

The Porcupine Advance

Members Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association; Ontario-Quebec Newspaper Association; Class "A" Weekly Group
 TWO PHONES—26 and 2020
 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., Thurs., February 8th, 1940

UNFAIR TACTICS

Because the employees of local bakeries have lined up behind their employers to oppose what they consider unfair opposition, they are being traduced in some quarters. One of the favourite untruths whispered against the employees and their union is that they are Reds, Communists, and so unworthy of consideration. The truth is that the local bakery employees union is the exact opposite of a communistic or radical organization. Instead, it is a genuine trade union, holding very closely to the real purposes of trade unionism. In saying this it is well to note that there are other unions in the town and district that are equally loyal to Canada, the Empire, their employers and themselves. To suggest that no trade union is free from Communistic domination is to deny the facts. It is true that Communists have attempted their "boring from within" in practically every trade union on the continent, but their success has been small in the unions where the principles of true unionism had a genuine grip. The local bakery employees' union is affiliated with the American Federation of Labour, which in itself is a guarantee that it is a trade union and not a political organization under control of Moscow.

Employers of the local union of employees of bakeries have proven their own loyalty by their actions and attitude. There may be the odd Communist in their membership, but if so his Communism is never apparent at meetings or in the conduct of the union. It is certain that none of the officers of this union display any offensively radical tendencies. Instead they have all shown the true type of trade union attitude. They have been ready to co-operate in every way with the employers, and while naturally anxious to better the living standards of the workers they have shown a reasonable regard for the rights of all others and a realization of the difficulties that others may face. The attitude of the employees in regard to what they believe to be unfair competition is but an example of their general desire for fair play and fair treatment for themselves. It is interesting to note that conditions in the trade have been improved since the union was established here, and this has been accomplished without placing an undue burden on the employers or the public. To call this class of union "Red" or "Communistic" is to give a compliment to the Moscovites that is not deserved in any sense. In addition to that it is so unfair as to be in itself a form of disloyalty to British traditions. There are unions that may deserve the imputation of being "Red," but the union of bakery employees is not one of them. This union is entirely free from politics and from alien isms. Its purpose is to better the condition of bakery employees. In doing this good work it also will aid employers and advance the real interests of the general public.

HERE'S A MIX-UP!

One of the most confusing cases — in these confused times of this confused world—came to notice this week. Not far from Timmins a man who has been doing guard duty "somewhere in the North Land" was notified that his services could not be used any further. He was a veteran of the last war; he was in perfect physical condition; he didn't even have flat feet or halitosis; he had given perfect service on guard duty. There was no sort of complaint against him in any shape or form. Quite the contrary! Still he had to go! Surely this is very confusing, even for these confused days.

What was the real reason given for his discharge? He was half an inch below the new regulation height. He was every inch a soldier, but he lacked half an inch. To add to the confusion it has been explained that the half-inch is a vital matter, as the unfortunate man would be half-an-inch too small for the new regulation uniforms.

There has been a prevalent idea that Canada lacked uniforms. The local regiment (like others throughout the country) was robbed of its uniforms on the plea that there were not enough uniforms for the men recruiting for overseas. There is reason to suspect that one or two of the uniforms gathered up through the rummage sale proceedings of some weeks ago might be half an inch shy. Probably, no one will ever know what became of these uniforms once filled by real men who were a credit to Canada's fighting forces even if they lacked half an inch from the regulation height for enemy machine gun sights.

It may be too confusing to discuss the exact height for a perfect soldier. It might accordingly be well to get back to the matter of uniforms. In the case in question—and certainly it is open to question—the situation seemed to be that on the one hand there was a perfect soldier, and on the other hand there was a regulation uniform—a number of uniforms apparently having been made in the meantime. The sad fact seems to be that

the uniform didn't fit the man, or the man didn't fit the uniform. So they threw away the man!

It seems to be a question that might well be discussed in the present election. Or is this one of the things that the censors will not permit to be discussed? It might be a comfort to the enemy to know that Canada had dropped the old-fashioned idea of making uniforms to fit its soldiers and taken up the Fascist idea of getting a bunch of uniforms and then seeking men to fit the garments.

Of course, it could easily be argued that discussion of present methods regarding men and uniforms would confuse and deceive the enemy. It is a well-known fact that many a man five foot eight inches in height has legs two inches longer than some lad half-an-inch shorter. It might thus be his short legs that might deprive the man half-an-inch short of his chance to serve his country. In plain words this means that long legs at a premium, and if this got well noised abroad the Square-Heads might easily be deceived into thinking that recruiting in Canada was for the Russian Army.

SHOULD BE ACCLAMATION

The fact that there seems to be a general tendency for one party to cast the blame on the other party for the present Dominion election campaign appears to be proof that there is widespread belief that Canada should not be indulging in election activity at this time, but that every effort should be centred on the real business, the vital business of the day—the winning of the war. The sincerity of the people who condemn the present election will be tested in many instances. For instance, in this riding there is opportunity to express the apparent popular resentment at the election contest by refusing to hold an election here. This may be done by giving an acclamation to the sitting member. This would not be any endorsement of the King government or its war policy, or lack of policy, but simply a personal tribute to the representative who has given such able and effective service to the riding in the years since 1926. Mr. Jos. A. Bradette, M.P., has served the riding fairly, honestly, sincerely and faithfully, for over thirteen years, and with success for the people, both when his own party has been in office and when he was in the opposition ranks. It is a fact admitted by all but a few that there is no man in sight likely to defeat him. An election here will mean no more than a battle with the result practically assured before the struggle begins. The election of Mr. Bradette will not mean any form of approval of the Government or condemnation of the opposition. It is simply a foregone conclusion. On the other hand, it will be a definite way of expressing disapproval of the untimely election. In one way it will be a tacit endorsement of Hon. Mr. Manion's policy of electing the best men available for the work at hand. It should appeal to the patriotic who at this truly critical time desire to subordinate partyism, for it is a fact proven by the past that Mr. Bradette will give his most loyal service and support to the interests of the North, the interests of Canada, the interests of the British Empire.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

According to The Windsor Star statisticians have figured out that there are 2,124 different ways in which children may annoy their parents. Apparently the statisticians got their statistics mixed and handed out the number of sheep that jump over a fence before father gets to sleep when the baby is crying.

Some German journals are referring to the British as just "White Jews". These German journals may imagine this is a sort of supreme insult, but neither the British, the Jews nor the other White peoples will take it as anything but a compliment.

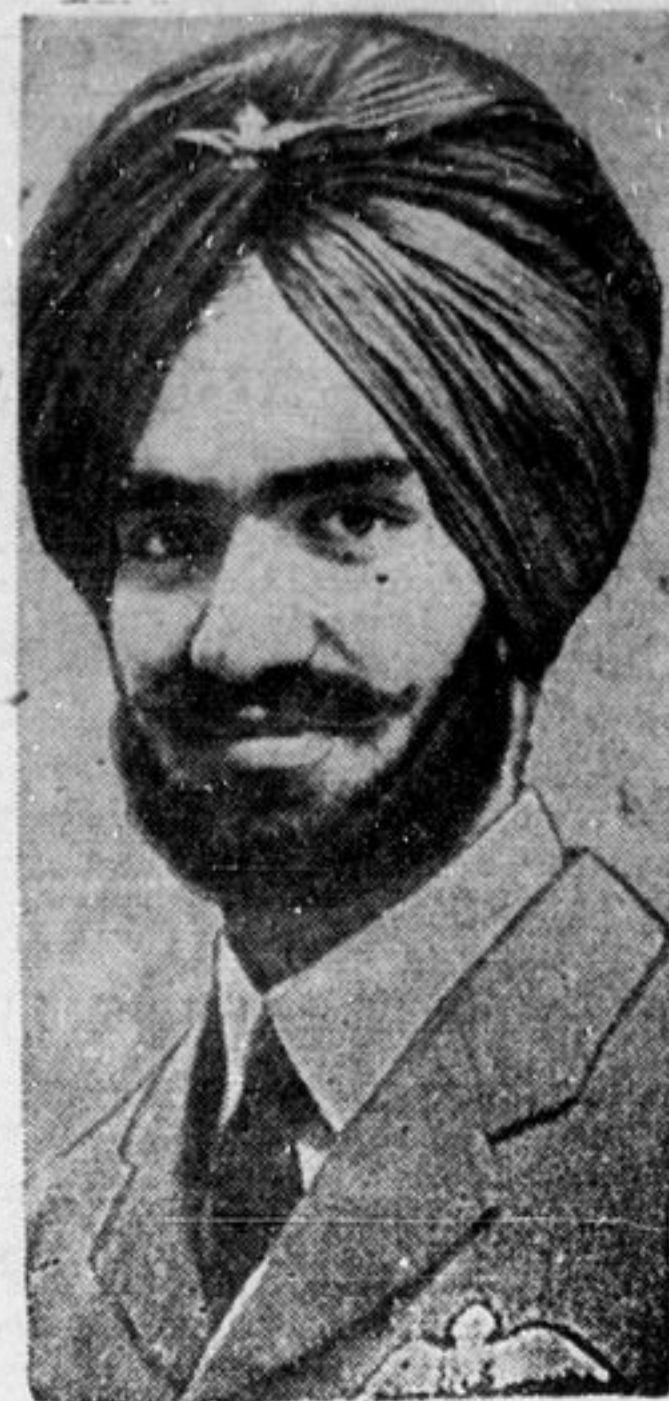
Russia is liable to wake up some fine day to find it hasn't any army at all. Stalin is reported to have shot the generals and other officers and now the Finnish forces are not doing a thing to the private soldiers.

Despatches say that among the articles captured by the Finnish soldiers after one of the regular routs of the Soviet armies was a sewing machine. So what?

Canada has government control of radio—with a vengeance. The government-owned radio is going to censor any addresses the opposition party may make over the air. Broadcasting that fact should make Hitler and Joe Stalin feel like a couple of amateurs in dictatorship. It is idle to reply that the government-owned radio will also censor addresses over the air by the members of the government. No one would be surprised if the radio censors wrote the radio addresses for the government speakers. What this country needs is public ownership of radio and less government control.

Rumania is reported now as having reached an understanding with her Balkan neighbours, the result being a form of alliance between the Balkan States with the purpose of assuring these countries from either German or Russian aggression. Italy, Turkey, Greece and other nations are said to be tacitly behind the plan, while Britain and France still stand ready to help preserve the Balkan States against the gangsters. In any event,

Sikh With Wings



Because his religion forbids him to cut his hair, Prithpal Singh wears a turban instead of the usual R. A. F. cap. The turban is of air force blue and bears the R.A.F. badge.

Wants to Make History at Ottawa Like Brockington

Cars for Posterity, Tips, Only Sons, Insulted, Zero Hour, and So On.

Writing recently in his column in The Toronto Telegram, Thomas Richard Henry says:

Wants to Make History
 Some loquacious patriot in the last war said: "My boy! You are making history!"
 We would like to make history in this war, too.

We know that we picked our job for this war before—but we want to change our mind.

Leonard Brockington is receiving \$12,000 a year AND a living allowance of \$2,000 a day, as recorder of Canada's war effort.

So we want to make history. We want Leonard's job.

We want to show our reckless courage in the face of any foe—at Ottawa.

We want to taste the self-sacrifice and hardship of war—at Ottawa—at \$9,000 a year and \$12 a day living allowance.

And, anyway, we think we are a better historian than Mr. Brockington.

So we would like to amend our request for a job in this war.

We would like Mr. Brockington's job.

Hockey Players
 An English sporting writer in his New Year's wishes writes:

"To ice hockey players. Sincerely hope you will soon be fighting once again on the ice rinks instead of the western front."

He was referring, of course, to hockey players in England.

Car For Posterity
 The General Motors Corporation is taking quite a chance.

It is so proud of its 25,000,000th car that it has sealed it in a glass case for posterity.

The chances are that every time they catch a sight of this "stream-lined symbol of 30 years of industrial engineering achievement" ten or fifteen years from now they will blush deeply and wonder:

"Did we make jalopies like that back in 1940?"

Tips
 Under the heading "Investigate Carefully" the Better Business Bureau lists the following:

1. Suit club schemes.
2. Free lot schemes.
3. Fur peddlers.
4. Home schemes.
5. Partner wanted schemes.
6. Fake auction sales.
7. Bait advertising.
8. Phone calls from strangers offering "hot tips" on the stock market.
9. Wildcat stock ventures based on promises of extraordinary dividends.
10. Tipster sheets which look like financial newspapers.
11. Advertisements where money must be paid to obtain a position.
12. Unordered merchandise.
13. Stocks listed on irresponsible exchanges.

We take issue with the Better Business Bureau.

Instead of investigating any of these we advise all our readers, if any, to give them a wide berth. Keep as far away from all these schemes as possible.

Perfectly Natural
 Judge William Stewart, of a British conscientious objectors tribunal, says "Only sons seem to be much more pacific than those with brothers. Forty per cent of our cases involve 'only sons'."

Rumania is understood to have made it plain that while maintaining neutrality to the limit, there is no intention to submit to German dictation or even to attempt to meet Germany's demands to increase the extent of the barter trade that Rumania is finding unprofitable.

A generous Canadian has supplied the Canadian soldiers overseas with a large number of radios. As a result of this, the Canadians on service overseas will have opportunity to learn the opinions of the radio censors on political affairs.

Some cynics may say that the present election may stir Canadians to a real realization of the liberties they have to lose.

It's all in the early training, of course.

We do not see why the judge should be surprised.

Insulted
 We have been grossly insulted. We have been sent a tape measure by some miscreant.

It is labelled, "For your bowling next summer."

Zero Hour
 The zero hour is fast approaching. Dull monotony soon will be succeeded by sharp, decisive action.

In a very short time this listless drifting will be abruptly ended, and the die will be cast. Then the minutes will be filled with hope and fear—and keen expectancy will be in the air.

We recognize the symptoms — the stirring unrest—the first subtle signs of action to come.

Last night we looked over our empty petunia pots, then went upstairs and hunted up an old seed catalogue.

Not About War Anyway
 "I never read your column before last year. After all, what girl of 19 looks at the financial page? I have an idea you are the old-fashioned country type, and I'll bet you hate painted fingernails (I like them myself, they fascinate me) so I thought the enclosed poem might amuse you.

"It was written to me by a masculine friend who hates—well, read it yourself. It was scrawled on the back of a picture. The picture was 'The Age of Innocence.'

"It may not be good, but at least it's not about the war."

You're one of the nicest girls that I know.

But why are your fingernails red? Men pay you attention wherever you go.

But why are your fingernails red? I like the bright red of the colors that glow

In roses and sunsets and poppies that blow;

For that is their natural color, I know—

But why are your FINGERNAILS red?

They haven't been boiled like a sea-lobster's shell.

So why are your fingernails red? As blazingly red as the flames . . . oh, well!

Oh, why are your fingernails red? You're such a sweet, wholesome and wise little Miss.

(I'm sure you must be very pleasant to kiss—)

Why then do you puzzle and tease me like this?

O-o-o-h, WHY are your fingernails RED?

Ed. Note—No! We haven't the telephone number.

Minor Slips
 A newspaper explains that when it said the first telephone conversation in Canada was between Guelph and Paris, the mistake was so obvious that any Canadian would know that Brantford was meant and not Guelph.

The paper may get away with that as a minor lapse, but for the sake of its circulation in Paris it should be careful to say that Syl Apps comes from Brantford.

It's a Girl
 One proud father seems to have hit on an original idea.

He sent out a conventional little card the other day with "It's a girl" on the front of it.

Inside the folder there was no name but "Daddy's" picture was pasted to the card with his chest thrown well forward and his thumbs tucked in the arm holes of his vest.

He looks as if he has just managed to restrain an impulse to jump up on his desk, flap his arms and crow.

They Co-operated
 Swansea village accepted delivery

yesterday of a fine new streamlined fire truck.

Motorists living in neighboring municipalities feel that Swansea should permit the new fire truck to go beyond the boundaries of Swansea in case of fire in bordering municipalities.

Shepherd Dog
 Recently a local public speaker told a story about a "shepherd" dog.

We suppose a "shepherd" dog looks after the shepherds while the "sheep" dogs look after the sheep.

Honorable Intentions
 A Georgetown, British Guiana, man is charged with "abducting a girl with intent to marry her."

There seems to have been doubt about his "honorable intentions" in the way the old Southerner would demand "Your intentions, Suh?"—but the girl does come into a fortune when she reaches the age of 21.

Maybe his intentions were honorable, but also slightly financial.

A Den
 One of the impossibilities of the present day is for a man to keep a den for himself.

Each time, in his early married life, that he adds a room to his house, planning to make it into a den, it becomes a nursery or bedroom. Finally he raises the size of his house from four to eight or nine rooms and then the adding of rooms is automatically cancelled by his income.

And he still has no den.

Later on he may make still another feeble effort, but his den promptly becomes a sunroom.

If he tries to build one below the street level, it is requisitioned as a recreation room.

The young married man starting out in life should furnish his den with a sawdust floor and several spittoons.

Then he should tame a few mice and rats to keep in it.

Under these circumstances it might survive instead of being changed into a sewing room and later into "The nursery."

No Incentive
 We have before us a picture of a kitchen in the Maginot Line.

It would knock your eye out with its electric cookers and what not.

How can you expect the boys to pitch in and get the war decided if you set them up like that in the line?

Simple English
 You can't get away with anything these days.

We quoted a few long Dutch words the other day, in contrast to our "simple English."

A lady sends in a literal translation which is as complicated as the original Dutch.

Mouse-Trap Cheese
 We wish the restaurants would cut the cheese at the time you give an order for apple pie and cheese.

Some of the cheese looks as dry as if they let the girls cut it during the dull summer months.

Either that or they recover it after it has been used in mouse-traps (or should it be mice-traps?)

Exchange—A peculiar thing about blind pigs is that many a blind pig has been given away by its breath.

Teck Township Employee Arrested on Four Charges

Kirkland Lake, Feb. 7.—Facing four separate infractions of the Canadian Criminal Code, Florian Poisson, 34, junior clerk at the Township of Teck Works Department, is out on \$2,000 bail today waiting trial before Magistrate Atkinson in police court on Thursday morning.

Township of Teck Police arrested Poisson on Saturday afternoon on charges of committing forgery and falsifying accounts. Under Section 470, Subsection N of the Code he is facing two charges of committing forgery. While under Section 415, Subsection A of the same Act, Poisson is charged with falsifying accounts.

Poisson, who is married, lives at 63 Rand Avenue. He has been employed by the Township since June of last year.

Globe and Mail:—Finnish flocking home from all parts of Canada reveal the utmost in patriotism—willingness to risk their lives for the old homeland, and this voluntarily.

Brandon Sun:—Probably the Russians have paused to read a little farther in Karl Marx on what to do next in spreading the doctrine of the brotherhood of man.



"As a teacher . . ."

"I would strongly advise parents to have their children's eyes examined. There is nothing that will retard a child's progress so much as eye trouble. In the first place they must see clearly in order to learn. Secondly, the strain on their nervous system from trying to see in spite of defective vision may undermine their health. Poor sight during school years may handicap a child for life."

CURTIS

OPTICAL COMPANY
 14 Pine St. N. Phone 835

THOUGHTFUL CARE AND DIGNITY CHARACTERIZE OUR SERVICE

S. T. WALKER

Funeral Director

TELEPHONE 509 81 THIRD AVENUE

OPEN DAY AND NIGHT

TIMMINS

Money for Business

Imperial Bank of Canada welcomes applications for loans for business purposes. If you have a sound proposal, we will be glad to consider it and advance necessary assistance upon satisfactory terms. Our nearest local manager will be pleased to meet you and discuss details.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

Head Office: Toronto
 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT CANADA

Unstamped

(From Exchange)

A sailor on leave was being pressed for stories; and at last he told his listeners of an adventure in the icy north.

"It was that cold up there," he said, "that one day I saw some sea birds suspended in mid-air, frozen stiff, and unable to fly or fall down."

Said one Doubting Thomas, "But what about the law of gravity?"

"That was frozen stiff, too," said the sailor.

Globe and Mail:—No doubt if the Star knew anything of less interest and consequence than what Mr. Hepburn said of Mr. King in 1935 it would publish it.

