

The Porcupine Advance

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Timmins, Ont., Thursday, Jan. 25th, 1940

TRIBUTE TO A PIONEER

The transfer of Rev. Father Theriault from the parish of St. Anthony which he organized and established to the newer parish of Notre Dame des Lourdes was very naturally made the occasion for an expression of appreciation for the notable services he had given the people of St. Anthony's. Although Father Theriault was not leaving Timmins he was severing direct connection with the parish he had instituted and to which he had given his energy and his heart for twenty-seven years. It was to be expected that those to whom he had been peculiarly a "Father" for so many years should express their feelings on the occasion of the transfer. The committee in charge of what was designed as a farewell gathering in honour of his services, however, soon found the occasion assuming extended proportions. Those who had been parishioners of Rev. Fr. Theriault in the earlier days of the camp, but more recently had churches of their own, remembered his genial helpfulness and his hearty kindness, and were anxious to take part in any tribute given. In addition, there were the large numbers of people outside his church who had friendship, esteem and affection for Rev. Fr. Theriault, and wished to be included in the number giving expression to the appreciation felt by all for the genuine services of the pioneer priest. The complimentary banquet tendered in honour of Rev. Fr. Theriault at the Empire hotel on Monday evening indicated the unusual and outstanding place Rev. Fr. Theriault occupies in the hearts of the people of the Porcupine district. One old-timer told of Rev. Fr. Theriault working by his side with a shovel to dig the foundations for the first church building in Timmins. Another pictured the priest driving through mud and over almost impassable roads to hold mass at South Porcupine and Golden City. Still another referred to the weary journeys in cold and snow and hardship to visit the sick and to carry comfort to the dying. There were innumerable incidents recounted of help, financial and otherwise, given to the needy. Reference was made to Rev. Fr. Theriault's interest and help given through the years to the Children's Aid. There was mention of his work in establishing the Timmins Citizens' Band, his playing the trombone in the band. His successful efforts in settling the labour troubles in the camp in earlier days, his work in so many ways to help the progress and the happiness of the people of Timmins and district, — these were recalled. From the many apparently unrelated incidents, a picture creates itself, showing the parish priest working for his flock for over a quarter of a century, and at the same time holding the unique place of the genial friend of all, without bounds of race or creed or class or condition. He has lived with the people, been one of the people, citizen, as well as parish priest, and through it all he has carried high a genial wit and humour that has won him friends without number. It is a unique place he occupies in the life of this young country,—pioneer, worker, genial counsel, happy friend, "Father" Theriault to all.

LOSS TO THE NORTH

The years are taking sad toll of the notable pioneers of the North. Last week death removed two outstanding friends of the North — Alex Gillies, one of the discoverers of the now-famous Hollinger Mine, and Elijah F. Stephenson, pioneer editor and publisher of The New Liskeard Speaker. The part that the late Mr. Gillies played in the making of the North is on the record for all to read. Around the development of the Hollinger rests much of the story of the opening and the progress of this part of the North. In less spectacular way, perhaps, but no less truly, the growth and happiness of the communities in Central Temiskaming were built upon the faith, the courage, the enterprise and ability of men like E. F. Stephenson. In the face of scorn and unbelief, he had faith in the destiny of the Great Clay Belt. He had the talent to put the picture that was in his heart into words that won the thought of others. He had the persistence, the industry, the undaunted courage that make dreams come through. Before E. F. Stephenson passed on, he had the contentment of seeing New Liskeard not only a thriving town, but a place of beauty, a city of homes and gardens—the town of his endeavours and hopes as well as the town of his dreams. To this was added a prosperous countryside of farms and homes and hopeful people. He was only one of the many who worked to this great purpose, but as a newspaperman he was able to take a special part and to give a leadership and encouragement of particular value.

The death of E. F. Stephenson is a loss to the North, but his memory may well be a pride and a benefit. After a long life of work and struggle, he had some years of leisure to enjoy the flowers and the friendships he had cultivated so earnestly. In his death in his 95th year he bequeathed to the community and to the North the lesson of a long

life nobly lived, the inspiration of his love for flowers, for friends, for family life, and for all truly good things.

BUT BUILD ARMOURIES

No less an authority than The Globe and Mail is responsible for the statement that agitation is growing at Ottawa and throughout the country to drive the public works "pork barrel" from politics—in other words to stop all profiteering and near-profiteering from the construction of public buildings, at least for the duration of the war. This is almost an admission that others than the country have in the past been making a profit from the allocation of public works. There are cynical people who will not be surprised at this, but who may still be patriotic enough to feel that such impropriety should be stopped while the war is on. The agitation appears to have started from the much publicized case of Tweed and the proposed post office building that was expected to be thrust on that village despite its protests that expenditures for war purposes were much more necessary than a \$15,000 post office building in Tweed. Apparently, the Dominion Government has given attention to public opinion in the matter of the Tweed case, and not only has the contract for the Tweed post office been cancelled, but a number of other similar contracts elsewhere have found similar fate.

In taking the attitude it has done, the Ottawa Government will meet with public approval. There is a very general feeling throughout Canada that war enterprises should have first place—that every other work, so far as possible, should be deferred to allow the greatest effort to be centred on expenditures and activity with direct bearing on the winning of the war. The Dominion Government, however, should not feel that it can help win the war simply by not spending money on unnecessary post offices. The money saved by "upsetting the pork barrel" should be turned to purposes that will have effect on the war effort. For instance, some of the unexpended post office money might well be turned to the building of armouries that are greatly needed. For example, it would have a direct bearing on the thought of helping win the war to build an adequate armoury building at Timmins. Months ago The Advance pointed out the need and the advantage of such a structure. Adequate quarters are needed for the training of the men of the Algonquin Regiment and for the proper housing of the equipment and supplies of the regiment. Since the days of Col. Sam Hughes as Minister of Militia, little attention has been paid to proper quarters for the housing of Canada's soldiers. Armouries are just as essential to a permanent militia force as post office buildings are to the postal service. It seems necessary to state the fact, as from all appearances the powers-that-be have never thought of the idea in recent years. The fact that this need has been overlooked in the past is all the more reason why attention should be given to it at once. The providing of proper quarters for the Algonquin Regiment would be a decided service to war effort in this part of the North.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Russia's latest five-year plan doesn't seem to be working out any better than some of its other five-year plans. It promises to take more than five years to take Finland, and even then Finland will not be really taken.

"Finnish" appears to be the English way to spell the finish of Russia in rushing.

Says the Globe and Mail:—"The politicians seem to have been worsted at Tweed." Well, that suits most people.

After the Finnish complete the knocking of the "I" out of Stalin, there won't be anything left but a Stalin.

There does not appear to be much sense in the suggestion that the criticism of Premier Hepburn and Col. Drew in regard to the Ottawa Government's conduct of the war is a comfort to the enemy. Naturally the enemy will know that there is a difference of opinion in this country in regard to the competence of the Dominion Government. It will be far from a comfort to the enemy, however, to know that the only criticism of the Canadian government is made in the belief that Canada's part in the war is not being conducted with enough vim, vigor and vivacity.

Pictures in the Toronto newspapers show parts of Ontario with roads badly blocked by snow and cars and houses almost buried under the drifts. And here in the North Land there is just enough snow for comfortable skiing. Perhaps, after some years of suffering from the hardships of their severe forms of winter, the people of Southern Ontario will become wise enough to accept the advice given by The Advance in many a past year, and plan to come north and enjoy happy winters in comfort and safety.

A Japanese liner carrying twenty-one Germans among its passengers was stopped by a British cruiser and the Germans taken from the boat. When the liner was hailed by the cruiser and asked to stop, it continued on its way without heeding the request. The British cruiser then fired a couple of shots across the bow of the liner, with the suggestion of further shots better placed

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE APPOINTMENTS



J. A. McCAMUS



E. J. HARVEY



E. H. HANLEY

E. J. Harvey (centre) Superintendent of Agencies of North American Life, whose appointment as Chairman of the Agency Executive was announced by the general Superintendent of Agencies and E. H. Hanley (right) Superintendent of Agencies.

Weekly Letter on Canadian Legion War Services

Two Veterans of Last War Given Appointment.

(By F. H. Wooding)
 Captain Ben Allen, assistant general manager and director of entertainment of The Canadian Legion War Services, has announced the appointment of two veterans of the first Great War who have since become widely-known in the entertainment field.

The first is Captain "Gitz" Rice, author of the world-famous song, "Dear Old Pal of Mine," who has been made entertainment officer at Barriefield Camp, Kingston. The other is Howard Large, of Moose Jaw, who has been made entertainment officer of M.D. 12, Saskatchewan.

"Gitz" Rice, who also composed "Mademoiselle From Armentieres," assisted in the formation of the first Canadian concert party in France during the last war. This took place in the transport lines at Nueve Eglise, Belgium. It was from this start that other divisional concert parties were formed, among which were the "Dumbbells" of the 3rd Division, the "Volantes" of the 1st Division, "C-Two's" of the 2nd Division, and the "Maple Leaves" of the 4th Division.

Howard Large, who for many years has been secretary-treasurer of the Moose Jaw Branch of the Canadian Legion, organized the famous 16th Battalion soldier concert party which staged the well-known revue, "A Trip to Blighty". Since the last war he has been active in radio and concert work in Saskatchewan.

"We all wish to pay tribute to those two great navies, the British and the French, which, silent but by no means unseemly, have guarded us during our voyage," writes Captain P. S. George Hall, of St. Lambert, Quebec, member of the vanguard of Canadian Legion War Services' officers assigned to duty in England and France. Captain Hall's letter, which has just been received at Legion headquarters at Ottawa, was written on board a ship carrying a contingent of the 1st Canadian Division overseas.

"After a somewhat protracted stay at an important seaport and after living in an atmosphere of threatened embarkation on an almost hourly basis during this period," Captain Hall writes, "we (Captain A. E. Moore, "Jack" Moore, of Winnipeg, O.C. of the party, and Captain Mert W. Plunkett, of Toronto, overseas supervisor of soldier concert parties) received orders to board a certain vessel.

"The next day the ship sailed and a goodly number of other ships sailed with her. As the hawsers were cast off, the band of the West Nova Scotia Regiment played "O Canada" and it was truly an inspiring sight as all men on board stood rigidly at attention. Then the band broke into the regimental march.

"The first night on board," Captain Hall continues, "members of the auxiliary services, including representatives of the Canadian Legion, the Y.M.C.A. and the Salvation Army, organized impromptu concerts and motion picture

if the liner did not halt. This brought the liner to a proper respect for the British cruiser, and the ensuing search of the vessel uncovered the presence of the Germans. Instead of reaching their home land to help in war work, the Germans will be looked after by the British for the duration of the war. These Germans are all what is known as "key men" in industries, and would be very useful to the Nazis at the present time. This, no doubt, was the reason for the anxiety of Germany to have these men reach their home land. In Canada and other British lands there will be genuine pleasure at the knowledge of the capture of these Germans. On the other hand the Japanese are reported as furious because their ship was stopped, and the Germans are none too well pleased either. All of which shows that you can't please everybody for the duration of the war.

"McCullagh luck" may become a proverb. Mr. George McCullagh, publisher of The Globe and Mail, has a job in the air force for the duration of the war, but no one knows how long, the war may last. However, reports that The Globe and Mail is to be sold, or may be sold, and that Mr. McCullagh might accordingly lose his one job before the other one was over, has induced Mr. W. H. Wright, owner of The Globe and Mail to announce

shows. This practice has since been carried out each night in both dining saloons which have been filled to capacity.

Captain Hall describes Christmas Day as it was spent in mid-Atlantic as one "that will ever recall poignant memories."

"With us, the Legion officer says, "are vessels of all descriptions and around us are the fighting ships of two nations. Throughout the day special services were held for all denominations and the old carols, hymns and songs of Yuletide were sung a plenty. There were tugs at many heart strings and reference made to those at home in Canada brought lumps into the throats of all.

"In spite of the somewhat foul weather during a portion of the trip there is abundant evidence of a fine spirit among all ranks on board and it may safely be assumed that this spirit permeates all the other troopships in the convoy. No account of this voyage, however, would be complete without mention of the genial and wise O.C. Troops—Lieut.-Col G. W. Bullock—who is the officer commanding the West Nova Scotia Regiment. His quiet leadership has done much to create and maintain, during this voyage, the good and fine comradeship prevailing at all times. It is interesting to note that four gentlemen of the press are numbered among us: Sam Robertson, of the Canadian Press, Gregory Clark of the Toronto Star, A. (Abbie) E. H. Cook, of the Winnipeg Free Press and Andy W. O'Brien of the Montreal Standard, who all have assisted in making the voyage a notable one.

"Although, as I write, we are still a goodly distance from land, nevertheless we all feel thankful for the vigilance of the British and French men of war, and we have an all-abiding faith in their ability to see to it that this, their other half of the West Canadian Division, will land in safety in the Mother Country."

Captain Hall and the other members of the overseas organization of The Canadian Legion War Services are now encamped at Aldershot where the full complement of the 1st Division are in training. The Legion officers' duties are to provide educational and personal services to the troops, and also arrange soldiers concert parties and other entertainment, thus helping to maintain the esprit-de-corps of our men overseas.

Toronto Telegram:—People who blow their horns are not usually greenhorns.

Believe Series of Break-Ins Solved Trio Goes to Jail

Terms of From Three to Nine Months for Members of Trio Charged With Looting Cottages.

Police believed that they cleared up a long and puzzling series of cottage entries and thefts when three Timmins young men were sent to jail after police court hearings on Tuesday afternoon. Members of the trio were Aldege Pelletier, Rene Lebrun and Edmond Lebrun.

Pelletier faced only one charge. He was alleged to have carried a .32 calibre loaded revolver without a permit. On a plea of guilty he was sentenced to jail for three months.

Lebrun pleaded guilty to a similar charge and also to two more. They were, that he received a radio worth \$16.95 knowing it to be stolen and that he stole a rocking chair, a bed, drapes and dishes at over \$100 from cottages owned by the Feldman Timber Company. On the gun toting charge Lebrun was sentenced to six months. He was sentenced to six months on the receiving charge and to nine months on the theft charge. All terms will be

concurrent so that he will in reality, serve a total of nine months in jail. Edmond Lebrun was charged with receiving the same radio knowing it to be stolen and with receiving the bed, chair, dishes, etc., knowing them to be stolen. Lebrun had a story of seeing the rocker on the river bank and of buying the other articles from his brother not knowing them to be stolen but he was not believed. He was sentenced to two terms of six months each, to run concurrently.

North Bay Nugget:—The suspension of recruiting for land forces has caused the people to wonder if Canada's contribution to the Allies' cause is to be half-heartedly carried out or whether the organization of an army of good size is too great a task for those in charge of affairs.



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Ten Tea Cars Presented to the Canadian Troops

The day following the arrival of the Canadian troops in England Hon. Vincent Massey, High Commissioner for Canada in London, presided over a committee meeting of authorities, who inspected a tea car, the name given to the many public canteens now serving troops in the United Kingdom. This inspection took place outside Canada House in Trafalgar Square. The canteen can supply, without returning to base, more than 40 gallons of tea. The tea cars carry all kinds of commodities, but the principal demand by men on home defense duty is for tea—hot and strong.

Two large tea cars are to be presented immediately for operation with the Canadian forces by the Empire Tea Bureau, which represents the growers of within the British Empire, who have already presented several tea cars to troops, which are now being operated by the Y.M.C.A., Salvation Army, Church Army, and other philanthropic organizations.

It is expected that when the Canadians cross to France their tea cars will follow them.

Toronto Telegram:—Ignorance is bliss. Methuselah lived to a ripe old age without taking liver pills.

that The Globe and Mail has not been sold, will not be sold, is not for sale, and will not be for sale. To this complete denial of rumor, Mr. Wright adds the words, "I would like also to state that Mr. George McCullagh is president and publisher of The Globe and Mail for his lifetime."

Large forces of German soldiers are said to be massing on the Polish-Rumanian frontier. It remains to be seen whether this is a prelude or not to an attempt to over-run Rumania after the manner of the rape of Czechoslovakia and Poland. In case Rumania is forced into the war by German assault upon Rumanian territory, it will be interesting to note the action of Italy in the matter. Also, many will recall the fact that it was the neutrality of Rumania that prevented assistance being sent to Poland.

Canada has granted a credit of \$100,000 to aid Finland to obtain foodstuffs and supplies from this country. This is well, so far as it goes. Canada might well go farther. Canada apparently has such a surplus of wheat that this country can afford to let some of it go to Russia. If this is the case, then surely Canada has so much wheat that Finland might be aided by shipments of wheat without either cash or credit being considered.