

# The Porcupine Advance

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## AFTER SICK SHEARS

A man named Gordon Sinclair, or Sinclair Gordon, or Gordon and Sinclair, or something, has written a letter to The Northern News, terming the people of Kirkland Lake "the cheapest tin-horns in Canada." "They cannot take it. They whine and whimper," says the letter. Further the letter suggests that Kirkland Lake is a "low slip-shod dump," and that the people in the Lake Shore town are "cringing mamby-pamby home-towners." Gordon Sinclair, or Sinclair Gordon or as the case may be suggests that a "committee of hooligans" is waiting his next appearance at Kirkland Lake with the idea of "beating him up," and he claims that this would not be creditable to the people of Kirkland Lake as he only weighs 124 pounds. While most people will be surprised that he thinks he weighs so much even as that, there will be general agreement that it would be no credit to the people of Kirkland Lake to use physical violence on him. Indeed, that is probably the only part of the letter that will meet general agreement. And one point in such a letter is a high average.

The cause of the letter goes back six years. It seems that in 1931 this Mr. Sinclair, or Gordon, or Sinclair and Gordon (The Advance is inclined to think it's Gordon and Sinclair, which would account for the 124 pounds, which might be the combined weights as it were)—well anyway, to proceed,—the Sinclairs or Gordon or what have you, in 1931, wrote a series of articles about Kirkland Lake, and the people of that town resented the articles, and said so. Now the journalist (ha! there's a use for that word!) resents the resentment, and there you are, letter and all. It has taken him six years to get around to it, apparently but in his articles he was further out than that, not to mention a few thousand miles. He had the people of Kirkland Lake sleeping by shifts—one shift waiting for the other shift to get out of bed, so that they could get into bed, the beds thus never being allowed to cool down. There was more along the same line. It was all inaccurate, ridiculous, irritating, and injurious. But Kirkland Lake folks are like the man who was married a second time three weeks after his first wife died—they don't hold spite long. If Gordon, or Sinclair, or Mrs. Simpson, or whoever it was, appeared in Kirkland Lake, he, she, or it, would be given the usual Kirkland hospitality. Even if he told them he was Gordon Sinclair, or Sinclair Gordon, or Gordon and Sinclair, or even that he was the brave lad who wrote that Kipling did not know the road to Mandalay, Kirkland Lake wouldn't set any imported hooligans upon him, or even send for the Timmins "vigilantes." (Say, there's an idea: Could it be Gordon, or Sinclair, or Sinclair and Gordon, who got the "vigilantes" from the hot beds of Kirkland Lake?). It is true that the thoughtless articles (and the word thoughtless is rightly used) being given wide circulation brought literally hundreds of people to Kirkland Lake where there were already unemployed people. But Kirkland Lake didn't call these misguided people "riff-raff," as the letter charges. What Kirkland Lake did was to open a soup kitchen and feed them. That wasn't the mark of "tin-horns." But Kirkland's own newspaper, The Northern News has attended to all that. And apparently it is Gordon, or Sinclair, or Gordon and Sinclair, that "cannot take it." There is a "whine and a whimper," but it doesn't come from Kirkland Lake. It would be hard to imagine Kirkland "whining" or "whimpering." A roar would be more in keeping.

As a neighbour—though a hundred miles away—Timmins has something to say about calling Kirkland Lake the "cheapest tin-horns," "cringing mamby-pamby," or "hicks." Kirkland Lake's invariable response to any charitable appeal is the answer to that "tin-horn" charge. The hospital maintained by Kirkland Lake, the schools built and carried on, the sports fields, the churches, the public buildings, the very town itself, proves beyond question that Kirkland Lake may be anything else but it certainly is no "piker." Ask the Institute for the Blind, the Children's Aid, the service clubs—ask any good cause—and there will be a thundering answer nothing tin-horn about Kirkland Lake. At the very time that foolish letter was being written, three Kirkland Lake men were being awarded medals for conspicuous bravery. They had deliberately risked their lives to help fellow workmen in danger. Call that "tin-horn?" "cringing?" "mamby-pamby?" And those three men were not the unusual, the different, but simply types of the men of the North, playing their part like men—like the other men of this country—a country that may have faults, but its vices are not of the "tin-horn" or the "mamby-pamby." Timmins has played football, baseball, hockey, golf, curling, with Kirkland Lake,—had the usual tiffs and trouble—but sports in Timmins would rise as a man to give the lie to the charge that the people of Kirkland Lake were not the best of good sports. The record proves it—that few towns of similar size can show as clean and fair a sheet of first-class good sportsmanship.

It may appear absurd to give much time or space

to answering the smart-alex hysterics of any 124-pound bundle of semi-sex appeal, but it might be that silence might tend to leave other Southerners with the idea that the North harbours any town of "tin-horns," "hicks" or "cringing mamby-pamby" people. The people of Kirkland Lake have built a wonderful city from a corner of scrub bush. In doing this they have endured rough work, poor living, hardship, disaster. They have, literally, braved forest fire, flood, pestilence, to say nothing of black flies and mosquitoes, some of the latter running close to 124 pounds. And they have come through it, happy, smiling, cheerful, hospitable. As for "hicks," like potato bugs they cannot live in the North. This is a truly cosmopolitan land. Men gathered here from all over the face of the earth. There are more nationalities in Kirkland Lake than ever slipped out of the League of Nations. A roll call in Kirkland Lake would sound like a lesson in geography. The people have been places and seen things. And they are building here. "Tin-horns" and the "mamby-pamby" do not thrive in such an air. There are good and bad, of course, but the good far outnumber the bad. The record of the land proves it. In sportsmanship, in culture, travel, education, industry, ideals, vision, the people of Kirkland Lake, of the North, need take back seat for none. It is on the record it should be known to all. But some people do not know anything until they are told. And even then they are not sure unless they hear it in stout language. Hence this thushness!

## SHOULD BE NO STRIKE

Some time ago The Advance called attention to the possibility of a strike on the railways and the necessity for everything to be done to avoid such a calamity. It is a case where the public will be the chief loser, though that is not an unusual thing in regard to strikes. In this case, however, the public will be injured so directly and so seriously that nothing should be left undone to avert the danger. The Advance believes that an aroused public opinion would prove the best safeguard in this case. The chief danger for the moment seems to lie in the fact that public opinion is not aroused, or at least that it has not given any very decided expression of its viewpoint. It is true that negotiations are still in progress between the parties to the dispute, but actual decision on the matter seems little closer than a month ago. The railwaymen do not appear to have attempted any extended campaign of publicity to place their case before the public. The railways have contented themselves with emphasizing the fact that the industry has been carried on at a loss. It is an easy matter for the average man to remember that the Dominion Government railroads are losing money each year. From this it is but a step to the conclusion that they cannot afford any increase in wages. Against this reasoning, however, two facts should be plainly set. One is the fact that the railway employees are not asking any increase in wages, but simply a return to former rates in accordance with promises made when the wages were reduced. The second fact is that even if the Government railroads are losing money, the fault does not lie with the employees. It must be remembered that railwaymen in company with all other citizens have to bear their share of the burden of the cost to the country of the Dominion's entry into the railway business. It is not fair, surely, to expect them to be content to pay a second share—an extra share—in accepting a continued reduction in wages. In the case of the employees of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, the employers have not the excuse of the railway being conducted at a serious loss. Railway business in this part of the country is better than ever before. It is difficult to find excuse here for failure to return to former wages.

The railway workers have evidenced a very fine spirit of reasonableness and lack of noisy propaganda. It seems no more than fair play that the public in general should show its appreciation and good will to these public servants by making it clearly known that public opinion will insist upon a square deal for the workers in the railway industry.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

A Toronto man has written to Portland, Maine, asking the mayor of that city to see if his worship can not secure a good-looking and wealthy wife for the said Toronto man. Toronto Board of Trade once protested stoutly against Toronto men going outside of the city for their printing. Will the Toronto board now seek a council regulation putting a transient traders' license on wives imported to the city?

Is it possible that the Ethiopians are carrying on the war against Italy in Spain?

Since the active operation of the Timmins Police Amateur Athletic Association, statistics show that juvenile delinquency is just about one tenth what it was before the T. P. A. A. started its good work of interesting the boys in wholesome and healthy occupations and winning the confidence and esteem of the lads. This fact should be remembered at this time. With the approach of summer sports, and with the changes in plans and equipment that the new season will demand, it is probable that additional finances will be necessary for the T. P. A. A. In view of the good being accomplished by the T. P. A. A., it would appear to be real economy to finance to any reasonable limit the activities of the T. P. A. A.



## "Fine thanks"....

I feel like a new person now. It's surprising what glasses can do. Reading used to give me frightful headaches. As I was never bothered at any other time I thought it must be my eyes. Mr. Curtis prescribed glasses and now I have no more trouble.

Why suffer eyestrain when optical service costs so little.

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## Believe it or Not! He's Quite a Rip!

Story of a Man who Makes Money Proving the Improbable to be True.

(By Dale Carnegie)  
 I know a man who always gets at least a million letters a year. That means more than eight thousand letters a day or twenty-eight letters while you are reading this sentence. Many of his correspondents call him ten kinds of a blankety-blank liar. He has been branded as a liar more often by more people than has anyone else who ever lived. And he loves it.

He has received letters without any name at all on the envelopes; they were merely addressed to "The Biggest Liar in the World," and, believe it or not, the Post Office delivered them to Robert L. Ripley!  
 Ripley makes a living by making people gasp. He made me gasp once when he showed me a letter written on a piece of human skin; and he made me gasp when he showed me a message that a man had written him on a single human hair. I couldn't believe it until I put the hair under a microscope and there I read the message just as plainly as if it had been written on a piece of paper. It said: "The finest welcome in the world to Robert L. Ripley."

One man from Ardara, Pennsylvania, wrote Ripley a message on a grain of rice. Think of it! Seven hundred and fifteen words, or two thousand, eight hundred and sixty letters on one grain of rice. Of course, you can't read these letters with the naked eye; but I read them very easily under a microscope.  
 He made me gasp when he said that if he killed me at midnight and every person who was told about it, told two other people within twelve minutes, everybody on earth would know it before morning.  
 The story of Ripley's own life is almost as incredible as his cartoons. His father was a carpenter and he warned Ripley that, if he became an artist, he would starve to death. The old man wanted his little boy to be a plumber or a bricklayer.

Ripley was "fired" from the first three newspapers on which he worked; yet he is making more money to-day than are the men who own the newspapers that "fired" him. Ripley never studied drawing; yet he is the most widely imitated cartoonist in the world.  
 One cold, December day in 1918—exactly one week before Christmas—he sat in his office trying to think of an idea for a cartoon. An hour or two slipped by. He couldn't think of a thing. The deadline was approaching. He had to draw something; so, in desperation, he picked up a few astonishing facts about athletics and made a cartoon which he called "Chumps and Champs." He didn't like the title, so he substituted "Believe It or Not."  
 That was the turning point of his life. One little idea on a dull, dreary afternoon, and presto!—he was on his way to a sensation, world-wide success.

The claim is made that Hon. Geo. Henry did an injustice to Premier Hepburn in bringing forward what amounted to a charge that the premier had improperly interfered in reference to the granting of a beer license. The Globe and Mail thinks Hon. Mr. Henry should apologize to the premier for the unwarranted reflection. Probably he should. Maybe he will, after the premier apologizes to Hon. Arthur Meighen for implied charges made against that gentleman and afterwards upset by decision of a judge sitting as a commissioner.

A United States hockey team that resented the referee's decisions staged a sit-down strike on the ice. The players, however, soon found they were all wet, and so the strike was lost.

So this is Spring?

A friend of The Advance takes issue with the statement of Lord Riverdale at Timmins this week

But it didn't come immediately.  
 He drew a "Believe It or Not" cartoon once a week for ten years; and, believe it or not, it attracted comparatively little attention. For ten years, his feature tottered on the verge of failure. As Rip once said to me, "You work and slave for ten years, then become famous in ten minutes."  
 That is about what happened to him. For one day, in September, 1928, he drew a cartoon that startled a million readers.  
 He created a nation-wide furor when he said that Lindbergh was the sixty-seventh man to make a non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean. People rose up in indignation and demanded that he retract his impudent and insulting lie. But Ripley pointed out that Brown and Alcock had flown across the Atlantic years before Lindbergh was ever heard of—and so did the English dirigible R-34 with thirty-one men aboard; and so did the German dirigible ZR-3 with thirty-three men. So Lindbergh was really the sixty-seventh.  
 William Randolph Hearst saw that cartoon, and was entranced. So he insisted that Ripley draw a "Believe It or Not" cartoon for every one of his papers every day, and Ripley started skyrocketing to fame.

## Electric Devices Not to Displace the Prospector

The old-time gold prospectors will go on. Electrical instruments may help in locating ore bodies for swifter development but they won't replace the professional gold-hunter who leads the way into new mining country.  
 Hans Lundberg, Toronto geologist and a proponent of the electrical system of uncovering ore bodies in Canadian properties, said at Toronto this week, according to despatches, that high cost would prevent very extensive exploration by men equipped with the apparatus.  
 "After new discoveries have been made by prospectors, geologists trained to make competent deductions from the use of electrical and other scientific instruments can advise companies where they may most profitably drill for ore, but the finding of new areas must be left to the old-time prospectors because it is so much cheaper, he said.  
 Lundberg said the electrical method consists of finding the conductivity of the ground. The Ontario Government last week passed an order-in-council permitting the use of electrical methods by a company in locating underground deposits in Northern Ontario.  
 "Quartz has the least conductivity and where it is found in the right formation there is a presumption of gold, he said. "Sometimes gold is found in sulphides with other minerals and these give the greatest conductivity. Findings are always checked by the electro-magnet and other methods before definite conclusions are reached."  
 The electrical method is useful in locating other minerals than gold, declared Lundberg, who said a party now in Newfoundland tracing a lead and zinc formation, another in Northwestern Ontario checking a chromium. These are in addition to seven parties using the method to check on gold deposits in Quebec and Northern Ontario.

## Moose Lassoed and to be Kept as Attraction

The town of South River, some forty miles south of North Bay, has a real attraction for tourists now. The attraction is an unusually large living moose. Further the attraction is heightened by the story behind the attraction—the story of the way it was captured.  
 The story is to the effect that the moose was caught by the use of a lasso. As the animal is credited with weighing fully eight hundred pounds, the capture of the animal is a rather remarkable procedure.  
 Displaying real cowboy skill, Harry Hammell, Powassan, lassoed the 800-pound moose in the Algonquin Park last week.  
 The animal had been seen several times near a camp at which Mr. Hammell was employed. The Powassan man a native of the west, ventured forth last week and in real cowboy style roped the moose. It was taken to South River where it is now lodged in a corral.  
 It is stated that Mr. Hammell received permission from the government to "catch" the moose as an attraction for tourists.

Huntingdon Gleaner: A New York doctor has hit on a pleasant way of taking medicine. He prescribes it 'in smoke.' First, he invented a special gum; this he impregnates with a dose of whatever remedy is necessary. The tiny gum pellets are pushed into a cigarette holder. The curative medicine thus is absorbed slowly through the mouth and respiratory organs.

Sherbrooke Telegram: Only the hen can lay down on the job and get away with it.

## Make Repairs and Extensions to Your Home under the Home Improvement Plan

HOME Owners who wish to take advantage of the Dominion Home Improvement Plan may obtain full detailed particulars from any branch of this Bank.

Briefly, the Act authorizes the Bank to make loans up to \$2,000, on any single dwelling to owners in good credit standing. No security is required.

Farm owners may secure loans for the repair or improvement of any buildings on the farm . . . for the construction of a second dwelling for hired help . . . to replace fences . . .

City owners may borrow to convert a property into a duplex dwelling . . . for extensions . . . for modernization . . . to build a garage . . . and for repairs of any description.

Loans are to be repaid on the instalment basis and may be arranged over periods of from six months to three years; provided also that requirements in excess of \$1,000, may be arranged over a term of five years.

The rate of 3 1/4% discount per annum on monthly instalment loans is equal to 6.32% simple interest, which is the basis of all charges.

Apply to the branch in your district.

## IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

Head Office—Toronto  
 TIMMINS BRANCH H. C. SCARTH, Manager

## Death P. H. Houle, Pioneer, and Former Mayor of Hearst

P. H. Houle, pioneer of Hearst, and for several terms mayor of Hearst, was well known and highly esteemed throughout the North, and there will be much regret at the news of his recent death. He served for some years as town councillor at Hearst and for years he was mayor at Hearst. The following reference to the death is made by the Hearst correspondent of The Northern Tribune, Kapuskasing:—  
 "The community was saddened on March 14th by the death of Phileas Henri Houle, for many years a prominent and respected resident of the district and town. Death came after an illness of about three months. The late Mr. Houle was a son of the late Phileas Houle and Catherine Nadeau and was borne in St. Bonaventure, Quebec, fifty-one years ago.  
 "He came to this district some 18 years ago, first engaging in farming, later in mercantile pursuits, and for the last ten years he followed the vocation of notary public and conveyancer. During his residence in this town he always identified himself with civic and educational affairs, taking prominent part in these activities. He was five times mayor of Hearst, having previously served as councillor for several terms, being one of the councillors at the time of incorporation. For a couple of years he was town clerk and was for many years associated with the separate school board as trustee and as secretary-treasurer.  
 "His widow and five sons and four daughters survive him. The sons are Gerald of Geraldton, Dollard and Arthur of Tashota, John and Rosaire of Hearst; the daughters are Mrs. Joseph Jeaurond of Alexandria, Ont., Mrs. Lucien Achin of Montreal, Gertrude of Goudreau, and Jeanne of Hearst.  
 "The funeral was held from the Roman Catholic Church on March 16, a great many attending. The pallbearers were Messrs Lafond, Rondeau, Couombe, Blais, Tremblay, Laflamme and Brushey."

## Paper Suits Foreseen as Rivals to Linen Ones

Recent despatches from Boston should prove of special interest to people in the North Country, suggesting as they do the opening up of a new sideline for the paper industry. A new type of yarn made from wood fibre has been tested in Boston and many professors and industrial heads are said to be enthusiastic about it. The new material would take the place of linen in large measure it is suggested, and promises to open up new industries in this country.  
 Paper clothes, woven of yarn spun under water from wood fibre, soon may compete with textile fibres, it is believed.  
 The new yarn proved in tests to be stronger wet than dry, and neither stretched nor shrank with laundering or dry cleaning, according to a bulletin of Arthur D. Little, Inc., industrial chemists.

In appearance it most closely approximates linen, and this property has been a principal factor in present uses in shoe coverings, handbags and the newer sports suits. Continued improvement may make this paper product a significant addition to the present range of textile fibres, it is believed.  
 The fibres are less than three-hundredths of an inch long, as compared with individual cotton fibres, which may be an inch long, and wool, linen and silk, which may be much longer.  
 Thus, to make the short fibres of the paper product into strong yarn requires special methods and machinery and it is actually spun under water.

## MISSED A CHANCE

(From Sudbury Star)  
 "Paw?"  
 "Now, what?"  
 "Why didn't Noah swat both the flies when he had such a good chance?"

Acton Free Press:—Wages of 120 employees of the steel industry were raised by ten cents an hour and the company announced increased prices of its products of from \$3 to \$8 per ton. The music goes round and round and comes out where?

## ALBERT COLLEGE BELLEVILLE ONTARIO

(Eightieth Year)  
**A RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND YOUNG MEN**  
 Separate Residential Accommodation for a Limited Number of Young Ladies.

Albert College offers the finest facilities to obtain the best in Academic Achievement, Spiritual Enrichment, Cultural Improvement and Physical Development at an exceedingly moderate cost.

Public, Lower and Middle School, Honour Matriculation  
 Second Year University (Queen's)  
 Business Administration and Commerce  
 Music and Dramatic Art.

Illustrated Prospectus and information regarding Bursaries and Scholarships sent on request. REV. BERT HOWARD, Principal

## Card Party, March 31st, by C.W.L. Junior League

A card party is to be held on Wednesday, March 31st, at 8 p.m., in the basement of the Church of the Nativity, under the auspices of the Catholic Women's Junior League.

The hope chest will be given away during the evening to the holder of the lucky ticket.

## IF THE GOOD WON'T PREPARE THE WICKED SURELY WILL

"So long as there is a conflict between good and evil in the world, those who wish to see the good triumph must take every possible means to prevent evil from gaining control," were the wise words recently uttered by the Premier of Canada.

Powassan News:—A man can fall many times, but he isn't a complete loss until he begins to blame somebody else.