the first letter from the names already advanced and make up a title. My answer is lack of time for such a proposition and also the lack of upper storey matter to make such a name. To me, the only proper way to be used for the means of addressing members of the Legion is the one now in use—"Comrade." It's a grand old name, much abused by some organizations at the present time, but respected by all servicemen everywhere who have realized the true value of a comrade, a friend and a pal.

Who Is To Blame?

Recently in the province of Ontario there has been a vicious dismissal of returned men who have been holding Government positions. In all no less than three presidents of branches of the Canadian Legion have been victims of the axe. When approached by Legion officials upon the matter, those supposed to be concerned, pass the buck to someone else. In all cases no excuse other than economy has been advanced, and how they can say it's for economy is beyond the realm of all reasonable thinking men. Most of them have been working at the most modest of wages and found difficulty to save any of the salaries received. They have been discharged for the sake of economy but soon will be getting government relief money, while the government will still be paying the wages to the patron they have placed in his position. If that's economy, then I sure all will agree with me, that we have been living in the wrong kind of world, and should be among those in the "bug-house." The Pembroke Standard-Observer touches another point on the subject and is given as follows as the clipping was received:—"Pembroke Standard-Observer—There is one thing in which as Canadians we can register a protest, and that is when any war veteran is dismissed. There have already been three dismissals in Pembroke and that's enough. The citizens will protest should there be any more, and forget that they are Tories and Grits. We made promises to these men when they enlisted and went overseas to fight our battles. They stood knee deep in mud, they slept in the trenches, and they were wounded, and upon their returning home we have endeavoured to keep the promises we made to them. That promise was sacred, we are going to keep it, or our Canadian manhood amounts to absolutely nothing."

Greetings to You!

Gentlemen and Comrades of the Timmins Branch of the Canadian Legion. I take this opportunity of "Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas." If you all have the same brand as the most expect it will be! If you don't then see some of the members and I'm sure your Christmas will be as Merry and Bright as the rest.

Walter Devine, Box 1428

Say Christmas Trade is the Best for Many Years

In its weekly summary of the general business situation, the Standard Statistics Company of New York says Christmas retail trade volumes, exceeding those of any like period since 1930, are now clearly indicated.

"The general improvement in business sentiment which this expansion signalizes should provide impetus for a fairly persistent uptrend in industrial volumes during the early months of 1935," the review adds. "The automobile industry will swing into active production in the next several weeks and increased forward buying in other lines presages marked seasonal upturns in manufacturing operations after the turn of the year.

"Nevertheless, while present indications are that business volumes will be moving in the right direction during the next several months, optimism will be tempered by legislative and tax uncertainties."

Throughout Canada the same improvement in Christmas trade has been noted. In Timmins not only has there been an increase this year in the Christmas business, but merchants also note that the business has started earlier than in other recent years. This is looked upon as a particularly hopeful sign. One local merchant last week in commenting upon the business increase noted, stressed the fact that business this year for Christmas started earlier than usual and he took this to mean that people had settled down to the belief that the depression was over and this belief in itself would do much to justify itself and help in the general recovery.

Christmas Party of the Timmins Kiwanis

Enjoyable and Amusing Annual Event on Monday. Plans for Next Year Touched Upon.

The weekly luncheon of the Timmins Kiwanis Club on Monday of this week took the form of a Christmas party with presents for everybody and good wishes for all. The Kiwanis Christmas party has been made an annual feature and it certainly proves interesting and amusing. In this Christmas party every member of the club gets a present together with greetings, usually in the form of verse. No present must cost more than fifteen cents. That is one hard and fast rule. Another rule is that the gift must be accompanied by a suitable message. A draw is made and each member has under this draw to give a present and message to some other member.

The party proved a huge and amusing success on Monday. Arch Gillies, the president for 1935, was in the chair at the meeting in the club rooms in the new Legion hall. His present was a surveyor's stake in miniature with advice as to what should be done with all kinds of stakes and steaks. Kiwanian Bruce Millar was Santa Claus, capably assisted by Kiwanian Fred Dwyer. The passing out of the gifts made much Christmas fun. The gifts in many cases were themselves amusing, but the messages of greetings in every case gave special point to the present. It surprised some members how many poets the club seemed to possess, while a chosen few denied the poetic talent was evident to all. There was now question, however, as to the fun and humour, some of the greetings being specially witty and amusing.

There were three visitors for the day these being Rev. Dr. Fraser, of the United Church South Porcupine; Sheriff John Mackay, of Cochrane; and W. L. Warrell, another District official of Cochrane.

The community singing for the day was another special feature.

The Timmins Kiwanis Club on Monday decided to start again providing milk for children needing this when school re-opens after the holidays.

The regular weekly luncheon of the Kiwanis will be held on Monday next, Dec. 24th, in the club rooms in the Legion building.

Interest Rates Reduced by Federal Banks in U.S.A.

Washington, Dec. 17th—It was announced over the week-end here that a cut in the rate of interest paid by federal banks from three to two and a half per cent. is confidently expected soon.

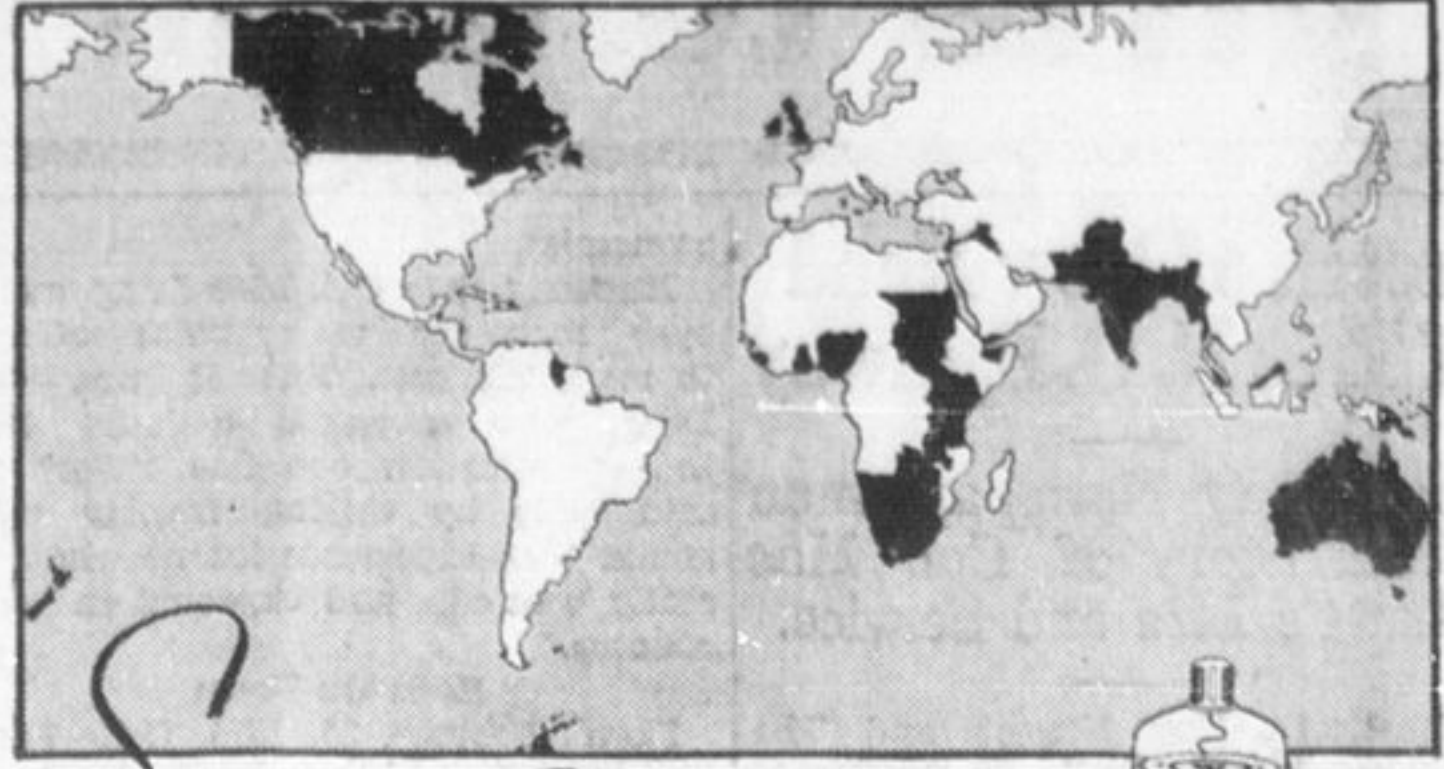
In this United States follows the lead of Canadian banks in an effort to get more money at present tied up in savings accounts into circulation. At least 14,000 banks will be affected when the new ruling goes into effect.

At the same time it is rumored that Canadian banks may further reduce the interest rate on savings from two and one-half to two per cent.

From Sullivan County (N.Y.) Record:—

A clever politician is one who can climb on the rear of the band wagon as it passes and then make the public believe that he was driving the thing from the start.

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Daughter of Rasputin to Appear in Tigers' Cage

Maria Rasputin Soloviev, daughter of the notorious Russian monk, Gregory Rasputin, who was assassinated in 1916, will spend Christmas in a cageful of tigers, according to advice from London, England. She has signed a contract recently with a London music hall the engagement to include her appearance in a cageful of tigers. To spend a few moments each day in a cage with tigers should not be any special thrill for Rasputin's daughter after the life she has had. Her youth was brought to an abrupt end when her father was murdered. He had the double reputation of being "saint" to some, and "devil" to others. Those who thought him "devil" were eventually able to kill him after more than one attempt. It is said that he was poisoned, stabbed, shot and clubbed before he finally succumbed. After her father's murder, Maria was sent to Siberia with her mother and brother. She married at 16 and managed to escape from the Bolsheviks, wandering over the continent of Europe since her escape. Her husband died and life became more difficult for her as time went on. She has two daughters, 12 and 14 years of age, and eventually she took up stage work, interpreting Russian folk dances, and so on. Now she tries the circus performer's acts to make a living for herself and her children.

Strong Protest Made Against "Red" Funeral

Directors of the Kirkland Lake branch of the Yugoslav-Canadian Association have sent a strongly-worded resolution to Hon. W. A. Gordon at Ottawa, protesting against the communist form of funeral service held over the body of Josp Micheleich who was buried at Kirkland Lake on Dec. 7th after a so-called funeral service conducted chiefly by a woman whose special intention appeared to be to make a form of political capital out of

Knew Her Onions

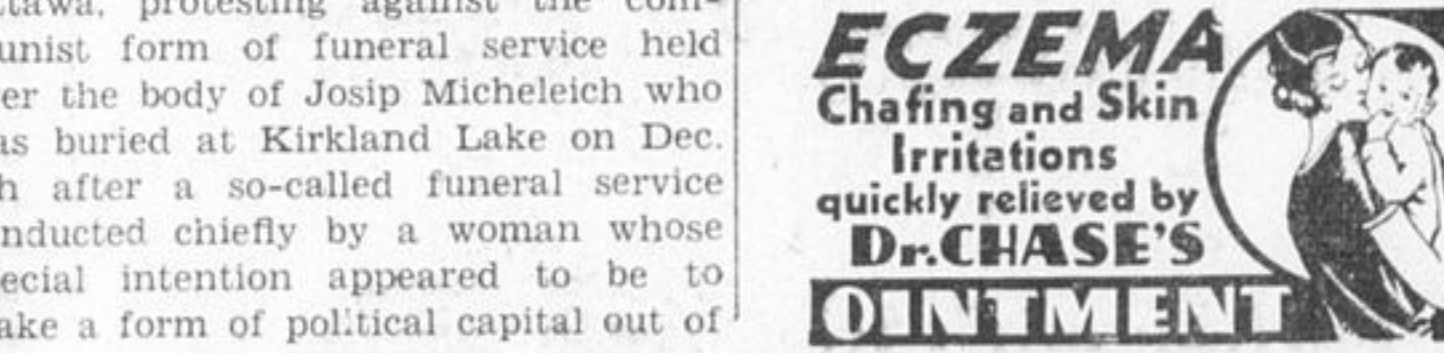
"Can you serve company?" asked the housewife when she was hiring the servant.

"Yes, mum, both ways."

"What do you mean?" asked the puzzled one.

"So's they'll come again, or stay away."

—Exchange.



Plan Advisory Board of Mining Engineers

Securities Commissioner Has Ideal for Protecting Public in New Promotions.

The Ontario Securities Commissioner, J. M. Godfrey, K.C., is at present wrestling with the problem of protecting the public from fake promotions and wildcat schemes without at the same time stopping public confidence in all mine promotions. Recently the steps taken to protect the public have actually had the effect of killing public confidence in all mine promotions for the moment. It is claimed that the attitude of the present Securities Commissioner may have stopped fake promotions but only through practically stopping all promotions. This is bad business undoubtedly and what is needed is some plan whereby legitimate promotion will be left free while the illegal and the improper are curbed. The Securities Commissioner has a plan in mind to achieve this end. The plan is described by the Toronto representative of The Sudbury Star as follows:—

Efforts are being made by J. M. Godfrey, K.C., chairman of the Ontario Securities Commission, to secure an advisory committee of outstanding mining engineers to pass upon various interests which seek permission to offer shares or units in their projects to the public.

The purpose of the committee would be to advise the commissioner if the projects in question have sufficient merit to warrant development. In a great many instances in the past, it is thought that mining securities have been offered to the public were known to have no potentialities whatever.

The mining engineers interviewed expressed a willingness to cooperate with the Ontario Securities Commission in any reasonable way they could, they all are said to have declined

Might Inspire Criticism

The reason given was that their actions would be subject to public censure and criticism, particularly if on occasion as is not infrequent in the mining industry their judgment was subsequently found to be faulty in some particular instance.

If the work of such a committee would be strictly a matter "in camera" between the mining engineers and the Ontario Securities Commissioner, they would be prepared to serve, several of them declared. In attempting a clean-up on the fake or near fake promotions in Ontario, the Ontario Securities Commission has also made the marketing by genuine promoters almost impossible, it is claimed.

It is with the view of again inspiring public confidence in mines in the process of development that has led to the Ontario Securities Commissioner calling into conference the leading engineers of the industry with a view to securing their agreement to act on a committee which would scrutinize and approve of new mining issues.

Prospectors and promoters have of late been besieging the Ontario Securities Commission with requests that some official statement be made to allay the fears which now haunt the buying public.

Ever since the former commissioner, George H. Drew, commenced a controversy over the kind of houses and characters who were selling mine shares in the province the market has been paralyzed as far as new promotions were concerned.

This led to prospectors, field men and employees working in the north being laid off due to lack of funds in the treasury of the various syndicates and companies raising money in the south.

Promotion Hampered

These have in turn been informed that promotion was next to impossible at the present time as a result of the impasse resulting from the controversy and the various investigations that have been going on for some time under the aegis of the Securities Commissioner.

It is now claimed that most of the mushroom houses have been cleaned out and those who have made a genuine effort to develop their properties

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<p>Goldfields</p> <p>Thurs., Fri. & Sat., Dec. 20-21-22 Grace Moore and Tullio Carminati in "One Night of Love" (Musical-Supreme)</p> <p>Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24—25 Robert Donat and Elissa Landi in "The Count of Monte Cristo" (Alexander Dumas' Immortal Classic) Midnight Preview Sunday, Dec. 23rd.</p> <p>Wednes. & Thursday, Dec. 26—27 Will Rogers in "Handy Andy" (Comedy-Drama) Midnight Preview Tuesday, Dec. 25th, at 11.30 p.m.</p> <p>Friday & Saturday, Dec. 28—29 Sidney Blackmer and Sidney Fox in "Down To Their Last Yacht" (Musical-Comedy) Midnight Show Friday, 11.30 p.m.</p> <p>COMING ATTRACTIONS "BELLE OF THE NINETIES" "CHU-CHIN-CHOW" "LITTLE MISS MARKER" "CAT'S PAW" "BROADWAY BILL" "SCARLET EMPRESS"</p> <p>MIDNIGHT SHOW EVERY FRIDAY AT 11.30 P.M.</p>	<p>New Empire</p> <p>Wednes. & Thursday, Dec. 19—20 Helen Twelvetrees and W. Ford in "My Woman" (Drama)</p> <p>Friday & Saturday, Dec. 21—22 Richard Dix and Madge Evans in "Day of Reckoning" (Action-Drama)</p> <p>Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 24—25 George O'Brien in "The Dude Ranger" (Western-Classical)</p> <p>Wednes. & Thursday, Dec. 26—27 Gertrude Michael and Paul Cavanaugh in "Notorious Sophie Lang" (Melodrama) Midnight Preview Tuesday, Dec. 25th, at 11.30 p.m.</p> <p>Friday & Saturday, Dec. 28—29 Warner Baxter and Myrna Loy in "Penthouse" (Drama with Romance)</p> <p>COMING ATTRACTIONS "ROCKY RHODES" "STINGAREE" "KISS AND MAKE UP"</p> <p>MIDNIGHT SHOW EVERY SUNDAY AT 12.01 MIDNIGHT</p>
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