

The Porcupine Advance

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UNFOUNDED FEAR

The Northern Tribune of Kapuskasing last week appeared to be afraid that the present situation in Canada—in the North—may result in an influx into Canada of people from foreign nations to the detriment of those already here. The Northern Tribune referred to the case of the Bata Shoe Company and the proposal to bring in experts in china clay and the pottery industry from Czechoslovakia. The Northern Tribune seems to think that the presence in Canada at present of a large number of unemployed should be enough to stop all thoughts of bringing any other people to this country. The truth is that it is the very thought of the unemployed that has prompted the thought of bringing more people from distant lands. In the case of the Bata Shoe Company the real purpose of Canada in allowing the entry of some two hundred and fifty key men from Czechoslovakia is to provide employment for ten times that many Canadians. That is the situation that will result from this particular immigration. In the matter of the china clay deposits of the North, there is every reason to believe that the bringing to Canada of a few experts from Czechoslovakia would result in the creation of a new industry that would give direct employment to thousands of Canadians and indirect business and employment to as many more. It is true that with the large army of unemployed at present in Canada there should be nothing done to increase the ranks of those without work. On the other hand there should be every possible effort made to provide new employment so that business and industry may return to more normal condition. If by the addition of a few hundreds to the population of Canada, literally thousands may find profitable work, it would be criminal foolishness to let prejudice or outworn policies stand in the way. There is every reason to believe that the North has notable resources in the way of china clay deposits. Up to the present Canada seems to have been able to do little to develop these resources. The trouble appears to be a lack of experts in this particular line. Czechoslovakia has these experts, and the recent robberies by the Nazis have left these experts free through dispossession. Only a few of these experts would be required in the work of developing the china clay deposits. The presence of these experts would mean new employment for thousands of Canadians. Conditions of employment are all within the control of the governments. There is even the good chance of capital coming here from Czechoslovakia and other European lands for the needed development. If Canada can secure more population—all employed—and with its present population more widely employed—that is just what the country needs. There is no cause for fear in the few that may be brought in from other lands. The only real fear is that false prejudice or false policy may allow Canada to miss a real chance for development and expansion and prosperity.

CONTROL OF SCHOOLS

The gradual loss of all the privileges of municipal government is one of the signs of the times and indicates the growth of the dictator spirit in this country and the people's tame submission to the idea. In recent years, in an effort to ease the burden of taxation, there has been a tendency to allow interference with municipal government by the provinces and the Dominion, and both the province and the Dominion—but especially the province—has taken the fullest opportunity to filch more and more of municipal rights and privileges. If the tendency continues municipal legislators will soon be no more than rubber stamps for the legislature. The tendency is the more deplorable from the fact that municipal government is the closest approach there is to self-government and democracy.

One of the latest incidents of the encroachment on the principle of municipal government—self-government—is the proposal to give the municipal government more control of expenditures for school purposes. To short-sighted municipal corporations the proposal may appear as a plan to give them extended powers, while the truth is that the practical effect of any such plan will be to take the powers from the people and place them in the hands of the Ontario departments. That municipal legislators have on occasion asked for such powers is only a confusion of the situation. Were such powers to be taken directly from the school boards it would undoubtedly create an outcry. If they are transferred first to municipal bodies, it will be a comparatively simple matter to annex them to the ever-widening powers of the provincial government. All this will happen to the loss of municipal government, un-

less the people wake up to the tendency before it is too late.

Forecast of legislation in the Ontario legislature is to the effect that "municipalities are to be given more power over school expenditures." The argument is that the elected representatives of the people (the mayors and councils) should have more to say in regard to school taxation. The town of Timmins has heard something of this specious form of argument. It is no more than deliberate misrepresentation, because at the present time all school expenditures are directly controlled by duly elected representatives of the ratepayers. Indeed, the school boards are much more representative of the principle of self-government because they are directly elected by the special taxpayers concerned. That school boards receive no pay for their services and that there is no false glamour about their position is all beside the point. The truth is that the school trustees are directly elected by the people and more than usually responsive to the wishes and opinions of the people. In the average municipality it is not too much to say that the school trustees have been equal, and perhaps superior in ability and interest and effectiveness to the municipal legislators. A little study of the situation will show that they have been much less subservient to political manipulation of any kind, and that in the main they have given public service of superior sort.

Of course, municipal bodies have acquired the habit of pretending that taxation is due to school expenditures over which they have no control. They forget, however, to emphasize the fact that the people themselves have control over these expenditures, at least, within the limits that are not already under the force of provincial government demands. The truth is that provincial legislation already controls school expenditures to very large extent. Indeed, the average school trustee can easily point out how expenditures for school purposes are excessive only because provincial legislation forces them to be so.

There should be very determined opposition to any proposal to rob the elected representatives of the people (the duly elected school trustees) of their present rights and powers. Apart from the fact that the conferring of these powers on the municipal authorities will undoubtedly be followed shortly by the municipalities in turn being robbed of these rights and powers by the legislature, there is the fact that any such plan will be the very negation of self-government and equity, because it will be taking the power from the elected representatives and conferring it upon others who are not representative. A little consideration will make this fact evident, especially in the case of municipalities like Timmins where there are two elected bodies of school trustees. While councils may be representative of the people at large, they are not at all representative in the true sense of either one or the other school supporters. To transfer control of school expenditures to the council would be in effect to deprive both separate and public school supporters of their rights and powers as guaranteed by the constitution. It would mean that separate school supporters would have control of public school affairs and public school supporters have power over the separate school business. Under the present system the ratepayers have their remedy if expenditures are excessive. Under the proposed new plan ratepayers would be at the mercy of all sorts of political manipulation, just as they have been in other municipal affairs, where too often provincial legislation demands expenditures and then municipalities are later censured for extravagance.

For years The Advance has been strenuously objecting to the tendency to steal away all vestiges of self-government, through the centralization of authority. The provincial governments have been particular offenders in this respect. A firm stand should be taken against this latest proposal to filch from the people the few rights of self-government still remaining. It is absurd to suggest that the control of school expenditures would be more secure in the hands of municipal bodies rather than in the directly-elected representatives of the people concerned. If there has been any extravagance or poor administration on the part of school boards, what about municipal bodies—and provincial authorities? The record is open for all to read!

POISONED WELLS

A man writing under the name of H. G. Wells takes a very gloomy view of the world of to-day. Not only has he scathing words for the dictators, but he is equally abusive of all the democratic leaders of the world to-day, with the one exception of President Roosevelt. According to this Mr. Wells the world is in a sad way and there is not even a ray of hope. "The universe," he says, "is bored with man, and humanity, which began in a cave, will end in the disease-soaked ruins of a slum." The reader drinking from these Wells might well be tempted to take forcible leave of a world as desperate and despicable as the one this author pictures. First, however, it would be well to consider a couple of facts. First there is the truth that every once in a while Mr. H. G. Wells finds it necessary to have the world take a little notice of him. He shares this desire with that other peculiar product of the century—Bernard Shaw. Mr. Wells has caustic condemnation of the egotism he sees in the leading public men of

Delightful Picnic Enjoyed by All at the Buffalo-Ankerite

Barbecued Beef One of the Special Features of Refreshments for Event. Diving Exhibition Another Special In Entertainment Event. Notable Day for Employees of Buffalo-Ankerite and Their Friends.

South Porcupine, August 9. (Special to The Advance)—Glorious summer weather favored the third annual picnic of the Buffalo-Ankerite Mine on Sunday at McDonald Lake.

Over eighteen hundred people—employees of the mine with wives and children and friends and relatives of single men—enjoyed one of the happiest days of their lives at this beautiful spot,—made more beautiful by the thoughtfulness of the management of the mine.

Here are no flies to worry the pleasure of a summer day; the underbrush has been carefully cleaned out. No unsafe spots in the lake for young children—the safe part of the snore has been roped in for them. Shade trees, benches and table seats, stone fireplaces,—all invite a picnic.

But on Sunday in addition to this was a planned picnic, with all the extra pleasures the gift of the management of the Buffalo-Ankerite Mine.

Moving around with their guests and enjoying the picnic with them were Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Kinkel, and all employees with mine positions were assisting in every way possible to make this day the best yet.

Loud speakers gave all the necessary information concerning sports and activities and three bands—The Croatian National Orchestra, the "Oomph Boys" and the Hungarian National Orchestra provided music all the afternoon.

Arrangements were perfect. Perfect harmony and happiness prevailed wherever one looked and we do not believe we even heard a baby cry once.

As we entered the grounds we were given a tag, and registered. In addition we were given a slip of tickets which enabled us to get ice cream, cold drinks, hot dogs, tea at the lodge and last, but not least, a sandwich made with the barbecued meat of a whole steer which had taken most of the previous day to roast over an open fire on the grounds. The connoisseur who roasted this animal and rubbed his carcass with the barbecue sauce knew his business and his beef. The flavor was perfect. In next to no time we saw this whole animal (280 lbs.) cut into slices and disappear down the throats of an appreciative crowd. Nobody was missed. If so it was his own fault!

Drs. Harper and Caldwell and qualified first aid assistants were in attendance, but their aid was not called upon for more than minor ills such as scratched infantile knees.

There was something doing in the sport line every minute. No person was allowed to take more than one prize, which gave the lesser lights a chance.

Some fine exhibitions of diving were given during the afternoon by Mrs. Graham Powers, who is mistress of the art, and won well deserved applause as she did a "running front jackknife," "swan dive," "backward somersault," "front jackknife 1 1/2 somersault," "running half-twist," and "running jackknife with swan."

In addition to the lake side picnic, inspection of mine buildings and gardens was invited by the management. "Show the family everything" said the programme. Inspection of the mill was in charge of mill men. The gardens of the mine too, are beautiful to see. Especially the famed rock garden of Mrs. Kinkel.

The Buffalo-Ankerite management is to be heartily congratulated on its policy toward its workmen. True community welfare interest is evident when at such a picnic as this the manager and his lady share its enjoyment—when money spent for simple pleasures, brings, as it surely must, contentment and peace to those who share them;—when employer and employed work together in harmony with apparent interest for the common good; and when true democracy is shown at its best; as at this picnic.

Prize Winners in Races
Boys under 8 years—40 yards—1st, Angelo Pera; 2nd, Walter England.
Girls under 8 years—40 yards—1st, Olga Pera; 2nd, Lenora Jackson.
Boys 8 to 10 years—40 yards—1st, Laurence Harting; 2nd, Raymond O.K. sluk.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

While the average thoughtful man may hesitate to subscribe to the doctrine that the world owes every man a living, it is coming to be generally recognized that it is the duty of governments to see that every man has the opportunity to make his own living.

Some years ago Mr. W. F. B. Cadman, then manager of the Porcupine Telephone Company,

- 247—Stenly Lis—1 Bag Fertilizer.
- 156—W. Dembek—1 Bag Fertilizer.
- 296—John Krauland—1 Bag Fertilizer.
- 647—J. R. Kyle—5 Gallons Gas.
- 340—Joe Kelly—5 Gallons Gas.
- 728—D. Brown—5 Gallons Gas.
- 380—John Stanutz—5 Gallons Gas.
- 606—Mike Sertich—5 Gallons Gas.
- 443—W. Plaskonos—5 Gallons Gas.
- 405—Walter Graham—2 Quarts Oil.
- 224—Marko Mesich—2 Quarts Oil.
- 708—John Boylan—2 Quarts Oil.
- 22—H. Moore—2 Quarts Oil.
- 180—A. N. MacInnis—2 Quarts Oil.
- 175—A. Melnicuk—2 Quarts Oil.
- 847—Andy Clebus—2 Quarts Oil.
- 185—C. Corlett—2 Quarts Oil.
- 460—W. Skiba—6 Glasses and Stand.

Timmins Holding Third Place in H.I.P. Loans in Canada

Only Exceeded by Toronto and Montreal.

This week Hon. Chas. A. Dunning released figures showing the number and amount of Home Improvement Loans under the H.I.P. The list covers towns and cities with a population of 5,000 or more and gives the standing at June 30th, 1939. It is the latest official list with detailed figures, though other lists published have given later returns but without particulars.

Up to June 10th, 1939, Timmins was third in all cities and towns in Canada in regard to the amount of loans under the H. I. P. The only places exceeding Timmins were Toronto and Montreal. The following are the larger H. I. P. loans taken by the various cities and towns of Canada as contained in the latest detailed list:—

Place	No. Loans	Amount
Toronto	8,726	\$3,141,344
Montreal	3,493	\$1,880,049
Timmins	1,289	1,122,188
Winnipeg	2,701	1,049,003
Edmonton	1,692	958,040
Kirkland Lake	1,098	877,718
Vancouver	3,115	839,932
Sudbury	1,149	703,479
Hamilton	2,128	582,160
Ottawa	1,202	549,019
Windsor	1,346	498,558
London	1,241	449,180
Calgary	1,065	449,125
Rouyn	392	339,041
Saint John	825	325,448
Halifax	831	302,953
Quebec	476	289,040
St. Thomas	512	280,243
Flin Flon	493	249,989



"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."

CURTIS OPTICAL COMPANY

14 Pine St. N. Phone 835

Glace Bay	531	207,634
Trail	549	202,385
Victoria	540	199,239
Sidney	540	197,868

Making Use of the Carpet Used During Royal Visit

(Victoria Times.)

By a unanimous vote aldermen have decided to make practical use of the carpet laid at the City Hall on the occasion of the Royal Visit by cutting it into useful sized rugs to be distributed for use in hospitals and other public institutions. Now that's being sensible.

Globe and Mail—Trained Dogs Trail Still—Boozehounds?

CANADA'S BIGGEST COOK

Overheard in Northern Ontario

MAC: "Grub like we get on this job means a lot to a man!"

TOM: "You said it, Mac! I got nothing against old-time cooks in camps I been in, but give me grub like we get now."

CRAWLEY & McCracken COMPANY, LIMITED

MONTREAL

Staff of S. S. Kresge Co. Enjoy Happy Picnic Event

About thirty members of the S. S. Kresge Co. staff, Timmins branch, and their friends, enjoyed a happy event at Nighthawk Lake on Monday evening, when Mr. O. R. Kenne, manager, entertained at a picnic and wicker roast.

The event was held to celebrate the fact that the Timmins branch of the company had won the May sales contest for the company in Canada, making the highest increase in sales percent among the branches of the S. S. Kresge Co.

The staff and their friends enjoyed swimming and a delicious lunch of wieners and other "goodies" following which all joined in a merry sing-song. Those in attendance motored to and from the picnic.

Trochu Tribune—"To Mr. W. D. Herdridge, of Ottawa, goes the dubious honour of capturing the award previously held by Albert's premier—a leather medal made from a sow's left ear—for being Canada's greatest political promoter."

used to find considerable interest and amusement in pointing out how closely each year the number of automobiles in the Porcupine camp corresponded to the number of telephones in use here. Recently a gentleman in Kansas gathered statistics to compare the number of automobiles in that state with the number of bath tubs in use there. It appears that there are more automobiles in Kansas than there are bath tubs. The moral, maybe, is that, like in Porcupine, there are a lot of Scots in the population.

It is a matter of deep regret to many citizens that recently a number of the trees along the streets of Timmins have been wantonly destroyed. A young man and a young lady the other morning at an ungodly hour played the ungodly trick of swinging on one of the trees on Fourth avenue until it was torn from its roots. The guards around several of the trees on different streets have been deliberately broken away. Even more to be deplored than the damage done is the spirit that prompts such waste and senseless injury to public property and public pleasure.