

The Porcupine Advance

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WAR NOT YET WON

All through the present war The Advance has maintained a spirit of confidence and cheerful assurance of final victory, believing ever in the power of the Allied Nations, supported by the justice of their cause. The noble words of King George VI some years ago, repeated in each issue of The Advance since they were spoken, appeared to make clear the way to eventual victory. The Allied Nations had the resources, the men, the money, the capacity, and, above all, the spirit that would win the victory over all the powers of darkness and of gangsterism, no matter the cost or the time needed. Even in what seemed to be the darkest days, there were facts and beliefs to maintain cheerfulness and courage. It is only when there seems to be a general feeling that the war is already won, that doubts begin and the fullest cheerfulness is hard to maintain. It was the same in regard to the last war. There were dark days in that struggle, too, but memories are notoriously short in such matters. Even in those threatening times, however, there was every assurance and every cheerfulness because the fighting men of those days, like those of to-day had won the fullest confidence and belief. But when peace came there seemed the depressing danger that what the soldiers and the sailors and the airmen had won by the risking of their lives and the sacrifice of their lives might be lost through the stupidity and the haste of the politicians. "It should not be forgotten," said The Advance in November, 1918, "that what the gallant soldiers have won on the way to victory may be lost by the professing statesmen." The Advance pointed out that until the wrongs done by the Huns in 1914 to 1918 were righted, so far as that were possible; until stern punishment was meted out to the offenders; until all the brave men who had given health and strength to win the victory were properly rewarded and the families of those who had given their lives were fairly looked after; until preparations were made to prevent similar wars again; there could be no true peace, and little grounds for undue rejoicing. The record shows how little in reality there was to cheer in 1918. The war of to-day is the proof itself of how badly the war was actually lost by others after it had been won by the gallant fighting men of the Allied Nations.

All this is said in no kill-joy spirit, but in the hopes that it may spur general thought towards better end. As a matter of fact, it may not be a complete presentation of the case for the days after the war to suggest that the results of the ensuing days of peace were the fault only of the politicians. The truth of the matter is that the politicians simply followed the lead of the people themselves. The peoples of the various nations were all tired of the war and of militarism and regimentation. They were so tired, indeed, that they were ready for any excuse, and willing, in effect, to accept peace before the war was really won. The war could only be won when the purposes for which it was fought had been achieved. No one studying history can believe that the purposes of the Allies in 1918 were achieved in that year or in the years that followed. It would be well, indeed, if the people of to-day would steel themselves to suffer the war a little longer, so that the victory may be a real one and a lasting one. It is generally admitted to-day that if Germany had been invaded in 1918, if the German people had seen their capital in the hands of the Allied Nations, if the common people of Germany had suffered a little war right in their own homeland, it might not have been so easy for the gangster Hitler to persuade them into their recent disastrous vicious venture. It is true that in this war the Germans have had the war brought right to their own doors, with the very doors blown to pieces around them. It is true that the German people have suffered the most absolute and complete defeat in all history. But Japan still remains to be dealt with. None of the gangster nations should be allowed to escape the most thorough retribution. The horrors that have been revealed as the usual sadistic German procedure in the treatment of conquered peoples and even to their own people who dared to differ with the Nazi doctrines,—these horrors should spur all to determination that the peace to follow this war should not be a camouflaged structure for the housing of the munitions for the next war. It would be well for the people in general to look on the celebrations that have occurred as simply celebrations of battles as it were—simple stages in the path to true victory. With these battles now duly celebrated, all should turn again to the real winning of the war—the final winning of the war—the completely crushing defeat of Japan—the re-establishment of the nations so grievously oppressed—and the punishment of those responsible.

THE WAR COMES TO TIMMINS

Monday and Tuesday of this week the war really came to Timmins—to the tank and file. Before this week there were sad hearts here who knew too well that there was a war on. These people knew the reality of the war because they had husbands and sons and brothers and fathers overseas in danger and in discomfort, some never to return again. But the average man and woman and child lived in comfort and safety in this prosperous town. Perhaps, the most people worked a little harder, worried a little more, suffered a few discomforts. But there were no bombings here, no horrors, no hunger. This week, however, there was a slight taste of hunger. Monday morning practically all the restaurants closed and remained closed until Wednesday morning. The Fern Cottage endeavoured to arrange for some of the restaurants to remain open part of the day and others for other necessary parts of the time. All efforts to make any such arrangements proved unavailing. To make matters worse, all stores were equally closed, and this affected many households lacking facilities to store foodstuffs for more than a day or two. Unless such households had the good luck to have their orders in before Monday afternoon ten, they stood the chance of going hungry. A few of the small restaurants attempted to keep open to serve the public, but in some cases they soon had nothing left to serve. In the case of a new restaurant the very size of the crowd that packed the place made it necessary to close up altogether. While Timmins is a town of homes, there are literally thousands here who depend on the restaurants for their daily food. All these people went hungry, or else had great luck or ingenuity in feeding themselves. So far as The Advance can learn the restaurants were not to blame for the long and unexpected closing down. The staffs simply walked out. Apparently the staffs must have had some arrangements for their own cases, as many of them have to depend on the restaurants for their own daily food. Some of the restaurant proprietors went far out of their way to help meet the needs of the public. But there was little that they could do. It is the fact that a number here actually suffered hunger—perhaps for the first time in their memory. "This is worse than the depression," one young miner said on Tuesday while he was hunting some place to get his first meal for the day. Yet the people in general took it all in good grace. There was little grumbling, despite the inconvenience and the unexpectedness of it all. There was sardonic humor in the argument of the two hungry fellows who could not find a restaurant that was open. "Oh, well," said the one, "the waitresses can't be blamed for wanting a couple of days to celebrate." The other replied, "That may be all right, but I don't think it right that our friend who lost two sons in the war should have to go hungry one day for each son."

There are several morals in this incident of the time when hunger really came to Timmins during this war. Some of these morals are obvious. Perhaps the most obvious is that people must eat to live and keep on living and that while people are ready enough to endure privation brought by the war, it is not a good form of celebration to have affairs so that a so-called peace celebration is the only time folks in Canada have had to go hungry, without due cause or even profit to anyone.

UNIQUE PLAN FOR POST-WAR

The Advance has received a copy of what is referred to as a unique plan for the days after the war. The copy is cleverly outlined in a booklet of newspaper size pages. It points out that the men of the navy, air force and army will be returning after the war and that they should have assurance of profitable employment. Mention is made of those now working at munition-making. These, too, must be provided with employment. Emphasis is given to the fact that the conditions during the depression should not be allowed to repeat themselves. There is nothing unique so far. Prominence is given to Prime Minister Churchill's statement that "The way to cure unemployment is to have no unemployment." Even that is not unique for all during the depression The Advance stressed the fact that the only way to cure unemployment was by employment. Time and again The Advance referred to the fact that Canada needed roads, bridges, canals, public buildings and scores of other things. In times past these enterprises had been only undertaken in boom times when costs were high, and payment had to be made in hard times when payments were most burdensome. The Advance repeatedly suggested that this plan be reversed—that public works be undertaken in hard times with payments spread over the years that might be prosperous.

There is one part of the "Greater Dominion New National Policy to Provide Post-war jobs," as it is termed, that is unique. That is the method of financing. This plan proposes to develop Canada's mining, forest and agricultural resources and provide work in other lines by the use of what is termed "venture capital". Reduced to a skeleton the plan may be summarized as follows.—One thousand million dollars are to be raised by public subscription as "venture capital". Half of this sum is to be taken over and invested by the Dominion Government on post-war projects—national housing, reforestation, irrigation, soil conservation, measures for social security, etc.

This is to be covered by Post-war Victory bonds, repayable to the public investing in the venture capital in twenty-five years. This means that in twenty-five years the investor will have his original investment returned to him, irrespective of what may be earned by the other five hundred million dollars. The latter \$500,000,000 is to be invested by the Greater Dominion Assn. Inc. to develop mineral and forest wealth, new industries, land colonization and other venture projects which governments cannot successfully undertake. This is a mere outline of the plan, but should suggest that the idea is worthy of some consideration. The plan has been endorsed by many prominent people, including Mayor Hector Lang, of Medicine Hat, known to many in this North. The originator of the plan is Mr. Mervyn Brown who has worked it out in detail. Because of its unique features it deserves at least close study. There may be something impractical about it, but it should not be disregarded simply because it is new or startling. Conditions after the war are likely to be new and startling themselves, and unusual remedy may be required. This "Greater Dominion New National Policy" may provide the answer to the problem. In any event it should have a patient hearing. It would seem to be worth while for those considering the problems of the day to write The Greater Dominion Association, Royal York Hotel, Toronto, for the newspaper-size booklet or original type of prospectus.

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 God's help we shall not fail."

Thoughtful Address by Lions Official at Noranda Club

Mr. Leo Laporte Touches on Danger of State Having Too Great Control

Lions Deputy District Governor Leo Laporte, of Timmins, paid his official visit to the Rouyn-Noranda Lions Club last week, and the Rouyn-Noranda Press was so much impressed with his able and thoughtful address on the occasion that it gave about two columns of space to a report of what was said. Much of the address was taken up with a vivid review of what the Lions have done and strive to do. There were other more general ideas touched upon however, and the Advance is giving some of these as reported by The Rouyn-Noranda Press, as follows:—

Must Pay the Price
The deputy-district governor pointed out that the attainment of any goal is, generally speaking, the result of a definite plan of action and willingness and determination to make sacrifices in order to reach the objective. Everything, he said, has a price, and the greater the intrinsic value—the greater the lasting satisfaction to be derived therefrom—the more has to be paid for it in time, energy and otherwise. Rarely does one receive something for nothing, and success, with few exceptions, is the fruit of endeavour.

Man's thirst for knowledge, his search for wealth and his craving for power and influence have resulted in the advanced civilization of today, he continued. Man today, with rapid transportation facilities such as the aeroplane, is dependent for his safety on the security of the world, and as civilization advances and science progresses, more and more does the welfare of man become dependent on his fellow man. So rapidly has civilization progressed that some people have been unable to keep up with it, resulting in their not receiving a just share of its comforts.

"Those are the people with whom we should all be concerned," he said. "In the words of the late President Roosevelt, 'it is not whether we provide more for those who have much—it is whether we provide enough for those who have little.'"

Why Welfare Organizations?
In answer to the question, why have welfare organizations? Deputy-District Governor Laporte pointed out that the time, money, influence and endeavor of an individual is inadequate, but coupled with that of others creates a force capable of coping with almost every situation. He spoke of social service legislation which has been enacted for the welfare of the people, but quoted a recent article from the Reader's Digest which warned against placing too much power in the hands of the state, and intimated that a too-highly planned economy by the state could very well result in the loss of individual liberty. Certain things, it was true, must be entrusted to the state, but individuals, too, have duties and responsibilities.

Churchill Not Afraid to Speak of the Empire

(St. Catharines Standard)
Prime Minister Churchill, speaking to his own party family, used the word "Empire" in its broadest and most intelligible sense, in a speech of eloquence that will ring around the world. Three years ago, he told the world that he had no intention of becoming the first minister of His Majesty to preside over the liquidation of

Lessons may be learned even from the so-called funny pages in the newspapers. The cartoon, "Sally's Sallies," for instance, the other day pictured Sally's father as overcoming the shortage of garters by the use of adhesive tape. It's an idea!

"All Quiet on the Western Front" was the title of one of the best sellers after the last war. An exchange suggests a title for a book for the present war, "All Quiet on the Western Front."

What progress has been made in communication in recent years. After the battle of Waterloo it was several days before the news was known in England. These times it's different. The news of the unconditional surrender of Germany was known on this side of the ocean days before it happened.

One of the latest theories, given for what it is worth, is that Hitler and some of his leading gangsters escaped by U-Boat. Where they went is not suggested yet. In any event there are many who do not believe he had courage enough even to commit suicide. This is said to be a belief largely held in Russia.

"It's a hard world—this North Land," says one local man. "I wouldn't mind going without meals if I could get enough to drink. But I couldn't get enough to drink, either on Monday or Tuesday."

Some Ottawa politicians are promising that taxes will be reduced one third after the war is over. If the war has only been costing a third of the taxes there is "something rotten in the state"—and not the state of Denmark, which has been freed from its rottenness by the unconditional surrender of two-thirds of the world gangsters.

the British Empire. Today he said: "We have no need to seek the advice of even our honoured Allis as to how we should conduct ourselves with regard to our own affairs." He described the British Empire in these stirring words: "This astounding union of communities and races spread around the globe, springing, not from legal or physical obligations but from the mysterious, unfathomable upliftings of the soul of man, raised our world-wide association to heights never attained, nor even dreamt of, by any empire of the past." He added: "Without freedom there is no foundation for our Empire. Without empire, there is no safeguard for our freedom."

Private Frank Shedler Fractures Leg Overseas

Word has been received in town that Pte. Frank Shedler, who had been on active service in Holland, is now in military hospital in England convalescing after having sustained a fractured leg. Frank is particularly

popular in Timmins, being well known here for years as the genial and courteous driver for the Timmins New Method Laundry. His hosts of friends here will wish him speedy and complete recovery from his injury. According to a letter received in town he is in the same hospital as Corporal Fred Hill, another gallant Timmins lad, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hill. Pte. Shedler has been serving overseas as a despatch rider and his injured leg was the result of an accident while on duty.

Mother of Five Children Drowned in Abitibi River

Word last week from Cochrane told of the sad death of Mrs. Wilfred Leonard, mother of five children, the oldest youngster being about thirteen. Her husband is serving in the Veterans Guards at Montevith.

According to the account from Cochrane, Mrs. Leonard left with some friends to attend a dance at Carter's Siding. Crossing the Abitibi river by ferry, Mrs. Leonard left the car to go to the end of the scow, and in some way or another she fell into the water. Caught by the current she was swept away swiftly. The provincial police used their own equipment and that of the Ontario Forestry Branch to drag the river for the body but at the time the despatch was sent from Cochrane they had not been successful in their efforts along this line.

FOR THE NAZIS

Once following an Indian mutiny "war criminals" were shot from the mouths of cannon, and someone suggests that the Nazi leaders be treated the same way. They need be inserted only a little way into the mouths before shooting, of course, so that the cannon wouldn't gag.—Sudbury Star.



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