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Ten Years Ago in Timmins

FROM DATA IN THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE FILES

At the present time there are close to thirty on the teaching staff of the Timmins Public Schools, and the total enrolment is over 1100 pupils. This is quite a change from 1916. The January, 1916 school report shows the total number of pupils enrolled at Timmins public school (a frame building near the present Central School site) to be only 46, with an average attendance of 28. The principal of the school in 1916 was Mr. Thos. Dowler, and there was two other teachers,—Mrs. E. J. Meyers and Miss E. Taylor.

Like many of the issues during the years of the Great War, the issue of The Advance of Feb. 16th, 1916, was largely taken up with patriotic and military news. Front page space was given to mention of the recruiting activities of the 159th Battalion in the North Country. Lieut. Nicolson told The Advance that the battalion had reached a strength of 700, all Northern Ontario men. Lieut. Col. Armstrong (now Member in the Dominion House for South Temiskaming) was commanding officer. The captains included:—Capt. James of the O'Brien Mine, Cobalt; Captain Pullan, of the Kelso Mine; and Captain Young, of Iroquois Falls. The lieutenants included then:—Mac Lang, M.P.P., Lieut. Nicolson, of the Vipond, and Lieuts. McDougall, Meyers and Barton, South Porcupine. There was a note to the effect that Private Shewan of the Grenadier Guards had left for headquarters at St. John's, Que. The following also had joined the Guards and were leaving for St. John's:—John Bush, Clarence Spiers, Russell Lett, Edward Woodrow, W. K. Goudie, Alfred Gibbons, Timmins; Albert Fulds, John Sullivan, Schumacher; Wm. McLean, David Brinton, South Porcupine. Pastor Allen announced to his congregation at the Presbyterian church on Sunday morning, Feb. 13th, 1916, that he would continue only for a few months to "wear the cloth," after which he would don the khaki and shoulder a gun.

The Advance ten years ago had two letters from soldiers camped at Hazely Downs, England. One was from Sergt. Phayre. The former tells about visiting Jack Munro at Nettley Hospital. "His right arm is absolutely useless," says the letter, "the bullet passed through the shoulder cutting all the nerves. They operated and tried to fix it up, but it was useless. The cut required eighty stitches to sew up. It was wonderful to see how cheerful they all were,—men without arms and legs, and gassed and so on." Sergt. Phayre said that the Pioneers were O.K. and when inspected by the Duke of Connaught won very favourable comments.

In 1916, as in later years the Timmins Town Council and Board of Trade were able to secure advantages for the town by persistent endeavour. The agitation by these bodies for a proper station for Timmins resulted in February, 1916, in a promise from the T. & N. O. Commission that such a station would be surely built that year. The plans called for a commodious brick building, to cost approximately \$25,000.00. That the promise was implemented may be proven by a look at the present T. & N. O. depot here, built in 1916. At the same time the T. & N. O. chairman, Mr. J. L. Englehart made it plain that the policy of the commission was against all level crossings and that accordingly the proposal to divert the road to the Hollinger and Schumacher to the north and having a level crossing instead of the wooden subway bridge would not be entertained.

Among the mining notes of February, 1916, the following may be of interest:—"The Rand Syndicate are about to instal a steam plant and hoist on their properties in Deloro." "Mr. Thos. Pope is calling for ten-

ders for the construction of camp buildings on properties in Shaw township." "Sinking of the shaft on the Triumph (Success) was started, the desired depth to be reached in 30 days." "It is stated that the new owners of the North Thompson intend to instal an electric mill." "The shaft on the Jamieson properties, recently optioned by Mr. Duncan Chisholm, is being prosecuted in vigorous and business-like manner." "The Maidens-McDonald properties have been optioned by the La Rose Co. interests." "There is a proposition to consolidate the La Palme and Three Nations properties."

Under the heading, "Federal Business Tax Passed by House a Sweeping Measure," is the heading over a despatch from Ottawa, under date of Feb. 16th, 1916, outlining the then new but now old scheme of hitting a hard wallop to business through Dominion taxation.

There were many interesting items of South Porcupine news in The Advance of Feb. 16th, 1916. "Mrs. Frank Horne is talking over the Connaught Hotel." Miss Louise Demers and Miss Olive McGuire, of Timmins, were registered at the King George Hotel on Saturday." "Mrs. Sylvester Kennedy has taken over the Kingston Hotel dining room, and some good home cooking will be assured." "Many good reports are coming from the Excelsior Mine in Shaw township." "Mr. Ben Smith has taken over the Kingston Hotel." "Mr. W. W. Wilson, barber, has opened a shop at the Dome Mines." "Mr. Alexander Kincaid, of South Porcupine, and Mrs. MacDougall Jamieson, of Haileybury, were united in the holy bonds of matrimony last week at the Roman Catholic church. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Fr. Pelletier. Their many friends and The Advance wish them a long and happy life." "Up to the present fourteen members of South Porcupine I. O. O. F. Lodge have enlisted to serve King and Country."

Two 1916 hockey matches may be noted. Timmins won from Dome Mines, 4 to 2. Lafreniere was referee and Lowe was judge of play, and their work seemed to give general satisfaction. In the other game Cochrane won from Timmins, 2 to 1, at Cochrane. The report of the game gives Spence particular credit, as well as saying:—"The boy wonder, F. McGuire, played a wonderful game, and made many an opponent look like a has-been. The game was played on an open-air rink with the thermometer registering 27 degrees below."

In the Porcupine news items mention is made of the enlistment of Messrs. Wm. Ogilvie, Chas. Preston, Jack McLellan and Hugh McEachren. Also it is noted that Messrs. C. M. Piery and J. T. Price attended the Institution ceremonies of the Orange Hall at South Porcupine, when the Grand Master, Dr. Williams, and Deputy Grand Master, H. C. Hocken, ex-Mayor of Toronto, and editor of The Orange Sentinel, were present.

The Timmins local notes for Feb. 16th, 1916, include:—"Chief of Police Courtemanche is able to be around again after an attack of laGrippe." "Mrs. Ralph Robbins sang a solo at the Episcopal church on Sunday night. Her voice and rendition have caused much favourable comment." "Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Mrs. J. A. McInnis, Mrs. M. D. Hambly and her guest, Miss C. McCool, of North Bay, have returned from a visit to Cochrane." "A Valentine Party was given by Mrs. Robbins at her home on Saturday afternoon when about 20 guests assembled and had a most enjoyable time." "Mrs. J. W. Fogg is on a visit to her home in Portland, Maine." "Messrs. J. W. Fogg and H. J. Marshall spent the week-end at the Croesus Mine, at Matheson, as the guests of Manager Julius M. Cohen."

DISCOVERER OF THE DOME RE-VISITING THE CAMP

Mr. H. A. Preston, the discoverer of the Dome Mines property, and one of the real old-timers of the North Land, is visiting the Camp and renewing old acquaintances here. He is being warmly greeted by many of the old-timers who remember him in this part of the North before there was any camp here. Mr. Preston is ready to back up his story of the discovery of the Dome with his money, and old-timers who knew him in the early days are ready to back up Harry Preston. "Harry is all right," says one old-timer in regard to Preston's account of the discovery of the Dome, the credit and profit for which went to others, though the old-timers agree that it was Preston who was responsible for the find. Mr. Preston can surely claim to be a real old-timer of the North Land, and truly fond of the country, for in around 21 years up in this country he has spent only twelve days all told in visits to his old home in the south.

The next Band Concert will be "Juvenile Night," the programme at the Goldfields Theatre on Sunday evening, Feb. 28th, being given throughout by gifted young artists of the town and district.

HOCKEY MATCHES IN THE TRAIL RANGERS SCHEDULE.

There are three more games in the Trail Rangers Hockey schedule as follows:—
Feb. 20—Timmins at South Porcupine.
Feb. 20—Dome at Schumacher.
Feb. 27—Schumacher at South Porcupine.

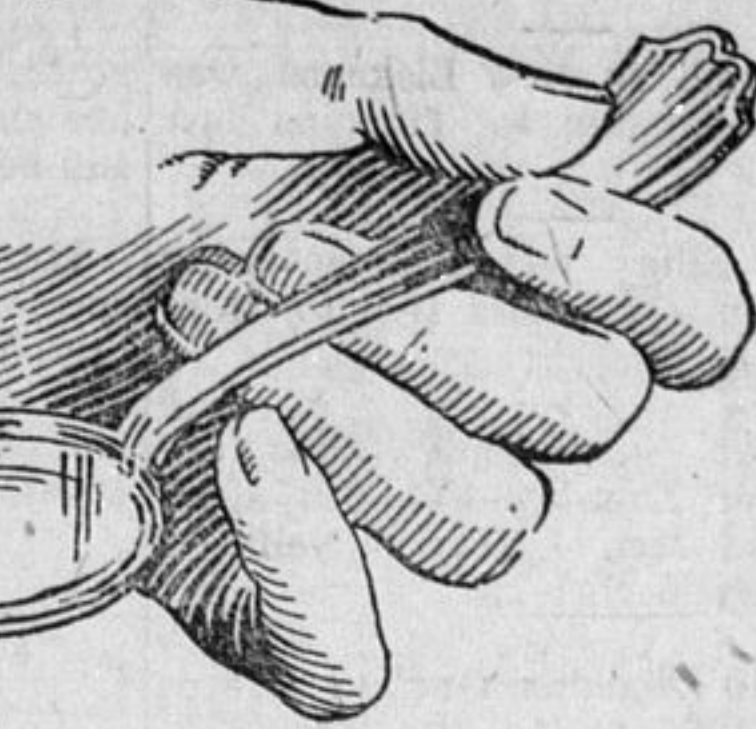
HOW ABOUT ADVANCING THAT \$2 TO THE ADVANCE.

Last week a number of reminders were sent out to subscribers in regard to their subscriptions being due. A record number of responses has been received, yet there are some yet who have delayed reply. Act, while there is still time! The rule of The Advance is to discontinue all subscriptions not paid in advance. This has been the rule of this paper for years past. It is the only plan that will work. The receipt of a renewal is the only way The Advance has of knowing that the paper is desired and required. If your subscription is expired, look after the matter to-day, and so avoid missing any copies of the only newspaper of the Porcupine Camp. Many thanks!

Don't forget Monday next, Feb. 22nd,—the date of the Ladies of the Orient Euchre and Dance.



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