

# Twenty Years Ago

In recent issues references has been made in this column to complaints published in The Advance relative to poor service on the T. & N. O. Railway twenty years ago. Probably people of the present day do not appreciate as they should the excellent service now given by the North Land's railway. Those who remember the service, or the apology for a service twenty years ago and contrast it with the accommodation to-day realize how fortunate the North Land has been in this Railway service matter in the past twenty years. Twenty years ago Geo. W. Lee, now chairman, was the only one of the commissioners and many people had a suspicion that political interference prevented him from doing what was needed and what he desired to do. In any case, the service was poor and The Advance said so in words that could not be misunderstood. The Advance would not be a bit proud of its criticism, if that had been all that eventuated, but it is pleasing to note that the criticism stirred matters up and resulted in very material advantage to the North. In the issue of The Advance of March 2nd 1920, extended reference is made to an interview with Mr. Lee, one of the commissioners of the T. & N. O. and at the time acting chairman. "At first," said The Advance, "Mr. Lee was inclined to the opinion that recent criticism in The Advance of the T. & N. O. service up in the North Land was somewhat too severe, but discussion of the matter between Mr. Lee and The Advance tended eventually to mutual agreement. Commissioner Lee explained the general difficulties under which conditions and what might be termed a run of bad luck. He assured The Advance that his desire was to give the best possible service and to do all that could be done to help the North. He also added that he was ready to hear complaints and suggestions that might lead to a betterment of the service." It may be noted here that Mr. Lee "got an earful" to use a slang expression, but showed the right spirit. The Advance continued: "That Mr. Lee is sincere in his stand is perhaps best suggested by the fact that after investigating the conditions at Porquois Junction Commissioner Lee at once got in touch by wire with North Bay and orders were issued at once for the preparing of plans, etc., for the enlarging of the Porquois Junction station with the view to adding proper accommodations there for any passengers detained at that junction point. Mr. Lee also told The Advance that arrangements were being made to have one of the Toronto trains run through to Timmins each day, instead of going to Cochrane and the G. T. P. connections will be served by a local connecting train. This plan was followed here some years ago and worked very satisfactorily. The two prospective improvements—the making of proper accommodations for the travelling public at Porquois Junction, and the running through of the Toronto train to Timmins each day—would remedy at once the particular grievances that The Advance featured. If Commissioner Lee secures these benefits for the public within a reasonable time, The Advance will be ready to give him due credit for his public-spirited attention to the people's service. If powers higher up stop the necessary plans (as has sometimes been suspected of occurring in the past) The Advance will me quite ready to assist in placing the responsibility for the poor service where it rightly belongs." These quotations from the Advance of twenty years ago show why The Advance was critical of the T. & N. O. twenty years ago and why now there is little but good to say about the railway service. Mr. Lee fulfilled and more than fulfilled the promises he made and most reasonable people are ready to agree that there are few better conducted roads to-day than the T. & N. O. railway.

Twenty years ago there were all sorts of reports in regard to deaths in Timmins and district from the influenza. There were people who would stand up and say that hundreds of deaths had occurred and that the facts were suppressed. Of course there was no truth in these reports, and while it was felt that it was little use arguing with the people who insisted on believing these stories, The Advance went to the trouble of securing the actual official figures in the matter. There was only one undertaker in the camp at the time and as he handled all cases of deaths in Timmins and district with out exception, the figures were obtained from his records. These were checked up with the registration of deaths and the burial permits. The result was a group of figures that could not possibly be questioned. From Jan. 1st to March 1st, 1920, there were 27 deaths in the camp, including all the adults dying in Timmins, Schumacher, Moneta Tisdale, Mountjoy, Mattagami, and the unorganized territory in the immediate district. In addition there were three infants dying in the Porcupine district in the two months. In January there were only 5 deaths of adults and in February there were 22. The cause of death was given as 10 from pneumonia, 14 from influenza, and 3 from

# Suggest Sponge Cakes as Timely Fare for the Spring

Recipes from the Dominion Dept. of Agriculture.

This is the time of year when such delicacies as sponge cakes have a special appeal. They do not only appeal to the appetite in early spring but also the homemaker who watches food prices and takes pride in preparing good foods at moderate cost.

The Consumer Service Section, Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture recommends the following recipes for sponge cakes and suggests that in each case the price be calculated. It may be a surprise to find that such big cakes can be made at small cost. The reasons are of course, that eggs are the main ingredients and current price of eggs is moderate.

### Sponge Cake

4 egg yolks  
Pinch of salt  
1 tablespoon cold water  
¼ cup boiling water  
1 cup fine granulated or fruit sugar  
1½ cups cake or pastry flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
½ egg whites  
¼ teaspoon cream of tartar  
Add cold water and salt to egg yolks and beat slightly. Add boiling water and beat until mixture becomes very frothy. Beat in sifted sugar gradually. Add flour and baking powder, sifted together several times. Beat well. Add vanilla. Fold in egg whites beaten until stiff with cream of tartar added. Bake in ungreased angel-cake tin in slow oven (300 degrees F.) for one hour.

### Chocolate Sponge Roll

4 egg whites  
1 cup fine granulated sugar  
4 egg yolks  
4 tablespoons cold water  
½ teaspoon vanilla  
¼ teaspoon cocoa  
½ cup flour  
½ teaspoon baking powder  
¼ teaspoon salt  
Beat egg whites until stiff. Add sugar gradually, beating constantly. Beat egg yolks with water and fold into egg whites. Add vanilla. Sift dry ingredients and fold into egg mixture. Line shallow baking pan about 15" x 10" with greased paper. Pour batter into pan. Bake in moderate oven (350 degrees F.) for 12 to 15 minutes. Turn out on cloth covered with powdered sugar. Trim off edges. Remove paper and roll cake. Cool and spread with whipped cream or Seven-Minute Frosting.

### Seven-Minute Frosting

2 unbeaten egg whites  
1½ cups fruit sugar  
½ cup cold water  
1 teaspoon flavouring  
Place sugar, unbeaten egg whites and cold water in top of double boiler. Cook over boiling water for seven minutes, beating constantly with Dover beater. Remove from fire and add flavouring.

### Cream Sponge Cake

4 egg whites  
4 egg yolks  
1 cup fine granulated sugar  
3 tablespoons water  
1 teaspoon flavouring  
2 tablespoons cornstarch  
1 cup pastry or cake flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
½ teaspoon salt  
Beat egg whites until stiff, but not dry. Beat in half the sugar. Beat egg yolks, add water and flavouring, and continue beating until thick. Beat in remaining sugar and fold yolk mixture into egg whites. Then cut and fold in sifted dry ingredients. Bake in an ungreased tube cake tin in moderate oven (350 degrees F.) for 30 to 35 minutes.

### Jelly Roll

Use Recipe for "Cream Sponge Cake" Line shallow baking pan (about 15" x 10") with buttered paper. Spread cake mixture evenly in pan. Bake 12 to 15 minutes in moderate oven (350 degrees F.). Turn out on cloth or paper sprinkled with powdered sugar. Remove paper and trim off edges of cake. Spread with jam or jelly beaten slightly to spread easily. Roll cake quickly.

### Ample

"But you advertised a bed-sitting room."  
"Certainly. This is it."  
"Well, I see the bed, but where's the sitting-room?"  
"On the bed."—Weekly Telegraph.

other causes. "In publishing these figures," said The Advance at the time, "The Advance has no desire to improperly minimize the illness prevalent at the present time, nor to encourage carelessness or lack of attention in regard to sickness. But there is in a few quarters such a tendency to exaggeration and gloom that the actual figures may have a tonic effect. No good is to be gained by pretending that the situation is worse than it is. The idea of the Advance is that everything possible be done to prevent an epidemic and to this end a cheerful public frame of mind is necessary."

# Trousers Come Down from Days of French Revolution

(From Reader's Digest) Before the French Revolution well-dressed men wore knee breeches while the rabble wore long trousers. When the French monarchy was overthrown, long trousers became a symbol of the revolution. Since anyone whose outward appearance during that time brought him under suspicion of being an aristocrat went in danger of his life, even wealthy men went about wearing the blue linen pantaloons of the common people.

Curiously enough, the fashion was introduced to England by such dandies as Beau Brummell and the Prince Regent, men bitterly opposed to the democratic principles which trousers had been chosen to represent. England's acceptance of trousers was not immediate, however. Cambridge University in 1812 decreed that students appearing in hall or chapel in long trousers should be considered absent. The Duke of Wellington was barred from London's favorite resort because he was wearing trousers. In 1820 one sect of the Church of England ordered that no preacher who wore long trousers be allowed to occupy a pulpit, and even today knee breeches are still worn in English court-dress.

# Discusses Question of Banking and of Development

Against Centralized Banking System.

(From Globe and Mail)

Glancing through the "Business and Finance" section of the recent issue of Time we noticed repetition of the words of the late great J. P. Morgan before the Pujo Committee in 1912, explaining his banking credo. Said he: "I have known a man to come into my office and I have given him a cheque for a million dollars, and I know that he had not a cent in the world. But a man I could not trust could not get money from me for all the bonds in Christendom. The first thing is character; money cannot buy it."

Those words were spoken twenty-eight years ago, and there have been revolutionary changes in every walk of life, including banking, in the intervening years, and particularly since the end of the first Great War. Nevertheless, we have often wondered if banking, as carried on in Canada, is the best system in a new country, but now being opened up, and crying for capital with which to carry on.

If the sole purpose of banking is to provide a safe place for the savings of the people, then surely no quarrel can be picked with the present system, but if, as we have supposed, its main object is to act as a reservoir for public funds for distribution to encourage and develop a nation's resources, and thus benefit that nation and the depositors as well, then we think it may be reasonably alleged that banking has partially failed to perceive and carry out its duty.

We all know that Canada depends in greatest degree upon the development of her natural resources for sustained prosperity, and to a greater extent than any other nation in the history of the world, and we also know there has been a most alarming lag in that development in recent years. When we say that, we have particular reference to the mining industry, among many others.

No bank can properly loan its depositors' money in purely speculative ventures, but when such ventures are backed by character and energy we believe the bars should be let down wisely, that this country may go ahead to a degree justified by her now latent resources, spread from ocean to ocean, and literally only scratched.

Would the West ever have been developed to its present partial condition if banking funds had not been available in the earlier days? We well know it would not, and we require no further evidence that what should be this nation's greatest asset—character—has been ditched as collateral upon which a banker will look with any but a cold glassy eye.

In those earlier days the bankers sent cut into the wilds as new mining camps sprang into prominence were, first judges of character and human nature, and second, valuers of such scant present-day acceptable collateral as the times permitted.

Perhaps we are repeating ourselves when we say that scrutiny of the records of the Bank of Montreal, for instance, in the mining camps of British Columbia back in the early 90's will prove our statement to be correct.

We have personal knowledge of many a man helping to do something for his country and himself by a bank particularly an old friend in debt at one time for many tens of thousands of dollars, with nothing but character and initiative as collateral, and, on the other hand, of men with collateral in quantity, such as ore on the dump, who were refused loans because the banker did not believe them to be men of character and integrity. And in most cases which came to our attention the banker was right. Many an attractive account was built up in that manner, and losses, considering the conditions, were few. And both West and East prospered.

Banking, as we see it, cannot fulfill its duty to a people, especially of a new country, when it is concentrated in a few far-removed financial centres. Until representatives "out in the sticks," as it were, are taught to judge character and human nature, and permitted mainly to follow their own conclusions in the extension of financial help, we fear the vast area that now lies open to initiative, with consequent benefit to all the country, must largely remain as the Creator left it.

# AT THE SIGN OF THE RED SHIELD



Wherever the Canadian Soldiers may be, there you will find the Salvation Army war services supporting the other army. The picture shows the Salvation Army Red Shield dining room, Exhibition Park, Toronto.

# Fog and the Dance What Price Liberty? Thrill of Battle, Etc.

Treat 'em Rough and Tell Them Nothing, Says Writer.

It's tough when we shoot down our own planes. And that is something that needs a bit of explaining. Unless there was a heavy fog or something, a thirteen-year-old boy standing on the ground would know the difference between a British and a German bombing plane.

### The Dance

There must be something about tripping and bouncing to music that is whimsically called dancing by those who indulge. It has survived through all the ages from the primitive cawing and pattering right up to the stately minuet—and right back again.

We may be prejudiced because we are one of those people who have rhythm. Picking them up and putting them down to the regular beat of a drum playing a lively march is just about our limit in keeping time to music.

But there must be something in this thing that has proved so popular for so long.

There is an amazing number of people of all ages and all sizes whose idea of fun and recreation is to prance to syncopation.

But there are also the men and women of middle age, some still trim and sleek, but others dragging around more upholstery than an easy chair in the Army and Navy Club.

Then there are the oldsters grasping desperately at youthful frivolity long after youth has fled. It is chiefly among the oldsters that ponderous ladies of the limousine type, built for comfort rather than speed, develop a propensity for acting kittenish, and the men, well ballasted forward and aft, try to gambol like a lambkin in springtime.

And the way you hold the lady shows a wealth of variation in modern dancing.

It varies all the way from a distant nodding acquaintance to a combination of what is known in wrestling as the body scissors and the half Nelson.

But we really think that people running dances make the same mistake that they do with their drinks. They mix them too much.

They should have one dance for the people who like to glide gracefully.

They should have the next for those who want to trip fantastically.

Then working from the sublime to the ridiculous, they should finish up with a dance for those who want to bump, blissfully and blatantly.

But we really think that the light-footed gliders should be separated from the flat-footed funderers.

We think that those who shuffle their feet to music should be separated from those who like to do their dancing between their neck and their knees.

We arrived at this conclusion during an evening of looking on in lonely solitude.

But we have this to console us. We don't know that we ever saw the head of any big business hypnotized into doing the Cary-Oke (or whatever it is) to a saxophone.

Maybe you just can't get education at both ends.

### What Price Liberty

Various worthy institutions raise money by inviting their supporters out to bridges or suppers at about 35 cents apiece. They should sell an alternative ticket. They should go to their supporters and say a ticket to attend is 35 cents—and a ticket to stay away costs 75 cents.

Then it would be possible to buy a 75-cent ticket and feel loyal while staying home and enjoying yourself.

### Thrill of Battle

What a thrill of battle it must give aviators to sweep down on a steamship with bombs and machine guns!

To most people that would feel just like a big game hunter with an elephant gun stalking a cow in a pasture field.

But probably the Germans feel quite proud every time they sink a passenger boat. We wonder if they get extra merit marks if there are women and children aboard.

# T. H. and V. S. JOTTINGS

After the game Saturday night a very pleasant evening was spent in the McIntyre auditorium. There was round dancing to the music of Ken Tomkinson's orchestra. Our champion basketball girls' team aided the boys to celebrate their victory over Noranda. The dimly lit walls along with the long blue drapes gave the auditorium a very effective appearance.

### THE ART DEPARTMENT

Miss Briffet, the art teacher, kindly told us what the pupils have been doing, what they are now doing, and what they will be doing.

Miss Briffet said the pupils began with creative work. This work is intimately connected with the life and interest of the pupils. Some examples of this work are the drawing and painting of mine shafts. Next the pupils undertook correlation with different subjects, that is illustrating from literature, and Social Studies.

Then followed pattern making and quilt work. Artificial flowers were made after the quilts. The flowers which were so beautiful in the play last week were the work of the girls in the art department. These flowers were certainly something to be proud of, as the people who saw the play will tell you.

### GIRLS' SPORTS

An exhibition game will be staged against Schumacher in the McIntyre gym Friday night.

The Timmins High School boys' basketball team came through with flying colours to beat Noranda 31 to 19. They will now meet North Bay in a sudden death game, probably at the McIntyre gymnasium. The date for this game has not been set but we will probably know in a few days.

### Behind the Scenes at T. H. & V. S. Plays

At a rehearsal when Miss Wells was to make her entrance in a scene from "The Florist Shop" she tugged at the door and pulled the whole panel down on top of her; but her hero, Mr. Jackson, dashed to her rescue to hold up the house.

No music was supplied by the orchestra when E. Burwash was supposed to be hearing music. The boys must have been working union hours!

In 3A a tiny mouse 2 inches long made its appearance from J. Carson's locker and was soon brought into the French class. Much to the excitement of the class the creature was tossed out of the window! "Tut! Tut! Be kind to dumb animals"—we always say.

Bill McIntyre's heroic sacrifices were well appreciated by the cast during play practices.

Many people appreciated the laugh

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