

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO
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., Monday, Feb. 19th, 1940

CHEERFUL NEWS TO BRITONS

Some years ago a United States orator in moving words told the story of Great Britain's expenditure of twelve million dollars and the sending of an armed force across the seas and overland to batter down an Abyssinian fortress and rescue one lone British subject unjustly imprisoned by an African despot. "In God's name!" he asked, "who would not die for such a country!" These words thrilled British subjects throughout the world because it was known they were founded on fact and truth. In recent years, however, it seemed that a false form of pacifism and an equally untrue species of diplomacy had combined to rob Britain of this name for caring for her own. Accordingly, last week there was little more than a fatalistic acceptance of the case when despatches told of the Altmark, known as one of Germany's "Hell Ships" being stopped by a British destroyer off the coast of Norway, and the Norwegian authorities objecting to any action by the British war vessels, on the grounds that the Altmark was unarmed and carried no British subjects as prisoners. The captain of the British destroyer appeared to accept the Norwegian ruling, and it appeared as if the German "Hell Ship" would escape and several hundred British prisoners would continue to suffer. The Norwegian authorities refused to permit a search of the Altmark by a joint commission of British and Norwegian officers. The British war vessel appeared to accede to the Norwegian plans and drew away from Norwegian territorial waters. The British destroyer, however, simply followed the proper plan of securing direct orders from the Admiralty. With Hon. Winston as First Lord of the Admiralty the British answer is not difficult to guess. Accordingly British destroyers promptly drove the German naval auxiliary ship ashore on the Norwegian coast. It was found that the Altmark was fully armed and put up a battle. But British seamanship was too much for the Germans, four of the crew of the Altmark were killed, five were wounded, and 326 British merchant seamen were rescued from worse than death. They were found battered down under the decks of the Altmark. Part of the Altmark's crew fled inland, while the remainder surrendered. The British prisoners were taken off and speedily transported to Scotland where they told of brutal and inhuman treatment suffered by them at the hands of the Germans. The Altmark had been acting as an auxiliary for the Graf Spee and other German raiders, and was attempting to return to Germany by the use of Norwegian territorial waters. British warships are keeping close watch outside Norwegian territorial waters, and it may be taken for granted that the Altmark will not succeed in reaching any German destination.

From the standpoint of war advantage the boarding of the Altmark is not a matter of any particular advantage, but from the national viewpoint it is one of the great triumphs of the war. The rescue of 326 British citizens from brutality and cruelty and shameful treatment was well worth the cheers and tears that greeted the landing of the rescued men at Leith, Scotland.

A NOTABLE IDEA

There is a disposition on the part of many to dismiss the plan of Lt. Col. Fraser Hunter, of Toronto, as wild and visionary and impractical. Lt. Col. Hunter bluntly asked the province of Ontario for a million dollars to equip a division of Canadian troops to go overseas to help the Finnish people in their struggle for liberty and life. "Provide the million dollars for equipment," Lt. Col. Hunter says in effect, "and I will provide the trained men for the work." When the proposal was presented to Premier Hepburn he simply turned the responsibility over to the Dominion Government. No longer was the Ontario premier showing the Dominion Government how to run the war. "The province has nothing to do with such matters," said Premier Hepburn, or words to that effect. No doubt Premier King will be able to quote scores of deep constitutional reasons why the Dominion Government can do nothing in the matter. He can point out that Canada is not making such progress in equipping its own forces that this country can afford to take up the proposition of the gallant Toronto soldier who has seen active service in more than one scene of serious war and knows all about war and battle and equipment. Perhaps, Hon. Mr. King may be honest enough to say that he is too busy with election matters to take time to consider any such proposal as that outlined by Lt. Col. Fraser.

It will be regrettable, however, if the suggestion of the Toronto member of the Legislature is allowed to pass with no more than a laugh or a sneer. As a matter of stern fact, it is one of the most sensible proposals made in many months. Lt. Col. Fraser Hunter offers to provide the men for a division to help the Finnish soldiers. A little consideration will make it evident that he would

not have any insuperable difficulties in doing this. He is a military man with a life-time of experience. He is an organizer, an executive of proven ability. Those who know him are very ready to believe that the whole matter of recruiting might safely be left in his hands. All that remains is to provide the million dollars for the necessary cost of the proposed army. To the average man a million dollars is a lot of money, but in the matter of warfare it is a comparatively small sum. Premier King and his followers have been practically boasting on the political platform that they are spending a million dollars a day to help the winning of the war. Why not give "a day" to Finland? Of course, there are constitutional reasons why the procedure should be frowned upon, and Premier King is a regular whale on constitutional questions. But this is a time when constitutional questions might well be swept aside for the good of all. It should be remembered that Finland sorely needs help—that the very endorsement of Lt. Col. Hunter's plan would be a notable encouragement and benefit to the hard-pressed Finnish people. Still more it should be emphasized that the Finnish people to-day are fighting for the same cause as the Allies. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the Finnish soldiers at present are actually giving their lives to guarantee the freedom of all, including the inhabitants of this Dominion of Canada.

The people, who, like Premier King, have a veritable mania for the subtle niceties of constitutional questions, should cast their memories back a few months and remember when battalions were openly recruited in Canada to fight in Spain. There were men from this North who enlisted in the battalion with the ironic Canadian name—"the Mackenzie-Papineau battalion." That regiment was fully recruited in Canada before any constitutional issues were allowed to interfere with its operation. Of course, the Dominion did not finance the battalion, but that is an incidental that would be the simplest matter in the world for a man like Premier King to explain.

There is little hope, however, that Premier King will have the courage to take up Lt. Col. Hunter's challenge. That leaves it up to Premier Hepburn who has never lacked courage or enterprise or originality. He has the chance of his lifetime to make a great name for himself. He would have the whole province behind him, were he to take up Lt. Col. Hunter's proposal. Let Premier Hepburn say to his fellow member of the Legislature, "Here's your million dollars! Now, hop to it!" All the questions, such as how to get the men to the scene of action, might safely be left to Lt. Col. Hunter. Few that know him doubt but that his part would be well done and in record time.

There isn't any question as to the sincere sympathy of all in Ontario with the Finnish people. Here is a chance to show sympathy in material form. If the matter is allowed to drop, with no more than sarcasm or the quotation of difficulties it will not redound to the credit of any concerned.

THE FIGHT IS TO THE FINNISH

Recent references in some of the despatches from Europe suggested that the Russians were meeting with some successes on the Karelian Isthmus and that the Finnish soldiers were being forced back. Reports from Moscow indicated material gains by the Soviet forces, but despatches from Finland and from neutral sources made it plain that on all but the Karelian front the Finns were more than holding their own. Even on the Karelian front, it is quite evident that the Russians were paying a terrible price for any advances made. One apparently authentic story was to the effect that after the use of literally thousands of shells and the loss of forty thousand men the Russians had made a gain of some eighty yards. The Soviet has been pouring in hundreds of thousands of men to be slaughtered. Russians are being mowed down like wheat, one despatch says, only to be replaced by more cannon fodder. Outnumbered forty to one the Finnish soldiers still keep the Mannerheim line intact. It is true that literally by mere force of numbers a few outlying posts on the line have been occupied by Russian troops, but the whole main line still remains to be broken. Finland still holds firm and with renewed courage and faith. A proclamation issued on Saturday by Baron Mannerheim, commander of the Finnish forces, says:—"Henceforth, our people are not fighting alone. Aid from abroad has reached us in appreciable quantities, and new contingents are daily flocking to our flag." It is still a "Fight to the Finnish," and there are greater grounds than ever for the faith that it will also be a "Victory to the Finnish."

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Two local men were heard arguing on the matter of wages. "I won't work, unless I'm paid what I'm worth," said the one. "Say!" replied the other, "if you got what you're worth, you'd have to work overtime and still go on relief."

Writing to The Ottawa Journal a young Canadian soldier describes his first view of the British Isles. "The beautiful Scottish Highlands were purple and grey, with snow-capped peaks," he writes. "I never saw such beautiful scenery in my life. The water was blue, the houses were white, and the hills were like a quilt with patches of purple, brown and green, while over the whole scene a mist hung like a woolly blanket. It was like fairyland." Commenting on this, The New

Snub for Goebbels



Paul Joseph Goebbels is one of Hitler's right hand men and hence worthy of any reporter's attention. But to the Countess of Listowel he is merely "that bad little man." Although she is one of Europe's best known newspaperwomen, her resignation caused her to turn down a chance of meeting him last August, she said when she visited Toronto, Feb. 15.

LOCALS

Miss M. McClung, of Halleybury, was a recent visitor to Timmins.

Fire broke out at 8:44 p. m. on Sunday at 212 Birch street south. Damage amounted to about \$10.

Mrs. W. Lang, of Swastika, has been visiting friends in Timmins.

Mrs. Eva Dufour visited Mrs. Geo. Sutherland and other friends in Halleybury last week.

Miss May Huether, of Kirkland Lake, was a Timmins visitor over the week-end.

Miss Marie C. Jacobs, of Smooth Rock Falls, was a recent visitor to Timmins.

Mr. A. W. Young, is reported to-day as "feeling fine," after an illness that has lasted for some weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Beauchemin, of Rouyn spent the week-end visiting relatives and friends in town.

Miss Josephine Morin left Sunday to spend a three weeks' holiday at her home in Mattawa.

Born—to Mr. and Mrs. Stan Lampham of Gold Centre on Saturday, February 17th, 1940—a son.

Mr. T. A. Marriot returned last week from Toronto, where he attended the three-day convention of Frigidaires at the Royal York Hotel.

His many friends will be glad to know that Mr. Gordon Baguery, who had been seriously ill at St. Mary's Hospital for the past few weeks, was sufficiently recovered to return to his home on Saturday, and will soon be able to be up and around again.

Mr. Ross Service, who was injured in an auto accident near Chatham about three months ago, returned to his home on Wilson avenue on Saturday morning, having been sufficiently recovered to leave the Chatham hospital and convalesce at his home here. Ross is well known in Timmins and district, being the winner of many special awards and scholarships at the Timmins High and Vocational School, and being a popular student at Toronto University.

Northern News:—Here's to Aubrey Davis of Newmarket. A war-time "dollar-a-year man," he has refused a \$15 a day living allowance and additional expense allowance.

Uiskard Speaker says that while there is no mention of the locality, most Scots would have little difficulty in recognizing the part of their native land from the description. Hoot, mon! All Scots will recognize in the description every part of the Highlands of their native land. That Canadian soldier has a soul for beauty and there will be many a feast for his appreciative eyes while he is overseas. And when he returns to Canada when the days of battle are passed, he should come to this North Land—view the deep beauty of a winter landscape when diamonds glisten in miles of snow and decorated fir trees stand guard all around—see moonlight play on the Moosonee River—or watch the glory of the Northern Lights as they flicker across the horizon.

The Acton Free Press tells of the Walkerton minister who spoke on "Let the Bells Ring Out,"—and the fire bell rang. A few Sundays later the title of his sermon was, "Now we are in Darkness," and the lights went out. The Acton Free Press voices the hope that this preacher will not take his text from the story of Noah and the Ark. It is interesting to note, though, that for many recent years some preachers talked little else but about "Peace," and now see the wars that are on the earth.

The Peel Gazette, of Brampton, objects to the use of the expression, "escaped in their night attire," in reference to people who leave buildings in

WANT Ads

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—3 roomed house, all conveniences. Apply 52 Montgomery Ave. 13-14p

HEATED STORAGE—For cars or small trucks, \$10 per month. Inquire at Dodd's Transfer, 8 Bannerman Ave. Phone 557. -1-21f

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MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED, by the Childrens Aid Society, families willing to give homes on a boarding basis to Protestant children 10 to 14 years of age. If interested, phone 855, or call at Room 4, Municipal Building, Timmins. 60-62f

IN MEMORIAM

BLACK—In loving memory of W. P. Black "Bill", who passed away Feb. 20th, 1920.
—Ever remembered by his Sister, Mary. -14

IN MEMORIAM

GREY—In loving memory of a dear wife and mother, Mary Clark, who passed away on February 18th, 1936. She is gone but not forgotten, and as dawn another year, In our lonely hours of thinking, Thoughts of her are always near.
—Ever remembered by Husband and Family. -14

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Matter of the Estate of Arthur William Stingle who died at Gravenhurst, Ontario on September 4th, A.D. 1939.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that all persons having any claim against the estate of the said Arthur William Stingle formerly of the Town of Timmins in the District of Cochrane who died at Gravenhurst, Ontario on or about the 4th day of September, A. D. 1939, are requested to file with the Executrix hereinafter named or her Solicitors a notice of their claims together with details thereof duly verified by affidavit; and the Executrix will proceed to distribute the estate after the 15th day of March next having regard only to the claims which shall have been filed with her on or about that date.

DATED at Timmins, Ontario, this 15th day of February, A.D. 1940.

Sadie MacMillan Stingle, Executrix of the Estate of Arthur William Stingle by her Solicitors, CALDBICK & YATES, Bank of Commerce Building, Timmins, Ontario.

14 15 16



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Mining Institute Meets at McIntyre Thursday Evening

A meeting of the Porcupine branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, at which two papers will be given will be held in the McIntyre Community hall in Schumacher on Thursday, February 22.

Amsterdam, Feb. 17—The 1819 ton Norwegian freighter Kvernaas sank last night in the North Sea after an explosion.

Her crew of 20, some of whom were wounded, were picked up by The Netherlands steamship Oranjepolder and landed in Holland.

"Degraded Now"



Released from prison at Auburn, N.Y., after serving five years for bigamy, Captain Ivan Poderjaj is being held in the county jail for deportation. He refers to himself as a "degraded captain" and offers no due to the disappearance of his bigamous bride during their honeymoon.



"It might have been serious"

"Our little girl's eyes had a tendency to cross. We thought she'd grow out of it but a friend advised taking her to Mr. Curtis. By careful correction they will be restored to normal. If we hadn't had her promptly attended to they may have become permanently crossed. How thankful we are that we had her eyes examined in time."

CURTIS

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High-grade Samples from Week's Run of the Press

Perth Courier:—These are the days when one hates to open a long official looking envelope. It may contain some income tax blanks.

Toronto Telegram:—A sociologist says millionaires live fourteen years longer than ordinary people. But to the heirs, it seems much longer.

Sudbury Star:—An item in a movie column discloses that Lawrence Tibbett wants to get into movies long enough to play with Irene Dunne. But don't we all?

Rosetown Eagle:—One of the funny things about the stock market is that every time one man buys another sells, and both think they are astute.

Saturday Night:—The United States and Japan, long at odds, have finally met on common ground. They're both sore at the British navy.

Canada Lumberman:—After all, perhaps some of the boys unduly flatter themselves when they say that they are afraid of Leap Year.

which there is a fire in progress at night. The Peel Gazette thinks that it is so natural for people to be in night attire at night that it is unnecessary to mention the matter. By the same token it might be argued that it is so natural for people to attempt to escape from a burning building that reference to that fact may not appear necessary. What would The Peel Gazette have? "Escaped in their shirt-tails" would be crude. "Escaped in their underwear" would be rude. "Escaped in their pyjamas" would be snooty. "Escaped in their night attire" is likely to remain as a reasonable proposition, with the occasional variation to fit the facts, such as, "He emerged from the conflagration wearing a top hat and his morning coat," or "Sally Rand had nothing on her, as she hurriedly left the burning building."

Bracebridge appears to be legalizing the use of slot machines in that town, but the very terms on which this is done seem to suggest that the plan is not a good one. Fifteen slot machines have been licensed, the full license fees totalling \$4,140.00. This amount is estimated to equal four mills on the total assessment of the town. In other words the slot machine owners are paying a sum equal to four mills of taxation, but to do this are naturally collecting from the people of the town an amount many times that little sum. A close consideration of the matter would suggest that it is not the ideal way to collect taxes, and scarcely a very economical method.