

What is Wrong With the Mining Industry, and How the Assure a Remedy.

Quebec Mining Engineer Summarizes the Case for Mining. Something Must be Done About it, He Suggests, as No Business Can Use Up Its Assets Faster Than They Can be Replaced.

In The Advance in recent months there has been a discussion of the present situation of mining and the necessity for a radical change in the vital interests of the mining industry and, no less, in the vital interests of the public. The actual situation has been pictured in these columns by old-time prospectors and mining men like J. W. Young, of Porcupine, F. M. Wallingford of Timmins and others, and these have also suggested remedies. The Globe and Mail and The Northern Miner have also been quoted in these columns, and remedies suggested. While there seems to be unanimity in accepting the proposition that some remedy is needed, it is apparent that mining, which is a "wasting" operation can not continue indefinitely unless new mines are brought into being to replace those that must eventually be worked out. The Advance feels that the greater consideration and discussion the better the chances of an early and effective remedy. Accordingly there is given herewith a careful and capable analysis by Geo. H. Salton, B.Sc. M. Sc., a well-known and able mining engineer of the province of Quebec, as presented in last week's Rouyn-Noranda Press.

The Illness—and Suggested Cure
It is comparatively easy to list many factors which together are responsible for a lack of interest in, and a rather unhealthy condition of, the mining industry, particularly that part of the industry upon which depends the finding of new mines. Some of these factors are:

(1) The present international situation.
(2) Taxation, reasonable and unreasonable, certainties and uncertainties.
(3) Securities regulations.
(4) The increasing difficulty in locating new mines (due, of course, to the fact that the easiest ones to find are found at first).

It is, of course, clear to all that the most important single factor is the first mentioned. This, however, is beyond control and nothing can be done about it. At the same time there is no reason why steps should not be taken to do something about the less important factors. It is not to be expected that such constructive changes are at present possible will provide any spectacular impetus, but at least the groundwork for a revival will have been provided in anticipation of the return, at some time or other, to normalcy in international relations.

It might be claimed by some that statistics refute (by a rising trend of production of mining products) the statement as to an unhealthy condition of the mining industry. It need merely be said that any industry that is using up a product essential to its life faster than it is being replaced can have only one end. For some years past the products of mining enterprises in Canada have been depleted faster than new sources of the products have been found; the forced draft due to war necessities under which known mines are now operating is only speeding up the ultimate end. While no one with any common sense claims that the potential resources available to Canadian mining enterprise are unlimited or inexhaustible, nevertheless present geologic knowledge, together with advances in the geologic sciences, clearly point towards a probable long and prosperous mining life for Canada—provided it is not stifled out of existence by unwise governmental restriction and bureaucracy.

Personally I am rather of the opinion that one of the reasons why nothing much in the way of constructive changes designed to add a degree of permanency to mining has been carried out by legislative bodies while in the meantime further restrictive measures have been introduced) has been the fact that those making up the legislative bodies and perhaps even the public in general, have not a clear enough picture of just what mining means, what the term implies, and just what the industry depends upon for its very existence.

Although geologic knowledge may indicate areas possibly favorable to ore (ore, oil, etc.) the search which still remains, by comparison, makes the proverbial needle in the haystack child's play—in that case at least you know there is a needle in the haystack. In the past when surface discoveries which might possibly lead to mines were more easily made, mining propositions might possibly have stood the present restrictive measures. As the risks involved in the search increase the possibilities of commensurate rewards must keep pace, instead of working in the other direction as at present. The present trend of legislation is, unfortunately, killing any initiative for mining enterprise.

Governmental legislation, using the term in its broadest sense, must have two objectives. These are: (1) To ensure a continuing (and taxable) mining industry. (2) To ensure that the operations of the industry, in all its

branches, conform to the best interests of the public and the nation as a whole. In an effort to "protect" the public from mining ventures, governments have enacted regulations governing sale of mining properties, sale of stock, etc., and set up officials to control these with discretionary powers. It might be pointed out that these regulations are directed entirely at prospects and properties that are not yet proven or that have not yet proven themselves profitable, or in other words, properties that are in need of, and in the market for, funds for prospecting, exploration or development. What the government is apparently trying to do is to take the speculation out of a business which by its very nature is speculative. It just cannot be done. The search for, and exploration of, mining properties can never be anything else but a win or lose gamble. Anyone placing funds for such work is gambling, whether that term is used or not, and the use of that term does not detract in any way from the legitimacy and national need for such endeavor. In most cases the public appreciates the speculative nature of the exploration for mines, and all they ask for is that the operations and the venture shall be honestly conducted and that the chances of a reward commensurate with the risks shall be left reasonably large. If speculative initiative in a country is killed off the mining industry at least in that country might just as well throw in the sponge.

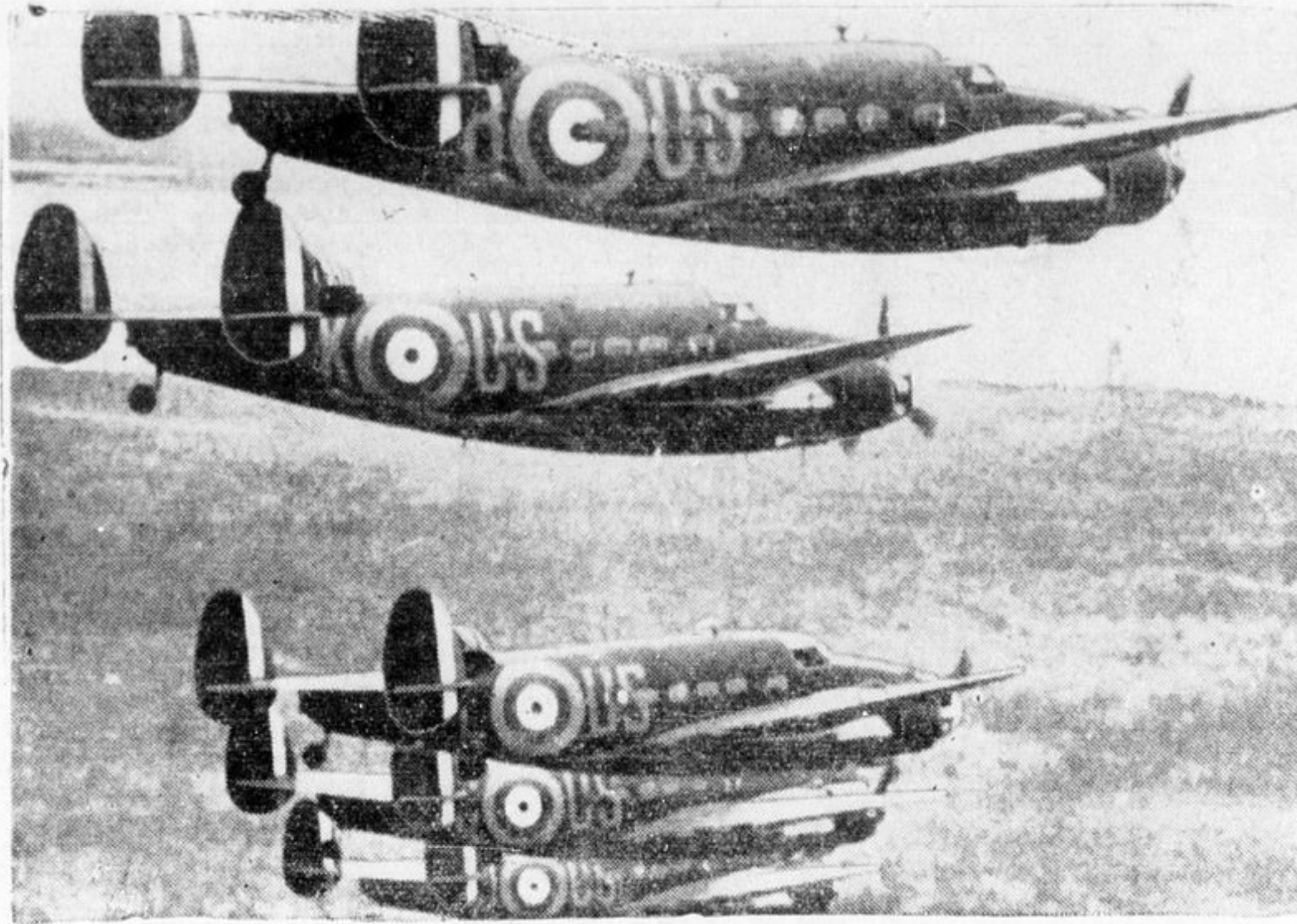
Securities regulations as at present in force do not provide the public with definitely hampering the prospector, and, although to some extent they do protect the broker or promoter (in a place where such protection is harmful) the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. For example, we may consider the regulations regarding the pooling of vendor stock. Under present methods wherein the claim-staker or prospector derives little or no cash from a sale, the sale of a part of the stock received for his property forms the only way in which he may be immediately rewarded for past time and effort. This is prevented by forced pooling of vendor stock. This stock being out of the way, the promoter or broker may and does both set or maintain, or try to maintain, an artificial price on the stock covered by his option, which price often bears no relation to property worth, until such times as he can rid himself of the stock. In most cases the prospector never realizes anything from his share of the stock. In other cases, this vendor stock, by cutting of vendor equity in the property, is cut down to only a fraction of its original amount, with still nothing realized by the holder in the way of cash.

A plain statement of fact is that in the ordinary course of events, a stock will seek its own level, which bears a direct relation to the prospect value of the property concerned. Temporary unwarranted fluctuations will take place but the public understands this and need make no recriminations if they suffer thereby, unless the fluctuations were by fraudulent statements, rather than natural optimism. Free vendor stock would certainly act as a damper on unwarranted fluctuations and if they did occur would speed a return to warranted valuations.

It would certainly appear that, even to retain both the words "honest" and "speculative" in any consideration, the securities regulations are totally unnecessary and restrictive. The public realizes and appreciates or should appreciate, the speculative aspect. Civil and criminal statutes already on the law books, if properly enforced could give adequate protection against dishonesty and malpractice. However, there was admittedly room for improvement in relations between the public and those interested in mining. Two interlocking points suggest a line there improvements might take. One of these is the education where necessary, of the public as to what mining means and involves. The other is to give the speculation minded public the opportunity to make enquiries into the status of engineers, geologists, prospectors, promoters, directors, and such of any individual property. A governmental bureau for the registration of such information is all that is necessary. Engineers, geologists, and such filing reports with such a bureau should submit for filing at the same time a record of their experience, education, place of business, etc. The public could then assure itself as to the principles and principals involved in any promotion, and this is all the protection they ask for or require. Although honest and sincere principals do not ensure a successful outcome to a mining venture, at least they ensure honest statements and practice. This is as far as anyone can be protected in a speculative business such as mining.

It is not to be expected that the gov-

UNCLE SAM'S BOMBERS OVER SINGAPORE



Around the world Britain's front line extends as she strains every sinew to meet the threat of totalitarian oppression. And around the world the war effort of the United States, which has pledged all-out aid to Britain, is making itself felt. Uncle Sam's bombers here are flying over the Singapore area. They are manned by members of the Royal Australian Air Force, but the implications of the bold "U.S." painted on their sides will not be lost on Hitler's partner of the East.

Alleged 'Witnesses' Are Remanded at Tuesday Court.

Two Alleged Car Thieves Are Also Remanded. Woman Sentenced to Three Months on Charge of Selling.

Seven charges laid under the Defence of Canada Regulations were remanded at Tuesday's police court. Six of the charges were laid quite some time ago, and the other was laid on Monday night. A pile of literature was on exhibit in police court on Tuesday afternoon and there were more than a thousand of the pamphlets in the pile. The accused were released on bail of \$500 cash or \$1,000 property.

Another of the important cases that was remanded was that of the two young boys charged with stealing a Ford Coupe belonging to Miss Mary McMahon. They were brought back to Timmins from Barrie and their cases will appear on the docket next Tuesday.

Nine persons were charged with illegal parking and paid fines of \$1 and costs. One man facing the same charge had his case remanded for a week. Another man paid a dollar and costs for failing to have lights on his car.

Four men paid fines of ten dollars and costs on charges of careless driving and another had the same charge against him remanded.

For not carrying an operator's license two men paid fines of ten and costs. Another two men paid ten and costs for having cars with defective brakes. For not remaining at the scene of an accident Noel Leblanc was fined twenty-five dollars and had his license suspended for three months.

Three persons were fined five and costs on charges of disorderly conduct. Five more people paid fines of ten and costs or the alternative of thirty days for being drunk. Two persons were fined ten and costs for having wine in other than their private residences. Elie Clermont had a charge of assault against him withdrawn with costs when the complainant said that he felt sorry and wanted to withdraw the charge. Alex Susner and John Jackson had minor charges of assault against them dismissed when it was found that they were family squabbles. Margaret Stringer and John Clarke both of 359 Birch street north faced joint charges of keeping liquor for sale and of permitting drunkenness. When asked how they wanted to plead, their attorney said that the girl wanted to plead guilty and the man not guilty. Magistrate Atkinson accepted their pleas and handed out a three-month term to Margaret Stringer on the charge of keeping for sale, and dismissed the charges against them of permitting drunkenness.

FORESIGHT

Vicar's Wife — Oh, Thomas, in trouble again? Why don't you renounce the devil?
Thomas — My dear aunt, I don't want to fall out with him. I may have to spend a lot of time with him one day?—Globe and Mail.

erment of the province of Quebec will without further ado proceed to scrap all legislation in the way of securities regulations. It is to be hoped, however, that consideration will be given to achieve the same purpose with less restrictive means. It must be appreciated also that similar regulations in other provinces, and which are beyond your control, have a direct bearing on the effects of such regulations on the mining in this province. However, if Quebec were to lead the way, I have no doubt others would follow.

Doctors Astounded as Baby Continues to Live

Cincinnati, May 14—A baby boy, born three and a half months prematurely at a Cincinnati hospital continues to amaze doctors by his stubborn fight for life.

Doctors believe the case is unique in medical records. The baby—too small and delicate at birth to be weighed—is being kept alive in an incubator with the aid of a whiskey stimulant. The first time he was weighed he tipped the scales at just one pound and seven ounces. He's now one month old.

Police Arrest an Alleged "Witness" on Monday Night

Police Claim to Have Caught Him in the Act of Distributing Pamphlets.

Adelard Prevost, 20A Southern Avenue, was arrested by Timmins police just before midnight on Monday night and charged with being a member of an illegal organization. It is alleged by police that he is a member of the religious sect known as "Jehovah's Witnesses."

Prevost, who is 33 years old and is a painter, is said to have been caught in the act of distributing some of the illegal pamphlets in the southern part of the town. The pamphlets were alleged to have been put out by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, an organization that was outlawed at the beginning of the war in Canada.

The charge was laid under section 20C2 of the Defence of Canada Regulations and when the man appeared in court on Tuesday his case was re-

Just a Little Island

Just a little rugged Island
Jutting out above the sea,
But what a mighty fortress,
In this fight for liberty.

A people not downhearted,
Though the bombs and sirens shrill,
From loved ones they have parted,
But you cannot break their will.

We are coming Mother England,
Sons and daughters round the world,
High above that rugged Island
The Union Jack shall stay unfurled.

Above there is a ruler,
Who controls the universe
And he will help old England
To erase this Nazi curse!

—H. W. Robinson, North Bay.

Thirty Days Given to Second Offence Drunk

Police picked up only one man on Tuesday night. He was charged with being drunk and it was his second offence. On Wednesday morning he appeared before Magistrate Atkinson and given the choice of paying a fine of fifty dollars and costs or the jail term of thirty days. He took the thirty days. The man's name was Pekka Kimmunen and he was taken into custody on one of the local streets.

manded pending instructions from the Attorney-General's department.

Eli Clermont, 57 Windsor Avenue, had a charge of assault, causing actual bodily harm, laid against him at 8:50 on Tuesday morning. Clermont, who is a storekeeper is alleged to have attacked Armand Joseph of 41 Commercial Avenue.

Timmins police picked up three alleged drunks on Monday night. Two of the three were men and the other was a woman.

Dismissal on Charge of Illegal Possession of High-Grade Ore Tuesday

Man Accused of Possession of High-Grade Valued at \$136 Gets Dismissal. Police Acted on Tip and Found Gold Wrapped in Raincoat Behind Seat in Car. High-Grade Confiscated.

When the crown failed to prove that Albert Stady had driven his car around Timmins on the afternoon of May 4th with the knowledge that he had a quantity of high-grade ore wrapped up in his raincoat that was thrown over the back seat, Magistrate Atkinson dismissed the charges against Stady. About halfway through the hearing the court was adjourned so that the magistrate and the attorneys could find out if the constables were obliged to make public the source of their information.

Constable Bert Braney and Constable W. L. Thompson both gave evidence about stopping the car and finding the high-grade ore wrapped up in the raincoat. Constable Thompson was the first witness for the crown and he told of stopping the car after Constable Braney had called for him at his home.

He told of Constable Braney searching the front part of the car and that while that was going on he searched the back part. Behind the front seat he had found the raincoat with a new crucible wrapped up in it and in the pocket of the coat he found a quantity of high-grade ore wrapped up in a hankercchief. Constable Braney had then placed the man under arrest and brought him to the Timmins Police station. When they arrived at the police station Constable Braney questioned the man and he had nothing to say.

When they had started to search the car, Constable Thompson said, the accused had asked them if it was a frame-up. After they got to the police station the man wanted to bring thirty dollars that he had in his pockets to his wife and the police had gone to his home with him. On the way back from his home he had asked the policemen why they didn't get after the big fellows. He then asked if it would help him if he told them who one of the big fellows was.

During the cross-examination by Dean Kester, Constable Thompson said that he had gone out with Constable Braney, looking for a certain car that was supposed to have some high-grade in it. He didn't know where the car would be found and had been cruising around on all streets.

Constable Bert Braney then corroborated the evidence that Constable Thompson had given and said that he had received a tip from someone over the phone. He said that he was certain about who had given him the tip but the magistrate said that he didn't have to give the conversation. He also explained the trip that he and Constable Thompson had taken around the town looking for the car.

Fred Mason assayer at the Dome, gave evidence as to the value of the gold. It was almost forty per cent pure, he said. The total weight was 10.4 ozs. and the value was \$136.67.

Albert Stady, in taking the stand in his own defence, said that the night before he had been picked up he had gone out on a drinking party. He had gone to the St. Charles hotel with a friend and while he was there another man whom he knew came in. The three of them sat there drinking beer till the man that he had come in with had to leave. Shortly after that he had stayed there till 12 o'clock. After that they returned to Timmins and had visited two bootleggers before they went home. He had let the man out of his car at the corner of Second Avenue and Pine Street and as it was raining he had let the man have his raincoat.

The next morning the man had called at his home and woke him up. Just before he had come into the house he had left Stady's raincoat in the car. Stady claimed that he had noticed that his raincoat was in the car but didn't know that there was anything wrapped up in it.

He had then driven this friend up town and had left him at his rooming house to phone and had proceeded to a restaurant to get some dinner. It was just after he had come out of the restaurant that he had been stopped by the police. He was of the opinion that the man whom he had brought up town and had loaned his raincoat to must have planted the gold in his car.

Stady also said that when the police started to search the car they didn't search anywhere but on the back seat. They picked the coat up right away, he said. He also denied that he had said anything about a big fellow to the police. He said that the police had asked him who the big fellow was and that when he got into court he should plead guilty because he would get sent down anyway.

Paul Emile Thiboutat said that he had seen Stady and the other man standing beside the car on the corner of Second Avenue and Pine street the night before and that the other man was putting a raincoat on.

Alex Larsen said that he was going

to call on the Stadsys on the Sunday that he was arrested and that as he was approaching the Stady house he saw another man going into the house. He then decided not to go in as he thought that the Stadsys had company. Just before the man went in he had placed a coat that he was carrying in Stady's car, he said.

After a lengthy summing up of the case by the Crown Attorney and the defence attorney, the magistrate decided that he would give Stady the benefit of the doubt and dismissed the charge. The gold ore that was seized was confiscated.

Less Blindness if Proper Means in the Proper Hands

D. B. Lawley Suggests the Valuable Work of the C. N. I. B.

Mr. D. B. Lawley supervisor of field service for Ontario for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, who is at present in Timmins in connection with the annual campaign in the Porcupine district, recently addressed the annual meeting of the South Temiskaming Advisory Committee of the Institute, and much of what he said in his address is of special public interest.

One thing that he noted should be given very particular attention:—"If the proper means had been in the proper hands at the proper time, half of the names on our register need not have been there." Mr. Lawley said this was not his own statement but that he was repeating what he had heard a number of times.

"If this is true," Mr. Lawley continued, "the local committees of the National Institute of the Blind have an even greater responsibility to face. It is unlikely there is a more sincere group of workers anywhere than those who find the time to assist the blind," said Mr. Lawley in mentioning that not a single cent of the money entrusted to committees throughout the province had gone astray or been spent in anything but the most conscientious manner.

In introducing Mr. A. B. Howe of North Bay, field secretary for the North, Mr. Lawley paid high tribute to both Mr. Howe and his daughter, Olive. Miss Howe acts as secretary to her father.

Saying "life was strife," Mr. Howe said since he had been without his vision he felt he had "seen" more than before. "It is perhaps somewhat strange," he said, "that I should feel we who have lost out vision should see some things so much more clearly. I really believe we see more than those who have the use of their eyes." Mr. Howe said that when he had the hardest kind of work to do, life for him was the most interesting.

Bicycle License Delinquents May Face Court Charges

Licenses Were Due March 31st. Those Not Having Licenses Will be Charged.

Timmins police are starting to check-up on the bicycle licenses. Quite a number of licenses have been issued at the police office so far this year but there are still plenty of them to come in. Fair warning is being given that if these late-buyers don't get the necessary license soon they will be charged.

Some young fellows think that they don't have to get their license till the fall but the licenses were due at the end of March and have to be renewed.

Police have recovered quite a number of bicycles that were stolen as far back as 1939 and there is still a long list of the stolen bikes. When all the bicycles are licensed it will simplify the check-up on the stolen vehicles.

The Advance was asked this week to warn all the young fellows that have bicycles and no license that they had better get one in a hurry or they may find themselves facing a court charge.

Applications must be made for the licenses at the police office. Permission is given at the police office for the applicant to get the license and then the applicant gets the license at the town hall license department.

GENERAL DISTURBANCE

"Was it not disgraceful the way Smiggs snored in church today?"
"I should think it was. Why, he woke us all up!"—Exchange.

THE QUEEN GETS SOME INFORMATION



When the King and Queen want to know what German bombs are doing to their people, they don't rely on official reports. They walk in person among the ruins of English homes and talk to the folk who have been bombed out. Similarly, when they want to know how the army is doing they visit the camps where training is under way. This picture was taken in the southern command. With shells screaming overhead during an artillery demonstration, her majesty stoops to question a gunnery sergeant about the action of his gun.