

# The Porcupine Advance

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## HOW ABOUT MUCKING?

A young man recently discharged from the Air Force, apparently on the plea that that service is over-manned, told The Advance a rather astonishing thing, which The Advance sincerely hopes is not typical of the Government's attitude towards rehabilitation of the men coming from the services. He said that on his discharge he had to consult the rehabilitation officers as to his possible future. When he mentioned that he had been engaged in mining prior to his enlistment, the rehabilitation officer said:—"That's fine. We can fix you with a course. Let's see what we can do for you?" The officer then consulted his books, or documents, or sheets, or maps, or what have you, and joyfully exclaimed:—"Here we are! Here we are! We can give you a course in "Mucking." Most readers of The Advance will know what "mucking" means. A great many know from experience and by the sweat of their brows and the blisters on their hands. If there are any who know as little as the rehabilitation sharks, it may be explained that "mucking" is simply shovelling the loose rock and ore in a mine. The young airman referred to knows all about it. He had graduated past the mucking stage long before he signed up for service anywhere. He had been shift boss and acted in other capacities in a mine. He explained patiently to the rehabilitation officer that he did not wish to work underground, and that alone should have kept the officer, had he known enough to advise the young man, from suggesting "mucking" as a course of suitable study for an ambitious fellow who had given several of the best years of his life to his country's service. When the young man proceeded to suggest that he had served his apprenticeship at mucking, hoisting, cage-tending, and that really what he had in mind was some sort of field work. The answer to that was the statement that to take up the line suggested would require educational qualifications such as indicated by a senior matriculation certificate. If the courses prepared for the rehabilitation of soldiers and airmen are not applicable to those with the comparatively high educational requirements of the Air Force, then there has been a grievous mistake made. If a course in mucking is the best the rehabilitation geezers can figure out for discharged airmen, then the outlook is poor indeed.

All this is said without any reflection on the art of mucking. Up in this country everybody respects the mucker. Mucking is honest work. It has been done by men with senior matriculation papers and by men with university degrees. There is nothing to be said justly against mucking. But few men, indeed, with the educational standards required by the Air Force, would be expected to be content to choose mucking as a life work.

The Advance would like to see that rehabilitation course in "mucking". Likely it was suggested to Premier King by the same fellow who gave the Premier the idea that General McNaughton could be elected in North Grey or any other honest constituency in any but one province of Canada. In any event, that particular course was no doubt the work of a humorist, with an odd sense of humour. No doubt it specifies the exact angle at which to hold a shovel and the exact number of times that science requires the mucker to spit on his hands to the hour. It may easily be that the rehabilitation racketeers have made a game of it—something like golf. There would be a caddy to carry a certain number of shovels—one for each type of rock—with a curve-handled shovel to go round the corners. It certainly is either a game for the government-trained muckers, or the government is making game of the troops.

It is most unfortunate that incidents like the one referred to here should occur in dealing with returned men. It is sincerely to be hoped that this is an isolated case or one of some misunderstanding. The Advance, however, fears that this hope is only wishful thinking. It would be well if the public would rouse itself to take an active interest in the whole rehabilitation scheme. When men are dropped from the armed forces after several years of active service, they are liable to be at loose ends. For years they have had to take orders and obey others without question or discussion. They are not as well equipped to guard their own interests as they were when they enlisted. If to discharged airmen the best that Canada can offer is a course in mucking, then it is high time that the people of Canada in North Grey style should show the government that this is far from the thought of the Canadian people.

## FAIR PLAY FOR VETERANS

Much has been said about all the good things that are to be done for the soldiers, sailors and airmen who have been on active service in the war,

when these gallant men are demobilized and return to civil life. Nothing that may be done—even all that has been promised and implied—will seem too much to the people of Canada. It is said that even the Zombies will be recompensed for all their desperate sacrifices. But what is to be done for the men of the Veteran Guards? Will no voice in parliament and in the public prints take up the case of these brave, loyal fellows? The Advance knows of scores of these men who left well-paid positions in their anxiety to again serve their country. Poorly paid, they have served well and faithfully. What plans are made for their rehabilitation? Will someone explain this to the public? There are some twelve thousand men in the Veteran Guards of Canada. They have given invaluable service in guarding prisoners-of-war, looking to the security of public works and the care of essential factories and storehouses. If anyone will take the trouble to study the facts of the case, it will be seen that in their main work of looking after prisoners-of-war, they have done a very difficult job much better than it has been done anywhere else by any other force. It should be remembered, also, that it is not alone in the actual work that they have done that the Veterans have been of service. Their example alone has been of the greatest benefit to Canada's war effort. Now comes the pay-off. What is it to be? Most of the men of the Veteran Guards of Canada are getting along in years. The average age is said to be 55 years. This alone will be a serious handicap when the time comes to seek civil employment in a crowded labour market in a disorganized industrial world. In gratitude, in remembrance of service rendered, the public should rouse itself to demand an answer to the question, "What is to be done for the Veteran Guards of Canada when the war is over?" Are the men who volunteered their services in two wars to be treated as the majority of people feel is the right treatment for the Mackenzie King Zombies?

## HOW DO YOU LIKE IT.

The Advance often wonders if the people who would socialize everything, place everything under control of governments, ever stop to think of concrete cases of the effects of nazi, fascist or communist domination? Anyone who deceives themselves into thinking there is any difference between nazism, fascism or communism in active practice is making a very serious mistake. The people in Germany who were liquidated were no more dead than those who were purged in Italy or in Russia. The same drastic means had to be used to attain the same results. A British Columbia enthusiast for the C. C. F. some months ago hinted that socialism could only be assured in Canada by the same plan of force. It is not necessary, however, to consider the more serious features of the bureaucratic type of government to realize the effects of the sort of government that some people dream about. There was a homely illustration right here in Timmins of what happens when bureaucracy and governmental red tape are allowed full swing. Some scores of people here were fined on Tuesday for failing to have radio licenses last year. No fault is to be found with the magistrate for imposing the penalty of two dollars and costs. Under any fair system of law courts can do no more than enforce the law as it stands. It is worthy of note, however, that a number of cases were marked "adjourned till called on." These were all cases where the husband, or head of the house, was serving overseas. It is frankly admitted, of course, that everybody should pay the radio license fee each year, and if they fail to do so—even though they may feel it an imposition and an overcharge and a graft—they can expect nothing more than a fine and costs. Governments, like individuals, have to collect what they think due to them, even though court action is necessary. But the bureaucratic touch came in the fact that several of the cases were ones in which the radio license for last year had actually been paid. It is true that the license fees were not paid when due, but they were paid before the cases were entered. What would be thought of a merchant who found it necessary to threaten suit to collect a debt, and the debtor paying up within a few days, the merchant then proceeded to enter the court case and collect penalties and costs. Of course, you say that the law would not allow the merchant to do anything like that. Of course, the law wouldn't under democratic government. But that is what the government did in effect on Tuesday. The special agent (in liquor cases the name "spotter" is applied by the vulgar) was in town last October and lined up his cases. Several secured the licenses after his visit, some a day or two after he was here. These cases, however, went through the same as the others. There was a \$2 fine with \$2.50 costs—a total of \$5.50. To some of the unfortunate victims the penalty was a burden for which there seems little excuse. The difference between the free democratic way of doing business and the bureaucratic system in this—the business man desires to collect what is due. He thinks he does all right if he makes the collection without forcing the debtor to pay double and treble. Indeed, democratic law restricts the business man to a very modest interest charge on overdue accounts. Let the business man attempt to charge \$5.50 on a \$2.50 account and see where he lands. The attitude that forces people to pay \$8.00 for an overdue account of

\$2.50 is only a step off the same spirit that liquidates the unfortunate who fails to measure up fully to the nazi, fascist or communist law. This is not to say that radio licenses should not be paid, and paid promptly, but it is to point out the difference between private business methods where there is no court case if the debt is paid before the case is entered, and the bureaucratic plan where the account is paid in October of one year and the court is called in February of the next. With this example of government oppression surely the average man should be convinced that what is needed is less not more of that sort of thing.

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

This is Boy Scout and Girl Guide Week throughout Canada. It is a good time for the people in general to think of this youth movement. Germany and Italy and Russia had their youth movements and it is more than interesting to contrast the youth training plans of these foreign lands with the Boy Scout ideals. The fact that Germany and Italy found it necessary to ban the Boy Scouts is one proof of the difference between German ideals and the hopes of the democratic people. The Germans taught their boys snobbishness, intolerance, hatred and contempt for others, while at the same time curbing their freedom and stunting their lives. The Boy Scouts sought to spread tolerance, good sportsmanship, resourceful-

## Interesting Review of T. A. Rickard's 'Romance of Mining'

(by W. J. Gorman, in The Northern Miner).

"Many books have been written in the past which might have used the title which T. A. Rickard has selected for his recent volume but none of them could justify the title in the same degree. Mr. Rickard, famous historian of the mining industry has undertaken to summarize in this book the great events of mining since the dawn of history and he has admirably succeeded. The author is not engaged in producing a technical treatise nor does he linger on the more sordid aspects of the great mining camps of the past. He specifically states in the preface that he is not interested in the claim-jumping, cheating, shooting, drinking and gambling angles of pioneer mining. On the other hand he suggests and eventually proves in his volume that truth is indeed stranger than fiction when the subject is mining.

"Mr. Rickard ranges afar in time and space in his presentation of the romance of mining. From the early expeditions of the Egyptians into Sinai through the epic of Jason's search for the Golden Fleece, the Greek development of the silver of Laurium, Frobenius's quest in the North, the search for the El Dorado, the discovery of gold in California, the Australian diggings, the mountains of Colorado, the famous Copper Queen mine, the exploration of British Columbia in the early days of the north, the diamonds of Kimberley, the Witwatersrand and scores of other famous mining events are detailed in a manner most fascinating to anyone interested in the industry and particularly in the early history of discoveries and developments.

An attractive feature of the book is the author's exploding of various stories and myths, from the earliest days to more modern times. Mr. Rickard, expressing a convincing regard for the prospector, obviously does not believe that discoveries were in the main accidental as the story books have told us. The runaway mules, the stubbed toes, the lost rosaries, the digging ants and other fortuitous methods of finding mines are scouted, although Mr. Rickard admits that accident did in some cases enter into the picture. Sometimes gold was found when men were engaged in other work as in the building of Sutter's mill in California but even in that instance the fact that gold was present was established by a series of physical tests which indicated the intelligence and knowledge of the people concerned. Incidentally, gold was known to exist in California long before the Sutter's mill incident.

"Mr. Rickard pays a warm tribute to the prospector. He remarks that he alone of all the pioneer types throws open a new country to settlement and development. Unlike the fur trader who jealously guards new territory in order that the trade in peltry may not be disturbed the prospector shouts his find from the hilltops and invites all and sundry to come in and help him. The explorer, interested solely in discovery and mapping of new territory has neither the time nor the inclination to seek or report on mineral occurrences. The missionary, too, pioneers in hitherto unknown regions but his objective often conflicts with commercial development.

"The author says: "After the prospector has come the mining engineer. The scout has gone in advance of the captain of industry. Those familiar with the methods of mountaineering in winter know how the leader breaks the trail through the snow by leaving footprints, into which his followers tread, step by step, greatly to the ease

of their travel. That is what the mineral explorer has done for the mining engineer. That is what the mining engineer has done for those that follow him."

The author takes the reader on a trip around the world in this book, introducing the North American reader to the mining fields of other continents and the itinerary is not confined to the gold producing areas. One of the fascinating sections is devoted to the discovery and early mining of diamonds in the Kimberley field. This was an entirely new departure in prospecting and mining and the ingenuity and organizing ability of the white man were given full play in ironing out the difficulties which arose in mining, financing and marketing the new product. Copper and silver mining are not neglected in the history; some of the most remarkable romances in mining are associated with copper discoveries and developments.

"Mr. Rickard's volume might be described as a huge deposit of rich historical ore, wide, long and deep. It is free milling, easily treated, yielding immense profits to those whose interest lies in mining. It is authoritative, thoroughly documented, clearly and impressively presented. It is the book to end all books on the "Romance of Mining."

## Dept. of Mines to Make Close Enquiry Into Hoist Accident

### Committee Appointed to Conduct Exhaustive Study of Hoists, Etc.

All circumstances surrounding the accident at the Paymaster mine in which 16 miners were carried to their deaths when a hoist cable snapped will be subject of a special inquiry to be conducted by a committee of five university professors, Hon. L. M. Frost, minister of mines for the province, has announced. The scope of the investigation also includes a review of regulations relating to the operation of hoists and recommendations for possible improvement in equipment and the methods of their operation.

The committee comprises Dean C. R. Young, chairman, Professor T. R. Loudon, department of Civil Engineering; Professor E. A. Allet, department of Mechanical Engineering; Professor V. G. Smith, department of Electrical Engineering; Professor Lloyd M. Pidgeon, department of Metallurgical Engineering.

"The committee," said Mr. Frost, "will be given the widest possible scope to investigate everything relating to hoists used in the mining industry. They will be empowered to call upon any expert or experts they may desire for information. The sections of the Mining Act which were revised in 1939 will be scrutinized and reviewed. Practices in other jurisdictions will also be considered."

The accident occurred when the hoisting rope broke and allowed the cage, loaded with miners, to crash from the 1,000-ft. level to the bottom of the shaft at 2,500 ft. There has been considerable discussion in mining circles over the failure of the safety dogs to grip the guides and halt the fall of the cage even after the cable had broken and this undoubtedly will present an important phase for inquiry. Examination of hoisting ropes in the past has been necessarily confined to a test of a piece cut off a few feet from the cage. If ropes are to break 1,000 ft. or more from the cage a problem is presented, for obviously it is not possible to cut a piece out of the middle of a rope for test purposes. Some mining men believe the physicists will have to be brought in to examine a rope in its entirety before use and at intervals during use. Perhaps some of

ness, loyalty and love of freedom. The Germans succeeded in their base designs. They made all their youth of the one pattern and it is not a model to appeal to full-blooded modern men. The Boy Scouts also succeeded, but with much more pleasing results. At the moment the Boy Scouts are handicapped for lack of leaders, because all their leaders naturally enlisted—not because of any inclination to militarism, but because they treasured freedom and the nobler things of life. Not only were the Boy Scouts prompt and ready to defend the right, but the officers in the services have often commented on their special resourcefulness, coolness and daring. Training has its sure results. The Boy Scout movement is excellent training for peacetime, no less than for war. The public should show its appreciation by the fullest sympathy and support during this Boy Scout Week.

In the death of Mr. Justice William Renwick Riddell, Canada loses a notable citizen. He had so much of the energy and enthusiasm of youth that most people will be surprised that he had reached the great age of 92 years. He had a very busy and a very useful life, one that reflects honour on his name and glory on his native Canada. His work alone as head of the Health League of Canada was the great contribution of a great man. He found time to write in informal and interesting way on many subjects, and he took a notable part as a citizen, as well as a jurist. A member of the Supreme Court of Ontario for 39 years, he was widely known for his talent and integrity in the law. That was enough to give him high standing, but his other contributions to good citizenship made him outstanding as a useful and honoured citizen.

the principles of radar or the other wonders of the field of electronics could be applied. Undoubtedly the organization of experts which has been set up by the Department of Mines will direct their minds to the possibilities in this direction.

## Thousands Should Apply for War Service Gratuity

Dependents of as many as ten thousand Navy, Army and Air Force personnel who have been killed or have died while on active service have failed to apply for the War Services Gratuity, it was announced today by the Department of National Defence. Only a portion of those eligible have made application for these gratuities, it was stated.

Entitled to receive gratuities on behalf of deceased servicemen are:—

(a) Those who were drawing dependents' allowance at the time of the serviceman's death.

(b) Those who were dependent upon the deceased serviceman and who were receiving assigned pay from him at the time of his death, even though they were not eligible for dependents' allowance.

Next-of-kin who were not dependent upon the deceased serviceman are not eligible for gratuity payment.

Dependents, in claiming this war service gratuity should apply to National Defence Headquarters, giving the number, rank or rating and full name of the deceased serviceman, explaining in detail the extent to which the applicant was dependent upon him, and stating whether the applicant was receiving dependents' allowance or assigned pay at the time of the sailor's, soldier's or airman's death.

The address to which applications should be mailed is as follows:—

The Secretary,  
Department of National Defence  
(Army)  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Attention: Paymaster-General

## Speaker at S. Porcupine Kiwanis Club on Monday

South Porcupine, Feb. 21st. Special to The Advance.

Rev. H. J. Veals, B.A., B.Paed., is to be the guest speaker at South Porcupine Kiwanis Club on Monday evening next.

Mr. Veals is a graduate of McMaster University and of the Faculty of Education, University of Toronto. He went out to West China in 1920, and was appointed to educational work in Luchow and later served in Chungking. He was ordained in China and was then transferred to the pastoral work, and spent the last term on the field in Jenchow. Mr. Veals returned to Canada on furlough in the early summer of this year, 1944. Mrs. Veals was

## Order Restricting Shipping Relief Goods Overseas

### Need Felt for Co-ordination to Prevent Shortages.

Mention in the report of the town council meeting last week of the fact that the collection of clothing for the Aid of Russia Fund must be closed has raised some discussion as to the reason. Order No. 479 of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board explains the matter. This order is as follows:—

**Acquisition of Goods for Overseas.**  
Explanatory Note:—The Board has been entrusted by the Government with responsibility for the maintenance of orderly production and distribution of essential civilian requirements. Unco-ordinated appeals by relief agencies for donations of clothing and other goods for despatch to other countries are threatening seriously to disorganize the programme of the Board to provide for essential domestic needs after Canadian commitments for vital war supplies and the requirements of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration have been furnished. It is imperative therefore, that public appeals and purchases in Canada by or on behalf of all relief agencies be co-ordinated so as to ensure that humanitarian effort will harmonize with other essential requirements and that the best rests for all claimants upon Canadian supplies will be achieved.

Therefore, at the request of the Government and under powers conferred by the Wartime Prices and Trade Regulations, Order in Council P.C. 8528 of November 1, 1941, as amended the Board hereby orders as follows:—

1. Except with the previous permit in writing granted under Section 2 of this Order, no person, association or institute under whose auspices a War Charity Fund registered under the War Charities Act is being raised or is proposed to be raised shall, on or after February 6, 1945, for any purpose other than for distribution in Canada or to Canadian Armed Forces or merchantseamen under existing arrangements,

(a) directly solicit or make any appeal to the public or any members thereof for the donation of any goods, new or used, or

(b) purchase or otherwise acquire any goods, new or used.

2. (1) All applications for permit shall be made to the Director of Voluntary War Relief Department of National War Services, and shall be on a form provided by such Director. (2) The Director may, with the advice and the concurrence in writing of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, issue, amend or cancel any permit, or may decline any permit.

(3) A permit if issued shall be issued to the person constituting the committee or other body referred to in class (a) of Section 5 of the War Charities Act.

(4) Any permit issued under this Section shall specify the terms or conditions, to which it shall be subject.

3. (1) Every person named in a permit issued under Section 2 shall comply with all terms and conditions set forth in the permit and shall cause all other persons soliciting or acquiring goods for the War Charity Fund to comply with such terms and conditions.

(2) Records shall be kept and reports shall be made as may be required by the said Director from time to time.

4. All committees or bodies referred to in clause (a) of Section 5 of the War Charity Act administering a War Charity Fund registered before February 6, 1945 shall, not later than February 21, 1945, report to the said Director, in form satisfactory to him, the quantity of each kind of goods in the possession or control of such Fund on February 6, 1945.

5. This Order shall come into force on February 6, 1945.

also a Missionary before marriage, having been a nurse under the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada.

Edmonton Journal:—In a western state a man thrown out of a political meeting for loud and continuous sneezing, was found to be allergic to horsefeathers.

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## MAGIC Pork Rolls

Sift together  
1 cup flour  
1 tsp. Magic Baking Powder  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 beaten egg  
1/2 cup milk  
2 tbs. melted shortening

Grease skillet lightly. Make 6 large thin pancakes about 5 inches across. When brown on both sides, heap in centers a filling made of 1/2 cup of chopped cooked pork moistened with 1 cup gravy or white sauce. Roll up, place on hot platter and pour remaining sauce over rolls.



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