

# The Porcupine Advance

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## PREVENTING DIPHTHERIA

Among the many special weeks that the public is asked to observe for one worthy cause or another, none is more important than the present week—set aside as a special "Health Week." Through the efforts of the Health League of Canada one week each year is designated as a form of health week. This year the Health League of Canada has termed this week, "Toxoid Week," the purpose being to rouse such general public interest that diphtheria will be banished from the land. In Great Britain at the present time, diphtheria is considered the most fatal disease for children at school ages. In 1938 the number of diphtheria cases reported in England and Wales reached the staggering total of 65,000, with 2,931 deaths resulting. It is not so long ago that the situation was equally serious in Canada, but thanks to the use of toxoid, diphtheria may soon be made into nothing but an unpleasant memory. Toronto is receiving much publicity at the present time because it passed 1940 without a single case of diphtheria. This is the first time in modern history that a city of the size of Toronto has made such a record. Brantford, Ontario, with a population of 30,000, last year maintained its position, for the eighth consecutive year, of having no diphtheria. Vancouver, British Columbia, was without a single case of diphtheria in 1940, though only ten years ago that city had 528 cases with 18 deaths. Similar pleasing freedom from diphtheria in 1940 is reported by scores of towns and cities across Canada. All these places record the control of diphtheria through the use of diphtheria toxoid.

Last year, as in several previous years, Timmins is on the honour roll of Canadian cities having no cases of diphtheria. As a matter of fact, Timmins has had a very small total of cases of diphtheria during the thirty years of the existence of the town. This was due to the fact that the Medical Health Officers of Timmins appeared determined that this town should escape any and every disease that could possibly be avoided. It is many years now since the first Medical Health Officer of the town, Dr. H. H. Moore enlisted the support of The Advance to campaign for all the known methods of preventing diphtheria. When toxoid treatment was perfected Dr. Moore was one of the leaders in advocating its use. Dr. J. A. McInnis, Medical Health Officer in 1940 and previous years, was an earnest advocate of immunization to prevent diphtheria. In 1940 he immunized 475 persons against the disease most of these being children. Other doctors in private practice used toxoid on perhaps another hundred patients in town. For years past the use of toxoid has been very earnestly advocated by the Medical Health Officer, the doctors, the nurses, and others interested in health. A special feature has been made of the immunization of children of pre-school age. Attention has also been paid to the children at all the schools, and the board of health, the Medical Health Officer, the school boards, the teachers, the doctors, the nurses, and others, have co-operated to make immunization as complete as possible. The hope has been to rid the town of all danger of any diphtheria cases. Diphtheria is especially a children's disease, and the fact that over 85 per cent. of the children of the town between the ages of 1 and 14 years are protected against diphtheria is its own record of pleasing progress.

A former Medical Health Officer at Hamilton is quoted as suggesting that every death from diphtheria was a needless crime for which some guilty person or persons should be punished. There is sound logic in the idea, for there is a way to practically bar diphtheria from any community. Diphtheria toxoid given in three doses is practical assurance of protection against the disease. This is proven not only by the opinion of medical authorities but by the actual absence of the disease wherever the work of immunization is done in the proper way. Toronto, Brantford, Vancouver, Timmins, and other centres have living proof of the fact.

What is your part in this? First of all, to see that your own children are immunized, then to encourage and persuade others to protect the health and safety of their families and the community by the same plan and, finally to support the active interests that are seeking to banish the disease, that, unchecked, takes such a sad toll of childhood.

## CHINS UP!

The news items from the Eastern fronts in the war are of mixed types—good, bad and indifferent. There are those who seem to fear that the British forces will be forced to withdraw from Greece. This appears to be an unnecessarily pessimistic view. At the time of writing there appears to be good grounds for expecting better news than that. Already Germany has paid a price in men and materials out of all proportion to any advantage possible in any temporary victory in Greece. In

any event, it should be remembered that the outcome of the adventure in Greece will be in no ways a decisive matter. Granting the very worst of fortune, Britain will be able to fight on and win the victory. As for Africa, it would appear that the German forces are in a trap. With their line of communication in a desert country, and their source of supplies apparently shut off by the British Navy, they are undoubtedly causing much worry to Hitler.

It is well to remember that the news coming from the British and Greek authorities is encouraging and promising. The bad news comes chiefly from German sources and from those peculiar people who are always ready to believe the worst. Reading between the lines it would appear that more unsatisfactory news is likely in the next few days but that this will be but the prelude to news that will please and satisfy. In the meantime, it is not amiss to consider the fact that nothing is to be gained and much lost by pessimism. With the example of the morale of the British people to guide, people on this continent can scarcely be dismayed for very shame's sake. Chins up! The best is yet to come. The final victory is sure.

## A PATRIOTIC SERVICE

There have been good people who honestly doubted the value of the organizations loosely classified under the heading of "service clubs." No one suspected that the service clubs were other than innocent and harmless, but there were serious folks who wondered if their influence for benefit and progress were in proportion to the effort expended. Perhaps, it was not easy for all to realize that men having so jolly a time as seemed to be the rule at the average service club gathering could accomplish much of solid worth for the community or the country. Often in the piping days of peace it was forgotten that the service clubs had an organization all prepared for various community and patriotic needs. The entertainment of distinguished guests, the observance of particular events, the discussion of pressing problems, the support of worthy causes, and other affairs for which there seemed to be no particular other organization at hand—these did appear to show a sphere of genuine usefulness for the service clubs in each community. In Timmins and district the value of the service clubs has been recognized and appreciated on scores of occasions, such as those indicated. But it took the exigencies of the war to bring to full popular notice all the genuine services that the service club is ready, and willing and anxious to give. In every patriotic cause the service clubs have done their part, and a creditable part it has been.

When a soldier overseas wrote home telling of how much he appreciated the cigarettes he received from the Lions Club or the Kinsmen's Club, it was not difficult for the ordinary man to see where the service clubs gave service. When it was known that the Lions Club was taking the most active and effective part in the sale of War Savings Certificates, it was apparent this was truly a service club. When it was a matter of common record that all the humorous fines at the Lions Club for breaches of the rules and alleged breaches of the rules had to be paid in war savings stamps that helped the country's war effort, the public could see a truly serviceable humour underneath the gaiety. A \$500 cheque sent by the Timmins Kiwanis Club to the Canadian Government to be used for any war purpose the Government wished, and another cheque for a similar amount going to the British Government under a similar plan tempted the ordinary citizen to exclaim:—"Well, that is service all right, from a service club!"

It is doubtful if as much of value could be done as effectively as is now being done through the service clubs. To explain it in a sentence—the service clubs may be said to have organized friendship, and it is remarkable all that groups of friends working earnestly together may accomplish.

The Timmins Kiwanis Club at the present is capitalizing on this friendship in a way that bids fair to have far-reaching patriotic benefits. The local Kiwanis are sending out letters to the presidents of all the 1900 Kiwanis Clubs in the United States giving personal invitation to every Kiwanis member able to do so to visit Canada this year. Because of their organized friendship, there is a personal appeal going to literally hundreds of thousands of United States citizens. Because it is all between friends there is no need to hide the fact that it is the duty of Canadians these days to stay at home and devote every possible dollar to the war effort, but there is equal need to secure as many friendly United States dollars as possible. Suggestion is made of the attractions that Canada has to offer—the beauty of scenery, the interest of industry, the health-giving conditions, the friendliness of the people, the superior goods of Canadian and other British origin available, the hunting, the fishing, the game, the oddities. Between friends, mention may be made that the North will extend a very special and sincere welcome to one and all; but the main message is "Come to Canada anyway!"

The outstanding virtue in the message is that it is from friends to friends—personal in particular way. Canada is specially anxious for visitors this year—because of the help they will be to the country's exchange and other financial problems,—anxious, for the friendship implied, and the support suggested. The Governments have been earnestly seeking ways and means to encourage visitors from abroad. The difficulty has been to send across the call with the neces-

sary personal touch—the pull of friendship. Friendly advertising will do its part, but even the friendliest and most understanding publicity would lack the attraction of the personal appeal such as has been made in wholesale fashion by the Timmins Kiwanis. The local club is attempting to secure the co-operation of all other Kiwanis Clubs in Canada in the plan. To this end the letter referred to is being sent to every one of the hundreds of Kiwanis Clubs in the Dominion. The plan has tempted the local representative of a large insurance company with hundreds of branches in the United States to write the officers of the annual convention of the company extending a similar invitation to the United States representatives to pay a friendly visit to Canada. Other organizations might well adopt similar methods. This sort of personal touch could not fail to bring noteworthy results. Indeed, it seems to be an ideal opportunity for all service clubs to follow the Kiwanis plan and make the message personal to all their friends in their organized groups of friends across the border. That would be Service, indeed. —SERVICE in capitals.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

The Globe and Mail denounces in the strongest words any consideration of the transfer of United States troops to Canada to replace Canadian troops being sent overseas. The Globe and Mail rightly considers it an insult to Canada to suggest that this country can not defend its own

territory while making so small an effort in providing fighting men for the Empire. According to information received by The Globe and Mail this proposed transfer of troops has been discussed. Apart from the unnecessary reflection on Canada's ability, the proposition has such dangerous possibilities that there should be immediate and authoritative denial. There are enough veterans of the last war to protect Canada from any present danger or prospective trouble. To import troops into Canada as suggested would be a sure way to raise all sorts of unnecessary ill-will and difficulty.

Edgar Allan Poe wrote of "the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome." A poet writing to-day should speak of "the glory that IS Greece and the gangster that is Rome."

According to Thomas Richard Henry, writing in The Toronto Telegram, the commander of the internment camp from which the Nazi prisoners escaped is a cousin of Hon. Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King. Even at that, Canada has much to be thankful for. Hon. Wm. Lyon Mackenzie King's grandfather passed beyond the scope of political appointments many years ago.

Wanted—Transportation for soldiers on leave. Not Wanted—Unnecessary census to cost three million dollars. Wanted—National Government. Not Wanted—Unnecessary \$12,000,000 railway station at Montreal.

## R.A.F. REDUCED GERMAN JUNKERS 88 TO JUNK PILE



This was all that was left of a German Junkers 88 after two R. A. F. fliers had given it their "personal attention." The plane crashed at Arundel England, where Timmins maintain a death watch over the remains pending the arrival of aeronautic experts. The

pilots, a South African and Czech, dived on the invader. The South African gave the enemy "the works" then politely dropped back so his companion could inflict the coup de grace.

## Canada to Breed Greyhounds for Duration of War

Plan Would Keep the Sport Alive During the War. Some Greyhounds are Already Here.

London. — Greyhound racing, which is one of Britain's great national sports is in a pretty healthy condition at the moment despite all war difficulties.

Recent news that a number of greyhounds had been sent from Britain to Canada for breeding purposes, together with the publication of figures of new registrations of dogs with the National Greyhound Racing Club, governing body of the sport, have been received with great enthusiasm by the sport's fans.

It is estimated that there are about 12,000 greyhounds available for racing in Britain at the present time.

Last year—the first full year of war-time racing—no fewer than 3,850 greyhounds were registered. That figure compares favourably, in the circumstances, with the 5,900 in 1938, when there was no war, and the 5,800 of 1939. The life of a racing greyhound is assumed to last three years.

### Plenty of Material

With so many new greyhounds coming into the sport there is plenty of material for racing for the new restricted season which is just starting.

London tracks, closed for more than two months, have now started their re-grading of greyhounds. Hundreds of dogs are being put through trials, and, on the strength of their performance,

will be classed with dogs of similar ability.

Despite danger of air attack on London, which is constant, there will be plenty of public enthusiasm for the sport forthcoming. The number of races will, however, be only about a third of their peace-time proportions.

The British greyhound racing authorities have shown a great deal of wisdom in their handling of the problems created by the war. The decision to send six dogs to Canada for breeding is an important case in point.

### To Be Kept Alive

The idea behind the move is that, whatever happens to it in Britain during the war, greyhound breeding will be kept alive.

There is now no fear that the fine racing strain which the greyhounds in Britain possess, will be wiped out, blitz or no blitz.

When greyhound racing is resumed after the war on its large peacetime scale, the British greyhounds authorities feel they will be able to ensure its future by this move.

All six greyhounds—one dog and five bitches are now kennelled in Toronto.

They are in charge of a Canadian enthusiast. No doubt any progeny will be raced in Canada should the war last any length time. It is also thought in British sporting circles that the move of breed greyhounds in Canada may popularize the sport in the great Dominion.

Canadian soldiers have made the acquaintance of the sport over here, and they will certainly take back added interest after the war.

### VERY CAREFUL NOW

There's also the young fellow who came awfully close to the brink the other day. He merely made an innocent statement which the gal friend desperate, decided to misinterpret. They were walking along the street discussing this and that, and he happened to remark that he liked brass bands.

The gal friend, quick as a flash, agreed with him but added that she'd rather have a gold one!

It was close . . . but a car honked loudly close by, so he pretended he hadn't heard! Now he's being extra careful so he won't walk into another one like that. Although if he does, he says it'll be his own fault.—Sudbury Star.

### NO HOSPITALITY AT ALL

Insurance Agent—My dear sir, have you made any provision for those who come after you?

Harduppe—Yes; I put the dog at the door and told the servant to say I'm out of town.—Exchange.

### HOPE DASHED DOWN

Said a village lad to his sweetheart: "We've been courting in the meadow for three years now, Mary, but we won't be doing so next year."

"Oh, Tom," replied Mary, coyly, "do you really mean that?"

"Yes, they're going to build on it."—Globe and Mail.

## Mass Arrests and Death Rampant Now in Poland

An eye-witness account of mass arrests, cold-blooded murder, and starvation rationing in Warsaw has been received by the Polish Information Centre in London, England.

The informant is an American girl, of Polish descent, whose name cannot be divulged. She spent sixteen months in Warsaw city, in the "Government General," and is a trained observer.

The following data has been stated by her to be an unexaggerated account of conditions as she observed them.

The fact of Polish resistance and Polish patriotic secret organizations attested to by the knowledge that a hundred young men, from 18-25 years of age, were shot during the autumn of last year in the Mokotow suburb of Warsaw. The shooting was done en masse as the final phase of a tragedy that began some weeks previously.

In an effort to uncover suspected Polish saboteurs by organized persons, the Gestapo placed one of its agents, who spoke Polish, in a group of suspected persons. The agent's identity being discovered, two members of the Polish organization were assigned to "finish" him.

The agent was shot in the elevator of a building near Pulawska street, and, in the ensuing turmoil, one of the Poles was captured. The other committed suicide. The former was subjected to such terrible torture that he revealed some information about the group. The following day a "battue" was organized by the C in the vicinity of Pulawska street, and the 200 young men and boys were arrested and shot.

Railroads, oil transporters from Russia, military objectives, public utilities etc. are the focal points of Polish sabotage.

Mass arrests are the weapon which the Gestapo use for throttling all resistance. Such a mass arrest was held August 12, 1940, in Warsaw, when 10,000 men from 18 to 45 years of age were taken from streets, shops, cafes, trams, and even homes. On September 19 similar arrests were made in the Zoliborz and Mokotow suburbs of Warsaw. 16,000 men were arrested on that occasion. The majority were sent to the ill-famed concentration camp at Oswiecim (Auschwitz).

In January of this year, mass arrests were made on the 5th, the 11th, and the 25th, with this difference: women were also arrested. The informant saw a young woman, trying to escape, shot down in cold-blood.

More than 400,000 Jews are confined to the Warsaw ghetto behind the crete partition which separated from the rest of the city. To a tents and purposes, these Jews, buried alive. Famine, epidemics, a lack of medical help and medicine accentuating their conditions.



"For some years now I have spent most of my time doing fancy-work and reading. A few months ago my eyes bothered me so much I had to give up my pleasures. How disconcerted I became, how irritable!

"My daughter suggested that I see Mr. Curtis. How glad I am that I took her advice! Now with my new glasses I read and work for hours at a time and have no trouble whatever."

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## H. C. SCARTH,

Manager Timmins Branch



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