

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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UPHOLD THE POLICE

The Advance received a letter for publication this week, but after the writer had thought over the question, he phoned The Advance. "Don't print that letter," he said. "Just write something about it."

This is the something written about it. The letter commenced with compliments for the police department for the activity shown in attempting to protect the public against the thoughtless, the careless, the reckless, the drunken drivers of automobiles. This part of the letter might well be published. It might encourage the police in their efforts for the public safety. "No mercy should be shown to those who themselves are merciless," said the letter, "and no consideration should be shown to the large proportion of crazy drivers in this district who have not the slightest consideration for pedestrians and other users of the roads, and are consistent law-breakers."

Then the writer of the letter proceeds to criticize the police because they have not done more. "Are the police aware of how many cars there are in this district with license plates so covered with mud and dust that the letters are quite indistinguishable?" "Do the police notice the cars driving at night without proper lights?" "Why are not all the overcrowded cars checked up?" "Is there to be no regard for speed limits in town?" These are some of the questions asked by the writer of the letter. It was shown to the writer of the letter that dirty license plates have been consistently checked up; that the police never fail to stop any driver whose car lacks any of the required lights at night; that there have been many prosecutions for overcrowding of cars, no less than three of them last week; that the police court news proves how persistently the police have kept after the speeders and reckless drivers in this town.

"It's true enough," said the letter writer. "The police have done well in the matter, but there's much yet to be done to assure safety for the public." The letter writer then commented on the success of the police in ridding the town of the disorderly houses and the blindpigs that were threatening to attain standing and strength through to be more difficult to remove later.

It was pointed out to the thoughtful citizen writing the letter that what was really needed was general support of the police in the determination to make the town safe and law-abiding. The police can go only a certain distance beyond general public opinion in the enforcement of the law. In the matter of cleaning out the disorderly houses and the blindpigs there was a solid public opinion behind them. People were alive to the evident danger that the vice rings would so establish themselves as to be difficult to dislodge. Timmins has never allowed vice to gain the upper hand in town. There was generous public support for the chief and his men in weeding out the criminal element attempting to gain control here. The police will be able to make the town safe for traffic, just as it has been made clean, if there is equal public support. Public sympathy in law enforcement, however, is essential. To The Advance it appears that the police have been trying to educate the public to observe traffic laws. Prosecutions have been made only in more serious cases or where the law was flagrantly disobeyed. At least this seemed to be the case until the wholesale prosecutions this week for failing to stop at an intersection in Moneta. It is doubtful if the police would have made this wholesale prosecution had it not been for complaints that cars were "running wild" at this intersection. According to the writer of the letter one of the councillors was on the scene at the time and saw how the stop sign was disregarded. Wholesale prosecutions are only justified on rare occasions. This seems to have been such an occasion, though it was undoubtedly more or less of a hardship on many who did not realize the danger to the pedestrian when every car does not stop at a stop sign. The pedestrian is inclined to trust to the stop sign and if the motorist does not obey the sign the result is likely to be tragedy. Motorists have all sorts of excuses for not always stopping at the stop signs, but from the pedestrian's point of view the stop sign calls for invariable observance or it is worse than useless.

The first paragraph of the letter referred to has been noted. It may be well to quote the concluding paragraph:—"Do the police or the council think it unfair to set traps? Nothing is unfair to those who are consistently and knowingly breaking the law, and are a menace to themselves and others! Clean them up! All thoughtful citizens and sane motorists,—of which they are a few,—will welcome and even give assistance, to put these drivers behind bars, where the greater majority of them should be, rather than behind the wheel of a car,—at least till they get sense enough to know that safety first and a consideration for others is far more preferable than a craze

for speed and a yearly accident toll that is appalling."

The Advance believes that the large majority of motorists are sane and sensible. The great majority of them are anxious to observe the law and to give other motorists and the public the fairest sort of a deal. A few good fellows by thoughtless action or misguided ideas may err occasionally, but will be ready to fall into line on the right side when their mistake is shown them. Once it is shown that public opinion requires the strictest observance of the traffic laws for the public safety, there will be little difficulty. For months past The Advance has been urging in another way what the writer of the letter now appears to advocate. The Timmins police force have made a good job of cleaning up the blindpigs and disorderly houses. Petty thieving has been curbed in very effective way. More serious crimes have been dealt with in most efficient manner. Recently the police have centred their efforts on making the town as safe as possible for traffic. Is it not fair and reasonable to suggest that the police deserve support in this more than criticism or fault-finding? It is well to note that a more or less free hand must be given to the police department in the enforcement of the law, because there are so many side issues that may be used against them. For instance, there is always the old game of the law-breaker in one line howling because the law is not observed or enforced in other lines. The blindpigger fairly oozes horror because the traffic laws are flouted and lives endangered. The reckless driver complains that effort is wasted on traffic law enforcement while blindpigs and brothels flourish. So it goes. The police know all this and they know how to discount the various appeals of this sort. Chief Paul, Deputy Chief Salley and all the men of the present force are evidently making earnest and keen effort to give balanced and reasonable law enforcement and full protection to the public. The Advance is saying once more:—"Give the police fair and full support."

"ADOPT-A-BABY WEEK"

Next week is "Adopt-a-Baby Week"—a special week suggested by Hon. David Croll, Minister of Welfare for Ontario, to be set aside for particular thought in regard to the homeless and underprivileged babies of the province.

It was Mark Twain in his famous response to the toast, "To the Babies," who said that this is the place where all meet on common ground. Everybody is interested—must be interested—in babies. They appeal to the sentimentalist for there is nothing more lovable than a baby. They are important to the patriot, for the future of the country depends upon the babies of to-day; to the business men, for it is good business, even from the selfish standpoint, to care for the children; to the religious-minded, for the greatest religions of the world centre round the child.

When J. J. Kelso founded the Children's Aid movement over forty years ago, his love for children led him to instil as a basic principle of Children's Aid work that every child should have a good home. If the child's own home was not good, make it good, was the J. J. Kelso idea, and if that home could not or would not improve, or if the child was without home at all, then secure a new and a good home for the child. In the work of the Children's Aid that is one of the most difficult tasks—securing homes for children that need them. Hon. Mr. Croll has recognized the fact and has adopted the "Adopt-a-Baby Week," in the hope that many of the youngsters now wards of the Children's Aid may be adopted into good homes and so have so much better chance for the best in life.

In emphasizing the benefits to the child in securing a needed home, Hon. Mr. Croll has not overlooked the fact that the home that takes a child into its fold will also find great measure of joy and contentment. The successful working of the "Adopt-a-Baby Week" means double joy—joy to the child that finds a home, and joy to the home that finds the child.

In the words of the great English poet, John Masefield:—

"For he who gives a child a treat
"Makes joybells ring in Heaven's street,
"But he who finds a child a home
"Builds palaces in Kingdom Come."

ABOUT CASHING CHEQUES

In a restaurant in a Western town some years ago there was a sign:—"The bank doesn't sell soup! We don't cash cheques!" The principle suggested is a good one, but, unfortunately, as Shakespeare might have said had he lived in this present age:—"Thus competition does make suckers of us all." Merchants who are strictly up-to-date and thrifty in most ways still in the desire not to allow any business to escape from them will cash cheques for strangers or for doubtful acquaintances where they would never dream of risking a much smaller amount of cash. How often has a merchant admitted the losses from cheques cashed in too optimistic a frame of mind! Laws have been passed to protect business men and others from the fraudulent cheque, but nothing short of the philosophy of the Western restaurant seems to offer any complete protection—to refuse to cash any cheques until the bank starts selling soup.

A recent series of cases in town where merchants waited long for returns from cheques cashed gives rise to these reflections, while at the

Hon. W. A. Gordon Leading Statesman

Minister from the North has Vision, Energy and Ability. Has Done Much for Mining and the North.

Hon. W. A. Gordon, Minister of Mines, Minister of Labour and Minister of Immigration and Colonization, in the present government at Ottawa, has won distinction and approval all through Canada by his able work in the cabinet. It is, perhaps, true that he has received more recognition elsewhere in Canada than has been given him in his own section—the North. Hon. Mr. Gordon is a real Northerner, has lived a lifetime in this country, loves the country and its people, and has worked in remarkable fashion for the advancement of the country and its leading industry—mining. Hon. Mr. Gordon has lived at Halleybury for a great many years and has given much of his strength and brilliance for the advancement of the district he represents in the Dominion House. As member for South Temiskaming he has taken a leading part in anything and everything concerning the welfare of the North. It may not be generally known that Hon. Mr. Gordon was one of the first to travel into the Porcupine. He was in this part of the North before there was any Timmins and when there were only a few people at South Porcupine. He travelled this way as a prospector and in addition he grubstaked several others who came to this part of the North looking for gold.

An article on the editorial page of a recent issue of The Orillia News-Letter has the following to say about Mr. Gordon:—

"Canada is fortunate in having as Minister of Mines a practical mining man, the Hon. W. A. Gordon. He has a breadth of vision that far transcends the ordinary vision of the average politician. He represents first of all the people of Canada. He administers the Department of Mines with the idea of developing our mines for the good of the people. He believes the mineral resources of Canada are a heritage belonging to the people of Canada that must be administered and developed for the common good.

"For the first time in our history we have a Minister of Mines who realizes that mining is as important a natural resource as agriculture, lumbering, fisheries and the fur trade. He is this summer sending out nearly 200 small well organized parties under competent geologists to thoroughly examine promising mineral areas in the North, so that prospectors may later go to a region where the geological formations are favorable for the discovery of gold, silver or base metals. With the information thus obtained, thousands of our young men can later organize prospecting parties and locate and stake mines that may make them wealthy. A thousand dollars will finance two young men for a season's prospecting trip through Northern Canada. Nine-tenths of Canada is a rocky, mineral-bearing area that has hardly been scratched yet, and where hundreds of rich mines are waiting discovery by trained prospectors who know what to look for and where to go.

Wesley Gordon comes from Halleybury, where he had years of first-hand practical experience in the Cobalt mining camp, and has followed closely the development of the newer gold discoveries of the Porcupine, Kirkland Lake, and north-western Quebec. He is held in high esteem by the mining fraternity, and as a lawyer handled their most difficult mining legal work, making a name for himself that later led to his being called to Ottawa to take charge as Minister of Mines for Canada. There is no doubt that he had

same time there is the case of Edward O'Hara recently arrested in London, Ont., on charges of passing fraudulent cheques. This man told the police quite boastfully that he expected the authorities in a dozen cities and towns in the province to seek his return to their communities to stand trial for passing bogus cheques. He had served a term for issuing fraudulent cheques but had his term shortened because of the generosity of the parole authorities. "Generosity" is the idea he imputed to the parole people, but the general public can scarcely give it as favourable a name. O'Hara apparently prides himself on his latest methods for defrauding merchants. He posed as a farmer and had a rather unusual method of approach and procedure. He claims that in one Western Ontario town he made \$85.00 by cheque frauds in one day. The moral of the matter, according to this man, is summed up in his own words to the police:—"The man who will cash a cheque for a stranger deserves what he gets."

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The Blairmore, Alberta, Enterprise is very wrathful because there is an epidemic of dog poisoning at present in Blairmore. The Enterprise would not feel so badly in the matter if it were assured on good authority that the poison was put out to kill off the reds.

The Timmins police have made a splendid job of cleaning up the blindpigs, disorderly houses and other undesirable places. They have prevented further burglaries and petty thefts. They have made an excellent start on making the streets safe for traffic. It might be a good idea to start in on some of the cheap gambling joints where too many young and foolish men are regularly deprived of a great part of their earnings, often by methods not at all scrupulous.

It's ONTARIO WEEK

at A&P

Once again A&P sponsors a province-wide move to help Ontario industry. With the tremendous facilities at our disposal, A&P Food stores are particularly well fitted to take the lead in a gigantic effort of this kind. Manufacturers, whose merchandise you will find listed below, are co-operating fully. More purchasing from the farmer and more and better values to you, the consumer, is the result of this co-operation. Build up your pantry stock on these foods this week. Remember: every dollar spent in buying "Produced in Ontario" goods plays its part in keeping a factory worker at his place and giving the farmer more cash for his crops.

DOMESTIC OR EASIFIRST Shortening lb. 12c	MONARCH PASTRY FLOUR 24 lb. bag 80c
Navy Toilet Paper 3 rolls 20c	Peanut Butter 25-oz. jar 24c
Sweet Gherkins 15-oz. jar 25c	Peas, 2's 2 tins 21c
Tomato Juice 5 10 1/2-oz. tins 25c	Bee Hive Corn Syrup 2's tin 17c 5's tin 39c
Palmolive Soap, 3 cakes 14c	Quaker Cornflakes, 3 pkgs. 23c
Princess Soap Flakes, per pkg. 15c	Christies Fig Rolls, 2 lbs. 27c
P. E. I. Potatoes per bag \$1.05	Christies No. 49 Butter Wafers 6 oz., 2 pkgs. 27c
Dutch Set Onions 2 lbs. 23c	Pari Sani Rolls Wax Paper, 2 rolls 23c
Junket Powder, Asst. Flavours 2 pkgs. 21c	Welch's Grape Juice, med. bot. 24c

Fresh Pineapples for Preserving for the Week-end Attractive Price

Week-End Meat and Fish Specials

Thursday and Saturday, May 23rd and 25th

Peamealed Cottage Rolls by the piece lb. 20c	Sliced Breakfast Bacon half lb. pkgs. 14c
Fresh Pork Tenderloins lb. 28c	Peamealed Back Bacon piece sliced, lb. 28c
Loin Pork Roast lb. 25c	Chuck Roast lb. 13c
Shoulder Roast lb. 13c	DRUMSTICKS each 5c
Fresh Caught Georgian Bay Trout lb. 17c	
Fresh Caught Mackerel lb. 15c	

THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC CO. LIMITED OF CANADA

The newspapers of the North have not been saying much about the radio situation in the last few weeks, but the fact still remains that the North needs a government radio relay station and will not be content with less. There is very decided objection to accepting the present inadequate service and still greater objection to the government permitting private monopoly to be fastened on the North in the matter of radio. In return for the radio fees paid the North expects and requires a government radio relay station so that radio programmes may be heard in the North as they are available to the people of the South who pay no more for radio licenses but receive much more in the way of service.

The Toronto Mail and Empire refers to the late Senator John Lewis, formerly editorial writer for The Globe, as a "kindly, gentle soul." The description is a true one. Yet the character thus suggested is certainly far from the popular conception of a newspaperman.

Well, the weather these days in the North is something to talk about, anyway!

A more or less prominent citizen was heard the other day making the startling suggestion that the town would lose \$35,000 through the alleged frauds in connection with the relief work pay-rolls. Finally pressed into a corner as to where and how he secured his information—no statement being made by auditors, solicitors, council or other proper authorities—the citizen admitted he had no real information, but that one man had told him the loss might be \$17,000, or it might be \$18,000, and so he added the two amounts to be on the safe side. So it goes!

Hon. Mr. Heppburn can not be feeling very well! He hasn't made a bad break for over a week.

lic statesmen of Canada, and has raised him to a position where he is being mentioned as the dark horse for the leadership of the Conservative party, if Premier Bennett is forced to retire through ill health.

Wesley Gordon is one of the strong men of the Conservative administration, and as he is a young man his reputation will continue to grow.

Fined \$25 and Costs for Having Revolver

Timmins Young Man Arrested in Toronto for Carrying Weapon in Car.

John P. Boissonault of Timmins, who was arrested last week in Toronto for carrying a revolver in his car that was not properly registered or licensed and who was fined \$25 and costs for 30 days in jail. The conviction was registered last week before Magistrate Browne in No. 1 Men's Police Court but the case was laid over for a week pending psychiatric examination. The magistrate ordered the weapon confiscated. Boissonault admitted having shot at highway signs along the road from Windsor to Toronto and when arrested by Toronto police, the revolver had been found under the front seat of his car. He carried a number of bullets in his pocket.

Candide (Paris):—The Treaty Versailles was executed in Sir John Simon's presence—on the block, Hitler. The executioner is well, has a sore throat.