

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., Thursday, Feb. 16th, 1939

TAKING FIRST PLACE

The other day a local citizen commented upon the nerve-racking stress and strain of world conditions. "It is bad enough in this country," he said, "but I don't see how the British people, at home in the Old Land, so close to the scene and the danger, have been able to survive and keep cheerful." The answer does not seem to be difficult to surmise. The British people have the faculty of turning from what appears to be a desperate crisis, to give their minds and hearts to some apparently frivolous matter. There is no doubt that people who can do this must escape the worst of strain and stress. British statesmen carrying the very burdens of the world on their slim shoulders turn aside for a week-end at the races, or on a fishing trip, or cultivating flowers. It is not so many months ago that Britain had a prime minister who sought and found relief and renewed strength from his books and his pipe and his pigs, and so faced the world again with a new and greater strength. The people appear to enjoy the same happy faculty cultivated by their leaders. Recently British newspapers have featured letters—not worrying about which dictator will be the first to bring Armageddon on the world—but in the most serious and sincere fashion seeking the name of the first woman to ride a bicycle. The correspondence on this question grew so great that it seemed to overshadow all other issues. And the people acted as if a great moral victory had been won when the dispute was finally settled. In triumph, it is announced that Miss Mary Marshbank, of Courthill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, was the first of the gentler sex to ride a bicycle. Many who could not give the date of the battle of Waterloo, were able to prove that this Mary sat upon the seat of the first bicycle ever built, in the year of grace 1843, when she was but three years old, and that at the age of seven she rode the world's second bicycle. Further details are solemnly submitted. The first bicycle was built in 1840 by Kirkpatrick MacMillan, of Courthill, and only a few men, and known and able to be named, ever rode upon it before Mary took first place as the first woman cyclist. There is a form of genius in this ability to forget wars and bloodshed and oppression and evil, for the moment, and turn interest and enthusiasm to an honest and simple matter far removed from dictators and development. It is well also to remember that the people who can thus turn from the depressing things of life to fairly revel in some trivial but interesting question, by the same token can turn, with renewed strength and singleness of purpose from the apparently frivolous to the more serious aspects of life and give to the more unpleasant side of existence a wholehearted devotion at which the brutal and the persecuting may well tremble.

A REGULAR REPEATER

The notice created by the suggestion of Mayor Bartleman that the North Land secede from the rest of the province of Ontario recalls to many how often this suggestion has been used in the North to secure a little attention. One old-timer told The Advance this week that when there were only a few traders and the odd lumber camp in the country there were mutterings of secession, or something. There was a time when the North was so completely ignored that secession—or something—seemed badly needed. The old-timers of the North had a great vision of the future of this country but seemed to be unable to touch the people of the South with any of the same faith—even around election time. In the early days of the Porcupine camp there was some talk of secession—and some good grounds for such talk. Roads and other facilities were badly needed and assistance of many kinds was not only desirable but appeared to promise to be profitable. There was a feeling that the South didn't know the North, didn't understand the North, and didn't give a continental copper for the North. Northern men of vision could see the potentialities of the North and might well be excused if they expressed the opinion that if the North looked after its own affairs and had its own resources to finance its development progress would be more rapid and the people would be happier and more justly used. Despite all this, however, there was nothing approaching an organized agitation for secession until April of 1921 when the province voted for the prohibition of the manufacture, importation and sale of alcoholic liquors. The North voted much differently to the rest of Ontario. There were only two towns in the North that did not give a large majority against prohibition. These two towns were New Liskeard and Charlton, and they have hardly lived down the record in the long years since. In most of the other towns of the North the majority against prohibition was overwhelming. The vote seemed to give a striking illustration of the fact that the

North and South were widely apart in their ideas. "This is the last straw," said one genial Northerner—now living happily in the South, and more soberly than the average man in that part of the South, "there's nothing left for the North but to secede." Publicity was given the suggestion and it appears surprising, looking back, how much favour the idea met. Of course, it wasn't all a case of lawful liquor. A lot of the dissatisfaction was caused by the awful roads there were, the unlawful lack of needed roads, and a host of other grievances. For a time secession sentiment thrived, but some little attention was given to needed roads in the North, and there was a little liquor filtering through to this country, and the people of this North are a patient and a kindly people. So down died the talk of secession. In a few years, however, the cry of secession was again raised, a candidate for parliament making this the chief plank in his platform. The vote he received, however, was so small that it looked as if the good folks of the North might have thought he was running on a dry platform. In some polling places he received a single vote or two, and in others his own scrutineers and agents appeared to vote against him. This was not, however, because secession sentiment had altogether died out, but rather because the people of the North were thinking busily of something else. That is one trouble about matters like secession—the people are liable to be so engrossed with something else—the arduous work of building a new land, for example, that a little matter like starting a new province is liable to be crowded from the memory. In the past fifteen years there have been half a dozen agitations for secession. Some of them have attained proportions of some importance and some have not. It would not be fair to say that any of them were without full excuse. It would be equally unfair to fail to say that the North in its heart does not wish secession—has never desired secession. What the North has wanted—still wants—is a fair deal. With any approach to a fair deal, the North will give countenance to little secession agitation.

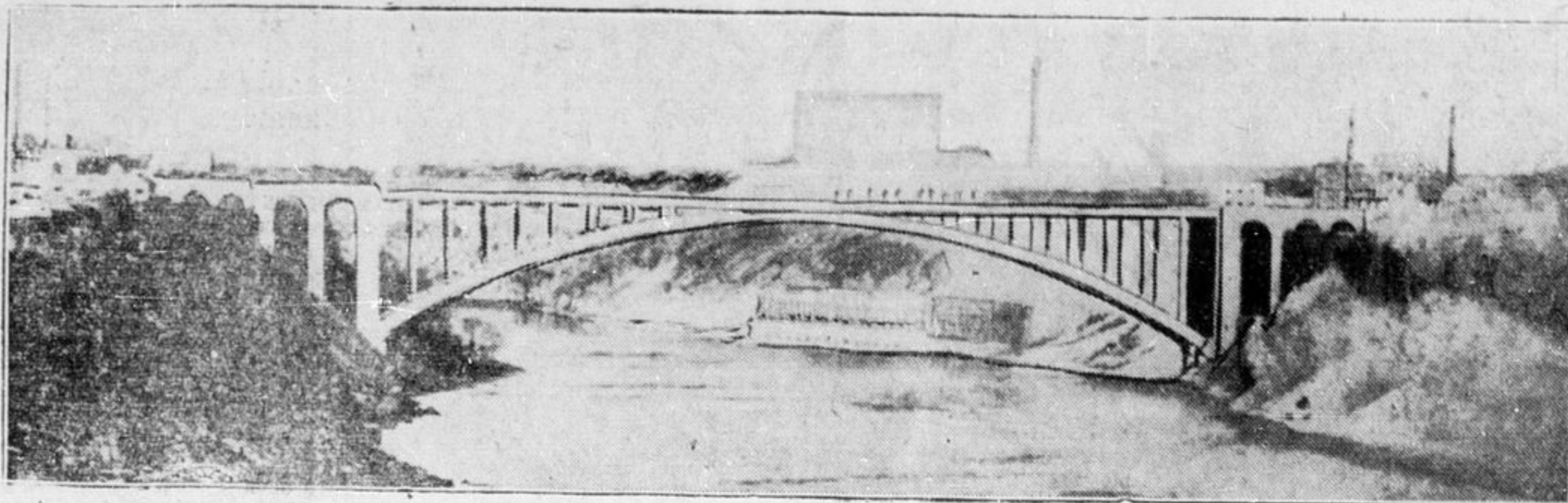
It is not too much to say that the various agitations for secession have not really been agitations for secession at all—they have simply been activities to force on the attention of the people of the South that the North intends to prosper. To progress, to grow great, and if the people of the South ignore the facts then the North is ready to take the most drastic steps. Previous suggestions about secession were based on actual proof that the North was being ignored, or treated differently to other parts of the province. The present suggestion is of altogether different type. It represents no general sentiment in the North at the present time. The threat is used in regard to a question that is advanced by a group of four municipalities, the representatives of these municipalities not ever agreeing, while the municipalities themselves are more than divided on the question. Naturally the people of the North would be glad to secure a greater share of the taxation paid by the mines. That is something about which there is no dispute. There is a very large body of opinion in the North, however, that believes that the mines are now paying their full share of taxation, and that further burdens along this line would injure, not help, the country and the people. This line of thought sees the wrong in the distribution of the mine taxation, the Dominion Government improperly taking too great a proportion from the province and the province, in turn, leaving too small a portion for the municipalities. Most people are clearheaded enough to see that secession would not remedy the difficulty and that talk of secession is not likely to have any other effect than to irritate and to delay an equitable re-adjustment of mine taxation.

FORCE OF PUBLIC OPINION

There has been a more or less general belief that the dictators of the world to-day have no regard for world opinion. This thought was emphasized by many at the time of the public protests against the wholesale despoilation and murder of the Jewish people in Germany. "What's the use?" was too common an attitude. The reply to this thought of despair was the fact that whether protests proved of avail or not, civilized people owed it to themselves to protest—to show their abhorrence of the inhumanities practiced. Silence has been construed as a form of consent. The people of decency and humanity had to prove by protest that they did not consent.

Perhaps, there was not a great deal of true hopefulness in a majority of the public protests made. Yet the results again indicate that it is good policy to do the right thing and trust that the outcome will be well. The public protests had the effect of building a world opinion that would make itself heard. Some of the results have been surprising. One of the incidents that followed in the wake of public opinion was the disapproval that was shown in Britain, France, Canada, the United States and other countries to the Nazi temperament. One example was the banning of a book by Mrs. Lindbergh from United States libraries, because her husband had accepted a German decoration. In turn this wave of world sentiment made itself known and felt in Germany and other lands. Bluff and bluster continued, but if there was not actual stoppage of brutality to minorities in Germany, there has at least been no further boasting about these senseless cruelties.

COULD REPLACE HONEY MOON BRIDGE FOR \$4,000,000



For \$4,000,000 Niagara's Honey Moon bridge could be replaced by a modern Rainbow bridge like this, according to estimates accompanying sketches released by Hon. T. B. McQuesten, Ontario minister of highways. Public funds, administered by an international commission, would build the bridge. According to these designs abutments would be placed above the ice level so as to prevent the recurrence of the bridge's destruction.

Observe the Twentieth Anniversary of Wedding

Delightful Social Event at the Legion Hall on Tuesday Evening. Presentation from the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Legion. Jitterbug Contest won by the "Bride and Groom."

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hardy, popular residents of Timmins for the past eleven years, celebrated their twentieth wedding anniversary on Tuesday evening by inviting a large number of their friends to enjoy the occasion at the Legion Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy, who reside at 3 Transmission Line, were married on February 14, 1919, at Billington, near Blackburn City, Lancashire, England. The ceremony took place in St. Mary's Catholic Church, which is over three hundred years old, and was performed by the Rev. Fr. Walmesley.

Mrs. Hardy was formerly Miss Evelyn Cliffe, daughter of Sergeant and Mrs. J. W. Cliffe, of Billington. Mr. Hardy was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hardy, of Ipswich, England.

The bridegroom of twenty years ago, had resided in Canada before his marriage, and in 1919, the young couple moved to Canada eleven years ago, coming to Timmins. They have two sons, Bob and Harry, who are both well-known among the younger set here.

Mrs. Hardy is the president of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion, and Mr. Hardy is sergeant-at-arms in the local branch of the Legion. Both are very popular in Legion activities, and always take part in the events held by this organization.

To the event on Tuesday evening, the host and hostess invited members of the Canadian Legion, members of the Ladies' Auxiliary, and personal friends, and a large number were present to echo the hope expressed by Mr. James Cowan, who acted as master of ceremonies, that the "bride and groom" would enjoy many more years of "marital bliss."

Mrs. Hardy received her guests in an assemblage of printed cheer. An enjoyable programme was presented, Mrs. Dupont singing "Sunshine if Your Smile" and as an encore "Beautiful Dreamer." Mrs. Mason delighted with the singing of "When the Mighty Organ Played, O Promise Me," and Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Dupont, Mrs. Hardy, and Mrs. Shaw formed a quartet to sing, "Whispering Hopes." An amusing feature was the singing of several humorous songs by Fred Curtis in his well-known style.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy were presented with a beautiful bridal wreath and a china tea service by the Ladies' Auxiliary. Mrs. W. Wilkinson, assisted by Mrs. Shaw, made the presentation, and the host and hostess expressed their thanks in a few well chosen words.

Special features of the event were a jitterbug contest, which was won by the bride and groom of twenty years ago, and a Lambeth Walk contest for which John Neame and Peggy Shaw took the prize. The demonstration of a "Sword Dance" by the "Kitcheniers" was a very enjoyable number.

During the event music for dancing was supplied by Walter A. Devine at

Even that is a step forward. There appears also to be still more beneficial results from the expression of world opinion. Despatches this week from London, England, suggest the probability of the success of a plan whereby Germany will give actual co-operation in the gradual settlement overseas of over 250,000 non-aryans peoples now under persecution in Germany. The despatches further state that while the plan is under way the unfortunate victims of Nazimania will be given some little chance for life. If the Jewish people within German borders are given a chance for life now and allowed—even assisted—to leave the unhappy country that has used them so ill—then the result is indeed a triumph for the force of world opinion.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

It remained for The Blairmore Enterprise to start the rumor that the tower of Pisa is to be torn down because Mussolini contends it leans too much to the left.

Some men have an original way of looking at affairs. Two men were discussing unemployment and allied problems the other day in a local cafe. The one man ventured the opinion that the governments should do something to give wholesome recreation for the leisure time of the unemployed to make life easier for them and preserve their morale. "I don't want anything like that," the

other man replied, "what I want is work. I am unemployed at present, and I have no leisure. I spend all my time and heart looking for work. I want a job so I can have some leisure. Give me work and I'll have leisure, but I won't have any problem about good ways then to employ and enjoy that good leisure."

Loss of \$200,000 in Hotel Fire at Amos

Hotel Guests Escape in Scant Attire in Sub-Zero Weather.

Amos, Que., Feb. 14.—A hotel and seven stores were destroyed Monday by fire that raged for five hours in the heart of this northwestern Quebec mining centre's business section. Early estimates placed damages at close to \$200,000.

Firemen, hampered by low water pressure and 35 degrees below zero weather, battled from 3 a.m. until shortly after 8 o'clock before bringing under control the third fire of major proportions in this district in two weeks. They continued to pour water into the grotesque ice-coated ruins throughout the morning as guests of wind threatened to carry sparks to nearby buildings.

Starting in the kitchen of the Amos Hotel, the fire spread rapidly through the two-storey frame building and jumped to adjoining buildings on both sides. No injuries were reported but 20 guests at the hotel were forced into bitter cold in night attire.

A barber shop and jewelry store formed part of the lower floor of the hotel and other establishments destroyed included Dr. Andre Bigue's drug store, a Quebec Liquor Commission store, H. Arcand's poolroom, the Lacroix Bakery and a haberdashery. The Radio Cafe also suffered heavy damage from smoke and water.

Joseph Scanlan, who lived above one of the stores, was roused by neighbors shortly before the flames reached his apartment. He was unable to save even his personal belongings. He and the hotel guests, their feet and hands nipped by frost, were given lodging in homes about the town.

Gordon McLachlan, who lived at the hotel, told The Canadian Press M. Groleau, hotel manager, was responsible for the guests escaping before they were trapped in their rooms. Groleau discovered the fire and personally supervised removal of all persons in the building, said McLachlan, who saved only the dressing gown he was wearing.

Dr. Bigue, who with his wife is in Ottawa, was believed to have suffered most heavily. His entire stock of drugs valued at \$50,000, was destroyed. Loss at the Liquor Commission store was estimated at \$30,000.

For a time it was feared the telephone building, two doors from the

cafe, would be destroyed but firemen, working desperately despite the bitter cold, believed they could stop the flames from spreading farther. Destruction of the telephone building would cut off outside phone communication.

Odel Label, who only recently took over management of a jewelry store in the hotel, while Wilfrid Poitras, owner of a barber shop in the same building, counted loss of \$2,500. The hotel, apart from the guests' personal belongings, was valued at \$35,000.

Heat from the flames crackle windows in buildings across the street and panes of glass in the Roman Catholic Church nearly a block away were shattered.

Scanlan and hotel guests were clothed and housed in residences about the town.

The fire came just two days after a \$40,000 blaze destroyed four buildings at Val d'Or, 35 miles southeast of here. A hotel, seven business establishments and the C.N.R. telegraph office were located in the buildings.

Two weeks ago fire razed a four-storey business block in the same town.

Haileybury's Tax Arrears \$78,085, Water \$10,752

Haileybury, Feb. 16.—(Special to The Advance)—Citizens of Haileybury who are in arrears with their taxes and water rates are to be asked to make arrangements for meeting these dues by February 20, falling which it is intended to take steps to secure collection, according to Councillor H. E. Cawley, chairman of the finance committee of the town council. Councillor Cawley has prepared a statement which indicates tax arrears of \$78,085.39, and unpaid water rates of \$10,752.09 for a total of \$88,837.48, plus \$24,564.14 deducted as taxes against houses repossessed and now the property of the town.

The municipality has a bank loan of \$29,600, of which \$23,600 represents money paid to the provincial government for collections made under the housing scheme and used by the town for other purposes, Councillor Cawley stated. This part of the loan is to be repaid at the rate of \$8,000 for each of three years. It is recommended that some property of doubtful value, owned by the town and in which in many cases no rentals have been collected for some years, should be ordered to be vacated and if of no use to the corporation, demolished.

North Bay Nugget: It is estimated 100,000 persons will be crowded into the City of Sudbury and environs for the one-hour visit of the King and Queen in June.

INSURANCE

AND REAL ESTATE IN ALL BRANCHES

HOUSES AND LOTS FOR SALE
CONVENIENT TERMS

SIMMS, HOOKER & DREW

13a Pine Street North
TimminsPhone—Office 112
Residence 135

Peculiar Accident to Cobalt Employee

Watching Hole in Side of Rink When Eye Injured by Pipe Thrust Through Hole.

Cobalt, Feb. 16. (Special to The Advance)—Antoine Hebert, driver of the town truck, was painfully hurt about the right eye and had a remarkably narrow escape from more serious injury, in an unusual incident at the local rink during the game between Haileybury and Cobalt on Monday night. Hebert was struck with a piece of two-inch iron pipe which someone outside was apparently using to lever in an effort to gain free admittance to the building, and the injured man had to go first to Dr. F. M. Wallingford and later to hospital for treatment.

Only the large diameter of the pipe saved Hebert from probable loss of the eye, it was indicated. He was struck on the bone above the right eye and the eye itself ringed about with the pipe, the wound thus inflicted requiring a number of stitches to close. It was stated that the frame wall of the building at one point had been broken open and several youngsters had entered the rink without paying. A board placed over the hole only partially covered it and Hebert was watching the place when the pipe was thrust inside and he was struck.