

Ten Years Ago in Timmins

FROM DATA IN THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE FILES

In The Advance of December 19th, 1917, there was a paragraph prominently displayed, as follows:—"To permit of holidays for the staff, etc., there will be no issue of The Advance next week. In view of the fact that it is Christmas week, and Christmas holidays coming before the regular publication day, it would not be possible to issue the paper on the Wednesday as usual. To leave the publication until the end of the week would crowd the following issue, especially in the holiday time, so it has been decided to forego the one issue altogether. In past years it has been customary to miss one issue during the summer months, but this year every issue has been published up to date. The missing of next week's issue will take the place then of the regular summer holiday plan, and as it will come in the regular holiday week it will be of little inconvenience to advertisers or to subscribers. The office of The Advance will be open as usual for business on every lawful day." Since 1917 the town of Timmins has made very remarkable strides forward, having to-day a population four times that of ten years ago. The growth of the town in other ways is no less noteworthy, and it is doubtful if the people here would care to go without their weekly newspaper for one issue, even at Christmas time. In the past ten years The Advance has grown in just as noteworthy way as the town. The number of paid-in-advance subscribers is four times what it was ten years ago. The advertising patronage is more than four times that of ten years ago. The staff of The Advance is

four times as big as it was in 1917. The Porcupine Advance has kept pace with the growth of the town and the district.

Although there was no issue of The Advance ten years ago, there was news in this week as usual. This news was taken care of in the issue of January 2nd, 1917, and from this issue, The Advance to-day will take a few items for this column, "Ten Years Ago in Timmins."

In 1917 the mayor and council for the ensuing year for this town of Timmins were elected by acclamation. In referring to this fact The Advance said:—"Nomination day for the municipal elections passed off very quietly. Apparently the public agreed with the suggestion of The Advance a couple of weeks ago that it might be well during the present conditions to return the 1917 mayor and councillors by acclamation, and so save the cost and annoyance of an election, as well as assuring a good municipal council for another year. In any event there were no other names formally nominated on Monday, and the following were accordingly declared elected by acclamation: Mayor, J. P. McLaughlin; councillors, Albert Brazeau, tinsmith; Charles Gunning Williams, mine superintendent; Herman Henry Moore, physician; John Archibald McInnis, physician; Charles Pierce, merchant; Alexander Rankin Globe, mine manager. Dr. Minthorne offered the name of Mr. Alex Freeman, of the Frontenac House, on nomination for councillor, but the time for nomination having formally been declared closed previously, he was too late to have the name accepted. The election of public school trustees was also achieved by acclamation. There were four places to fill on the board, and the following were the only four nominated:—Samuel Buecovetsky, merchant; Len Hill, contractor; Roy H. Brown, dentist; R. J. Jemmett, accountant. The public school board is now composed of the following:—D. Ostrosser, E. L. Longmore, and the four named above."

In the township of Tisdale, however, there was nothing approaching an acclamation for anybody. In this connection, The Advance says:—"At the nomination meeting at South Porcupine on Monday there were thirteen nominated for reeve of the township of Tisdale, and twenty for places on the council. Of the thirteen nominated for reeve, only two are standing—Messrs J. T. Easton and J. E. Boyle, —both with municipal experience, but with the preference in favour of Mr. Easton, perhaps, who has been especially active and able during the past year, and who is always ready on the spot when something needs to be done for the advantage of the district. Mr. Easton will make a first-class reeve, if elected, and this is said with-

out any disparagement of Mr. Boyle, who has given good service in past years. Of the twenty nominated for the council, there are seven contesting the four seats. They are:—John Angrignon, Robert Campsie, J. B. Hutchison, C. B. Morgan, A. E. Phillips, B. M. Walton and D. Mackie. From this group the township should be able to select four capable men, especially when one,—Mr. D. Mackie,—should be considered already as a first choice in view of the unusually able and alert services he has given the township during the past year."

Among the local and personal items in The Advance ten years ago in regard to Christmas visitors, etc., were the following:—"Mr. W. B. Laur spent Christmas in Bridgeburg, Ont." "Miss M. Donaldson spent Christmas with her parents at Cobalt." "Mr. C. Bass spent Christmas at his home in Ottawa." "Mr. Marion, of the National Fruit & Produce Co., spent Christmas at his home in Toronto." "Among the greetings received last week from the soldiers overseas was 'Merry Christmas and Happy New Year' from S. R. McCoy, formerly with the Hollinger, now an officer on field service in France." "Lieut. V. H. Emery, of the Canadian Engineers' Corps, was a Christmastide guest of Mr. A. R. Globe. Lieut. Emery expects very shortly to leave for overseas service." "The thermometer was down to 45 degrees below zero on Thursday night, and the wind was blowing a gale that made even warm-blooded religious people say 'Merry Christmas!' Many on the night shifts of the Hollinger and other mines had fingers, ears and noses frozen on the trip home from work. As one man said, 'there is no sense in carrying a weather joke as far as 45 below, nor running as fast as 45 miles an hour in raw wind.'" "As usual the holiday season saw many trains away off schedule time, the National on the Friday evening before Christmas perhaps taking the prize, as it was only 16 hours late in arriving at Porcupine Junction." "Mr. H. M. Paull spent Christmas in Timmins with friends here. He was on his way back to The Pas, Manitoba, after spending some days in New York with the directors of the English syndicate which he represents. Mr. Paull reports prospects as very promising on the properties secured by his company in the West, and looks for big developments when the war is over and the money markets of the world resume a normal condition. Mr. Paull has had a number of experts prospecting north and west of The Pas during the past year, and many desirable claims have been staked. Most of the prospectors employed by the Syndicate were old Porcupine experts, but the claims include many other minerals besides gold, which is the Porcupine's specialty." "Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Carson and daughter, Evelyn, spent Christmas at Swastika."

The Advance ten years ago referred to the loss sustained at Christmastide by Mr. J. A. Hough, mines recorder at Matheson, and member of the local Exemptions Tribunal. His parents suffered even greater loss at the time. His family being in Toronto for the season, Mr. Hough decided to spend Christmas with his parents at Charlton. He was enjoying himself Christmas Eve in the old home with his father and mother, both of whom were in their seventies. His mother had shown him the fine fowl so skilfully prepared and ready for the oven, and the pudding already cooked, and all the other cheering Christmas fare. After the Christmas Eve supper at home Mr. Hough had occasion to go to the station and on his return he saw the home in flames. The fire had started apparently from a defective chimney or overheated stovepipes, and nothing could be done to save the building. Charlton having no form of fire protection, the fire simply had to burn itself out. The house was one of the first erected in Charlton and it was dry as tinder. Consequently, it burned very rapidly, and to add to the discomforts of the misfortune, the weather was intensely cold. Mr. and Mrs. Hough, Sr., were only able to escape from the burning house, and nothing could be saved. Mr. J. A. Hough lost all his clothing, but what he wore, while his parents were in the same plight as regards this, and in addition they lost their household effects, their property, etc. Only a small insurance policy was carried on the house, other policies having recently been allowed to lapse on account of the very high insurance rates."

During the past few days the Timmins firemen have had an unusually large number of calls. It was much the same ten years ago, that is, of course, with consideration for the proportion of the town then to its present size and business. In reference to the number of calls on the firemen ten years ago, The Advance said:—"In the past week the Timmins fire brigade has had several calls, and by their prompt response and skilful work they kept the fires as affairs of no particular importance. In view of the high wind blowing and the intense cold on Friday morning last, for instance, the record could easily have been serious, but by their usual speedy response and able handling of the fires the two blazes on that occasion were promptly put under control, though the conditions frightened most people with thoughts of possible disaster. One of the fires on that occasion was at Sam Shubb's on Fourth avenue and the other call at 55 Fifth avenue. On Sunday morning a small fire also developed at the Cottage hospital, Fourth avenue, opposite the fire hall,



ART. CHAPMAN

Is one of the finds of the season. He was playing for Port Arthur last year when he was discovered by a New York Rangers' scout. He is fast and a good stick handler.

but it was handled with such promptitude and skill that it also "amounted to nothing." On Wednesday evening of this week another alarm came from the Cottage hospital where the nucleus of a bad fire was discovered in a mattress that had caught fire in some manner or another in one of the rooms used by roomers. The chemical tank, however, finished this little fire without any particular damage. In December the firemen had seven runs, and the New Year is starting out lively, but luckily Fire Chief Borland and his men are the skilled and competent kind that may be depended upon to keep the fires "of no account."

In 1917 The Advance wished one and all a very happy and prosperous New Year, and to-day, ten years later, the wish is repeated with all sincerity.

Houston Post-Despatch:—"We could not print what some of our hog-callers call the road hogs."

HAILEYBURY BOY HAS SHOULDER HURT AT PLAY

The Haileyburian last week says:—"While at play in the basement of the Public School on Tuesday morning, Walter Johnson, aged 14, whose home just now is at the Children's Shelter here, was badly injured in the shoulder. With several other boys he was spending the recess period in the play room provided and in some way got a severe bump against the wall. He was taken home and Dr. Jackson was summoned. The injury proved to be somewhat serious and the boy was taken to the Red Cross Hospital in the afternoon, where he is being taken care of."

Wall Street Journal:—"Chicago can survive the Union Jack better than the blackjack."

Geo. C. Murphy

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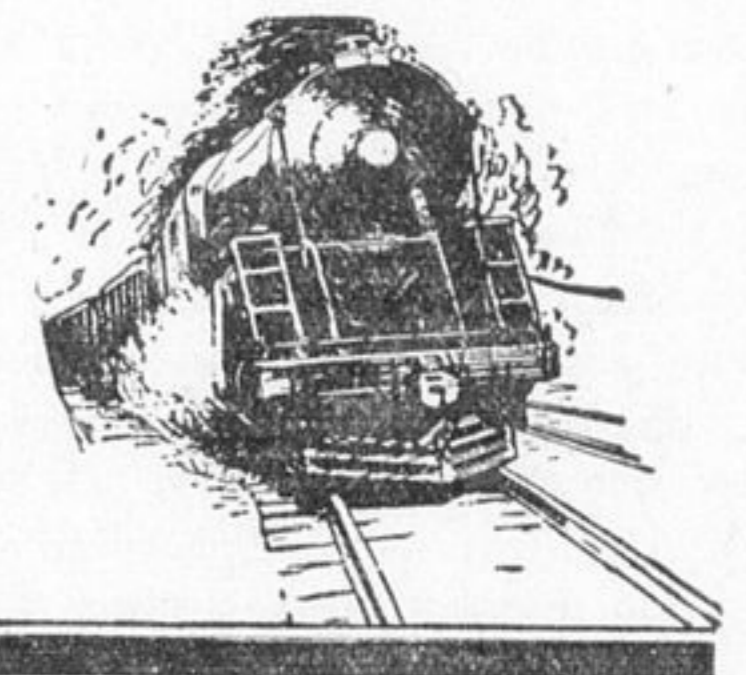
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