

The Porcupine Advance

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Timmins, Ont., Monday, April 14th, 1941

MORE ENCOURAGING NEWS

The news coming over the radio last night was much more encouraging than some other recent news. The lesson in this is that people are worse than foolish to worry unduly over the odd apparent reverse. Anxiety does no good to the great cause. In some measure at least it unfits the people at home from doing the best and the most in the war effort. There have been certain newspapers that have encouraged this foolish worry business. They appear to have the absurd idea that there is some merit in being gloomy. "Face the facts!" they say. If everybody would only face the facts all would be well. The trouble is that these gloomy gusses think that only dismal facts should be faced. The one fact that should always be faced is this: That Britain and her Allies are fighting for freedom and the right, for humanity, for the dignity of mankind, and for the preservation of all that free men hold dear in life; and that in this fight Britain can muster, if she will, men enough, money enough, resources enough to stand against the world of evil. Face that fact fairly and squarely, and you will be able to make faces at the dismal facts of the occasional ill news.

Last week the news coming from the Balkans and from Africa was by no means hopeful or pleasing. The fact that the news itself was meagre gave scope for unnecessary evil forebodings. Many seemed to forget that the most of the ill news came directly or indirectly from enemy sources. There is no doubt that the enemy spent time, money and effort to broadcast evil news in the hopes that it will depress the people of the Empire. Would it not be the part of wisdom to fool the enemy by refusing to worry over evil tidings, no matter from what source. Was there ever a battle or a war lost because the people kept on saying: "We're sure to win?" The argument that it is senseless to close the eyes to truth, however unpleasant, has not the force that some people imagine. Certainly, it is folly to pause in effort to bewail apparent reverses. In the attitude of the gloomy foreboders, of course, there is always the subtle suggestion that hopeful people slacken effort because they have hope. The truth is that the workers are usually the ones who do the least worrying over apparent reverses. They usually are too busy to take time out for worrying. Striking example of this is given in the Red Cross workers in this district. Had they stopped to worry, and taken out time enough for proper alarm at some of the bad news of the past year or two, they could not have made the magnificent response to all the calls upon their effort through the innumerable ill incidents of the months of the war. It is worth remembering that there has been no call upon the Red Cross since the war opened that has not been met in a magnificent way. Governments and peoples may have been taken by surprise—may have been unready—but the Red Cross always seemed to be prepared, even for the unpredictable. Of course, the Red Cross could hold no such record were it not for the workers all over Canada. Their attitude has been that the fighting forces of the Empire could be relied upon with fullest confidence—that anxiety and alarm were mere waste of strength and spirit—that the proper thing to do was to face the particular task at hand, with courage, with cheerfulness, and with spirit, and all would be well.

It must be admitted that there was some reason for anxiety last week. The Nazis appeared to be more or less successful in their blitzkrieg through Yugoslavia. The German advance in Africa was also unpleasant news. Against this, however, there was the fact that similar anxiety had been roused for weeks in regard to Africa, but the final result had been far from displeasing news. After apparent withdrawals and reverses, the Australian and other British troops completely smashed the enemy's empire in Africa. There was a short time when the news from Greece was not very encouraging, but it was not long before the Greeks turned the tables and drove the enemy before them on a rout such as has been seldom seen in history. The gloomy ones who said: "But the Germans are different to the Italians," are now respectfully referred to the incidents in the week-end fighting when the Greeks tested out the Nazis with the bayonet. The dispatches suggest that the Germans fear the steel as much as any Italian.

Summarized, the news of the week-end says that in some sectors the Germans have been repulsed with heavy losses; that one Yugoslav army is making good progress to join the Greeks in Albania, and that another section of the Yugoslavs are doing serious damage to the gangster forces by a clever species of guerilla warfare. It would appear that the Germans are halted for the moment, and are giving their time and effort to seeking a weak spot in the line of defence in the hope of breaking through. The Royal Air Force, however, is watching all this, with disas-

trous results to Nazi plans. The Germans are not being allowed time in which to test out weak spots; no sooner are they set to the task than the Air Force visits them and disorganizes all their plans with bombs and incendiaries.

Naturally the general hope is that the good news will continue and increase. The war may easily be won in this latest adventure of the hysterical paperhanger. With the tested and tried Australians on the scene, with the old-time British troops in action, with the Greeks and their glorious record, with the Yugoslavs still fighting as best they can, with the generals who have already proven their courage and capacity in charge of the operations, and with the Royal Air Force taking a leading part in the conflict, there should be every confidence in the final outcome—confidence enough to take even further reverses without undue anxiety or depression.

SEND WHEAT TO BRITAIN

In a recent issue The Advance called special attention to suggestions made in both the Ontario Legislature and in the Dominion House of Commons that Canada should take a few million bushels of its surplus wheat and send to Great Britain as a free gift to help that gallant people facing so much for the freedom of the world. Discussion of the idea has resulted in the mention of some facts that are so little known or realized that they appear startling. For example, one newspaper says that Canada has at the present moment some \$350,000,000.00 tied up in surplus wheat—wheat that can not be used in Canada and that will have no purchasers in foreign lands during this war. Before the crop year concludes this figure of \$350,000,000.00 will be automatically increased to \$400,000,000.00. It would appear that the Dominion Government now making so stern an appeal for economy and conservation would seize the opportunity to send a few hundred million dollars worth of this surplus wheat to Britain, and to Greece, rather than have it face the danger of fire, insects, or other forms of deterioration or destruction. In this connection The Simcoe Reformer mentions a startling fact that suggests that not only should there be a great gift of wheat to Britain, but that the sooner it is made the more desirable the idea will be. The Reformer notes that storage charges alone on Canada's wheat now run to a million dollars a week. Every week that wheat is kept from Britain means a million dollars worse than wasted.

The only argument of any weight that has been advanced against the idea of a free gift of wheat to Britain is the difficulty of delivery. That trouble is not insurmountable. If it were known that millions of bushels of free wheat were waiting at Canadian docks for transport to Britain, it would soon be found that there were enough adventurous vessels available to transfer the cargo across the sea. It would not be necessary to ship all the wheat in one convoy. Instead, that would appear to be the least practical method from all viewpoints. The main thing seems to be for Canada to make the gift, and leave it to the ingenuity and the patriotism of the men of the sea—in Canada, Britain, in the United States, and in other friendly countries—to deliver the goods.

WHAT A PEOPLE!

Canadians and other British people with a more or less detached outlook on the world—to say nothing of the folk of foreign lands—will be very ready to admit that the people of Great Britain have proven themselves much different to some of the popular conceptions. These wrong impressions of British character and disposition may have commenced in the republic to the South, but they had much currency throughout the world. It is true that Canadians who served in the last war returned home with vastly different opinions of the people whose hospitality they had enjoyed and whose courage and resource they knew by personal experience. But it needed the progress of the present war to change the ideas of many on this side of the ocean. For instance, it had gained the force of a proverb, that the English were slow and the Scottish were overly economical. With the record of the war to date, the idea of English slowness is knocked into the proverbial cocked hat, while all the people of all Britain have shown themselves kindly, hospitable, unselfish and generous beyond question. Even the proverbial grumbling in which the British people seemed to take a pride appears to be a slander with the story of the war before the world. The British people have borne without a single whine what no other nation was ever asked to endure for as long a time. It is proven at least that the British, who accept a tax that takes a full half of their incomes, without repining, never grumble about great things. Any grumbling they may do is about the inconsequential. There was a rather prevalent idea that the British people had not the stamina and the great courage of their forefathers. Where does the war leave that one?

But even the most enthusiastic British on this side of the ocean will admit that the people of the Motherland are a little unusual in many cases—and glory in the truth of the admission. For one example there are despatches telling of the British inventing gas masks for their horses, so that these loved animals may not suffer death in case of poison gas attacks by the enemy. Pictures of men training the horses to wear these contraptions have reached this side of the ocean. In

passing, it may be noted that almost as much care and attention has been given to the safety and comfort of animals and birds during the war as has been given to humans in Britain. The war has shown that the British people believe with the poet Coleridge that: "He prayeth best who loveth best, all things both great and small." Another illustration of the British love of animals is given by the London, England, dealer who advertised for 1,000 male kittens, saying that he could place all of them in good homes at a profit, so many pets having been destroyed through enemy action. If Hitler were to read of this and understand its implications, he would realize how little effect all his brutal bombings had on British character and morale.

Perhaps, it is in regard to reading that the British people are showing the oddest reaction. If Hitler pictures the British cowering in darkness, unable to read or speak or think in their terror from his brutal bombings, he is stupid enough to deserve pity were he not madman by choice rather than affliction. The British, a London publishers' agent says, are doing much more reading now than before the war. If this is odd, it is not nearly so unexpected as the type of reading that is popular. People in general, the authorities on the matter declare, are reading works on religion, biography, gardening, hobbies, science. Books about the war have little favour. There is the odd exception, of course, such as Churchill's book, "Blood, Sweat and Tears." The classics are enjoying a wide popularity, with the works of Charles Dickens leading the favourites. Edgar Wallace and Conan Doyle are also in the running for high place in popular favour. The libraries and book stores of London are crowded these days, the account reaching this country asserts.

What a people! Hitler shrieks, and they calmly turn to Dickens and Thackeray and Doyle and Jerome K. Jerome. The Huns bomb their homes, and they simply seek another kitten—sometimes before they have another home. The Nazis expect to terrorize the folks with poison gas, and they appear to worry more about training their horses to wear gas masks than to see to their own protection in that way. None of the breed of Hitler can ever conquer a people like that.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Headquarters of the War Services Fund reports that up to Wednesday night, \$5,128,156.00 of the \$5,500,000.00 asked had been subscribed or pledged for the carrying on of the work of the auxiliary war services—the Salvation Army.

LOCALS

- Herbert Hatton, of the R.C.A.P., formerly of Timmins, has been transferred to Calgary, Alberta.
- Mrs. Hector McKinnon returned on Friday after spending six weeks at the home of her parents in Winnipeg, Man.
- Mr. Jas. Elkins has returned to his home at Haileybury after a visit to his son Gordon Elkins, Timmins.
- Captain Pat Andrews, in charge of the K. of C. Huts in Ontario, arrived in Timmins on Friday on leave.
- Reg. Thatchuk, of Montreal, formerly of Timmins, was in Timmins over the Easter week-end renewing acquaintances.
- Mrs. T. Hamilton, of North Bay, returned last week to her home in the Gateway City, after a visit to her son, Mr. H. Hamilton, Timmins.
- There is a close season for pike and pickerel from tomorrow, April 15th, to May 15th, when the season reopens.
- L.C. W. Jackson, of the Grey and Simcoe Foresters, and formerly of the Hollinger, spent the last week-end in Timmins.
- Cecil Linder attached to the R.C. A.P., at No. 1 Manning Pool in Toronto, arrived in Timmins on Friday afternoon and left yesterday.
- Pte. J. E. Bastien, of the 11th Army Tank Corps, at Camp Borden, spent a week in Timmins visiting relatives and friends.
- Pte. D. Ryan, of the Canadian Army Training Depot at North Bay was one of the trainees who spent the week-end in Timmins.
- Trooper Reg. Giroux, of Camp Borden, spent a week-end leave in Timmins. Trooper Giroux is now a troop commander of the 11th Army Tank Battalion.
- According to a return tabled in the Ontario Legislature some days ago construction expenditure on the Ferguson Highway from North Bay to Cochrane has been \$14,407,035, and maintenance has totalled \$1,095,879 during the past six years.
- Private C. D. Boyd, of the reinforcements company of the Algonquin Regiment, First Battalion, stationed at Port Arthur, Ont., was in town over the week-end and left on the Northland tonight to return to his regiment. Private Boyd was formerly a miner at the McIntyre and went to Port Arthur from "D" Company, 2nd Battalion of the Algonquins in Timmins.

Canadian Legion, K. of C. Huts, Y.M.C.A., Y.W. C.A. and I.O.D.E. work for soldiers, sailors and airmen. With this amount reported to headquarters on Wednesday, it is likely that the total objective has been passed by this time. In any event it is sure that the full quota, and more, will be available for the auxiliary war services. The result of the brief campaign is another proof that any patriotic appeal made to the Canadian people will be fully and cheerfully met, if properly conducted and organized.

The report of the Ontario Fire Marshal, W. J. Scot, for the quarter ending March 31st, 1941, shows that fire losses in the province are much greater than they need be or should be, despite the able campaign of education that has been conducted to reduce the losses. In the quarter referred to there were 3,430 fires reported in Ontario, with a loss estimated at \$2,004,686.00. There is a general belief that by far the greater part of these fires might be avoided. This is borne out by the classification of causes given by the Fire Marshal. The single cause charged with the greatest number of fires is "smoking (cigars cigarettes, carelessness in smoking)". This single cause is accused of no less than 959 fires. While the next highest classification is marked "unknown causes," responsible for 544 fires, the third highest classification on the list is "stoves, furnaces, boilers and their pipes." Electricity is given as the cause of 289 fires, and defective chimneys, flues, cupolas and stacks as responsible for 232 fires. These figures show that the majority of fires arise from causes that are far from being accidental. Thought and care and attention would avoid by far the greater part of the fire toll. The Ontario Fire Marshal's office has been bending every effort to reduce the unnecessary loss of life and property from fire. Fire brigades all over the country have been giving the most earnest and intelligent effort to the same good end. It is pleasing to be able to add in all truthfulness that the fire chiefs and staffs, both volunteers and paid men, in Timmins, Schumacher and South Porcupine have been able leaders in the real fight against fire—the genuine victory over fire—the prevention of unnecessary and avoidable fires.

Still stands the motto of the King:—"Put into your task whatever it may be, all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshaken. Let us go forward to that task as one man; a smile on our lips, and our heads held high, and with God's help we shall not fail."

NOTICE

A General Meeting of the Timmins Branch of the Red Cross Society will be held Thursday, April 24th, at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall. The object of the meeting is to discuss the auditor's report; and for the election of a first Vice-President, and a Chairman for the Women's War Work Committee, which offices were left vacant by the departure from town of Dr. and Mrs. Harrison. All members and other persons interested are invited to attend the meeting.

JANE B. SULLIVAN,
 Chairman of Committee
 for Information,
 Timmins Red Cross.
 —30-31-32-33

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Miss Betty Crampton has returned to Toronto after spending the holiday week-end with friends in town.

Lance-Corporal Walter Cowan, of the 48th Highlanders, Camp Borden, left on Sunday after spending the Easter week-end with Mrs. Cowan, 46 Fifth avenue, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Cowan, Balsam street.

Mr. Paul Brunette, son of Mrs. Arthur Brunette, of Cochrane, and the late Mr. Brunette, left on Thursday for Valcartier, where he will join the Forestry Branch of the Canadian Active Service. Mr. Brunette lived in Timmins for six months.

Messrs Henry and Al Kelnick, Johnny Kolnyck, and Jimmy Jarvis returned on Friday night after spending the week at Toronto, Thorold South, and Windsor, Ont.

Mr. Johnny Oltean returned on Saturday morning from Thorold South, where he has spent the winter months, and will take up residence in Timmins, Mrs. Oltean having arrived in town a few weeks ago.

"Bas" Aldege Bastien, who played goalie for the Toronto Marlboros this winter, returned last week to his home in town, and will spend the summer here.

CHINA STILL GETS HELP

It was reported in Russia that the new neutrality pact signed by the Russian and Japanese governments will not affect the help that Russia is giving to China.

Try the Advance Want Advertisements

The Porcupine Advance

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FOR RENT

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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 355, or call at Room 4, Municipal Building, Timmins. 60-621f

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FOR RENT

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 171 Maple South
 Phone 287 —30-31

Notice to Creditors and Others

In the Estate of Andrew Fedozzak.
 All persons having claims against the Estate of Andrew Fedozzak, late of the Town of Timmins, in the Province of Ontario, Deceased, who died on or about the 26th day of August, 1940, are hereby notified to send in to the undersigned personal representative of the said Deceased, or his Solicitors, on or before the 15th day of May, A.D. 1941, full particulars of their claims. Immediately after the said date the said Personal Representative will distribute the assets of the said Deceased, having regard only to claims of which he shall then have notice to the exclusion of all others, and he will not be liable to any person whose claim he shall not then have notice for the assets so distributed or any part thereof.
 DATED at Timmins, Ontario, this 1st day of April, A.D. 1941.
 Nick Moros, Esq.
 c-f Messrs MacBrien & Bailey, 2 1/2 Third Avenue, Timmins, Ontario.
 or
 Messrs MacBrien & Bailey, Barristers and Solicitors, 2 1/2 Third Avenue, Timmins, Ontario, his Solicitors. 27-29-31

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of Edgar Alfred Brown
 All persons having claims against the Estate of Edgar Alfred Brown, late of the Town of Timmins, in the Province of Ontario, Deceased, who died on or about the 24th day of February, A.D. 1941, are hereby notified to send in to the undersigned personal representative of the said Deceased, or her Solicitors, on or before the 15th day of May, A.D. 1941, full particulars of their claims. Immediately after the said date the said personal representative will distribute the assets of the said Deceased, having regard only to claims of which she shall then have notice to the exclusion of all others, and she will not be liable to any person whose claim she shall not then have notice for the assets so distributed or any part thereof.
 DATED at Timmins, Ontario, this 10th day of April, A.D. 1941.
 MRS. MABLE BROWN
 61 Kirby Avenue (Rear), Timmins, Ontario.
 or
 MESSRS MACBRIEN & BAILEY
 Barristers & Solicitors, 2 1/2 Third Avenue, Timmins, Ontario, her Solicitors. —30-31-32

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