

# The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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., Thurs., Sept. 22nd, 1938

## THE NEW SCHOOL

In criticizing The Advance for censuring the so-called New School system of education, The Cochrane Northland Post adopts typical so-called New School methods. To use the jargon of the so-called New School, the Cochrane paper "avoids stressing the factual," but "forms its own judgment." To attempt to give an opinion without stressing the facts is far from desirable. It is one reason why The Advance has questioned the so-called New School methods. The Northland Post suggests, for example, that "The Advance seems to be deriving most of its objections from a criticism voiced by a Rev. Belisle, of Assumption College, Western University, of London, Ont., before a Kiwanis gathering at Windsor, Ont." This, of course, is very far from factual. Several months before the address in question was given to the Kiwanis Club at Windsor, The Advance was protesting against the tendency of the so-called New School. The Advance based its case against the so-called New School on the circulars issued by the Ontario Department of Education, on the addresses and statements issued by Mr. Mustard, reputed to be the father of this brain child, and on the explanations of the system made by one of its most fervent advocates. The opinions of teachers in general were also considered, though public criticism by teachers appears about as safe and expedient as it would be for a Jewish gentleman to criticize Nazi methods in dictatorial Germany.

There is really nothing new about the so-called New School. As a local advocate of the so-called New School phrased it, the system is not so much a change of method as a change of attitude. To fall back on the canting phraseology used in upholding the New School, it is intended to "get away from stressing the factual, and to encourage the children to form their own judgments"; to eliminate rivalry and contest among the pupils; to "develop thinking" rather than to "cram with facts"; "to lead the child, not to drive him." At first thought it all sounds very fine. The optimist with naive faith might even see in the new outlook an ideal school for children where they would be cuddled and coaxed, do as they like, learn what they liked, or learn nothing if they preferred. But life is not like that. The pupils will be unable to get away from the factual. They will find life a continual contest, and were the so-called New School carried to its logical conclusion they would be ill-equipped to face life as they will find it after school is over for them. The Advance does not believe, however, that even the so-called New School will completely ruin the rising generation. Against that stands the fine array of trained teachers. No system of education approaches perfection, but it is remarkable what able and earnest teachers have been able to achieve even with the imperfect systems of the past. There are enough sincere and efficient teachers today to assure some measure of education for the children. All the good points of the so-called New School have been in force for many years. The Northland Post says that "certainly the iron-clad, two-fisted discipline of the birch rod in the little red schoolhouse failed to produce the results claimed for it." Surely, such a statement is a complete disregard for the "factual." If the "New School" with all the advantages of modern equipment and the immense expense involved, produces results equal to the "little red schoolhouse," its present critics will be surprised indeed. By the way, where did the Cochrane editor encounter the "iron-clad, two-fisted discipline of the birch rod" in any Ontario school the last thirty years? The teachers of the past two generations at least have not been of that type.

The chief counts against the tendencies of the so-called New School may be summed up as follows:—the tendency to minimize the need for discipline and application; the under-emphasis of the factual; the over-emphasis of forming opinions and judgment before learning facts. The Cochrane Northland Post hits the nail on the head when it says that "it would be disastrous if the tendency towards less discipline in the schools were to go too far." It is only necessary to look around to see how far it has gone already. The tendency to soft-pedal the factual and over-stress the forming of opinions is equally deplorable. Before opinions and judgments may be safely made there must be a basis of facts. The tendency to over-emphasize thinking before there is real basis for thought is painfully evident in the present-day prevalence of the soapbox orator who from the inner depths of his own ignorance believes that he can solve the complicated problems that appal people who have kept to the factual.

The fact that so-called New School methods have been brewing for some years in some circles, has allowed the new system to be accepted with little criticism. Cant phrases, slogans, and a non-sensical jargon have been used to ballyhoo the so-called New School. There are few indeed, who

would not make the way of the child at school as smooth and happy and as carefree as it is humanly possible. But those who are really thoughtful for the children realize that tendencies in certain directions must be very carefully guarded for the sake of the child, no less than for the good of the state. It is still true that there is no royal road to education in its truest sense. The purpose of education is to fit people for life. For this it is essential that the child learn discipline and at least the rudiments of the factual.

The Northland Post in the closing words of its editorial article is on the right track when it urges the co-operation of the home with the school. Unfortunately, it is one of the tendencies of the so-called "New School" subtly to discourage this interest and co-operation. The new form of reports leave parents at a loss to understand the progress or lack of progress of their children. The attempt to eliminate examination tests is another step that confuses parents. The skill of the teachers has hidden or avoided many of the disadvantages of the so-called New School. Indeed, it is not too much to say that any success achieved by the New School idea has really been done in disregard of its tendencies and imports. With a new generation, taught themselves under the so-called New School, this safeguard may be lost. It is necessary therefore for a re-adjustment before that harm results. In the jargon of the advocates of the fad, "emphasis must be placed on the important things." These really important things are not a smattering of art, music, social economics, physiology, phrenology, psychology, or what not, but a reasonable amount of discipline, and a grounding in "the factual"—enough knowledge that the children may be inspired to seek more.

## GIVE THE EXTENSION A CHANCE

Elsewhere in this issue will be found a letter from a Toronto gentleman urging that instead of abandoning the railway extension from Fraserdale to Moosonee, the government take some simple and inexpensive steps to encourage tourists to visit the Far North. This gentleman, Mr. Harold W. Bickerstaff, gives the story of one party of tourists recently visiting Moosonee. They arrived at Moosonee on time and had to walk a long distance through rain and mud to reach the hotel. From Moosonee they had to travel in an open boat in the rain to that historic Hudson's Bay Post, Moose Factory. There was no provision for other trips much desired. Mr. Bickerstaff suggests that at least a covered wagon might have met the train, and it would not have been a costly matter to have provided shelter on the boat running to Moose Factory. It also seemed that it would have been profitable as well as hospitable to have arranged for other trips in the Far North. The writer of the letter concludes that it would almost seem as if the powers-that-be were determined to discourage tourists and let the railway and hotel gradually deteriorate to prove that they should never have been built.

It is a well-known fact that there is a large tourist trade ever seeking new and interesting places for vacation purposes. Distance is no barrier; indeed, to many it seems an added attraction. The Moosonee country has unique attractions for a certain large section of tourists. There is unusual scenery, historic charm, hunting, fishing, romance, adventure. A notable opportunity will be missed if the tourist trade is not developed for the Moosonee area.

There is reason for suggesting that the possibilities of the natural resources of the Moosonee country have been equally neglected. If the government is not ready to develop the mineral and other riches of the Far North, at least effort should be made to open the way for private enterprise. Instead, of that, the record suggests that private enterprise, like tourist trade, has been discouraged and hampered, rather than welcomed in the right way.

Instead of threats of the abandonment of the railway extension north of Fraserdale, it would seem to be the part of wisdom, good business and patriotism to encourage both the tourist trade and the development of the country. A new policy of that kind would eventually result in the railway extension being an asset instead of a liability.

## WORSE THAN WAR

At a service conducted one morning this week by the Timmins Salvation Army, Adjutant Cornthwaite made a statement that gave the heart thought of many, many loyal Britishers today. He said he would not pray for peace, but instead he would pray that those in places of authority should follow the divine will and do what was right and just and noble for humanity. Although Adjutant Cornthwaite did not say so in so many words, the suggestion was that there are worse things than wars, though the Adjutant from personal knowledge has had experience of the horrors of war. Many have been thinking in recent days of the fiendishness that is worse than war. Shame, dishonour, craven submission to evil—these are worse things than war. To lose faith, courage, manhood—these are worse than death. To pray to do right is a nobler prayer than a plea for peace.

Men, who like Adjutant Cornthwaite served in the Great War, know all the fiendishness of war and would avoid it at any cost—except the cost of right. These good men and true are more afraid of a wicked peace than a righteous war. For these the reports from Europe the last few days have been most disquieting. On the surface, the des-



## "I never knew..."

"What good vision could mean, apparently I always had defective eyes but I wasn't aware of it because I didn't know how clearly a person should see. While walking with a friend I first suspected that my eyes weren't normal. She could distinguish distant objects that were just a blur to me. I wish now I had gone to Mr. Curtis for examination years ago. With my new glasses I can see clearly things that were beyond my range of vision before. It's really wonderful. The cost of them seemed like nothing at all when spread over a couple of months."

## CURTIS

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## Monday and Tuesday Holy Days for Jewish

Significance of the Various Signs Encountered.

(Contributed to The Advance)

Monday, Sept. 26th, 1938  
Tuesday, Sept. 27th, 1938

Rosh Hashonah—the Hebrew New Year to be celebrated by the Jewish community of the Porcupine Camp as well as Jewry the world over, starts at sundown on Sunday, Sept. 25th and ends on Tuesday, Sept. 27th, at sundown.

All Jewish stores will remain closed on Monday and Tuesday. Rabbi Wolf Linder and Rabbi David Monson will conduct the services at the Hebrew congregation B'nai Israel on Cedar street.

The Hebrew words, "Rosh Hashonah," mean "New Year." The ceremony in connection with the celebration starts on the first and second days of the Hebrew month of "Tishre." The ceremonies this year will commemorate the 5,699th year since the dawn of civilization, or Adam and Eve.

The Hebrew New Year to the Jew is a time of solemn self-examination and self-judgment. This lasts two days—first day to be spent in self-examination and retrospect on the past year's good and bad activities and doings. The other day to be spent in looking ahead and planning an improved life for the next year.

Another name for Rosh Hashonah, is the "Day of the Blowing of the Shofar," the Ram's Horn. To remind men of their eternal responsibilities. Arousing to a consciousness of the mortality of man and grateful for having been permitted to see the completion of the year, Jewish folk are required to give earnest thought to their moral position and pray that the coming year will see the end of all evil and the beginning of peace for all mankind.

During the services the "Shofar," or "Ram's Horn," is sounded 100 times. All prayers are universal. The Jew prays for the peace and welfare of the entire world.

Very picturesque of the Rosh Hashonah rites are the symbols of hope for a sweet New Year. Honey and other sweets are on the Rosh Hashonah menu. Hebrew folk upon meeting, wish each other "Leshonah Tovah," meaning a good year.

The Rosh Hashonah service is

patches seem to indicate that Czechoslovakia, a state created and established by the other nations of the world, is to be thrown to the dogs of war to buy a brief peace. Bloodshed will not be avoided whether the Czechs submit or not. What will happen to the Czechs may be guessed from the fate of Austria. Has the world forgotten the shameless persecution and murder of the Jews in Austria, the lawless imprisonment of the Austrian Chancellor, the kidnapping and holding for ransom of Baron Rothschild? The thought of Britain being a party to turning Czechoslovakia to its inevitable fate under German domination appears a piece of treachery not in keeping with British traditions. Against this, however, is the faith in the honour of Premier Chamberlain. It is pointed out that no official statement has been made of the terms agreed to by the British and French cabinets. There is the hope that when the facts are known it will be found that a moment's peace was not purchased at the price of justice, honour, decency, and the very lives of the people of Czechoslovakia. Britain was not bound by pledged treaty to defend Czechoslovakia. France was so bound. The recent attitude of Britain was an open pledge to Czechoslovakia that the right would be upheld. If the nations stand back and allow the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia and the mad persecution and mass murder of its people practically sure to follow such a surrender to Nazi hosts, then it is the saddest day in the history of civilization and

divided into three parts:—"Malchoth" deals with the conception of God as King and Father of the human race. Here the Jew prays for peace and universal brotherhood. The second part, "Zichronoth," urges remembering the past, pausing for self-analysis and giving account to one's conscience. The third portion, "Shofroth," tells of the "Shofar" (ram's horn) which is sounded during the services, issuing a call to all men to wake up out of religious indifference and spiritual lassitude.

On Rosh Hashonah the Almighty sits in judgment over the world and the destiny of mankind is determined.—Who will die and who will live, whether there will be peace on earth or God forbid war.

The Hebrew Congregation B'nai Israel, of Timmins, extends to all residents of the Porcupine Camp best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

A year of Peace and Good-will to Man!

## Lawsuit Over Tax Sale of Residence at Cobalt

Cobalt, Sept. 22.—(Special to The Advance)—Sequel to a tax sale held here on July 18 last, a lawsuit has been inaugurated in the Supreme Court of Ontario at Haileybury, with the town of Cobalt as defendants and Edna and Joseph Sweet, who occupied the Nickel street house was the chief item disposed of on that occasion, the plaintiffs, Mr. and Mrs. Sweet, both of whom are at present out of town, are seeking to recover possession of their home, and in the writ they have issued against the municipality contend that the sale of the house of E. L. Tomney for \$445.72 is null and void because they had made four small payments against the arrears owing on the property.

These sums, which aggregate \$25, it is stated, were applied by the town to the 1938 taxes and this does not affect the legality of the tax sale proceedings, the municipal corporation alleges. The house, which is at present not occupied, was the only transaction of any financial size entered into at the time of the sale in July and Mr. Tomney, the only bidder on it, never has taken possession pending a smoothing out of the legal difficulties. The sale price included arrears against the property, all taxes owing to the end of the present year and costs. It is stated here the property still is registered in the name of an earlier occupant. Hearing of the action will take place, it is expected, at the non-jury sittings of the Supreme Court at Haileybury in November.

## Uninvited Guest at Liskeard Wedding

Wore Blue Ensemble and Carried Sheaf of Blue Papers.

Cobalt, Sept. 22.—(Special to The Advance)—An uninvited "guest" in a blue uniform trimmed with brass buttons joined himself to a New Liskeard wedding party which had gone horn tooting through Cobalt on Tuesday morning, and it was a decidedly subdued cavalcade which later on followed Provincial Constable R. O. Stromberg along the main highway from North Cobalt, down Lang street and on to the town hall, where enquiries were completed and names and addresses taken. Court proceedings may follow, not necessarily over the horn tooting, but because one of the drivers in the car procession is alleged to have grabbed a red danger flag in passing men at work near Argentite and to have thrown this warning signal to one side of the road, police said.

According to the officer, he had followed the procession of four cars from Cobalt, but had intended only to warn them about the noise created until he saw personally the flag incident. Constable Stromberg declared he was close behind the last car of the parade when he saw a hand shoot out from the driver's side of the automobile ahead of that, seize the flag and toss it away. Constable Stromberg speeded up, he said, and headed off the parade at North Cobalt, himself leading the cars back to Cobalt. The flag, the officer

good faith among peoples. It may purchase peace for the moment, but Ethiopia, Austria, Spain and China made it plain that it is but the beginning of more unbearable aggressions. Most people, however, will pray—not for peace, but for an honourable explanation.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The St. Thomas Times-Journal says that the accordion makes more sound for its size than any other musical instrument. Any Scotsman will tell you that the bagpipes make more noise for its sound than any other size instrument.

Under the new system of garbage collection, housewives have to place their garbage cans on the street line before their houses. This gives a gala appearance to the streets and is a decided convenience for stray dogs who formerly had to hunt in back yards for garbage cans to upset. "That's the way they do in the cities," is the excuse for the new location of garbage cans. Surely there are other and better ways of aping city ways!

Hitler has the satisfaction of being able to say: "Well, anyway, I was able to get Chamberlain up in the air!"

Explanation is still awaiting as to why is the Flying Priest.

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said, protected men working near the rock cut at Argentite, where temporarily there was room for only one car at a time to pass, and where the road gang could not be seen by approaching motorists from the north until these were over the brow of the hill.

## About the Decision In Recent Ball Game

Vince Woodbury, Old-Time Baseball Umpire, Gives His View of the Matter.

Timmins, Sept. 20th, 1938  
Editor Porcupine Advance,  
Timmins, Ont.

Dear Editor:—Regarding the disputed game between Porcupine and Lake Shore teams:

A Lake Shore batter hit a drive over second into the field. The Lake Shore runner tried to score on the hit. The Porcupine catcher stood at the plate to receive the return. The runner hit the catcher and both went down, however the catcher got up ran after the ball and threw it to the Porcupine pitcher who was now covering home, and the pitcher put the ball on the runner. The Lake Shore runner being knocked out when he ran into the Porcupine catcher was pulled over the home plate by his team-mates.

I contend there can be no overthrow in this play. The man tried to score from second on a hit, and if the ball can be laid on him no matter where it goes before he touches home he is out. In the second place as soon as a Lake Shore runner is interfered with by one of his own players and assisted to score as he was in this instance, he is auto-

## Canada's Gold Production Fourteen Millions in July

Canadian gold production in July amounted to 420,778 ounces, worth approximately \$14,727,230, comparing with 390,693 ounces, worth \$13,674,255 in June according to the Dominion Bureau of Metal Statistics. Production in July last year was 347,716 ounces, worth \$12,170,060.

Production for the first seven months of the year amounts to 2,638,946 ounces, worth \$92,363,110, against 2,323,704 ounces, worth \$81,329,640 in the comparable period of 1937. These figures indicate that if the present monthly average is maintained, gold output of the Dominion for 1938 will approximately \$158,000,000 compared with \$143,314,561 in 1937, indicating increase of more than nine per cent.

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## Hollinger's 17th Extra Dividend Disbursement

Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines, Porcupine district, has declared the regular four-weekly dividend of five cents per share, and an extra of five cent per share, both payable October 7 to shareholders of record September 23, calling for the distribution of \$492,000 on the 4,920,000 shares outstanding. This is the ninth regular and sixth extra dividend this year. It will be the 310th regular and 47th extra since initial payment in 1912. When the current dividend is paid total distribution this year will be \$3,444,000, and grand total since 1912 will be \$92,178,400.



## THE KIDNEYS

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