The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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The \$7. Bonus

None too optomistic a view appears to be taken by local mine officials of the benefits to be gained from the subsidy of gold announced this week by Minister of Finance Douglas C. Abbott. Mr. Abbott announced, together with multifarious Other things which have not the direct bearing on the economy of the Porcupine as has the problem of gold, that for the coming three years a susidy of \$7 per ton would be paid on every fine ounce of gold produced per year in excess of the quantity produced during the year ending June 30 last.

The Advance is of the opinion that this move of Mr. Abbott's to alleviate the mining industry is a final one and that it is all that he intends todo. This is it, as far as the industry is concerned. And no matter what remonstrations may be made by either mining men or unionists, who have lately surveyed the gold problem in a dfferent light, no governmental handout is going to be made which will solve overnight the problems of healthier dividends, providing more labor or pacifying labor's demands for higher pay

The Advance thinks that, rather than complain of misunderstanding at the best and ill-treatment at the worst, the mining industry would be advised to snatch at this small gain which can be quite an appreciable one if it can be capitalized on---roll up its sleeves and tackle the subsidy in a manner which will make it pay off.

The entire problem is one of increased production and this in turn boils down as to how more, and better, miners can be induced to work underground. The answer here is as plain as the nose on anyone's face. Pay more wages to attract more men to the industry. And for those already at work in it, scale upward the bonus system, to make it worthwhile for the average miner to work harder.

Otherwise in the mines of the Porcupine camp, the \$7 bonus on increased production would appear to be meaningless. More labor does not appear to be had at current rates of pay and, despite widespread efforts to obtain more help in Canada, the mines have had to import labor from Europe.

How much can wages here be increased? When reckoning is made of the effects of the \$7 bonus perhaps it wil! be shown that they cannot be increased legitimately by more than five cents an hour. Perhaps the raise can be more. Perhaps considerably more. But whatever can be done to raise wages, consistent with sound business practise, should be done.

This new system of bonus is not negligible as has been made out. It has been stated that if one Porcupine mine returned to the production level of its peak year, 1941, an increase over normal revenue for such tonnage would be less than half a million dollars, under the new system.

Yet during the 12 months ending on March 31 this year, this mine showed net earnings of \$2, 199,000, almost half of which \$1.068,000--came from interest on investment. Or, in other words, only \$1,131,000 in profitable dollars was removed from the ground itself

How can additional revenue of almost half a million, if production can be stepped up on an already profitable operation, be construed as negligible, when the total present profit is only slightly more than a million dollars? It doesn't add

The \$7 increase in the price of surplus gold can be utilized to good advantage by the industry and despite the grumbling in some quarters, The Advance believes it will be. Profits to shareholders can be increased and more wages can be paid to labor, which, in the rip-ride of increased living costs, is becoming well_nigh submerged.

Lines

The strikingly abundant power of a picket line is never better illustrated than it is today in the town of Timmins, a working class town and a town of heavy beer-drinkers. Despite the fact that a certain amount of chaos has been created in the district waiters' union now on strike by the secession of part of its membership who have gone back to work, the number of residents entering local hotels today is still negligible. That placard moving back and forth in front of a hotel keeps the public out.

As to whether or not the public should continue to remain out of local hotels, the Advance refuses to editorialize. Through the charges and counter-charges which have been tossed back and forth between waiters and hotelmen, the basic issue of the strike has become confused. Hotelmen claim that the strikers are being supported by local Reds, and apparently they are, a factor which hampers the union's cause and alienates public sympathy. However, hotelmen still insist they won't recognize the union as a bargaining agency, because it is not certified. Yet they have signed, or are prepared to sign, an agreement with the dissenting faction of waiters, who are certainly not certified either, nor numerous enough to be the official bargaining agency even if an application for certification was made.

All in all, it looks like a show-down battle. But what we marvel at is the manner in which a picket line keeps the thirstiest of drinkers out, whatever his particular opinion concerning the dispute. The picket line is a powerful weapon, no matter whether a strike is just or unjust.

TO THE EDITOR

November 18 1947 for facilities to carry out such treat-4 Kent Ave. ment.

The Advance.

Sirs:creasing menace to society of sex- lem so complex as to intrigue the inoffenders. Sporadic efforts of individ- genuity of the most mature and mentual or small groups spasmodically de- ally alert. mand or suggest some measure of reform in our present method of pun-

ishment. However, a strong, aroused public reaction across the country is neces- Mr. Editor sary to fan the tiny flame of reform suggested at such times-a tstrong the Town Council supplying cars to aroused organized public opinion fan- employees for their own private use, ned by clubs of good standing in each purchased and operated at the expense community that will endure till such of the taxpayer. legislation is implemented and car- Take for instance the car secured

ried out effectively. izations. Why can't all clubs - ser- used by him for excursions to distant that Councillor Dalton did not vote. vice, social and cultural - unite in points. a campaign to stamp out this men- Perhaps the councillor who is head there is a paragraph in the minutes harias is turning professional to ap- ably the show is given away one way. ace to our children by well organized of this department, can offer some of the meeting of March 1st, reading pear in a movie. Which probably won't or another and public reaction boomdemands for new legislation govern- explanation. ing the treatments of perverts and

lenge to all healthy, progressive, pub- Henry Peters and Charles Dalton, as cess Elizabeth, from a photograph by Who is backing Hunter? Due to the Everyone is aware of the ever-in- lic-spirited organizations and a prob-

and operated for the exclusive use of Timmins if a town of many organ- one of the department heads, which is

When The Porcupine Was Doung

By G. A. Macdonald

No. 26. 1915 Council Carried On, Pushing Aside Mere Technicalities



Yes, This is Timmins! But not recently

mins town council was held on Janu- meeting on Feb. 15th, the name Moore, Ernest Laflamme and Charles adopted-Carried." Dalton. All were elected by acclama- It is noticed that after H. E. Mont- onymous barrage of criticism against Land, his dog team being famous in considerable improvement in legibility the Cobalt Camp before he came to and in completeness. In addition all

days when transportation was a big very clear and legible hand. bers of the early councils in Timmins writer is still in the town's service. must have been resourceful, reliable Newspapers of today, no doubt, of merit to the early town councils. that every person is entitled to

the new town. The 1914 council went by Councillor Laflamme, that on record as seeking increased hospital clerk be instructed to write Miss Councillor McCoy, seconded by Coun- to, otherwise it will be necessary so, for what number of years, in case to 5 p.m.-Carried." a building is erected in the Town of According to tradition, the plan at his own expense. recorder's office-Carried."

services in 1914. The matter of paying ingly successful way. salaries to the firemen was referred to the Fire and Light Committee.

clerk-treasurer, but his successor was ness for the fire hall. The 1915 council to carry on until his successor was ap- "hanging harness" was not for the pointed and took over.

added: "And Councillor Dalton ar- course, today, a down payment tions, it may be noted here, was to for any man. appoint the new clerk-treasurer, and of such official in the usual way.) After Stamp Will Honour the list of those present, including Wedding of Princess the minutes continue: "W. E. McCoy acted as clerk, in the absence of T. M. Wilson, who was not notified of announced this week that the meeting being held."

W. H. Wilson. It was moved by ten. R.N. This menace should prove a chal- as mayor of the municipality, and of The stamp will bear a portrait of Prin- money's worth. be questioned, and it is desirable to This portrait has been chosen by Her difficult to guess. remove any doubts as to the validity Royal Highness and approved by His We believe there is a definite need 1914, Chapter 192, and any other au- will be issued in sheets of 100.

corporation." cillor Laflamme was not in favour, and ary.

Globe, seconded by Councillor McCoy, in Scotland,

The first meeting of the 1915 Tim- that in the minutes of the regular the program of the socialist party in ary 12th, Mayor W. H. Wilson presided, Councillor Dallton be struck out, havand the councillors elected were A. R. ing been present, but not taking part, Globe, Ed McCoy, H. Peters, Dr. H. H. and that the minutes otherwise be must presume it is fathered by "the

tion. The new member of council was gomery became clerk-treasurer, the the C.C.F. at the time of the last Chas. Dalton, associated with his minutes show each resolution as num- provincial election, when Messrs, Bert father and his brother. John Dalton, bered, something that had not been in the livery and transfer business. In done before. On many occalons this this line, "Charlie" Dalton, as he was proved of value in cases where referaffectionately termed by all who knew ence had to be made to previous mohim, was a real pioneer in the North tions. The minute book also showed by-laws were incorporated in a book, So resourceful, reliable and depend- with a list of contents for easy referable was that dog team service in the ence. The new clerk-treasurer wrote a present day Canada and that its

problem, that the service expanded in Also, shortly after his appointment, sense to conduct the affairs of the notable way on its own merit.. on motion of Councillors Globe and "Charlie" proved equally resourceful, McCoy, a typewriter was ordered for reliable and dependable as a coun- the use of the town office. It is not cillor. As a matter of fact, all mem- likely, however, that this first type-

and dependable to achieve what they would make a banner lines of one redid. From nothing, and with practi- solution passed by council on March cally nothing, they had to build a 1st. 1915. Today, its chief interest lies town, orderly and comfortable. The in the sidelight it throws on the prindegree of success achieved in the first ciple that held so firm a place in the three or four years is its own award minds and hearts of the Old-Timers-Busy as the councils must have been second chance - that fair warning with the direct problems of the muni- should precede more drastic action. In business, the United States, is more cipality, they did not miss any op- the minutes, the item reads: "Proportunity to seek other advantages to posed by Councillor Globe, seconded

accommodation. One of the first re- (a young lady employed in the town solutions passed by the 1915 council office, and named in the motion) that was worded as follows: "Moved by office hours must be strictly adhered cillor Globe, that the clerk ascertain, take steps unpleasant to all parties if possible, whether or not the Govern- concerned. Such office hours to be ment will enter into a lease, and if 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m.

Timmins for the purpose of a mining proved successful-at least for a time -and so the town retained the ser-At the January 18th meeting of the vices of a very efficient and compecouncil of 1915 authority was given for tant employee. As noted before in this the erection of a fire tower for the column, the early councils may have fire bell. At the same time a bonus of used unconventional methods, but the \$100.00 was given the fire chief for plans usually worked out in surpris-

In the Spring of 1915, the council authorized the Board of Works Com-On Feb. 1st, 1915, council accepted mittee to build a stable for the fire the resignation of Thos. M. Wilson as team; also to purchase hanging harnot appointed until a later meeting, would not of dreamed of buying diving Mr. Wilson, of course, being expected equipment for the firemen, and the firemen, but for the fire team.

And thereby hangs a tale. The In April, 1915, the sum of \$300.00 minute book tells the story in an in- was earmarked to be spent for a teresting way. It appears that a spe- house for the fire chief, the balance to cial meeting of council was called on be paid by notes payable April 1st, 1916, Feb. 4th to deal with the matter of the total cost not to exceed \$880.00. appointing a new clerk-treasurer. The So, you can see, the 1915 council was retiring clerk-treasurer wrote the able to overcome the housing shortminutes in the book for this meeting, age, which was as serious then in pro-In listing those present, the clerk portion as it is here today, though, of riving after two resolutions had been \$300.00 would not much more than pay ter is perfectly correct when he says passed." (The first of these resolu- for the agent's commission on a house

Postmaster General Bertrand has special 4-cents postage stamp will be Another interesting story is sug- issued on Thursday, January 15th, gested by the minutes of the meeting 1948, to commemorate the marriage of of February 15th. Councillor Globe was Her Royal Highness the Princess Eliza-

thority in that behalf, we do hereb; Plans are being laid to have the same rabble-rousing methods emelect the said W. H. Wilson for the stamp placed on sale at all the prin- ployed by the Reds themselves should office of Mayor of the municipality of cipal Canadian Post Offices on the be employed in the battle against the corporation of the town of Tim- 15th of January, 1948. First day covers them. Something more astute reamins, and the said Henry Peters and for philatelists will be handled only sonable and reasoning is required. the said Charles Dalton for the office by the Postmaster at Ottawa. The And why bother with anonymity? If of Councillors of the said municipal stamp will also be on sale, by mail a group of business men think it order, through the Philatelic Division worthwhile to toss counter-propoganda The motion was duly passed, but it of the Post Office Department in Ot- against the Reds, who do they not was noted in the minutes that Coun- tawa, on and after the 15th of Janu- come into the onen? It is nothing of

Scott's

By C. C. SCOTT

Local members of the CCF party are likely to see little humour in a book of cartoons concerning the party now being circulated in Ontario. Drawn by Jack Boothe, staff cartoonist of the Globe and Mail, the booklet lampoons most of the planks in the C.C.F. program.

Entitled, "Let's All Join the C.C.F." the cartoons illustrate Socialism in Action in the form of a circus, with Mr. Coldwell playing the role of a barker inviting the public in to see

Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public enter to see the thin man, who barely eats enough to keep alive under British socialism; the bearded lady whose controls and regrow directly the eyes of onlookers; the tatooed man who hasn't clothes, so a suit is tattoed on his body; the two-headed calf of less pay and more work and a number of other circus freaks portraying various aspects of socialism.

The cartoons are clover, but too heavy-handed for genuine humor. Purely a political tract, the booklet sees nothing whatever of benefit in

It is not mentioned who is responsible for circulating the booklet, so we vested interests" who turned an an-Trestrail, Gladstone Murray and other high-powered public relations men were hired to discredit that party. In-

cidentally, at that time they did a

thorough job, except in Northern Ontario, where for some reason or other their publicity failed to "take." We are no devotee of the C.C.F. We believe its schemes are impractical in leaders lack the hard-boiled common country. They are a visionary lot who seem to overlook the fact that Canada is the last great remaining country in

that as long as development continues to take place, our present free economy Socialism, in our opinion, is a remedy applicable when a country's last frontiers have disappeared and the saturation point of development has been reached. Thus, to our way of thinking, that great bastion of big ripe for a form of controlled economy

the Western hemisphere which is still

in the process of development; and

last frontiers have already disappeared. But to get back to the subject, there is something vaguely repulsive about these anonymous attacks against the C.C.F. It is not the violence of the attacks to which we object, but the anonymity. It is obvious that Cartoonist Boothe is not drawing his sketches, having them printed in booklet form and circulating them through the mail

than is this country, for there the

Then who is? Apropos this subject, we have often wondered at the current activities of Jim Hunter, radio news commentator who is heard regularly in transcribed

broadcasts from the local radio station. In addition to his broadcasts. Hunter purveys a news column in some of the weekly newspapers of the province. This column is not paid for by the newspapers which use it, as might be the case with a writer of Hunter's reputations. Nor is it a handout which comes into the office for nothing, in the manner which much second rate material does. The papers which run it are paid standard advertising rates for doing so. It is that most nefarious type of publicity, paid propoganda dis-

guised as news. The recurrent topic in Hunter's broadcasts and news column is Communism in the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union, the affairs of which are directed by Bruce Magnuson, one of the cleverest Reds in Canada and a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada, Hunthat this huge union is exclusively Communist in its executive and that it is being used as a vehicle to spread the gospel of Stalin.

But we don't like the manner in which Hunter goes about his business. All in all, he is doing an extremely poor job. When he screeches over the air in well-paid frenzy on the subject, so stagey and over-played in his presentation that it is difficult for anyone other than an imbecile not to detect a note of phoniness. And so acidulous and abusive is his attack, in the chair, in the absence of Mayor beth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbat- that it seems he is going all out to prove to his sponsors, who cannot be Councillor McCoy, seconded by Coun- The over-all dimensions of the stamp much more intelligent than he in cillor Moore, that, "Whereas the vali- will be aproximately 22mm. x 26mm., their approach to a very serious probdity of the election of W. H. Wilson, and it will be vertical in arrangement. lem, that they are getting their

Councillors of this municipality, may Dorothy Wilding of London, England, narrow subject he deals with, it is not

thereof, Resolved that in pursuance of Majesty the King. The colour has not for the Red menace in this country to the powers conferred upon us by Sec- yet been decided upon but will prob- be exposed, but not in the manner in tion 159 of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. ably be reddish-brown. The stamps which the raucous voice of Hunter is speaking. We don't think that the

which to be ashamed. This business of hiding behind a paid mouthpiece As a sort of sequel to this story, Golf champion Babe Didrikson Za- should be dispensed with, for inevitas follows: "Proposed by Councillor include that Highland Fling she did erangs. If business has an honest story to tell let it be done openly.

Wilbur and Friend Column Evade Law's Toils

INSTALLMENT THREE OF WIEBUR'S ASTOUNDING SUCCESS STORY

(We left Wilbur and the Phantom Prospector in the arms of the law after Constable Archie Bean of the OPP hustled them into his car as an aftermath to a scuffle on the road to Ansonville between the Phantom and the constable. The old prospector had striven to defend Wilbur, whom he thought was about to be arrested for abscneding from Timmins wearing a suit of clothes obtained on credit from X, well-known merchant. However, as the OPP are not yet running a collection agency, constable Bean had had no intention of arresting the little exscribe. Nevertheless the prospector's action in attacking the constable plunged the two itinerants into a fresh kettie of (Continue from here)

Constables as a group are not the scoundrels and rogues they are thought to be by some sections of the public. In fact, some of them are gentlemen of high order, who neither smoke, drink or go with the girls who do. They are honest guys trying to get a living along the lines which I personally am content to let them pursue. They earn their cashein a fashion which fails to arouse envy in my soul-

However, constables are constitutionally averse to having people attack them n the middle of the road or anywhere else, without provocation. It makes them very mad. Perhaps this is due to the fact that they are constantly on the alert for someone to attack them, for dealing with violence is part of their business. Hence, they see little humor when someone hauls off and lets them have it, even if the attacker is a crackout like syrup out of a pitcher."

"Listen, Archie," said I as we zoomed along the excellent pawed highway which leads into Ansonville, "the old boy here is harmless. He's a little bit teched, that's all. Thinks he has a gold mine where you just turn on a spigot and the gold runs out like syrup out of apitcher."

"He swung at me didn't he?" replied Archie, "For all I know, if he had a Roscoe he would have blasted me on the spot."

(Archie is a reader of Damon Runyan).

"Consider his motives," said I, "He was attempting to defend a friend. He was willing to jump between me and a session in durance vile. What motives could be nobler?"

"All I can say is that if it was you he was trying to defend, he must be nuts," replied Archie.

"Well, you won the fight, didn't you. It was just a little workout to keep you in trim for bigger things," said I

This pleased Archie. His chest puffed out a little. He is a physical culture Joe who tosses weights around no end and he is strong as eight horses.

"You can't get around me with flattery," he declared. "It's into the lock-up with the two of you--the old boy for assaulting an officer and you, Wilbur. I will charge with accessory after the fact."

"You'd arrest your own Grandmother," muttered the Phantom.

"Eh?" enquired Archie with a start-"He said he was thinking of his poor old mother and how it would break her heart if she knew he was in jail," I said.

The car pulled nto Ansonville, came to a halt in front of the town hall. Archie got out and opened the door for us. "Get out of there and get going!" he ordered, "If either of

you cross my path again, I won't be so chicken-hearted....And as for you, you old goat, (addressing the Phantom) I heard what you said back there. I couldn't arrest my own grand_ mother even if I wanted to, for she's dead, bless her soul. But I can and will arrest you if you look sideways the next time I see you. Now scram!"

The oldtimer opened his mouth to say something but I grabbed his arm and hustled him up the street before he had a chance to get us into the toils of the law again. He wasgo-

ing to be a bit of a problem, I saw.

We tramped off down the street looking for a place to eat, for although our joint wealth amounted to but 92 cents, the rumblings of hunger in my empty stomach could be no longer disregarded. I hadn't tasted a morsel of food since the previous noon and if there is anything which is prone to give a man a gloomy aspect on life it is not enough to eat. Eating is a habit very difficult to break, I have found on several oc-

Once I survived an entire week as a newspaper reporter only through attending banquets and dinners of various clubs and organizations. I got a list of every club in town and turned up at their meetings as scribe to chronicle their doings. And as most clubs eat when they meet. I managed to survive. Incidently I graded these organizatinos according to the kind of meal they served and "cut" or "padded" my stories according to the quantity and quality of their meals. Any club which serves a first class meal is worth a first class news report , I always say.

We opened the door and walked into the restaurant. A little skinny guy no larger than myself suddenly dashed through the door from the kitchen, pursued by a waddling figure brandishing a cleaver. It's a hold-up, I thought, casting an eye about for a table under which to dive. The Phantom was already on the floor.

But it wasn't a hold-up. The little man ran out the front door and dashed nimbly down the street. The huge, aproned figure of the restaurant proprietor halted in the doorway, to hurl a torrent of imprecations after the fugitive.

"Hey, what goes on here?" I enquired, disentangling my_ self from the legs of a chair and standing erect.

The restauranteur faced me, moustaches bristling. An almost incomprehensible barrage of abuse issued from his lips directed not at me but at the gent who had just fled from the premises I caught the words "dishwasher", "daughter", "maka date" and finally the story unfolded. The fugitive had been a dishwasher and according to the proprietor, he had been philandering with his (the boss') daughter, something no well-mannered dishwasher would do. Finally the boss had caught him with his arm about Rosa's waist and the foregoing scene had ensued.

"You have two brand new dishwashers," said I, "myself and my friend the Phantom. We will pitch in and help out temporarily. Not being flush with cash, we are content to

work for a meal or two." "Bums, eh?" said the proprietor, whose name turned out to be Pete.

"Not bums," said I, "merely gents without employment. Can any man in the North be called a bum? Our fathers all landed here without two cents to scrape together. Why I remember the story of ----."

I gave him a song and dance about the hardships of the early days in the North and it seemed to please him, for in a moment he was telling me how he got off the boat from Europe without a lira in his pocket, how he had sold vegetables from a cart in the streets of Toronto and how he had pooled his savings with those of his brother to establish this little

restaurant. He was a sincere, hardworking guy. "Okay, I give you meal for work," he said. We ate heartily, about three dollars worth. Then we re-

corner of the kitchen a girl was rolling a pie crust "Whew," I thought to myself, "I can't blame the dishwasher." '- (To Be Continued

tired to the kitchen to fulfill out part of the bargain. In the