

Stag Masquerade at the Turkey Stag

New Feature for This Year's Big Event. Some Other Particulars. Purpose of the Charity Turkey Stag on Friday Evening, Dec. 11th.

What is expected to be one of the best features at any of the many Turkey Stag parties put on by Lap Prairie is the Stag Masquerade to be one of the specialties this year. The idea is to have as many of the patrons as possible come dressed in their old bush or underground clothing. It is doubtful if there is one man out of fifty that has not got some old clothes that he has a hankering to get into just once and attend a real he-man party. Remember the old duds, you used to wear to split the wood or those old torn, fly-oil and gum-stained duds you used for fishing, hunting or prospecting, get into them on the night of December 11, go to the Stag party and bring home the turkey.

Tommy Stephens has again offered the services of his orchestra free of charge and is augmenting it to about 15 pieces. For this one big night he calls his boys the Turkey Stag Orchestra and they play in their bush clothes. Tommy has lined up a bunch of old-time tunes that will bring back fond memories to the old-timers.

The committee in charge of cards this year is arranging to set out 100 tables for cards, as the pivot system of playing, where four men play at the one table only for the evening for a prize of one turkey at each table, proved so popular that last year two sittings had to be arranged. Tables are to be set in both back and front halls this year. The high man at each table wins a turkey and the second high get the deck of cards.

A forty-foot lunch counter is being provided this year to handle the refreshments. The Gruyere cheese for the Stag party was ordered in July direct from Switzerland and is of the same high-grade quality as served last

year. To provide lunch for the Stag party it takes 1,200 full size sandwiches, 40 pounds coffee, 7 gallons of cream, 80 pounds cheese and 25 pounds of crackers.

In past years it was the habit to hand out the free smokes all evening. This method resulted in a smoke cloud that would have been the pride of any big navy. To give the boys a chance to win that turkey at cards this year it has been decided to pass out the free smokes after 10.30 p.m. only. Of course the boys may smoke their own before 10.30 p.m. as there ought to be some smoke at a Turkey Stag.

Familiar to all attendants at past stags is the old game of "Gimme" with the fine turkey flavour. By popular request some years ago it has been made a regular feature of the Stag.

To those who have never attended a Turkey Stag party it might be interesting to them to know the object of these annual parties and what they accomplish.

The object is to raise funds for the purchase of food for donation in the form of Christmas hampers to the needy and destitute of the district. In making distribution, no line is drawn as to race, colour, creed or cause of circumstances. Lists of names of the needy and destitute families are received from the clergy, relief officers, Salvation Army, Children's Aid and police. All cases are investigated and in no case is assistance refused unless it is definitely proven that the person whose name is given is not in need.

Sudbury Star:—Yesterday's light snow flurry reminded northerners that winter, as well as prosperity, is just around the corner.

Powassan News:—The story is told (special to The News) of a Burks Falls lady, who upon being congratulated upon the improvement in the water supply in that town, remarked: "Yes indeed, and do you know that I can now see my feet in the bath tub for the first time in twenty-five years." Whoopee!

Renew Efforts to Merge Paper Mills

Meeting at Montreal Last Week to Form Consolidation of Canadian Newsprint Plants. Abitibi to be in the Merger

There will be considerable interest in the report from Montreal last week in regard to plans for another merger of paper-making companies. The paper business in the North is in a bad condition at present and anything likely to help the industry will be welcomed. At the same time previous amalgamations are blamed by many for contributing to the present undesirable situation. Over-capitalization, watering of stock and what-have-you are charged with bringing the paper industry into difficulties, and there is a general feeling that the Governments should watch the present merger plans to see that no pending amalgamations do not carry the seeds of trouble or loss to the general public.

Last week a despatch from Montreal said that the executives of the leading newsprint companies of the Dominion were in session in Montreal in an attempt to weld together the most important mills in the Dominion into a consolidated plan. The despatch continues:—

"For three days the leaders of the industry have been in conference continuing efforts which in the past have failed several times. It is understood however, that hope is held out that the present efforts will be successful, particularly as impetus is being furnished by the banking interests associated with the industry.

"Canadian International Paper; Abitibi Power and Paper Company; Consolidated Paper Corporation; St. Lawrence Paper Corporation; Price Brothers, and the Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company have representatives at the discussions which are taking place in a local hotel.

"The successful creation of Consol-

idated Paper Corporation as a result of the reorganization of the Canada Power and Paper Corporation has apparently resulted in the establishment of a new basis upon which negotiations can be conducted.

"It is understood the price of newsprint is not a factor in the current negotiations. The opinion appears general that current prices will be maintained, but in such a merger as there is being attempted important benefits would result through operating economies and savings of freight. Should the consolidation of the above noted companies be effected, the newly-created organization would have an annual capacity of approximately 2,000,000 tons, or about half of the annual consumption of the American continent.

"Under the chairmanship of a leading figure in the economic life of the Dominion, the meetings here are being attended by Alexander Smith, president of Abitibi; A. R. Graustein, president of Canadian International Paper; Earnes Rossiter, president of St. Lawrence, Corporation, and Col. J. H. Price, president of Price Bros.

Announcement Expected
"An imminent announcement of the outcome of the discussions is expected. An effort is being made to provide a simplified capital structure as possible, involving a bare minimum of security exchanges. The amount of assets involved cannot be estimated until details of the program now being studied are known, but the minimum may be placed at \$600,000,000, including the International Paper affiliates of New Brunswick and Newfoundland, Consolidated Paper and Abitibi.

"The price of newsprint is not of immediate concern to the negotiators, and it is regarded as likely that present price levels will be maintained. By cuts made retroactive to the first of the year principal American and Canadian paper companies in late spring reduced newsprint: \$5 a ton to \$57 a ton delivered in New York. International made this price effective until Dec. 31, 1932, and plan-

ned to adhere to this basis regardless of any fusions effected. For 1932 to 1936 inclusive, a maximum price of \$62 a ton was set, while the average price for six years from 1921 to 1936 was established at \$59 a ton maximum.

"Inasmuch as the purpose of this forward projection of the price cut was to stabilize conditions within the newsprint industry, it was predicted today that the merger company if the negotiations succeed, will maintain a policy similar in practice to that worked out by International.

Economic Operation
Principal efforts of the newsprint makers will be directed toward the most economical operation of the combined properties. The necessity of competing with each other has resulted in wasteful operations and surplus productive capacity, students of the business assert. A merger will permit self-regulation of an industry heretofore divided by private wars, they claim.

Due to a limitation of production to about the same volume as shipments, Canadian producers of newsprint have been able to prevent accumulation of stocks to the degree which is normal in the few months before Winter sets in, while United States newsprint makers have stocks slightly in excess of this time a year ago, leaving stocks in the two countries about 10,000 tons under a year ago.

"Since the beginning of the year newsprint production in the United States and Canada has fluctuated between 53.8 per cent. and 65.7 per cent. of capacity compared with 67.9 per cent. to 76.9 per cent. of capacity from January to September inclusive, last year. For the past twelve months, Canadian production has been 6 to 12 points below the rate of production of United States newsprint mills.

"The figures indicate that there has been considerable effort to overcome the evils of excess plant capacity in the Canadian newsprint industry, but the point is made that one leading company had to be thoroughly reorganized, while another went into receivership due to an excess capacity which remains to threaten the future. By merger and unified operations alone, newsprint interests believe, can a permanent solution be found. The threat of increased American production in southern and northwestern areas are said to provide another reason for association of Canadian newsprint operations in a merger program."

The Abitibi Power and Paper Co., so far as the North is concerned, will be the most important factor in the merger. The Abitibi has plants at

Iroquois Falls, Smooth Rock Falls, Sault Ste Marie, Sturgeon Falls, Fort William, Espanola, Beauport and Murray Bay, Quebec, and Pine Falls Manitoba. While the Abitibi Power & Paper Co. centred its effort on the Iroquois Falls plant it was a flourishing industry. Then came amalgamations and mergers. The Abitibi now has idle plants and plants on part time. Many blame this on merger and amalgamations and are not likely to be enthusiastic over further mergers. In view of the importance of the Abitibi plants to the North the matter is of unusual importance. If a merger will right present conditions, well and good, but if it is only another case of high finance it is another matter.

Importance of Middle Section of the Highway

In an editorial article last week, The Northern Tribune, of Kapuskasing, makes several points well worthy of special notice. One of these points is necessary for the immediate construction of the middle section of the trans-Canada highway in the North Land, that is, the section connecting Hearst and Port Arthur. As The Northern Tribune points out to leave this section uncompleted is to turn a large part of the tourist trade to the United States instead of through Canada. One other point made by The Northern Tribune is worth more than passing attention. That is the unfairness of discriminating against North Land men in regard to work on the trans-Canada highway.

The following is part of the editorial in The Northern Tribune:— "Without wishing to detract one iota from what Kenora has obtained or is about to obtain, it is fair to point out that many other towns in the North are not finding the solution of their unemployment problems so easy. Complaint is made, and justly, that on such an undertaking as this, being carried out in the North itself, the unemployed of the North should receive prior consideration ahead of drafts of men from the South. All manner of other works, such as abolition of level crossings, grade separations, public buildings, harbour works, etc., have been planned to be carried out under the federal relief scheme. Northern municipalities are not able to devise local relief works with such facility, even if they could finance a share of them. The trans-Canada highway is the one major project to be carried out in the North this winter; yet a number of towns are complaining that they have not yet been called on to furnish men from their lists of unemployed.

Another aspect is the effect of the delay in building the disputed middle section of the highway, from Hearst to Port Arthur. Should the Kenora-lakehead section be finished and ready for motor traffic some time before the other parts of the highway east of Winnipeg, will not the result be to short-circuit thousands of western motorists into the United States in order to reach eastern Canada from Port Arthur? Is this what the country wants to happen, when it is spending millions of dollars to build a Canadian coast-to-coast highway?

"Such a plan is all wrong. The men in Northern Ontario who remain unemployed this second week in November are surely just as much entitled to get work on a national project being carried out in the North as other unemployed brought in from outside points who have been employed on such work since October 1st. The highway work should either be carried out on such magnitude as to provide jobs for all who can be suitably selected, or in the alternative, first preference should be given to the unemployed in towns nearest the work, particularly when other work is not to be had.

"Intimation is given that another domestic loan is to be floated soon. If lack of money has been the stumbling block in getting all the sections of the Trans-Canada highway under way simultaneously, the success of this loan should secure that the 'missing links' will yet be cut through this winter. Otherwise the North will have on its hands hundreds of downright hardship and privation before spring."

Acton Free Press:—Baron Walter Von Mumm was so depleted of funds owing to the loss of his champagne business, which was wrecked by the world war and the adoption of prohibition in the United States, that he attempted suicide the other day. He was at one time a millionaire manufacturer. Liquor is accountable for a lot of things in many ways.

Montreal Gazette:—Lord Kysant, having failed in an appeal against conviction on a charge of having issued a misleading prospectus was last week sentenced to a year's imprisonment. Judgment of the appellate court and sentence in the criminal court are fair examples of British justice. Comment of The New York Times thereon carries a significance which may not be unappreciated. Administered by judges without respect of persons, The Times editorial says, here is a kind of justice which Americans often wish with a sigh, they might have more of in their own country.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA

National Service Loan

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\$150,000,000

Dominion of Canada 5% Bonds

Bearing interest from 15th November, 1931, and offered in two maturities (the choice of which is optional with the subscriber) as follows:

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Principal payable without charge, in lawful money of Canada, at the office of the Minister of Finance and Receiver General of Canada at Ottawa or at the office of the Assistant Receiver General at Halifax, Saint John, Charlottetown, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary and Victoria.

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Denominations:

5 YEAR BONDS \$100, \$500 and \$1,000
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The proceeds of this loan will be used to promote the economic and financial welfare of Canada

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Payment to be made in full at time of application

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
Ottawa, 23rd November, 1931

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