Canada's Wretched Mess of Her Nickel Monopoly

Australia has set an example to Canada in the way she cut out Germany getting any of her wool. She would only sell to neutrals and neutrals who would guarantee that neither the wool nor the produce thereof go to German mills or German trade. She was enabled to do this because she kept the wool in her own hands—she had not allowed it to be exported by a foreign company and then find herself left to depend on that company for any protection of imperial interests! Australia would not be exploited as Canada was, and is, being exploited. But even in this case it was only wool—not life and death to our soldiers and sailors!

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But Canada is allowing an irresponsible and absolutely profit-seeking foreign company that has by a long series of actions and manipulations created a nickel trust with headquarters in the States to control the destination of Canadian nickel. Germany has heretofore got all the nickel in her armaments and ammunition from this company, and notwithstanding any promised watchfulness on the part of the nickel trust, Germany will continue to get it, and the lives of our men be jeopardized by our own product! The Canadian nickel trust has been organized in the most thoro manner, with a view to profit, to monopoly, to getting the metal out of Canada without any definite knowledge as to amount, or any trace as to destiny, or any knowledge as to the profits of the exploiters. And they are aided in this work by newspapers, by politicians, by eminent legal counsel. Next to the Standard Oil trust is the steel trust, then nickel. A whole raft of rich interests are linked up in a metal trust that has a hand in oil, in steel, in nickel. It is this crowd that dominates largely the banks and business, railways and electricity, in the United States. And not only in the United States. How influential is nickel and petroleum in the governments of Ontario and Canada today—and were they in the governments that preceded them? Half the truth would make the voters of Canada open their eyes as to how elections are and have been won. How cabinets have been made!

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And why all this pervasive silence, so much chloroforming on this nickel issue? Have the two political parties made a deal one with the other? No. But the interests, by means of professional and other experts, get a lot of leading men in both parties to think in the same way that the professional link-up man thinks, and that settles it. There is no agreement or deal between the two parties; just a lot of leaders in each party find themselves thinking as the interest concerned thinks; and then they say as little as possible—they are surprised to see that the government or a department is carrying on the very policy that has come to look to them just about right! That's how it's done. And then, if the link-up man can get opposition newspapers to approve in straight or roundabout fashion what a government or department proposes to do, then it's easy.

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The shame of Canada has been the ease in which she has been fooled, and her guardians chloroformed. And these manipulators who start in to merely help an interest become later on the dictators of the government, and later on play a big hand in the formation of governments. They approve and they blacklist as it suits them. Petroleum and nickel can get its friends in cabinets and head off all dangerous elements.

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Now let us discuss the question in another direction. We propose to throw out a suggestion based on the following, which we believe to be facts:

First—That Canada has the greatest store of nickel in the world, and that the value of the store of nickel at Sudbury alone is not in millions, but in billions of dollars.

Second—That Canada has practically a monopoly in nickel.

Third—That it is admitted all round now that there will be no trouble in refining nickel in Canada and producing the finished article, instead of doing as we now do, sending the nickel matte out of Canada for treatment; and when we say this we mean refining what is sent from here to England, as well as what is sent to the States.

Fourth—That we are only beginning to discover the wide range of finished and valuable products which can be manufactured out of nickel in its pure shape or in an alloy shape, or when rolled into steel for strengthening purposes.

Fifth—National policy of this character would find work for hundreds and hundreds of Canadian workmen, would build great industries now being located outside of Canada, and would let at least a portion of the profits coming out of the nickel remain in our own country.

Sixth—And that if we have this enormous and valuable store of nickel there is no reason why the nation and the people of the province where the nickel is located should not derive a substantial royalty in some shape or form out of this most valuable product, and the monopoly of which rests in Ontario.

Seventh—And finally that the basis of all the foregoing is that we will never be able to know just how much nickel we have or what we can do with it or refine out of it until we have it under our own control and keep it there and finish it for the markets of the world. A monopoly product surely should be monopolized as to its production, finish and manufacture into articles of all kinds.

* * * * * *

What such a policy as this would mean in allowing Canada and the mother country to control the nickel required for the armaments of war ships and the manufacture of ammunition is beyond grasp by any of us at this moment, other than if Canada today had kept control of her nickel there would have been no such conflagration of war as now devastates Europe, brought on by Germany, and demoralizing the whole trade and peace of the world.

* * * * * *

We have ignominiously fallen down by our mistakes up to date, perhaps by the clever work of those who have managed to create the monopoly, with our assistance. But there is no reason why it should continue another day longer!

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We propose therefore, that Canada and Ontario put a prohibition on the export of nickel until we can look into the statements above made and that our people can have a chance to look into the situation and that parliament and the legislature can look into it with independent and unbiased mind. But in the meantime stop the export and let us further resolve that there must be a different way of handling these enormous gifts that Nature and Providence have bestowed upon this country and that they be conserved in the truest sense for the benefit of the empire, for the nation and for the public, and let an end for ever be put to that little system and clique of lawyers, of interests, of politicians who have been so active for so many years now in dealing with Cobalt and the richness of Cobalt, and the alienation of the same from the Crown; and likewise of Sudbury. These men must get out of politics and out of the business of making governments.

* * * * * *

To this end The World suggests that at the earliest possible moment those who are today interested in nickel properties and who have not been able to realize on them, should get together and talk the matter over and see if they can't make some arrangement with the Crown, either in the direction of the Crown taking back the properties and going into the nickel business or going into business in partnership with the owners; and that they may be able to get in touch with men who look at the whole question from a public point of view. The World understands that a little later on the Associated Boards of Trade are to meet and discuss the subject. In the meantime The World will be glad to act as clearing house in getting the names of the people interested in nickel, either from a public point of view or ownership point of view, and for any who care to send their name to The World with some little indication of what their interests are, we will try and act as a clearing house to lick it into some kind of shape for presentation to any organization that may seek to propound a public policy. Any letters or information will be confidential in the meantime.

* * * * * *

Editor World: I think you would work up a telling argument, one that would make Canadians sit up and gasp, if you were to gather a few statistics regarding the thousands of dozens of forks and spoons made by American labor, out of nickel silver exported from Canada, let alone the hollowware made from the same material and used in all the hotels and railroads and thousands of homes.

This industry could be monopolized by Canada and should be giving thousands of citizens work. There is no doubt these American firms would be compelled to come over here and establish their plants at the source of supply.

In the Eastern and Middle States I would be within the mark in saying that there are five hundred firms, big and little, using nickel silver containing from 8 per cent. to 20 per cent. of Canadian nickel. Add to this the rolling mills where the sheet metal is manufactured for the trade, and you have an idea of what Canada is letting slip thru her fingers in allowing the export of nickel matte. This could all be done here without a doubt, giving our citizens steady and profitable employment.

If your statistician were to look up The New York World Almanac he could find the amount of nickel silver used in the arts of the U. S. A. for any stated period. "German silver" is the name often applied by the trade to nickel silver, but it is a misnomer and should be dropped, especially in this country, as there is nothing German about it, either in its origin or make-up.

I think you will be surprised if you go into this matter along this line. In addition to the nickel steel industry, you will be sure to catch the public ear, and do our country a good turn by waking it up to realize what it might be and become with giving proper and necessary attention to her God-given privileges and resources.

Subscriber.

Hamilton, Jan. 27.

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THE EXPORTATION OF NICKEL.

The Contract Record, Toronto, Jan. 27.

The measures taken some time ago by the Canadian Government in regard to the export of nickel were a step in the right direction, but public opinion has not yet been satisfied, neither has the responsibility of the authorities been fully discharged. It yet remains to be emphasized, despite the efforts of special interests to the contrary, that the export of nickel, except in its final and most valuable form, should be made as difficult as possible, and that refining plants should be established either by encouraging private capital to enter the field, or under government management.

There has been much discussion of the question in the papers, and many fiery arguments have been adduced. Possibly in some quarters the case may have been overstated, but there can be no smoke without fire, and, in our opinion, the casus belli is indisputable.

We have refrained from entering the discussion, having felt that the matter was receiving able publicity in other quarters, but we feel called into the fray when we note the stand taken by our contemporary, The Canadian Mining Journal, which remarks in a recent issue that "to place an embargo on nickel matte outside the empire would mean that we should export only enough matte to supply the Mond Company's smelter in Wales, close down large mines and smelters in the Sudbury district, throw many men out of work, and cut off a large source of supply of armament for the Allies and friendly neutrals."

To The Canadian Mining Journal we should look for a satisfactory deliverance on this particular issue, but, unfortunately, The Mining Journal seems to have got hold of the wrong premise, and in various articles has taken the untenable position of placing the responsibility upon the public. No doubt newspapers and patriotic leaders would be willing to accept this responsibility, and could bring public opinion to bear so heavily that there would be no trifling with the matter—had they the facts. But intense secrecy and reserve is exercised by both the government and the International Nickel Company.

The Mining Journal says: "The World asks that, without any evidence that nickel is being shipped to Germany by the United States, we should forbid the export to the United States." Surely one would have thought that the onus of proving that nickel was not reaching Germany lay upon the government, who could stop it, and upon the refiners who are profiting by the policy of non-interference. How can the public or newspapers prove what is going on in an immense plant which is hedged around by locked doors and a perfect system of commercial espionage? No one has said that 60 per cent. of Canada's nickel goes direct to German ports; this would be impossible because of the British fleet; what is said is—that as nickel is necessary to Germany in her present peril, it is more than likely that it is going to her indirectly, just as copper is going to her.

Let us remember that, apart from the immeasurable cost in lives, the expense of the war to Britain is $5,000,000 a day, and to Canada $1,000,000 a week. With the supply of nickel cut off from Germany, the war will stop sooner than otherwise. So that as a simple business proposition it would be much cheaper to pay the nickel company for their loss, and to support the people of Sudbury—about whom our contemporary is so much concerned—by paying their wages, than to let the nickel out of the country, and by so doing prolong the duration of the war. One must bear in mind the fact that a rifled gun is useless after it has been fired from 50 to 100 times; it has to be replaced by a new gun in which nickel is used. If we do our best to deter the enemy from continuing the manufacture of these new guns, so much the better is the prospect of an early termination of the war.

A point in favor of not interfering with the present arrangement is said to be that the nickel company which exports its matte to Wales would get an advantage over the other company which sends its product to New Jersey. But there are many seeming injustices in war time, and the relative advantage to rival operators must not be weighed when considering a war measure in the deadly struggle in which we are engaged.

It appears from the discussion of this nickel question that the commercial spirit is still dominant in Canada and powerful enough to prevail against the belief of the thoughtful persons who are persuaded that there are various ways in which we can assist the empire to bring our great enemy to his knees.

As far as Canada is concerned, we need not be apprehensive: the world must continue to come to this country for nickel.

This question cannot be closed until the government comes forward with an active and immediate policy looking to the establishment of reduction plants in Canada. What steps are being taken?

YORK COUNTY ...AND... SUBURBS

MAY REORGANIZE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Education Committee Will Confer With Department and Inspectors.

PRESENT SYSTEM BAD

Claim That There Are Too Many Poorly Equipped Small Schools.

Educational affairs occupied the attendance of the York County Council yesterday afternoon, particularly the question of consolidating some of the small schools in various sections of the county, with a view towards securing better results in teaching and inspection. In bringing the matter to the attention of the council Reeve Pugsley of Richmond Hill said that it had been referred to at previous sessions, but that there was urgent need for action being taken now. There were many districts with a few small schools that might be consolidated into one big school, making larger classes in various grades and thus simplifying the teachers' work. It might not be necessary then to engage a third inspector as he could deal with the same number of pupils in less time.

System Inefficient.

Deputy Reeve J. S. McNair of Vaughan, said that a third inspector would have to be appointed or the schools consolidated. He did not think that the present system was efficient.

Reeve H. D. Ramsden of East Gwillimbury said that a similar condition had existed in some sections of Indiana and Manitoba and that consolidation of the smaller schools had brought good results.

Reeve Silverthorn of Etobicoke, J. G. Cornell, Scarboro, and W. J. Wells of King, opposed the proposal claiming that the cost of conveying the children to the central school would be too severe a drain on the taxpayers.

The matter was finally referred to the education committee, which will consult the department of education and the inspectors as to the best way in which conditions can be improved.

Trustees Appointed.

Trustees were appointed to represent the county on high school boards as follows: A. S. Golding, Weston; R. A. Mason, Markham; T. Trench, Richmond Hill; B. Ross, Newmarket and C. Webster, Aurora.

W. H. Pugsley was appointed to represent the county on the board of audit for the criminal justice accounts.

DOCTORS DID NOT COME CHILD DIED UNATTENDED

Silverthorn Family Had Trying Experience—Inquest Held Yesterday.

Coroner Dr. R. J. Thompson opened an inquest in Speer's undertaking establishment yesterday morning into the death of Francis Smallwood, a baby boy two years old, son of Joseph Smallwood, 104 Rosethorn avenue, Silverthorn. The father stated that the child became sick on Monday, and several doctors were telephoned for. Altho all promised to come, not one appeared, and the child died on Tuesday. County Constable Brimacombe of Wychwood informed the coroner of the case. The inquest will be reopened on Saturday night.

RECOGNIZE GOOD WORK OF UNION JACK CHAPTER

Mimico Council to Do Relief Work in Conjunction With Local I. O. D. E.

At a meeting of the council of the Village of Mimico Jan. 18, it was moved by Councillor Bryen and seconded by Councillor Finch that the reeve and Councillor Coulton be a committee to work in conjunction with the Daughters of the Empire.

The Union Jack Chapter of the I.O.D.E., since its organization in September, has assisted fifty-one families within a radius of five miles (Mimico, New Toronto and Humber Bay) by supplying coal, groceries and clothes to those in need. This chapter undertook this branch of patriotic work and have carried it out in the right spirit, not allowing the names of recipients to be known, thus making it possible for children to attend school.

The funds to finance this have been raised by contributions and concerts, the citizens nobly responding, feeling that in this way they were doing their share.

OPEN NEW CHURCH AT MOUNT DENNIS

Bishop of Toronto to Conduct Services Next Monday.

MEMORIAL WINDOW

Residents Applying to Railway Board for Sunday Cars.

Impressive services on Sunday and Monday will mark the formal opening and dedication of the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd, corner of Eglinton avenue and Weston road, Mount Dennis.

On Sunday at 8 a.m. holy communion will be celebrated by the Rev. Gore M. Barrow, priest in charge, and a very beautiful east window, representing the Good Shepherd, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Holden, in memory of their little daughter, will be unveiled by William Mackie, a brother of Mrs. Mackie, and a student of Trinity College.

At 11 a.m. on Sunday, the members of the congregation will meet as usual in the basement, and, led by the wardens, sidesmen, the Rev. Gore M. Barrow, and the choir, the congregation will form a procession to the church, and while filing into the seats the choir and clergy will take their places in the chancel for the celebration of the holy communion.

At 3 o'clock a children's service will be held, when an address will be given by William Mackie; and at 7 p.m. evensong will be held as usual.

Dedication Ceremony.

On Monday at 8 p.m. the church will be formally opened and dedicated by the bishop of Toronto, Rev. Canon Plumptre of St. James' Cathedral being the special preacher. The Rev. C. B. Pilcher of St. James' Cathedral will sing the service. Rev. Canon Owen of Christ Church Cathedral, Hamilton; Archdeacon Ingles, Rev. J. Hughes Jones and other clergy will assist. At this service will be dedicated by the bishop the communion rails, given by Dr. Hodgins; altar vases, given by Miss A. M. Hancock, and bookcase, given by A. Taylor.

The church is a very beautiful structure of the Gothic mode, designed by Thomas Livingstone, the architect of Weston, and will accommodate a congregation of 300. The chancel is pleasantly lighted by concealed blocks.

Surprise Party.

Last night the Rev. Gore M. Barrow was surprised by a party from the Young People's Society of the church and a very pleasant time was spent in music and song.

Home Guard Company.

The Mount Dennis Home Guard Company, of which the Rev. Mr. Barrow is captain, will be formally inspected by Col. Stewart on Tuesday next at 8 p.m. in the Bala Avenue School. More than 20 members of the company have enlisted, since its formation, with units of the regular militia. Most have joined the 19th and 36th Regiments, one or two with the machine gun sections.

Tonight a public meeting of the ratepayers of the Mount Dennis School Section, No. 28, York, will be held in the Dennis Avenue School. A new site for the proposed school in the eastern part of the section will be suggested by the trustees, and the ratepayers will be asked to sanction the raising of debentures to the amount of $38,000 to cover the cost of both school and site.

Sunday Cars.

An effort is being made to have the Mount Dennis petitions for a Sunday car service submitted at the time the private bill of the Suburban Railway Company will come up before the provincial legislature. The petitions have been exceptionally well signed. It is said that the Whitney bill, which limits Sunday car service to cities of over 50,000 population, will have to be repealed when legislation is considered, a difficulty which, it is claimed, did not exist as regards the Metropolitan and Lake Shore lines, whose original franchises allowed Sunday service.

Building approaches a more normal condition in Mount Dennis. It is stated that over a dozen new houses are being constructed, and that several men have been looking over the district in search of factory sities during the last two weeks. There is a rumor current that the Shredded Wheat Company proposes to locate in Mount Dennis.

Relief Work.

The recent snow storm greatly relieved the unemployed situation in Mount Dennis, a gang of men having been at work clearing sidewalks and crossings. The men are also being employed two days in turn on the cutting of two large hills on Eglinton avenue.

Considerable unrest exists regarding the water question, and it is proposed to approach the township council to ask that legislation be obtained to compel the city to provide water to contiguous districts.

The Canada Life Assurance Company

enjoyed another prosperous year in 1914.

The policies paid for in cash totalled over $14,000,000., and the business in force now amounts to over $157,400,000.

The increase in assets of $3,942,000. was greater than that of 1913 and brings their total up to $56,103,841.

A most gratifying feature of the year's business is the surplus earnings of over $1,533,000., the year being in this respect one of the very best in the Company's history.

The Canada Life is this year distributing to policyholders

Dividends of over $2,800,000

Not only is the amount now distributed materially greater than that of the last distribution in 1910, but the rate declared on policies has continuously improved since 1900.

HERBERT C. COX,
President and General Manager.

DISTRICT VOTERS ELECT OFFICERS

H. J. Macdonald President—Reply to Letter From Mayor Church.

The annual meeting of the Earlscourt District Voters' Association took place yesterday afternoon in Moon & Jeffrey's office, St. Clair avenue. President Holmes was in the chair. A letter was prepared in answer to one from Mayor Church, asking for relief work suggestions. The association's list includes: A public lavatory, Lansdowne avenue car line, park for Earlscourt, and a number of smaller undertakings. Officers were elected as follows: President, H. J. Macdonald; secretary, John Walshe; assistant secretary, R. B. Jeffrey; treasurer, M. Holmes. The appointment of the executive committee was deferred until the next meeting.

FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL AT DUFFERIN ST. RINK

Weston Residents Enjoyed Evening on the Ice—Hockey Match.

A very successful comic and fancy dress carnival was held last night in the Dufferin street skating rink at Weston, several hundred people attending.

The favorite costumes of the gentlemen were those of negroes and Indians, while the ladies masqueraded as queens in varied costume.

Prizes were awarded as follows: Best lady in costume—1, Miss La Rose, Weston; 2, Miss McLean, Weston. Best gentleman in costume—1, W. Grayden, Mount Dennis; 2, B. Longstaff, Weston. Best girl in costume—1, Miss Tottie, Weston; 2, Miss Shaw, Weston. Best boy in costume—1, James Stuart, Weston; 2, Alex Irwin, Weston.

A. J. Barker, C. C. McIntosh and F. W. Rowntree acted as judges. Music was provided by the Weston town band.

Hockey Match.

On Monday, Feb. 1, a junior hockey match will be played between Eurekas and Weston.

A tournament for all hockey teams not affiliated with the O.H.A. will begin on Feb. 20, and a prize will be given to each one on winning team. Teams wishing to enter the competition must send in their names to J. Chapman, the rink manager, Dufferin street, Weston.

BEACH MINSTREL CLUB SCORE HUGE SUCCESS

Entertainment at Prince Edward Theatre — Death of James Smyth.

The entertainment given by the Balmy Beach Minstrel Club at the Prince Edward Theatre on Wednesday night proved an unqualified success. A feature of the program was the new song, "We're From Canada," which was enthusiastically received. The entertainment was under the direction of T. Harland Fudge.

The death took place yesterday of James Smyth, 151 Logan avenue. Mr. Smyth was an old Indian Mutiny veteran, and a former member of the Royal Artillery, with whom he served for nearly 23 years, eight as a non-commissioned officer. He is survived by a son and two daughters. The funeral will take place on Saturday at 8.30 a.m. to Mount Hope Cemetery.

OAKWOOD

The McNab Chorus will give a concert in Oakwood Collegiate on Saturday evening. Members of the chorus will assemble at 7 and the public is invited at 8.45. Solos will be rendered by members of the adult chorus, and the junior choir will give a recital, conducted by Signor Carboni.

Miss McNab will be pleased to meet anyone wishing to join the organization at Messrs Heintzman's store, 195 Yonge street, on Saturday forenoon between 10 and 12.

MANY SUGGESTIONS FOR MAYOR CHURCH

Earlscourt B. I. A. Replys to Request for List of Relief Work.

GRADING TO BE DONE

Will Ask Board of Education for Big Addition to School.

Earlscourt B. I. A. decided last night at a meeting in the Earlscourt School to write to the board of education enclosing the following resolution:

"That the board of education build a two-roomed portable school at once and add eight rooms to the present building as soon as possible."

It was also decided to write Controller Thompson, asking him to look into the case of Mr. Clark of Innes avenue, who recently applied for a water service. He was informed that before it could be granted he must sign a bond guaranteeing $17.18 per annum for 30 years, altho his front door is just 125 feet from the city limits.

Circulate Petition.

A committee was appointed to circulate a petition urging action towards securing a park for the district.

The following works were proposed in answer to Mayor Church's request for relief work suggestions: Grading Norman avenue; straightening Lansdowne avenue; Innes avenue bridge; cleaning gutters and teaming snow; public lavatory at the corner of Dufferin street and St. Clair avenue; repairing Nairn avenue sidewalk, and grading Elmswood and Ashburnham avenues, and the Lansdowne avenue car line.

Mentioned in Minutes.

Referring to the Lansdowne line, President Parfrey said that as it was mentioned in the minutes of the city council before the bylaw was submitted, that Dufferin street could not be substituted now.

WANT PARALLEL ROAD OPEN TO BEDFORD PARK

The executive committee of the North Toronto Ratepayers' Association will wait on the board of works this afternoon to urge the opening up of the Mount Pleasant road north from Blythwood avenue to Bedford Park.

The application of the Metropolitan Railway to the legislature for the right to double track Yonge street will be the important topic of discussion at a meeting of the ratepayers' association, to be held in the town hall on Saturday night.

Hamilton Hotels

HOTEL ROYAL

Every room furnished with new beds, new carpets and thoroughly redecorated during 1914.
BEST SAMPLE ROOMS IN CANADA.
$3.00 and up—American Plan. edf

WAR ARGUMENT ENDED IN FIGHT

Two Austrians Arrested for Aggravated Assault on Russian.

Michael Syarmita of 526 Perth avenue, and Sanko Sokol of 121 Edwin avenue, two Austrians, were arrested on a warrant yesterday afternoon by Acting Detective Parks on the charge of aggravated assault on Marsa Halajec, a Russian, in a row in the latter's house some time ago. The Russian claims the two men jumped on him after an argument about the war and beat him up so badly that he has since been incapacitated for work.

Rev. R. J. Treleaven, pastor of the High Park Avenue Methodist Church, gave a lecture last night in the church on "Big Blunders." The Humberside Glee Club rendered several selections and a good program was provided.

Burns' Night.

Camp Aberdeen Sons of Scotland celebrated the anniversary of their poet, Burns, last night in St. James' Hall in true Scottish style. Following the old-time "haggis" supper, a program of Scotch selections was rendered, and a very enjoyable evening resulted.

The congregation of the Baby Point Methodist Church held a "Shredded Wheat" supper in the basement of the church last night. Several well-known local artists contributed selections to the program during the entertainment which followed.

KING'S CAFE, 14 KING ST. EAST.

The high-class place for ladies and gentlemen to dine at a reasonable price. Our popular midday lunch at 35c has not an equal in Toronto. Open till 12 p.m. Famous Italian Orchestra will play daily. edtf

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