

## The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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### ON BEING TRIMMED

Dr. J. H. Putnam, of Ottawa, has written to The Ottawa Journal expressing the fear that liberty may perish from the face of the earth because barbers in the Capital City are compelled by law to charge no less than forty cents for what is technically known as a haircut, or trim. Apparently, things have come to a pretty pass when the law steps in to tell a man in a British country how much he should charge for his services—such is the apparent attitude of Dr. Putnam. The Ottawa Journal is inclined to agree with the learned doctor. At least The Journal goes so far as to suggest that what Dr. Putnam says in his letter needed saying, so that the people in general might know to what depths of regimentation they are drifting. The truth is that Dr. Putnam has spoken much too late. Freedom from regimentation has been gone these many years. Indeed, it is difficult to see how a considerable measure of regimentation can be avoided in this complicated age. If Dr. Putnam wished to avoid price-fixing, he should have started his revolt in the days when wage-fixing commenced. If a man has the right to sell his product—motor cars or haircuts—at whatever price he wishes, as Dr. Putnam suggests, then surely he has equal right to work for any scale of wages he likes. If Dr. Putnam considers twenty-five cents a fair rate for a hair trim, some other enterprising individual may have equal grounds for believing that twenty-five cents an hour is a fair rate for some sort of labour. That is the trouble with all forms of regimentation—one thing at once brings up another. If the wage scale for barbers is set, then the price of the finished product fairly cries aloud to be adjusted. Otherwise, there will be people who are ready to sell haircuts for twenty-five cents each, but it will be found that they give this service to the public at the expense of the wages of the workers. The master barber who continues to pay good wages and still give bargain prices to his customers will soon be forced from business, if he has to compete with the class that are ready to accept the business at any old price. The state of the public then is worse than before. The price-cutters then have the public by the hair, as it were. Is it unreasonable to fear that the barber who will pinch his workers in the matter of wages will hesitate to squeeze the public either in quality or price when he has the chance? The interference with the British right to buy a haircut at a trimmed price is a natural corollary to the interference with the other British birthright to buy or sell labour at any price. This logic does not apply to barbers or barbering or haircut-prices, alone. The barbers are mentioned because Dr. Putnam picked upon these industrious fellows, who on the whole give excellent service and perform a useful part in modern life. What applies to the barbers applies to all other lines of life. In view of the complexity of modern life and business, it does seem necessary that there should be some regulation of wages. If individualism is allowed full sway in the matter of wages the worker will be left unprotected. On the other hand if there is no regulation by law of the price-cutter, the worker in the long run is sure to be forced to bear the full burden. Just as regulation of wages is essential for the protection of the honorable worker, so some limit must be set on prices to protect the man in business. It is perfectly true that the public does not realize the far-reaching effects of interference in business, industry and commerce. Perhaps this is the point that Dr. Putnam was really seeking to emphasize. Those who were anxious for regimentation of wages apparently did not see how action in this line must inevitably lead to regulation of prices, to codes and similar paraphernalia of the dictator. That, however, is the fact. If life were as simple as the soap-box orators and some of the pink-minded professors appear to believe, regimentation might take a one-sided form that would assure high wages to the worker and low prices for the public. These two, however, do not travel together. It seems to be a proven fact that government regulation in one particular sphere is immediately followed by the necessity for interference in some other place or places. Under present conditions, it seems impossible to go back to the days when a man could charge what he liked for his labour. Of course, that meant that his employer would pay as little as the circumstances would permit. That was a freedom that seemed scarcely worth fighting for. In any event that liberty has been given up. With it there went automatically any supposed right there might be for a man to sell his products at prices below a fair margin. If Dr. Putnam or anyone else believes that wages may be set at fair figure and prices for products or services at unfair rates, then there is need for the facing of hard facts. Those who are brave individualists in any case must accept the truth that modern liberty has very decided limitations. Whether anything should be done about it, or can be done about it, is another

question. If any man has any inalienable right to sell at any price he wishes, he has undoubtedly equal right to buy at any figure he cares to pay. Having given up the one liberty, the other freedom must be allowed to depart. Dr. Putnam's letter, however, will have accomplished something worth while if it will rouse the public to the fact that people these days appear to be handing over one right after another for apparently less price than charged by cut-rate barbers. It is true that regimentation breeds more and more regimentation but this is all the more reason why each step should be carefully considered and all its possibilities reviewed. For instance, at the present moment the idea of having the Dominion Government pay for all relief is meeting popular favour. It seems the better way, and yet it implies a handing-over to the central government of still further power and privilege, because nothing can be considered for any measurable length of time.

### HOW BIG IS THE NORTH?

In one issue of a Toronto newspaper this week there were a number of headings about "the North." Timmins is supposed to be in the North—to be the very heart of the North, if such a thing may be said with modesty. Yet the headings about the North referred to places far from Timmins—names not at all familiar here. There was one headline about the death of a man from the North. The North, in this particular case, proved to be Chapleau. It is two days' travel from Timmins to Chapleau in these days of fast trains and motor cars—except by the airship route. Another heading referred to some new settlers for the North. This time the North meant the Abitibi country, nearly as far east as Chapleau is west. Still another heading about the North proved to be about Sudbury. Yet the average citizen in Timmins is probably as well acquainted with Toronto, or Montreal, or Maniwaki, or Calabogie, as with Sudbury. In yet another heading the North meant Sioux Lookout. Again it was Hearst. Then once more it was Moosonee, famous again for the moment because the duck season is not far away. Only a few in Timmins have occasion to visit these places. Of course, Sault Ste. Marie is always in the headlines, and always classed as the North. At the same time Timmins would never have even known there was such a place as Sault Ste. Marie were it not for the wolves and the fish stories and the fact that quite a few people are smart enough to have come from the Sault to the North—meaning Timmins. To follow the other references to the North—the ones that mean places like Yellowknife and the Yukon and the Peace River—would be to take in too much territory. These places are just in Northern Canada. But confining the case to the North—the real North—this North—it is astonishing the extent of the territory commonly called the North. People in Southern Ontario might well be reminded that the North is four times the size of all the rest of Ontario. From North Bay to James Bay, from North Bay to Sault Ste. Marie, from Sault Ste. Marie to Hudson Bay—within that immense territory there is a wealth of potential riches of mine, forest and stream, as well as material for headlines.

### POSSIBILITIES OF WAR

The old story about the boy who cried "Wolf! Wolf!" and brought the villagers to defend their flocks when there was no wolf in sight may be relegated to the discard as the prime sample of false alarm. There have been so many alarms in recent years in regard to war in Europe that the public are liable to be so reminded of the boy and his "Wolf! Wolf!" that they may actually forget the boy in the cry of "War! War!" Were it not for this, there would be very serious consideration given at the moment to the latest call that war is at the door. It would appear that the present Czechoslovakian situation offers the greatest danger of war that has happened in Europe since the last world war accepted armistice. Hopeful people persuade themselves that this latest alarm will prove no more material than the scores of other crises that have passed. The tumble in prices on the stock exchange this week proved that all in the country are not so optimistic. Movements of the British and French armies and fleets suggest that while hoping for the best they are preparing for the worst. Many are unable to forget the last part of the "Wolf! Wolf!" story. It will be remembered that eventually the wolf did come—and the boy who had raised the false cry so often perished because he was unprepared. To many the present situation resembles in most uncanny way the days that preceded the war that started in 1914. Some nations had been preparing for war in such extensive fashion before 1914 that war had to come to justify them. Other nations were so busy talking peace that they were utterly unprepared for war. A small and intrinsically unimportant nation gave the excuse for the precipitation of a world war in 1914. Parallels to these things of 1914 may be drawn in this year of grace. But there are also marked differences. Britain has given fair warning that it will fight—that it can fight—in a just cause, if there be no honorable escape. Notice has been issued in no uncertain terms that mad dogs will not be allowed to harry Europe without molestation. France and Britain are standing shoulder to shoulder and facing militarism and its ill designs without fear or flinching. There is also the notable difference that Czechoslovakia will fight—can fight—prefers annihilation to craven submission to any modern

### Wedding of Interest at Renfrew Church

Miss Evelyn Gray Acton and Mr. Charles Gordon Hawkins United in Marriage.

In a lovely setting of late summer flowers at noon, Saturday in St. Paul's Church, Renfrew, Evelyn Gray, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Acton, was united in marriage to Mr. Charles Gordon Hawkins, of Detroit, son of Mrs. M. Drury and the late Mr. C. J. Hawkins.

The church was tastefully decorated with gladioli, phlox and asters, in shades of mauve, pink, yellow and white. Rev. Canon Quartermaine officiated.

The wedding music was played by Miss Lila Sibary and during the signing of the register, Mrs. R. T. Slack (Orma McCully), sang Cadman's "At Dawning."

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a long close fitting gown of white lace in rose design, with bolero jacket. Her finger-tip length veil fell gracefully from a coronet of matching lace. Her flowers were Johanna Hill roses.

Misses Edith and Jean Acton, sisters of the bride, were her attendants. The former wore a gown of yellow net over taffeta, in bouffant effect, matching jacket with short puffed sleeves; and orchid turban and gloves. She carried an arm bouquet of briarcliff roses tied with orchid ribbon.

Miss Jean was attired in a dress of similar design, in a shell pink shade and wore matching accessories. Her flowers were briarcliff roses tied with shell pink ribbon. Mrs. Acton, mother of the bride, wore a becoming navy blue sheer dress, with white accessories and shoulder knot of cream roses and pink sweet peas. Mrs. Drury, mother of the groom, was attired in a black lace gown with black accessories and wore a shoulder knot of pink roses.

Mr. Norman Hawkins, brother of the groom, was groomsman, and Mr. W. A. Acton, brother of the bride, was the usher.

Following the ceremony, a buffet luncheon was served at the home of the parents and later Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins left by motor for the Gaspe. For travelling, the bride chose a delphinium blue ensemble with navy accessories and wore a shoulder knot of ailsman roses.

The out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Slack, Mactier; Miss Audrey Brown, Port Arthur; Miss Isabella Andrews, Cobalt; Miss Olive Ramsey, Timmins; Miss Sybil Duff, Detroit; Mr. Charles Rath, Pembroke; Mr. Arnold Hawkins, Schumacher.

### Help the Blind on Saturday, Sept. 17

Deferred Tag Day for the Blind to be Held Here.

When the annual campaign for funds for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind was held in this district several weeks ago, the campaign in Timmins was designed to close with a tag day. The day selected for the tag day, however, proved to be a rainy day and the weather forced the calling in of the taggers. Accordingly, it was decided to hold the tag day at a later date this season. Mr. D. B. Lawley, field secretary for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, was in Timmins some days ago and arranged for the deferred tag day to be held on Saturday, Sept. 17th, provided approval were given this date by the town council. At last Monday's council meeting permission was given for the tag day on Sept. 17th, and accordingly on that date the people of the town and district will have opportunity to express their approval and appreciation of the work of the Institute for the Blind by purchasing a tag. There have been many tag days for worthy causes in Timmins this year, but none for cause more worthy than the one on Sept. 17th. For many years the Canadian National Institute for the Blind has

been doing notable work for those in the North who have lost their sight and also taking part in the Dominion-wide campaign to reduce and alleviate blindness. Blind people in the North have been taught trades, started up in business, and otherwise fitted to be self-supporting. Probably the greatest blessing conferred by the Institute, however, is the inspiration and courage given the blind by the officers and workers in the movement, most of whom are themselves without sight. The tag day on Sept. 17th deserves in every way the most generous support.

### GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

At a Liberal picnic in Toronto the other day it is said that there were 6000 cobs of corn consumed. It is to be hoped that those at the picnic lent their ears to the speakers.

Six thousand cobs of corn at a Liberal picnic! What? No thistles!

Two noted scientists at the International Police Convention at Toronto this week told the gather-

ing that "there is no such thing as a lie detector." The linotype operator (not the intelligent one) says:—"Those guys never met the missus!"

### Sudbury Lady Discovers "Liquor" in Turpentine

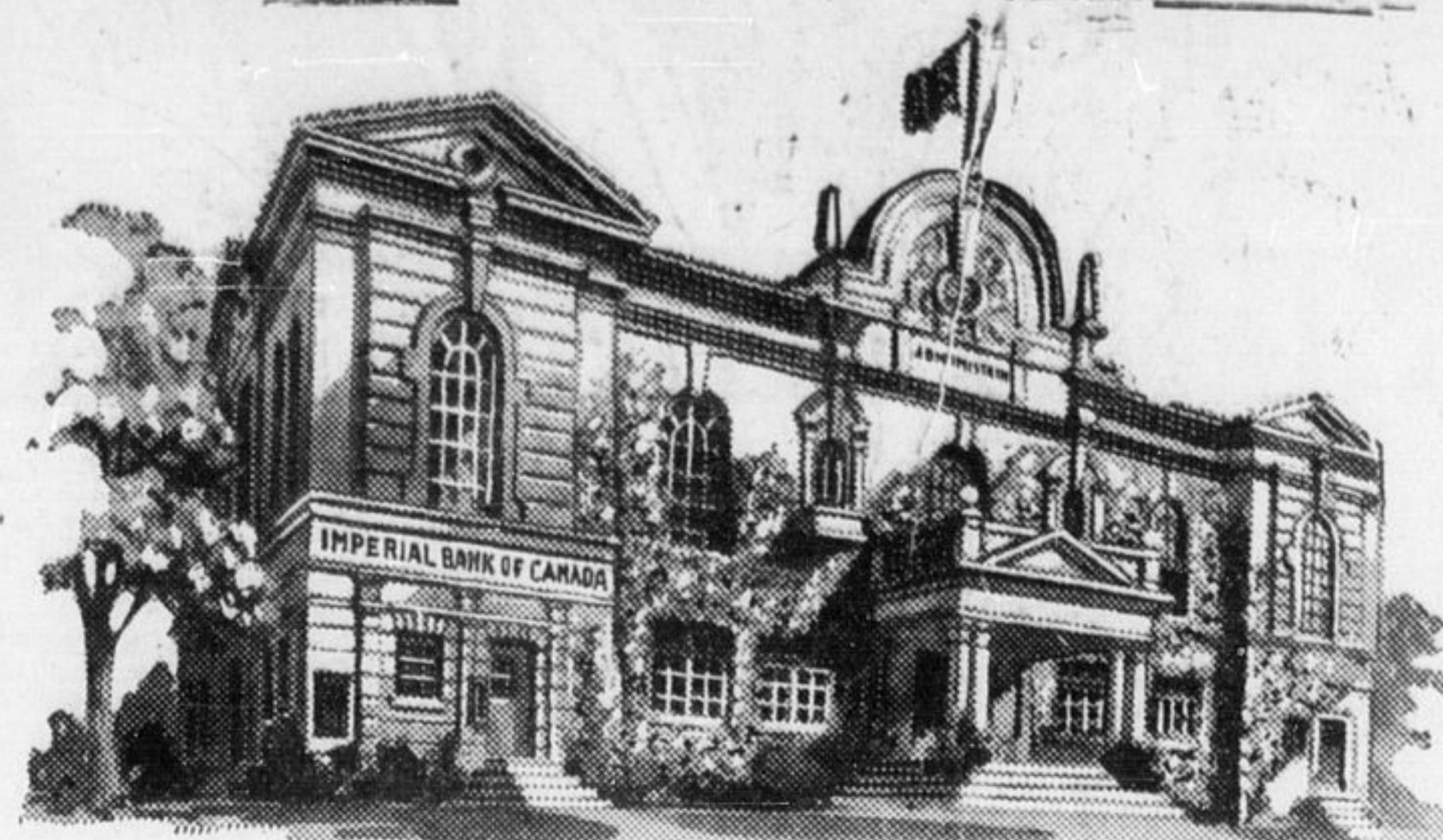
Sudbury, Aug. 31.—A gallon jug of turpentine and a Finnish woman who has an obsession against jugs of liquor brought no little embarrassment to a young Sudbury man on Elm street on Saturday morning.

But it was still more embarrassing for the woman when she was asked in Sudbury city police court to explain her obsession, which made her seize the jug from the young man and smash it on the corner of Elm and Elgin streets.

The youth, Bernard Minden of 182 Drinkwater street, said he had just come onto Elm street from a hardware store, with a gallon of turpentine, when he felt someone trying to tug it away from him. He refused to relinquish his hold on the jug to the Finnish woman, he said, until the strange tug-o-war was attracting a good sized crowd.

"I followed her a block to Elgin street," he said, "after telling someone to get a policeman. When the police came she ran and threw the jug onto

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the sidewalk." Detective Mark Tinkus, of the city police, said he had tried to get the jug from the woman, but she just stepped back and tossed it to the pavement, saying: "I don't like police... no good."

"I was just trying to keep the young man from evil," explained the woman to Magistrate J. S. McKessock, later Saturday morning, indicating that she thought the jug contained liquor.

"He had the jug and I thought," she continued, "if I got it from him he couldn't get into evil. One time before I was at a place where they had one of those jugs and there was a lot of trouble and two men got hurt."

Asked why she had thrown it down when approached by the detective, the woman replied that she thought he might take the boy's side and give the jug back to its owner.

Holding it to be a mental quirk, Magistrate McKessock refused to even enter a conviction against the woman for theft of the turpentine, but ordered her to repay the young man the 85 cents it cost him.

### WHY NOT ATTACK YOUR OWN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS?

(From Calgary Albertan)

Clearly the professor hasn't the foggiest idea what he's talking about. He may be pretty good at history in the University of Toronto but obviously he doesn't know what's going on around him. He thinks for instance, there is not much hope for the press until it is run "by practical newspapermen who have been through the mill." And whom does he suppose do man our newspapers except "practical newspapermen who have been through the mill?" Professors of history?

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### Father Describes Each of His Ten Young Sons

A father, asked to describe his ten sons, did so in the following way: My first was a politician, the second was a half-wit also; my third was a civil servant, the fourth did no work either; my fifth is an actor, and the sixth is always broke, too; my seventh was a company promoter, and the eighth is in the same prison; my ninth is an intellectual, and the tenth is peculiar as well.

Exchange: How can mere men settle the problems of the world when he can't settle his individual affairs?



### Teachers Know

the importance of good sight. Often a pupil who is considered backward in his studies is merely handicapped by defective eyes. A careful examination and correctly fitted glasses will give him back his most priceless possession—the ability to see and learn

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Despatches sent out from Moose Jaw, Sask., (and presumably paid for) say that O. Riches, of Moose Jaw, found a strange type of pest that is similar to a grasshopper, but has no wings. The insect is described as having a larger body than a grasshopper, a body like that of a crab, with long thin pointed tail. It has large jumping legs and an antenna similar to a grasshopper. Now, if it only had wings, everybody would know it was a Deloro mosquito.

An Irish Commission of learned men has decided after the most careful consideration that "Social Credit" is impractical and unworkable. Saskatchewan reached the same decision a few months ago. Now, if Premier Aberhart could be brought to see the light, the thing would be practically unanimous.

The town council ought to call one of those special secret sessions and name a cemetery commission.