

The Porcupine Advance

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, Dec. 18h, 1941

INITIATING INITIALS

People appear to be losing the power to write words these days. Everything appears to be initialled. An English dictionary recently issued gives a list of considerably over 1,200 sets of initials and abbreviations under the imposing title "Abbreviations used in Writing and Printing." If the world has its way, the next edition of that dictionary will greatly increase its list of abbreviations and initials, and then on the plea of saving time and ink-and space title it all with the initials, "A. U. I. W. A. P." Of course the list of abbreviations and initials is woefully inadequate. "A. B. C." is there, but there is no "B.B.C." or "C.B.C.", let alone a "C.K.G.B." There are scores of service clubs, fraternal societies, churches and what not that have been established while any dictionary is being printed, and, of course, none of these are listed. Add to these the hundreds of initials used to designate laws and regulations and boards and commissions and committees, and what have you. The Army, the Navy and the Air Force have several divisions of initials all their own. Even the good old Algonquin Regiment now carries the cabalistic initials C. A. (R.) as extra baggage.

One of the most disturbing cases of the prevalent epidemic of initialitis is the use at this season of "Xmas" for Christmas. Next thing the abbreviation fiends will be writing down the beloved royal couple as "King Geo." or "King G." and "Queen Eliza" or "Queen E." There should be a limit to this sort of thing. To write the sacred name of "Christmas" with any "X" stuff is to go the fuzzy limit.

In excuse for all this initialistical business, it is claimed that the idea is to save time. The truth is that it is a double time-waster. In the first place the writer has to look up to see what initials he should use. That takes time and effort that far outweighs any seconds saved by omitting all but a few letters. On the other hand, the unfortunate reader has to waste further hours to figure out what the initials signify. There are only a very few who really know the two languages, "English" and "Initialish."

Most thoughtful people will agree that the initial business is taking the joy out of life and the sense out of writing. What to do? The only answer seems to be to reverse and have a National Government. The present government apparently can not do nor say anything about anything. The premier himself has a flock of initials before his name, and a whole carload behind. He is none other than W. L. M. King, M.P., P.C., B.A., M.A., F.P.S., Ph.D., F.R.S.C., F.C.G.S., LL.D., M.N.E.C.P.

HEROISM STILL LIVES

"I have heard so many stories of heroism and self-sacrifice coming from the British Isles and from the various spheres of war, on land, on sea, and in the air," said a local gentleman the other day, "that I sometimes wonder if they can all be true!" There is no cause for wonder. Not only are all the hundreds of tales of courage and devotion fully true in essence and effect, but there are literally thousands of other cases of equal merit that are passing without recognition or comment. It is easy to believe this. History is the record of the bravery, of the dauntless spirit of the British people. Stern critics of behavior have some excuse for terming the British folks in ordinary times as rather irritating in some ways. They grumble freely about inconsequentialities. They have an annoying habit often when the sun is shining of insisting, perhaps, too strongly for their rights and privileges. But in the days of stress and peril, what a people! Facing the fury of bombardment from the skies with jest and quip! Risking death, and worse, for mere ideals! Helping each other, saving each other, comforting each other! Even the children facing all the horrors of the ruthless sea, singing "Roll Out the Barrel."

It is not necessary to leave this North Land to believe that heroism still lives and thrives in British hearts, only awaiting the emergency to be called into vivid action. Recall the devastating forest fires in the North—in the Porcupine! What heroes and heroines there were then. Men risked their lives for the women and children. Men gave their lives for each other. And these things, too, would have been vain had it not been for the courage, the gallantry, the devotion of the women and the children. Bravery and kindness and helpfulness were all around. The fire at the Hollinger Gold Mine in 1928 gave a host of further examples of the nobility, the self-sacrifice of humanity. The influenza epidemic that took a hundred lives in this district some twenty-three years ago also showed the splendour of self-sacrifice. In South Porcupine there was one boarding house full of men from a foreign land. Contracting a vicious type of the prevalent influenza, they would all have died, but for the nobility of two women whose past had apparently held little grandeur. These women gave the fullest measure of their health, their strength, their hearts for others. They nearly paid with their own lives for their

kindness and help, because, worn out with their devotion to the needs of others, they were easy marks for the disease.

But it is not alone in the spectacular disaster, or the startling emergency, that the spirit of noble humanity shows itself. Instead, it proves itself nearly every day in the work and the struggle of life. When danger waiks, it is always there to take all risks and give the helping hand to others.

Recently in the Rouyn area there was a typical example of what men risk for others as a matter of course. Raymond Labrecque was trapped by the fall of a piece of loose rock in the Normetal mines where he was employed. He resigned himself to his fate because there was no chance that he would free himself from the rock that pinned him down. Perhaps, he solaced himself with the fact that he would not have long to suffer, because he knew there were seven charges of powder with fuse ignited ready to explode in the near area where he was caught. He comforted himself also with the thought that his working partner, Maurice Gelinis had ample time to flee from the blasts that were but minutes away. Labrecque urged Gelinis to flee and save his own life. But Gelinis had the tradition of the mine worker in his heart. It was on the lap of the gods whether he lived or died. It was on his soul that he should help his friend. With a piece of steel as a lever and a pick and shovel, Gelinis worked like a hero to rescue his friend. Labrecque himself worked as best he could with his bare hands to extricate himself. The combined efforts of the two heroes were rewarded. Eventually Labrecque was free, but then Gelinis had to carry him to safety because of a serious injury to one of Labrecque's legs. There was kindness in fate on this occasion because the two gallant miners reached safety before the heavy blasts started. It was only a matter of seconds, however, and Labrecque undoubtedly owed his life to the spirit of helpfulness and self-sacrifice shown by Gelinis. Many to-day are discouraged and depressed by the greed, the hate, the cruelty, the selfishness, the beastliness so prominent in every land where the gangsters hold sway. To these saddened souls, there is held up the case of Maurice Gelinis who was ready to give his life for his friend. There is no cause for despair. Courage and helpfulness and devotion to others are virtues that still hold sway. They are all round in the everyday work of the people of the North. They are symbols of the fact that nobility and devotion to others have not perished from the earth.

REMEMBER THE SOLDIERS

In a letter from a soldier overseas, as published in The Powassan News last week there is a very suggestive reference. "The most popular men in the army are the mail man and the postmaster," is the thoughtful word of this gallant soldier. It is a direct hint to all readers that the soldier very specially desires to hear from home and folks. The money he has earned, together with the correspondence he has also merited by his service, are the two things for which the soldier asks. It is doubly worth noting that in stressing his regards for the two authorities—the postman and the paymaster—the soldier puts the postman first. Soldiers in general appear to agree that there is nearly always someone in the immediate family circle—a wife, mother, sister, sweetheart—who never fails to write, but that relatives and friends in general are apt to forget. Far from home and in danger, it is a comfort and a joy to the soldier, the sailor or the airman to receive a letter from someone who cares. The Advance has noted that in letters, in articles for the newspapers, and in talks over the radio, the average man of the fighting forces has asked for letters and cigarettes as the two chief needs. This is passed to the world at large, and especially to Canada. Canada's fighting men want letters, cigarettes, support. They can have all of these. The humblest can help in all three lines. Give letters, cigarettes and support. Perhaps, you feel that the first two can be looked after and you can do your part, but in regard to "support" you may ask how you may specially help. The answer to that one in many cases is simply the well-worn slogan, "Buy War Savings Stamps."

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Often the linotype operator gives life to dead copy or new meaning to old tripe by way of what is termed "typographical error" that so frequently means sense and humour where all was dull before. Some of these typographical errors have achieved fame, as, for instance, the time years ago when the editor wrote about the "battle-scarred veteran" and the type made it appear "battle-scared," while in the correction necessary it was printed "bottle-scarred." There was no such happy perception in the case of the item appearing last week in one of the well edited North Land newspapers. The little item said that immediately following the Japanese attacks on British and U.S. bases on Sunday, Canada Pacific coast cities went under "back-out" regulations. That was once the linotype operator didn't know the right way to phrase it. There will be no "backout." It's going to be a real "blackout." Canada, the United States and Britain will stay in "until the kill" and it's going to be a "knockout," not a "backout" for Japan.

Speaking of the use of initials, the Perth Courier last week made timely and helpful use of this form of expression by the using the letters "D. Y. C. S. E." While it may be true that quite a bit of Christmas shopping might be done while anyone

was guessing as to what those initials might represent, at the same time there are many who would pass by the advice, "Do Your Christmas Shopping Early," as commonplace, but who might get down to actual thought about the matter after translating the initials into the words they represent.

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."

Last week a young man on leave from his duties with the Royal Canadian Air Force, attracted some pleased attention as he walked down Third avenue in Timmins. There was no swank about the lad, but with head erect, chest out, uniform spotless and perfect in press and fit, the young man was evidently very properly proud of the service he represents. He would have been a handsome lad in any garb. In the trim uniform of the R.C.A.F. with his fine carriage, his evident youth, earnestness, strength, health, alertness, most hearts warmed to him as he walked along. But there are always some human crabs to seek to take the joy out of life. One man stepped in front of the young airman and in clumsy fashion attempted to give a supposedly derisive salute. The fellow in miff tried to bring his feet together sharply and click his heels as his right hand rose in an arc. But

before the young airman reached him, the man attempting the salute had crashed on the icy sidewalk. Instead of his heels clicking, his head clicked on the sidewalk. The young airman picked him up and planted him on his awkward feet. "Are you hurt sir?" he asked kindly, but with a glint in his eye. To the onlookers, the handsome young airman still thrilled the heart. One man made the comment:—"If there was a wise Chinaman here now he would make the remark—"Confucius say—the man who tries to take a fall out of any of the R. A. F. always have big crash!"

One of the month's best samples of war humour was given last week by the Cobalt reporter for The Northern News. He tells of a Cobalt friend of his who saw on the bill of fare in a Chinese restaurant in Toronto recently this patriotic item:—"Free French-Fried Potatoes."

Hitler says that the Russian campaign has been postponed on account of the severity of the winter weather. The Russians on the other hand assert that the temperature has been hovering in the neighbourhood of three to five degrees below zero, and that is not much like real Russian weather. In deciding which story is correct, it is well to remember that all along later events and known facts have proven the Russian version to be fairly accurate and the German story to be greatly inaccurate. The truth is that the Germans have taken a first-class beating in the Russian campaign, and they might just as well admit it.

Two Charges of Selling Liquor are Remanded for a Week at Tuesday's Court

Important Charges are Laid over at Request of Defence. Woman Given Another Chance When Charged With Having Liquor in a Public Place. One Man Sent to Mental Hospital.

All of the important cases at this week's police court were remanded till next week and next Monday afternoon will likely see a heavy docket facing the magistrate. Included in the cases that were remanded this week were two charges of selling liquor and one of an indecent assault on a female. In each of these cases the defence asked for a remand and the request was granted, though the crown wanted to proceed with one of the charges this week because the crown witnesses were from Toronto and would likely not be available for a hearing next week.

Two of the important liquor counts on this week's docket were preferred against Rita Menardi, 259 Pine street south, and Jack Guthro, 53 Third ave. Both of these persons were charged with selling liquor as a result of police raids on Sunday, December 4th. They both asked for a remand and bail was set in each case.

P. B. Patterson, charged with indecent assault on a female, was arrested on Saturday and he asked for a remand through his solicitor Mr. J. W. Leiberman. The charge was laid by Charles Orenstein, of Toronto, and the crown wanted to proceed with the case as the witnesses wanted to return to Toronto this week. The request for a remand was finally granted by the magistrate who said that the man hardly had time to arrange for a defence in that short time.

Mr. S. C. Platou appeared to ask for a remand in the case of Sam Shub, charged with illegally selling fruit. The charge was laid by Daniel H. Flith, an inspector, under the Farm Products Grades and Sales Act of Ontario. One of the charges is that he did allow the fruit to be removed from his warehouse before it had been graded and while it was ordered detained by the government inspector. The other two charges against Shub are that he did unlawfully sell some of the fruit.

Nick Simmons, a twenty-three-year-old young man facing a serious charge of indecency, was committed to a mental institution for a period of six days during which time he will be under observation and at the end of that time the authorities at the mental institution will notify the crown if the man is in condition to defend himself against the original charge. Some evidence regarding the young man was taken at Tuesday's court and Dr. Laine, who has been examining the man for three years said that he was never particularly bright and was always close to the line of being mentally ill or not. The man's mental age was quite a bit lower than his chronological age, the doctor said. He also said that he had examined the man on Tuesday morning and that he found the man to be mentally disturbed at that time. Simmons appeared in court dressed in a straight jacket.

Marie Lanther, 14 1/2 Cedar Street south, appeared in court to answer a charge of having liquor in a place already declared public. The police evidence given by Sergeant Gariepy, was that he had raided the premises occupied by the lady and she was asked if there was any liquor in the house. She replied that there was not and the officers then started to search the place. They located a bottle of liquor hidden between the mattress and springs of a bed. Marie Lanther was asked if she owned the liquor and she admitted to the police that she did and they proceeded to lay the charge against her.

In court, the woman admitted that the liquor belonged to her and she also admitted it was found in her house but she offered the defence that she did not know the place had been declared public. She admitted to the magistrate that she had paid a fine on a charge laid under the L.C.A. a few weeks ago, but she had no recollection of the place being declared public at this time. The magistrate let her go warning her that she now knew the place was public and that she had better not keep any liquor in the house.

Three drunks were listed on the docket and one of them was given another chance when the magistrate adjourned the charge till called upon. The other two didn't fare so well, however, as they were fined ten dollars or the alternative of thirty days in jail.

Frank Tripp was given the choice of paying a ten dollar fine or spending the next thirty days in jail when he pleaded guilty to a charge of having w. in a public place.

Jewish Community Celebrating Feast of Dedication Now

Week from Dec. 14th to 21st Observed as "Hanucah"

In Timmins and district this week the Jewish community observes "Hanucah", or the Feast of Dedication. This feast was instituted to commemorate the deliverance of the Jews from the tyranny of Antiochus Epiphanes some 2100 years ago. This year Jewish people all over the wide world will observe the event with special earnestness and understanding. In the few free lands that are left where they can openly celebrate, there will be in their hearts the devout hope that the world of today will soon find deliverance from the brutal tyranny of the gangster nations of these days. In the other lands where observance must be secret—where life itself has to be lived under cover—there will be the hope inspired by the deliverance of 2100 years ago that again will come freedom and happiness not only for the Jews, but for all peoples.

"Hanucah" is marked by special services at the synagogue with benedictions and hymns, by feasts and other celebration. The story of "Hanucah" is told again by Rabbis and other leaders. Here is the story in outline:—"Hanucah, or the Feast of Dedication, is the feast which is annually observed by the Jews during eight days, from the 25th of Kislew to the 2nd day of Tebeth, by the ceremony of illumination. This feast was instituted by the Hasmonaens (Maccabees) to commemorate the deliverance of the Jews from the tyranny of Antiochus Epiphanes, who had forced them to abandon the faith of their fathers, and had set up a heathen idol in their temple. The story of the struggle and victory commemorated by the feast of lights follows.

In the year 175 b. c. e. Antiochus Epiphanes ascended the throne of Syria. He was a great enemy of the Jews and he resolved to get rid of them. He hated everything that was foreign to the Greek spirit. And besides, the

disputes and riots in Jerusalem over the priesthood were making the Jews and their religion abhorred by Antiochus. He entered Jerusalem in the year 163, before the Christian era, plundered the temple, offered swine's flesh on the altar, and put to death many of the people.

"That was not all. Antiochus set up the idol of Jupiter in the temple. The holy Jewish scriptures were burned, and the reading of the law and observance of circumcision and of the Sabbath was forbidden on pain of death. Great rewards were offered to those who would renounce Judaism. But hundreds of Jews died a martyr's death rather than abandon their religion. Among those martyrs was a ninety-year-old man by the name of Eleazar. One Jewish mother with superhuman firmness witnessed the death of all her seven sons for their faith; before her eyes they separately and in succession died a martyr's death, after which she herself was put to death.

"There was a passion of resentment felt by the people, and the feeling needed only directing to find strong expression. In the little town of Modin near Jerusalem, there lived a Hasmonaen family, of whom an old priest, named Mattathias, was the head. An officer of Antiochus came to this place, calling on the Jews to perform heathen sacrifice. Some one in the crowd obeyed. Mattathias struck him down and called on all those who were zealous for the law to follow him. There was an immediate rally to his side. The enemy was defeated for the day, and Mattathias and his party left the town at once and raised the standard of revolt throughout the country. "In calling on those who were zealous for the law" to rally to his side, Mattathias secured a strong and enthusiastic following. A large party had grown up among the Jews who were really zealous for the law. These men were called "Hassidim (pious men, saints).

"Helped greatly by the Hassidim, Mattathias soon made headway against the enemy. He had five strong, brave sons, John, Simeon, Judas, Elazar, and Jonathan. To Judas he left the command when he died. The little following by that time had grown into a large body. Tradition has it that the motto on their flag was "Who is Like Unto Thee, O Lord, Among the Gods", the initial letters of these words in

Hebrew composing the name, "Maccabee." The army was not great, but very brave, and gradually wrested Judea from the Greek oppressor. The decisive battle was fought out and won on the plains of Emmaus, about seventeen miles to the west of Jerusalem. Judas Maccabee, with his brave troops triumphantly entered Jerusalem and on the 25th day of Kislew of the year 164 b. c. e. the temple polluted by idolatry was cleansed and reconsecrated. A joyful dedication service was held, and its anniversary was instituted as a memorial of the great event.

"The origin of Hanucah, with its ceremony of lights, is ascribed to a miracle said to have occurred at the dedication of the purified temple. Tradition has it that the Hasmonaen priests upon entering the temple found there hidden a small sealed cistern of consecrated oil, which lasted for eight days until new oil could be prepared for the lamps of the Menorah."

Knitting Group is Entertained by Mrs. T. J. Faulkner

Presbyterian Women Celebrate Completion of 1941 Quota of Work.

Mrs. T. J. Faulkner, of 117 Cedar street south, was hostess on Friday evening at a Christmas party for the knitting group of the Presbyterian Church, with several members of the group gathered to celebrate the Christmas season and the fact that they have completed the 1941 quota of knitted articles, comprising two hundred and fifteen articles such as socks, sweaters, mitts, helmets, etc.

Besides the regular quota of parcels, the members have packed extra Christmas packages for various men in the services. At the party on Friday evening, they enjoyed bingo with winners as follows: Mrs. J. Trevelhan, Mrs. J. Ralph, Mrs. D. Maxwell, Mrs. F. Turner. Two beautifully decorated Christmas trees bore the gifts of the members to one another, and the tea table, at which Miss M. Rae presided, was adorned with miniature Christmas decorations.

Ottawa Journal—The Germans, driven helter-skelter out of Rostov, now call it "just another town." But when they captured the place they hailed it as a victory of extreme significance.



Stop Rubbing YOUR EYES

Eyes that itch and burn are shouting for help in the only language they know. Don't scold and dig at them. You will only make them worse—perhaps injure them seriously. Instead, come in to us for an examination today. You MAY need glasses!

LIBERAL TERMS MAY BE ARRANGED AT

CURTIS OPTICAL COMPANY
 14 Pine St. N. Phone 835



Good Will TO MEN

GAIN Christmas finds us at war. Again Christmas recalls the ideals of peace and good will to men. Christmas is always Christmas. Despite the war... despite all that has happened or will ever happen, we extend to our friends everywhere the good old Christmas wish, as timely now as always—A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR THE BOYS

If you want to send cash by cable, the bank is the place to arrange it. The service is part of our regular business at all branches. Remittances by cable, telegraph or money order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

H. C. SCARTH
 Manager Timmins Branch

Fire! Death! Robbery! Accident!

Every day—Wherever you are—these calamities face you. Many of them you can't avoid, but you can be protected against all of them at low cost. Simms, Hooker and Pickering offers you comprehensive insurance that protects you against misfortune. Telephone 112 for further information.

Simms-Hooker & Pickering

REAL ESTATE and INSURANCE IN ALL BRANCHES
 13A Pine Street North Timmins Phone 112