

TEN YEARS AGO IN TIMMINS

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files.

At the town council meeting ten years ago J. P. Bartleman was before the council again in reference to the townsite owned by himself and associates. The council did not agree with Mr. Bartleman's plan to have the streets run some distance from the town boundary, but wanted the boundary to be the line for the streets. On this account council deferred approval of the townsite plans. The unsightly and inadequate overhead railway crossing of the T. & N. O. was referred to again and it was decided to meet the T. & N. O. Commission to discuss the matter. Councillor L. S. Newton spoke in favour of making a grant to the athletic association for the covering of the grandstands. He pointed out that the town had done very little to help sports. On motion of Councillors Newton and Noble a grant of \$350.00 was made. Councillors Bacon and King voted against it. Permission was given to J. Dalton to erect a gate at his own expense at the bridge near the town property for the purpose of keeping horses and cattle on his land, the understanding being that the gate would not be dangerous to the public in any way, or cause unnecessary inconveniences.

The Advance ten years ago said:—"Dr. Harvey A. Weed, the noted geologist of New York City who made a visit of the Porcupine Camp last fall in connection with the Porcupine Paymaster property in Deloro Township is expected in the camp again next week, accompanied by about ten others connected with the enterprise, including some of the directors. Since Dr. Weed's visit here the main shaft at the Paymaster has been sunk from the 200 to the 250 ft. level. During the process of shaft sinking a very creditable showing of high-grade ore was encountered. However, the company is continuing the main shaft to the 415-foot depth before doing any lateral development work. The contract has been let to Hill-Clark-Francis for the new bunk house to accommodate fifty men. All indications seem to promise the appearance of the Paymaster among the new producers at an early date."

The Advance of June 14th, 1922, made the following reference to a meeting of the Northern Ontario Associated Boards of Trade:—"The meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade held at Kirkland Lake Wednesday, Thursday and Friday last week was primarily a mining meeting but matters of great general interest to the North Land were also dealt with. There was a large attendance except that Timmins and Cochrane were not represented. Among the decisions of the meeting were:—Resignation of R. A. McInnis as president accepted; as the next meeting is the annual meeting no successor will be appointed until then. Urge Government to make greater capital expenditure on roads and that three millions a year be set aside from the Northern Development Fund for this purpose; also to start work as soon as possible on weather permits, and not at July 1st as at present. Extended cordial invitation to the Montreal Board of Trade to pay a visit to the North. Opposed amendment to the Land Act which would work against the homesteader. Asked Government to give the timber on a claim to the man taking a mining patent. Greater publicity for the North Land. This will come up again at the September meeting. Committee to meet the T. & N. O. Commission regarding the feasibility of running gasoline cars to facilitate the carrying of passengers and market freight at certain points. Settlement of the North. Owing to the small representation of mining men, the chief discussion centred round the two big problems of the north—more settlers and better and more roads. President McInnis pointed out that the farm produce was only a million dol-

lars while the available agricultural land at the very lowest estimate ran to forty millions. Settlers were the great need and roads to get the produce to market. In regard to the Trunk road from North Bay to Cochrane it was announced that the Government was going ahead with a survey to determine the best route, but that there had as yet been no appropriation for the building of the road. New Liskeard's resolution to hold homeseekers' excursions to get people on the land, was opposed by John Vanier, and was discussed at length. It was pointed out by W. McKnight, of New Liskeard that the T. & N. O. approved of the scheme and had put the matter in the hands of the Dominion Railway Board. In view of that fact the Boards decided to await action by the Railway Board. The decision in regard to a larger representation of the North at the Exhibition in Toronto was to ask the T. & N. O. to shoulder the expense of the space and the carriage of the exhibits there; the Boards committee to be active in procuring the exhibits. The banquet: The chief speakers at the banquet were W. H. Alderson, of Toronto Board of Trade, and Brig-Gen Smart, C. M. G., of the Montreal Board of Trade. The presence of Gen. Smart is significant of the interest Montreal is beginning to take in Northern Ontario. When the resignation of Mr. McInnis was read it was received with greatest concern. Delegates from all over the district urged his reconsideration. But he insisted, giving too great pressure on his time as his reason, it was finally accepted with the greatest regret. At the September meeting the new president will then be elected. A feature of the visit to Kirkland Lake was the great courtesy of the mine managers and Mr. Simpson. All the mines were visited and the managers everywhere did everything in their power to make the visit pleasant. To Fred Toed, Dr. Teich and Walter Little, officers of the Kirkland Lake Board, the visitors were also much indebted."

Ten years ago Schumacher talent made a big hit in a 3-act play. Among the artists taking part were—Chas. Byrnes, Paul McLaughlin, Mrs. Geo. Shippam, David Oswald, H. Waddle, Mrs. E. Yorke, Miss Jessie Macfie and Miss Theresa Quinlan. In referring to the event The Advance in its issue of June 14th, 1922, said:—"When a Man's Single," the three act rural society comedy, presented on Monday evening of this week in the McIntyre hall, under the direction of Mrs. Eva Parker, and under the auspices of the Children's Aid Society proved an unequalled success. The hall was filled for the occasion and all present were delighted with the programme for the evening. In addition to the three-act comedy there were selections by the McIntyre orchestra that were much enjoyed and appreciated. "Le Caravan," "Bohemian Life," waltzes, "La Cigale," and other numbers were very cleverly given by the McIntyre orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Cedarberg. Miss Rosina Mair, with her sweet and tuneful voice, delighted the audience with her solo, "Grannie," and won a hearty encore. The chorus, "Carry on and Whistle," by Misses R. Mair, T. Glazier, M. Craig and M. Cameron, brought down the house, an encore being insisted upon and the response, with orchestra accompaniment, was also much appreciated. Mrs. Neene's musical monologue, "The Old Brown Hat," was effectively given and was another appreciated number on the programme."

After a year or more of praise of the T. & N. O. service, The Advance ten years ago had to give the following:—"An incident occurred at the T. & N. O. station here on Sunday that illustrates many things. It points the fact that traffic is very heavy along the

Porcupine Branch and it also suggested that after a couple of years of better things the T. & N. O. has perhaps gone back to its old motto of "the public be damned." The refusal of the railway to return to last summer's excellent service, despite the fact that traffic is so heavy along this part of the line, struck many as the first indication of the return to the old manner of leaving the convenience of the people to be considered last, if at all. Sunday's incident about cinched the matter. On Sunday the train pulled out, leaving twenty-five passengers in the station where they were more or less patiently waiting to secure tickets. So heavy was the traffic for the day that it was physically impossible in the time at disposal to serve out tickets to all on the waiting line of passengers. Following the rule, recently emphasized, passengers felt they could not board the train without tickets and they did not expect the train would leave with such a line of passengers still to secure the necessary tickets. The passengers rightly felt that any failure of the T. & N. O. Railway to handle the traffic would be made right by corresponding thoughtfulness and commonsense attention to overcome the difficulty for which the passengers were in no way to blame. But the train deliberately pulled out, leaving the passengers stranded." It may be noted that this did not happen again.

Of course, ten years ago the town was building more school accommodation. Hill-Clark-Francis had been awarded the contract for a 4-room addition to the central public school. It was to be ready for use when school re-opened in the fall.

The following paragraph was in The Advance ten years ago in regard to the Munro placer claims:—"A Buffalo syndicate has purchased a number of placer claims in Munro and it is understood will start at once at active work on these properties. Machinery has been purchased and will be taken in at once. Workmen are busy erecting the necessary buildings. The claims were sold by a Matheson group of owners, including Messrs Childs, Stewart, Miller, Potter, Bird, Monohan, Roberts, Johnson and Leitch. It is said that a large figure was involved in the transaction. There are 10 claims in the group taken over, the claims being in the district around Munro and Blueberry Lakes. The sale has further encouraged other holders of placer claims who are now more than ever convinced that they have struck it rich."

On account of being well known here as a result of many visits here as representative of the Navy League, the death of Rev. Samuel Boal was much regretted in Timmins and district. The Advance ten years ago made the following reference to Mr. Boal's death:—"On Wednesday, June 7th, Rev. Samuel Boal, formerly Captain in the Navy League, died in the General Hospital, Toronto, aged 58 years. The funeral took place from his late residence, 548 Parliament street, Toronto, to the Mount Pleasant cemetery. The late Captain Boal was well known in Timmins and district where he was a frequent visitor during the war. Capt. Boal then doing energetic service for the Navy League of Canada. On his visits here he made many friends, all of whom will regret his death and extend sympathy to the bereaved widow and other near relatives and friends."

The Advance ten years ago said:—"Miss Olive Orr, of South Porcupine, as was confidently expected by her many friends, was a winner in the Toronto Sunday World contest, polling a vote that placed her among the first three in the whole province. The prize is a free trip to Europe, visiting all centres of historic and general interest. Miss Orr will leave this month to take this fine trip."

Ten years ago cars were cranked by hand on occasion, and sometimes they "kicked back" with disastrous results, as may be noted by the following paragraph in The Advance of June 14th, 1922:—"R. Richardson, T. & N. O. agent here, had the ill fortune on Friday last to break his arm while cranking a Ford car for an acquaintance. The car was stalled near the station and Mr. Richardson volunteered to help the driver, who could not get the motor started. While Mr. Richardson was cranking the car it played one of the Ford tricks with the result that Mr. Richardson suffered a fracture of the right arm."

Ten years ago the Caledonians were a busy and happy society in Timmins and in addition to regular meetings through the cooler days of the year they had social gatherings in the hotter weather. A paragraph in The Advance ten years ago says:—"Despite the cool weather last night and threat of rain, about twenty members of the Caledonian Society enjoyed the moonlight sail on the S.S. Minga. The trip proved a very comfortable one and all present enjoyed the evening. There was a "sing song" of Scottish and other songs, and a special feature was the cornet trio, Messrs Wolno, O. Brown and a new acquisition to the players of the town. Lunch was served during the trip, and the party closed with "Auld Lang Syne," after a very pleasant two hours' sail. Another trip by the society will be announced shortly."

So as to keep the record complete, The Advance herewith reprints from one of its issues of ten years ago the following paragraph:—"The opening is announced this week of the New Ontario Garage and Machine Shop at 18 Cedar street, Timmins. This new business should prove of decided advantage to the public generally, the machine shop especially filling a long-felt need. The new industry is ready to do all kinds of machine repairs and new work at very short notice, is conducted by skilled mechanics who have

had long and successful experience. The new business should receive a large share of patronage and should prove of undoubted convenience and benefit to the town."

Among the local and personal items in The Advance ten years ago were the following:—"Mr. Mitchell, who will be manager of the branch of the Bank of Montreal to be opened shortly in Timmins, arrived here last week to look after the preliminary arrangements for the opening of the branch." "Born—At the Cairns hospital, Timmins, on Wednesday, June 7th, to Mr. and Mrs. George W. Dalgarno,—a daughter." "The cutting down of the hill on Fourth avenue, near the Presbyterian church, is making simply wonderful improvement in this important roadway." "Good progress is being made in the erection of the fine new Golf Club house and it is expected to be ready for occupancy by the club members at an early date." "Mrs. T. W. Foster, of Toronto, is in the camp at Northern Ontario representative of the New York Life Insurance Company. Her husband, the late Mr. T. W. Foster, well-

known and very popular in the North Land, was representative of the company in the North. After his death Mrs. Foster took up the work and is carrying on the business. This is her first visit to the Porcupine. During her stay in the camp she is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. Blood, of South Porcupine." "A half inch of snow on the ground was reported from Cochrane on Monday morning of this week." "Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Meyers left this week for a holiday in the south and east." "Schumacher recently organized a board of trade and is handling the matter with the usual energy and enterprise shown by Schumacher people. At the recent meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade of Temiskaming the Schumacher board of trade was accepted as a member of the body." "Messrs Geo. S. Drew and A. E. Prout left on Sunday for the South for a holiday trip. They will motor from North Bay and will take in the Grand Lodge meeting of the I.O.O.F. to be held at Owen Sound, being the delegates from Timmins Lodge for this important gathering of Oddfellows."

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"Mr. Chas. Pierce returned last week from a six weeks' stay in the Royal Victoria hospital, Montreal, where he was undergoing treatment for injuries sustained in a fall here. Mr. Pierce had the misfortune some weeks ago to fall through an open trapdoor into the cellar, one of his ribs being slightly fractured in the accident. Mr. Pierce is now fully recovered from his injuries and says that thanks to the Royal Victoria hospital's good treatment he never felt finer in his life."

Blairmore Enterprise:—Eggs are now selling on the local market at ten cents per dozen. And we saw a fellow who said that, because he hadn't the price of a meal, he had to buy a glass of beer with his dime.

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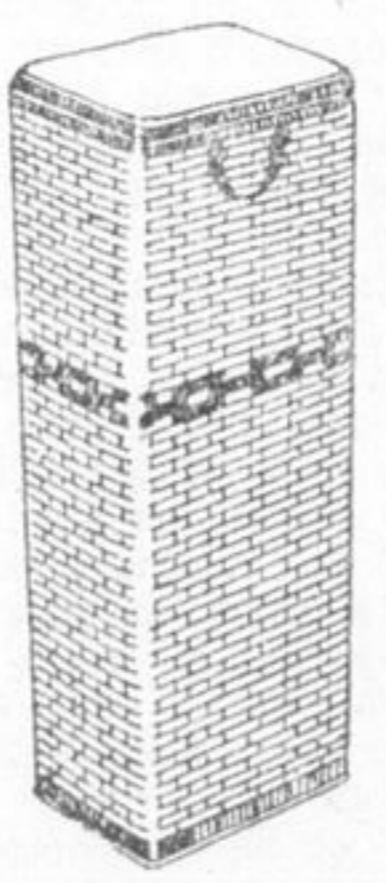
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