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Ten Years Ago in Timmins

FROM DATA IN THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE FILES

Ten years ago Timmins took its municipal politics without undue excitement or recrimination. The people worked together at election time, as at other times, for the good of the town. In those days, as pointed out Thursday evening by Mr. Matt. Boivin, there was no evil group of self-seekers stirring up differences of creed and race and striving to create separation and bitterness. Men were judged those days on their merits. All seemed anxious to serve the town rather than their own interests alone. In the election for mayor and councillors for 1917, an acclamation was given to Mr. J. P. McLaughlin as mayor, and a similar acclamation was given the councillors—A. R. Globe, Dr. H. Moore, C. G. Williams, Albert Brazeau and Chas. Pierce. Only five councillors standing, there had to be a nomination and election for the sixth place. Dr. J. A. McInnis was elected by acclamation for this place a few days after the regular nomination. In the township of Tisdale

things did not run so smoothly. There was a bitter election fight there municipally, but, as The Advance pointed out that at the time, "the Diekson Slate was badly broken at the polls. Sylvester Kennedy won the reeve ship from E. G. Diekson by 37 majority. The councillors elected were Messrs J. T. Easton, J. E. Boyle, D. Mackie, and D. McDougall. Speaking of the Tisdale elections, the same week Mr. G. B. Raymond, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a speaker for the International Bible Students Association, delivered an address in the New Empire Theatre to an audience of about 150 or 200 people. The main idea of Mr. Raymond's address was that there is no "Hell," as people understand that word. The "Hell" of the Bible, he claimed, was only "sheol"—meaning "the grave." The heading of The Advance put on the report of the meeting was:—"New York Speaker Knocks Hell Out of the Church and the Bible."

Ten years ago Mrs. E. J. Meyers purchased the drug and stationary store and business at the corner of Third avenue and Pine street from Mr. Chas. A. See. In referring to the transfer, The Advance said:—"Mr. See, who is one of the North Land's pioneer business men, conducted a successful drug store business in South Porcupine before coming to Timmins. His present plans suggested a permanent residence in Toronto, or some other southern point, and the many business friends of Mr. See will regret his removal from here, while extending best wishes for the success of the new owner in this important business stand. Mr. Meyers had been in charge of the business under Mr. See for some months past. The new owner is well-known as a capable and courteous business man, and few will doubt but that he will carry on the growing business with increasing success."

For the year 1916 the births in the town of Timmins totalled 124; there were 45 marriages recorded; and sixty deaths.

The last Wednesday in 1916 was "accident day" in Timmins. Geo. Mudato, a Russian, was blown to pieces at the Hollinger Mine in a blasting accident. Tony Mascioli, who was with him at the time, received a bad shaking-up but was not seriously hurt. At the gravel pit Frank Slotnick met death by being buried alive in falling gravel. Slotnick had been in the camp only a short time, his wife and four children residing at Englehart. The third accident of the day proved serious, but not fatal. Toni Mazuk, a mucker at the Jupiter mine, was crushed by a falling rock. His leg was broken, but he made good recovery from the accident.

"As an evidence of appreciation for his municipal services and his worth as a citizen," says The Advance of January 3rd, 1917, "Mr. W. H. Wilson, the retiring mayor of Timmins, was tendered a banquet at the Hotel Goldfields on Tuesday evening, and presented also with a very handsome case of pipes. About 35 leading citizens of the town were in attendance, practically all sections of the community being represented. Mr. D. Ostrosser, President of the Board of Trade, made a very capable chairman and toastmaster for the occasion. The four-course dinner served by the Goldfields reflected the greatest credit on that first-class hotel, and the banquet throughout was one of the pleasantest ever held in Timmins. Expressions of appreciation for Mr. Wilson were given in addresses by Messrs Ostrosser, P. A. Robbins, J. P. McLaughlin, A. R. Globe, C. G. Williams, Dr. J. A. McInnis, Chas. Pierce, H. J. Peters and others. Most of the above had served on the council with the ex-Mayor. The programme was interspersed with well-rendered songs by Mr. Gordon Wilson, accompanied by the New Empire Theatre orchestra, the latter also furnishing very pleasing instrumental selections during the evening. The pleasing address of Mr. Chas. Auer, "Mayor of Mattagami Heights," touched as it was with wit, humour and wisdom, was much enjoyed by all. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. and Mrs. H. Mulhern for their excellent hospitality, and the gathering broke up at the early hour of 11 o'clock.

Ten years ago The Advance recorded the death of Pte. B. Nacogie, the Indian member of the 228th Battalion. He died from pneumonia at the base hospital at Toronto, and was laid to rest in Prospect cemetery with the Army's solemn and picturesque ceremonies. It was first intended to take the body to the home of the late Pte. Nacogie at Moose Factory, James Bay, by dog team, but owing to the difficulties of transportation it was finally decided to hold the burial services at Toronto.

In the issue of The Advance ten years ago reference was made to the resolution passed by the Timmins Board of Trade asking the Government to assist in financing the Children's Shelter for Temiskaming. After extended reference to the resolution The Advance took occasion once again to urge the organization of a branch of the Children's Aid Society in Timmins. For years The Advance continued to advocate a local C.A.S., and the good accomplished here in any one year by the local C.A.S. more than

justifies and rewards the effort carried on by many in Timmins and district to advance this particular good work. In the last week of 1916, the shareholders of the McIntyre Mines Company met in Toronto and unanimously agreed to the merger that included the McIntyre, McIntyre Extension and Jupiter. Announcement was also made that an option had been secured on the Plenaum.

Among the local and personal items in The Advance ten years ago were the following:—"Fire Chief Borland, of Cobalt, had the misfortune to fall at a recent fire in that town, and has been under the doctor's care as a result of the injuries received." "Dr. O'Gorman, Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and brother of Rev. Fr. O'Gorman, of Cobalt, is home after a year's service with the British forces in Mesopotamia. He will find a little difference in the climate here and in Mesopotamia, some letters from him quoting the temperature in the far eastern spot as reading 130 degrees in the shade. The North Land in the winter time is not nearly so uncomfortably warm." "For the month of December, 1916, the town police turned in \$1,145.00 in fines to the town treasury." "Mr. John Nolan, who is in St. Mary's hospital, suffering from a badly fractured arm and other minor injuries inflicted upon him by Giro Guirino in an unexpected assault, is making splendid progress to recovery. His arm is in a plaster cast now, and he is making a good showing towards restored health." "Nick Dakuehitz was arrested very easily New Year's morning by Constable Salley, on a charge of carrying firearms. Constable Salley heard the reports of a revolver and noticing the accused in the vicinity he gave chase. After a run he succeeded in making the capture, finding a revolver on his prisoner. As Dakuehitz may be an alien enemy the charge against him may be a serious one." "The New Year was welcomed noisily in Timmins by bells, whistles, and horns of different kinds; also by fireworks and a few revolver shots. A big crowd of happy but harmless citizens were out to give the glad hand to young Nineteen-Seventeen, and to say, Welcome to our city!" In the excitement one of the windows of the Bank of Commerce building was accidentally smashed, but no other injury of importance occurred. Only one arrest was necessary during the evening, and that was a suspected alien enemy." "Born—in Timmins, Ont., on Thursday, Dec. 28th, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Lake—a son." "Mrs. T. J. Lawlor and son Arthur, left on Saturday for Sudbury. Mrs. Lawlor will return home in a few days, and Arthur will remain in Sudbury to take a business course in one of the business colleges of that town."

HUSBAND, 85, AND WIFE 84 BOTH VOTE ON MONDAY

The oldest couple to vote at the municipal election in Timmins on Monday were Mr. and Mrs. E. Richardson, of 120 Commercial avenue. Mr. Richardson is 85 years of age and Mrs. Richardson is 84. They are both in the enjoyment of remarkably good health for their years, and are keen and bright and interested in all good things and in the progress of the town. Looking much younger than their actual years, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson voted early on Monday morning.

FAMILY RE-UNION HELD AT POWASSAN CHRISTMAS

The following is from the last issue of The Powassan News:—"A most interesting and happy family re-union took place this Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Rich, Mill Street, Powassan, when the ten sons of Mrs. Croteau came from as far west as the Pacific coast and the North West Territory, and distant parts of this province, to be with their mother and sister. Strange as it may seem, this is the first time that all the members of the family have been together, for the older boys had left the family nest to seek their fortune abroad before the younger members were born, and it is many, many years since they visited the scenes of their boyhood days. And a fine looking lot of brothers they are, too—all good samples of strong intelligent Canadian manhood, and all doing well in their chosen occupation. It is a family a mother may well feel proud of. The editor had the pleasure of meeting them all, and the following are their names and address, beginning with the eldest: Wm. J. Croteau, locomotive engineer, of Edson, Alta. (accompanied by Mrs. Croteau and son Phillip). Chas. Croteau, farmer, Noelville. Euzebe Croteau, prospector & trapper, Pouce Coupe, B.C. Herbert Croteau, hunter and prospector, Fort Norman, N.W.T. Frank E. Croteau, C.P.R. conductor, Sutherland, Alta. Fred Croteau, miner, South Porcupine. Edmund Croteau, mining promoter, Toronto (and Mrs. Croteau). Exavier Croteau, farmer Himsworth. Wilfred Croteau, prospector, Chemines, Quebec. Paul Croteau, prospector, Savant Lake, Ont. Mrs. Geo. Rich, Powassan.

"Rabbi Levi," said Father Burke. "When are you going to become liberal enough to eat ham?" "At your wedding, Father Burke," said the Rabbi.

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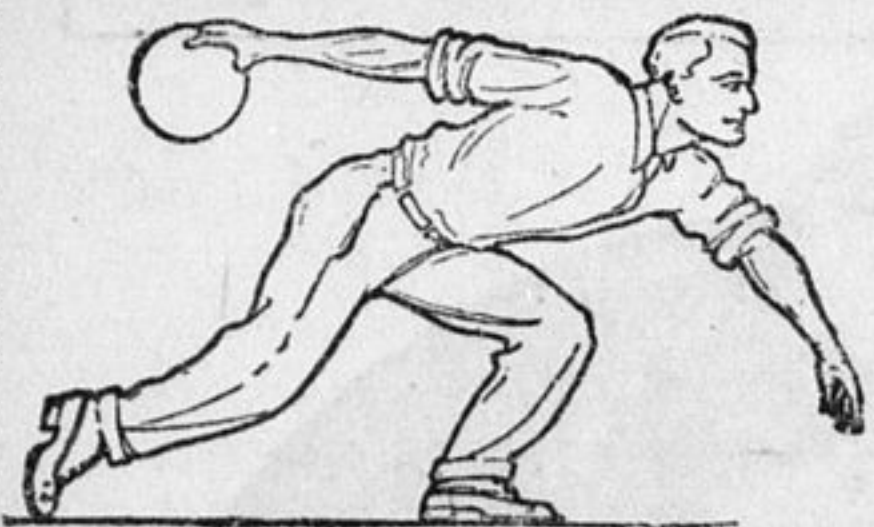
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