

OPPORTUNITY SALE!

Our purchasing power has enabled us to buy a limited quantity of imported suitings, including serges, worsteds, herringbones, etc. in browns, greys, blues and blacks.

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TEN YEARS AGO IN TIMMINS

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files.

Ten years ago The Advance made extended reference to the good work done by the local branch of the Children's Aid Society. The report of the secretary, Mrs. R. J. Ennis, listed some of the cases as follows:—one sent to Sick Children's hospital for operation for hare-lip; three treated and furnished with glasses; one operated on for tonsils; 26 supplied with clothing and necessities; two sent to Ville Marie relatives. The branch expended over \$923.00. In referring to the matter The Advance said in part:—"At a meeting of the Porcupine branch of the Children's Aid Society, held in the council chambers last Thursday, the secretary-treasurer, Mrs. R. J. Ennis, submitted general and financial reports that should be of special interest. There should be double interest in these reports in view of the fact that the annual meeting of the Porcupine Children's Aid Society will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday evening next week, Sept. 20th, in the council chamber, Timmins. While it may be readily admitted that the local C.A.S. has accomplished much of good for the community and done a work well worth while, indeed, still it is equally apparent that greater efforts will be possible with increased general interest and enthusiasm in the work. Up to the present the burden has fallen altogether upon a few good people. That they have responded so generously and unselfishly to every call upon them only emphasizes the fact that with more activity interested so much more good would be possible. The officers and executive of the local C.A.S. have been doing splendid work for better citizenship, in a quiet way, without publicity or thought of praise. The work itself for them is its own reward. To aid children to better health, better environment, better happiness, to rouse parents to greater attention, greater responsibility, greater dignity; to assure all children of a fair chance for the best in life! What could be more in keeping with good citizenship, true patriotism? These are the aims and purposes of the C.A.S."

Ten years ago the Timmins high school made its commencement in separate quarters, and the premises certainly were a far cry from the handsome and extended high and vocational school of 1933. The Advance of Sept. 12th, 1923, made the following reference to the opening of the high school that year:—"It is expected that all the classes in the Timmins high school will have complete accommodation next week. Through the kindness of Mr. T. F. King, suitable quarters are available for the high school work. Mr. King

late in the year to do anything in the matter. Mr. Banning called attention again to the blocking of the road to the north of the town by lumber piles, etc. As a consequence, Chas. Fierce & Sons, who had been warned about the obstruction of the street, were summoned to court by Chief Greer. Councillor Wallingford again brought up the question of the dangerous corner at the foot of Third avenue. He thought the lot at the northwest corner could be secured at reasonable price, and with this lot the town could widen the road to remove a great deal of the danger.

The Advance of Sept. 12th, 1923, had the following:—"The Timmins fire brigade made their usual record response to an alarm of fire on Monday shortly after 3 p.m. The fire was in a small building back of the River Road, in Mattagami. The building was the property of Mr. A. Anson, who had been boiling some tar for roof fixing. He left the tar on the stove and went out for a time. On his return he found the tar had boiled over and taken fire and was making a bad blaze. While he was fighting the blaze with water an alarm for fire was turned in. Mr. Anson yesterday remarked on the speedy response of the firemen. "They were on the spot minutes before I thought they would get there and they certainly did fine work and saved me more loss," he said. The fire was put out by the use of the chemical tanks. About \$500.00 damage was done. There was no insurance. The long run to this fire, and the fact that the nearest hydrant was several hundred feet away, again point the lesson of the usefulness of the motor truck equipment which the council decided by resolution to secure some months ago. In cases like this one the motor truck would have been worth many times its cost. It appears to be poor economy to "save" money on the purchase of such equipment at the expense of taking a chance on property and lives. The size of the town now makes equipment of this type practically a necessity. It will be a pity if the purchase of such equipment is left until it is forced home by serious loss or tragedy. The council should not allow the matter of a motor fire truck to be sidetracked."

A partial eclipse of the sun was visible in Timmins between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 9th, 1923.

Ten years ago The Advance added its congratulations and good wishes to those of his other hosts of friends when "Bill" Brydge, of Iroquois Falls hockey fame, and Miss Spence, of New Liskeard, were united in marriage at St. Mark's Anglican church, Iroquois Falls, on Sept. 5th, 1923.

The Advance ten years ago said:—"Mr. A. R. Smith, of Worcester, Mass., was in the camp last week on business connected with shareholders of the Triplex Mine. Mr. Smith was here as the representative of a number of the shareholders of the Triplex who are resident in Worcester and who are materially interested in the Triplex not only from the money viewpoint, but also from the standpoint of believing that the Triplex has the makings of a mine of importance. It is the idea of this group of shareholders that the Triplex can be placed on a good footing and with proper attention and management will make a success. This group of shareholders are hopeful that in a short time all the hand-caps that have prevented development will shortly be passed and the property go forward then to a marked degree of success."

The following is from The Advance of Sept. 12th, 1923:—"Tuesday last, Capt. and Mrs. Cornthwaite took charge of the Salvation Army work in Timmins and are carrying along the Army ef-

orts here. Capt. Cornthwaite has had a long and useful service in the Salvation Army work here in the North Land, having been stationed at different times at Cobalt, Sudbury and other centres, so he takes up the work here well-equipped in experience of the country and its people. Capt. Clague, who was formerly in charge at Timmins, has been transferred to Cobalt. Capt. M. Isherwood, another lady officer who did splendid work here for the Army, was married on Aug. 22nd, at Toronto to Capt. R. Tidman of the Toronto S.A. Her many friends in this district will extend very heartfelt good wishes."

The Advance, together with other newspapers in the province, protested very strongly against the false and insulting inscription placed on the tombstone of the misguided North Bay young man who was shot down while escaping from the police who sought him for the murder of two police officers in addition to other crimes. "Our Hero" were the words that were particularly offensive to all with a sense of decency and right. These words were eventually removed from the monument in the cemetery.

Among the local and personal notes in The Advance ten years ago were the following:—"Mr. Neh Faulkenham, of Matheson, was a Timmins visitor on Tuesday last." "Mr. W. Coupar, of the Dominion Bank staff, returned last week from a vacation spent in the south." "Mrs. Boyd returned Thursday evening from a vacation spent visiting friends in the south." "Mr. Frank Carlin, one of the popular members of last season's hockey team in Timmins, returned this week from Montreal." "Mr. H. W. Hooker returned on Sunday evening from a visit to Galt, Hamilton, Toronto, and other points in the south." "Mr. W. Dalzell had an auspicious opening for his new branch store in South Porcupine last week, many turning out to see the fine new stocks of up-to-date clothing and furnishings for men and boys at the new exclusive men's store at South End." "Mr. Bert Ryan, of the Bank of Commerce staff, left last week for his home in Quebec, being granted leave of absence on account of poor health. Bert has been deservedly popular in Timmins and all will wish him a speedy return to health." "Mr. A. Prosser left on Thursday for a few week's vacation in the south." "Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Fenn returned to town on Saturday evening after their wedding trip. Their many friends in town and district are extending sincere good wishes." "Mr. Jerry Abrams left this (Wednesday) morning for Winnipeg." "Born—In Timmins, Ont., on Tuesday, Sept. 11th, 1923, to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wylie—a daughter." "Miss May Connolly, for some years past on the staff of the Bank of Commerce here, left last week for her home in North Bay, having resigned from the service of the bank. Miss Connolly made many friends in Timmins during her stay here and will be much missed in many circles here." "While on duty last night Officer D. Martin, of the Timmins police force, captured a live muskrat on the road near the ball grounds. He had a lively

chase after the animal, but Mrs. Muskrat found the saying true that it is hard to escape from the Timmins police. The animal was duly taken to the station. It is not likely to be charged with breach of the by-law regarding animals at large on the roads, but the little lady with the fur coat may be questioned as to why she was so far away from her natural haunts. It is an odd fact that about a week ago a full grown skunk and two infant skunks were discovered in a laneway across from the station on Fourth avenue, but the police made no attempt to capture these animals alive. Apparently the animals have been reading the Toronto newspapers and so have formed a wrong idea of the town of Timmins. Only tame animals find things pleasant in Timmins since the town has grown to such a size." "Mr. J. M. Dunn, Travelling Passenger Agent, Canadian Pacific Railway and Steamship Lines, North Bay, Ont., was a Timmins visitor this week. Mr. J. K. Moore is the local representative of the C.P.R. lines."

Old Form of Swindle Under Way Again

"Spanish Prisoner" Fraud Again Being Attempted. Letters from "Prisoner" Being Received in the North and Elsewhere.

After swearing a friend to the deepest secrecy the other day a Timmins man produced a letter he had received. "What do you think of that?" he asked. "Don't you ever read the newspapers?" the friend asked after glancing at the letter. "Why that's the ancient, white-whiskered Spanish Prisoner fraud, without much change. Don't pay any attention to it. It's a straight swindle and has been exposed so often that it is one of the wonders of the world that anyone should be foolish enough to fall for it."

There have been a few of these "Spanish Prisoner" letters received in Timmins. Kirkland Lake has also had some. There have been copies of the letter sent to Sudbury. It would appear as if the North was specially used in the working of this old fraud, because it is believed that there is a little money left in the North, despite the depression.

As the Timmins friend suggested, it is certainly remarkable that anyone should be deceived by the "Spanish Prisoner" fraud when it has been exposed so often. It is the price some people pay for not reading the newspapers. On a number of occasions when these "Spanish Prisoner" letters have appeared in Timmins The Advance has referred to this silly old scheme for defrauding people who have more greed than shrewdness. An amusing thing about the fraud is that despite the number of times the game has been exposed there is little variation to the game each time it is tried. It would appear that by this time it had been so often and so completely exposed that it would be utterly unworkable, but the fact that the crim-

als continue to use it shows that some must continue to swallow the bait and hand over their money. Briefly the hoax is worked along the following lines:—First, the criminals promoting the fraud secure the names of people with a little money. If a man on the list is not kind-hearted and a little sentimental, he will likely laugh and throw the letter away. If he is not anxious to make some easy money he will be suspicious at once. After the names are secured for what the workers of the game call their "sucker list," letters are sent to the chosen ones. The letter says the writer is in prison in Spain. He can't get out of prison without help, but he is ready to pay very generously for the help. The prisoner claims to have an immense fortune which he was able to hide before he was railroaded to prison. The man receiving the letter is supposed to get in touch with a third party in Spain, or elsewhere, and further details will be given as to the way to help and share in the immense fortune. Boiled down to the bare facts, the promoters of the fraud simply induce the "sucker" to pay over as much money as they can prevail on him to advance, and then they leave him. Usually after one successful trimming of a "sucker," the criminals lie low for a while, but it is not long before the old game is under way again. The "Spanish Prisoner" fraud has been worked for many years. Despite all the publicity given it, there are still many people who will part with their money on this time-worn confidence trick. One man in Kirkland Lake who received one of the "Spanish Prisoner" letters recently handed it over to the police. A man in Timmins who received this famous fraud letter simply re-addressed it to a friend, and has been worrying ever since as to whether or not his friend was foolish enough to send any money

to the crooks. There are said to be several in the North who have sent small sums of money to the perpetrators of this fraud, but none are known to have continued paying until any material amount has been forwarded, and there are more known to have gone the limit in expense as finally suggested by the scheme,—that is, to get together a sum of money in cash, and proceed to Spain or some neighbouring country to carry through the final stages of the plan for sharing in the "Spanish Prisoner's" immense fortune.

Stratford Beacon-Herald:—The annual beauty bill in United States is \$750,000,000, so it looks as though the ladies, whether they desire it or not are running into big figures.



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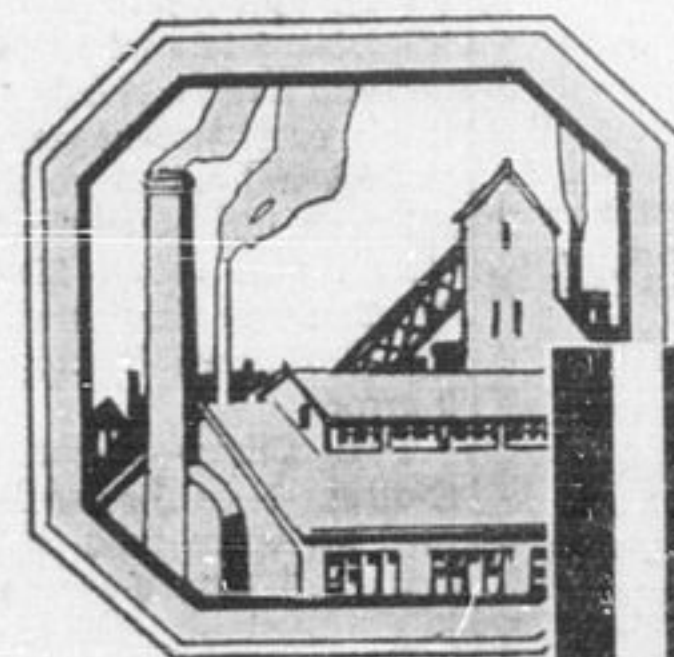
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