

## The Canadian Legion in the Porcupine

By the Secretary-Treasurer

This week we have applications for membership from a number of comrades. The above comrades and also all other comrades who have not been initiated are requested to be present on Monday, July 27th, at the Oddfellows' hall to be initiated. I have several badges that have not been claimed yet, and will have same at this general meeting. There will be the usual happy hour after the meeting, and I think our rink manager, Comrade Cowan, will be glad of some help to get the rink ready for the Week of Wonders, which will be bigger and better than ever. The Week of Wonders will be graced at the start by the crack swimmers of the Vi-tone Company from Toronto. Prizes that have been won at the Goldenfield and Legion Swim at Golden City will also be presented at the rink on Monday, August 3rd. The rink this year will be laid out according to plan and many business people in Timmins are taking the advantage of the Week of Wonders. Some local merchants will have booths for show purposes.

Up to date we have refreshments, ice cream, soft drinks, etc., by the Ladies' Auxiliary of Timmins Branch 88.

Then we have the usual Bingo and midway features, greasy pole, coconut shy, prize booth, and many other interesting features.

On Wednesday, August 5th, we are putting on a boxing show, second to none in the country. A first-class boxing event has been arranged and as usual there will be a large crowd. Tickets may be obtained from the Goldenfield Drug store and also tickets for the draw may be obtained at the same place.

We hope the Colonel will launch a great offensive in the sale of boxing tickets and tickets for the draw and keep counter attacking until the "prisoners" or "shakels" roll in to aid the Legion relief fund.

There will be another feature that we must not forget and that is guessing the weight of a load of coal. In fact the whole Week of Wonders will be a real live show, nothing dead at all during the week, and everyone will wonder what the next wonder will be.

Then we have "Mr. Legion," the mystery man, who will give \$5.00 nightly during the Week of Wonders to the person who accuses him properly with the prize donation ticket in one hand.

You must stop Mr. Legion and say:—"You are Mr. Legion, of Timmins Branch 88. I claim the \$5.00 gold piece."

The mystery man will be under our mystery director, Comrade H. C. Garner, and there will be a different mystery man each night. Just as a reminder to all, a prize donation ticket must be held in one hand when accusing Mr. Legion.

In connection with the general meeting on Monday, July 27th, we want to have resolutions to send down to the convention. So everyone get busy and think out a good sensible resolution to be put forward from the largest branch north of Toronto.

Our relief fund these days is getting fast used up, as we are doing lots in the line of relief. We keep getting one put over us and it makes one mad to think where these smooth-tongued imposters get their nerve.

We have now to nearly put a man through the third degree to make sure he is an ex-soldier and is deserving of aid.

Our tent by the lake is filled to overflowing and we hope to have another tent up before this letter appears in print.

The bright side of our troubles comes when a comrade whom we have assisted gets work and then comes along and joins the Timmins Branch of the Canadian Legion and makes one more to aid the good cause.

Just a little reminder to the comrades and others who want to see the president on Legion business. It should be remembered that the president has his own work to look after before the Legion and a year ago he set aside the hour from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. for Legion business. For many weeks past his working hours have been bothered with people on Legion business coming from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. This is going a little too far and many of those people who are continually going to the president could just as easily go between 10 and 11 a.m. as go and interrupt the president's regular work. So everyone remember that the hour set aside for Legion business at the president's office will be from 10 to 11 a.m. and no Legion business will be done at any other hour. Strict observance of this rule will greatly assist the president in his work for the Legion.

Comrades and others may see the two chief prizes of the donation draw as

### COBALT MAN DIED FROM SUFFOCATION, SAYS JURY

A verdict of death by suffocation was returned by the coroner's jury at Cobalt which inquired into the death of a man identified by Inspector Walter Moore as Fred Skomerew. The man was only known by the name of Fred, and the provincial police had considerable work before his complete identity could be learned. He was eventually traced through former employers at North Bay. He was about 52 years of age and is said to have been a native of Galicia.

According to the evidence at the inquest held at Cobalt last week, Skomerew's body was found in a room upstairs in a two-storey frame building, and the fatal blaze originated in that apartment, according to Fire Chief William Stinson, who thought it might have been caused by a cigarette smoked by the deceased. Doctors J. A. H. Joyal and J. A. Kane testified that suffocation was the cause of death, but while the latter described the burns on Skomerew's head and body as superficial, Dr. Joyal considered they would have proved fatal, apart from the other cause.

Evidence adduced before the jury suggested there had been considerable drinking prior to the fire, and that Skomerew had participated in this.

Follows: the Chesterfield suite is in the window of the Helperin Furniture Company Third avenue, and the radio can be seen in the Goldenfield Drug store.

By the middle of the week we will have cards out for advertising purposes and by the end of this week we hope to have the boxing line-up for Wednesday, August 5th, and the tickets out for the boxing. Prices will be popular and everyone should secure their ticket for the boxing and avoid the last minute rush. As I have said before the Colonel will attack the boxing with his usual "Wim and Wigor" and the tickets should go like hot cakes, and I might also add that donation tickets which are necessary to access Mr. Legion may be had at the Helperin Furniture Company store, and at the Colonel's.

Just as a reminder I might add we have a lot of work to do to get the rink ready, so all comrades who are on day shift the week starting July 27th, be on hand at the rink from 6 p.m. on, and lend a hand to get the rink in shape. A hammer and a saw and a little Legion spirit is all that is needed to get these ready for the Week of Wonders, the big show put on by the Timmins Branch 88, Canadian Legion, to boost its relief fund to help those who are unable to help themselves.

—The Secretary-Treasurer.

### Other Towns Should be Protected in This

Transients Should Not be Allowed to Burden Timmins and Other Towns if Ousted from Cochrane Enough Transients Here Now.

The Advance believes that its first duty is to the citizens of this town and district, and so, though sympathizing with the decent unemployed men who may be in Cochrane and with Cochrane itself in this matter, this paper views with alarm the possibilities suggested by a plan now urged by the people of Cochrane. This plan briefly is that the objectionable transients in Cochrane be got out of there at once, irrespective of where they may go. The Northland Post, for instance complains that while the transients flocked to Cochrane on freight trains they were not allowed to leave by that method. What the Cochrane newspaper means is that the T. & N. O. refused to carry out free these transients and thus curse all the towns along the line. Timmins and other towns are grateful to the T. & N. O. for stopping the further imposition of these transients on these towns. Timmins, for instance, has not enough work for the people here, so why bring further transients here? The town is heavily enough taxed now and has done all it could to help. There are scores of people here unable to raise the amount of the taxes on their properties and hundreds of others who find it a hardship. Why should further burden be inflicted on this or any other town. There is no work here or prospect of any work for any further influx of transients. If Cochrane drives out the transients there,—and The Advance does not see how the people of Cochrane can be blamed if they do,—then Timmins and the other centres in this part of the North should take effective measures to see that Cochrane's burden is not transferred to other shoulders already galled with an undesired load. There is not enough work here for those here already. That statement can not be over-emphasized, or repeated too often. Timmins should prepare to prevent any further influx here, especially the type from which Cochrane seeks now to rid itself. Timmins should see without fail that these men are not allowed to slip in here as so many have done. A wholesale rounding-up of transients should be made if the town is endangered in the way suggested.

What should be done in the case of Cochrane is that all these transients should be taken in charge by the Government and shipped to some place where there is work or work can be made. Work might be started at once on the trans-Canada highway from Hearst westward, for instance.

The situation is a serious one for Cochrane, but that is no reason why it should be made more serious for Timmins. It is bad enough here now.

An unusual editorial on the matter was published last week in The Northland Post, of Cochrane, this editorial reading as follows:—"In looking back over Cochrane's rather checkered history, one fact stands out quite clearly. All of the several misfortunes which the town has suffered have been due primarily to human agencies. The two major fires, with their heavy property loss and consequent set-back; the typhoid epidemic, with its heavy toll in human lives and suffering; the present unemployment situation, with its financial drain upon both municipality and private citizens and the accompanying menace, of which we had a sample on Monday. Each has been the result of human failure to protect the interests of the town and its citizens.

Monday's occurrence was most regrettable, marring as it did, the record for extremely good conduct which the large number of unemployed here have heretofore maintained. It is not our intention to in any way condone what took place on Monday, nor to excuse those who caused the trouble. That members of the police force should have suffered injuries at the hands of the unemployed here was an example of the blackest ingratitude, as the police have been at great pain right along to do all in their power for the men. We believe, however, that the rank and file of the unemployed regretted the incident as much as did the citizens, and it is most unfortunate that a few turbulent spirits among them should have alienated the sympathies of the townspeople.

Monday's occurrence was an incident, which would not have happened, had the situation been tackled properly from the start. For many months the local situation has been building up to the present crisis, and no steps have been taken to meet it. It was a known fact to almost everybody in town, that for months the railways were permitting these unemployed men to drift in here on freight trains and yet refused to allow them to depart in the same way. As a consequence the proportion of idle men to bona fide citizens has grown to an alarming degree and yet no action was taken to force the railways to let these men out by the same way they came until just recently.

Though the matter has been taken up with the governments, it has been in a very half-hearted manner and not in keeping with the extreme urgency of the situation. Under the circumstances it is perhaps only natural that the governments have been dilatory in doing anything. As a consequence, the citizens of Cochrane have this week been faced with a very real menace, a menace to property and person, which they should never have been called upon to face. Cochrane citizens have a "sword of Damocles" hanging over their

heads this week placed there by procrastination and mismanagement. If, instead of endeavouring to get the Government to feed these men, an honest effort had been made to force the Governments to take them out of town, the citizens would be in a happier position today. We have no desire to see undue force used on these helpless individuals, whose only offence is that they have no tective association, who will make and its citizens must be looked after, and failing satisfactory action on the part of our municipal council, the only solution appears to be in the formation of a citizens' protective association, who will make it their business to properly impress the Governments with the vital need of immediate action, in the removal of these men from our midst. If the Governments will not act, then it will become necessary for the citizens themselves to take measures to send these men out of town. There is no work for them here and will not be in the future, and we cannot tolerate a continuation of the present condition any longer. That we can expect any relief through the municipal council seems most unlikely, when the acting mayor adopts the attitude of "As long as they hold their meetings on Third avenue and do their speech-making there I'm satisfied; but we don't want them down town."

"This is a statement made by him on Thursday of this week, and is hardly the attitude of the majority of citizens, and they will not tolerate a further trifling with such a serious situation. Cochrane has suffered long enough through the inaction of the council and it is now up to the citizens themselves to take steps to bring about a satisfactory solution of the whole matter."

### CAMP ON STRAIN CLAIMS BURNED DOWN ON SATURDAY

Thos. Strain and associates had a rather serious loss on Saturday last when the camps on their claims in Shaw township were destroyed by fire. Mr. Strain had been out from South Porcupine working on the claims and he and the men with him had partaken of breakfast and then left to continue work on the property. When they left the camp everything seemed all right and no reason for expecting all trouble of any kind. On their return at noon to prepare dinner they found the camps had been completely destroyed by fire and they had to walk into South Porcupine, a distance of some seven miles to secure anything to eat as all their provisions as well as furnishings, etc., was destroyed along with the building. The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is thought that it may have been due to mice getting in the matches in the camp. That appears to be the most plausible explanation, though there is the other possibility that the fire may have originated from a lighted cigarette thrown down in the shack.

There was a small insurance carried on the camp. The claims look exceptionally good, and as a consequence the building will be replaced.

Miss MacLean, representative of the Canadian Chautauquas, was in town last week doing preliminary work in connection with the Chautauqua to be held in Timmins on August 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th. The programme for this Chautauqua is considered an unusually good one. Tickets are now on sale.

### NEGOTIATIONS FOR FERRY ACROSS LAKE TEMISKAMING

Despatches from Halleybury say that negotiations are continuing with regard to the proposal to establish a ferry service across The Narrows on Lake Temiskaming, a project that, if carried through, will cut in two the distance between Cobalt and Halleybury, on the one side of the lake, and Ville Marie and surrounding centres on the other. At present, it is necessary for automobile drivers to go round the head of the lake, by way of North Temiskaming and the distance, by that route, from Cobalt to Ville Marie, is about 55 miles.

For some time past, efforts have been made to have a ferry operate at the Old Mission, and the federal authorities have been approached in the matter. Now, Hon. W. A. Gordon, M.P. for Temiskaming South and Minister of Immigration in the Bennett government, has written to the different bodies interested in this section, and has intimated that some progress is being made. The question is one for the De-

partment of Public Works, Mr. Gordon states, and he adds that he has reached an agreement with the Minister there, Hon. H. A. Stewart.

Mr. Gordon, in letters to the municipal councils and the boards of trade on this side, points out that representations should be made by the towns and townships on both sides of lake Temiskaming to the federal authorities, with a request that such a service be established. The procedure then would be for the government to call for tenders from persons interested in running a ferry. Roads have been built by the respective provincial authorities to the shores of the lake, and only a narrow strip of water divides their termini.

A bull moose (without undue emphasis on the bull) recently strolled in to the yard of the Spruce Falls Pulp & Paper Co. mill at Kapuskasing, and as unconcernedly as could be marched around for an hour or more before returning to the bush of the adjacent country.

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## JULY SALE OF FURS

Mr. F. Wexler of the Rideau Furs Limited, of Ottawa is now in Timmins and will be here for two more days, Friday and Saturday, July 24th and 25th. Positively your last opportunity to see the wonderful range of Furs and Fur Coats now on display.

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