

The Porcupine Advance

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THANK YOU FOR NOTHING

As will be seen elsewhere on this page, we have succeeded in annoying F. J. Prittie, who edits The Property Owner, published by the Property Owner's Association of Toronto.

Mr. Prittie objects to Wartime Housing's privilege of using land, the price of which has in effect been subsidized by the municipalities, to enable houses to be built quickly and rented to veterans at prices they can afford. Private industry, points out Mr. Prittie, could have done a better job with a similar subsidy.

We agree. Private industry could have done all that Mr. Prittie claims for it. The point remains that private industry did not. Instead, private industry has been responsible for an increase in land prices, and an increase in the cost of house building. Further, private industry has shown little inclination to make such housing available for rental purposes.

That is, private enterprise as displayed in the housing industry, has shown a natural desire for a profit. With this there can be little quarrel from any supporter of private enterprise. Unfortunately private enterprise in its search for profit, is more interested in building the larger type of home and selling it to many who are now able to afford this type, than it is in building small units and renting them to the men who have been absent from this country for the past five years on more urgent business in Europe.

Private enterprise has purchased land during the war years and now wishes to sell it, at inflated prices, to those who paid an even higher price for that land, on the field of battle. That may be a little high-sounding, Mr. Prittie, but the phrases are no more high-sounding than those we read on the posters urging men to enlist.

Now, we grant once more that private enterprise is entitled to its profits. We will admit, further, that subsidizing the cost of land on which Wartime Housing will build, gives the government an advantage over private enterprise.

But let's look at it from the point of view of the man who has spent the war years in the armed forces: The most the rank and file will receive as a re-establishment credit is around a thousand dollars. With this and his gratuity he must clothe himself anew, find a home and furnish it. He finds no attempt has been made to control land prices (lucky property owners!) so that his thousand dollars goes down the drain without making up the difference between housing costs at the time he enlisted and the time he was discharged.

The re-establishment credit of the ex-serviceman is therefore paid to the land-owner and builder. And what is that, Mr. Prittie, but a government subsidy to private industry? The government subsidized the readers of your magazine when it left the price of building lots and houses free from price control. We don't see any builders or real estate men going broke these days.

But we do see a horde of ex-service men who can find no house to rent, no house they can afford to buy. That is why, Mr. Prittie, that we are grateful to the government for Wartime Housing Limited — a gratitude we are unable to extend to the housing industry at large.

And incidentally, Mr. Prittie, we've printed your letter in full — how would you feel about reprinting this editorial in The Property Owner?

GUARD OUR FREEDOM

Under the above heading, the Barrie Examiner sticks its editorial ear into the discussions of the recent "spy-ring" disclosures at Ottawa, and drags forth the following pertinent observations:

Igor Gouzenko, the Russian embassy clerk who informed on the spy ring operating in this country, gave a remarkable testimony to the Canadian way of life when he appeared on the witness stand at Montreal. This young man, who so admired our democracy that he risked his life to give warning of danger to its security, has mentally grasped what the majority of Canadians fail to realize — the true value of our freedom.

Gouzenko has observed conditions in Canada and in Russia. In making comparisons he was greatly impressed by what is taken all too lightly. We think his statements should be given wide publicity. Here are some of the things he said:

"In Russia there is only one man mentioned on a ballot, and what remains for the people? There is no right of choice, absolutely none. It is not a democratic way of life in Russia — there is no democratic procedure for elections and, of course, the man who is alone on the ballot will be elected.

"Then there is the question of the right person. Also, here, a man is actually master of his own fate, and he has possibilities; he has the right of a choice where to work and can be distinguished among others. In Russia you are not master of your own life.

"And the important and valuable thing in democratic life is the right of free speech.

"In Canada I was witness to this. During the two years I saw that every person, everybody in Canada could speak what he liked and he can criticize the government. Such a thing in Russia is impossible.

"If you are very noticeable and are critical of Soviet life you would soon be in Si-

beria, and I am sure you would be shot.

"There is no freedom at all of speech in Russia. During the two years I was here I went over the two sides of the story, and I came to the conclusion that I could find real democracy only in Canada."

We hope Canada-loving citizens will take heed of Gouzenko's remarks and be on guard against any threat to our freedom. Take an interest in public affairs, select wisely from those seeking public office, and let no one interfere with our freedom of speech, our freedom of action, our freedom of religion.

Stand on guard for Canada!

INTRODUCING CLUB '46

Following the lead of (or at least proceeding in the same direction) the Canadian Young People's Club in Timmins, is Club '46, of South Porcupine. Its president, Aarne Manner, has dropped into our office several times in the past month to keep us up to date on this energetic group of young people.

The Club has grown rapidly to a membership of fifty young folk — tangible evidence of the need for such an organization. Its membership embraces all races and religions, but refuses to embrace any political party. The Club intends to be self-supporting financially and to this end has held one successful dance, and plans for others.

The young people have been fortunate in finding a meeting place, the currently vacant manse of the United Church in South Porcupine, which is accordingly to be congratulated on its interest in the Club and its members. In addition the Club has the use of the high school gymnasium on certain evenings — a tribute to the wisdom of the school board there.

All in all, things seem to be going along fairly smoothly with the Club, with one exception — the matter of leadership. The group is looking for older folk who can teach them something, make their meetings more interesting, and give the executive the backing it needs to establish its direction and purpose.

The Club has circularized its membership to learn its interests, and were surprised to know that no less than sixteen of the girls were interested in gym classes. Here, then, is an opportunity for someone with an interest in young people. In addition, we believe the Club would welcome speakers, to round out its meetings, which have up until now been much taken up with the business of getting organized.

It is understood, too, that the Club hopes to stage an operetta, sometime following next autumn.

Oldsters are accordingly advised to keep an eye on Club '46. It is obviously going places and, just as obviously, could use a little interest from those with wider experience.

POLICE COURT NEWS

The practice generally followed by those editing police court news is to let the record speak for itself — to include all names and particulars of those whose names appear on the docket, let the chips fall where they may.

It is argued that the editor is in no position to judge the merits of the cases, and has no right to exclude any matter dealt with in a public court. People who appear in court on trivial charges are included with those up for serious crimes, although the same degree of censure may not be directed to them. This, perhaps, the course the wise editor should follow. "That which God has permitted to happen, I should not be ashamed to print" is the wording which we quote (probably inaccurately) from the masthead of The Northern News of Kirkland Lake — and is one with which most editors will agree.

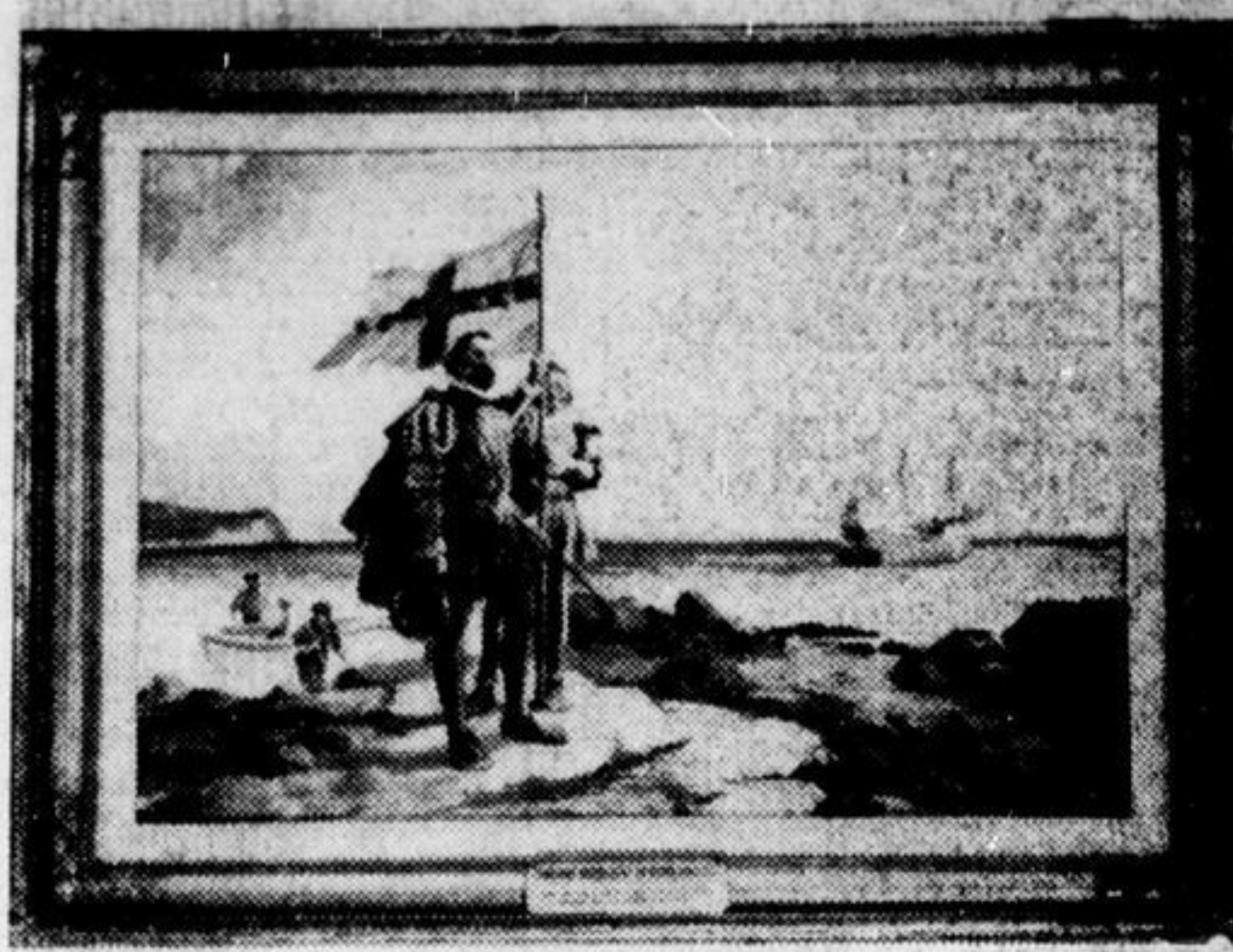
Readers of the police court news in this paper, however, will find that its editor falls far short of the ideal in this, as in other respects. Unwisely, but unashamedly, this editor leaves many names out of the police court news. If you park your car too long, if your rear light isn't showing, you have little hope of getting in our police court news. Other trivial offences which prove nothing except it is human to err, are reported with the names deleted.

We are particularly lax about young people. Unless they have definitely stepped out of line, we find we can maintain our circulation without their names appearing in print. Family squabbles, where no definite injury to person or pride is proven, are also left out, or reported with the names deleted. Many border-line cases which are remanded, are left out until they again come up in court, and even then, if the charge is dismissed, we follow the magistrate's lead, and forget about them.

To generalize, we have better use for our space than to use it up in reporting the trivial frailties to which all flesh is heir.

If, however, you can whip up something a little more interesting, something which will show that you are succeeding in your ambition to become a definite menace to your fellow man, we shall be glad to include your name and initials, as accurately as circumstances permit.

All of which is to explain why it is not necessary to ask us to leave your name out of the paper in some cases, and why, in other cases, it is quite useless for you to keep us from reporting the facts. For we can be as stubborn, on occasion, as we are unwise.



"The first British flag on North America" depicts John Cabot and his son Sebastian landing on Cape Breton Island in June of 1497. It is one of the 18 original calendar paintings by J. D. Kelly from the noted Canadian historical collection of Confederation Life Association. These paintings are being exhibited across Canada as the company celebrates its 75th Anniversary.

Kiwanians Told Of Need For Aid By Ex-Servicemen

J. H. Fee Is "Legion Day" Speaker For Local Club

Monday was "Legion Day" at the Timmins Kiwanis Club luncheon at the Empire hotel. The guest speaker for the day was J. Harry Fee, vice-president of the Ontario Command of the Canadian Legion, who delivered a forceful address, urging the Kiwanis and all other service clubs, and the public in general, to give every possible co-operation to assist in the proper rehabilitation of the ex-servicemen.

The Legion was also specially represented in the other guests for the day, these including: Austin Neame, Zone Commander; A. Wetmore, president, Timmins Legion; P. J. Dunlop, secretary, Timmins Legion; Les. Nicholson, past president, Timmins Legion; Hugh Thompson, secretary, Rehabilitation Committee; M. E. Williams, Housing Committee; E. L. Urquhart, Housing Committee; W. T. Shields, Veterans' Rehabilitation Officer stationed here; Basil Howse, formerly lieutenant; and Robt. G. Fee, of Timmins.

President G. N. Ross was in the chair. The community singing, led by Gordon Campbell, with Secretary W. H. Wilson at the piano, was featured by the special enthusiasm and vigor given to the rendering of the Legion theme song, a group of fifteen veterans from the last war being selected to give the right action to this number.

In introducing the guests for the day Kiwanian G. S. Drew took occasion to refer to the notable work these men had done for the ex-servicemen of the 1914-1918 war, after serving themselves in that conflict, and they were still carrying on, extending their efforts for the rehabilitation of the more recent ex-servicemen.

Kiwanian Drew, in presenting the guest speaker for the day, explained that Kiwanian Harry Fee was a past president of the Sault Ste. Marie Kiwanis, Squadron Leader of the Air Cadets at the Sault, president of the Sault Legion, vice-president of the Ontario Command of the Canadian Legion, and "proprietor of a large firm producing a favourite beverage in the North"—Harrington's Dairy.

In opening his address, the guest speaker conveyed the regrets of W. J. Grummett, M.P.P., Zone Commander, and other invited guests who on account of other duties had found it impossible to be present.

Referring to the great work accomplished by the Kiwanis during the war,

the speaker said it made him proud to be a member of such an organization. But he pointed out that an even greater opportunity and duty for community and patriotic service was now before the Kiwanis and other service clubs.

Rehabilitation of the war veterans was the greatest and most pressing service that could be done to-day, he stated. The Canadian system of rehabilitation was the finest in the world, away ahead in its scope and objects of anything else, but it could not be a success unless it received the co-operation and support of service clubs and the public generally.

Mr. Fee detailed the benefits of the legislation in this respect but made it very clear that government officials alone could not carry the plan through to complete success. They did not know the different local conditions and circumstances and they could not be in touch with the individual ex-servicemen and his particular problems. He made his points very clear by referring to what had been done by local committees of the Kiwanis at the Sault and elsewhere and by branches of the Legion.

Problems of rehabilitation were touched on by the speaker. One difficulty came from the over-optimism of the men released from service. They were so anxious to get settled down to some degree of comfort after the years of discomfort and danger, that there was danger of their enthusiasm being taken advantage of by contractors, merchants or others.

Local committees and service clubs could help with advice and by "putting on a little pressure, if there seemed to be any tendency to take advantage of the ex-serviceman in any way, or if he seemed headed for a costly error."

Reminding the Kiwanis of their motto, "We Build for unity and peace," the speaker concluded with an earnest and eloquent appeal to club members to do everything they could to assist to make the rehabilitation plans a complete success.

In expressing the thanks of the club to the speaker for his stirring address, Kiwanian Frank McDowell noted the fact that he good work of Vice-President McPee was illustrated by the busy time he was having on this visit to this part of the North. "To-day he is going to Iroquois Falls, and the next day he will be at Cochrane where 60 new members will be initiated into the Legion there," Mr. McDowell said.

President Ross added his word of thanks to the speaker for the day. "This inspiring address is a highlight in the addresses at this club, and will remain so for many a day," said President Ross.

Kiwanian W. Rinn called attention of the club members to the big bon-

spiel to be held at the McIntyre on Apr. 22 and 24. This bonspiel is open to all members of service clubs in the Porcupine. It is not necessary to be a curler to take part in the event. Indeed, those who have never curled before will be welcomed. Any who would like to take part in the bonspiel have only to give their names to Mr. Rinn.

Canadian Insurance Firm Does Business In Twenty Countries

Confederation Celebrates 75th Anniversary

The Confederation Life Association, fourth oldest and one of the largest Canadian life insurance institutions, is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this month, having been founded April 14, 1871. In all Canada at that time there was only \$42,000,000 of life insurance in force. By comparison and indicating the growth in public appreciation of the benefits of life insurance, Confederation Life alone will this year write approximately double that amount. For more than 50 years the company has been a consistent user of newspaper advertising and credits a share in its growth to the influence of press publicity. Its anniversary advertising pays tribute to the growth of the nation, its resources, industry and business.

Today Confederation Life does an international business, having 64 branches in 20 countries -- 36 in Canada and 28 abroad. Office staffs number 732 and branch managers and field representatives 1,218. At the end of 1946 assets were \$188,180,567 and business in force \$621,950,297, and every working day the company pays policyowners and beneficiaries an average of \$45,000. When it commenced operations in a two-room office in Toronto, the population of Canada was only 3,669,267, of whom 80.5% lived in rural areas and less than 3% west of the Great Lakes.

Horticultural Group Back Food Gardens

In accordance with a program adopted at the annual convention held in Niagara Falls, recently, the Ontario Horticultural Association is asking all of its societies to back an aggressive program of promoting food gardens for the 1946 season, according to J. A. Carroll, Secretary of the Association.

In view of the grave world food shortage, an appeal has gone out to these societies, as well as to the people of Ontario generally, to take just as great an effort in food production as they did in their Victory Gardens during the war.

This appeal is backed up by the statement that a federal Food Information committee recently appointed by the dominion government is planning an active campaign for the growing of food in home gardens at home to release supplies to feed the hungry and starving people of Europe. During the war the majority of horticultural societies sponsored Victory Gardens, and their production amounted to millions of pounds of vegetables. Guelph had over 400 gardeners on a community garden plot, Ottawa not only had hundreds of Victory Gardens, but also operated a pressure cooker plant for the preservation of vegetables. The little town of Newmarket had 150 entries in its Victory Garden competition.

With the need for food production even greater than it was during the war, said Mr. Carroll, it is felt that the people of Ontario should co-operate as actively as possible in the cultivation of food gardens, while horticultural societies are being encouraged, where conditions make it possible, to sponsor community garden plots for the use of citizens.

Vehicles Collide

Slight damage was done to cars driven by John Relia of Mountjoy Township and Hector Bazinet of 109 Harold Ave., South Porcupine, when the vehicles were in collision at the intersection of Mattagami Blvd. and

Notes To You

Life for us has been a little brighter this week. We have more or less completed the job of moving into our new home in Snob Hollow and a neighbour has voted over (1) a loaf of coffee bread; (2) a generous slip of ivy; and (3) a Fluffy Ruffle Petunia.

The coffee bread didn't last long, but the ivy is doing a first-rate job of clinging and the Fluffy Ruffle Petunia is doing its brave best in the depressing company of the cattail which continue to adorn our window sills, despite everything this column has had to say about it. Our opinions concerning cactus slide off the wife's back like the peas off her knife.

We're a little hazy about the recipe for the coffee bread, but if we once get our hands on it, we shall head south one of these autumns -- a certain winner in the Canadian National Exhibition.

We hope, however, that this will not discourage anyone else from bringing along similar delicacies to 164 Toke St. Just make a note of the address, and let us know what's cooking.

jfw

People in Snob Hollow seem to be going short of some of the necessities of life. What's more, they're not above saying so. In the window of one house, for example, we noted a sign: "No Ice." At another house, one sees a placard complaining "No Bread."

Pondering over the fact that these people were so hard up for bread and ice that they have sunk to putting up signs proclaiming their needy condition, we came to the conclusion that we, who know someone who bakes the loveliest bread; and who have loads of ice on our sidewalks, were not so badly off, after all.

However, just to show that there are some things we lack, too, we've tacked up a sign of our own: "No Orchids."

jfw

Old fuddy-duddy across the page is splitting his infinitives at some Toronto joker named Mr. Prittie. The things he won't do to fill up that double-column set-up of his. Not content with sneaking in an editorial from someone else's paper, he collapses into one of the weirdest explanations of how not to write police court news yet to appear in print. It's a good thing no one around here takes him seriously.

jfw

We pause here to lament the passing of Paul Morton. While we could not claim to know him well, we enjoyed enough of his company to forgive him his association with those who daily enter the doors of the pink building.

A careful reporter, Paul had a quality of mind, and a joy of heart, that made the reading of his work a pleasurable and profitable experience. He still has -- for Paul is not dead. He has merely decided to go somewhere else.

We wish him good luck.

jfw

Drilling To Begin In Vimy Gold Mines

The first machine is scheduled to go into the Vimy Gold Mines this week and diamond drilling is slated to begin soon. The mine is in the Ramore area adjoining the Golden Arrow Gold Mine on the north east.

Following geophysical survey, diamond drilling will commence on the Caramora Porcupine adjoining the Golden Arrow Gold Mine on the south west.

Diamond drilling has also started on the Lansdowne Porcupine situated near Porquus Junction, it was learned this week.

Wilson Ave. at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday. No charges were laid by police.

Having been taken to church for the first time, the little boy said: "The music was good, but I didn't like the news."

TO THE EDITOR

The Editor, The Porcupine Advance.

In a recent issue you carried an editorial dealing with the facts which we have made public, and which simply amounted to showing that private enterprise was building better and permanent brick cottages at a lower price than is being charged for the semi-permanent frame houses, without basements, built by Wartime Housing Limited.

You then went on to point out that the houses built by private enterprise are on land, the price of which is so high that it is impossible for service men to buy these houses, without using up their entire gratuities. You argue that this shows that any attempt of private enterprise to provide housing will only amount to an exploitation of the service men by the property owners.

We are very glad that you have raised this point, for we had not dealt with it in our publicity. As you know, what happens is that municipalities provide lots for the building of Wartime Housing Limited cottages, at a nominal price, usually \$1.00 per lot, and on a special cost of the semi-permanent frame cottages, there is the hidden cost of a subsidy given by the municipality in the form of a cheap lot.

All that we have to suggest is that the municipality deal equally with private enterprise, and that builders of houses, whether for sale or for rent, be told by municipalities that they can obtain lots from the municipalities at the same price, and on the same conditions as those lots are turned over to Wartime Housing Limited.

Once this arrangement is made, we shall then be in a position to republish our material, and show that the saving which can be made by permitting private enterprise to operate, in place of allowing the Government to build temporary houses, is a very real one.

The present system simply amounts to a subsidy of municipalities, at the expense of the property owners of those municipalities, to enable a Dominion Government agency to obtain a special advantage in building houses. All that we ask is that this fact be made plain to your readers, and we are obliged to you for stressing it, although this was not apparently your intention.

Yours truly,
E. J. Prittie
Editor.

"The Property Owner"
(Published by Property Owners' Ass'n of Toronto.)

To-day's GARDEN-GRAPH

By DEAN HALLIDAY
Released by Central Press Canadian

Hedges of delicious shrubs need particular attention in the early spring. It is generally a good plan before growth starts to cut the hedge back to a little less than the height desired. Then, after the new growth is well started, trim it back again to encourage it to fill out at the sides and to control growth that is too rank.

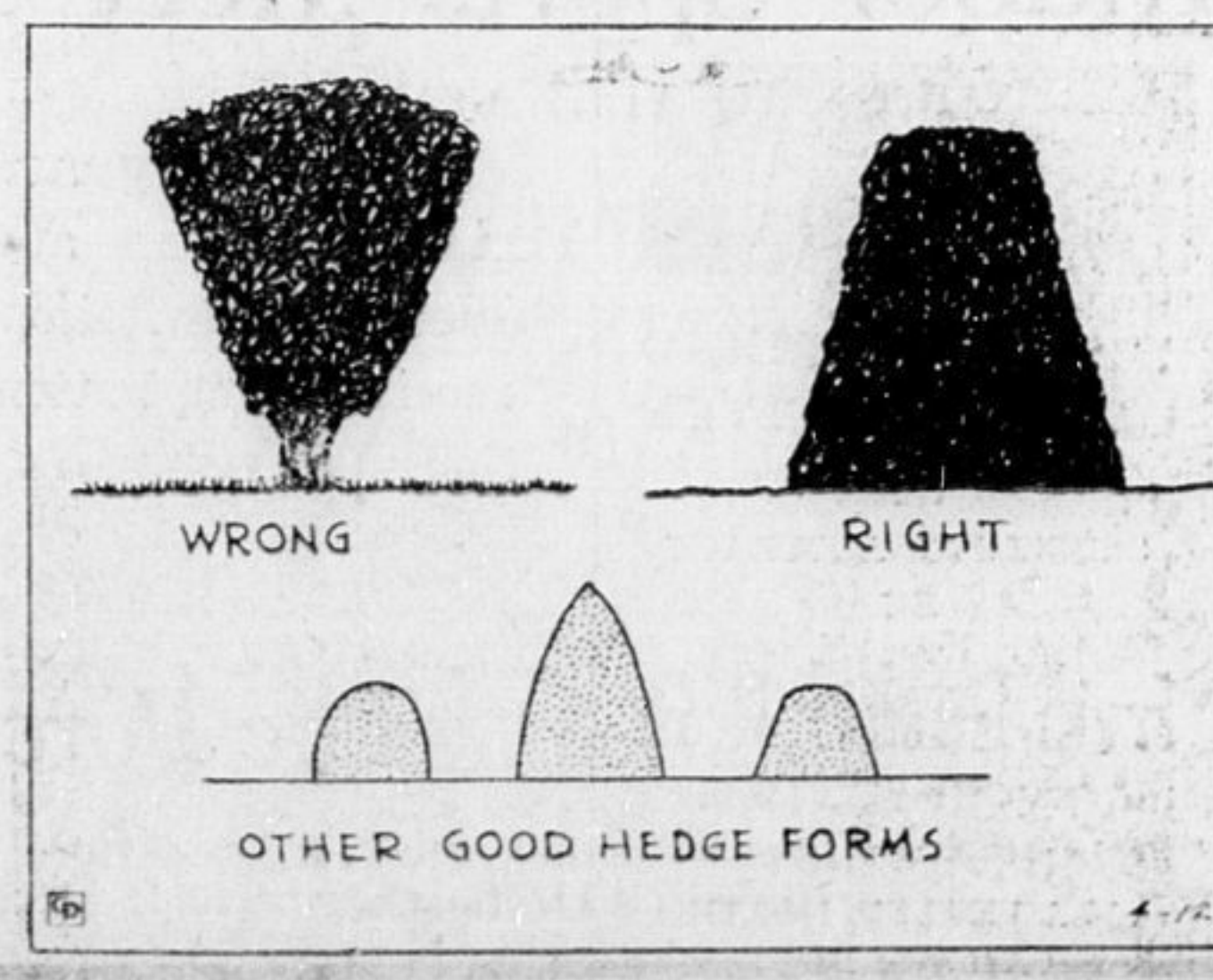
The frequency with which a hedge should be pruned during the growing season depends upon the type of hedge and weather conditions. Privet hedges need to be trimmed several times each season. Japanese barberry, on the other hand, needs very little cutting.

The right and the wrong way to trim a hedge is shown in the accompanying Garden-Graph.

When the top of the hedge is left wider than the bottom, the sunlight

does not reach the lower part of it, and consequently it is usually bare of foliage and gawky looking. A hedge should be trimmed so that all parts of it flourish. When trimmed in the cone-shape, illustrated, the sloping sides permit sunlight to reach the lowest branches and causes them to put forth healthy foliage. A hedge that is cone-shaped also sheds snow more easily.

If a hedge has been severely winter-killed, or is weak and straggly for any reason, it must be pruned severely. It should, at least, be cut back to the live wood, and it will probably be a better hedge if it is cut back to within a few inches of the ground. Next spring hedges will respond quickly to this treatment, if they are given an abundance of water and a little fertilizer.



MINING NOTES

Jasper Porcupine Mines Limited By Agreement, dated March 26th, 1946, E. L. Mahon received an option on 500,000 shares, being 100,000 each at \$2.00, 13% and 18% payable

\$5,000.00 within 30 days after acceptance of Agreement for filing by the Commission and the balance at the rate of \$5,000 per month until fully paid. Company incorporated, November, 1940, (Ont.) Authorized capital, 3,000,000 at \$1.00 par. Issued, 2,275,005. Escrowed, 1,915,000. Accepted for fil-

ing, March 29th, 1946. Black Hawk Porcupine Mines Limited Advised March 25th, 1946, that option granted to Royal Porcupine Mines Limited on 200,000 shares at 10c due March 25th, 1946, will not be exercised.