

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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SIDELIGHTS

The newspapers have featured the idea of giving special sidelights on the royal tour of Canada. Some of them have specialized in what they suggest is the inner story of the trip, or the stories behind the story. As a matter of fact it is only fair to say that the newspapers of Canada have covered the story in excellent way, both by word and by picture. The larger newspapers have given such a full and fair account of the royal visit, that Canadians have every reason to be proud of their newspapers. The smaller newspapers have done equally creditable work. Indeed, it is doubtful if any event in history has been so well covered by the newspapers in general in this Dominion.

The tendency to feature the "inside story" idea and to recount incidents as "off the record," however, tempts attention to the inside story of the newspapermen's train that accompanied the royal visitors on their travels in Canada. Such an inside story is given by Editor and Publisher, of New York,—"the Newspaperman's Newspaper." Some of the sidelights are amusing, some interesting and some not altogether flattering.

Walter Thompson, chief publicity man for the Canadian National, was in charge of the group of 52 newspaper writers on the Pilot train. He filled his duties in perfect way, and won the high regard of all—Canadian, Old Country and United States newspapermen and newspaperwomen—by his courtesy, his patience, his tact, and his talent. He needed tact, for example, when he was only allotted fifteen tickets for a garden party in honour of the royal visitors, and there were 52 writers all clamouring for admission to the event. He needed patience, for example, when he was taken to task (perhaps, in fun) when two of the correspondents caught some fish for dinner for the crowd of 52, and the trout were taken in charge by the royal train. It required courtesy on his part to answer the correspondent who complained that the flowers on the Pilot train diner came daily from the vases aboard the royal train after each day's fresh supply had been received there. It required talent to keep all the writers on good terms with each other and themselves, on such occasions, for example, as when individuals were left behind at different stations and had to chase the Pilot train by motor car.

One of the amusing sidelights given by Editor and Publisher is told in this paragraph:—"Since the Canadian Railways do not carry liquor, the question of obtaining a bottle became a problem at the outset, because every place the pilot train stopped the authorities had declared a legal holiday. The problem was solved through an arrangement with the telegraph companies to wire ahead, and have whatever was required on tap in the nearest telegraph office, C.O.D."

It would scarcely be fair to stop here, and leave the impression that the securing of the odd bottle was anything else than a side issue. The real purpose of the fifty-two writers on the Pilot train was to present a full, complete, accurate and interesting account of the royal tour, and all will admit that they did an unusually effective job, and earned the odd bottle, no matter how it was obtained.

PASSING THE BUCK

"Evading responsibility" may be the cultured way of saying it, but "passing the buck" is the common and more expressive phrase. That is what has been happening to the unemployment problem. The municipalities say the provinces should look after it. The provinces in turn pass the buck to the Dominion. And now the Dominion apparently has an alibi ready. The Dominion government is quoted by no less an authority than The Globe and Mail as saying that industry should take up the slack. In the meantime, there is no question but that, no matter how many times the buck is passed back and forth, there is certainly an unemployment problem, and nobody seems to be doing anything about it, but pass the buck.

No one questions that there is a measure of responsibility on municipalities, on provinces, on the Dominion—that is unless it is admitted that legislators have no other province than to talk and tax. In fairness, it should be said that the majority of municipalities have tried to do something about it. But the widespread nature of the trouble makes it far beyond the power of the municipality to cure. It even goes beyond the scope of the provinces. It is essentially a Dominion affair. From the beginning of the depression The Advance has classed the unemployment problem as a Dominion question, but that provinces and municipalities should co-operate to its solution or abatement. It will be remembered that in the time of war, national questions were dealt with in just this way, and the plan in the main worked in excellent fashion. The Dominion in-

augurated the plan and the earnest co-operation of provinces and municipalities made administration easy and effective. The solution of the unemployment problem seems to lie along this line.

To the co-operation of the Dominion, provinces and municipalities it might be well to add the goodwill and assistance of industry. Again the parallel of war plans may be recalled. It will be remembered that as a matter of fact industry seemed automatically to co-operate in those days. With the Dominion, the provinces, the municipalities working together in earnest and enthusiastic way, industry appeared to fall into line without trouble or argument. It should prove the same in the matter of unemployment.

Perhaps, if the Dominion government had given a bold lead in the matter of unemployment, it would have found industry also making strenuous efforts along the same line. It is worth noting that many industries have maintained staffs and salaries through all the depression. Some fortunate ones have even extended operations. In the town of Timmins, for instance, in the first two or three years of the world depression, there were no employees discharged from the business places or industries of the town, nor were wages reduced in any cases. This is exclusive of the mining industry, now employing hundreds more men and paying in effect higher wages than before. The industries and businesses here did all possible to maintain the standards of better days, but there came a time when it just could not be done. The right-sort of help from governments might have made the continuance of the better policy practical, but governments failed to give even effective leadership.

It may be that industry in Canada could do more than it is doing to better conditions, but it should not be forgotten that industry has had its own pressing problems. Chief of these has been the oppression of industry and business by taxation. As a matter of fact it has not been the extent of taxation that has been the chief trouble, as the uncertainty of it and the unfairness of it. Industry has been disorganized and deterred especially by one iniquitous form of taxation—the retroactive type. This form of taxation leaves any industry or business uncertain and timid. Business is afraid to move, because it may actually be ruined by it own very enterprise. Instead of finding that it has done service by creating employment at fair rate, it may feel in the position of having done little more than pile up a debt in taxes due, the taxes being collected for past years. In more stable days it was accepted as a principle that there should be fair notice given of special taxes to be imposed. This gave business and industry a chance to plan and prepare. Now, if business or industry does invent a new way to make an honest profit, it is very liable to find itself seriously penalized by some new form of taxation that may suddenly be imposed with the proviso that its collection may be dated back years.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an editorial from The Globe and Mail stressing the seriousness of the unemployment problem and urging that something be done about it. No thoughtful citizen can avoid the thought of the seriousness of the unemployment problem from every angle. In equal force must there be the belief that something should be done about it. It is probably unfair to say that nothing has been attempted. There have been ways in which the Dominion government has worked to a solution. The Home Improvement Plan and the National Housing Act might be cited as instances where the Federal government has assisted in increasing employment and benefitting the country otherwise at the same time. And, by the way, has not the government in these matters been given generous co-operation.

At the same time The Globe and Mail is quite within the mark in pointing out that this big problem of unemployment has not been tackled in the big way the issue demands. It will be a disgrace to Canada if the Dominion, the provinces, the municipalities, and industry and business will not co-operate to a solution of the problem. It will be a surprise to Canada if under the leadership of the Dominion and with the co-operation of all, the problem can not be solved.

MILLIONS COME TO CANADA

The Montreal Star is authority for the statement that during the past year over one hundred millions in cash and securities have been sent to Europe from Canada. In addition to this, the Bank of Canada is accommodating very large amounts of gold for refugees from European countries. It would be interesting to have details of the amounts and origins of the various deposits referred to. Of course, it is likely that this is not possible on account of political reasons. There have been stories in recent years of nations like Belgium, Holland, Switzerland and others, transferring gold and other valuables to Canada for safety. While some of the stories along this line may be exaggerated in the cause of the romantic, there is reason to believe that they have some basis in fact, and that Canada to-day is the custodian of gold, securities and valuables from other nations overseas. This is a pleasing form of compliment to Canada. At least this country can plume itself on the fact that it is at least considered a much safer place than many of the countries of Europe in these troublous times.

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Interesting Letter from Blackpool England

J. W. Faithful Interested in Bowling. Gives Glimpse of War Preparedness in Britain.

A very interesting letter was received this week from a former resident of Timmins, now living at Blackpool, England. Mr. J. W. Faithful, for over twenty years, superintendent of plants for the Power Co. here, was prominent in many lines of sport and took a special interest in bowling. Accordingly, it is not to be wondered at that his letter starts out with reference to bowling. Mr. Faithful writes:—"I sure was pleased to read The Advance of May 18th and to see how well the Commercial League representatives were going along in the cup series, and I am anxiously awaiting the results of the finals. I was glad to see Pete at the top of the league averages, and I noticed that Smoky Webb and Ero were close behind. I thought Geo Wallingford would have been over 200 as he seemed to be going good in most of the games. I sure had a lot of pleasure in reading the scores and the 'Bowl Along', and I hope the League had a successful season, even if it was a short one. I see by The Advance that Leo Masciolli is building some new alleys, and I'll bet they will be swell."

Mr. Faithful was shocked to note in The Advance the fact that Mr. J. R. Todd had passed away suddenly, and he refers to the number of old-time residents who have passed away even in the few short months since he left Timmins. Turning to matters in the Old Land, Mr. Faithful writes:—"I have been seeing quite a lot of this North Country lately as I have been to Manchester, Bury, Bolton and Southport, and this week-end I am going to Cheshire to see an old friend who was at the Hollinger years ago, namely Fred Pate. He used to be on our football team and also on the executive in Bill Field's time, so I guess we will sure have a good old chin wag about olden times. . . . We are now having a heat wave and I am as brown as a berry, as I do like the walk along the promenade. . . . Would you believe it, I weigh 259 lbs., and Jack Dalton will have to look to his laurels as I am sure getting quite a middle-age spread. . . . I have joined the anti-gas of the Air Raid Precaution (A.R.P.) and you can take it from me that this country sure expects trouble this year and expects it to come very suddenly. And O. boy, are they making preparations accordingly. England is now turning out fighting and bombing planes on a mass production basis (like

matter, however, if the reasonable theory of The Montreal Star is to be accepted. The Star believes that while some of this gold and other valuables will be withdrawn as soon as conditions in Europe return to more normal and stable standards, there is good reason to hope that the greater part of the money represented by the transfers referred to will find permanent investment in Canadian securities of all kinds and thus will help in the development and progress of this Dominion.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

"It is difficult to realize the meaning of a hundred million dollars," says an exchange. Not so! A hundred million dollars would pay the deficit on the Canadian National Railways for nearly two years. It is easy, at least, to see that a hundred millions is a vast amount of money.

Everything was on a big scale in the welcome to the King and Queen on their visit to the United States. All the figures were large. It is estimated that 5,000,000 people saw Their Majesties during the visit to the U.S.A., and Kate Smith sang

For does in Lizzies), but won't it be Hell when it does start, with high explosives and gas bombs, to say nothing of incendiary bombs. Some of the German plants carry as many as 2000 incendiary bombs, and I understand the German idea is to send 100 bombers over every hour for 24 hours. . . . But the idea is that the debris from one raid will not be cleared up before another raid is on, and then will come the gas. They have phosgene and chloride and tear gases, but the worst will be the blister gases, mustard and Lewisite. But, of course, England will not be idle while all this is going on. Oh, No! But Hell will be paradise while the raids are on. Now, I have that off my chest, I feel better. . . . I am enjoying having a restful life. I am not aware I needed the rest as much as I did."

Mr. Faithful concludes his letter by sending best wishes to his friends in Timmins and district.

Polish and Germans Level Charges at Each Other

There has been another angry exchange of notes between the Polish Commissions and the Free City's Senate over the arrest of a Polish Customs Inspector. He was severely beaten by Nazi Police and was taken to the prison hospital. The Polish commissioner demanded his release. In answer the Senate claimed that the inspector had tried to kidnap two Nazis with the purpose of extracting secret information from them. The Commissioner replies to that claim by pointing out that it is absurd to suggest that one man single-handed would attempt to kidnap two uniformed men as suggested. The Commissioner demanded that he be allowed to see the injured inspector and learn the facts from him. The Senate's reply is not forthcoming. This incident of the customs inspector is only one of several similar cases where the Nazis are accused of interfering with Polish officials. There have been several reports of attacks upon Polish custom officials, and it is believed that these attacks are designed to cripple the work of the Polish customs department.

Carleton Place Canadian: For many ladies the Queen sets the fashion. It might be observed that she does not paint her finger nails.

Drilling Progresses at the Presdor Porcupine

Definite information that the porphyry formation on the Preston East Dome property extends southward into the property of Presdor Porcupine Gold Mines appears to have been obtained from drill hole No. 7, which drilled through porphyry all the way until the hole was stopped, says the Globe and Mail on Tuesday. This hole was drilled 340 feet west of No. 6A in an attempt to pick up the extension of the quartz veins cut in the latter.

A steep hole is now being drilled in a northwest direction about 100 feet west of No. 6A to probe for the extension of these quartz veins and the possible contact of the porphyry. Preston's high-grade veins extend eastward from the east contact of the porphyry.

Future programme is likely to consist of a series of short holes westward from No. 7, holes to be drilled from east to west, in an attempt to locate the west contact of the serpentine and the porphyry, which is where Preston's main orebody occurs.

John Krancevic Loses Appeal; Must Serve Term

ROUYN, June 14—The appeal of John Krancevic against a decision of Judge Armand Bolly, which committed him two years ago in the penitentiary, for gross indecency, has been dismissed by the court of appeals, in Quebec City, and Krancevic will have to serve his term. The case was originally heard last January in Amos, when F. J. McNally of Rouyn and L. A. Ladouceur appeared for the crown and M. P. Cuddy for the accused.

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at the garden party in honour of the royal visitors.

In a telegram sent from Canada to the President of the United States, His Majesty King George said that he and Queen Elizabeth will always treasure in their hearts the cordial reception and the kindly hospitality shown them on their visit to the U.S.A. Canadians, too, will treasure in their hearts the friendliness shown to Their King and Queen by the United States people.

Most people felt that the reception given by the people of Quebec to the King and Queen could scarcely be equalled by other sections of the country. Yet it was. Then the rousing welcome in the United States seemed to outdo even the fervour of the Dominion. But Sherbrooke, Quebec, again gave such a reception to the royal visitors that it seemed that nothing further could equal that. The Maritime provinces showed that was not the case, and again in Quebec, at Levis, so cordial was the greeting, so wholehearted the tribute of loyalty and love that press despatches said there were tears in the eyes of Their Majesties as they left the inspiring scene.

Story of Letter Addressed to Hotel at Moosonee

The Toronto Telegram published what is claimed to be a reproduction of the address side of a letter addressed to Moosonee with remarks on the side by the Post Office Department. The letter, it is asserted, was addressed:—"John Blank, James Bay Inn, Moosonee."

The letter could not be delivered because not only was the James Bay Inn destroyed by fire some weeks ago, but the man addressed has passed to another world since the letter was posted to his last known address.

When the Post Officials got through with the letter referred to, it read about as follows—With the comments of the Department being given in brackets in the same lines to which they refer:

John Blank—(dead)
James Bay Inn—(burned).
Moosonee, Ont.

The Telegram in commenting on the words of that envelope, suggests that the matter should have been completed by adding after the name "Moosonee," the words in brackets—"Deserted."

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