

# Break Ground for Hospital Near Quintuplets' Home

## Unique Dafoe Institution, to Cost \$5,000, Will Be Equipped Perfectly for Children

BY FORREST DAVIS  
Times Special Writer

**C**ALLANDER, Ont., Aug. 10.—A lean French-Canadian in a red flannel shirt swung a sledge on a chunk of granite a yard square. He was breaking ground for the Dafoe hospital for the Dionne quintuplets—without doubt a unique institution.

Never before has a public hospital been built, equipped and furnished with lines of communication for the children of one family, to say nothing of the five children of one family at a single birth.

Work on the Dafoe hospital was well away today. The hospital, a hundred yards from the Dionne home-stand, will cost \$5,000. It will be complete, as baby hospitals go, in miniature. Furnace, electric light and power, plumbing, every device known to hospital technique, will be installed.

For the Dionne infants—Yvonne, Annette, Cecile, Emilie and Marie—are, in effect, wards of his majesty,

King George V. They have been since M. and Mme. Ovila Dionne agreed to surrender for two years or more the oversight and care of their famous quintuplets to the crown authorities.

Therefore, a building is going up in a sparsely-sodded glen near the Dionne farmhouse. A log cabin with three bedrooms, a nursery, an office, a veranda and the usual inclosures for storage and work.

**P**INE trees and silver spruce surround the site. Outcroppings of rock will be blasted away for the wide driveway. The pines will shut off northern winds in the winter. Last winter the temperature got down to 50 below and 30 below was common. The pines, insulated walls, stout pine logs, and a hot water furnace will temper the wind off Hudson's Bay for the Dionne infants.

To one side of the spot lies the faded, yellow Dionne house, with its unpainted outbuildings. On the other, a gaunt, weathered house belonging to Mme. Dionne's uncle,

M. Legros, rises on a ridge. Mme. Legros, a delicate good-wife with lace cap and a mighty skillful hand at a berry pie, helped the heartier Mme. Lebell, another neighbor, deliver the first three of the quintuplets on the dawn of May 28.

Dr. Allan Roy Dafoe, country doctor who has preserved the babies thus far, did not arrive until the first three had been ushered into this northern world.

Black flies and mosquitoes were biting at the little embryos. Two kerosene lamps smoked on the dresser in Mme. Dionne's bedroom, and Mme. Legros, sustained by a power she didn't identify, performed her part in a historic event.

**T**HE Dafoe hospital is a tribute to the unselfishness of Dr. Dafoe, a round, temperate, sensible little physician who has kept his head amidst the flurry of praise visited upon his village office from all parts of this continent.

The hospital will be finished within three weeks. A

hard road is to be pushed through between village and hospital, a road easy to plow in a blizzard.

**T**HE quintuplets, in these parts, are a civic institution. The provincial government and the Red Cross have shouldered the burden of maintaining the elaborate nursery in the Dionne house.

Four guardians stepped in to checkmate early attempts by promoters for Chicago to haul the Dionnes off to the Century of Progress, a course regarded by Dr. Dafoe as probably fatal to the infants.

The guardians have provided funds for the expensive nursery; they have obtained the funds for the hospital. They stand ready to accept all gifts for equipping the hospital and paying the running expenses.

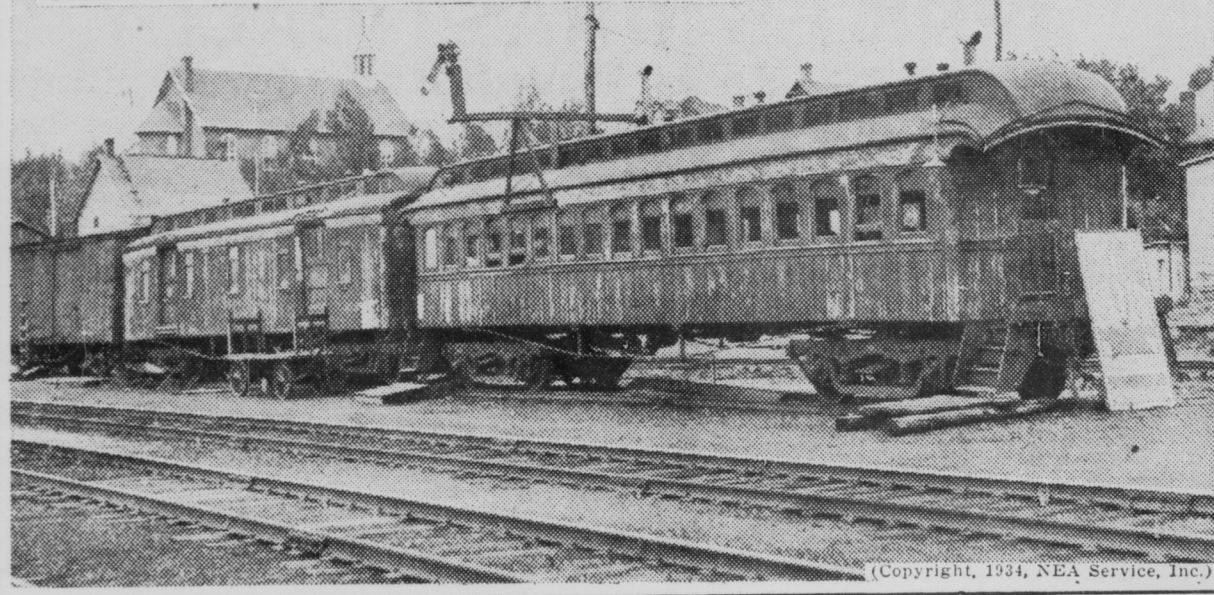
It costs something more than \$150 a week to maintain the infants now—and that is exclusive of the goods and services already sent in. A basket of five dolls arrived today from a New York City toy house. The doll's faces were made up to resemble the French-Canadian infants.



THEY HAVE THE NO. 1 NURSING JOB

These nurses, Louise De Kiriline, left, and Yvonne Leroux, are both on duty constantly during the daytime at the Dionne house. A third nurse takes the "night shift." Madame De Kiriline is of Swedish birth, with long experience in nursing; Miss Leroux is a recent graduate.

THE MILK-TRAINS STOP AT CALLANDER



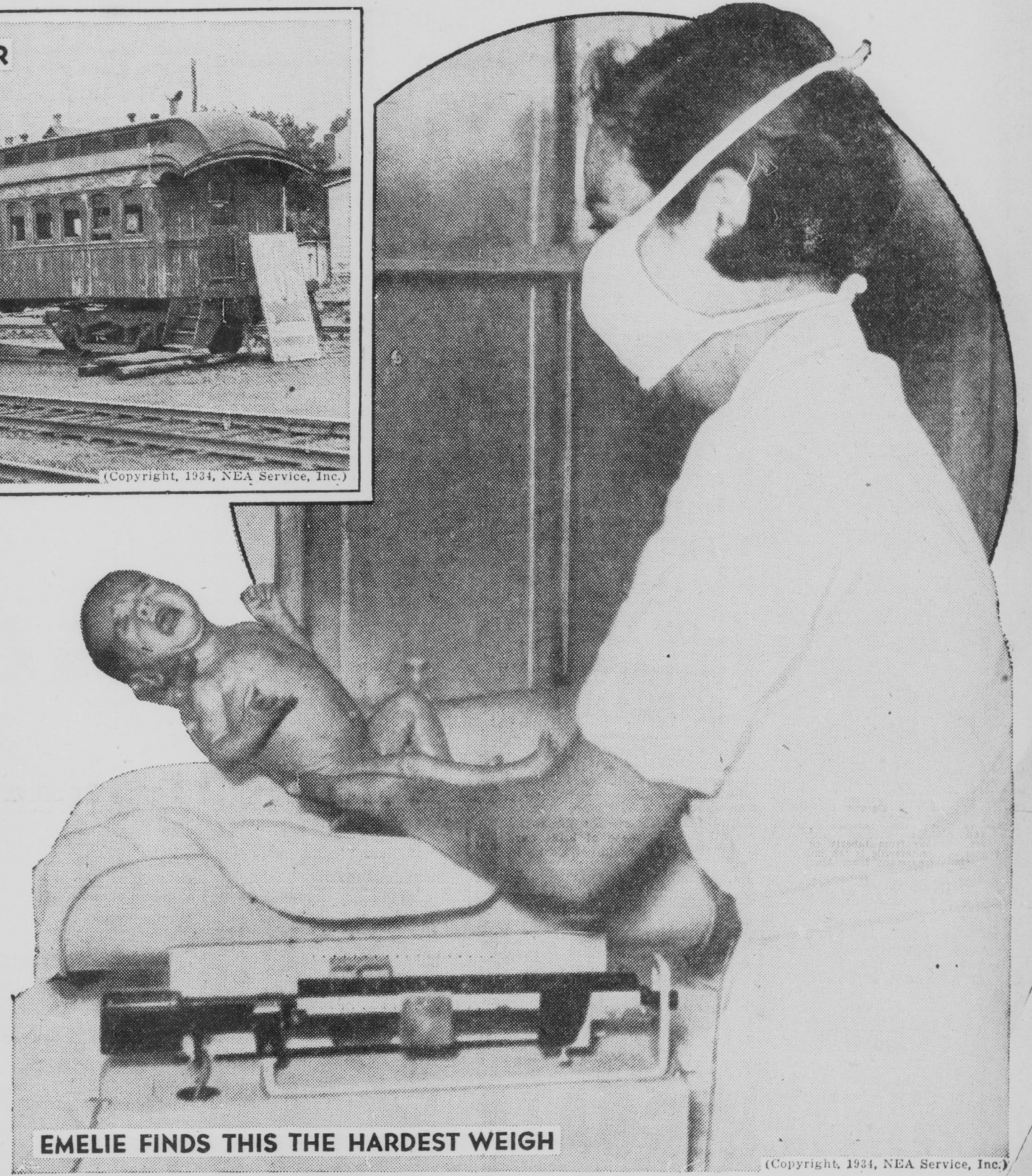
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Here's where the mothers' milk shipped in for the Dionne babies arrives at Callander; the station is an old railway coach equipped with a semaphore and telegraph office. It is two and one-half miles from here along the road to Corbeil to the Dionne farm.



STORK'S-EYE VIEW OF THE DIONNES' NEIGHBORHOOD

Here's a storkseye view of the "bush" district on the edge of Lake Nipissing in northern Ontario. The town at the center is Callander, where the railroad brings milk to the Dionne babies. Dr. Dafoe lives here. When he drives out to the Dionne farm he takes the road leading diagonally off to the right, turning left into the woods at the end of the cleared space. The road winds off into the scrubby pine timber to the Dionne farm, location of which is indicated by the circle.



EMELIE FINDS THIS THE HARDEST WEIGH

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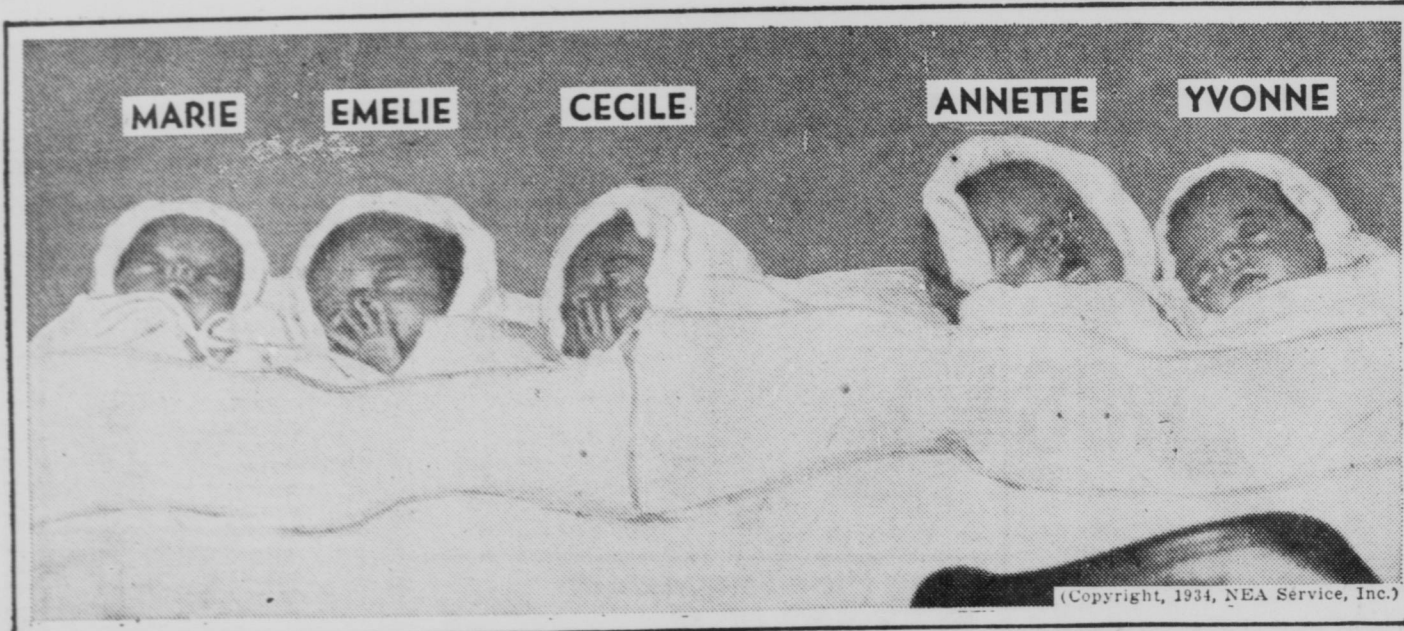
Just because she's a quintuplet, and weighs less than four pounds at two months, is no reason to Emelie Dionne why she should not express herself. And she expresses herself with emphasis when Nurse Yvonne Leroux takes her up for the daily weighing. It's largely through these differences in temperament that the nurses are able to tell the five baby girls apart, as they all look about alike. Emelie's lusty lungs and positive temperament identify her.



THE ROCKY ROAD TO CORBEIL, IT'LL BE SMOOTHER NOW

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Lest the quintuplets be isolated from the twice-daily visits of Dr. Dafoe and their milk supplies, the Ontario government put a crew to work on the rocky side road that leads to Callander. With the coming of snow and winter weather the road might well have become impassable and the quintuplets' lives endangered. The crew building this all-weather road is shown above.



Too sleepy and tired even to "watch the birdie," the Dionne quintuplets register boredom with all the hullabaloo of picture taking. And this is a characteristic photo, too, for sixteen or seventeen hours a day are spent in this manner, though mostly in their separate incubators. Pleasant dreams.

## Other Photos of the Dionne Quintuplets to Be Published in The Times

Pictures of the Dionne babies and scenes at the Canadian home of the quintuplets on this page today complete the first series of full page exclusive photos, which have been published in this newspaper for the last several days. Tomorrow another story on the babies will appear on the feature page.

However, during the period of the next few months The Times will continue to present additional EXCLUSIVE pictures and stories of the world-famous quintup-

lets as they appear in their Canadian home. The babies are progressing rapidly and all attempts of commercial promoters to exhibit the children at the World's fair and other places have been blocked. The guardians of the children and their parents realize that to take the children away from their home and the carefully watched incubators in which they are kept, might result fatally.

For the next score of years, the growth and doings

of the children will be incidents which will amaze an already interested world. The Times, through NEA Service and its correspondents, is ready to lead you through the first few months of the interesting period to come.

Never before has any newspaper or picture service had the opportunity of recording, in pictures, such a remarkable medical and scientific event. Never again, probably, will such an opportunity avail itself to this generation.

The publication of the first series of photos has caused reader interest not only here but also in other parts of the nation where the photo-series were published.

The Times and NEA Service will be on the job for weeks to come. You will not be able to follow the doings of these children in any other newspaper in this vicinity.

And you can't afford to miss the stories and pictures which will relate the incidents in the lives of the only living quintuplets.