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## Ten Years Ago in Timmins

FROM DATA IN THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE FILES

The Advance of Oct. 11th, 1916, had a lengthy article dealing with the cost of living. The price of goods. Timmins had increased about twenty-five per cent, from prices for the same quality before the war. The increase in ordinary lines was from 20 to 25 per cent, while in regard to imported goods it was from 75 to 100 per cent. increase. Prices here were 27 per cent. more than in Toronto, this being due to the heavy insurance costs and the burdensome freight rates on everything coming in to this country. The Advance urged a reduction in the freight rates and a decrease in the insurance charges. The Advance gave a table showing the cost of keeping a family of five in the city of Toronto for a year. The list totalled \$994.28, and included a little of everything from coal at \$8.50 per ton to church donations of \$10.00. The same list in Timmins totalled \$1280.95. Rent in Toronto was figured at \$18.00 per month for a 6-roomed house, while it was placed at \$30.00 in Timmins. Elsewhere in the same issue of The Advance was a despatch from Ottawa telling of an order-in-council providing for an investigation of the cost of living throughout the Dominion. The commission appointed resulted from representations made to the Government by a delegation from the Trades and Labour Congress. The union men pointed out the desirability of regarding, if possible, the steadily advancing costs of domestic necessities. They showed that while the prices of commodities had soared to phenomenal heights, wages had remained practically stationary. Hon. Robt. Rogers was acting premier and he gave very prompt action in connection with the matter brought forward by the Trades and Labour officials.

Ten year ago The Advance advocated the curfew bell by-law for Timmins. The Advance said, in part:— "We all know that children will be children, and that they delight in mischief and to play where they should not, and that this roaming of the streets at night is not proper for young children. Every sensible parent should keep their children off the streets at night. If parents do not realize their obligations and duties to their children, the authorities should adopt a curfew by-law, or some other system whereby the children will not be allowed to tramp the streets to such untimely hours. After eight o'clock no youngster should be on the streets, unless accompanied by some adult. The public, the parents and the children would profit considerably by a curfew, and more especially the children, because it is a well-known fact that the ordinary child brought up on the streets, and particularly so at nights, as a rule follow the ways so learned in future life and so are liable to become of no use to themselves and a source of worry to their parents, and to the authorities who are trying to administer law and order. The advice we give the parents about their children is:—'Early to bed and early to rise is the way to make them healthy, wealthy and wise.' This may not have been strictly in accord with the wording of the old proverb but it was absolutely in line with the sense and meaning of the saying. The Advance also referred to the physical dangers to the children from their prowling habits,—the youngsters having a pernicious trick of running in front of motor cars and rigs that was especially dangerous at nights.

Ten years ago all the papers were full of references to Fighting Jack Munro. The Advance said:—"The punch of Private John Munro, of the Princess Pats,—big Jack Munro, B. C. Miner, Ontario miner, and heavy-weight boxer; ex-mayor of Elk Lake; and the man who fought Sharkey, Jim Jeffries and Corbett, respectively, has seen the last of his prize ring days. Over a year ago Munro was wounded at Armentieres, and has been undergoing hospital treatment ever since. At the present time he is a patient at the Granville Canadian Special Hospital, Ramsgate. The bullet which struck him in the upper right chest would have killed an average man. That he survived was entirely due to his enormous shoulder muscles, but ever since he was wounded his arm has been partially paralyzed. Whether he will ever again regain its complete use can not be said. It was Jack Munro who about eighteen months ago one night wandered back to the reserve trenches to put in a complaint. Jack was asked what the matter might be that had brought him back. "Matter enough!" Jack replied. "These Germans make me sick. Why won't they come out in the open and fight fair? This sort of thing isn't fighting." However, he was pacified and went back to his job. Munro was the first private with a Canadian fighting battalion to set foot on French soil. To attain that honour he made a great jump from the ship to the landing place as the troopship pulled into

the wharf, so the story goes." Lieut. Jack Munro, it may be noted, returned later in safety to this country, and while never regaining the full use of one arm, he is back again at his pioneer work of prospecting and mining. He has been a frequent visitor to the Porcupine since his return from overseas and is always gladly welcomed by a host of old friends.

Speaking of the Ontario Temperance Act, The Advance ten years ago said—"Prohibition for communities is like unto matrimony for men,—once adopted, they all profess to like it."

There was a fire at the residence of Mr. Tony Preste, 31 Elm street, on Oct. 5th, 1916. The fire had made considerable headway before it was discovered, the occupants of the building being out at the time. A little boy, who was asleep in the upper storey, was awakened by the smoke and gave the alarm. In a few minutes the house was a mass of flames. The fire department, however, was soon on the scene, and under the able supervision of Fire Chief Hill two lines of hose were quickly laid and brought to play upon the flames. Only the prompt action of the volunteer brigade prevented the fire from spreading to the adjoining houses. The house and contents were totally destroyed. Owing to the rapidity with which the house burned, the only thing possible to save was a sewing machine. The Preste house was practically new, and the loss was close to \$2,000.00. Furniture in a nearby house was damaged to the extent of about \$300.00, while the loss at a third place close to the Preste house was around \$50.00.

Very general praise was given the Fire Chief and Brigade for the prompt and effective work done.

Two local items on the front page of The Advance of Oct. 11th, 1916, have a sad interest now to friends in this district, as both gentlemen have since passed away. One told of a visit from Mr. B. McEnaney, staker of the McEnaney claims. The other item said:—"Mr. R. F. Argles has joined the staff of the Gordon stores as accountant."

### BUSINESS MEETING OF THE TIMMINS GLEE CLUB

Notices have been sent out this week for a business meeting of the Timmins Glee Club, to be held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Timmins, Sunday evening, October 17th, commencing at 8.00. Urgent business will be taken up by the club at this meeting and a specially large attendance is desired.

What some people don't know about driving would fill a book—also a hospital.—Florence (Ala.) Herald.

### COMING MEETINGS OF THE CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

There was a meeting on Monday evening at the residence of the president, Mr. W. Shewan, of the new executive of the Caledonian Society of Timmins. A schedule of meetings for the balance of the year was decided upon as follows:—

Oct. 22—Hallowe'en Night, chiefly for the youngsters, with "deukin f'r aipples," champit tates," etc.

Nov. 12—Ladies' Night, the programme and proceedings being in charge of the ladies.

Nov. 26—St. Andrew's Night, with a special programme, including a paper on the Patron Saint, musical and other numbers.

Dec. 10—An open dance.

Dec. 24—Christmas Tree.

It was decided to have a two-piece orchestra for all regular meetings of the Society, and at the same time it was agreed that the original purpose of the Society should not be forgotten, nor the evenings turned into dancing events only. More restrictions are to be placed on the attendance, so as to avoid some of the difficulties of the past. Hereafter, it will be necessary to have visitor's cards for all who are not members of the Society. These visitors' cards may be obtained from the Secretary or from the President. On all nights, except those specially marked as open nights, members are expected to show their membership cards and visitors' cards must be presented for any guests. A charge of 50c. each will be made for visitors' cards on all social evenings.

If you stand up to receive bouquets, don't sit down if someone throws a brick.

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### NOBODY IDENTIFIED THE "MR. TAYLOR H.S.J. SALE"

In the Taylor Hardware Silver Jubilee Sale nobody in Timmins identified "Mr. Taylor Silver Jubilee Sale" on either of the dates this mysterious gentleman was in Timmins. On October 2nd, the first date he was here, the local man who went under that name during the day was Mr. A. W. Pickering, well-known life insurance agent in town. Mr. Pickering was round the streets all day, visited the Taylor Hardware store a number of times and met all the trains. He was not identified.

On October 9th, Fire Chief A. Borland was the mysterious gentleman. Fire Chief Borland was round town all day, and is one of the best known of the town's citizens. Despite this, nobody identified him, and consequently the five dollars reward was not won.

### ALL SHOULD CO-OPERATE FOR HOCKEY THIS SEASON.

This coming season Timmins will have a nice promising line-up of good hockey players. They are already in training and keeping in the best of shape. Those on the inside are sure that Timmins can confidently look forward to first-class hockey. "It will be the best season in the history of hockey in this district," one member of the hockey executive asserts. The hockey boys are on deck and "rarin' to go." The executive have looked after their part and now all that remains is for the people to back up the players and the executive in every possible way. Members of the executive are planning for a canvass to assure proper financing for the season. When the canvassers call they should be given a hearty welcome by all and all possible help given them. With this certain, the success of the 1926-1927 hockey season is a certainty.

### PULPWOOD LIMITS IN THE NORTH SOLD LAST WEEK

The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests last week announced the disposal, in two sales, of some 130 square miles of timber pulpwood. The Beaver Wood Fibre Co. Ltd., of Thorold, secured cutting concessions of Ottawa and Duff, an area of 70 square miles. They have deposited with the department a cheque for \$25,000 and will pay \$9 per thousand for spruce and balsam logs, \$1.50 per cord for spruce pulp, \$2.26 per cord for spruce pulp and 60 cents per cord for other pulp.

The second sale was made to the Hawk Lumber Company, of Cochrane. It involved 60 square miles of timber in the south and northwest portion of the township of Marven in the Cochrane district. Under their \$20,000 deposit they will pay at the rate of \$6.50 per thousand for large spruce and balsam logs, \$1.90 per cord for spruce pulp, \$1 per cord for balsam pulp and 50 cents per cord for other pulp.

All prices are complete, crown dues being included.

If you wish to find the writers of stories about "the great open spaces" look in the small, closed and steam-heated spaces of New York City.—Davenport (Ia.) Daily Times.

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