

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

Members Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association; Ontario-Quebec Newspaper Association
TWO PHONES—26 and 2020

Published Every Thursday by
GEO. LAKE, Owner and Publisher

Subscription Rates:
Canada—\$2.00 Per Year. United States—\$3.00 Per Year.

Timmins, Ont., Thursday, Sept. 25th, 1941

ABOUT RECRUITING

In the last great war of twenty-five years ago there were meetings, parades, addresses, music, fanfare. People were urged in earnest fashion—sometimes in noisy way—to join the Canadian active forces. In the present war the plan seems to be to conduct all recruiting in as quiet and secret a way as possible. Appeals to sentiment have been avoided, yet the whole question is one of sentiment. Bands and parades apparently have been neglected, yet these things undoubtedly do stir attention and attract interest. All in all, recruiting has confined itself in Canada in the present struggle to a degree of dignity and aloofness that does not result in any noticeable rush of men to the colours. Every day there are complaints from government quarters to the effect that recruiting is not proceeding with the degree of success that is desired. Thoughtful people, however, are tempted to believe that the recruiting has been more successful than the methods followed would lead people to expect. There was a tendency on the part of the powers-that-be to act as if the playing of a band would be an insult to dignity and any noise about recruiting an offence to democracy. In more recent times, there has been a little modification of the old plan. In Sudbury, for instance, it is said that recruiting was attempted in a rather boisterous fashion. The recruiting officers acted somewhat after the manner of some pickets and no one was allowed to enter places or even walk the streets without being earnestly urged to join the forces. No doubt, the argument was that the procedure that brought close to 600,000 men to the colours in the last war might have a similar effect in this struggle. It did produce results for a time, then complaints began to be heard. It was reported that men were being badgered and bulldozed in an effort to force them into the army. Eventually, the situation provoked the Canadian Legion to protest, and different methods were adopted. The result, however is not encouraging. The less ostentatious methods are not getting the desired results. When the more clamorous plans were in force, the average number of recruits was ten each day. Now only three a day constitutes a fair average. This appears to suggest that more noise and demonstration prove the more effective. Those who prize dignity and decorum about all else, may deplore the necessity for noisy methods, but the more thoughtful will feel that the need is so vital that any legal methods are justified. If the enemy triumphs, this country will lose a lot more than mere dignity. When money was to be raised for war loans or other purposes, the authorities have not hesitated to resort to the most blatant arrangements. Few can convince themselves that money is more important than men.

There are those who take a middle view on this question of recruiting. They point out that the people of Canada have responded nobly to every call, and they argue that as the summons is to all and sundry, the form of appeal must be a broad one to embrace all classes and conditions. If fuss, feathers and fanfare are necessary, then bring them on, they argue.

Others take what may be called a modern view. They would drop all the former hush-hush style of appeal, and instead adopt a dignified but lively form of recruiting. One man who recently watched groups of airmen in their smart drills at Eglinton, Toronto, suggests that if companies of the air force were to make public parades and drills, recruiting would not lag for long. At the very least it would appear that the authorities might well try some of the stirring methods they used to raise money, and see if this would not bring men to the colours.

WANTS PEOPLE MORE CHEER-FUL

"An Old Fan" writes to The Advance asking what is wrong with the Porcupine population in regard to expressing their feelings on the occasion of visits here of distinguished personages and popular people. "Is it awe, ignorance, or sheer bashfulness that holds the populace mute when outstanding guests are here" the writer asks. Reference is made to a visit here some years ago of Dr. Herbert Bruce, then Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. He was accompanied here by his charming wife. Both held high place in popular esteem, yet the crowds gathered to greet them simply "stared and stared." Another case cited is that of the recent visit of the Duke of Kent to the Porcupine. At Porquis Junction the crowds cheered lustily before His Royal Highness stepped from his plane, but as he walked along the field to greet the people, silence reigned, the letter says. Mention is also made of Premier Winston Churchill appearing on the screen at a local theatre, and despite the fact that the British premier is the most popular man in the Empire at the moment, "a deadly silence settled on the multitude present." "An Old Fan" asks The Advance to "write something that will instil into the Timmins folk a

welcoming spirit, so that people coming to visit here may realize that all are glad that they have come." It is hardly the fact to suggest that Timmins people have not the welcoming spirit. The people here are hospitable, kindly, generous and sincere. It may be the case that they are not demonstrative. The sincerity of their welcome can scarcely be questioned. Perhaps, a little more expression of their feelings might not be out of place on some occasions. There is a hint in the letter of "An Old Fan" as to how to bring the people to give more patent expression to their feelings. The silence that greeted the appearance of the British premier on the screen at a local theatre was broken when "An Old Fan" started to clap and cheer. "Lo," writes "An Old Fan," "on all sides came cheering and clapping." That suggests that all the people need is a leader on such occasions. In the United States there is a tendency to organize the cheering and clapping. There are regular professionals to lead the cheers. The result is not always a complete success. The cheering often lacks sincerity and spontaneity. On future occasions it might be well if someone made it his or her bounden duty to lead the cheering at the right time and in the right way. Any effort to organize cheering of celebrities is not likely to deceive visitors of importance, but the spontaneous expression of feelings of patriotism or pride or popularity is sure to give the distinguished visitor a real thrill.

RUSSIA CARRIES ON

This week Soviet Russia appears to have had less than its customary good fortune in holding back the hordes of German gangsters. This does not mean that Russia or any of her allies need despair. Already Russia has done more to help win the war than any other group of forces in the conflict has any right to expect. It may be true that Germany has made important advances, that valuable industrial centres in Russia have felt the fury of the Nazi might, that the great cities of Russia appear to be threatened, that there is danger of large forces of the Soviet being trapped by the invaders. All that is based largely on claims made by the Germans. The Soviet story is a different one. It tells of counter-attacks that inflicted immense losses on the Nazi forces; it tells of territory laid waste and denuded of all things of value; it tells of literally millions of Nazi casualties; of the determination of the Russians to contest every inch and make the Germans pay in "blood, sweat and tears" for each advance.

Russia has shown the will to win, the grim determination to fight to the bitter end. One trouble is that some people have been inclined to sit back and let Russia win the war for the Allies. As The Advance has suggested before, Britain must win its own war. Any help from Russia should be considered as incidental only.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Commenting on the report that Hon. Mr. McLarty, Minister of Labour for the Dominion, planned to take a two weeks' holiday while war industries are being held up by strikes, a letter writer in The Toronto Telegram says he hopes that Hon. Mr. McLarty catches some lovely fish. Evidently with things the way they have been there are immense shoals of "fish" in this country.

The rationing of gasoline has been patiently accepted by the people of Canada. Still The Advance would not advise the government to expect the rationing of beer, for example, to be accepted with equal equanimity.

Over a picture of Dorothy Lamour without her famous sarong (but with other raiment in its place), a United States newspaper places the caption, "What is Sarong with this picture?"

On the desk a government publication was lying as such publications so often lie on desks and elsewhere. This one was headed in large letters "Bulletin No. 28." Then someone dropped a book on the circular, so that all the letters in Bulletin but the first four were hidden. It might be at that.

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 unshakable. 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."

"Kanadiysky Farmer," a Ukrainian weekly published at Winnipeg, recently printed a statement that might well be pondered by all. "Notwithstanding his continuous victories," says the Ukrainian journal, "Hitler will finally lose the war because there is not a single European nation (not even excluding the Italians) that would have friendly feelings toward him. No power will be able to prevent these nations from revolting at a proper time. And that time is approaching."

Courage is perhaps the greatest factor in assuring the popularity and fame of any man. The average man admires courage when he sees it. That is the reason Premier Mitchell Heppburn of Ontario, enjoys a continued recurrence of admiration from the average man and woman. Whatever else may be said about Premier Heppburn, it never can be denied that the present premier of Ontario never hesitates to express his opinion and gladly face the consequences no matter what they may be.

Timmins Man Caught With Complete Refinery in Basement Draws Term

Napoleon Felix Robert Invented Quite a Machine but He Didn't Figure on the Investigations of the "Gold Squad", Drew Nine Month Term on High-Grading Charge.

Napoleon Felix Robert, 256 Balsam street, south, was quite an inventor, but his genius got him into a lot of trouble and a stiff jail sentence here on Tuesday of this week when he appeared before Magistrate Atkinson charged with having a refinery in his possession. The refinery was ordered confiscated and a jail sentence of nine months at hard labour was imposed on the man in spite of a lengthy plea for leniency by Defence Counsel Greg Evans.

The contraption that Robert had fixed up to refine gold bearing ore was a masterpiece. It was exhibited in court by Constable Bert Braney, of the Ontario Provincial Police "Gold Squad," who said that he had located the "plant" in the basement of Robert's home during a raid that he and his associate on the Gold Squad, Constable H. L. Thompson, had carried out on Saturday night, September 13th. The machine was made up of a couple of heavy gears that were operated by an electric motor. These gears crushed the rock into tiny pieces and there was an opening at the bottom of the machine for the rock to fall through. Also taken during the raid were a number of crucibles, used for melting the ore, an electric fan to supply a draft in the furnace, a poker that was used to stir up the coke fire in the furnace, and a quantity of the coke that was used in the big Quebec heater. Constable Braney told the court that these were merely samples of what was taken. Much more stuff had been taken away by the police but only sufficient was taken to court to guarantee a conviction.

After the raid at the premises of the accused, the constable had brought a number of articles to Mr. Mason, assayer at the Dome Mines, and he found that the coating that covered approximately four inches of the end of the poker was a gold-bearing substance. A quantity of dust taken from the top of the "crusher" was worth \$2.35 a pound. Another bit of dust taken from the pipe in the heater was worth 80 cents a pound. Two buttons of high-grade found in the man's room assayed very high and was worth \$77.50. A set of fine scales and weights were also found in the man's bedroom. A quantity of broken-down slag was found in the basement of the house in a bucket. Three large cans also found in the basement, one empty and the others containing borax, an ingredient used in the smelting of gold ore.

Four graphite crucibles and an iron crucible were also found in the basement and when they were tested by Mr. Mason, he said that they had been used recently. Constable Braney added that it was the biggest catch that the "Gold Squad" had yet uncovered in the district. It was complete, even to the electric motor used to run it. In the opinion of the constables and Mr. Mason, the assayer, the plant had been in operation for approximately a year or nine months.

In asking for leniency Defence Counsel Evans said that the arrest of Robert wasn't breaking up any big high-grading ring. He was merely a small cog in what may be a big wheel in the illegal traffic of gold. He mentioned that his client had no great amount of money and that it was more or less his greed for worldly wealth that had dragged him into the racket. He also pointed out that the man had been employed at the Hollinger for fourteen years and was married and had three small children. While not asking that the man be let off with no punishment, Mr. Evans did ask that a fine be imposed so that the man would not have to go to jail and leave his family here to suffer in his absence. It was really the man who deserved the punishment and if he were sent to jail it would be the family that would suffer.

Crown Attorney Caldbick countered Mr. Evans' remarks by saying that he imagined that Robert's mining days were over. The mine would not likely take him back, he thought. He pointed out to the magistrate that the sentence could be one year in jail or five hundred dollars fine or both. He didn't ask for both but did ask that a jail sentence be imposed instead of a fine. Magistrate Atkinson agreed with the crown attorney as he passed sentence of nine months' hard labour.

Lions Club Shown Movies of Duke of Kent's Visit Here

Movies are Shown to the Club by Mr. C. A. Remus. Also Movies Taken During Visit of the King and Queen.

The regular weekly meeting of the Timmins Lions Club was held on Monday evening of this week at the Empire Hotel with President Stan Fowler presiding. Guests for the evening were Charles Remus and Ken Hulme. Mr. Remus showed the club members some movies during the evening.

Lion Emile Brunette introduced Mr. Remus to the members who then sat back to enjoy some especially fine movies that Mr. Remus had taken. The first set of pictures shown to the members were some movies of their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth,

The regiment, which has earned the reputation of being one of the smartest infantry units in Canada today impressed Prime Minister Mackenzie King on his recent tour of Western Canada.

It was further announced that the regiment had been brigaded. They are now a part of the 14th Brigade of the Active Army. They have been drilling at Camp Shilo since early spring when they were shifted from Port Arthur farther west.

The Algonquins were first stationed at Camp Borden after being mobilized for active service following preliminary training at their northern homes. Preliminary training was carried out at Timmins, Kirkland Lake, Halley-bay and North Bay, before the regiment was transferred to the training camp. They were then moved to Port Arthur where they spent last winter. Early this spring they were moved to Camp Shilo in Manitoba.

News of the move to an Ontario training camp was received with enthusiasm by families and relatives of the men in the regiment this week. It is thought that the men will now be able to visit their homes and families more frequently.

Recruiting for the Algonquin Regiment is continuing in Timmins, with a large number of men still needed to fill the vacancies and keep the regiment up to full strength. An intensified recruiting campaign is expected to enlist the services of a large number of men this fall.

MIGHT AS WELL

"But, my dear sir," said the banker, "you can't open a joint checking account with \$10."

"What's the difference?" inquired the gloomy citizen. "It will be overdrawn in three days anyhow."—Globe and Mail.

STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!

Headline . . . "Nurse Weds Victim of Auto Accident" . . . Well, we always said a fella should look both ways before crossing the street!—North Bay Nugget.



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