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Ten Years Ago in Timmins

FROM DATA IN THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE FILES

In the early part of July, 1917, there was a plot of land at Porquis Junction covered with stumps. On the 19th of August of the same year (a period of some six weeks having elapsed) the land had all been cleared and an attractive-looking and well-constructed little church was being constructed by Rev. F. L. Brown, of Orillia, superintendent of missions. Speaking of the achievement The Advance ten years ago said:—“Surely, it is true that summer time is a period of rapid growth in this

North Land. Rev. A. W. Strapp is the pastor of the new church and his untiring zeal and effort had much to do with the speedy construction of the building. The church is another of the now numerous ‘United Churches’ in the North Land—evidences of a practical type of “church union” so much talked about at times in more southerly places.”

Ten years ago The Advance welcomed The Broke Hustler, Iroquois Falls own newspaper, to the good work of assisting in the building-up of the North Land. Because of the steady influence for good of The Broke Hustler in the past decade and the service it has given to Iroquois Falls and the North, there is particular pleasure in recalling what was said about No. 1 of Volume 1. For originality, enterprise and real wholesome hustle, few towns can equal the bright burg of Iroquois Falls,—the town that makes the paper and then does things that gets its name into the paper. One of the latest evidences of the pep and push of Iroquois Falls is the issuing of a bright little paper all its own. No. 1 Volume 1, came out last week and was bright, interesting and informative from the first column to the last line on the last page. It is styled The Broke Hustler, and there is interest not only in the oddity but in the origin of the name. The broke hustler in a paper mill is the lively chap that gathers up the crackling sheets, the snappy bits and the solid, heavy but valuable humps. All these he hustles down to the beaters where they are worked up and set back to driers to once more take their place in the web. In its editorial announcement The Broke Hustler explained that it hoped in good ways to follow out the virtues of a broke hustler. The Broke Hustler is a 4-page 3-column paper at present. It is owned by the Abitibi Power & Paper Co. Mr. T. A. McDonald, employment supervisor, is the editor, and Mr. G. McCorbrey is the business manager.”

To this, it may now be added that The Broke Hustler has grown with the town it represents, and today under the able editorship of Mr. Alec M. Dewar, for years the news editor of The Montreal Star, it is doing very creditable work not only for the company and for the town and its people but also for the great North Land in general.

The Advance ten years ago referred to a very interesting letter from Lance-Corporal W. M. Widdifield at Sunningdale, Berkshire, Eng. “That hospital stuff is not too bad,” wrote Lance-Corporal Widdifield, “as far as the manner in which they treated us is concerned, but the measles are

not to be recommended from a sensational point of view. For mine—I would rather go fishing. When it was discovered that I had measles, Neil Sampson, Irving, Smith, Molkerton, Readford and King were quarantined, and the day they were supposed to be released Molkerton got them, and they had to spend another fourteen days there. Molkerton is still in the hospital at Aldershot.” Lance-Corp. Widdifield’s letter said that when the boys were quarantined, Major Gordon had to leave for France with most of the Forestry Draft boys from the North, so the bunch was split up. The boys had a pleasant trip over, none of the North Land boys being seasick. The funny little locomotives in England aroused their amusement and they promptly christened the dinky engines “Fords,” while admitting that for speed and pulling power these “Fords” were wonderful.

The Advance ten years ago recorded the death of one of the pioneers of the Porcupine. “Mrs. Poitras,” said The Advance, “one of the first women residents of the camp, and highly respected and esteemed by all, died on Friday after an illness of only four days. Death was due to inflammatory rheumatism which affected the heart. A husband and five children survive and to these the sincerest sympathy of all goes out in their loss. The funeral took place on Tuesday morning and the large attendance evidenced the esteem in which the late Mrs. Poitras was held and the sympathy felt for the bereaved family.”

Ten years ago The Advance noted the wish of Richard Edmunds, while on his deathbed at Cobalt, “Bury me in the good old North Land,” he said. His wife, who lived in Newfoundland, telegraphed that his wish be respected, and so in August, 1917, Richard Edmunds was laid to rest in North Land that he loved.

Word reaching The Advance ten years ago was to the effect that Capt. Howard McNamara, the well-known hockey star, popular in the North Land where he spent some time in recruiting work before going overseas, was reported ill with trench fever at a French hospital. He was in the Vimy Ridge attack, and was taken ill in July. Capt. Howard McNamara was one of the stars on the noted 228th Battalion hockey team the previous winter.

“A rather unusual but pleasing innovation is noticed this year in the voters’ list of the township of Chamberlain, District of Temiskaming,” says The Advance of August, 29th, 1917. “At the end of the voters’ list proper, there is published an honour roll containing the names of those from Chamberlain township who left there to serve king and humanity overseas. In this honour roll there are 17 names,—a proud record, indeed, in view of the fact that there are only 149 other names on the whole voters’ list.”

Reference is made elsewhere in this issue to the recruiting ten years ago in Timmins for the Royal Air Force. In the issue of August 29th, 1917, The Advance had an extended call for men for the air service. “Three more of the fine young men of Timmins have joined the air service branch. Within a few days, Messrs R. McLean, H. W. Hooker and Walter Muirhead have received notice that their applications have been accepted. They will leave for Toronto on Monday of next week. The air service is one of the most helpful of the branches of war work and men are necessary for this department. It is only necessary to read the despatches to realize what an effective part the air service is playing in this war. To assist in the securing of suitable men, the Aero Club of Canada is organizing local committees throughout the towns and cities of the country. G. A. Macdonald, editor of The Advance, is the chairman of the local committee, and will be glad to give any particulars desired to any interested.”

Official announcement was made ten years ago that Capt. Ernest Holland was among those suffering from a German gas attack in the battles on the Canadian front. He was reported as in the hospital, but recovering from the effects of the gas. He went overseas with the Borden Battery in 1914, was wounded at Vimy Ridge, won the Military Cross, and was granted a captaincy for distinguished conduct in the field. He was one of the best known of the North Land’s old-timers.

The Advance of Aug. 29th, 1917, says “The McIntyre Porcupine Mines Ltd., now holds the distinction of being the only dividend-paying mine in the Porcupine at the present time (1917). Though some others are earning dividends but to offset the unusual conditions are conserving their resources. The McIntyre however, has been more than earning its dividend requirements, and is in an all-round satisfactory financial condition. An announcement is made by the directors that the quarterly dividend will be paid on Sept. 29th, at the rate of 5 per cent, as formerly.”

Ten years ago a sad accident occurred at the Jupiter shaft of the McIntyre. A block of wood, probably jarred loose by the hoist bucket, falling on the head of Dalton Boomer and fracturing his skull. Despite the best of attention the unfortunate man died some hours later. An inquest was held and much evidence taken. The jury’s verdict was that the death was due to accident, with no blame attached to anyone in the matter. It

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was shown that great care was taken to avoid the danger of any kind of accident. The late Dalton Boomer left a widow and some small children. The funeral was under the auspices of the Miners’ Union and was held at South Porcupine.

Among the local and personal notes in The Advance ten years ago were the following:—“Mr. W. M. Whyte was appointed tax collector for the township of Tisdale for 1927.” “Messrs Hilton Brown and Jas. Heppleton left for Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver and other western points.” “Mrs. J. O. Langlois has opened a day and night school for French and English, opposite King’s Amusement Parlours.” “The fishing rights for Rib Lake near Temagami have been secured by Denny Morgan, one of the North Land’s old-timers and a returned soldier of special distinction.” “The Tisdale township council has struck a tax rate of 33 mills for this year, and the council is being congratulated by many on being able to keep the rate as low as that.” “The Cobalt Firemen recently sent Mr. R. LeHeup a cheque for \$240.00 to be used for that patriotic work, the Children’s Aid Society.” “Miss Gillespie, of Brechin, Ont., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. D. Mackie, of Gillies Lake.” “Much interest was excited on Wednesday afternoon last when a bush fire was seen burning across the river, but some distance away. The fire, when first noticed, seemed to have good headway and to be spreading rapidly. The wind was blowing away from the town, but the fire and smoke seemed at first to be drifting this way. Later in the afternoon, however, it was noted that the fire was completely under control, and it eventually died down and disappeared before evening. The fire was over sixteen miles from here in a direct line, but seemed much closer.”

“Politics make strange bedfellows, but they soon get accustomed to the same bunk.”

—San Francisco Chronicle

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Some of the graduates of the Timmins Business College and where they are employed.

Baderaki, Tessie, Stenographer, Langdon Law Office, Timmins Ont.
Banning, Gerald, Stenographer, Paymaster Mine.
Bouley, Lionel, Bookkeeper, Star Transfer Office, Timmins, Ont.
Craig, Marjorie, Stenographer, Hollinger Store Office, Timmins, Ont.
Cole, Margaret, Stenographer, E. D. K. Office, Timmins, Ont.
Corrigan, Elsie, Stenographer, Feldman Bros. Schumacher.
Gardner, Lorretta, Stenographer, National Grocers, Timmins, Ont.
Garvey, Edith, Stenographer, Sullivan & Newton, Timmins, Ont.
Grant, Pearl, Stenographer, Hollinger Mine Office, Timmins, Ont.
Geguerre, Rod, Clerk, Hollinger Mine Office, Timmins, Ont.
Hakala, Ingrid, Stenographer, Insurance Office, Timmins, Ont.
Hendry, Best, Stenographer, Town Office, South Porcupine, Ont.
Lamb, Linda, Stenographer, Kester Law Office, Timmins, Ont.
Jackson, Adeline, Office Clerk, Hollinger Store Office, Timmins, Ont.
Kinrade, Inc., Stenographer, Abitibi Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd., Iroquois Falls, Ont.
Klinga, Ingrid, Stenographer, C. B. Bond Law Office, Timmins, Ont.
Legendre, Florence, Stenographer, Pierce Hardware Office, Timmins, Ont.
Lark, Helen, Stenographer & Bookkeeper, Pierce Hardware Office, Timmins, Ont.
Laporte, Louise, Stenographer, Hollinger Mine Office, Timmins, Ont.
Lau, Phyllis, Accountant, G. Ross Accountant Office, Timmins, Ont.
Mead, Florence, Secretary, Metropolitan Insurance Office, Timmins, Ont.
Magnan, Annette, Stenographer, Metropolitan Insurance Office, Timmins, Ont.
Monck, Anna, Clerk, Hollinger Mine Office, Timmins, Ont.
McCann, Eva, Stenographer, Star Bros. Office, South Porcupine, Ont.
McWilliams, Isadore, Stenographer, Mineral Area Syndicate, Connaught, Ont.
Ostberg, Josephine, Stenographer, Abitibi Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd., Iroquois Falls, Ont.
Pache, Paul, Stenographer, Hollinger Mine Office, Timmins, Ont.
Payne, Marjorie, Stenographer, Imperial Bank Office, Timmins, Ont.
Porter, Dorothy, Stenographer, Imperial Bank Office, Timmins, Ont.
Paice, Betty, Stenographer, Langdon Law Office, Timmins, Ont.
Richardson, Irene, Stenographer, Arthur E. Moyley & Co., Timmins, Ont.
Radburn, Nedra, Clerk, Bank of Nova Scotia, Timmins, Ont.
Shaw, Andrew, Stenographer, J. D. Shier Lbr. Co., Bracebridge, Ont.
VanHorn, Nedda, Stenographer, Harris Abattoir Office, Timmins, Ont.
Verner, Anne, Stenographer, Sam Bucovetsky, Timmins, Ont.
Viland, Mary, Stenographer, Bank of Commerce, Timmins, Ont.
Wilson, Clara, Stenographer, Kester Law Office, Timmins, Ont.
Walton, John, Teller, Dominion Bank, Timmins, Ont.

If your name is not among the graduates of the “Gold Medal School” this year, NOW is the time to enroll. The graduates of this school are holding the choicest positions of the North Country, and many are holding positions in Montreal, Toronto and Detroit.

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Enrollments and reservations are now being made for the Fall Term beginning Tuesday, Sept. 6th, 1927, at the Timmins Business College. Those considering enrolling should call to the College Office and make reservation as soon as possible.

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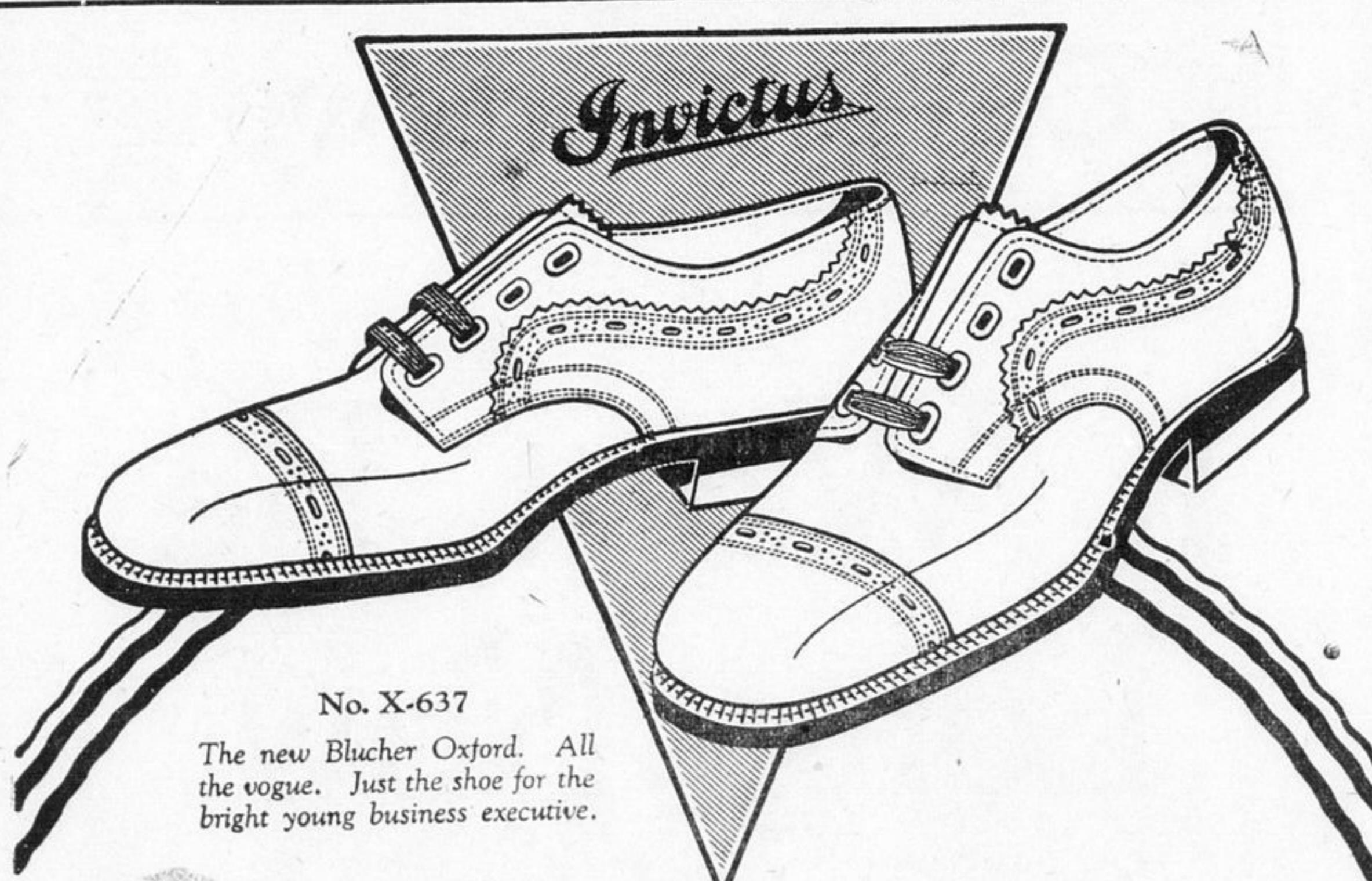
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THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE, TIMMINS, ONTARIO