

# The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO.

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## CO-OPERATION NEEDED

In a letter to The Advance this week a ratepayer of the town objects to unnecessary waste of time at council over bickerings between the mayor and members of council. He asks the mayor and council to get down to business, and expresses the hope that in the coming year there will be the necessary co-operation between the mayor and council. The hope will be very generally endorsed by the people of Timmins. It must be admitted that during the past year the council as a whole has given good service and affairs have been carried along with a considerable measure of success. Whatever lack there has been, has been due to the temperamental qualities of the present mayor. At one time it would be obstructionist tactics. At another time it would be the bickerings complained of in the letter. Always, it seemed that the mayor was the factor that prevented municipal affairs from functioning smoothly and effectively. The mayor seems to be temperamentally unable to work with others. This year the council appears to be able to work harmoniously with each other, but time and again the mayor's disposition has created discord. The conduct of town affairs in Timmins is big business these days, and no business can be successful where there is lack of harmony. Also, it is certain that business cannot be carried through with the proper efficiency unless there is goodwill between town-staffs and the whole management—the mayor and council. It is frankly admitted on all hands that this year municipal affairs have been more successfully dealt with than was the case last year. This has been due to the one fact that this year the mayor has been more successfully opposed than he was last year. For this reason The Advance has urged that in the coming election a co-operating mayor as well as a co-operating council be elected. The slogan last year to elect a co-operating council was successful. If both a co-operating mayor and a co-operating council are elected this year, 1938 will be a satisfactory one for the town of Timmins. This is why The Advance is advocating the election of Councillor P. H. Laporte as mayor. He has the necessary qualifications for the position, having a thorough grasp of the town business. He is able to support his own views without setting everybody else in town by the ears. For the good of Timmins it is necessary to get away from the recent conditions, where the interests of the town seemed to be subordinated to personal and political ends. As the writer of the letter suggests, the mayor and council for 1938 should "get down to business." The present council has attempted to do so, and has been fairly successful. With a mayor like Councillor P. H. Laporte and a co-operating council, harmony would be restored, full co-operation from town employees would be possible, and the affairs of the town could be carried along without the bickerings complained of by the writer of the letter referred to. The ratepayers of the town have the opportunity at the approaching election to clear up the whole situation—restore harmony and goodwill and assure effective administration of town business. Councillor Laporte gave one indication of his capability for the position by considering the situation and then announcing his decision in ample time for the ratepayers to study the case. He has not shown any disposition to play politics or wait to see what strings may be pulled or how one group may be set against another. He has been frank and fair and open all the way through. Quite evidently he is trusting completely to the good judgment of the people in general. After being pressed by many ratepayers to run as mayoralty candidate, he made up his mind, and is leaving the rest to the people. His election as mayor, with a co-operating council, will put an end to the present unnecessary lack of co-operation and goodwill that is as essential for the successful conduct of town affairs as for any other large business.

## STRIKING THE RIGHT CORD

It has been proven that the telephone is one of the most useful and desirable inventions of modern times. It is not necessary to prove that advertising is one of the vital forces of to-day. Newspapers admit it. In Monday's issue of The Advance it was admitted that advertising pays in regard to telephone cords. A brief editorial note in The Advance putting in a call for some inventive genius to produce a telephone cord that would not knot, snarl or tangle resulted in some of The Advance staff surreptitiously adding a wire device to the office telephone with the implication that knotted telephone cords were not necessary. As The Advance noted in Monday's issue this was not a direct answer to the editorial note. While the wire contraption took the annoyance out of telephone cords by making a bunch of symmetrical kinks that kinked and unkinked in use, the rigamajig was not a knotless cord, but simply "something just as good." It wasn't a gnarl-less cord, but rather the addition of a knotted and un-

knotted. Still even this showed good returns from the advertising.

Tuesday morning, however, there was a better reply to the little advertisement, as it were, for a tangle-less telephone cord. This time it was from the telephone company, and so there was real service. One of the local telephone staff not only informed The Advance that there was actually a non-knotting telephone cord, but he produced the article itself in proof. A demonstration showed that no matter how it was pulled or twisted it did not knot, gnarl or snarl. It wouldn't tangle naturally and when it was deliberately knotted it positively contented itself with the one knot, and acted otherwise absolutely different to any other telephone cord ever known before. Without giving away any trade secrets it may be said that the quality of unknottiness in this telephone cord is due to the incorporation of an elastic material that returns the cord immediately to its proper shape and condition, no matter how it may be twisted. Such an invention will come as a boon and a blessing to men. Not only will it help people in this life but it will improve their chances for the better places in the life to come. Twisted telephone cords have been a prolific source of bad language and lost tempers. How many family quarrels have resulted from husband or wife, or both, snarling because of a snarled telephone cord. If this incentive to sin and iniquity is removed by the snarl-less telephone cord, then happy days are here again.

The reason there has been no advertising of the non-knotting telephone cord is because it is not yet standard telephone equipment. The Advance is informed. Probably, this free advertising of the new cord may make other advertising unnecessary. Life is like that often in a newspaper office. But still there is compensation—still advertising pays—for in the days to come, when all telephones are equipped with tangle-less cords, and the crop of nervous irritation and impromptu profanity is thus materially reduced, there will be the satisfaction of knowing that it was the newspapers that hurried forward this great boon to a talkative world of telephone users.

## BRIGHTEN THE TOWN

A reader of The Advance makes the suggestion that a good thing to advocate at this time of year would be the brightening-up of the town by the installation of groups of lights across the streets. This reader suggests brilliantly coloured lights similar to those used for the special honour of the Silver Jubilee of Timmins and Porcupine Old Home Week this summer. The approach of Christmas makes such a special lighting plan particularly desirable, the reader suggests, adding that an attraction of this sort would probably mean enough additional business to the merchants to fully warrant the cost involved. "Surely," says the reader, "the people of Timmins will give as much honour to the Christmas season as to Old Home Week."

The idea is worthy of consideration, but the reader appears to be sadly astray when he says that now is the best time to secure benefits for the town. As a matter of fact this is probably the worst time of year to look for anything. The reader no doubt had the approaching election in mind, and that is exactly what The Advance is thinking about. Pre-election days are poor times to expect benefits. All the new candidates are likely to favour such a plan and condemn the authorities for not promptly taking it up and carrying it through. Mayor and council, however, are not liable to be enthusiastic, fearing any further addition to the deficit. Pre-election days are great for promises, but poor for performances. Indeed, it might be possible to figure out through this proposed lighting scheme whether the mayor really intends to be a candidate or not at the coming election. If he replies: "Well, now! the town is under considerable expense, and there are so many necessary things that cost money!" it may be taken for granted that he has not yet made up his mind not to run. But, if he endorses the proposal with apparent enthusiasm, then it may safely be said that he has not quite made up his mind to run again, and so wouldn't be worried by any of the troubles that would be faced by others.

It might be a brilliant idea for some service club or other organization to take up this Christmas town lighting idea and carry it through. It would add to the attraction of the town to any visitors, while the people of the town itself would not like the town any less because they would be able to see it better and in nice colours.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Newspapers have been giving much attention this week to the case in Belgium where during a wedding ceremony the best man was making all the responses and so was actually being wedded instead of the bridegroom who was supposed to be the lad the bride wished to have. The ceremony was nearly completed before the mistake was discovered. In view of the fact that the groom stood idly by and let the groomsmen thus intrude himself into the ceremony, it is not too much to say that the bride was not finally wedded to the best man. The incident is reminiscent of the case, or cases, of a marrying parson at Windsor some years ago. There were seven couples before him to be wedded. He hurriedly ranged them in the room and adopted the device of saving time and energy by making it a regular group marriage. Shy attempts on the part of some of the members of the group of seven couples to interrupt the joint ceremony by question or remark were promptly

## Another Letter on Wild Fowl Matter

Gananoque Man Should Visit Moosonee and See for Himself.

The Sault Ste. Marie Star, which has no particular love for the T. & N. O. country, and knowing little about this area started recently an agitation to have the Moosonee country declared a wild fowl sanctuary. People in this area who have been frequent visitors to the James Bay area cannot understand what it is all about. They fail to see any chance of depletion of the wild ducks and geese from any hunters at Moosonee. The whole case is founded on misunderstanding and misrepresentation. In the first place there has been no mighty rush of hunters to the far North, as some seem to believe. It is doubtful if more than two or three score have been shooting ducks and geese at Moosonee this year. It is well-known that the hunters who have been shooting at Moosonee have all failed to take away the full bag limit. They had opportunity to get the full limit, but did not bother doing so, because they were in the Moosonee area for the real sport of the thing, for adventure, fresh air, interest. Moreover, it seems to be the fact that there has not been any commercializing of the duck-hunting business as some affirm. So far as The Advance can learn there are no plans for anything approaching commercial duck-hunting. There are literally millions of ducks and geese at Hannah's Bay in the Moosonee area, and the few ducks and geese shot there, by the hunters would not be noticed. Several times the number killed by the hunters are destroyed each year by the natural enemies of the ducks and geese—the hawks and other birds of prey. Also, it is well-known that the chief slaughter of the migratory birds occurs in the South, particularly across the boundary. To declare a sanctuary for wild fowl in the Moosonee area does not seem to be the way to handle the situation. A tightening-up of the present regulations in regard to the hunting of wild fowl would help some in the matter of conservation. The establishment of a game sanctuary would have a contrary effect. In the one line alone, it might have serious results. For instance, it would give a false sense of security. It is not so much in the North as in the South that steps will have to be taken to conserve the wild ducks and geese. A reduction of the bag limit might be a good thing. Perhaps, changes in the open season might help. To make the Moosonee area a sanctuary for wild fowl would do no more than to rob a few good sportsmen of their yearly hunting without helping the cause of conservation. Some people, who should know better, appear to be under the impression that the feeding place of the wild fowl is at James Bay in the Moosonee district. The truth is that the wild fowl have their summer feeding place in Baffin's Land, not at Moosonee. Hannah's Bay is simply a port of call for the birds while on their migration. It would be as sensible to make any of the other ports of call in the North a sanctuary for the wild fowl as to signal out the Hannah Bay area for that purpose.

Although all this has been repeated time and again, people in the South continue to hold views not in strict accord with the facts. It is a pity that these Southern sportsmen would not pay a visit to the North before writing to the papers about the matter. Probably a visit here and a few words with those in position to know would disabuse their minds of the false impressions given in some quarters.

With these preparatory remarks, the following letter from the secretary-treasurer of a Southern fish and game protective association is given:—  
Dear Sir:—Duck hunters and scientists who have studied the question are in agreement in saying that waterfowl are fewer in numbers today than they were ten years ago despite the small gain made during the past year. Duck hunters blame everything but shooting for the scarcity. The scientists say that over-shooting is the fundamental cause of the duck shortage, with drought, disease and destruction of breeding grounds as supplementary causes. With the scientific reports before one, it is rather dismaying to read that the last great breeding ground of geese and ducks, the James Bay area, has been invaded by commercial duck-hunting interests.

In 1916 Great Britain and the United States signed the Migratory Bird Treaty. Canada immediately enacted the enabling laws of this treaty, our Migratory Bird Act, and took over the enforcement of these laws. Before this treaty was signed, market shooting in the United States had decimated the

quelled by the time-saving preacher. At the conclusion of the wholesale wedding, however, there was very decided general objection, the claim being made that the wrong fellows had been married to the wrong ladies. The parson dismissed the case, the couples and the question with the final, flat statement:—"I married all of you! Now sort yourselves!"

George F. Powell, described as a British Social Credit technician, was sentenced at Edmonton, Alberta, this week to six months' imprisonment for publishing defamatory libel. Mr. Justice Ives believed Powell to be more culpable than Joseph H. Unwin, Social Credit member of the Alberta Legislature, who was given a three months' sentence in the same defamatory libel case last week. The cases developed from the publication of a pamphlet entitled "Bankers' Toadies," in which many rash and unfair things were said and men

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flocks and caused the near-extinction of several species of game birds. It was hoped that the treaty would stop the commercialization of duck hunting, but all it did was to change the market hunter's methods. In place of shooting and marketing the waterfowl themselves, the commercial interests sold the ducks on the wing to the man who could afford to pay for them.

Nothing much was done about the commercial shooting club until the ordinary wild-fowler realized that they were invading his shooting grounds and closing great areas that formerly had been open to every one. About the time that was happening the drought and the breaking of new land in the West caused the numbers of waterfowl to take an abrupt drop, bringing home to every hunter the fact that, unless something was done, the day of free shooting would soon be gone.

As a result, today we have sportsmen's organizations asking the authorities to stop the commercialization of shooting. But, like all other vested interests, the commercial clubs have been able to bring sufficient influence upon the law enforcement agencies and the sale of game birds continues. The recent report from the Sault shows that these interests are reaching into the North, the only undisturbed breeding sanctuary left on the continent.

The importance of the James Bay as a migratory route of our geese and ducks has been stressed by Dr. F. Lincoln of the Biological Survey, in his pamphlet, "The Migration of North American Birds." From all over the wide tundras of the North, the birds follow the coasts of Hudson Bay and are gradually concentrated at the tip of James Bay. The contour of the land makes a funnel through which 90 per cent of the geese and ducks raised in Ungava and Mackenzie districts pass on their way to the south. Some of these birds winter on the Mississippi Delta. Up till this year, it was supposed that only the natives were taking toll of the flocks, but with the establishment of a commercialized slaughter pen across the tip of the funnel, a way has been found to exterminate the remnants of the waterfowl flocks from which every Ontario hunter has taken a share in the past. In other words, the sportsmen of Ontario and Quebec who shoot a few times each fall are being robbed by these rich "sports" just as surely as if the ducks were taken from them on the way home.

The editor of the Sault Star has some pertinent words on this invasion of James Bay by the commercial duck hunters. In urging the establishment of a wild-fowl sanctuary for all time in this region he cites the experience of the older parts of the province: "A

half century ago every lake in Ontario north of Lake Simcoe saw literally thousands of wild ducks and geese. The writer has seen Cunningham's Bay on Lake Couchiching covered with clouds of them. Now there are a stray few in the fall. The pot-hunter has driven them to their last trenches in James Bay. Destroy them there and there will be none left in Northern Ontario."

Sportsmen's associations and bird protection societies have a common cause against this new menace to the ducks and geese. They must act in concert and at once if they expect to stop the commercial interests that have grabbed the James Bay region. They must show Toronto and Ottawa that they want a sanctuary made of the whole area. The public is definitely interested and will back up the organizations in any demand that they may make that will lead to better protection for the wild fowl.

G. C. Turner.

Secretary-Treasurer Eastern Ontario Fish and Game Protective Association, Gananoque.

## Plan Stronger Laws for Stealing Gold

Co-operation Between Dominion and Province to End High-grading.

(From Globe and Mail)

Out to smash high-grading, the Hepburn Government, it is reported, not only will recommend to Ottawa that the Criminal Code be strengthened to deal more effectively with this type of offense, but may adopt certain preventive and control measures of its own.

In view of the steady expansion of the gold mining industry in the north, the Government feels that, of necessity, it must provide every safeguard and security for all developments.

Attorney-General Conant is reported to have a number of conferences, of recent date, with officials of the Ontario Mining Association. These will be followed, it is understood, by a complete survey of the situation with the Mines Department, under Hon. Paul Leduc, playing an important part in it. Both these members of the Government declined to discuss the question Monday, but it has been generally suspected about Queen's Park that the Government proposed to deal with it as rapidly as possible.

There is no indication of any abnormal high-grading around the mines in recent weeks, but Provincial Police and special operatives alleged to have been employed on work of this kind are said to have been consulted recently—all of

which has given rise to rumours that some situation, of a difficult nature, and calling for more drastic remedy than now available, has developed.

## Well-Armed Empire the Best Guarantee of Peace

National Review, London, England:—To-day, as in 1914, there is no more certain harbinger of war than an inadequately-armed British Empire. A Britain unable to defend herself simply invites from Germany immediate insult and ultimate extinction. Britain ardently longs for peace, and she cordially desires friendship with Germany. But she will secure peace and she will win Germany's respect and co-operation, only if she is so strong and so alert as to make the task of destroying her too dangerous to be attempted.

G. C. Turner.  
Secretary-Treasurer Eastern Ontario Fish and Game Protective Association, Gananoque.



"I was surprised"

"at the big difference glasses made in my husband's disposition. He had been working hard at the office and the strain on his eyes affected his nerves and made him tired and irritable. 'He's that old self' again now that he wears the glasses at the office, that Mr. Curtis prescribed for him."

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## BETTING LEADS SPORTS SAYS CHICAGO JUDGE

In dismissing charges against 170 Chicago handbook operators, on the ground that Illinois law legalizing pari-mutuel betting at race tracks did not specifically declare that wagering outside the tracks was unlawful, Municipal Judge McGarry said:

"The sport of racing has become socialized to such an extent that the court believes it is not an over-statement to say that seventy-five per cent of the people of this city bet on horse races at some time or another. Betting has become the greatest of all indoor as well as outdoor sports."

Sudbury Star:—We see by the papers that Earl Rowe received an acclamation in Dufferin-Simcoe. The first case of a big-leaguer who failed to make good in the minors.

It will be found that the ballyhoo being prepared for the municipal election will be as futile as the same sort of ballyhoo proved in the provincial election. When ballyhoo is known for what it is, it is only ballyhoo and nobody cares a ballyhoo for it.