

The Porcupine Advance

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OH, YOU GULLIBLE!

There are slips in the best regulated and in the worst regulated institutions. For example, an utterly unesteemed contemporary had one of those Second Front page editorials, fairly bubbling over with capital letters. Yet despite the greatest care and caution one gem of truth did get into that column of capitalized blathering. The article, in referring to itself, actually said, capitals and all:—"It is written ESPECIALLY for GULLIBLE people." Say mister, that isn't news! That's the truth!

A lot of people have reached the conclusion that most of the articles in that particular (or not-so-particular) newspaper are written ESPECIALLY for GULLIBLE people. With the newspaper itself putting the words in cold type and hot capitals, that seems to make it unanimous.

Out of pure kindness of heart, The Advance would point out that for an unesteemed contemporary to admit it writes especially for gullible people is to confess its knowledge that its appeal is only to a comparatively small and not very select audience. And anyone would need to be very gullible not to suspect that long ago.

Getting down to gullibility, who is really the confessed gullible? Anyone with any knowledge of Timmins and district would have to be gullible to believe that the authorities in Timmins would know of a case where a blind old woman was living in the desperate poverty and misery and dirt that the Second Front page editorial suggested, and nothing had been done about it. The whole history of this part of the North gives the direct lie to any such suggestion. Not only the Welfare Dept., but the police, the health department, the fire department, the representative of the Canadian Institute for the Blind, members of the I.O.E., the Salvation Army and other bodies and groups, not to mention kind neighbour and friends, had been visiting the lady and doing all that could be done to assist. Of course conditions were not nearly so bad as pictured by the writer who made so many capitals of it all. The lady, whose age is given at 67—and not 72 as the capitalistic writer says—owns her own home and has a monthly pension more than double that allowed to old age pensioners. She has her own legal rights that can not be completed disrespected. The lady is not in need of any monetary relief, so the relief department can do no more than advise and assist quietly and unofficially and this has been done. Any fire risk in connection with the case is not sufficient to warrant any action by the fire department though the fire chief some weeks ago took up the question with the provincial fire marshal in the hope of solving the problem in that way. After investigation the health department found conditions did not warrant action on its part. Others who have sought to help in the matter have done all that they could. Is anyone so gullible (even without capitals) as to believe that the scribed writer could not have found out these facts for himself? Who so gullible as to believe that trying to make a sensation of the matter was in the public interests?

Only the most gullible people are likely to imagine there was any other purpose in the perverse publicity that to throw reflections on the Chairman of the Welfare Board and on the other members of council and on other town authorities. Even to the slightly gullible it will appear that only commendation is due to all concerned for what they have done in this particular case. When the matter was brought up at the meeting of the town council on Monday this was quite apparent. Instead of everybody standing back and talking politics, as the Second Front Page editorial suggested, it was proven that the only person who had known about the case and failed to seek a solution was the writer of the diatribe in capitals. He was the only one who appeared to feel that "MORE TALK and LESS WORK will improve the situation," to toss back his own words, capitals included.

It is doubtful if publicity is of much value in such a case. Some of those who have been seeking to help the lady in question feel that it will have another result. While the seriousness of the case may be exaggerated out of all sense, there is a problem. It should be remembered that the lady herself is not in need and is comfortable and happy. She has an income more than enough for her needs. It is a question whether her forcible removal from her own home would be justified so long as she does not run counter to any law or regulation. If she could be persuaded that in her own interests she should be moved elsewhere, that would be exactly what the authorities have been earnestly seeking for months. Mayor Brunette's suggestion that her daughter be forced to return to care for her mother does not give any solution. While it is the legal obligation for children to support parents in need, there is no law

that forces them to live together, if they desire otherwise. Nor should there be. The case is an unusual one, but all concerned in it deserve thanks for their kindness and their well placed efforts, and only the very gullible will believe that the town deserves any censure or any adverse publicity.

THE REPORT ON WELFARE

Elsewhere in this issue The Advance publishes the full report on Welfare Work in Timmins, as prepared by Councillor E. W. Gladstone. Those who have wondered why this councillor has received so much abuse and insult will wonder still more after reading the full report. In a remarkable short space of time, Councillor Gladstone has prepared just what the council asked of him—a very comprehensive review of welfare work in Timmins, together with recommendations as to improvements he believes to be possible. The Advance believes that Councillor Gladstone deserves the sincere thanks of all for this thoughtful and earnest survey. All are urged to read the full report carefully. It proves the sincerity and the deep concern of this councillor in problems that should be faced.

It will be noted that Councillor Gladstone takes occasion to speak of the excellent work being done by all the welfare agencies in town. There has been a persistent effort to give the impression that Councillor Gladstone has been criticizing some or all of these agencies. Anyone discussing the matter with Councillor Gladstone soon learned that he had only words of praise for the different welfare bodies. He thought, however, that their work might be better co-ordinated in a few cases, and that there were instances where cases arose that did not belong to the particular sphere of any existing welfare agency. His idea was to find a plan for greater co-operation and to provide means to deal with cases that do not fall into the scope of existing agencies. He was still more concerned with preventative measures. In his report it will be found that he makes recommendations along this line. Even though his previous references to the evils of the abuse of intoxicants brought him a shower of abuse, he has the courage to still point to the fact that better regulation of beverage rooms and the sale of liquor will benefit the welfare of the town. He should be prepared to be the victim of further assaults from those whose religion is booze and whose race is beer.

The Advance does not believe a special welfare committee as suggested in the report would bring the ideal results expected. The Dept. of Welfare of the province, however, endorsed this part of Councillor Gladstone's proposals. It is more probable, however, that if there were an all-time salaried town official to act as a sort of liaison officer between the various welfare agencies and to deal with cases that did not come within the province of any of them, much benefit would result.

There are two points, however, that should not be overlooked. The first is that Councillor Gladstone by preparing this notable report has completely disproven all the slanders peddled against him for months. He has shown his unselfish interest, his competence and his wide grasp of affairs. He has proven his industry, his ability and his sincerity. The other point is this, that so comprehensive and valuable a report deserves the most careful and courteous consideration on its merits. He has accomplished something worth while. It is not necessary to agree with him in all his conclusions or suggestions. He deserves consideration and respect for honestly striving to do something for the town and people.

EVILS OF CAPITALISM

An old-timer of the Camp some years ago in a public address in The New Empire theatre referred to "tainted money." "What is tainted money?" he was asked. "Tainted money," he replied, "is all money that taint yours and taint mine!" On the same sort of foundation, The Advance would refer to the evils of capitalism—the attempt to emphasize particular words in an editorial by the use of capital letters. It was Arthur Brisbane Walker who first started this evil form of capitalism in the Hearst newspapers. His editorials were usually half and half—and no drink is meant, for they were hard to swallow. Sometimes that man Walker would have practically all of an editorial except the 'if's', 'but's', 'the's' and 'and's' and 'in's' spelled out in capital letters. The idea was to help the readers to put the emphasis where it belonged. It was an insult to the intelligence of the average man and a confession of the weakness in expression of the writer. A few United States publications followed the plan but no journal in Canada of any account adopted this procedure to reflect on the intelligence of its readers. It is true that it was followed in this Dominion by newspapers of the "Hush and 'Jack Canuck' type, but even these papers eventually found it below the intelligence of their readers.

No matter how loudly you may scream a lie, it still remains as false as ever. "BLAH! BLAH!" in capital letters is just as much "Blah! Blah!" The newspaperman that can't write an editorial without the ancient and out-of-date practice of having every fifth or second word in capital letters should adopt the old-fashioned plan of swiping the edi-

torials from some other newspaper that doesn't have to use capital letter every time that only a swear word seems to express the idea.

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

Gullible? Who's gullible?

When The Huntingdon Gleaner years ago caught The Advance referring to "Huntingdon Ontario." The Advance cheerfully admitted the error in provinces, and excused itself by saying no more than that Huntingdon was such a good town that naturally one expected it to be in Ontario. Recently when The Advance caught The Gleaner referring not once but several times to "pigeons," The Gleaner replies to the effect that the word is spelled that way in a United States Dictionary. The King's English Dictionary, Chamber's Dictionary and the Oxford Dictionary all hold that the word is spelled "pigeon." If The Gleaner persists in insisting on going to a United States dictionary for the spelling of English words, then The Advance is going to put Huntingdon, Que., back in Huntingdon, Ontario, and call the whole friendly fracas a victory.

The Globe and Mail makes caustic reference to a case where the wife and six children of a Canadian soldier now fighting in Italy have been evicted from their home in the Township of Kingston,

their furniture piled in the street. This soldier has been overseas since 1940, and surely he has enough to endure without the added bitterness of knowing that his family has been turned out on the road. Shortage of housing accommodation is given as the reason for this eviction. As The Globe and Mail says it is a blot upon the nation. If there is any lack of housing accommodation anywhere, the soldiers' families should be assured of homes and comfort, no matter who else may go without. That should be a law over-riding all other laws. The Globe and Mail fears that with the advent of spring hundreds of other soldiers' families may be similarly treated. If so Canada will be eternally disgraced. Canadians safe at home owe a moral debt to the families of all the men on service overseas. No matter what drastic action may be necessary the authorities owe it to this country that steps will be taken to assure that no soldiers' family shall be evicted in such a manner as the Kingston Township case.

Anytime you want to know anything that isn't so, just ask the gullible guys.

The Sixth Victory Loan campaign opens on Monday next, when the people in general will have the chance to do their part. For the committees and other workers in the drive, the campaign opened several weeks ago and they are still hard at it and will continue thus until the objective is won.

It is easy enough to know "where all the money goes to." It is more difficult to explain "where all the money comes from." According to the St. Mary's Journal-Argus Canada had \$1,500,000,000.00 on deposit in the savings banks at the opening of the war. To-day the sum is \$2,500,000,000.00.

Monthly and Easter Meeting of W.M.S. of First United

Interesting Programme of News Dispatches Presented by Various Members.

The combined monthly and Easter meeting of the W.M.S. of First United Church was held in the church meeting room on Thursday April 13th, with Mrs. Arthur Jackson presiding for the president, Mrs. Harnden.

Present as a most welcome visitor to the meeting was Mrs. Charbonneau, of Ampror, who is a life member and past president of the auxiliary as well as of the Cochrane Presbyterian.

After the usual business, an Easter worship service was conducted by Mrs. Jackson, the theme of which was "Christ is Risen, the church is Born." This service opened with the beautiful hymn, "Jesus stand among us, in Thy Risen Power" and was followed by appropriated scripture and responsive readings.

A programme of news dispatches from foreign fields under the heading "They found the Church there" was then given. Mrs. A. A. Rose told of Christians in strange places, in the lands around the Mediterranean and in Latin America and the number of Protestant churches in these lands. A Chaplain on a Pacific Island writes "out here we find the Christian religion the closest tie we have with our strange neighbours."

Mrs. Golden quoted Wendell Willkie in saying that from a recent extensive tour he made he found "foreign missions are invaluable. The missionaries give such splendid leadership which is vital to the future hopes of all nations."

Mrs. Mustard—"Christian Youth meet in Africa" where confirmation services were held in the Cairo Cathedral and in Kartoum. Church services are held for service men who find that though all else is difficult, the church and what it represents is a great comfort.

Mrs. Charlton, Jr.—"Not Cannibal, but Christians," told how a boat load of passengers en route to British Guiana, their ship being torpedoed, they reached the cannibal island of Emirau in the Solomons. Expecting to hear the shouts of cannibals, they heard instead the natives singing hymns.

Mrs. L. Leigh—"Missions in Reverse", told how natives on a South Pacific Island, who had been made Christian before the war had won seven converts among Navy Filers who had been shot down by the Japanese.

Mrs. Coulson—"Unexpected Dividends"—Grandmothers and mothers doing missionary work at home and for missions abroad received unexpected dividends when natives in foreign lands and war zones treated their sons in the services with kindness.

Mrs. Traver—told of the Papuan native boys and men of the New Guinea mission, who are rendering such splendid service in attending the wounded and acting as stretcher bearers, thus earning the admiration and respect of the Allied soldiers, one of whom has written this verse as a fitting tribute to these natives:

"Though they haven't any haloes, only holes, slashed through the ear and their faces marked with tattoo and with scratch pins in their hair, Bringing back the wounded, they're as steady as a hearse, Using leaves to keep the rain off, they're as gentle as a nurse, Slow and steady in bad places, on the awful mountain track, And the look upon their faces, make us think that Christ is black." Thus the influence of this mission

has transformed these natives from the head hunting and the cannibal type. Yes these fuzzy headed natives with the Christ-like qualities of mercy, the Allied soldiers have nick-named "The Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels".

The meeting closed with a solo benediction by Mrs. P. Carson after which a social half hour, tea and refreshments were enjoyed.

37 Convictions in North for Breaches W. P. & T. B. Rules

In March, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board recorded the largest number of prosecutions, in the Northern Ontario region, for a single month, it was announced last week by Walter Little, enforcement counsel for the Board at the North Bay Regional Office. Of the 43 prosecutions resulting from violations of the Board's regula-

tions, there were 37 convictions to parties involved, Mr. Little disclosed. A total of five charges were withdrawn and one instance brought an acquittal. Of the 37 convictions, 14 centred around violations of the oil Controller's orders in the sale of gasoline and the non-collection of coupons; six for selling tires without proper permit; six for breaches of food ceiling prices; five for non-collection of coupons during meat rationing; four for selling fuelwood above ceiling prices; two on violations of the Transit Controller's orders and one for deliveries being made over the same routes.

Convictions in the meat rationing brought one \$200 fine while the gasoline and tire cases brought \$50 fines. Nine of the infraction were committed in Earleton, seven in Sudbury, five in New Liskeard, four in Sault Ste. Marie, four in Sturgeon Falls, four in North Bay, three in Matachewan and others in Cochrane, Timmins, Blind River, Field, Cobalt, Bruce Mines and Mattawa.

Record Entry List for the Temiskaming Music Festival

There is a record entry list this year for the annual Temiskaming Festival of Music, the secretary, P. R. Craven, New Liskeard, reporting over 600 entries, which is more than thirty per cent increase over last year. The Temiskaming Festival of Music this year will occupy two days with evening events on both days. While in Cobalt, Rev. E. Gilmour Smith, now minister of the Mountjoy United Church, Timmins, took a leading part in the establishing and continuance of the Temiskaming Festival of Music, just as he has done here in what is now known as the Porcupine Festival of Music, which will be held at Timmins on May 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and if necessary, May 12th.

Hedda Hopper: With the man power shortage, girls no longer fall for men—they tackle them.

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HOLD HIGH THE TORCH OF FREEDOM



Bank Men and Women

DESERVE HEARTY THANKS

During past war months the Bank of Montreal has saluted the workers of many industries for their good work in the war effort. It seems proper and only fair that a word of tribute should be spoken now for the workers of the Bank. Banking in these times is a war industry co-operating with all other industries in pushing production, and bank staffs have many extra heavy duties in furnishing that co-operation.

From the Bank of Montreal more than 1200 workers—officers, clerks, attendants, helpers—have gone out to serve their country in the armed services, while numerous others—loaned by the Bank—are doing specialized work in various Government departments.

Many extra burdens have fallen on those men and

women who have remained at their posts in the Bank, despite the best efforts of management to fill the ranks. Many new men and women employees have had to be trained and many old employees have patiently helped to train them.

Through the longer hours and harder work, there has been a fine spirit of courage and cheerful, even enthusiastic, application to increased detail.

Customers tell us they doubly appreciate in these trying times the customary pleasant efficiency with which routine banking services are performed.

The management of the Bank wishes publicly to thank the war-workers of our staff.

BANK OF MONTREAL

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B. C. GAARDNER, General Manager

Timmins Branch: G. C. CAMPBELL, Manager