

The Porcupine Advance

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ABOUT THE CEMETERY

The Canadian Legion is to be commended for its present efforts to improve conditions at the Timmins cemetery. Despite all discouragements the Legion appears to be determined to go ahead and provide a beauty spot, dignified and well cared for, for the graves of members of the Legion. In the attention given to the cemetery the members of the Legion are showing the manner of men they are. They are proving the truth of Bayard Taylor's words:—"The bravest are the tenderest,—the loving are the daring." It is no idle word to say that the gauge of a people's civilization rests in its treatment of those who cannot defend themselves—the weak, the ill, the dependent, the children, those who have fought the last battle of all. All these have had the thought, the care, the continued remembrance of the Canadian Legion. In planning for further work at the cemetery the Timmins Legion is running true to form. This is true chivalry! There is no money at the cemetery! No votes there! What should be done must be done from sense of duty, from reverence and respect.

It was Longfellow who said:—

"I like that ancient Saxon phrase which calls
"The burial ground God's Acre."

It has to be sadly admitted that the Timmins cemetery can scarcely bear the ancient Saxon name, "God's Acre." At the present moment it might more appropriately be termed "The Devil's Blueberry Patch." Overgrown with blueberry bushes, weeds, and strewn with rubbish—appearing in the main neglected, unkempt and uncared-for—it is far from representing the chivalry of the North. It is true that there are plots that show the most loving care and devotion, but these but make the general neglect the more apparent. The Legion, the Oddfellows, the Rebekahs, the I.O.D.E., and other organizations and individuals have given time and effort and money for the betterment of conditions at the cemetery, and have received discouragement and handicap for their pains. The Timmins Horticultural Society deserves a special word of praise for its generous efforts in seeking to improve the appearance and to give some measure of beauty and order to the last resting place of the dead. But all the work of the organizations and individuals referred to falls far short of what should be done. If the Legion carries out its present plans for beautifying the Legion plots, not only will the work be handicapped by present conditions in the cemetery in general, but the very success of the Legion efforts will make the general lack of attention seem the more glaring.

What is needed at the cemetery is a general clean-up and restoration to order of the whole plot of land. Not only should proper paths be maintained, weeds and rubbish eliminated, general beautification enforced, but there should be full protection given to all improvements and adornment. It seems imperative that someone should be in general charge to see that the place is kept orderly in all the meanings of the word. In a recent issue of The Advance there was a letter from Harry Nichols protesting against berry picking and the approach to childish picnic parties in the cemetery. Many who read that letter will feel that he expressed the Legion spirit of reverence for the dead, of care for the helpless, of remembrance. It is the spirit of the people of the North, no less than of the Legion. If the town authorities are unable or unwilling to assume the burden of seeing that the cemetery is kept as the people of this district would have it kept, at least leadership should be given in having a cemetery board formed for the good work. Perhaps the Legion and the Horticultural Society might be encouraged to undertake the work of making the Timmins cemetery a place in keeping with the feelings of esteem and remembrance held for the dead by the people here. There are no insurmountable obstacles to the making of the Timmins cemetery a place of dignity and beauty—a true "God's Acre." Tisdale township has proven this in the case of its cemetery. The Legion will prove it again by the success of its present efforts to improve the part of the cemetery set aside for the burying place of Legion members.

Speaking of a visit to the cemetery this week, a Timmins citizen expressed in virile language his disgust at conditions as he found them. Weed-grown paths, broken and sinking headstones and twisted footstones, missing crosses and markers, blueberry bushes running wild, graves despoiled of the flowers left by loving hands and hearts that found consolation in the tributes of remembrance! A general air of neglect and lack of order and respect! "Out of keeping altogether," he said, "with the spirit of this North."

HEALTH PLAN WORKING WELL

Of course, it is too early yet to make any definite and decisive pronouncement on the success of the Hollinger Employees' Medical Services Association, but the plan does appear in the few weeks it has been in force to be working smoothly, effectively

and with very general satisfaction. In a word the purpose of the plan was "to provide in the most economical manner possible for all regular full-time employees of the Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines Limited, their families and other dependents resident in Timmins and vicinity responsible and complete medical and surgical services, together with necessary hospital care, x-ray treatment, drugs and medicinal supplies." The cost to employees without family or other dependents is only \$1.75 per month, while employees with family or other dependents pay \$2.65 per month. Enquiry among employees of the Hollinger brings the almost invariable reply that the plan is approved. Of course, there is the occasional conscientious objector, but no more of this class than just to prove that the employees are human. The general feeling is that the plan is a good one and that it is being administered fairly and economically.

There is a general belief that the success of the Hollinger employees' plan will induce other mines and other industrial concerns to adopt similar plans. There is considerable satisfaction in believing that the Hollinger employees and the doctors of the Porcupine have been able to set an example that is likely to be widely imitated in industrial circles. But apparently the matter will not rest there. The Hollinger Employees Medical Services Association may be the forerunner of a form of voluntary health insurance that appears to be superior in many ways to the much-advertised plan of state medical service. In despatches and in contemporaries during the past week or two there have been many references to similar plans proposed in other districts. One of the most interesting of these is given in last week's issue of The Barrie Examiner. The Examiner says:—"Over 200 physicians in Toronto are reported to have signified their willingness to co-operate in a new voluntary health insurance scheme. Every person who subscribes is entitled to name his own physician, providing said physician is willing to co-operate, and all physicians are to be paid regular fees. The rate is \$2.50 a month for heads of families, with prices ranging downwards for each dependant, so that for \$6.50 a month the head of a family and three dependants would be protected against every type of illness. A plan of this kind should have a wide appeal, owing to the very great drain made upon the average purse when a serious illness occurs in the family."

It will be noted that the cost of the Toronto proposition is much greater than that used by the Hollinger Employees' Association. There is a very material difference between \$2.65 per month in the Hollinger employees' plan, and \$2.50, \$6.50 and up, under the Toronto plan. Yet even at \$6.50 and up per month, Toronto families welcome the proposal as a desired economy.

It is pleasing to note the sincerity and earnestness with which all concerned are seeking to make the Hollinger plan a genuine success. It would appear that in addition to the benefits accruing from the successful working of the plan, they may have the reward of having started something that will find general adoption not only in general industry but among the people in general throughout the province.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Sometimes people suggest that doctors invent new diseases to give excuse for operation or treatment. They don't—at least not in this country. If they did there would be much heard about "dust sickness"—or some such name—an illness attributed to people swallowing daily loads of dust from roads, streets and highways. Everybody could easily have such a disease.

The town council did well to insert a clause in the paving contract requiring the contractor to give the preference to local labour. But the town council itself—or rather, the mayor—does not set the right example when it engages an architect or a man to make assessments.

The King's County Record, of Sussex, Nova Scotia, calls attention to the anomaly of concurrent sentences, so common under present Canadian law procedure. A man is found guilty of four distinct crimes, for instance. He is sentenced to four years on the one charge, and perhaps two years on each of the three other charges. But the sentences are imposed as running concurrently. In effect, the man is only penalized for the one crime, and practically goes free on the other charges. The Record suggests that it would be a better plan to impose smaller terms for each offence and make the convicted man serve a term for each crime, even though the total imprisonment might not exceed that given under the concurrent plan. There are cases, however, where the concurrent sentences are only logical. For example, it would be absurd to impose consecutive sentences on a man convicted of thirty or forty different thefts. As he is being penalized for theft—with the number of cases, of course, having a bearing on the severity of the sentence necessary—the concurrent plan works all right. Even in such cases, however, use of the suspended sentence plan might be the best procedure. Under such a plan appropriate sentence could be made on one conviction, with proper sentences suspended in the other cases. In that event the suspended sentences would act as hostages for his good behaviour when his one term was served.

In the Northern Tribune of Kapuskasing last week there was a simple personal item that took

Value of Trees to Country is Stressed

John F. Clarke Shows the Many Ways in Which Trees are of Benefit.

John F. Clarke, lecturer for the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, has delivered a number of addresses in Timmins. Not only have his addresses been of benefit and advantage, but both he and Mrs. Clarke have made many friends here by their pleasing personalities and their desire to help the community. For this double reason addresses by Mr. Clarke have special interest and attention in Timmins and district. In his addresses here Mr. Clarke has spoken chiefly of flowers, lawns and gardens, though he has taken the opportunity to stress the value of trees on every proper occasion. At the Kiwanis Club of West Toronto recently, however, he gave an address in which trees were the important feature and mention of lawns, gardens and flowers were only incidental. The address is described by Toronto publications as outstanding and giving the case for trees in talented way. Which is no more than his friends here would expect from John F. Clarke. "The Importance of Trees" was the title of Mr. Clarke's address.

Loss from Forest Fires
Seven and a quarter million dollars was lost in Canada during 1936 as a result of forest fires, Mr. Clarke said, 84 per cent. of which are due to man's carelessness and 16 per cent. attributed to lightning.

Records indicate four outstanding causes which total 58 per cent. of all forest fires started in Canada, namely, campers, settlers, smoking and incendiary, said Mr. Clarke.

Informing his audience that trees are the oldest living things, the speaker explained that 90 per cent. of our forest lands are held in trust for the permanent benefit of the people of this country. "Forests supply raw material for forest industries, which in 1936 produced national wealth estimated at \$300,000,000. Forest industries provide work for some 200,000 men and pay approximately \$100,000,000 a year in wages." Continuing to stress the value of Canada's woodlands, Mr. Clarke stated that they are a prime factor in regulation of climate, mitigating the extremes of heat and cold.

Forests Stop Erosion
"Forests," he went on, "form probably the greatest single factor in the prevention of erosion. The humus on the forest floor is very absorbent—10 pounds of humus will absorb 200 pounds of water, as compared with 50 pounds absorbed by lay, 25 pounds absorbed by sand. This sponge-like action of the humus on the forest floor retards runoff and thereby regulates the flow of streams. Where the forest has been destroyed the water runs rapidly off the surface, carrying the soil with it, often resulting in disastrous floods."

Value of Trees
"Trees provide the human race with a multitude of life's necessities. They are abundant producers, and are the only natural resource that reproduce themselves." Referring to various kinds of trees, Mr. Clarke stated that they provide us with newsprint for our daily newspapers, furnish us with pipes, silk, rayon, rubber. They are responsible for the many colours desired in clothing and provide much of our food stuffs.

"Our health is affected by trees," he said, "because they induct through leaves carbon dioxide and breathe through its waste what we live on, oxygen."

"One of the most vital things in our province today is reforestation," added the speaker. "Since the inception of reforestation we (the department) have planted 150,000,000 trees, of which 13,000,000 were planted in Ontario this year. Up to the present time 2,000,000 have been planted on Camp Borden plains."

Motor Boat Drivers Taking Big Chances
Serious Danger of Man-slaughter Charges to be Feared.


The following letter from A. C. Brown, well-known barrister and solicitor, is commended to the attention of motor boat owners who have been disregarding the rights of others at the Mattagami river. It is to be hoped that this warning from a real friend of water sports—swimming, canoeing, motor boating and other aquatic interests—will be accepted and acted upon in the public-spirited way in which it is given.

Timmins, Ont., July 21, 1937.
To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins, Ont.
Dear Sir:—Your stand on the motor

on paths and sadness in view of ensuing events. The little personal item read:—"Mr. Oliver Desrosseillers and Mr. Art Roy left this week for Montreal, and on their return trip they will visit in Toronto and Timmins." The two friends did not reach Montreal, and for Art Roy there will be no return trip, no visit to Toronto or Timmins. He was killed when the car in which the trip was being made crashed into a culvert near Earlton Junction. The moral of this and every other highway accident seems to be that there should be an inquest into every automobile accident just as there is with every mine fatality. Further, the coroner's jury should follow every line of enquiry and return a verdict placing the blame for the accident wherever it is possible to do so. In the cases where faulty road conditions resulted in fatality the jury's verdict should place emphasis on this fact. There is too much a tendency at present to treat cases

where road conditions evidently are responsible for tragedy as mere accidents. When neglect or indifference results in road conditions that cause deaths, the fact should be made plain. Indeed, if those responsible were named by the jury as responsible for the deaths due to bad road conditions, progress might be made to greater safety on the highways. The motorist who accidentally and unintentionally strikes a pedestrian or another car on the road and causes a death is no more guilty of manslaughter than the government that through neglect allows roadways to become death traps for the travelling public.

It is said that there are 300,000 nudists in the United States to-day. The number of nudists in this part of the North is not given here for fear the festive mosquitoes read the newspapers for information.



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boat menace at the Mattagami River bridge is quite commendable, but still there are some motor boat drivers that will not take heed.

Only last Sunday there were two power boats that for some time went up the bridge and then 100 yards downstream. It seems a peculiar thing that these power boats are only able to navigate about 200 yards upstream, which, of course, takes them past the crowd on the bank where the swimming tank is—the swimmers usually gathered at the Riverside pavilion and the people on the bridge, and it must be that they want to "show off." They just keep on going the same round, annoying a peaceful riverside with their infernal din, although there are 18 miles upstream and 7 miles downstream open to them.

This din is not the worst part of it because in this 300-yard trip they come right through the part of the river that has always, and always will be, I hope, appropriated by and to the swimmers. There are very few better spots anywhere in this world that I have been that are better to swim in than the Mattagami and lots of it.

Some people seem to be of the opinion that those in authority are not paying sufficient attention to this really serious matter because, unless something is done, some day a motor boat driver will run down a swimmer and afterwards when standing before the jury at Cochrane on a charge of manslaughter, he will not feel so well when he hears the oath administered to each juror: "You shall well and truly try and true deliverance make between our Sovereign Lord the King and the prisoner at the Bar and a true verdict give upon the evidence. So Help You God."

Let the motor boat owner be warned in time before it becomes a case of "Juror look at the prisoner; prisoner look at the juror" and at the same time it will not only be the prisoner that will receive castigation by the court, but those in authority who should be seeking to control this serious matter will also come in for their share of the blame.

The Town of Timmins has no jurisdiction over the river. Besides the motor boat menace the lumber companies are inclined to take too generous a share of this stream without regard to navigation. I remember in 1906 on the Montreal River the lumber company operating there was inclined to hog the whole river, expecting the prospectors to take to the bush and portage their canoes and supplies around the booms, but the prospectors thought otherwise, and they cut the booms and it was thought that the prospectors had just as much right to cut the booms as the lumber company had the right to impede navigation on the river. Subsequently there was no

the river with logs.

I again thank you for the stand that you have taken and trust it will be effective in attaining its object.

Yours very truly,

A. C. BROWN

Fine Accommodation at the London Tracks

Improvements and Extensions Made to Give the Best of Service.

A tour of inspection of the Queen's Park half-mile racing plant at London, Ont., revealed everything in complete readiness for the eleven-day running race meeting starting there Wednesday and lasting up to and including Monday, August 2, Civic Holiday. Here and there a few painters were touching up the odd spot but the major changes and alterations were all completed and the plant announced ready for the opening of the sport.

Additions were a little building erected between the south end of the grandstand and the paddock and which will be used for taking the saliva tests. Horsemen call it the "sweat box." Outwardly it has a very innocent appearance looking just like a garage although somewhat gaudily painted in green and cream. The paddock has been given a new coat of paint, looking resplendent in cream with a dark red top.

A new booth to house the motion picture camera for taking close finishes has been built on top of the grandstand directly opposite the finishing line. From its height and close proximity to the finish, it is said to be the most ideal place for taking a picture as it will do away with the old complaint, that outside horses get the edge. The camera will look down almost directly over the horses' heads. The announcer will also be stationed there.

The judges pagoda has been erected and painted and there is a concrete base for the stewards' stand on the opposite side of the tracks. The mutual pavilion has been enlarged and has accommodation for fourteen cashiers and as many sellers and a money room.

The most work had to be done to the racing strip. When Superintendent, Tom Clark, came to London some three weeks ago, the track was hard as a rock and the surface very uneven. A scarifier had to be employed and the ground broken up, after which it was cut up, regarded and the turns banked. Ever since then the strip has been worked on and now is as fast and as safe a track as any one could desire. This is proved by the excellent works that have been made over it. Given favourable weather, it will be lightning fast for the races.

Unlike last year when the dryness made it necessary to burn the grass,

the infield presents a beautiful picture in green, all that had to be done was to crop it. Benches will be placed in the infield for the comfort of patrons who prefer that part of the plant in which to do their wagering and witness the running of the races. There could be no better vantage point.

The mutual booths in the grandstand, which had all been packed away for the winter, have been put in place and present a compact and serviceable appearance. A feature is the new restaurant being built at the south end under the grandstand and the restaurant counters being arranged at various distances. Patrons will be surprised at the changes and pleased with the services. The same applies to all conveniences.

Sweepers have been busy the past few days. From now on the hundreds of people who are needed to operate a racing plant will continue to come in and the whole place now presents a very busy picture.

to parents is to have their children's eyes examined at an early age. I speak from experience. My eldest boy was twelve when we discovered his eyes needed correction. Had we known sooner the chances are his sight would be brought back to near normal by now. How sorry we are that we didn't have his eyes examined sooner."

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Biltmore Syndicate to Take Over Ten Steep Claims

Biltmore Porcupine Mining Syndicate has been formed with capitalization of 35,000 shares of \$1 par value to take over the 100 Steep claims and four additional adjoining claims, lying directly east of the Keystone Porcupine group in Turnbull Township, Porcupine district.

A deal is reported pending with United States interests, Copper, zinc and gold values have been found in preliminary work.

St. Thomas Times-Journal:—A motorist who drove his car into a M.C.R. train at Welland had to pay the company's counter claim for damages, his own claim being dismissed. That man learned two lessons—one that you can't push a railway train out of the way with a motor car, and the other, it's a poor rule that doesn't work both ways.



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