

# The Porcupine Advance

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## Divorce Made Easy --- By Post Card

"We will open the meeting by singing 'O, Canada.' And when I say 'sing it' — I mean let's really sing it."

Thus Ray Stevenson, Timmins LPP organizer, opened a red meeting on Sunday afternoon in the Ukrainian hall. Everyone in the well-filled hall stood up and sang. "we stand on guard for thee. . ."

The irony of it, Right there under photographs of King George and Queen Elizabeth, audience and speakers singing that they are "on guard", they who plan to usurp the very system which allows to hire a hall and speak. The irony of it.

And do you know what he said, this Stewart Smith, the chief scribe-schwinger from Toronto, at this meeting of red rats — do you know what he said? He spoke of "the ideal of human love." He repeated that statement, emphasizing with the forefinger of his left hand. The gall of it. Imagine.

Human love! Huh. Deserters and illegitimate children in Timmins? Huh. The matrimonial code in Russia declared that all church marriages were invalid and could be dissolved at the will of either party, simply by sending a postcard dissolving the union. They passed a decree declaring that all women between the ages of 17 and 32 became the property of the state, and the rights of husbands were abolished. No reason was required for the separation of husband and wife, not even the permission of the other party. All distinction broke down between legitimate and illegitimate children. Abortion clinics were set up throughout the country.

And what happened? One day the rulers started counting heads and they found that in Moscow alone 57,000 children were born in one year, while there had been 164,000 abortions. In the villages, 242,000 births against 324,000 abortions. (Investia, 12.7.36) In Moscow, in the first five months there were 38 percent more divorces than registered marriages. In May, it jumped to 43 percent. (See Hansard, 5.4.50 p. 1582, go on, Ray, look it up, the facts are in every law office in Timmins, and in the town hall). The communists all but obliterated human love, and yet this Mr. Smith had the gall to talk about it here in Timmins. Ugh. He is lucky to be allowed to talk at all.

Crime and juvenile delinquency in the Porcupine! Huh. Piffle. The wife of Lenin estimated the number of Russian children roaming the streets, stealing, assaulting and killing, at seven million. Only seven million. O, baby, naughty, naughty — what would mamma say? Helen Iswolsky wrote that so great was crime and juvenile delinquency that a joint resolution of the central executive committee and the people's commissars — one of them was Molotov — decreed full measure of punishment for children over 12, while death in other cases was mandatory (Les Femmes Sovietiques, 1937).

Mr. Smith also mentioned something about "Roman Catholic and Protestant, and others," all "being welcome." Indeed! The communist founder, Marx, said, after having met Feuerbach and Proudhon, from whom he got his theories, "I hate all the gods." They do not consider the sanctity of marriage, or of the individual. Their philosophy derives from a mixture of materialism and class struggle, which embodies a negation of God.

At the Timmins Sunday meeting, there were several red speakers, one of them a fat, pasty-faced Frenchman, who garbled about the "downtrodden," as did others. A sickening affair. Thoroughly sickening. If this writer had had a bat handy, he would have been hard put to refrain from hitting someone — and hard. It is no wonder there broke out a riot at one of these meetings. On Sunday there was a police car close at hand outside, as Chief Lepic avers vigilance, which is indeed a good precaution.

## 131 Women

Speaking on "Women, a Force in Canada," Miss Nazla Dane delivered a remarkable speech — no men allowed — in Goldfields hotel on Tuesday evening. And since she is reiterating this speech throughout the Dominion, perhaps a few comments would be in order.

"Women," she said, "can do anything they put their minds and hearts into, don't realize their possibilities, need more self-confidence, should grow up, boost each other, could throw a government right out of office," and should number 131 members in the House of Commons.

Now if Miss Dane would have a cigarette and relax for a moment, there are one or two things which might be mentioned — if we may be allowed.

There are women right here in Timmins who do better jobs than men do. Many of them. There was a CCF member of the House of Commons last year. A good one, too. There is now in the Ontario legislature a Miss Agnes McPhail who often speaks more solid sense in less time than many of the men, who is indeed outstanding, and alone, among men. There are many who need self-confidence, as Miss Dane says, who can do anything. True. They have a tough time, some of them cleverer than men, held back simply because they don't wear pants. Men are sometimes given preference just on that account. It is not fair. It is not right. A professional woman requires the heart of a lion and the courage of a Joan of Arc. She wants a pretty rugged disposition to stand up in almost any field. She needs boosting from her fellow women. This holds for professional women.

But Miss Dane goes on to say — and she is saying throughout Canada — that women in general should share running the country, 131 MP's in Ottawa! Miss Dane must be told. We blush to tell it. But she must be told a woman is a woman. She wants to be adored. That is her basic craving, whereas that of a man is to be — ahem! — somebody, influential, renowned. Oh, yes, a woman wants that, too; but that is not her basic craving. Why is it that a woman asks a man to marry her? Custom? Habit? Improper? Nothing improper about it. Nothing to stop a woman from asking a man to marry her. Why is it that she never does it? She never does it because she wants him to do it. She wants him to do it because that gratifies her craving to be adored.

"It takes all the fun out of a bracelet," says Peggy Hopkins "if you have to buy it yourself." What she really means is, I want a bracelet because it indicates adoration. Conversely, a cold shoulder is a hard blow to a woman. Indication of adoration is where a woman "lives." If, for instance, a man should send a woman flowers, expressly delivered during a party and in the presence of other women, that would tickle her entire vertebrae. The uplifting thrill of woman is the that of knowing she is possessed of a power to attract, of being wanted, of sitting back and being sought, of running away and being chased. This craving goes every diet, mudpack, diamond; every mirror, high heel, dab of mascara; bangs, bobs, sausage rolls; nylon, scales, every evening dress more gone than gown. A woman is more inclined to be what is known as a social butterfly,

# In The Days When The Porcupine Was Young

By G. A. Macdonald

No. 146 A Booze By Any Other Name

Recently, a certain or uncertain Toronto newspaper seems to have received the old label that the Porcupine Camp in its early days was a rough, wild, lawless and riotous place. Of course, the Porcupine Camp was never like that. As a matter of fact, the Porcupine Camp was as orderly and as respectable as the average Old Ontario town, though not so dull, perhaps. Compared to towns with similar population, such as Cobalt, Sudbury, Welland and Sault Ste. Marie, Timmins would have won first prize in any Sunday School competition for good behaviour.

Certainly, there were evils here, and crime. Even this far North is not near Heaven. The people here were human, very human. That meant that they were not saints. At the same time, it meant also that they were pretty good fellows, men and women, after all.

### One For All and All For One

There were hardships and discomforts enough here in the early days to discourage the selfish and the mean. As in the case of the Yukon, a man or a woman had to have some measure of courage, venture and enterprise to be attracted to this land. The Yukon poet gave the motto of that land as "The Law of the Wild." It does not need poetic license to say that the law of the Porcupine was the Cornish motto: "One For All and All For One." That motto was not formally or consciously announced, though there were Cornish men here from the earliest days. The pioneers here who were the best equipped to look after themselves were the readiest to give a helping hand to others. Soon it was evident that friendliness is the law of common sense, and that when everybody helps everybody else, then assuredly all are benefited. Timmins was always a friendly town, and to say that is to emphasize the fact that this town could not therefore be wild or disorderly. It is only fair to add that the other communities of the early Porcupine were just as friendly, if not more so.

### Old-Time Humor

Despite the facts of the case, however, the outside opinion of Timmins in its early days was not unduly favourable, by any means. For the wrong impressions created, the old-timers themselves were to blame in great measure. Their humorous excuses was that the outside world would only accept certain kinds of information about the North and that it was no more than civility to give them what they desired. Certainly the old-timers had reasonable grounds for their assumption.

More than thirty years ago, when there was no high school in Timmins, the Timmins public school board sponsored evening classes for New Canadians and others here. Surely, here was something worthy of note, something outstanding and unusual, and in advance of the times! Yet the Toronto Globe was the only outside newspaper that could be prevailed upon to comment on this enterprise. A single high-grader caught about

the same time, however, received columns of publicity.

Timmins in comparatively early days was the inspiration for the institution of the Ontario Department of Education correspondence courses for children in sparsely settled areas and for others not able to attend school. Through these courses literally tens of thousands of children have been educated who would otherwise have been deprived of any chance for education. This good work received less outside attention than was given to one case of an illicit still discovered in Deloro township.

### Joking the Jokers

Old-timers used to have a heap of fun telling outsiders what they thought the visitors wished to know. The interview Neh Faulkenham gave a New York reporter over thirty years ago was a classic in its line.

"I have prospected in the Klondyke," Neh said, "and in Arizona, South Africa, Australia and New Jersey."

The little group around the stove in the Ideal Rooming house hall nodded their heads. They knew that Neh had prospected round the globe, though one man's eyebrows went up at the mention of New Jersey.

"And I tell you," Neh continued solemnly and earnestly, "that none of them have half the gold that will be found right here in Porcupine."

The little crowd beamed its approval.

But the reporter was not satisfied until Neh concluded: "And I tell you that the cold and snow in Porcupine are worse than the Klondyke ever knows; the summer heat is worse than South Africa; the sand is more to be dreaded than the Arizona desert; and the Porcupine black flies are bigger and more vicious than New Jersey mosquitoes."

Neh chuckled after the reporter left. "I gave him just what he wanted. He would accept none other," he contended.

### On The Other Hand

Occasionally, some old-timer would make up apt reformation when he was asked for the kind of information he was expected to give. A S. Fuller, a pioneer broker of the Porcupine, had a case of this kind on a visit to Cleveland in 1919. The Plain Dealer reporter was not satisfied when Mr. Fuller pointed out that in an area of some eight miles square there were some nine producing mines, and though six of them had not been able to keep working, owing to war conditions, the other three were producing gold at the rate of a million dollars worth a month.

"I suppose conditions up there are wild and fierce?" the reporter asked, hopefully.

Mr. Fuller had other facts and figures of interest to give, but he knew it was no use.

"Yes!" he sighed. "Frontier life is tough. There are hardships unbelievable. But I'm going back to it. It won't be too bad until I get to Toronto. Then there's nothing for me

a person much concerned with being in the "the movement." For the social butterfly the constituents of the movement are chiefly drips, fops, theatres, dances, noise — and hurry. She spends her days and nights being in public, or in preparing to be in public, or in recovering from the effects of being in public.

A woman abhors mental effort. She is not thrilled by a great play, a noble speech, a sonata — as is a man. Some of them, yes, but not generally. The give and take of fine debate does not excite her, nor does the art of government. And that if we may be allowed — is why Miss Dane's "ambition of seeing 131 women MP's in Ottawa" is both preposterous and absurd. "Woman is the lesser man, and all your passions, matched mine, are as moonlight unto sunlight, and as water unto wine." (V. 83, Locksley Hall, Tennyson).

No doubt there could be more outstanding professional women. But we still suspect that a woman's best bet is a tall mirror in her room and a tiny one in her purse. For she supplies that one element which no man, however brilliant, can supply, the element of femininity, without which the world would be black and intolerable. Women are wonderful and charming and generally, in their natural and proper place, the home — they raise men and give them impetus to live well; they are remembered as mothers and wives, the best friends men ever had, the most delightful of creatures, and a constant comfort throughout the years.

## He Got His Money

The Timmins police often visited a certain house because liquor was sold there. They raided it often. Once they found a young lady suffering from a cut in the head, caused by an axe, and furniture smashed. The police found the man alleged to have wielded the axe. He said: "One night I go to that house for a few drinks, but not \$70 worth. The next day I remember I have seventy dollars more the night before. I go back to get my money. They chase me away. So I go back again and axe them for my money. That's all." (Excerpt from, "In the Days When" No. 145).

## It Might Become A Crime

The number of broken families in the Porcupine is appalling. W. J. Grummett, MPP, plans to present the matter to the Legislature. With regard to it we have but one thing to quote, this:

"Until death do you part does not mean until you feel like changing your partner, until one's temper gets out of gear, until one gets tired of the other because of so-called mental cruelty, because one party starts smoking in bed or snores or likes playing poker too much. It is until death. It is about time we declared that marital infidelity is an offence against the morale of society. It is about time we declared that frivolity of the union is a crime." (Mr. Pierre Gauthier, speaking against enlarging grounds for divorce, House of Commons, 5.4.50).

## Letters to the Editor

To The Advance:

Sir: Your letter received and contents noted. I have requested the Department of National Revenue to let me have the necessary information if possible.

In my opinion, I think you could secure more information from the Provincial Department of Agriculture, Matheson, Ontario, relating to the number of farmers in the Federal Riding of Timmins.

I notice you want the information covering the year 1946. There was no Federal riding of Timmins in 1946.

Most of the interview appeared in due course in the Cleveland Plain Dealer the editor of which checked on the facts and found Mr. Fuller's "hardships" had more solid foundation than some of the stories of blind pigs and high-graders.

House of Commons, Ottawa, 21.4.50.

DOCTORS OVERTAXED

To The Advance:

Sir: St. Mary's patients not treated thoroughly? Maladies linger indefinitely?

A couple of friends have questioned the truth of my contention. May I please refer to Dr. Sam J. Jessel, president of the Porcupine District Medical Society, who in February stated publicly, this:

"Patients are being denied modern facilities. The resource of doctors is overtaxed in treating patients in unfavorable conditions. What is the good of curing a patient if she is to be sent home in a weak condition? All too often the result is a relapse or a chronically ill patient. Unless more beds are made available grave consequences may result."

S. LEONARD,

112 Tuke Street, Timmins.

M.P. Vs. CLAMS

To The Advance,

Sir: The government has no objection to giving particulars regarding the subordinate employees of the C.N.R. but objects giving details regarding retirement allowances granted to the "Brass."

However, I will be back on this question when the opportunity offers. I thank you for having written me and assure you that I shall pursue the question further.

JOHN G. DIFENBAKER, M.P.

House of Commons, Ottawa.

Mr. Diefenbaker:

1. How many Canadian national officials whose salaries were over \$5,000 per year upon retirement, in addition to the customary pension since the first day of January, 1949, receive allowances or a lump sum or sums, or emoluments of any kind?

2. Are such payments submitted to, or approved by, the Minister of Transport?

Mr. Chevrier:

home about. The supply, however would not begin to approach the demand. One pioneer, who had travelled widely and acquired a wide taste in liquors, claimed that the "good old Mountjoy rum was the equal in flavour and fragrance to his choice in Jamaica rum."

The Canadian National Railways advise as follows:

1. It is not the practice for the Canadian National Railways to grant retiring allowances to any officers in addition to pensions as provided under the regulations of the C.N.R. pension fund. The only exceptions have been an allowance, authorized by the board of directors, to the chairman or president upon retirement.

2. See answer to No. 1. Hansard, April 19, 1950.

SSS, 1st; Canada, 2nd; HOWE

To The Advance,

Sir: Why do the Liberals want to have that gas pipe line laid through the U.S.? Mr. Howe is a business man. The main market is in the U.S. Therefore put the line in the most direct route. He can see no sense in a Canada First policy.

It is something the same as when the CPR was built, when business dictated that perhaps we should not build from coast-to-coast in Canada, but should use U.S. railroads for part of their length.

Fortunately, national policy won. And this was the first assurance that we would have an independent nation north of 49th parallel.

To my mind the issue in this gas pipe line is exactly the same — shall we further National Policy and develop Canada first or shall we yield to the dictate of pure business economics and sacrifice Canadian national interests and development to the more immediate profit to be gained by exporting our raw materials immediately to the United States in their unfinished form.

These are my views on the matter — I still hope that those of us who believe in Canada first will succeed in prevailing.

E. D. FULTON,

House of Commons, 24-4-50

## NATURE UNSPOILED

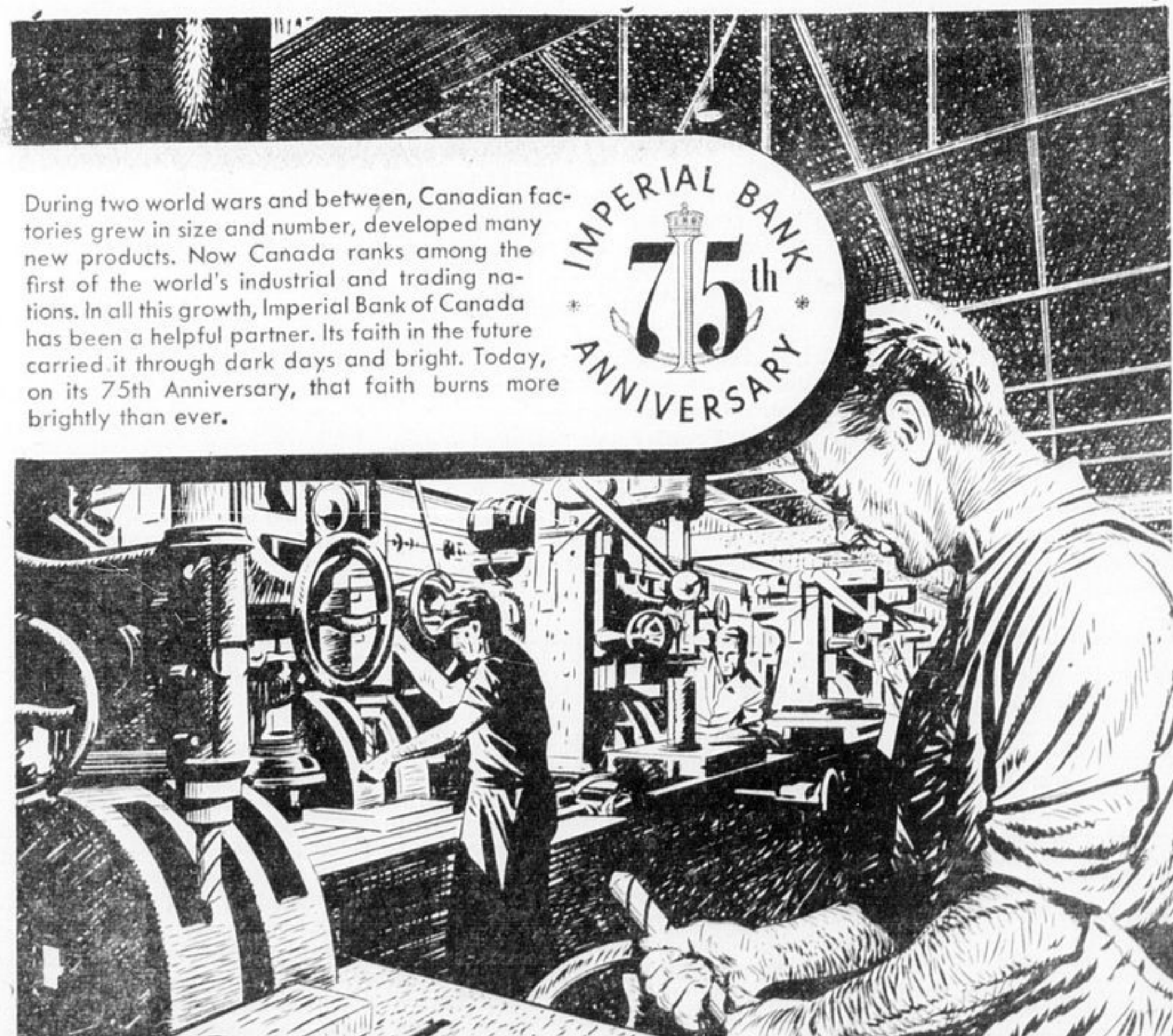


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33-50

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