

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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SOLOMON "ON THE SPOT"

These are desperate days for sympathetic people. There are so many calls on the pity and kindness that the wells of sympathetic feeling are liable to be drained dry. At every corner the average man is met with the plea, "Brother, can you give me a dime."—presumably for a cup of coffee,—though oftentimes the heart is further wrung with the thought that it is for a little wife and a large family. As a matter of hard fact the actual need for the dime may be in regard to a glass of beer. In calls for sympathy the ladies have an even more touching time. One house in Timmins during the past week fed no less than four men, actually "starving," though before the meal "starvation" apparently had not injured their robust health or appeared to affect them in any way except that of cleanliness. It may sound heartless to say so, but each of the four men looked more in need of soap than soup. Then look at Canada's single woman member of parliament! She is a regular mark for those searching for sympathy. Unless something is done to keep the confidence men away from Miss Macphail, the poor lady will not have enough free sympathy left to feel sorry for herself. And then other people will have to waste their good sympathy feeling sorry for Miss Aggie.

Perhaps it is a mean thing to do but The Advance is going to suggest that Miss Macphail drop her list of convicted criminals, and give a little of her large fund of sympathy to poor old Solomon, who is being deprived by so-called modern methods of what he no doubt valued more than his freedom. Solomon was too wise to believe that any man could be free in this world. But he would be less than human if he did not pride himself on his well-known reputation for wisdom. But consider, Miss Macphail, just for a moment, what modern methods are doing to the reputation that it took Solomon thousands of years to acquire!

In the popular estimation the real proof of Solomon's surpassing wisdom was summed up in that story of the two women who persistently claimed the maternity of the one child. "That child is mine!" said the one woman. "The child is mine!" said the other. Without any other proof than the woman and the child, Solomon had to decide the "ownership" of the baby. He suggested that the child be cut in two, and each claimant could have a half. This suited the one woman, but the other woman shrieked "No! No! Let her have the child!" "There speaks the true mother!" said Solomon, and he awarded the child to the lady who objected to any chopping up of the baby. Solomon was right enough in his day, but his wisdom would not work in these modern days, for what with the radio, the automobile, daylight saving and high-pressure salesmanship, conditions are not the same as in the days of Solomon. Mothers who have heard the story of Solomon and the two women and the one baby, as told by Walter Winchell could puzzle even Solomon with their accounts of what occurred. Down in Montreal the other day a magistrate tried the Solomon scheme when two coloured ladies brought disputed maternity of a bouncing pickaninny before him for decision. "Dat's my chile, I swear it!" said the one woman. "Dat's a lie! It's my own chile!" says the other. "I'll have the baby cut in two and you can each take half," the magistrate proposes with a solemn face like he understood Solomon wore on such occasions. "No! No! you mustn't hurt da pore lil' baby!" the two women scream in chorus. "You can just keep the chile yourself, judge."

At that, it was the coloured ladies who had the right idea—the far-sighted vision. A good home for the child was the thing to be most desired. Certainly, the judge could give the lil' chile a better home than either of the mammies could hope to offer.

After all the wasted sympathy, the world goes on its way. Perhaps, it even progresses a little. The children have a better chance to-day than they ever had. So do the mothers. Two hundred years ago Miss Macphail would likely have had her ears cropped. Now she doesn't need even to bob her hair unless she wants to do so. But the times are hard on judges. And even Miss Macphail should be sorry for Hon. Mr. Bennett and Hon. Mr. Guthrie and others in authority who have to make decisions and take action and listen to an everlasting lot of criticism and abuse and foundationless appeals for sympathy.

LESSONS IN THE FIRES

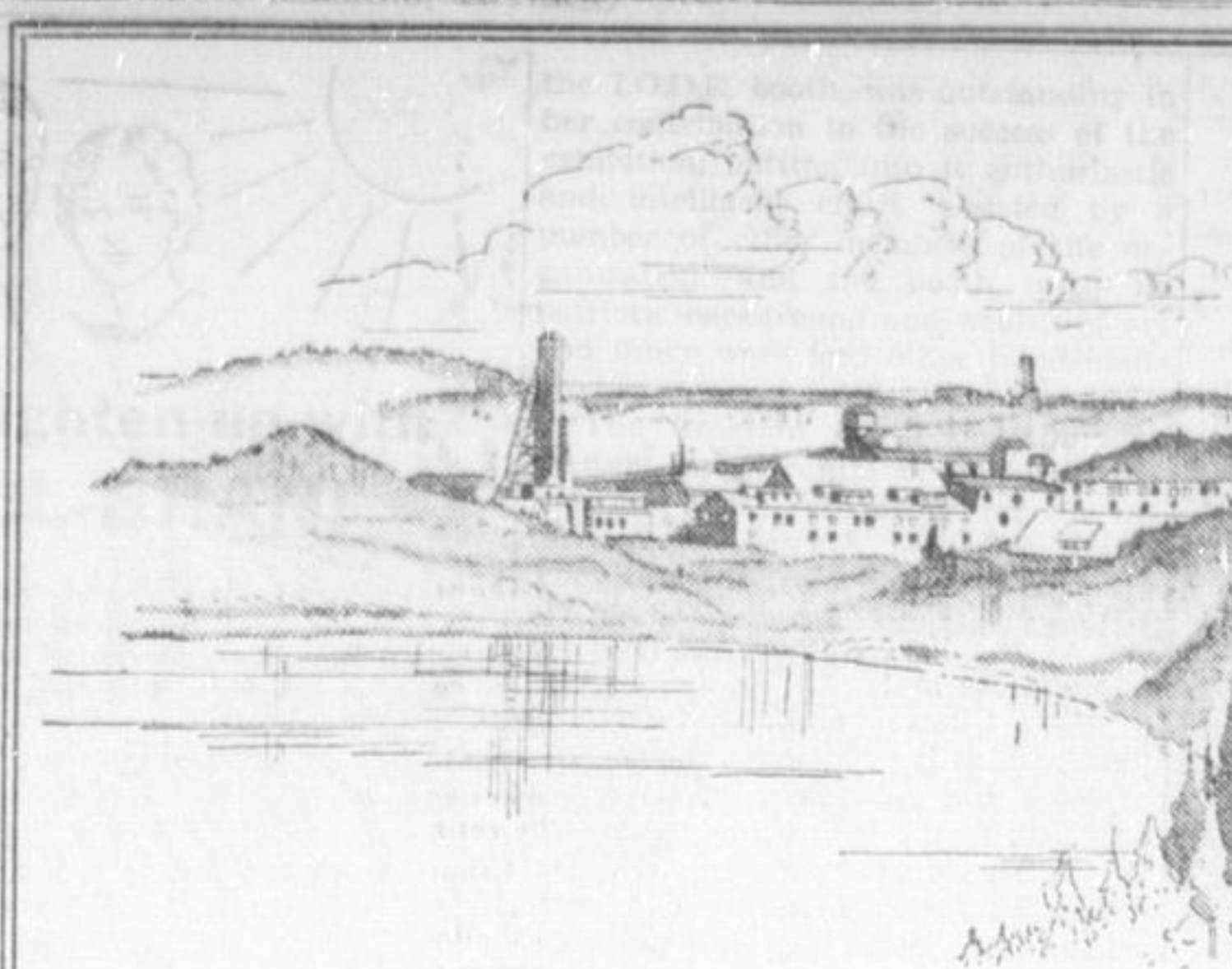
According to the daily newspapers bush fires are raging all over the North. Black palls of smoke hang over the little communities of the North. Communities are cut off from all communications. Just how word of all the details comes out over the wires when all wires are down and all communications are cut may be difficult to understand, but the fires devour and panic

reigns—this the people of the North know because they read all about it in the daily newspapers. To many it is a matter of humour, though there is no joke about a bush fire. The trouble, however, is that there are many who have such faith in the printed word that they believe that though the paper is wrong about their own particular section it is true about some other place, and so there is worry and anxiety about friends or acquaintances who may be in danger elsewhere. There is also the fact that past experience has shown that every sensational story about fires in the North has caused serious alarm to friends in other parts of the country who read about the dangers in the North from the bush fire menace. As usual, the truth is that the danger at present in the North from bush fires has been overestimated by the daily newspapers. While it is regrettable that there should be any loss of property and doubly regrettable that human life should be endangered, the stories given out by the daily newspapers have been more or less gross misrepresentation of the facts.

It is a pity that each recurring year should see the daily newspapers wringing the hearts of kindly people by their bush fire stories. The exaggerated stories could be forgiven, however, if the newspapers would make them serve a useful purpose. The daily newspapers, if they really credit the stories they publish of the menace of the bush fires in the North, should surely not be content simply to pray for rain or snow or a change of wind, desirable as any of these things may be. Why not pray for a change of policy that would make the bush fire menace a thing of the past? Why not use the lurid stories of fleeing settlers, the fury of the raging fire, and all the rest of the sensational newspaper language, to point the moral that something should be done about it. There need be no criticism of the government for sending hundreds of unskilled labourers to battle now with the bush fires that have gained headway. The criticism should be for the lack of sending skilled men months ago to see to it that bush fires did not gain headway. Hon. Mr. Hepburn had a lot of cheap political talk about the uselessness of the speed boat kept at Temagami. That same scorned boat last year and in other years was responsible for scores of incipient fires being checked before they were material for sensational yarns. Numbers of fire rangers discharged for purely political reasons would have been the means of avoiding numbers of bush fires that have achieved dangerous proportions. The time to fight bush fires is before there are any. While the actions and lack of action of the present government may be open to special censure in this matter, other governments can not escape responsibility for bush fire danger. It is true, indeed, that bush fires do not pay any attention to the political affiliations of the people or the property along the line of march. Governments more concerned about politics than human life and the safety of the resources of the country have much to answer for. The present government upset the system built up by the previous administration to fight bush fires and to protect against this menace to the forest. It is not so much the fact that they did this that counts against them, as the truth that before they smashed the one machine they did not build another and a better one to take the place of the discarded one. For years The Advance has been urging the need for an all-year-round fire-ranger service. It would be good business to have a comparatively large staff steadily at work the year round, with men with some knowledge of the work also available for emergency call. Every year there has been time wasted in getting a new group of fire-rangers ready for the season's work. In this wasted time lies one of the biggest dangers to the north. Fire-rangers in full year's employ would be better men in every way. Full time employment would attract better men and they would be better trained, more experienced and more skilled. In the winter months they would have no fires to fight, but there would be dangerous slash to look after and scores of other measures that would mean prevention of forest fires. As the daily papers say, forest fires sweep all before them once they get well under way. There is little then that may be done. Prevention is the big need. Let the daily newspapers exaggerate the forest fire menace, if they will, but let them also point the lessons of such fires, and emphasize the need for honest, human, non-political effort to save life and property by adopting wider and better measures to prevent the annual danger to life and property in the North.

GOVERNMENT STATION NEEDED

There are reports that radio inspectors are shortly to visit the North and that those who have radios without also having radio licenses will be prosecuted. There are a great many radio owners in the North who will pay license fees only when they are forced to do so. The Advance is not defending this class of people. If there is a license fee it would seem that either all should pay the fee, or the fee should be repealed. At the same time there is excuse for those who take the attitude that they are being so unfairly dealt with that the only protest they can make is to refuse to pay the radio license fee. Any attempt to collect radio fees in the North will be the most effective election material—for the Liberal party. If the Government at Ottawa is interested it would do well to note the fact that few things have created so much ill-will to the government as the radio question. People in this country have had to pay the same fees as those in Southern Ontario and have



Pioneering with the Northern Miners

IN THE AUTUMN OF 1903 when a blacksmith named Fred La Rose threw his hammer at an inquisitive fox—he founded Cobalt. Since that day more than \$750,000,000 in gold and silver have been taken out of the rocks of Northern Ontario.

Following Cobalt and the silver discoveries came Porcupine and gold mining. Prospecting became active throughout the Northern wilderness. Mining camps sprang up with startling suddenness, often beyond established routes of transportation. As a result of the work and

enterprise of the pioneers have come such famous mines as La Rose, Nipissing, Lake Shore . . . Hollinger, Dome, McIntyre and Noranda.

As these camps came into activity, branches of the Imperial Bank of Canada were opened to assist the development of the New North.

Since the inception of Cobalt this Bank has pioneered with the pioneers. Imperial Bank branches are now open at Jellicoe, the railway point at the new Sturgeon River region, and at Ramore on the T. and N. O. Railway.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

HEAD OFFICE: TORONTO BRANCHES THROUGHOUT CANADA



NORTH BAY OFFICE.
Branch opened
1902.

IMPERIAL BANK BRANCHES IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

Cobalt
Cochrane
Englehart
Fort William
Hearst
Jellicoe
Kapuskasing
Kenora
Kirkland Lake
Matheson
New Liskeard
Noranda (P. Q.)
North Bay
Port Arthur
Ramore
Red Lake
Sault Ste. Marie
Gore and Queen Streets
Sioux Lookout
South Porcupine
Sudbury
Thessalon
Timmins

Mining Convention Down in Nova Scotia

Event This Month of General Interest to All Interested in Mining or the Maritimes.

The prosperity of the Maritime provinces in general, and of Nova Scotia in particular, depends very largely upon their production of minerals. If the Nova Scotia collieries and gypsum quarries ceased to operate the provincial government would be in a parlous state for its principal source of revenue is the royalty on minerals. Similarly the mining areas and the industries dependent upon them provide the province's best market for farm products. In New Brunswick the importance of mining is relatively less, but still it yields many millions of dollars annually. Prince Edward Island, where no rock larger than gravel is found, let alone mines, likewise benefits materially from the markets created by mines on the mainland.

The mining men of the maritimes will meet in annual convention at Pictou Lodge on June 26-27. The Mining Society of Nova Scotia is the oldest organization of its kind in Canada, and is affiliated with the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. The annual meeting of the society is always a notable event. Until recently its attention has been devoted mainly to coal, which is by far the most important mineral of the Maritimes. This year the programme will cover a number of other minerals, including gold, gypsum, and manganese.

received less than nothing in return. In the South the Canadian Radio Commission programmes are available without selling out the radio rights of the people to private monopoly. In the North the radio owner feels that any money he pays for radio license fees is just so much money that has been filched from him on what amounts to false pretences. The North was promised a government radio relay station, but instead there seems to be a disposition to foist private radio control on the country. The Government at Ottawa has apparently been high-pressured into a foolish attitude in the matter. It may be that some are able to deceive the government, the government may be able to deceive itself, but both will find that the radio owners of the North can not be easily high-pressured. Apparently the government is waiting to have this declared by ballots. The government at Ottawa will find that the North needs a government radio relay station giving radio owners real access to radio here and that any makeshifts for private profit will only be considered as adding insult to injury.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Toronto used to be noted for its beautiful girls. A group picture of the prize winning nurses at the Western hospital published this week in Toronto newspapers would suggest that Toronto still has some fine-appearing young ladies. Reading the names and addresses under the picture, however,

gathered of Maritime mining men, as well as visitors from what the maritimers are prone to call "Upper Canada" and the west.

LEFT HOSPITAL WITHOUT NOTIFYING AUTHORITIES

The Rouyn-Noranda Press says:—"A man from Duparquet who, after a couple of weeks of heavy drinking last week either fell out of a window or threw himself from his room to the street below was brought to Youville hospital here for treatment, although

he suffered only minor injuries, and after being a couple of days in the hospital managed to secure his clothes and make a getaway from the institution without the formality of informing the staff."

Miss Usta Knife

Had blood-poisoning. Now she uses both Cress Corn and Bunion Salves. Sold at Moisey & Ball.

A Trip Through Ontario Gardens

Illustrated address to be given by John F. Clark, Lecturer in Horticulture for Ontario Dept. of Agriculture.

Wednesday, June 12

Commencing at 8 p.m.

In St. Anthony's Parish Hall, Timmins

Auspices of the Timmins Horticultural Society

Admission free.

All welcome.

All interested in lawns, gardens, flowers, or the beautifying of the town cordially welcome.

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dispels this illusion. The two best-looking girls in the group are from the North,—one from Kirkland Lake and the other from Haileybury.

A certain or uncertain Toronto newspaper says that Gordon Sinclair is nearing the Quette earthquake zone. Even a bloodthirsty earthquake scarcely deserves that.

A week or so ago The Advance suggested that a petition should be submitted to the town council that in the general interests the street between the post office and hospital and the Central public school, as well as part of Fifth avenue near the hospital and churches should be paved. Again last Monday The Advance repeated that suggestion. It is pleasing to know that the petition has already been presented to town authorities. The petition will have general support among the people of the town and it is to be hoped that the council will endorse it and expedite its granting.

"Adopt-a-Baby Week" was a great success in Ontario last week. Indeed, the demand exceeded the supply. All the babies that were wards of the Children's Aid Society and were in need of homes, were duly applied for by good people ready to adopt them. Even the Quintuplets, wards of the state, were sought for adoption. A couple by the name of Dionne offered to take the five children. "We would treat them just as if they were our own," the good couple said in effect.

ANOTHER MERCY FLIGHT FOR NORTHERN AIRSHIP

Last week the Dominion Skyways at Rouyn received a hurry call to the Perron Gold Mines, a mine employee named Gordon McLean being injured, and it being desired to get him to hospital at once. It seems that McLean had his hand caught in the belting while working around one of the machines. In trying to get his hand free he put one of his feet into one of the gears. Through the use of the airplane the injured man was soon brought to the Youville hospital and it was found that his injuries were not nearly so serious as at first feared. The fact that he was placed in the hospital so soon after the accident, however, was of the greatest value in saving serious consequences from the injuries. This case is another sample of the value of the airship for what are now generally known as "mercy flights." It is safe to say that the airships at Rouyn have been responsible for saving hundreds of lives. The same is true of the airships at South Porcupine. In the case of the man hurt at the Perron Mines it was found at the hospital that with hospital care he will suffer little and his injuries will not be permanent. The hand was practically uninjured and the harm to the foot much less serious than feared at first.

Nashville Tennessee:—Premier Flaudin declares the French are a nation of political realists. We'd somehow got the impression they were a nation of Cabinet-makers.