

The Porcupine Advance

TWO PHONES—26 and 2020

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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KEEP THE FLAGS FLYING

This war is different in many respects from the wars of the past. In one particular the difference is very striking. In most wars the admonition is to "keep the flag flying." In the present conflict there are many flags to be kept flying. It is as necessary and desirable that all the flags of the several Allied Nations should be kept flying as it is that the British flag should not be allowed to droop or fade. There are two flags that are not so much flags of particular nations as they are flags of all humanity. These are the flags of the Red Cross—the red cross of human healing and mercy—and the Salvation Army flag that carries the words, "Blood and Fire."

During the present month there should be special attention given to the flying of the Salvation Army flag—a flag that gallantly waves in 97 countries. From the 20th to the 30th of this month the Salvation Army is conducting an appeal to keep the Red Shield flying on the Home Front. In Timmins the objective for the campaign is \$5,000.00. It should not be difficult to pass this objective in this town and district at this time. Certainly, from any standpoint the work of the Salvation Army on the Home Front is worth much more than this to Timmins and district.

Recognizing the remarkable service of the Salvation Army to the men on active service overseas, the Government has been contributing materially to the cost of the notable service given by the Salvation Army to the sailors, the soldiers and the airmen overseas. This has made public donations to the Salvation Army work overseas not so essential. But the Government makes no provision for helping the Salvation Army's work on the Home Front. Accordingly it is the duty and the privilege of the public to see that the Salvation Army Home Front does not need for support. As The Advance pointed out last year the work overseas cannot be carried on without the strength of the Home Front. The Home Front supplies the organization, the enthusiasm, the ways and means for carrying on the service overseas. Any weakening of the Home Front will prejudice the overseas effort. It should be remembered that most of the Home Front work to-day is really war work. Not only do war conditions place special burdens on the Salvation Army Home Front, as on all social service work, but much of the cost of maintaining the Home Front of the Salvation Army is directly due to the war. There is wool to buy; there are soldiers' families to counsel and care for; there are soldiers and sailors and airmen in Canada that are being given help and the comfort that are the very essence of the whole endeavour of the Salvation Army.

What is the Salvation Army doing on the Home Front? The Army maintains emergency homes for women; general and maternity hospitals; homes for girls and boys; summer camps; sunset lodges for aged ladies; eventide homes for aged men. The Salvation Army attends police courts, visits the prisons and hospitals, gives counsel and advice to improve homes and life in general. The Salvation Army is famous as a builder of morale on the fighting fronts. No less surely does it create and foster true morale on the Home Front.

Special mention may well be made of what the Salvation Army is doing for the sailors, the soldiers and the airmen here in Canada. Up to December, 1942, the Salvation Army Red Shield huts at Canadian camps were used 56,393,937 times; there were 7,764 religious services conducted with a total attendance of 1,851,989; 4,028 concerts were provided, with 1,271,957 attending; 20,948 motion picture shows were held with 7,109,142 enjoying these entertainments; 771,593 participated in the outdoor sports and games organized for the men of the armed services by the Salvation Army; there were 8,281,285 participants at the indoor recreation events of the Red Shield; writing material used, paper, envelopes and postcards reached the astounding total of 50,813,539; 205,898 articles of clothing were mended; 355,769 articles of clothing, sweaters, socks, etc., were supplied by the Red Shield Women's Auxiliary; 506,821 personal services were rendered the men on service in Canada, and 23, 775 families were assisted.

Just as the British flag has its glorious traditions won by service, so the Salvation Army flag has won fame and admiration for its many deeds of mercy and compassion and helpfulness to humanity. Keep the Salvation Army flag flying high on the Home Front. Support the Red Shield appeal.

FREEING MUNICIPALITIES

For years past The Advance has protested against the tendency to bureaucratic control through centralization and the several forms of government attempting to steal the rights and privileges of all other forms that appear below them. The Dominion Government has shown a decided talent for encroaching on the rights of the province. The Province of Ontario has achieved

ed a regular stranglehold on the municipalities. The ordinary municipality has not dared to wipe its nose without first having the provincial pooh-bahs specify the size and colour of the handkerchief to be used. It is an odd fact that usually there have been some friends of the government who accidentally are peddling the very type of nose-wiper that the government decides should be used. Repeatedly, The Advance has pointed out that municipal government is the nearest approach to self-government that there is, and there has been constant danger in recent years of losing that. It is one of the ironies of political performances that Ontario has seen the most determined efforts on the part of so-called "Liberal" governments to rob the province and the municipalities of their rights. It is only fair to add that the tendency to bureaucracy has not stopped with the Dominion or the Province. The same tricks have been attempted by municipalities on school boards and commissions. The Dominion's argument is that the provinces are wasteful and incompetent and need to be guided and guarded by the greater powers at Ottawa. The glaring truth, of course, is that provinces are poor pickers in wastefulness and incompetence compared to the experts at Ottawa. The same form of alleged logic is used when the province seeks to steal some right from the municipality. The Heppburn government after splitting the heavens with denunciation of the previous Ontario administration for its lack of sense and care, had the temerity to suggest that municipalities had mismanaged affairs so badly that it was too bad, and the Ontario government should perform take over full command and control. The municipalities robbed of much of their authority and being rubber stamps for the province were often inclined to attempt to make the boards and commissions into rubber stamps for municipal use. What all along the line has been forgotten is that the whole tendency is away from responsible government. The people elect the various bodies—municipal, provincial and Dominion. The people have a right to conduct their own affairs as they see fit, without undue and bumptious interference from those who wrongly consider themselves as the higher-ups. Perhaps, the real trouble rests with the ambitions of the party friends who gravitate into bureaus and controllerships, and desire to carry machine tactics along with them.

Those who have resented the tendency to centralization of power and the attempt to defraud the people of self-government will be cheered by the expressed attitude of Hon. Geo. H. Dunbar, Ontario's new Minister of Municipal Affairs. Quite evidently he is against bureaucratic regimentation and dictatorship. In a recent interview published in The Ottawa Journal, Hon. Mr. Dunbar is quoted as saying:—

"People elect a lot of good men to look after their own local affairs and the province has no business butting in. Maybe there has been too much of that in the past and if I find there has been I will stop the practice. I believe the province has acted very arbitrarily in some cases. Anyway from now on we will give help and guidance only in unusual cases. Let the cities and towns conduct their own business."

The stories of improved financial conditions and bettered prospects in certain towns and cities placed under bureaucratic control is largely propaganda. Even if it were all true, it would not justify the interference with municipalities that have been well conducted. It would be well in any case to remember the statement made in Timmins years ago by Mr. Lord, then president of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union. He held that the people had the inalienable right to govern themselves, and that that right included the right even to make mistakes, the people having a ready remedy. The local mistakes, however, are not a circumstance to those that may be made by provincial or Dominion authorities. In the latter case it is much more difficult to apply the people's remedy, Dominion and provincial governments usually applying at pleasure the power to continue in office even after their terms have expired.

CONFUSING THE ENEMY

The Press Censorship Directive—No. 50 and 51, issued then and when—(number and times deleted so that no enemy can figure anything out)—says that "to prevent the enemy from obtaining weather data which would enable him to ascertain or forecast conditions favourable to contemplated raids, submarine operations, landings or other action, the weather reports issued by the Dominion Meteorological Offices have been sharply curtailed." Up in this neck of the woods it has been a lot worse than that. Not only do they undoubtedly confuse the enemy, but they even confuse the people here who watch the weather as it comes along. Weather reports say that it is going to be fair and warmer, and it gets cold and rains like heck, or maybe starts to snow. Or the reports say it is going to be cloudy and stormy and it is so hot even the air can hardly breathe. The weather reports are seldom in the slightest agreement with the weather itself when it comes along—and it always comes along, does, the weather. Indeed, there seems to be nothing else sure in this world, except the weather. There was even one year in Timmins when there were no taxes, but the oldest old-timer can not recall the day when there was no weather. On the other hand the weather reports in their effort to confuse can not be taken as working by contraries. The enemy would be badly hipped if he tried that line, for every once in

a while the forecasts are quite correct—though The Advance would not like to give days and dates for that. It is the fact, however, that the weather reports leave much room for improvement. There is a lot of broad talk about the brave new world that is going to emerge after the war. How can there be a better world, with the kind of weather that is obtaining even in this glorious country of the North? Even in times of war is it necessary to have so confounded much rain? With everything else rationed, why not ration rain? If everybody had to give two coupons every time they wanted rain, there certainly wouldn't be so much wet weather. It is all very well to blame it on the war and suggest that it is worse in other countries. The reports and the weather are no more related than a man and his proverbial mother-in-law. While it is nearly certain that the weather will be different from the forecast, it would be suicidal to depend even on that. It may be that it was the weather reports that made Mussolini the mental case that he is now.

When nearly everybody was asleep to the dangers of the present war and taking no sensible steps to prepare for it, the weathermen were even then confusing the enemy by the reports issued. So, perhaps, no one should find fault with the truly patriotic reports. But the weather itself does simply bring to memory the couplet:—

"The rain falls on the just, and on the unjust fellah;

"But usually the unjust man has the just man's umbrella."

Mr. Donald Gordon has been doing a lot of talking recently about maintaining ceilings! What about all the holes in the ceiling where the rain comes through?

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

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."

Visit of Dominion President of Legion to New Liskeard

Comrade Alex Walker to Pay Visit to the North on Sept. 20th.

Members of the Canadian Legion in the North are very much interested in the visit to this country of the Dominion President of the Legion, Comrade Alex Walker. He will be at New Liskeard on Monday next, Sept. 20th. This will be the first time he has visited the North. While members in Timmins would have been delighted to have had the Dominion President visit Timmins, this has been found impractical in the short time at his disposal. He is making a tour of all parts of the Dominion and it has been found possible to give only the one day to this North. Accordingly, all Legion members who wish to meet the Dominion President on his visit to the North will have to go to New Liskeard. While the Timmins Legion is sending delegates to the meeting it is likely that a number of others will also go down from here.

At present there is a call for any and all information available in regard to the visit to the North of Dominion President Alex Walker, so the following from last week's New Liskeard Speaker is given:—

"Representatives of veteran's organizations through the Districts of Temiskaming and Cochrane will be in New Liskeard on Monday next week, September 20, to meet and welcome Comrade Alex Walker, C.B.E., Dominion President of the Canadian Legion, who at that time will make his first official visit to this part of Canada. The program now being prepared includes a dinner to be tendered the President, who afterwards will be the chief speaker at a public meeting in the Empire Theatre.

"Taking part in the various ceremonies will be Captain Tom Magladery, Ontario President of the Legion, and Zone Commanders J. H. Sumbler, of New Liskeard, and W. J. Grummett, M.P.P.-elect, of Ansonville. Invitations to attend the public meeting also have been extended to Walter Little, M.P. for Temiskaming, and to Mayor C. H. Taylor, of Cobalt, and M.P.P.-elect for Temiskaming. Parents of young men and young women now in the armed services are being especially invited to the public meeting, at which Comrade Walker will deal with rehabilitation plans for the post-war period.

"Comrade Walker at present is making a tour of other parts of Ontario, and Captain Magladery left New Liskeard on Friday evening last to accompany him to the various centres where he is to appear. Earlier in the same evening, the executive committee of the New Liskeard Post, who will be hosts for the occasion, held a meeting to consider the program to be drawn up, and the municipality was represented by Councillor Frank Findlay. It has been planned to hold the dinner, which is for veterans only, in the basement of St. John's Anglican Church.

"Following the dinner, veterans headed by Comrade Walker, will parade in a body to the New Liskeard Cenotaph, where a wreath will be laid in memory of the late Colonel W. C. Nicholson, formerly Vice-President of the Dominion Command. The meeting will follow, and the program in the theatre will include selections by the Legion Octet, the Victory Choir and the ladies' chorus. The ceremonial Legion opening and closing will be carried out, with Com-

rade George White in charge, and Mayor W. H. Walter will welcome Comrade Walker to the North. Captain Magladery will be chairman."

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a smile on our lips and our heads held high and with God's help we shall not fail."

The height of unpatriotic impertinence:—The local young fellow in the zoot suit who sneers at the girl in the short dress—and with pretty legs.

Mr. Donald Gordon is worried over what he believes to be the public carelessness about maintaining price ceilings and avoiding inflation. The Advance believes that Mr. Gordon is mistaken as to the public attitude. The public is willing to support all regulations necessary, but very properly has a decided objection to bureaucratic stupidities. If there were not so many mechanical enforcements of the letter of the law, the spirit would be observed more carefully. There is, for example, the case of George Rusk, of Dunnville, a trucker, who was fined \$50.00 and costs for allowing his wife to ride in his truck for a short distance. The newspapers have made such a fuss over this that Wartime Prices and Trade Board officials admit it was a stupid mistake. That is not enough, however. The fine should be remitted to this Canadian gentleman who has suffered from Prussian methods of procedure. The remitting of this fine would do more to revive the public confidence in the Wartime Prices and Trade Board than a host of lectures. The people started with confidence in the good sense as well as the good faith of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Restore that belief and all will be well. Every patriotic newspaper should press for the remission of the fine, so that confidence may be revived in the Wartime Prices and Trade Board regulations as earnest efforts for the security of the people and not the mechanical workings of a bureaucratic outfit.

Former Porcupine Man Back to Private Practise

Vancouver, B. C. — W. J. Asselstine, M.L.A., who recently joined the National Selective Service as executive assistant to William McKinstry, acting regional superintendent, has resigned in order to devote more time to his private business of consulting metallurgist. He was engaged by Selective Service in an effort to solve the labor crisis, with particular attention to the coal and base metal mines of the province.

Prior to his appointment he had designed, and superintended the installation of the Tye concentrator for Twin "J" Mines, Ltd.



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