

The Porcupine Advance

PHONE 26

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HELPED BY DREW GOVERNMENT

At the present time the Drew Government should be receiving praise and appreciation for the relief given ratepayers in the matter of taxation. But it isn't. There doesn't seem to be a mention of the matter. Why? Take the case of Timmins, for example. Had previous methods prevailed in the province the municipal tax rate in Timmins would be more than five mills higher this year than last. On the other hand, however, there have been congratulations here because the rate is one-fifth of a mill lower than last year. It is suggested that in view of the fact that these are wartimes and the mines assessments is greatly reduced this year, the council has done remarkably well to make even a slight reduction in the tax rate. The fact, of course, is that the general rate has increased approximately two and a half mills over last year. The council should not be condemned for this. The chief cause of the raise has been increase in the salaries of employees. Apart from the fact that town employees are not overpaid by any means, it should be remembered that these days conditions practically force wages to higher levels on account of the general labour situation. In any event The Advance has always held that the town should set an example in the matter of wages. Compared with other municipalities and with private employees, Timmins is not yet appearing to overpay any of its employees, so there is no fair ground for criticism of the council in this increase in the general rate. The very material reduction in the mines assessment was another difficulty that the council had to face this year. Roughly speaking it necessitated another increase of approximately two and a half mills in the municipal rate. Had the provincial grants remained the same as in previous years, this year Timmins would have needed to increase the municipal tax rate at least by five mills over last year. But the provincial grants did not remain at the same levels as in past years. Premier Drew fulfilled his pre-election promise of larger grants to education to relieve the property holder in the matter of taxation. The increase in grants from the province for education this year were large enough to allow the rate to be one-fifth of a mill lower than last year, instead of forcing an increase of five mills. In fairness it seems that this fact should be acknowledged and appreciated. In accordance with the law, there is a note on the tax bill to the effect that the rate is one mill lower on account of the general provincial subsidy and \$182,172.00 less on account of the grants made to education by the province to relieve the burden on property holders. The latter part of the note will not make the situation clear to the ratepayers. It seems to be only fair to emphasize two facts at this time. The first is that the Drew Government has fulfilled its pre-election promise to carry half the burden of educational costs. The other fact is that thanks to the Drew Government Timmins this year has a tax rate one-fifth of a mill lower than last year, instead of one five mills greater than in 1944.

HOW TO CELEBRATE

Last week The Globe and Mail had a timely and thoughtful editorial on how Victory Day should be celebrated. The Globe and Mail emphasizes the fact that while it would naturally be a day of relief and expression of joy, a feeling of sober thanksgiving should predominate. The Globe and Mail recognizes the fact that different people have different ways in which to celebrate great events, and within the bounds of good sense and decency would not particularly interfere with any of these ways. It would, however, keep the event within the lines that so notable an occasion demands. The Globe and Mail would not have the occasion develop into any drunken orgy, for example, and in discussing this idea, falls into an odd lapse of memory. Referring to the Armistice Day celebration of the last war, reference is made to the danger of too free use of intoxicants in celebrating this victory. The Globe says that on such occasions some people avail themselves of the privilege of getting drunk, "which could not consistently be done on the last armistice on account of wartime prohibition." Those who recall last Armistice Day celebration will wonder as to the condition of the writer who saw any scarcity of the "O, Be Joyful" in the 1918 celebration. The standing joke in the matter in Timmins on that occasion was that there were only two sober men in the town that night, and there was even doubt about one of them, as he went home early. Of course, that was a gross exaggeration, for there were hundreds here who found no relief from the sorrow at the death of loved ones in the war and had no temptation to seek solace in intoxicants. Those who were in Toronto saw no scarcity of liquor for celebration. Even wartime prohibition

seemed to have little effect then in triumphing over resourcefulness. In some cases, liquor was allowed to take too big a part in the last Armistice Day celebration, but in general it may be said that the celebration was orderly enough, and varied enough to suit all needs of the occasion. It seems inevitable that on such an occasion there must be some drinking or all will not be able fully to express their feeling. If the matter is kept within limits, as it was in the last Armistice, generally speaking, there is little room for criticism.

In the coming Victory Day celebration the main thought should be the vital seriousness of the deliverance, and also the sad hearts of those bereaved by the horrors of war. The necessary repressions of wartime will warrant some relaxation, and different people find this in different ways. One local man who was never intoxicated in his life, has publicly promised since the early days of the war that he intends to get gloriously drunk on V. Day. Perhaps, this promise gives a suggestion how the celebration could be unique and cover the whole field. Let the majority stay cold sober and only those who never before have been intoxicated imbibe generously in celebration. In any event there should be restriction on this form of celebration, though those who find the odd drink a help to celebration should not be deprived of this comfort. The whole matter seems to be one that may be left to the good judgment of the public.

To The Advance it seems that the guiding facts should be the true seriousness of the occasion, the consideration for those bereaved, and the effect on the younger generation. The occasion should be such as may be carried in the minds and hearts of all as a fitting celebrating of the deliverance of the world from brutality, slavery and gangsterism.

CANADA AND JAPAN

Premier King's announcement in regard to Canada's part in the war against Japan has astounded most people. In effect, it suggests that there is to be no conscription for service against Japan, but the volunteer forces already serving will be kindly permitted to join in the war against Japan if they insist. To the ordinary mind it appears that the defeat of Japan is as necessary as the defeat of Germany. In this connection it is interesting to recall that Canada declared war on Japan before Great Britain did. At the same time, Canada was said to be supplying Japan with nickel and scrap iron in indirect way after the battle with Germany commenced. On account of the grip Japan had on British Columbia, Japan has been a serious menace to Canada. The menace has been a direct one in the case of Japan as well as the indirect one that arises from aggression against freedom and decency. There are large numbers of Canadians still prisoners-of-war in Japanese hands. Are these to be left to be rescued by British or United States forces? Or are the men who have fought for Canada for five years expected to carry on the battle against Japan in their depleted numbers? What in the world will the world think of a people boasting overmuch of being a nation, who, in effect, withdraw from a war when it is half-won? It is to be hoped that the world at large realizes that the ideas of the Prime Minister are not the ideals of Canada. Canada's national record has been magnificent, as contrasted with its political record, which latter would be complimented by terming it despicable.

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."

As Victory Day grows closer more public thought should be given to the punishment of Hitler and the other gangsters, including, of course, Mussolini, whom many seem to have forgotten. "Hang the Kaiser!" was a popular cry in the closing days of the last war. Premier Lloyd George publicly promised that the Kaiser should be punished fully, but in the joy of the Armistice and in the hurry of getting back to peacetime occupations and interests, the matter was completely overlooked and forgotten. Probably, if the Kaiser and all his staff had been hanged, the present war might have been avoided. The present day gangsters have been counting right along on the "softness" of other nations. In recent years some progress has been made in emphasizing the idea that "crime does not pay." This has had some effect in reducing crime except among the mentally defective. In the international sphere it is equally necessary to show that "crime does not pay." If the Hitler-type of gangster knew as an actual fact that no mercy would be shown them, there might be less tendency to follow the life of international crime. At the moment, no doubt, Hitler and his fellow gangsters, believe from the record of history, that they will escape more lightly than anyone else from the payment for the war. Now is the time to disabuse the gangsters of any such idea.

Speaking of hanging Hitler, there is the story of the man who told an educated friend that Hitler should be "hung". "You mean 'hanged' said the friend. "No!" said the man, "I mean he should be hung. Hanging's too good for him."

United States troops have discovered an immense treasure hidden by the Germans in a salt mine. Many millions of dollars in gold and gold bullion were found in this cache, as well as valuable pictures and other works of art stolen from nations looted by the Huns during the present war. At the same time United States officials tell of efforts by the Nazis to sell stolen works of art to other nations. These incidents show that after all Germany did not intend to depend upon its boasted barter policy in case of victory, nor were the Nazi leaders banking completely on any as-

urance of victory. The leaders seemed to be planning to protect themselves and enrich themselves no matter what the fortune of war might be. The fact that Hitler and others of the gangsters had huge deposits in neutral countries seems further proof of this fact.

There are people who suggest that Canada has not suffered from the present war. Yet the Kingston Whig quotes an Alberta newspaper as saying:—"Due to the shortage of newsprint, a number of births will be postponed to next week."

Wartime Conditions and Labor Shortage Handicap Hollinger Gold Mines

Annual Report Shows 47.6 Cents per Share Earned, as Compared with 67.94 Cents in 1943. Wartime Conditions and Particularly Labour Shortage Handicap Production and Development

The annual report of the Hollinger Gold Mines for the year just past shows that wartime conditions are affecting the big mine in the same way as other mines are handicapped. The milling rate has had to be confined to 2,600 tons daily while development work has also had to be curtailed on account of the labour situation. The report shows declines in output earnings and ore reserves. There has been, however, a substantial increase in working capital.

Net Earnings

During the year the annual report discloses, the parent corporation had net earnings of \$2,342,095, or 47.6c. per share, as compared with \$3,343,027, or 67.94c. per share in the preceding 12 months.

At the close of the period net working capital stood at \$5,225,440, as against \$5,033,622 at the end of 1943. These totals were exclusive of the interest in the net assets of International Bond & Share Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary, which were \$4,995,836 at December 31, last, as against \$4,745,063 a year previously.

Ore reserves of the Hollinger and Ross mines, at the date of the report, totalled 7,507,976 tons averaging 9.320 oz. gold per ton, compared with 7,735,904 tons grading 0.331 oz. at December 31st, 1943. In the calculations dealing with ore reserves, no ore assaying below 0.1935 oz. or \$4 per ton at \$20.97 per oz. for gold was included, although a very large amount of this material has been developed.

Operating Results

Tons Milled	1,032,991
Average tons daily	2,846
Production	\$9,287,641
Average per ton	\$3.99
Operating and gen. costs ton	\$5.97
Ore reserves, tons	7,507,976
Value gold (\$35 oz.)	\$86,772,749
Value per ton	11.56
Shareholders number	11,990
Number employees	1,449

Shareholders Chiefly Canadian

At the end of 1944, President J. R. Timmins reports the company's 4,923,000 shares were distributed as follows: 9,833 Canadian shareholders held 4,054,383 shares; 1,722 United States shareholders held 516,364 shares, and 90 United Kingdom shareholders had 322,994 shares, and 245 shareholders residing elsewhere owned 26,259 shares.

At the Hollinger mine, Manager E. L. Longmore says, increased shortage of labor made necessary the continuance of the policy of confining development chiefly to the more accessible and productive areas.

The rate of labor turnover, increased number of absentees owing to holidays, as well as the decrease in the number of miners forced a further reduction in the milling rate, from the 3,216 tons per day average during 1943 to 2,632 tons per day average for 1944. Without improvement in the labor situation, no increase in the present 2,500 tons daily rate can be looked for. Ore from above the 800-ft. level accounted for 38.8% of the tonnage milled, compared with 38.2% in the preceding year. Installation of equipment at No. 27 shaft is progressing slowly.

Ross Mine Operations

At the Ross mine in Hislop Twp., Ramore area the ore reserves as of Dec. 31st, 1944, were 648,010 tons of a total value of \$3,080,442, having an average gold content of 0.230 oz. per ton. These figures compare with 769,059 tons valued at \$3,232,351 or 0.230 oz. per ton, at the end of 1943. Taking the price of gold at \$35 per oz. as a basis of value, the total ore reserve was \$5,216,037 at the close of the year a decrease of 31,049 tons and \$257,222. Winter conditions forced suspension of production at the Young-Davidson mine during the first four months of the year. A total of 161,773 tons was milled being an average of 677 tons per day for the 239 days the mill was operated, with a recovery of \$3.47 per ton. Broken ore in the stopes on Dec. 31st amounted to 1,125,456 tons.

Kam Kotia Porcupine Mines Ltd.

The Kam Kotia copper property lying west of Timmins, in which Hollinger holds an 85% interest, was financed as to plant and operation by Metals Reserve Co., a U.S. government agency. During 1944, John Knox consulting engineer, reports, 189,064 tons was mined by electric shovel and milled at the property. The resultant concentrates were trucked to Timmins and thence by rail to the Noranda smelter. A summary of the results obtained in this operation which, at the request of the government, was discontinued on Jan. 1st, 1945 showed 5,542,116 lbs. of copper produced at a cost of 15c. per lb. This includes payment of the minimum royalty which was granted

known length of 3,900 ft. was disclosed. Outcrops to the south indicate the possibility of the extension of this body for a distance of over two miles. Further exploration will be carried out during the coming season.

A zinc outcropping was investigated by diamond drill, but no attempt has been made to arrive at any length dimensions as time and equipment did not permit. However the width of the zinc ore was 13 ft., and the length determined by trenching was 660 ft. The grade was 6.75% zinc, 1.32% copper and \$2 in precious metals. If time and labor permit, further work will be done on this showing during the 1945 season. Numerous small showings of nickel and copper were investigated but so far nothing has been discovered of sufficient size to be commercial.

Council Passes By-law for Town Planning Com.

(Continued from page one)

Councillor K. A. Eyre told council that samples of suitable scrolls to give retiring servicemen were being received and would be submitted to the council and the Canadian Legion for approval and choice. There was a delegation present in

connection with a petition at a previous council meeting in which complaint was made in regard to the Yorkshire Kennels at the end of Pine street north. It was held that the dogs and other animals at the Kennels constituted a nuisance and a menace to health to those in the neighborhood, and that the business should be moved to some other location. The mayor told the delegation that having granted a license to the Kennels, the council could not well cancel the license unless there was good cause. If the Kennels were a nuisance or menace to health they would have to be moved. The mayor said that the council was waiting a report from the board of health in the matter. One member of the deputations hoped out loud that a different inspector was being sent this time, as the last one, he said, was blind.

Forty Members of Porcupine Curling Club at Banquet

South Porcupine, April 12th. Special to The Advance.

Forty members of the Porcupine Curling Club met on Friday last at the Airport Hotel for a social evening and winding-up of the curling season. It was a stag party, and a very nice lunch was served at 10.30 after distribution of trophies and prizes won during the season.

The Gallagher Cup was presented to Mr. A. C. Stevenson (J. Ahsdahl, Gordon Browne, Earl Hartley), with the cup were individual prizes of socks. The Pillsworth Trophy—was presented to Mr. F. E. Cooper (Martin Shaw, J. Novakuski, Gus McManus). Prizes with the trophy were men's ties.

The Sky Trophy (with sweaters) was presented to Mr. H. W. Miller. Mr. L. Saunderson (Andrew Hartley, Earl Hartley, Earl Hartley) won the Caswell trophy which was presented to him with socks as prizes.

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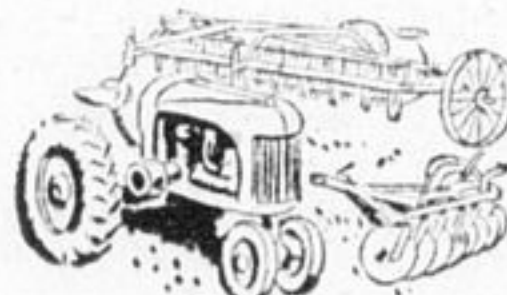
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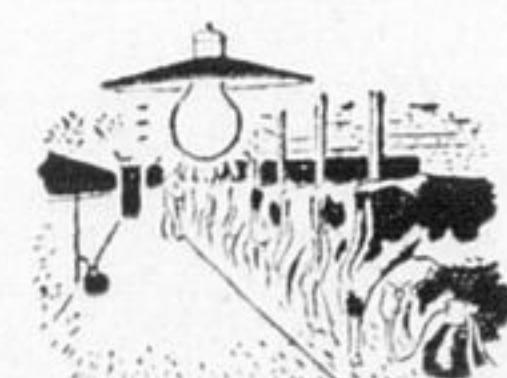
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or modernize your house?
or electrify your farm?

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