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South Porcupine Audience Pleased With Clever Play

Event Under Auspices of Goldfields Band Successful and Enjoyed. Rebekahs of South Porcupine to Hold Dance on May 2nd. Other News from South Porcupine Correspondent.

South Porcupine, April 25th, 1928. Special to The Advance.

Mrs. Starling returned on Saturday from Hearst. She expects her daughter, Mrs. Pelkie, from Latchford, to visit her here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McKinley are visiting the parental home in Toronto. We hear that two boys (?) who failed to walk the plank properly on Railroad street on Saturday night fell into the water and had an early dive. They managed to get out again without any fatal mishap.

The Rebekahs are planning a Specialty Dance for Wednesday, May 2nd. Euchre and bridge will also be played. A number of artistic May-Day features are planned as well as balloon dances, lucky number dances, etc., all with special prizes. The event is to take place at the L.O.O.F. hall.

Timmins residents figured prominently in last Thursday's police court. One well-known business man from there paid \$10 and costs for having no markers on his car. Another resident, prominent in guiding the town, was accused of having the wrong markers, while two of their business firms each paid a fine for permitting the use of a dealer's number plate on their cars. From our own part of the camp there were two drunks who paid the usual fines, while Napoleon Geneveaux paid fifty dollars and costs for having liquor illegally.

At the police court this Thursday one man is to be arraigned under Section 285C of the Criminal Code, that is, of unlawfully driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor. His two companions in the car are also to be charged with being under the influence. If found guilty the minimum penalty this resident can be given is seven days in jail. Another case that is coming up on this Thursday is rather unusual. The common carrier under the Liquor Control Act drove into South Porcupine to make a delivery. While he was doing so, a Finlander evidently used to practising sleight of hand tricks is said to have gotten possession of another bottle of alcohol from the carrier. The carrier at once missed it and on reporting it to the police a search was immediately made. The only clue was the fact that some women had seen this Finlander make undue haste into his boarding-house. The place was searched and Mr. Finlander was found apparently taking a nap in bed but had neglected to take off his boots. Further search revealed the alcohol bottle in a waste-paper basket outside his door. Now he is awaiting at the Township's hostel here, to explain that particular sleight of hand trick of the type "Now you see it, now you don't," but wasn't so successful when it came to "Now you taste it, now you don't."

The play, "An Old-Fashioned Mother," given under the auspices of Porcupine Goldfields band, in the Majestic theatre on Thursday, April 19th, drew a full house. In the ticket-selling campaign before that night Margaret Suttie won the girl's prize and Harold Train the boy's prize. These were Eversharp pencils donated by South End Pharmacy. The play was of the comedy-drama type and moved quickly from the sublime to the ridiculous. There was an outstanding moral in its teachings and both pathos and fun in its development. As the "Old-Fashioned Mother" Mrs. J. Costain took the part splendidly, her admonishments being most realistic and motherly. As "Louisa Loving Susanna Custard," the village seamstress and gossip and would-be belle, Mrs. K. Humphrys kept the amusement going throughout, for as she said "Ain't I the silly little thing?" Not as young

as she would like to be, her perkish actions to appear so and her matrimonial plans for Parson Guggs and Squire Quackenbush, kept the audience convulsed with laughter. Mr. Ben Mitchell, "the swappinest guy that ever was," as Jerry Gosling, was a revelation as a comic actor. We did not think Ben could be so funny even in a play. His mimicry of Squire Quackenbush's proposal to "Lowzy" Custard was one of the high lights of the evening. His "swapping" propensities were continually bringing out ludicrous situations. Mrs. W. W. Wilson, the leader of the village choir, was the "Widder Bill Pindle," and looked the part, while little Bernice MacDonald as her daughter, "Sukey," was remarkably good. Mrs. George Train fittingly took the part of Mother Underhill's maid with a heart of gold. Miss Isabel McWilliams looked very pretty as the fiancée of Charley Underhill. Allan Pearce, Jr., and Rev. F. Bain, as two sons of Mother Underhill, were quite realistic in their acting. R. McWilliams, Sr., fitted admirably into the part of the dignified but self-seeking Squire Quackenbush. George Humphrys, first as the outcast, Enoch Rone, then later as the successful business man, took both parts equally well, while Quits Todd, the county sheriff, was made quite true to life by Mr. Tom Gibbons. The play opened with the "Singin' School" taking place in Mother Underhill's "seetin' room." The quaint old-fashioned costumes of the singers made a picturesque setting. Mrs. Libby presided at the ancient organ. Along with the players, Mrs. Suttie, Mrs. Bridges, Mrs. Webb, Miss Gibbons, Messrs. George Woods and Bill Allan comprised the choir. Their rendition of "Sweet and Low" was harmonious and appealing, while the serenade "Mother" from behind the scenes was also much appreciated by the music-lovers present. We heard one party remark that they had no idea so many old-fashioned costumes could be gathered together in Porcupine. These costumes of the styles of fifty years ago added much to the charm of the scenes. The play that includes a modern-day fashion-revue does not appeal to a Porcupine audience like those that have the sentiment of years gone by. There are a few who prefer the up-to-the-minute jazzy stuff but they are in the minority. As has been proven on several occasions it is the play with a moral, the play that appeals to the depths of the best in one's nature, relieved by fun and wit, that appeals to a Porcupine audience and such was "An Old-Fashioned Mother." Rev. F. Bain, who directed it, as well as the actors, are receiving many compliments on it and the exchequer of the band has been substantially replenished. They have been asked to give the same play before a Timmins audience and will hold a meeting Wednesday night to decide whether they can go or not to our neighbouring town.

The Scouts have signalled to us the following report of their week's work. We thoroughly enjoyed Friday evening, being numbered among the parents and friends who were invited to watch their work. It is truly creditable the efforts Scoutmaster Andrews and his assistant scoutmaster, Frank Sullivan, are putting forth for the boys. Their scout choruses were sung to the accompaniment of A. S. M. Sullivan's saxophone. The spirit of comradeship and the zest which the boys put into their work was most pleasing.

Scout News.
 On Tuesday, April 17, second class tests were tried. John Sharp, Abie Frumkin, Owen Wright and Rupert Martin passed in first aid. Owen Wright, Gordon Owens, Abie Frumkin and Max Smith passed in observation. Owen Wright and Abie Frumkin passed in signalling.
 On Wednesday evening Tenderfoot test were tried, Frank Vronick passing. The Investiture ceremony was rehearsed. Max Smith in passing his first aid test on Thursday and his signalling on Friday won his second class standing.
 On Friday evening, the troop assembled at headquarters at 7.15 p.m. The room was straightened away, and roll call held, etc. Chairs were placed around the walls for the boys' parents. Games in some of which the parents joined, and the regular order of procedure of the Scouts followed. Then came the very impressive ceremony of Investiture. After the ceremony, the troop sat around the council fire, and songs were sung. The following Scouts received second class badges:—John Sharp, Carlo Cattarello, Harry Martin, Thomas Holding, Jack O'Shea, Barney Bucovetsky, Harold Melnis, Max Smith, Owen Wright, Rupert Martin and Abie Frumkin.
 On Saturday afternoon, April 21st, the troop held the most successful hike in their history. Leaving headquarters at 2.15 p.m., they paraded through town, patrol flags flying, the objective being the first rocks, south east of town. Supper was cooked and served with games after. P. L. Cattarello's team won the new game of "Tails."

MUTUAL LIFE COMPANY MAKES ANOTHER RECORD

An interesting announcement is made by The Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada to the effect that a Special Extra Dividend to the amount of \$700,000 is to be paid this year to its participating policyholders. From information received from the Company's Head Office, it is learned that the percentage of dividend will be graded according to duration of policies, those which have been longer in force receiving a larger percentage of Extra Dividend. The scale of Extra Dividend commences at 10% of the regular annual dividend payable in 1928 on policies one year in force, and is as high as 25% for longer durations.

The Extra Dividend is to be paid by cheque whenever possible, and as the calculation of the amount of the Extra Dividends and the preparation of cheques will involve considerable detail work, the Company does not anticipate that any cheques will be issued until after the middle of the year.

While Special Extra Dividends have occasionally been paid by other Life Insurance Companies elsewhere when warranted by earnings and accumulated surplus funds, this is the first occasion on which a Canadian company has adopted this method of sharing earnings with policyholders.

April showers bring ardent hopes, —that they won't turn into snow before morning.—Cobalt Nugget.

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