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**Ten Years Ago
in Timmins**

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files.

In The Advance ten years ago there is a lengthy report of the regular meeting of the Timmins town council. One of the chief items before the meeting was the matter of bush fire menace around the town. The council made it plain that they looked to the Government to have this danger to the town removed. Mayor McInnis urged the necessity for keeping at the Government until the dangerous bush section around the town was removed. The council also had a petition, signed by practically all the residents of Rochester township, asking to be annexed to the town. The mayor suggested that it might be a good thing to have a petition also from Moneta so that the two townships might be annexed at the same time. Councillor Longmore pointed out that several Moneta people had spoken to him about having that township annexed to the town and he had explained to them that the council could do nothing until there was a petition from the residents. J. T. Easton called the attention of the council to the fact that the Protestant cemetery was not laid out in sections and sub-sections. Several had been enquiring about the purchase of lots, and there were also several bodies in the vault that would soon have to be buried. He advised that the town see about securing the burying ground, its proper survey, etc. Later, Rev. Fr. Theriault explained that he had been in negotiation with the owners of the property, but their price was so high it might be necessary to expropriate. Rev. Fr. Theriault also referred to the appeal being made to all the municipalities of the North for assistance to the hospital at Halleybury. This hospital since 1910 had given excellent hospital service to the North and all would agree, he thought, that all the towns of the North would consider it a calamity if lack of finances made it necessary to

close this good institution. One of the biggest burdens the institution had to carry was the bad debts. There were patients from all over the North and some of them could not pay and others neglected. Patients from Timmins totalled about \$1400.00 in this way. The council promised consideration though the mayor pointed out that the finances of the town had to be closely watched in the interests of the people.

Timmins Golf Club organized for 1920 season with the following officers duly elected:—Patrons—Messrs N. A. Holden, J. R. Timmins, and Dr. McDougall, these being the directors of the Hollinger Mine. President—A. F. Brigham; vice-president, J. W. Fogg; secretary-treasurer, J. P. Tallon; executive, Messrs W. J. Johnston, H. C. McDonald, H. C. Garner and R. Lilly; captain, D. Mackie; vice-captain, H. C. McDonald. The annual meeting was very largely attended and there was much enthusiasm. The club had a paid-up membership of thirty at the time.

On Friday evening, April 9th, the Goldfields Branch G.W.V.A., Timmins, commemorated the battle of Vimy Ridge by a Vimy Dance. The event was a very pleasant one, with about 100 couples present. The orchestra, including Mrs. Faithful at the piano, Mr. Deeming on the violin, and "Lefty" Farr on the drums, presented a fine programme of good dance music.

"Within the course of a week or two," said The Advance of April 14th, 1920, "the Dominion Bank will have a branch office in Timmins, temporary quarters to be used first in the small building on Pine street now utilized as an office by the Pierce Lumber Co. It is understood that the bank intends to build permanent quarters at an early date. Mr. Grant, recently accountant of the Dominion Bank, at Orillia, will be the first manager of the new branch here."

Miss Ivy Ludford, while walking on the tracks at Porcupine Junction ten years ago, was struck by a shunting engine and sustained a fractured leg, an injured collar bone, scalp wounds and bruises on the head and face as a result. The girl was twelve years old at the time and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ludford, residing at Porcupine Junction. A trainman who was riding on the cow-catcher of the engine made frantic effort to save her life. Though he threw her from the track he was not able to get her out of reach of the front of the engine. She was taken to the Iroquois Falls hospital where she was reported from the time of her entry to be making good progress to recovery.

At the regular meeting of the Timmins branch of the G.W.V.A. ten years ago the question of securing club house quarters here for the veterans was again before the meeting. The meeting was enthusiastic for the securing of a club house and the matter of details was left in the hands of a committee of three.

W. Gurrell, for years a porter at the Pacific hotel, North Bay, and previously one of the old-timers of the Porcupine in the early days, being employed then at the King George hotel, South Porcupine, was found dead ten years ago at the edge of the Italian quarter at North Bay. The jury enquiring into the death gave a verdict to the ef-

fect that he had been killed by a blow from a sharp club, together with exposure to cold, etc. The jury had no evidence to connect anyone with the murder, but the death was looked upon as a clear case of murder. "Billy the Pig," as he was known in the Porcupine in the early days, was one of the characters of the camp when this district was young. He was a good-humoured and agreeable fellow, always ready to do a good turn for anybody, and there was much wonder here as to who could have killed him and for what possible reason. He was widely known all through the North and beyond, through his position with hotels. He made a special name for himself as the custodian of some pet bear cubs at the Pacific hotel. He used to take the bears out on chains and crowds always followed. He was kind to youngsters, and the latter used to have a lot of fun with Billy. The police took up the case and made effort to find the person guilty of this crime.

The Advance ten years ago said:—"An enquiry is being conducted by the Drury Government into the affairs of the Department of Lands, Forests and Mines at Toronto, there having been charges suggested that there were irregularities in connection with timber deals and other matters. Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, former Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, says he welcomes the investigation for he has nothing to fear. His department was always conducted honestly and efficiently and an enquiry will prove that all was well."

Ten years ago Paddy Rowe had a good letter in The Advance urging better service at the Timmins post office. He specially urged more consideration to box-holders in the matter of the hours in which the post office was open for them. The fairness of the requests made by Mr. Rowe is shown by the fact that the hours for some years past have been even more extended than requested by him in the public interests.

In the police court news ten years ago reference was made to an unmentionable crime of which a man from South Porcupine was accused. The crime was of so revolting a nature that even a hint of its character could not be given. It was certainly most objectionable.

The election returns for the by-election in Temiskaming ten years ago were given by The Advance. The final unofficial reports gave Angus McDonald, Labour, 5293 votes; Major Pullen, Conservative, 3060; A. G. Slight, Liberal, 3102. There was less than half of the total vote polled.

Ten years ago The Advance warned the youngsters against the dangers lurking in broken bottles and other glass thrown around. One youngster had sustained a badly cut hand through falling on a piece of glass. Another had a permanent injury to one of his toes through stepping on a broken bottle while in his bare feet. Other similar accidents were referred to by The Advance, the editorial concluding:—"Youngsters, shun the bottle! At the first it sparkles and glitters, and smashes with a beautiful crash, but in the end it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

Among the local and personal notes in The Advance ten years ago were the following:—"There will be very general sympathy extended to E. G. Hand, of the Northern Miner Co., Cobalt, in the sudden death last week of his wife. The late Mrs. Hand passed away suddenly at her former home in Fenelon Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Hand had been married less than fifteen months." "A very pleasant social and at home was given by the local lodge of the Rebekahs in their lodge rooms in the basement of St. Matthew's church on Thursday evening last. There was a large attendance and all had a very enjoyable evening." "H. W. Darling left last week for the Pas, Manitoba, to examine some mining properties in that district." "The marriage of two popular and esteemed young people of the town took place on Wednesday of last week when Charles Jamieson and Miss Pearl Archer were united in the bonds of matrimony, the ceremony being performed by Rev. J. D. Parks. Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson will take up residence in the house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Killingbeck. Their many friends in the camp will extend sincere good wishes." "J. D. MacLean left on Tuesday for a visit down on the farm at his home in New Liskeard. Jack has promised to be back here sure for the Firemen's annual ball on May 24th." "Misses Caroline E. Smallcombe and Lella B. Gott, of Cobalt, made a surprise visit to Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Hughes, 46 Fourth avenue." "A Finland on Fifth avenue attempted to commit suicide by drinking muriatic acid last week. He either took too much or too little, and now is on the way to recovery. No reason is known at present for the attempted self-destruction." "Mr. Grills, of the W. N. & P. H. Stock jewelry store, returned on Friday last after a two weeks' visit to Toronto, Hamilton and other points south." "Mrs. Jas. D. Cockburn, of Schumacher, returned last week from a visit to several months to the Old Country, accompanied by her daughter who has been completing her educational course in England. Mr. Cockburn and son met them in Toronto on their way here, and the family will take up residence in Schumacher in the house formerly occupied by the pastor of the Schumacher church." "W. Twaddle returned on Sunday from a visit to Owen Sound, Toronto, and other points south, accompanied by his bride, formerly Miss M. Thompson, of the public school staff here. Their many friends here will extend best wishes to them. Mr. and Mrs. Twaddle will take up residence in Rochester township in the house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Martyn. Mr. Martyn, who is on the express company staff on the Porcupine branch,

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