

# The Porcupine Advance

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Timmins, Ont., Thursday, March 23rd, 1939

## ABOUT MEALS IN JAIL

There was quite a lengthy discussion at the town council meeting on Monday evening in regard to the meals that should be enjoyed, or otherwise, by the unfortunates who are detained in the local lock-up awaiting trial, or transfer to some other place of confinement. The discussion didn't get any place in particular—didn't decide anything. In other words it was just a council discussion. No one need be surprised, however, if it eventually results in a tax being placed on meals for prisoners, just as on coal chutes, fire escapes, and oiling the streets.

The discussion was interesting and illuminating, however.

Councillor Armstrong was in favour of honest, Irish stew, without any trimmings. He felt that any man who had enough of the genuine Irish stew had all he wanted to eat and to drink.

Councillor McCabe spoke up for steaks and kidney pie, with dessert on the side. That was the closest that any of the councillors came to suggesting a full course meal for prisoners, but then this is not a full course council.

Not a councillor suggested corned beef and cabbage. Apparently Mr. Jiggs has no vote in this town. And not a councillor mentioned Hash! Now, what's the matter with Hash? Mark Twain recommended the eating of Hash. He pointed out that a man might think he was eating beef, yet it might be horseflesh. A man might be deceived in veal, thinking it was chicken. But if he was eating hash, he knew what he was eating—he was eating hash.

Liver and onions! Fish and chips! Hot dogs! Pork and beans! Hamburgers! Not a councillor mentioned one of these. It's about time the council was made up to full strength, so that the collective vision can see further than merely Irish stew, steak and kidney pie.

As for Mayor Bartleman, he surprised everybody by failing to produce a detailed bill of fare as the ideal for prisoners. All he would say was that the meals shouldn't cost as much as thirty-five cents, and there should be no jelly. He was firm against the jelly. What's the matter with the mayor? Doesn't he think the baloney fed the town in general is good enough for the prisoners in the jail?

## ANOTHER WORLD WAR LIKELY

All indications appear to point to another world war in which most of the more important nations of the globe will be forced to take some part, defensive or offensive. The recent aggressions of Hitler, despite all the solemn pledges to the contrary, now appear to be forcing war on the world. Hitler has shown that he is following the lines of policy laid down in his notorious book, "Mein Kampf," in which he features the idea that the proper procedure is to deceive, to make false promises, to lie, to steal, to plunder, to murder. The very brazenness and effrontery of this policy seems to make war inevitable. What can be done to avert war? Hitler has shown that pledges are useless. It is evident that it is worse than a waste of time to treat with him. No agreement can be made with him, because it is his proud boast that his most solemn pledges are worth nothing. Following the lines indicated in the book, "Mein Kampf," Hitler has indicated his intention to add Memel and Rumania to his plunder. Rumania is preparing to resist him with force. King Carol is personally directing his armies, and despatches suggest that Hitler will have no bloodless victory in Rumania. It will be far different to the conquest of Austria. Rumania apparently prefers to shed blood to resist the advance of the Huns, rather than to be plundered and murdered and dispossessed by the modern marauders.

The only chance for any approach to peace is that the probable forces arrayed against him may make Hitler stop his wicked stride. The long line that he now has to defend—much of it in hostile territory—would make anyone but a madman hesitate. His recent conquests may prove a desperate danger to him. It is one thing to conquer peoples, but quite another matter to make them fight for their despoilers, or even keep them from the side of the enemy should an opposing force appear.

The situation is considered so serious in Europe that plans are well advanced at present for a combination of Britain, France and Russia to halt the depredations of the mad Huns. There is every indication that this combination would be joined by a number of the smaller nations. The United States would be on the side of democracy and freedom with at least full moral support at the outset, and the probability of more active participation later, if needed.

The latest exhibitions of brazen broken faith and of murderous aggression on the part of Hitler has snapped the patience of the civilized na-

tions. Appeasement is as dead as the proverbial doornail. The feeling is that Hitler must be stopped, and the sooner the better. There is little doubt but that he will be stopped and stopped most effectively and completely. British, French, United States and other feeling seems to have reached the settled conclusion that force must be arrayed against the ruthless force that has turned Europe into a shambles. There is reason to believe that Mussolini, who has regard for his pledged word, will not be on the side of Hitler, but that civilization and decency will line up Italy against the blackguardism of Hitler and his cohorts.

## BASSIS OF TAXATION

An Ottawa gentleman is forward with the suggestion that justice demands that dogs be taxed in proportion to their size and weight. He points out that it is ridiculous to tax a lap dog or a pekinese as much as some overgrown mastiff or a rangey wolf-hound. Although the law authorities scoffed at the suggestion, it does have possibilities. At least, the Liberty League might look into the matter to see if it would not help reduce taxation, guard freedom and kick patronage in the pants.

Why not tax dogs by the pound? By the same token why not have the tax on fire escapes so much a rung? And coal shutes on the basis of the size of the grating? As it is, signs are taxed by the foot, and oiling the streets by the yard. There would be less howl about a cent or two increase in dog flesh by the pound, than from the cruder methods of the day in adding the odd dollar to tag the big dog or the little dog by the year.

Perhaps, if that Ottawa gentleman were given his way about the taxing of dogs by the pound, he might eventually work out a more equitable basis of taxation for human animals. It is doubtful if any system devised could be much worse than the present plan of soaking each man who isn't a particular friend a little more than he can comfortably bear.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The Russians and Japanese are having a diplomatic clash at present over their fishing industries. Both are catching fish in the same waters and the trouble seems to be that the Russians claim that the Japanese are catching Russian fish, while the Japanese assert that the Russians are taking Japanese fish. It should be easy to distinguish Russian fish from Japanese. Any strange fish noticed trying to organize schools of Japanese fish may be set down at once as Russian fish, while any fish that appear to apologize when caught are Japanese fish.

Somebody is always digging up some sort of statistics that may be interesting, but not of much value otherwise. The other day The Waterloo Chronicle discovered that over 300 tons of sugar are wasted annually in the bottom of tea cups, because people are not stirring about enough. It seems a shameful waste. Couldn't some way be found to use this side product? If this could be done, then somebody should tackle the problem of utilizing the millions of cubic feet of froth blown annually from beer.

Hearing several complaints about the recent address of Premier Chamberlain being prefaced and followed by allegedly explanatory remarks by a German-American citizen, and reading further complaints about the same matter in The Globe and Mail, The Advance ventured the opinion that the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation should explain why it was necessary to have a British Premier's address translated into Canadian English by a German American. The C.B.C. did not send The Advance any explanation, but apparently did consent to inform The Globe and Mail that no preface or appendix was added by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to the British Premier's address. That piece of unnecessary impertinence was done by a United Station station that has a couple of Canadian echoes. In view of the facts of the case, The Globe and Mail did right to apologize. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has enough explanations to make for its own sins of omission and commission, without being asked to explain the errors of others.

The spokesman for a group of old-timers in the town complains to The Advance that steady discrimination seems to be shown to old-timers here in the matter of town work. "Most of us are too old to work in the mines," says this spokesman, "and we do think we should be given as much chance on town work as those who have only recently come to town." If there is any discrimination of this kind it is most objectionable. The old-timers did their share in building the town, and most of them paid taxes long enough to be entitled to a little special consideration.

North Bay has been informed that the King and Queen will not be able to visit that city or their coming tour of Canada, and that to ask again for any change in the itinerary will be considered close to lese majesty. Loyal people have full British right to demand a change in the itinerary so that literally hundreds of thousands of people in the North will not be cheated out of every chance of seeing their King and Queen.

## Safety Expert



F. W. Abbott, once of Scotland Yard is touring the United States and Canada so that he may give the R.C.M.P. advice on how best to safeguard the King and Queen on their visit.

## Will Not Tap Mines to Give Extra Aid to Municipalities

The following is a front page editorial in The Northern Miner last week: "A sentence in the speech from the Throne last week declared that some revenue relief to Ontario mining municipalities would be considered at the present session of the Legislature. It was feared that the relief would be at the expense of the mines. The Northern Miner is assured, in a high placed quarter at Queen's Park that no dread need be entertained, that the government intends to furnish the relief out of its own pocket, and the impact on Ontario mining companies will not be raised on that account. The amount of the relief for the municipalities, it is reported, will come to about \$150,000.

"For many years northern mining towns, led by Timmins and Kirkland Lake, have been campaigning for a higher share of mine tax revenues. They have claimed that the cost of keeping pace with the rapid growth of these towns has been far more than could be met by the citizen tax payers, upon whom is imposed a high mill rate on a high assessment. Kirkland Lake, for instance, this year has to build a new public school, and supply more high school facilities. A deputaion from that town was assured a fortnight ago of sympathetic action from the government. The mining towns now get a portion of the Provincial taxes levied upon the mines and are permitted to make certain assessments on mining properties within municipal boundaries.

"Assurance that the mines are not to be hit by extra taxes from this quarter is welcomed. It is in line with the word of the Premier, Hon. Mitchell F. Heppburn, some few years ago, that it was not the intention of discriminating against the mining industry by imposing additional taxes upon them. This word, of course, has had much to do with the carrying forward of new developments, the building up of record activity and payrolls in the industry. Ontario's premier gave leadership to the entire Dominion.

"There is naturally, though, some interest in the news that a complete revision of the Corporation Tax Act is planned by Mr. Heppburn's government at this session. Heretofore the tax has been on capital of corporation. Under the new provisions the impost will be levied, it is said, upon the revenues of corporations with the change expected to yield considerably increased revenues to the provincial treasury. The mining companies happen to be the biggest profit makers in the country, often making large profits on relatively small share capital. Therefore there will be much interest in the changes which Mr. Heppburn, as provincial treasurer, will bring down."

## Heart Trouble the Chief Cause of Deaths at Present

(From Brampton Conservator)  
 Speaking in the House of Commons, Hon. H. H. Stevens mentioned the following list of deaths during the second half of 1938 from the causes named: Typhoid, 39; smallpox, nil; measles, 62; scarlet fever, 41; whooping cough, 128; diphtheria, 73; influenza, 544; infantile paralysis, as to which there has been a great deal of alarm, 11; tuberculosis, which we are getting under control, 1,331; cancer, 2,903. But deaths from diseases of the heart numbered 6,814. "What is one of the main contributing causes of deaths from diseases of the heart?" he asked, and added, "I do not believe I shall be challenged if I say: worry, fear, anxiety. Casualties among business executives are totally disproportionate to their numbers compared with the casualties among other people in the country, and this indicates that leaders in business today are through worry, vexation and anxiety, being subjected to an unusual strain. What is wrong? The impossibility of planning for the future; instability in business; anxiety about taxation. These are economic problems which ought to be engaging the attention of parliament."

Huntingdon Glen—You never can tell, Salesman R. C. Ross, of Wisconsin, said, what will prevent an automobile from starting. Ross' car, apparently in good condition, would not start. He tinkered around the engine but it was not until he cleaned out nearly a pound of hickory nuts from the exhaust pipe that the motor hummed. He blamed field mice for the cache.

## Not in Agreement With Address Here

Some Criticism of Address by Dr. Derry.

Schumacher, March 22, 1939  
 To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir:—Dr. George Hermann Derry in his recent address in Timmins made certain allegations which cannot in justice to truth be allowed to go unchallenged.

The cold cruel facts are that the estimable doctor put it on a bit too thick in his scathing denunciation of Russia.

Whether we approve of an ideology of system or not we should not allow rancor or prejudice blind us to the truth even if it is disagreeable.

Quoting two so-called authorities Dr. Derry asserted that wages for workers in the Soviet Union were lower and food was even scantier than under the notorious Czars.

If the estimable doctor was attempting to insinuate that Russia has retrograded instead of gone forward since the revolution, he was without a shadow of doubt distorting the truth.

There is not a responsible unbiassed intellectual on earth who will not admit concrete progress in all fields of endeavour in the Soviet Union in recent years.

Illiteracy—which no one can deny thrived gloriously under the Czar—has been materially reduced under the new regime.

It must be remembered that Russia under the Czar was the most backward country in Europe—and it is expecting too much to imagine that Russia today is a living paradise.

Such a conception is just as idiotic as the attempt of malignance to deny the progress which has undoubtedly taken place.

The allegation of Dr. Derry that the profits of industry in Russia were being pocketed by seventeen omnipotent commissars is so fantastic that I assert it is only a figment of his or somebody's else imagination.

My idea is that we should leave Russia and the diabolical Communists alone to work out their own salvation. They have quite a battle on their hands and it will take many years before Russia is the heaven on earth that many of its adherents claim it is to-day.

Canada is the country with which we in Canada should be concerned about.

As Dr. Derry himself asserted men become Communists in Canada because they are half starved and disgruntled. When ninety-six per cent. of the wealth is in the hands of four per cent. of the people—such a palpable unequal distribution of wealth is a glaring indictment of a system which allows it.

Capitalism in Canada will have to be modified, and whereas brains, ingenuity and perseverance should be rewarded—yet nevertheless no individual should be allowed to amass countless millions. As President Roosevelt remarked in his historic speech we should not be

concerned that those who have much should make more but that those who have too little, should have some.

As for Communism in Canada—let us provide work for all physically fit men in the Dominion at a decent living wage—and that ideology will become extinct.

Marvin Sayers.

(Editor's note:—To the careful reader the above letter will give its own reply. It is only fair to Dr. Derry to state that in every case where he made an assertion regarding Russia that was not within his own personal knowledge he quoted the authorities, and they were authorities worth trusting. Mr. Sayers, on the other hand, simply makes statements of opinion, calling them "cold cruel facts." Indeed some of his "facts"—the one about "ninety per cent. of the wealth of the people being in the hands of four per cent. of the people" has been disproved so often that it is surprising to hear it used by anyone but a Communist. As for "leaving Russia alone to work out its own salvation," the fact is that much of the ill-will against the Soviet is due to the fact that Russia spent time and money and effort badly needed at home to make trouble for other nations hitherto inclined to friendship. It should be stated that Dr. Derry has strong views on providing opportunity for work for all at decent pay and has given his heart and his talent to seeking to improve social and economic conditions. He knows that betterment can not be achieved by reckless or extravagant statements, no matter how these may tickle the thoughtless ear. His address was a thoughtful and well considered one, and there was nothing that he stated that could not stand up against the light of facts.)



## "I was surprisid"

"at the 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 his old self' again now that he wears the glasses at the office, that Mr. Curtis prescribed for him."

Prices are definitely lower at

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## TENDERS WANTED

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to noon March 27th, 1939, for the purchase of the property at the corner of Rae Street and Commercial Ave., Lot 258, Town of Timmins. There is a frame building formerly used for a school on the property. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TIMMINS PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD,  
 Box. 310, J. R. Walker, Secretary.

-22-23



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