

The Porcupine Advance

Members Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association; Ontario-Quebec Newspaper Association; Class 'A' Weekly Group
 OFFICE 26 — PHONES — RESIDENCE 70
 Published Every Monday and Thursday by:
 GEO. LAKE, Owner and Publisher
 Subscription Rates:
 Canada—\$3.00 Per Year. United States—\$3.50 Per Year

Timmins, Ont., Thursday, March 17th, 1938

TALENT IN TIMMINS

A lady resident in Timmins for a few years has expressed surprise at the remarkable array of talent in this town and district, as evidenced by the notable success of the two events held here by the recently-formed Porcupine Women's Music and Literary Club. Those who have been in this camp for many years will not be surprised at the quality and quantity of artistic talent available. There have been occasions when The Advance has been accused of being given to invariable praise of local talent. There was a time in the history of the camp when that would not have been a serious fault for a newspaper. In the days when the people here perforce had to provide all their own entertainment, it would not have been a cardinal sin to encourage talent by kind words. As a matter of fact, however, there have been so many excellent musical, dramatic and literary events in this town and district, that to have withheld praise would have been to show unfairness and to be open to the suggestion of lack of proper appreciation, or that deplorable state of inferiority complex that can see no good in anything but the foreign or far-away. Anyone who will cast memory back will recall individual singers in the camp whose gifts won appreciation elsewhere that confirmed the highest opinions held here. Choral groups here—the Cornish Choir, the Caledonian Choir, the Timmins Male Chorus, the Welsh Choir, the Schubert Choral Society, just to name a few—were unquestionable proof of the musical talent here. In instrumental music an equally strong case could be presented. Dramatic and literary talent have been equally proved here. After all, it is not so remarkable that this should be the case. It is true of most mining camps, though that is not the popular opinion, perhaps. In a mining camp, people gather from every quarter of the globe—a cosmopolitan group, representing the adventurous, the enterprising, the alert. In such groups, talent of every kind is to be expected. The talent is here. The Porcupine Women's Music and Literary Club will foster such talent, encourage such talent, bring it out into the open, as it were, and the people in general will be the better for it. The aim and purpose of the new club is a specially worthy one, and there should be general satisfaction at the fact that it is meeting such pronounced success in its first series of events.

PROPAGANDA ON RADIO

Because Hon. C. H. Cahan, M.P., objected to the mischievous and provocative propaganda in an address delivered by a Winnipeg newspaperman over the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Corporation's radio system, The Globe and Mail attempts to read Mr. Cahan a lecture on the freedom of opinion and the sanctity of the liberty of the press. Mr. Cahan made prompt and effective reply to The Globe and Mail. He denied very emphatically the implication that he was suggesting any parliamentary control of newspaper opinion. He emphasized the fact that so far as he was concerned, the Winnipeg newspaper gentleman was free to express his opinions in his newspaper, so far as Mr. Cahan was concerned. Mr. Cahan pointed out that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is sustained by funds voted by parliament, and the newspaperman referred to was not only retained and paid by the C.B.C., but given free broadcasting facilities for the expression of his personal opinions (a privilege for which other persons would be charged thousands of dollars). Surely Mr. Cahan argued, a member of parliament, representing the people of the country, had a right to protest against subversive propaganda forced upon the people of Canada, under the wing of government ownership and at the direct expense of the people of Canada.

Mr. Cahan's criticism of the offensive broadcast seems to be well taken indeed. The people had to pay for it, and surely a duly-elected representative of the people had the right—the duty, indeed—to enquire about it.

It is a favourite pretence of the radio broadcasting stations to claim the attributes of the press. They suggest that they fulfil the functions of the press and so should have some of the prestige of the press. As a matter of fact they have no more of the value of newspapers than is possessed by motion picture theatres. Because they broadcast news and entertainment, some of them emphasize the idea that it is logical that they should charge for advertising after the manner of newspapers. Even the modest newspaper maintains an expensive staff of newsgatherers. Radio stations have no such facilities, no such expense. The public should realize that the radio can give no news of value, except that gathered for them by some newspaper. What is needed now is a general realization of the fact that radio is entitled to none of the privileges of the press, unless it will adopt the ethics, the responsibilities, the broadness of the newspaper. The point may be made clear by reference to the newspaper, the

radio and advertising. There would be little, if any, complaint about radio advertising, if radio segregated the advertising like the press does, so that it is not forced down the neck of the unfortunate. No modern newspaper interlards its news with advertising. The reader is not bored to distraction by advertisements on penalty of missing his favourite features. Readers would not tolerate the sort of treatment that prevails in radio. Some motion picture theatres carry advertisements, but they do not break the continuity of their plays by forcing them in between each scene. That is one point of difference between radio and theatres and radio and newspapers.

It is doubtful if the principle of supporting radio by advertising is a sound one. How else could radio programmes be maintained, it may be asked. So far as Canada is concerned, it should be noted that the radio fees appear ample for the maintenance of programmes, were the money kept for that purpose. If subversive propaganda is to be paid for, however, as in the case about which Mr. Cahan complained, there is little cause for wonder if the money does not go as far as it might.

To return to the matter of propaganda on the radio! The offensive broadcast from Winnipeg was particularly offensive being given as a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation item. Had the address been published in a newspaper, anyone holding contrary views would have the right to reply. If a newspaper paid a man for such an article it would have to accept responsibility for presenting that side of the case alone. It should be constantly remembered that radio in Canada is "government radio," disguise the fact as may be. What would be thought if the government paid a man for such an address and published it in The Canada Gazette? In such a case there would be strenuous objection from all sides, and no one would be foolish enough or unfair enough to suggest that criticism of the improper use of a public organ for propaganda was any attempt to interfere with the freedom of the press.

CAUSES OF WAR

The present wars and rumours of wars might carry the consolation that some people might learn something from them. But it is doubtful if there is that much good to them, or that people are that teachable. One of the theories given the currency of a proverb some years ago was that one of the fruitful causes for war was alliances between nations. There were folks who could prove—to their own satisfaction—that most wars started just like that. Two or three nations would reach amicable agreement to stand by each other, and then two or three other nations would reach an agreement along similar lines, and so (the wise ones suggested) the two sets of nations flew at each other's throats and there was a gory war. Who has not heard of "entangling alliances" and other similar phrases used to prove that alliances were a cause of war. It appears reasonable and logical that if two or more nations can achieve an agreement to work in unison as allies, the peace is assured for the time at least between those two nations, and their combined strength holds back attacks from enemies. If there had been an old-time alliance between Ethiopia, Great Britain, France and the United States, for example, there would have been no extermination of Ethiopia. Indeed, there is reason to believe that were it not for the alliance between France and Great Britain and Russia, France to-day might well be in the position of Austria. The League of Nations was an attempt to extend the idea of co-operation for peace and protection. Had it been carried out as an open alliance for the purposes held in view, it might have had a chance for success. Instead, it was doomed almost from its inception by the clamour against alliances. To those who had so much scorn for the old-fashioned diplomacy with its "entangling alliances," its "balance of power" and the other phases and phrases that seemed to set so many people in a ferment, it is a fair question to ask if the so-called more modern methods have proved as successful. The world still has to be more concerned about the fruit than the name given to the tree. Anyone who believes that the policy of "splendid isolation" advocated for individual nations is a right one must admit that it has proved a deplorable thing for all small nations, while the world at large does not appear to be overcrowded with happiness for anyone.

Another piece of propaganda doing duty for many years was the story that wars were fomented for the profit of munition makers. It would be interesting to have a diagram of these international munition makers persuading Japan to invade China. Alongside that diagram should be shown a picture of the faces of the said munition makers when Germany made war on Austria without firing a round.

Add to these theories for the cause of war the old wheeze heard so often after 1914—that it was not nations but their kings that made wars. There were people who were fervent in their belief that only Kaiser Wilhelm was to blame for the last world war—that the German people were in their innocent hearts completely averse to war, but were pushed into all the trouble by that terrible old Kaiser. Perhaps, the same people to-day lay all the blame on Hitler. They may think that the whole German people are a quiet, inoffensive aggregation who wouldn't harm a living soul or steal an inch of territory or murder a single inoffensive Jew were it not for their fuming Feuhrer. The logical mind might find it odd that these desperately peaceful German people should always



"We discovered that our girl was almost blind in one eye"

"We never knew until one day at school they had a sight test. She couldn't see the letters on the chart when she covered her left eye.

"We're correcting it now, and if she wears her glasses steadily for a few years—her sight should be normal when she's through school.

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Small-mouth Black Bass and His Family

Another in the Series of Articles on Conservation.

In a recent issue of The Advance reference was made to the essay contest sponsored by the Anglers' Federation of Ontario and The Globe and Mail with the purpose of increasing the interest in the conservation of game fish in the province.

Contest and Prizes
 What is wanted is practical ideas for fish conservation. The following are the rules of the contest:—

Subject of essays: "How to Keep Good Fishing in Our Streams and Lakes."

Essays should not exceed 750 words. Contest open to all boys and girls fourteen years old and under in Public, Separate and Private Schools in Ontario who have not yet entered high school grades.

Essays must be certified as being the child's own work by teacher or parent on the last page of the essay.

Write on foolscap on one side of paper only, in pen and ink.

Print name, address and age clearly on each page of your essay.

Contest opens Saturday, April 9th, and closes at midnight Saturday, April 30th. Essays received after May 1st—unless postmarked before midnight, April 30th, will not be accepted.

Judges will be chosen by the Ontario Federation of Anglers, and their decisions will be final.

The prizes are as follows:—First, \$35; second, \$25; third, \$20; fourth, \$15; fifth, \$10; sixth, \$5, and twenty-five prizes of \$2 each.

Essays should be mailed to the "Anglers' Contest," Editor, The Globe and Mail, King and Bay Streets, Toronto, before midnight on Saturday, April 30th.

Facts About Conservation
 To aid the youngsters in gathering facts about fish and fish conservation in Ontario, The Globe and Mail is publishing a series of six articles on the subject. These articles are written by

members of the Dept. of Biology of the University of Toronto. The suggestion is made that pupils and teachers interested in the contest should cut out and keep these articles as they appear. The first in the series of articles was published in The Advance last week. The second of the series is given below:—

The Bass and His Family

"In rocky lair the bass is found
 Where the swirling eddy dims,
 Inch for inch and pound for pound,
 The gamest fish that swims!"
 Have you ever fished for black bass? If you have you will agree that he is one of the gamest of our North American fish.

But you may not know that he is one of the most interesting, too, for the student of nature lore. The fact that father bass guards his nest and his young in a way that is unusual among fish makes us admire this splendid fellow, who attacks anything that comes near his home or his tiny youngsters. The trouble is that he often risks his life in protecting them, and so is hooked by thoughtless anglers who fish near these nests too early in the season. Then the babies are left alone in the world and are almost sure to be gobbled up by some enemy. And that, of course, is just too bad for those of us who like bass fishing and want it to last.

As we said in our first story, the good sportsman thinks of to-morrow and plans for it. This is what we call conservation. Every one of us can help by learning of the habits of fish and how to protect them.
 Did you know that father bass makes a nest in which to raise his family, and really takes more interest in them than their mother does? In early or late June, depending on the season, the male bass hunts for a nice shallow place where the bottom is covered with coarse gravel and where there is only one side to guard it from attack. Isn't he pretty sensible? Then he actually cleans house by sweeping away the mud and rubbish from a space two or three feet square.

When the temperature of the water is high enough, the mother bass lays her eggs in the nest. This is called spawning. Then she swims away without a care in the world, knowing that her partner will stand guard over them and fight off any fish or other enemies that might like to make a meal of them. He stays right on the job, finning the nest with his fins to keep the water around the eggs pure and fresh, but not keeping them warm as a hen does her eggs, of course. After about nine days, around June 25, according to the season, the tiny eggs hatch but even then his task isn't over by any means. For ten days more, until about July 6 or 12, he must be nursemaid to his helpless little offspring, which are only two or three inches long when they are a whole year old! If it were not for the watchful care of the male bass, they would be gulped down by their enemies in the water and few of them would ever grow up to provide fun and thrills for fishermen.

So you might say father bass goes in for conservation in a big way and is a fine example to us. He plans for to-morrow and if we give him a break we will benefit by his fatherly habits. He will help us keep up the supply of bass for the future.

It is true that the law says we may catch a bass when it is ten inches long. But do you know that means it is only five years old and has not grown up enough to guard the nest like a good father? As it does not care for the eggs very well, only a few hatch out and grow into big bass. In another year, when eleven inches or longer, it will be capable of raising a fair-sized family and looking after them properly. By the end of the seventh year it will be twelve inches long and will have brought up a fine family. A bass that size is a great deal more fun to catch, as it is fatter and stronger and puts up a scrapper fight. Besides it is much better to eat. Don't you think it would be good sportsmanship to put

be choosing and following the murderous war lords—getting rid of one to adopt a worse one. In any event, the German people might just as well be all war-mad, so far as the world is concerned, as ever to be picking a ruler on whom they could blame such things.

There are few indeed in Britain, France, the United States, who desire war, few not ready to sacrifice much to avoid further conflict. Yet it should be known and felt and realized that there are worse things than war! Slavery is worse! Injustice is worse! Dishonour is worse! To most people, too, among the professedly peaceful nations there is a strong suspicion that a reasonable measure of peace and safety in the world is possible, if only a few great nations had the courage and the unselfishness to take the risk. If Britain, France, and the United States boldly formed an alliance—defensive—offensive if need be—it is doubtful if there is any combination of nations (no matter how peaceful they may be, or how warlike their chosen dictators) that would dare all against such an alliance.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

In complimenting the insurance companies some years ago on their enterprise and public spirited effort in educational advertising in regard to life insurance and life insurance companies, The Advance suggested that the plan might well be followed by banks and other financial institutions. In recent issues The Advance has been carrying just such advertising for the banks—advertising issued by all the banks to enlighten the public on the general service given by the banking profession to the communities of Canada. Canadian banks may have been too modest and too formal

Protect Your Investment

HOME Owners anxious to protect their investment against depreciation have an excellent opportunity to finance repairs and improvements now. Never before was money so readily available and on such favourable terms. In cooperation with the Dominion Government's Home Improvement Plan, this bank will furnish to home owners in good credit standing the necessary funds for such work as:

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H. C. SCARTH
 Manager Timmins Branch

the small black bass back into the water and give them a chance to grow up to be twelve inches long and raise a larger number of little bass? Would not that be better conservation, or planning for to-morrow?

During the first few years of life the baby black bass grows very, very slowly, being only four and a half inches long at the end of its second year. It looks quite a lot like its neighbours the Sunfish and Rock Bass, so it is a good thing for us to learn what it is like. Then we will be careful not to keep black bass by mistake, but leave them until they have reached the size of twelve inches and are really game fish. By wetting the hand and taking these little rascals off the hook carefully and replacing them in the water as quickly as possible, we will usually find them able to swim away and be none the worse for the adventure. Even in its tiny state the black bass is strong and vigorous, with compact scales and sturdy muscles and a glint of silver shining through the darker colorings around its head. Its body is stout as the shoulders and unusually deep in proportion to its length, yet it is graceful. In color it varies a great deal according to the water in which it lives.

The law allows us to catch six bass at least ten inches long, and that is plenty for one angler to take in a day. We go on trusting and hoping that there will be enough twelve-inch bass left in our lakes and rivers each year to hatch out enough young bass to keep up the supply at this rate of fishing. But in spite of our hopes the bass are

growing scarcer and scarcer. What would you suggest doing about it?

The Ontario Department of Game and Fisheries, Toronto, will supply a leaflet on the conservation of the black bass for the asking.

ASKE DONE QUESTION

(St. Mary's Journal-Argus)
 It was the first real snow storm of the year and the teacher felt it her duty to caution her pupils before dismissing them. "Boys and girls should be very careful about colds this time of year," she began solemnly. "I once had a darling little brother, just six years old. One day he went out in the snow with his new sled and caught cold. Pneumonia set in and in three days he was dead." The schoolroom was so quiet you could hear a pin drop. Then a voice in the back row piped up: "Where's his sled?"

DR. J. I. SHOLES, DENTIST
 formerly located in the Bucovetsky Building
 is now in Temporary Quarters with
 DR. GEO. MITCHELL in the
Gordon Block, Pine Street North, Timmins
 For Appointment—Phone 202

PLENTY OF POVERTY
 Since taking office in 1935 our "Social Credit" Premier, Mr. Aberhart and his followers have hung many a pretty story around the phrase, "Poverty in the midst of plenty." It was the phrase around which Mr. Aberhart in his Sunday broadcasts endeavoured to build up a case against all and sundry who could not see eye to eye with him in his "Social Credit" theories. At Edmonton the budget has been brought down and in it provision has been made for an increase in the indemnity of the members of the Legislature, sixty-three in all, amounting to \$200 each, bringing their salaries up to \$2,000 per year or per session of two months. This would lead us to the conclusion that instead of the phrase, "Poverty in the midst of plenty," Mr. Aberhart and his followers should adopt the phrase "Plenty in the midst of poverty."—(From the Innisfail Province, Alberta).

**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-Lax 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.