

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO.

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THIS FREEDOM!

At present a number of newspapers are solemnly discussing the proposition credited to Mr. J. J. Glass, K.C., M.L.A. Mr. Glass has announced that he intends to introduce a bill into the Ontario Legislature "to enable the slandered, libelled or vilified individual of a racial group to take action in the courts to bring the culprits to justice." Any individual at present is able to bring to justice anyone who makes personal aspersions on the character or dignity of that individual. There are enough laws now to protect anyone able to hire a lawyer. What Mr. Glass seeks to curb is the more or less common practice of some people who have never heard, or understood, or heeded, the more or less famous dictum of Edmund Burke to the effect that you cannot indict a whole people. These people develop a dislike for some individual Germans, Spaniards, Italians, Irishmen, Jews or other peoples, and from that personal displeasure, group all men of the same nationality in a class that is held up for scorn and contumely. There have actually been people who have felt that way about the Scottish, so it is easy to see that it is an unreasonable and unfounded attitude. There is no doubt but that this practice makes for some annoyance and discomfort, and that it would be better if everybody would drop all prejudices against all other peoples and groups. But it is more than doubtful if legislation can achieve any such miracle. In any event it is odd to note that Mr. Glass who was no doubt one of those advocating the repeal of Section 98 of the Criminal Code which simply banned the advocacy of the use of violence or the threat of violence in active discussion of political questions, should now propose an infringement on freedom of speech in discussing what may be thought of other peoples. Either the legislation suggested by Mr. Glass will be so circumscribed that it will no more than duplicate present provisions in the law for the protection of the good name of individuals, or else it will be so broad that all the Scottish, Irish, Jewish and Chinese jokes will be forbidden by law. People then wouldn't have anything to laugh at but themselves. Under present laws, there is penalty for any libel or abuse of an individual whatever his race or group may be. To extend that ban on libel to racial and other groups would be to follow similar plan to that adopted by the Nazis, the Fascists and Communists, and the outcome would be sure to be equally disastrous for freedom of speech and liberty of opinion. To quote a concrete case: Would it be fair or just to penalize a Chinaman to-day for anything he might say against the Japanese nation? It may be regrettable that groups attack groups—sometimes with deplorable lack of fairness and justice—but this is a matter that rights itself eventually, while in the meantime any individual who suffers personally has a remedy at hand under the present laws. All this is not to uphold the reviling of any race or creed, but to emphasize the fact that so long as the individual is protected there is no fear for the interests of the racial groups. It is likely that the legislation proposed by Mr. Glass is designed to meet a particularly objectionable case where there seems to be organized defamation of a group of people who in the main are excellent citizens. It should be remembered, however, that if one group has special legislation for its benefit, then in this democratic country other groups will demand similar privileges, with a result so far-reaching as to alarm any thoughtful people who already are anxious about the increasing interference with the opinions of the people. If the enmity against any racial group is not widespread, there is no need for special legislation. If the attitude is general, it is not legislation that is needed. Racial groups live down any false reputations they may be given. The passing of the proposed legislation would not achieve its purpose, but would simply breed more ill-will and trouble. Indeed, the very discussion of such legislation would be in itself a greater evil than any it pretends to remove. If the Ontario Legislature ever passed any such legislation as that proposed, the province would be shown to have taken a Glass too much.

Worth always triumphs over prejudices! Ask any Scotsman! Canada has too many good people of all racial origins to need any Glass legislation of the kind proposed. Anything that may not come under present laws may be laughed off. Indeed, most of the trouble of this sort will be found to be imaginary, if not taken too seriously. Probably the best reply to Mr. Glass would be to threaten to support the proposed legislation in behalf of the Scottish, the Irish, the French and the English, all of whom have been abused en masse for centuries. So, Mr. Glass, here is some help for you. You haven't said a word about penalties, yet a law without penalties is void. For instance, merchants may be fined for keeping open on Wednesday afternoon, contrary to by-law, but nothing happens if they remain open on a statutory holiday, where there is no penalty. So here, gratis, are some appropriate penalties for breach of your racial slander legislation:—

For accusing a man of being "Irae Aberdeen"—\$10 and costs—the fine to go to the Aberdonian.

For calling a man a "German Jew"—\$10 and costs—both fine and costs to go to the Jew. That would soon stop that.

For calling a man a Nazi—Six months in Russia.

For calling a man a Fascist—Three months in Spain.

For calling a man a Communist—Two years in Germany as a non-Aryan.

For abusing the Irish race. The Irish will attend to that themselves.

For sneering at the Haggis—Boiling in oil.

For scorning the bagpipes. The culprit is already punished by having to bear through life a lack of appreciation of music.

PROTECTING WILD FOWL

Jack Miner, noted Canadian naturalist, who must be credited with doing much to conserve Canada's wild life through the interest and discussion he has aroused through his work in regard to the birds and animals of this country, seems to have been misled by some references made in a Northern Ontario newspaper as to what is happening to the wild ducks and geese in the James Bay area. Mr. Miner seems to believe that ducks and geese are being wantonly slaughtered at Hannah Bay in the James Bay country, that hunters by the hundreds are crowding to that part of the North to kill the wild fowl in their feeding grounds. From these false premises Mr. Miner draws the moral that to save any of the wild ducks and geese, a preserve or sanctuary must be established at once in the Moosonee area. There has been no wanton slaughter of wild fowl in the Moosonee country. Not hundreds, but scarcely more than a score or two of hunters were at Hannah Bay this season. The comparatively few birds they shot made no appreciable difference in the flocks of literally millions of birds that were in the James Bay area. It is not from the hunters at Hannah Bay that the wild fowl are in danger. The few hunters that go to the James Bay area for the duck hunting season are imbued with the true spirit of the game hunter. They are impelled by the hunting spirit, not the lust to kill. It is the outing, the adventure, the fun of the thing, that attracts. Few of them take anything like the bag limit. Search needs to be made elsewhere for those endangering wild fowl in this country. The wild fowl have their natural enemies—the several species of hawks. These did more destruction this season than the few hunters multiplied by a hundred. Unsportsmanlike procedure in other parts of the province and further south may be endangering the life of the wild fowl, but the charge is baseless so far as hunting in the James Bay area is concerned. The proposal to establish a game sanctuary in the Moosonee area should be very carefully weighed before the government takes any action in the matter. Apart from the fact that it will unnecessarily deprive a number of hunters of a happy and adventurous holiday during the duck season, and prove a detriment to the T. & N. O. Railway, the hotel at Moosonee and the country in general, without any compensating advantage, it may have the still more serious disadvantage of giving a false sense of security as to the preservation of migratory birds in the North. It may be the sad fact that while lovers of wild life may comfort themselves by saying, "There's a sanctuary in the North for the ducks and geese, and so the birds are safe," the reckless slaughter in other areas, particularly in the areas farther south, will continue to deplete the stock of birds in most deplorable way.

SUPPORT LAPORTE

A local citizen suggests as a slogan for the coming municipal election the two rhyming words: "Support Laporte." Elections are not won by slogans, but at the present time it would appear as if the idea behind the proposed slogan would be a good one for the townspeople to adopt. Councillor Laporte has been pressed by large numbers of ratepayers in the town to allow his name to go on the ballot as a candidate for mayor. He has given excellent service on the council board, but his municipal knowledge and experience has a much wider background than simply his service in council. It is several years since he gained a first hand knowledge of municipal affairs through his work as an auditor. He has shown for a number of years a keen and intelligent interest in municipal matters. He is a young man with courage, the ability to find the facts, and the faculty of expressing himself. His own profession has made it less difficult than for the ordinary citizen to familiarize himself with town affairs. He has the happy gift of being able to get along with people, while at the same time keeping firm in his own ideas of the right thing to do. He has made a success of his own business through tact, hard work and well-placed effort, and his business is one that has no easy road to success. His work on the council suggests that as mayor he would be of value to the town and a credit to himself. Timmins is facing a difficult year in 1938. A co-operating mayor as well as a co-operating council is needed. "Support Laporte" would seem to present to be a good motto.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

From The Herald at Penticton, British Columbia, comes the suggestion that there is a form of municipal taxation that has been overlooked—the collection of poll tax from young ladies who are earning money. Whatever may be the case in British Columbia, the young ladies have not escaped taxation in this country. In the years when the municipalities collected income tax,



"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.

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Defer Porcupine Cases to Next Week

Cases Arising from Auto Accidents to be Heard at Haileybury Next Week.

Haileybury, Nov. 11.—(Special to The Advance)—Charges of manslaughter arising out of fatal automobile accidents in different section of Temiskaming, and in which Napoleon Lacasse, of Timmins, and Frederick Villeneuve, of South Porcupine, are defendants, will not be heard until next week, when sittings of Temiskaming Fall Assizes here will continue with Mr. Justice Ainslie Greene presiding. Witnesses in both of these Porcupine cases were advised on Tuesday afternoon by the judge that they were excused from further attendance at the court until Monday morning, by which time it is expected that the two murder cases will have been finished.

A start in the capital charge against Thomas Romanchuk of Kirkland Lake, accused of slaying his wife last May, was made Tuesday afternoon, continued throughout yesterday and is expected to be concluded some time today. Following that case, it is the intention of the Crown Prosecutor, C. L. Snyder, of the Attorney-General's Department at Toronto, to proceed with the second wife slaying case, in which Frank Dojan, of Elk Lake, is the accused. Two other criminal cases also go over until next week.

Mr. Justice Greene intimated on Tuesday afternoon that he proposed to adjourn court this morning for a suitable period during Remembrance Day ceremonies, and his Lordship further stated that he intended to participate in the local service. Sittings will continue later in the day, the judge said in explaining to the jury that he did not propose to adjourn the proceedings for the whole of today, as there was a heavy list of cases awaiting attention. Three automobile manslaughter charges had been before the court, but the grand jury threw out that against Nelson Vinkle, whose wife died in hospital here two days after she had been injured in a smash-up on the main road near North Cobalt and while she was riding in a car driven by her husband. In the case of Ernest Rail, charged with attempted rape and indecent assault, that Gaspé man was without counsel and the court appointed E. E. Pearlman, of Kirkland Lake, to defend accused, held in the district jail for more than six months.

there were many young ladies in Timmins who were called upon to bear this form of taxation. There were many cases in which it appeared to be a decided hardship. It seemed that young ladies on salaries little above the amount covered by the exemption clause had to contribute, while young men under similar conditions escaped. It is true that the collection of poll tax from girls has not been taken up, but it is doubtful if its emphasis would prove worth while. With coal chutes, signs, fire escapes, marked for tax imposts, there is doubt as to whether any class or object is allowed to escape. It would be refreshing if someone, instead of seeking some new channel for tax collection would suggest some new way by which so many taxes and so much taxes would not need to be collected.

When Hon. Mr. Black was appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States, there was a great outcry from many quarters because it was held that he had at one time been a member of the Ku Klux Klan. Even the bitter enemies of the K.K.K., however, are likely to praise the first decision in a case handed down a day or two ago by Hon. Justice Black. The decision was to the effect that two book-selling corporations were using improper and illegal methods in the sale of encyclopedias. Their salesmen had the practice of persuading their victims that the encyclopedias were being given free on account of the prominence and influence of the men so honoured. Later, the

Fears For Fowl in James Bay District

Jack Miner in Favour of Sanctuary in Moosonee Area.

A letter and enclosure has been received from the Jack Miner Migratory Bird Foundation, Inc., at Kingsville, Ont. In the letter Manly F. Miner, says in part:—

"I do hope you will take time to read the following, and, if possible, use it as the basis of an editorial in your publication. All North America is interested in wild bird life, whether it be from the shooting standpoint, conservation, or both. It is seasonable, and a very opportune time, to carry the attached, particularly with a view to arousing the public to the danger of losing our wild bird life."

Reference has been made to this matter on several recent occasions, and there is editorial mention of it also in this issue. This is another case where The Advance believes that Jack Miner is mistaken both in his premises and his deductions. However, here is the enclosure referred to:—

Waterfowl at James Bay

From a geographic viewpoint, Hudson Bay is like a large funnel with James Bay at the spout pointing south. Then, at the extreme southerly end of James Bay is Hannah Bay, which is the spout of James Bay. Jack Miner, through his bird-tagging system, has been in touch with the natives of these territories for some 20 or more years—long before railway or aeroplane communication were thought of. It took the mail four weeks to come, part way by canoe, from James Bay to Jack Miner's home in Kingsville, Ontario.

In those early days, by constant communication with the missionaries and Hudson Bay factors, who collected tags from the natives, Jack Miner found that, starting the last of August or early September, the ducks and geese that had nested in the vast territory east of Hudson Bay, Baffin Land and the Arctic region, all concentrated down into James Bay and then on into Hannah Bay.

In other words, they follow the funnel down to the spout, and for at least six weeks in the fall, each year, the waterfowl are there by the millions. Then, as the October snow comes and ice forms, the birds migrate out over the vast area of Ontario, Southern Quebec and to the United States, east of the Mississippi River.

Jack Miner, knowing of his huge concentration in September and early October, realized that when the railway was extended from Toronto to Moose Factory, hunters would flock in by the hundreds and, possibly, would kill more birds there, than a million shooters would after the birds had left that area and spread out over Eastern Canada and the United States.

"Uncle Jack," as most Canadians call him, looked ahead, and on October 3, 1931—some six years ago—released an article to the press, entitled, "Consideration, Justice and Prevention," a copy of which most newspapers will no doubt still have on their files. It reads in part as follows:

"In less than six months, we will have two railroads carrying hunters and tourists to Hudson and James Bay. The one from the West to Hudson Bay is already completed, and the one from Toronto to James Bay will soon be driving the last spike. I say something must be done right away to prevent the wholesale slaughter of wildfowl that is sure to take place. My suggestion is to prohibit any person, other than a permanent resident of Hudson Bay territory, from taking a gun, either by rail, water or air, or being allowed to hunt in any way in this virgin breeding ground and fall concentration area, that is now producing sport for all North America."

Yes, that was Jack Miner's warning and suggestion, released six years ago! He also pointed out that there was enough territory in Canada and the United States in which to hunt and shoot without penetrating the breeding grounds.

It would have been easy for the government to have passed legislation on this point then, but it was put off. It



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will be far easier to stop the slaughter now, than it will be five years hence. The longer this vital legislation is delayed, the more shooting clubs will be established up there; the more money will be spent in shooting lodges, and the more opposition the government will face in putting through such legislation.

At the present time, certainly the Indian Department at Ottawa, would welcome such restrictions; because, if anyone in that territory is entitled to the shooting, it is the natives; and Jack Miner's suggestion would not affect them. And it would do is to stop any person who is not a resident of 12 months' standing, from taking firearms within 50 miles of Hudson or James Bay, as he said.

"If we burn the candle at both ends, it will soon go out," and applied to this case: "If we shoot the birds at both ends of their migration, we'll soon not have any birds."

The people of the Far North are beginning to realize that what Jack Miner prophesied is now taking place. The newspaper, The Sault Ste. Marie (Ont.)

Star, recently ran a series of editorials regarding the serious condition which already exists.

Any government, organization or person doubting what slaughter has been done each fall of the last five years by various hunting parties, need only to send a representative to Moosonee to investigate.

Jack Miner says that prosecuting a person for exceeding the bag limit, or even for shooting a bird out of season, is not saving the birds' lives, but is akin to locking the barn door after the horse is stolen. Jack Miner's system of prevention from extermination is to create a sanctuary, and thus preserve the wild life of this continent.

No one can accuse Jack Miner of being opposed to a limited amount of shooting, but he is violently opposed to unreasonable killing in the name of sport in congested or concentration areas by a few men, who thus deprive the multitude of hunters throughout Southern Canada and the United States, of reasonable hunting and shooting in the open season. What do you think?

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(From Sudbury Star)
"Why won't you advertise?" asked the representative of a newspaper of a man in a small way of business in a small town.
"Because I'm agin advertising," the man answered.
"But why are you against it?"
"It don't leave a man no time," was the reply. "I advertised, once last summer and the consequence was I was so busy, I didn't have time to go fishing the whole season!"

Ottawa Journal:—Some people realize that experience is a good teacher

COULDN'T EAT COULDN'T SLEEP

Now Free of Bad Liver and Kidney Trouble and Feeling Fine

Here's another woman who felt terrible until she found how to get back appetite, sleep soundly, and secure new health. Mrs. A. H. Montreal, writes, "I had years of liver complaint and dizzy headaches—bowels irregular, crippled with kidney trouble too—no appetite—no sleep. Many laxatives gave me cramps. I tried Fruit-a-lives and my health greatly improved." These famous fruit juice, herb, and tonic tablets cleanse and strengthen the liver, help stomach, kidneys, intestines. Troubles go. Health must improve. 25c and 50c. All druggists.