

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO.

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WORK TOGETHER

There will be general approval by all thoughtful citizens of the resolution moved by Councillor Wren, seconded by Councillor DesRoches and passed unanimously at the first meeting of the 1937 council inviting the Townships of Tisdale and Teck and all the other municipalities in the North to attend a conference where the special problems of the North will be discussed and considered and organization made not only to protest against injustice to the North, but also to take such steps as will make it plain that the North does not intend meekly to suffer unfairness and what amounts to robbery. The resolution was the result of the latest imposition proposed by the Ontario government—the filching of the revenue formerly gathered by the municipalities through income tax assessment, a revenue deliberately taken over by the province on the direct promise that the municipalities would not lose through the transfer. To those who may argue that no attention should have been paid to any governmental promise, there are two answers. The first answer is that governments in the past have implemented their direct promises. Repudiation is a weed of recent growth. The second answer is that the plan seemed practical, as government collection of income tax promised much larger returns than seemed likely under the haphazard methods of municipal collection. Some municipalities paid little attention to income tax collection. Municipalities in the North had to give this source of revenue every care and consideration because the needs for expenditures in new towns and a new country made revenue imperative. With the province collecting all income tax (through the Dominion Government Income Tax Dept.) and paying the alert municipalities an equivalent for the amount they would have secured from this source, there would be a nice balance for the province to retain from the sums secured from the income taxes in the municipalities that had not made full use of this source of revenue. The government would have additional revenue under such a plan fairly administered, while the well-conducted municipalities need not lose if the government did not repudiate its direct promise. The announcement by the Ontario government that the direct promise was to be broken very properly led to action by the new council here. Under the revised procedure Timmins will lose \$11,000 a year in revenue. That means that the ratepayers will have to pay that much more. The loss in Tisdale township, Teck township, and other parts of the North will no doubt be equally heavy. Is there any justice in such a breach of agreement? Is it not fitting that the first action of the new council should be to make protest, and also to make plans to make that protest effective?

The people of the North are fast coming to the conclusion that they are being treated in most unfair fashion. The North has contributed more than any other part of Ontario to carrying the province through the depression. It seems reasonable that this would entitle this area to some semblance of fair play. Instead there seems to be the rankest of discrimination. At times it seems as if the government never thinks of the North, except to take something away from this country. There has been enough interference with municipal rights of self government to make protest excusable. The latest filching of revenue appears to be the limit. In refusing to take it meekly and mildly, the mayor and council are reflecting the common opinion of all who value the North enough to think about it.

The suggestion in the resolution in regard to considering the advisability of Northern Ontario seceding from the South is a timely one. There is considerable opposition in the North to the idea of secession. It is just as well to admit that. But at the same time there is a growing feeling that there must be some recourse from shameful and shabby treatment. If no other remedy is possible, then no one need fool himself into the belief that the North will not secede. It will be conceded that there are difficulties in the way of secession. But a country that can develop a land like the North despite all the handicaps imposed—many of these unnecessary—may be depended upon to sweep away any little difficulties that may arise. Toronto has been talking secession for the same reason that has stirred Timmins. Under the latest repudiation plan of the government the city of Toronto will be robbed of more than \$800,000 per year. One of the Toronto aldermen proposes a plan of secession to relieve Toronto of the injustice and discrimination shown it by the present government of the province. This plan, in a word, is that Toronto secure a charter from the Dominion to operate as a separated city, something after the manner of some Old Land cities. It may be that similar charters might be secured for the North. In any event it may be taken for a fact that some plan will be possible and will be carried through unless some disposition is shown by the powers-that-be at Toronto to play the game fairly. It should be remembered that it is not only a matter of this latest \$10,000 or \$11,000 a year filched from Timmins and other amounts in proportion from other

centres in the North. These things are but the culmination of a record of neglect, interference, discrimination, imposition and lack of consideration.

It would be a mistake for the Ontario government to ignore this matter, or to treat it lightly. A still greater mistake would be to suggest that nothing can be done about it—that the suggestion about secession is only an idle threat. There is certainly this much to it: that the North has stood about as much as it intends to take. And something is coming. That something will be secession, if secession is the only way out. It is idle to talk about "all the people of the rest of Ontario" being opposed to secession. Surely "all the people of the rest of Ontario" are in favour of a fair deal for the North! The charitable opinion is to believe that "all the rest of the people of Ontario" do not realize the discrimination and injustice meted out to the North in recent times. If all the municipalities of the North confer and organize, as the Timmins council resolution suggests, and with the support of the boards of trade, Northern Ontario Associated Boards of Trade, and other bodies, present their case, The Advance believes that "all the people of the rest of Ontario" will be ready to join the North in protest against unfairness and neglect. It is not so long ago that this was proven to be the fact. It is well to remember that the North is not helpless in the matter. There is one powerful weapon that the North still holds. That weapon is the weapon of boycott. If the imposition on the North is proven to be deliberate and studied, that weapon will undoubtedly be used. The North would regret the necessity, but needs must when the devil drives. It would mean only a little inconvenience and sentimental loss to the North. It would mean a ruinous loss for the South. The temper of the people of the North, however, is such that it only needs leadership and direction to be operative overnight. Salesmen from Manitoba, Quebec and the Maritimes are already profiting in some measure from the feeling that has grown to larger measures than some people realize. It is very decidedly a question for the South to settle. On its face it looks like injustice, but the North has had about enough of injustice to make it popular to meet discrimination with discrimination. With municipalities organized as planned by the resolution, secession or anything else could be forced by the use of the boycott. It is about time that the South woke up to the fact that it is dangerous indeed to continue any policy of bully and bleeding.

LESSONS IN TRAGEDY

Hysterical newspapers dubbed the cruel murder of the little son of Captain and Mrs. Lindbergh as "the crime of the century." It was no more the "crime of the century" than was the more recent murder of the young son of Dr. and Mrs. Mattson of Tacoma, Washington. After the child had been kidnapped and negotiations opened for the paying of a ransom, the little boy's nude and battered body was found this week frozen stiff in the bushlands some 50 miles from the lad's home. This later kidnapping and murder has not received a fraction of the publicity given the Lindbergh case. The parents were not as well known or as prominent as the Lindberghs. But the crime was equally vicious and brutal, and the parents and friends have suffered as grievously as anyone could. The later crime is equal to the Lindbergh kidnapping in its heart-breaking appeal. Most people feel discouraged to think there could be "another Lindbergh case." It is saddening indeed. But there is no value in simple depression. The one thing to bear in mind is the lesson plain to be read—that the only protection against the possibility of such tragedies is a strong and determined stand by all the public against the criminal and the brutal. There must be intolerance shown for all forms of organized crime. There can be no sympathy for the brutal law-breaker; all sympathy surely is needed for the victims of such tragedies of crime as this case of the Mattson child. The honest officers of the law must be given the fullest support and co-operation. All forms of organized crime must be held in public scorn. The public must show itself completely and wholeheartedly on the side of law and decency and good citizenship. Every decent police officer must be given the sympathy, the goodwill, the assistance, the co-operation of the public in general. With police and public working in earnestness together the criminal will be robbed of his advantage. There is no other way in which any measure of safety can be achieved.

There are some who believe the Mattson crime to be the work of a maniac. Most serious crimes are. But these forms of mania develop usually from the partial success of lesser forms of crime. All will most earnestly hope that the perpetrator of this latest crime of horror will be brought to sternest justice. Most people feel that any punishment will be adequate. There is excuse for those who feel that torture should be restored for such cases. Death seems the mildest retribution for this despicable murder. The whole people of the United States will need to give their fullest co-operation and support to assure the capture of the cunning devil responsible. With all working towards this end the fiend should be located. That is the only attitude that will assure due trial and punishment. The adoption of such an attitude is the only way in which the perpetration of similar crimes can be avoided in the future.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

At the first meeting this year of the Orillia town council one of the aldermen suggested that slot



"My accountant

was making the most simple mistakes. It was so annoying I threatened to discharge him. Toward the end of the week he came in wearing glasses. He explained to me that he hadn't been able to see distinctly but that Mr. Curtis had prescribed new glasses and assured him that he would not be troubled further."

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Labrador Mining Survey Conducted on Big Scale

The Labrador Mining and Exploration Co. Ltd., which has been conducting geologic exploration on its concession of mineral lands in Labrador throughout the past year, has indicated through its Managing Director, A. H. McKay, that the company geologists have completed their correlation of data obtained by the field parties last summer, and will shortly issue a summary of the results of the past season's work.

The company holds a concession of approximately 25,000 square miles on the Hamilton River. The territory is bounded on the west by the Quebec boundary line. Eight geologists worked in this area throughout the summer under Dr. J. A. Retty, late of the Dominion Geologic Survey. The work has been managed by the McKay Exploration Company, which company holds a block of stock in Labrador Mining and Exploration Company for this service. The geologic work is also under the guidance of Dr. A. K. Snelgrove of Princeton University, head of the Department of Geology and Mines for Newfoundland.

It is believed that this survey is conducted on a larger scale than has ever been attempted in North America or elsewhere. The main radio station, machine shop, flying base, warehouse, etc., have been installed at Northwest River on the Labrador coast. The field parties are serviced by Newfoundland Airways Ltd., which company is managed by Dominion Airways Ltd., under the guidance of H. deM. Molson. The company is well satisfied with the performance of the Bellanca aeroplanes and equipment under the very severe conditions encountered during the summer.

All geologic parties are supplied with the most up-to-date equipment such as portable radios for daily communication with Northwest River, and range finders for rapid surveying and map making. The main radio broadcasting station, VOWM, is operated throughout the winter to supply weather data for the Dominion and Newfoundland Governments.

The summer's work indicates that a series of rocks exists in this area of an

machines be installed at the town hall so that the town might profit by what the people lose in these machines. Such a plan might mean a considerable source of revenue to the town. But what's the use? If the plan proved profitable the province would simply step in and filch the revenue.

In his Fourth Column in The Globe and Mail, J. V. McAree has an article on clearing up, or cleaning up, or both, the top of his desk. The amalgamation of The Globe and The Mail and Empire has much for which to answer. How could a newspaper writer work on a cleared-up or cleaned-up, or both, desk? Speaking from experience, The Advance would say that the chief difficulty about a cleaned-up, or cleared-up, or both, desk, is that it is impossible to find anything on it.

Newspapers this week have been giving prominence to the marriage of a gentleman 85 years of age at Penetang, Ont., to a lady of 82 summers. The happy couple haven't a single alibi between them if all does not go smoothly, for they have both been married before, and they have known each other for some 50 years. Sometimes youthful marriages turn out well. Sometimes it is better to see the couple wait until the age of discretion. That age may be over 80 for all experience teaches. In the District of Cochrane some years ago there were marriages of neighbours over 70 years of age, and they turned out happy and profitable. Not only did the couples in question get along pleasantly together, but they lived a lot better by combining resources. In the cases referred to both the gentleman and the lady found it difficult to live alone very comfortably on the \$20 a month old age pension, but when the two old age pensions were

age similar to that in which the gold and mineral deposits have been discovered in Ontario and Quebec. Mineral occurrences have been observed by the company geologists, but no work has yet been done on these deposits. The fact that mineralization has been found in these suitable geologic series causes much optimism for the future discovery of economic ore bodies. When a sufficient area has been covered by the geologists, prospectors will be placed in the most favourable areas.

The company's aeroplanes are now in St. John's, Newfoundland. Preparations have been completed, and supplies distributed in the interior, for the resumption of explorations in the spring.

Showing That Modern Big Business Has a Heart!

(An editorial in The Ottawa Journal on Tuesday).

When Mr. I. W. Killam of Montreal sold the Toronto Mail and Empire to the Globe it was announced that all employees of the Mail and Empire would be given four weeks' pay. For those of the editorial, advertising, business and circulation departments of the Mail and Empire who still are unemployed Mr. Killam now has made additional provision out of his own pocket. They are given a minimum of a week's pay for each year of service with the paper, while life pensions are provided by Mr. Killam for several employees with outstanding service "who because of age or other factors are threatened with inability to find new employment."

If "big business" were the hard-hearted structure many of its critics profess to believe it Mr. Killam would have done nothing of the sort. He might have said—and he would have had plenty of precedent from other times—that these men and women had been paid a fair wage for their services, that he as their employer had no responsibility for their future. But unquestionably we have come to a new and better understanding of our obligations to one another, and among wealthy corporations and wealthy individuals the special obligations imposed upon them in the name of humanity are more and more freely recognized. Instances of the sort are so common that they do not need repetition.

It is no more than truth to say that today "big business"—with some exceptions, of course—has an outlook far broader than its treasury. If there are no profits obviously there can be no philanthropy, but profits in themselves are not the sole aim of industry.

Prisoner at North Bay Attacks Deputy Chief

Gard Shanks, of the Bonfield district, held at North Bay for examination as to his mental condition, went wild on Sunday and before he was subdued he had inflicted a five-inch scalp wound on Deputy Chief J. J. Denis. It was noticed that he had gotten hold of a file and Deputy Chief Denis, Governor E. J. Turner and Constable T. Green entered the cell to take the weapon away from him. Shanks showed fight, slashing at them with the file, and in the melee the deputy chief was injured. The three men were unable to subdue the prisoner, but they had to content with getting out of the cell without further injury. This they managed to do, but Shanks retained the file. It is thought that he had the weapon concealed in his clothing when he was arrested. He was searched for weapons when arrested, but did not appear to have anything in the nature of a weapon of any kind.

J. J. GIBBONS NEW PRESIDENT TORONTO BOARD OF TRADE

J. J. Gibbons, prominent Toronto advertising man, was elected last week by acclamation as president of the Toronto board of trade.

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North Cochrane Member Seconding the Address

An editorial note last week in The Northern Tribune, of Kapuskasing, says:—

"The provincial member for North Cochrane, Mr. J. A. Habel, of Fauquier, will have the honour of seconding the address in reply to the speech from the throne when the Ontario Legislature meets on January 19th. Not only does this selection do honour to this district; it provides Mr. Habel with a telling opportunity to describe the North to the people of the south and mention some of the things that we need from Queen's Park. If some of them have been spoken of previously, they will all bear forceful repetition, judging by the prevalent belief that our rightful demands have been grossly neglected in the recent past. We trust that Mr. Habel will not submit too tamely to censorship of the speech that he prepares, but that he will insist upon making a speech that bears internal evidence of originality and purposefulness. We want action, and we expect Mr. Habel to demand action. When

Mr. A. V. Waters was member for this riding he on one occasion had this same honour, and he made a creditable speech, one that was not wholly pleasing to his chiefs. More of the same independent assertiveness would well serve us when Mr. Habel rises in his place. It is his big opportunity."

Sixty-five Thousand Pounds of Turkey from Manitoulin

The Manitoulin Turkey Growers' Co-operative Association has completed returns of the past season and it is estimated that approximately 65,000 pounds of turkeys were shipped, which netted the turkey growers of the island well over \$13,000. The prices were about five cents lower than last year when the best returns for many years were secured.

North Bay Nugget:—Says the Windsor Daily Star:—"One of London's great daily newspapers insures all its subscribers against having twins. Think what would have happened to The North Bay Nugget? . . . Well, what would have happened?"

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Paid Mill Wages from his Own Funds, Says Bowman

Beniah Bowman, Minister of Lands and Forests in the former Drury Government, testified in Osgoode Hall at Toronto on Friday that he had taken \$10,000 of his own money to pay wages when riots had broken out at the plant of the now-defunct Blind River Pine Company. The evidence, heard before the Assistant Master, O. E. Lennox, formed part of the investigation into the affairs of the defunct company of which the former Queen's Park Cabinet Minister had been President. The order to have Mr. Bowman examined was made by F. C. Clarkson, liquidator of the company. The winding up of the Blind River Pine Company and appointment of a liquidator was made last August, and, in October, an order of the Assistant Master authorized purchase of property and assets of the defunct company by J. J. McFadden Ltd. The consideration was \$200,000 in cash and assumption of a \$100,000 mortgage. Mr. Clarkson, in a statement previously filed at Osgoode Hall, stated that the old company had owed \$33,500 to the Department of Lands and Forests for timber dues. The company however, had deposited with the department \$250,000 as a guarantee for carrying out terms of timber limit concessions obtained from the Government. The liquidator placed liabilities of the company at \$278,000, assets at \$1,500,000, with \$1,224,054, as the normal surplus for shareholders.

At the Firemen's annual banquet on Monday evening there were many deserved references to the excellent work of the Timmins Fire Department during the past year. Chief Borland made special reference to the harmony in the department during the year and to this and to the co-operation of the council, and especially of the chairman of the fire and light committee, ascribed the credit for the successful work accomplished. Councillor P. H. Laporte was chairman of the fire and light committee last year and he worthily filled a place ably occupied by other councillors in previous years. Councillor Laporte's services were much more valuable than may appear on the surface. At the beginning of the year it seemed as if he might have difficulties, but his diplomacy, his interest and his ability won the confidence of all and everything went so smoothly that it looked as if he had little to do. The new chairman of the committee, Councillor Wren, promises by all appearances to follow the plan of his predecessors, and by support of the earnest work of the brigade assure the town the continued protection from fire danger that has been a notable feature of Timmins for many years. The chief's urgent request for further equipment and men should have the support of all the council, and it appears that this will likely be the case. Councillor DesRoches placed the situation in effective way in his brief address at the banquet, and other councillors showed active support. With the growth of the town there is necessity for the growth of the fire-fighting and fire-prevention methods and equipment.

Tulsa World:—Nature isn't wasteful. If she gives a man ability to be a big shot, she seldom goes to the trouble of making him look like one.