

# 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, April 9th, 1942

## VOTE "YES" ON THE PLEBISCITE

When the taking of a plebiscite on the matter of conscription was first announced, the proposal was at once very properly branded as a cowardly, cheap political trick. It was pointed out that it would be costly in more ways than one. In cold cash, it would mean an outlay of several million dollars at a time when any unnecessary expenditure of money is in reality an unpatriotic crime. It would mean time and effort wasted in days when every effort should be given to the cause of the Empire, the cause of the Allies, the cause of democracy, the cause of humanity. It would mean dispute and division and disunity at a moment when the whole call is for brotherhood, loyalty and devotion. The truth of all these things has since been proven beyond question. And yet, after the criminal expenditure has been set in the estimates, after time and effort have been squandered, with more to follow, and after riots have been incited in the name of conscription or anti-conscriptions, and the Dominion divided and disrupted as never before so openly in its history, the plebiscite is not to be on conscription at all. The question on the plebiscite ballot is whether or not the people are willing to free the part of a party administration at Ottawa of alleged undertakings or pledges given in regard to the methods of prosecuting the war. In all the provinces it has been admitted that no matter how large the majority may be one way or another, the part of a party government will not feel it necessary either to enforce conscription for overseas service or to continue along the present lines. In one province it has been stated more than once with apparent official sanction that come what will there will be no conscription for overseas service. Though urged, begged, challenged, the leader of the part of a party has flatly declined to say what action, if any, will be taken as a result of whatever vote may be cast in the plebiscite balloting. Never before in the history of a democracy, has such a brazen piece of political trickery been recorded. To patriotic Canadians it is heartbreaking that time and money and effort should be wasted at such a time as this on such a sample of contemptible chicanery as this so-called plebiscite.

Thoughtful people have been anxiously asking themselves what can be done about it—what they may do to express their resentment and disgust. Some have suggested that an administration like the one at Ottawa could not be trusted on its record to enforce conscription fairly or decently, and so it might be best to vote "No!" Others counsel the wholesale refraining from voting. Neither of these plans are practical. Indeed, either one might play right into the hands of those who are giving more thought to political tricks than the winning the war. The Canadian Legion appears to have given leadership on the right way to vote on the plebiscite. The Legion has pointed out that no loyal man or woman can vote otherwise than "Yes!" An overwhelming "Yes" vote would mean that Canada desires that everything should give place to the war effort. Under the tricky wording of the plebiscite to vote "No!" is to suggest that the administration has been carrying on to general satisfaction and no change in policy is desired. On the other hand to vote "Yes!" is at least, by implication, to urge the administration to more enthusiastic and wholehearted war effort. With an overwhelming "Yes!" vote the government can not pretend that it lacks the authority of the people for waging an "all-out" war.

It is true that Premier King in his usual careful political manner has asked all to vote "Yes!" However careful the premier may be in his speech, though, he is always much more generous with words than with action. It will be noted that this holds true in regard to the plebiscite. Elections are not won by words, or even by prayers, and the same holds true of a plebiscite. If the premier were anxious for a "Yes!" vote on the plebiscite, he would do much more than make an address or two. Premier King spoke on Tuesday night over the radio in favour of a "Yes!" vote, and the leaders of all the other political groups at Ottawa are to follow with similar appeals. That is not enough! There should be public meetings, advertising, explanation, and above all organization. The various campaigns for loans have not been conducted with nothing more effective than a few radio addresses. There have been no political elections on such slender basis of support. The issue should be honestly and earnestly set before the people so that none could have the excuse that they did not know which way to vote. And after that, there should be the most complete organization to get out the full vote. When it is a matter of collecting the taxes or the donations of the people of Canada, no effort and no expense are spared. If the government were sincere in its pretended desire to learn the opinions of the people of the Dominion, at least the same devotion and the same organization that marks every political election would be utilized to secure the feeling of the people. There seems to be little that the people can do to stifle the improper partisan activity of the group

at Ottawa, and still less to rouse the petty politicians from their inactivity in war effort. There is this one thing, however, that may be done—such an overwhelming "Yes!" that the petty politicians could not fail to see that Canada as a whole is ready to do anything, sacrifice anything (even politics) to speed up Canada's war effort.

## SALUTE TO POLAND!

It was a remarkable tribute that the noted Polish soldier, General Sikorski, paid to his young countrymen when interviewed by some Canadian newspapermen this week. These were his words:—

"I am sure you do not realize it, but the Polish air force is almost as big as the Canadian air force. Yes, I mean the Polish air force in action."

He meant no reflection on the people of Canada. There was no belittling of Canada's effort. The people of Canada have shown a courage and loyalty that should fill all in this Dominion with just pride. This is particularly true in regard to the Royal Canadian Air Force. There have always been more applicants for the Air Force than could be handled in this country. Hundreds of Canadians have joined the Royal Air Force. Thousands of them are overseas serving with the R. C. A. F. there. Other thousands are in training. And still other thousands are anxiously waiting their call.

Speaking of Canada's airmen, it is well to note how greatly Timmins and district are concerned about this branch of the service. There are hundreds from this district on active service in the Air Force. Elsewhere in this issue will be found the story of one gallant young man from Timmins who gave his life last year in this line of duty. Those who knew Sgt.-Gunner Orville Platt know that in the brief moment of life that he had after the presence of the enemy's fighting planes was known it would be some satisfaction for him to feel that he had accomplished the duty that came his way and that he had delivered his load of bombs to the enemy before his life was forfeit.

The people of Dome Mines and South Porcupine have been thrilled at the reports of the exploits of one of their own lads, Sgt. Wireless Air Gunner Harold R. Franklin, whose gallantry was recently dramatized in a C.B.C. broadcast. This week they are saddened by the news that this gallant young man, who has been mentioned in despatches more than once, is now reported as missing. These are but examples of how closely this area is concerned with the Air Force and how it shares the pride that is felt all through Canada for the part of the Dominion in the air service of the democratic nations.

But General Sikorski's statement—and it has passed unchallenged, as it deserves,—does throw an added lustre of glory around the gallant heads of the young men of Poland who are serving in the air in the battle against lust and gangsterism. In a few weeks, Poland was overrun by the Nazis. Its noble cities destroyed, its land laid waste, its people brutally murdered literally by the millions. But the people of Poland have not been conquered. The people of Poland have shown themselves unconquerable. Some of the army of Poland, many of the air force of Poland, and most of the navy of Poland, escaped from their native land to fight for that land in other lands. In Britain to-day the Polish airmen are hailed as heroes, men of dauntless courage and of infinite resource. The judgment of the British in such matters can not be questioned. None in any land have greater right to recognize bravery, gallantry and heroic skill, for these are the proven qualities of the British themselves. The gallant band of Polish airmen played a wonderful part in the defence of Britain and an even greater role in the attacks upon the gangsters wherever they might be found. As The Ottawa Journal recently pointed out, the history of Poland is one of the great epic stories of human courage and resource, and not the least noble chapter in the glorious history is the one that has been added in the past three years. It may be added that shining through the record of the glowing battle for freedom of the Polish people is the noble story of the Polish airmen whose skill and daring and unflinching courage stand as generous beacon fires to light the way of victory.

Salute to Poland! Salute to the Polish airmen!

## VALUE OF RESOURCEFULNESS

The story of Paul Andrunyk, a young Canadian lad attending public school at Cochrane, seems to be worth re-telling for the special moral it contains at this time. Paul apparently had a love for music. He played the mouth organ, but was ambitious and was anxious to be a violinist. He had a mouth organ, but he had no violin. The evidence suggests that a violin was beyond his present purchasing power, but not beyond his means. He wanted a violin, and so he set about the business of securing a violin. There were old lettuce crates at the farm where he lived, and these gave him a basis for the wood part of the instrument. Not to equal Paul's labour in the telling of the story, it may be noted that with the willing help of his teacher Paul made his own violin, bow and all. The hair for the bow was drawn from the tail of the horse on Paul's father's farm. It is not likely that the horse was as willing to assist as was the teacher, but if the horse did not volunteer, Paul, no doubt believed in conscription in such cases. At any event, Paul has his violin to-day. It may not rival a Stradivarius for tone, but it is his own, and it is a violin.

The example of that Cochrane public school lad deserves special thought at this particular time. There are many things that must be sacrificed be-

cause of the war. Some of these things are ones that may well be foregone without complaint, at least for the duration of the war. But there are other things that may be in the nature of a very heart's desire, like Paul's violin. In such cases there may be times when resourcefulness may fill the need as it did in Paul's case. That sort of industry and ambition and earnestness is hard to deny or defy. In recent years people have become altogether too dependent on factories and mills. In nearly every line of needs people are too much the slaves of mass production. It was not always so in Canada. In this North Land necessity has continued in large measure to be the mother of invention. To some degree the conditions and circumstances of the North have kept the people resourceful and inventive. Even the Ontario Temperance Act did not make the North Land very dry. Mountjoy rum won more or less reputation in a field that perhaps was not worthy. But at least it showed that the people here could meet their own needs. They can meet their own needs in other and better ways as well. That violin of the Cochrane public school boy seems to be a typical epic of the North. The war's effects will not all be evil, if some of the old measure of self-reliance, resourcefulness and honest effort returns to the country and to the people—some of that spirit of the Northern school boy who wanted a violin, and so made one for himself.

## GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

"Do you want a couple of good office boys?" The speakers could hardly see over the office counter. They could not have been more than seven years old. Of course, these little lads were too young and too small for office work. But their earnestness, their willingness, their desire to help, are in themselves an inspiration. Some years from now,

## Mining Towns Seek Changes in Method of Assessing Mines

Reeve of Teck Township Outlines Proposals to the Kirkland Lake Board of Trade.

The following from last week's issue of The Northern News of Kirkland Lake will be of general interest:—

**Mining Towns Seeking Changes in Legislation**  
 A determined effort to have the Assessment Act amended to permit mining municipalities to retain income from mines, rather than have it go to the Dominion government under the terms of the new agreement allocating all income tax to the Dominion, is being made Reeve R. J. Carter told members of the Kirkland District Board of Trade Monday night.

It is sought to have the act changed so that income of mines will be rated as a property tax, rather than as income, the basis for levy of such property tax to be on the net annual income of each mine.

Reeve Carter said: The Dominion has, within recent months, taken over from the various Provinces the taxes derived by the Provinces from income. The Provincial Government of Ontario has over a period of many years received a huge income from the mines operating in northern Ontario, and particularly those in the Township of Teck.

Arrangements have been entered into between the Province of Ontario and the Dominion Government whereby the Provincial Government shall retain taxes from income, but in order that the Municipalities who derive income from the operating mines within its limits shall continue to receive such revenue it is necessary that the Provincial Government amend the Assessment Act and place such taxation as property taxes rather than as income taxes, and the basis for levy of such property taxes bring on the net annual output from each mine.

"At the present session of Provincial Legislature a bill is being considered amending Section 39 of the Assessment Act which refers to assessment of income of Mines for Municipal purposes. This bill has been drawn up with a view to furnishing a standard for assessment of properties of operating mines, and to prevent the mines income now received by Municipalities being lost through the agreement between the Dominion and Provincial Governments on the transfer of income tax to the Dominion.

"The bill as originally drawn and submitted to the Government by the Association of Mining Municipalities substituted the net annual output for previous year as the amount at which the real property of operating mines is to be assessed together with the assessment of mineral lands. It is based on provisions of Section 4 of the old Mining Tax Act. The original suggestion of the Mining Municipalities was that certain deductions now allowed as items of cost should be eliminated in fairness to the Municipality.

"I understand that the bill as at present drafted still permits these deductions and we propose to attempt to have the bill amended at the sitting of the Public Bills Committee. The deductions to which the Municipality objects are as follows:—1. The first \$10,000 of income; 2. The cost of any development work done in Ontario, outside our municipality; 3. Income taxes paid to the United Kingdom or Dominion of Canada; 4. Donations made to Universities. Our submission is that none of these are proper items of cost when determining the value of mineral extracted from the mine.

"The most important of these deductions is of course the deduction for Income Taxes paid. With the Dominion levying increased taxes it might come to the point where the profits made by the Mines would be absorbed by these taxes, and the municipality would be left with greatly reduced revenue. Already the increase in taxes

some office or factory, or store, or maybe some profession will have a couple of first-class lads ready to take places in the work of life.

The censors have their own troubles and their own little slips. Members of the local Legion had a quiet smile over one of these harmless slips. A lad overseas sent a card to the Legion cigarette committee thanking the boys for cigarettes received by him. The watchful censor very cleverly deleted the name of the place where the soldier was stationed by cutting out the line with this information. The information, however, stuck out like a sore thumb in the postmark, but no harm was done. It would be a clever Nazi who would get information from the Legion. And the Nazis are not that clever.

Prize for the month for the sharpest irony, or sarcasm, or something, goes to "The Commonwealth," the official organ of the C.C.F. In answer to an alleged enquiring reader, "The Commonwealth" says that an order-in-council is to be passed at Ottawa to enable Premier King to cast two ballots on the plebiscite, so that he may vote both "Yes" and "No."

One of the lads in The Advance office who is always worrying about something is exercised today as to what will happen if the plebiscite results in a tie vote.

"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."

of vital importance to every resident in the district the lack of a member is certainly felt.

"If the bill as submitted by the Association of Mining Municipalities had been in force in 1941 this Township would have received an additional \$77,000.00 in tax revenue, or the equivalent of 9 mills.

"If there is any way your Board can bring pressure to bear on the Powers that be in Toronto to see that we get a break in this matter, it will be of real benefit to everybody in the Municipality.

## ANOTEER STORY

A steel worker's wife, tired of waiting up for her husband, locked all the doors and retired for the night. Before long she heard a loud knocking at the front door. She opened the window and asked her husband when he had been spending the evening.

"I've been at the Men's Club, dear," he began, "telling the boys about the strike."

"Then you can go right back," and the reply, "and tell them about the lockout."—Globe and Mail.

Perth Expositor—Just around the corner, spring; the time when little germs are sitting around waiting for houseflies to take them out riding.

They Used To Call Her "Old Witch"



Children weren't the only ones who considered her "crabby"—her adult acquaintances felt that way too. They avoided her because she was a chronic pessimist... because she saw the dark side of everything. They didn't know that faulty eyesight distorted her outlook. Since wearing glasses her whole personality has been transformed! She's friendly and popular with everyone now!

PRICES ARE DEFINITELY LOWER AT THE

## CURTIS OPTICAL COMPANY

14 Pine St. N. Phone 835



## "I'm Working—and Saving for VICTORY"

In workshops, factories, shipyards... in mines, on railways, on farms... thousands of Canadians, men and women, are bending every effort to provide the material aids to victory.

The wise and far-sighted ones are putting aside regularly the sums needed to meet taxes, buy Victory Bonds, build a backlog for the future.

A Savings Account in this Bank is a convenience and a stimulus to saving. Your deposits earn interest, and are available when you need them. Open a Savings Account at our nearest Branch today.

## THE DOMINION BANK

ESTABLISHED 1871

C. H. CARLISLE, President. ROBERT RAE, General Manager.