

Ten Years Ago in Timmins

FROM DATA IN THE PORCUPINE ADVANCE FILES

The files of The Advance ten years ago give ample evidence of the interest always taken by this paper in the air service. One of the items in The Advance of June 26th, 1928, will be of special interest because of recent attention here to airship services and possibilities. "The first Royal Air Mail service in Canada," says The Advance, was inaugurated on June 23rd between Montreal and Toronto, when Capt. Byran Heck, of the Royal Air Force, took a batch of mail on his return trip from Montreal. He made the trip in about five hours. The regular mail service takes about double that time. Capt. Heck was not attempting to make record time, but rather, giving attention to doing the trip in a way that could be easily maintained under ordinary conditions in future.

"A sad and unusual accident occurred on Saturday last at Moneta," says The Advance ten years ago, "when Mrs. Furlan Oneclato was fatally burned while working around a stove. She had a light silk dress on and it is thought that in some way the dress took fire and before help could reach her she was so seriously burned that she died within twelve hours, passing away at the Cottage hospital early on Sunday morning. Among the particularly sad features of the accident is the fact that Mrs. Oneclato was only twenty years of age and had only been married a few months."

Rev. Albert Marchant, formerly of South Porcupine, was married at Cochrane on June 19, 1918, to Miss Mary Alice Switzer, of Hunta, Ont. The ceremony took place in the Pro-Cathedral, the Right Rev. Bishop Anderson officiating.

"With the end of this month of June," said The Advance ten years ago, "the stockbroking office of

Homer L. Gibson & Co., in Timmins will be closed. Homer L. Gibson's office was one of the first stockbroking offices in the camp, and it has always been a centre of interest to the people here, up-to-date methods and courtesy being features of its service. Recently, however, the condition of the markets and business in general has made the continuance of the office here unpractical and so Mr. Gibson decided to close it down for the present. With the return of more normal conditions later on, the office will no doubt be re-opened."

The work of national registration in Timmins ten years ago was carried out smoothly, quietly and successfully. The deputy registrars and assistants handled their work effectively. The total registration was estimated at over 3000. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 19th, 20th and 21st, 1918, registering was done at the town offices. There was a big crowd in line each day from 9 a.m. to closing time. On the second day the crowd pressed so hard to get in to the offices that the plate glass window was crushed in. Fortunately no one was hurt. On the Saturday the work was taken up at the public school and with a large staff of assistants everything went very smoothly. Practically everybody registered as required by law. Of course, a few neglected the duty, but they were a very inconsiderable proportion.

In The Advance ten years ago, on the request of many local citizens of Finnish origin, the position of the people of Finland in general in regard to the war was given. The Advance published an interview with Senteri Nuorteva, representative in the United States of the People's Republic of Finland. According to the representative, the Finnish people had been temporarily defeated by the Fin-

nish aristocracy in conjunction with the German army. "The fight is not ended," he said. "The great majority of the Finnish people awaits the first opportunity to drive out the German invaders, and the day of reckoning will soon come. The representative reviewed the political history of Finland to make the country's attitude understandable. He pointed out the high standards of literacy in Finland. Ninety-eight per cent of the population can read and write. A popular culture, he said, had grown up as part of the labour movement, together with a noteworthy co-operative organization. He asked the people of this continent to have patience and faith in the eventual triumph of freedom and the right in Finland."

Ten years ago the ladies of Timmins took active interest in bowling. In an issue about this time of year in 1918, The Advance carried a challenge from the Bachelor Girls to the Married Ladies for a game of duck pins at King's bowling parlours.

The subject of the sketch in The Advance ten years ago under the heading, "Prominent in the Porcupine," was Mr. C. B. Morgan, township of Tisdale councillor, 1918. It was noted that Mr. Morgan was a real old-timer of the North, coming to Cobalt in 1909 and to the Porcupine in 1911, about three months before the big fire. "He has always taken an active and intelligent interest in the progress of the district," said The Advance, "and is ever ready to lend a hand for the advancement of any and every good cause. He has been president of the board of trade, a member of the executive of the Porcupine Consolidated Patriotic Club, active in the Canadian Club circles, and a willing worker with the Patriotic Society. This year he is a member of the township of Tisdale council and is giving earnest and capable municipal service. Asked for particulars as to his inner life history Mr. Morgan said:—In politics I am an Anglian and in religion I am a conservative. He also confessed to

being very religious that way. He was born in Hamilton, Ont., in 1872, and is a graduate of McGill. He fought in South Africa for the Empire, and on his return to Canada took post-graduate courses in civil engineering and analytical chemistry. For two or three years he was chemist and chemical superintendent for the Nickel Copper Co., at Hamilton. He was chief chemist for the Portland Cement works at Blue Lake, Ont. In the West he followed the mining game in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Arizona, Mexico, Japan, and other centres. His knowledge and experience to-day are at the public service of the people of the Porcupine. Here he is ever ready to help in any good public cause from patriotic endeavour to municipal enterprise."

In The Advance ten years ago appeared a front page article describing one Mountjoy townships successful farmers, Mr. J. D. Charron, whose farm was about one and a quarter miles up the river on the Government road on the other side of the Mattagami. The Advance referred to oats grown on Mr. Charron's farm. From 12 bushels put in he garnered 108 bushels on 4 acres. The oats were of fine type, well-headed, and were between 3½ and 4 feet high. With barley he was equally successful, one bushel of seed increasing in harvest to 15 bushels of grain. From 15 bags of seed potatoes Mr. Charron the previous year had harvested over 200 bags of fine potatoes. In addition in 1917 Mr. Charron had about 18 tons of hay on his farm. Mr. Charron was the first man to build a house in Golden City in the early days. In 1911 he moved to Mountjoy and took up farming. In 1918 he had 35 acres all cleared, with about 25 acres in crop. He had 2 teams of horses, 13 head of cattle and other farm stock, and also had a threshing machine. His farm was later bought by Mr. Chas. Pierce and was known as the Pierce farm.

The Schumacher Red Cross report

for May, 1918, signed by Mrs. Harry Leng, secretary, showed that in the month 48 housewives, 32 filled comfort bags, 24 suits pyjamas, and 480 towels were shipped to headquarters.

"The use of sulphur in the manufacture of high explosives," says The Advance ten years ago, "has roused renewed interest in the sulphide dyke in Otto and Eby townships near Swastika. Some old-time prospectors have gone in to look over the district. The dyke has been followed along for about two and a half miles in length and is said to show a rich deposit of sulphide that promises rich returns in commercial sulphur."

Two gold bricks shipped by the Lake Shore Mines ten years ago had a value of \$45,000.00. They represented the mine's output for May. For part of March and for April and May of that year, the Lake Shore produced over \$100,000.00 in gold.

The following item from the mining notes in The Advance ten years ago will be of interest:—"Mr. Hamilton B. Wills has opened a brokerage office in Cobalt, with Mr. A. A. Amos in charge. Mr. Amos, who was the junior partner in Kiely, Smith & Amos, has severed his connection with that firm." Mr. Amos is now president of the A. E. Moysey Co.

"Among the little rushes these days that would be a big rush in days gone by for the present, may be mentioned the rush to Cairo and Powell townships in the Matachewan area," says The Advance ten years ago. "There the Dunbar claims are said to be panning free gold freely. There is free gold in tempting abundance on the Otisse property. Over a hundred men are at work in the locality, 35 on the Otisse claims, 20 on the Davidson and 30 on the F. C. Sutherland claims."

Among the local and personal items in The Advance ten years ago are the following:—"Mrs. N. Racicot visited Haileybury friends last week." "Mr. John Power returned home last week for a few days' furlough from his military duties." "Born in Timmins, Ont., on Wednesday, June 19th, 1918,

to Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Moore—a daughter." "Mrs. Walter Armitage and children, and her younger sister, Miss Henrietta Boyle, of Cobalt, left on Wednesday last to spend a three-months' visit with relatives and friends in the West." "The black flies will be deprived of their famous game of hide and seek among the whiskers this year of a noted North Land prospector, for he struck town this week with a complete clean shave." "Fireman Dan rises to explain that all the nasty weather recently has been deliberately put on to clear away everything disagreeable before July 1st. Dan says that July 1st will be a perfect day." "During the registration last week Dominion Police Cloudery arrested half a dozen men for not carrying their military papers. Justice of the Peace H. E. Montgomery allowed the men to go after a warning." "Judge Hartman has given decision in the appeal cases against the assessment of the tenants of residences built on Canadian Government lands at Cochrane. His conclusion is that the tenants of the Government lands at Cochrane are occupying same in their official capacity and so can not be assessed." "A number of bush fires were visible last week from town, but though some of them were threatening in appearance, none of them were near town, nor was the town in the line of march should they get running wild. Moreover, there is the comfort these days that the fire rangers are on the job all the time with men and equipment to fight and control bush fires." "Chief A. Borland went down on Wednesday's National to Cobalt to attend the noted annual ball of the Cobalt firemen. He returned on Friday and reported the event as an enjoyable success as usual." "Mr. M. J. Roche has sold his jewelry business in Cochrane to Mr. R. V. Fraser, thus severing entirely his connection with business in the North Land. Mr. Roche, who has moved to St. Thomas, where he has purchased a business, at one time had wide connections in the North Country. In addition to his Cochrane store he had a jewelry business in Timmins, and after selling the latter he bought another business in Sturgeon Falls. He has been in Cochrane since 1910 and his many friends in the North Land will regret to see his permanent departure for the South. The new purchaser of the Cochrane jewelry store, Mr. R. V. Fraser, has been with Mr. Roche for over four years, previously having been in the jewelry business at Whitby, St. Thomas and Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. Fraser is well known and popular in Cochrane, and has many friends in Timmins who will give him all good wishes for success in his new venture."

PARENTS OF LATE W. FIELD EXPRESS THEIR THANKS

The following letter has been received from Mr. and Mrs. W. Field, parents of the late Mr. W. A. Field, who passed away in Timmins last month, and who is deeply mourned by hundreds of friends in this North Land: 14 Sultan street, Beekenham, Kent, Eng., June 11th, 1928

To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir:—We have read with deep feelings and appreciation the many letters and messages of sympathy in your paper dated Thursday, May 17th, respecting the death of our son, William Field, of Timmins, who died on May 15th, which is deeply felt by us all and all who knew him. Will you please accept and convey to all friends concerned in these messages our heartfelt thanks for their kind and sympathetic words.

We have the great satisfaction of knowing that he died surrounded by many friends.

Yours faithfully,
Mr. and Mrs. W. Field.

He: "That's a swell dress you have on."

She: "It ought to be, it came from Paris."

He: "I thought it came from the West."

She: "Why?"

He: "It has so many open spaces!"

—Exchange.

Geo. C. Murphy

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