

The Porcupine Advance

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NEW YEAR A SQUARE YEAR

Most people are aware of the fact that 1936 is a leap year. At least all who have given the matter any thought or care a snap one way or another are in position to know that this is a leap year. There are not as many, however, who realize that 1936 is also that rare event a "square" year. Leap years come along every four years, with an occasional lapse in a century or so. Square years are not nearly so common. Just how common they may be The Advance is not in position to know, or even to tell, on account of the holiday season and for other reasons. However, the scientific sharks say that 1936 is the first "square" year in the past 87 or 88 years, as the case may be, and that there will not be another "square" year for the next 89 years, or maybe 90.

A "square" year is one that has a square root, as it were. The square root of 1936 is 44. The last previous year sporting a square root was 1849. The square root of 1849 is 43. The next square year to come after 1936 will be 2025, with its square root of 45. May all live to see it, if they're alive at that time.

To the layman 1936 seems to be the squarest kind of a square root. With its square root of 44 it seems to be four-square. There may be luck in odd numbers, as the late lamented Rory O'More was quoted as saying, but things have to be even to be square, and it's a lot better to be square than lucky. That is, if you're lucky.

It doesn't need any knowledge of square roots or the lower mathematics to know that the last few years haven't been very square years. They haven't been square to anybody. Everybody will welcome a square year for a change. The taxpayers especially will hope that not only is the year square, but that it infects everybody else.

People at present are inclined to be pessimistic about promises and prophecies. There was a promise to end unemployment, but the end isn't yet. There was a promise to blast a way into foreign markets, but the markets were found to be well blasted before anybody could move on this side of the ocean. There was a prophecy of peace, and now there are two or three wars in progress, with good hopes of some more. Alberta was promised \$25 per month for every man, and Ontario people were promised so many government jobs that it looked as if unemployment might be ended in this province at least so far as the Liberals were concerned. Despite the number of people that have turned Liberal, there are not enough jobs to go round, and it looks as if unemployment will not end until the year after Alberta starts paying \$25 per month per man, which seems to be likely after the next square year, and that's a long time to wait. Hope deferred maketh the heart sick, and broken promises have given the world in general a severe pain in the neck.

Nevertheless and notwithstanding all this, 1936 should be given a square chance as a square year. There are only a few people alive to-day who really know what a square year tastes like. The last square year, 1849, was the year of the great California gold rush. That was a great year for some, and as the young gentlemen from college say, "not so hot" for others. That seems to be the way even with square years. It may be that this present year will see another great gold rush with some people making a lot of money out of it and the rest of the people having the excitement and the fun of the game. Such a rush might well be in the Porcupine area. This year would be a square year all right if it gave a square deal to some of the promising gold areas of this part of the North. The square root is in this country all right.

In Monday's issue The Advance wished one and all and everybody a Happy New Year. With the turkey disposed of, and the bromo-seltzer working on the spirit of the season, it seems to be appropriate now to extend the sincere greeting:—"A Square New Year to the whole round world."

THE LESSONS IN THE CASE

Canadian newspapers have been free and rather flattering to themselves in their comments on the fact that between the gangsters and the sensational newspapers Col. Charles A. Lindbergh and his family have been driven from their native land and have sought refuge overseas. There can be no question of the courage of the Lindberghs, but they would be less than human if they failed to hold some measure of fear for their little son in view of the tragedy that befell their first born. In the past few months it is said the famous couple have been subjected to a cruel bombardment of threats from the underworld of the United States in regard to their only living son, Jon Lindbergh. Yet it seems to be admitted that Col. and Mrs. Lindbergh resent still more the continued and impertinent invasion of their privacy by representatives of the yellow press of the United States. Interviewers, cameramen, special writers and flamboyant reporters of both sexes and no sense of decency or regard for the rights of others have made the lives of the Lindberghs a nightmare by

unceasing spying, prying and prattling. There are United States newspapers that mistake impudence, brutality, gross indecency, for originality and enterprise. The truth seems to be that the governments of the United States have been as powerless to protect the Lindberghs from the crime of hysterical and incompetent journalism, as they have been inadequate in guarding the family from the criminal element.

Probably there has been a little too much tendency on the part of the Canadian press to assume that no one could be driven from Canada for reasons in any way resembling those that forced the Lindberghs to seek refuge overseas. "It couldn't happen here!" has been the keynote of most comment in Canadian newspapers. It would be well, however, for all such editorial comments to be written and read with some thought of the idea expressed by the familiar suggestion, "touch wood." It is true that the great majority of Canadian newspapers maintain the highest standards of ethics, but there are a few whose very incompetence forces them to resort to the tactics that make American journalism of a sort a by-word. The people in general, who are taking so much pride at the moment in the truth of the editorial musings on the superiority of Canadian journalism, should remember that only the people themselves can preserve Canada from the scourge of the gutter journalism. The people of the United States may be roused by the Lindbergh case to realize something of the evil effects of this form of incompetent newspaper work. If the people of Canada are wise they will continue to show their disapproval of the scavenger type of newspaper and so prevent that class of journal from attaining influence or scope enough to reach the strength it has attained in the United States.

In the same way it rests finally with the people to curb the gangster. To-day the people of Canada are free from any tyranny of the underworld. But no one should be foolish enough to believe that such freedom can be maintained without thought and vigilance and earnest effort. For years past the gangster has been attempting to gain a foothold in Canada. General Draper, chief of police of the city of Toronto, has been the subject of persistent persecution and misrepresentation because of the fact that he has been so successful in resisting and overthrowing the gangster plans in his city. It is not necessary to go so far from home to find the gangster element in conspiracy against the police. The point of the whole matter is that the people of Canada do not want any thug dominance—they would be sheer fools if they did—but eternal vigilance against any and every effort to establish any organized underworld or law-defying association is the only price that will buy immunity for honest men from the gangster yoke.

It is all very well to note that at the moment Canada has neither an organized underworld nor a scandal-mongering press strong enough to force good citizens from the country. It is more important to be watchful to prevent the insidious growth of these vicious evils.

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

A former Toronto constable who served a prison term for implication in thefts from Toronto stores is now appearing before a commission appointed by the Attorney-General's department and telling a story in which he charged that between eighteen and twenty-four Toronto policemen were members of a gang that carried on burglaries and thefts on wholesale scale. This ex-constable says that on one occasion the gang even stole a washing machine. Apparently they were serious in trying to make a "clean-up," but no more earnest in this than the authorities to-day in endeavouring to clean up any scandal in the Toronto police force. The investigation before the commission is creating a sensation, particularly in view of the fact that the Toronto police force has always held so worthy a reputation. In the meantime, however, it would be well to remember two things:—first the serious charges have yet to be proven, and until there is proof there should be no thoughtless acceptance of the accusations; and, second, even though the charges may be substantiated, with so large a force as that of Toronto, some proportion of evil men may be expected. With probably 1200 men on the force, even twenty dishonest men would not be a staggering proportion. Although one criminal is too many to have on any police force, it is too much to expect that even the finest of law-enforcing agencies should be without a few black sheep.

Two barons were raised to the rank of Viscount, four new barons were created, two privy councillors were named, four new baronets announced, one Order of Merit bestowed, and about eighty knighthoods conferred in the King's New Year honours. While men in other Dominions of the Empire were included in the list, no Canadian was named, because the present Dominion of Canada government knows that titles are responsible for the depression and the droughts in Alberta. With Canada having no honours from King George, unemployment will cease, the depression will be knocked for a row of nine-pins, peace will be assured between Ethiopia and Italy, and there will be general disarmament.

Monday it was announced from Ottawa that the Dominion parliament would open on January 30th. Then on Tuesday it was just as formally promulgated that the parliament would open on February 6th, not January 30th. It was admitted that the first announcement was an error. All of which is

LOCALS

A. Muldoon was a visitor last week with his family at Walford.

Miss I. Clement, R.N., spent the holiday season in Noranda.

Miss Jeanne Daoust is spending the holidays at her home in Sturgeon Falls.

Mrs. T. J. Lawlor spent the New Year holiday in Sudbury.

Born—to Mr. and Mrs. John J. MacDougall, 114 Mountjoy street, on December 30th—a son.

Miss Marjorie Martin, of Cobalt, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Wm. Lawrence, 36 Middleton avenue.

Miss M. Andrecheck, R.N., was a visitor to her home in Cobalt during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest C. Anderson of Montreal were visitors to Timmins this week.

M. C. Sullivan is a patient in St. Mary's hospital this week. His many friends will regret that he is seriously ill.

The condition of Bert Rowe, who has been seriously ill in hospital for the past week, is reported this morning as improved.

Sam Cohen, who was taken to the hospital recently suffering from pneumonia, is still very ill but had a good night, it was reported to-day.

The Rouyn-Noranda Press last week said:—"Prof. Kara, now in Rouyn, entertained a party of old acquaintances with experiments in mind reading and crystal gazing on Christmas evening."

Sudbury has one auto to every four residents. That is a creditable record, but the fact that there are 40 accidents per month due to autos in Sudbury is not so good.

An exceptionally high honour was bestowed upon Noble Jack Nelson, North Bay, at the fall ceremonial of Ramesses Temple of the Shrine at Toronto last week when he was presented an honorary life membership in the temple. It is an honour seldom granted.

The Eganville Leader last week says:—"Mrs. Margaret Redmond, of Eganville, announces the engagement of her daughter, Mary Frances, to Mr. Harold C. O'Grady, of Schumacher, Ont., son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Grady, of Brudenell, Ont. Marriage to take place early in January."

Noon weather report for Northern Ontario:—Cloudy and mild to-day and Friday, with some snow.

December Report of Mattagami School

Honour Roll for December for the Primary Rooms of the Mattagami Public School.

The following is the honour roll for the primary rooms of Mattagami public school:

Jr. II A—M. Thorburn, teacher— Kathleen Brown, Ronald Whitford, Philip Melville, Irene Wilkinson, Joan Pye.

I A—C. M. Dodd, teacher — Jack Thompson, Reino Jarvi, Blaine Gaouette, Ellis Jokela.

I B—Eiglela McAr, Josephine Kaulbeck, Earl Snyder, Albert Gialster.

I A—E. P. Dempsey, teacher— Austin Jelbert, Tuna Linder, Fred Coaty.

I B—Rita Brand, Gordon Noseworthy, Leonard Jennings.

Primer—Sam Rao, David Bellamy, Joyce McMillan.

Jr. Pr.—Miss W. McKelvie, teacher— Peggy Harris, Mauri Ryhanen, Eddie Church.

K. P.—Dickie Wilson, Christine Rose, Ronald Ash, Bernice Whaley, Joan Winney, Langford Ross, Hilja Ryhanen, Joyce Sauve.

K. P.—E. James, teacher— Muriel Melville, Nancy Bolliger, Dorothy Spence, Ronald Briggs.

somewhat of a comfort, showing as it does that the solemn and erudite gentlemen who make those official announcements are human enough to occasionally make a mistake and big enough to admit it. There are countries where the officials would change the date rather than change their announcement. The "IIII" appearing in place of the Roman numeral "IV" on clock faces is a sample of the ancient viewpoint on mistakes. A French king is said to be responsible for the error of changing "IV" to "IIII" on a clock face submitted to him for approval. All the learned men of France were not able to have that error rectified. Instead for centuries clocks were made with figures for the hour of four appearing as IIII.

First it was "Shop Early!" Then it was:—"Merry Christmas!" Next came:—"Happy New Year!" Now, the slogan is:—"Be sure and write it 1936!"

Ethiopia is a savage and uncivilized country. Why the Ethiopians have even allowed a Swedish Red Cross hospital to be built on the very spot that the Italians picked out to drop bombs upon.

The Northern Tribune of Kapuskasing makes a special point in regard to the radio situation in the North, the point being worthy of particular emphasis and re-iteration. It is to the effect that the Canadian Radio Commission is "putting the

WANTED Ads

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Three-roomed apartment, immediate possession. Apply at 164 Birch Street South, Timmins. -1p

FOR RENT—Five-roomed house; newly remodeled; with conveniences, basement, glassed-in verandah. Apply at 164 Cedar Street, North. 1-2p

THREE-ROOMED HOUSE FOR RENT—At rear of 206 Cedar Street South. Apply side door, 205 Pine Street, South. -1p

FO RENT—Furnished two-roomed shack, clean, light, cellar, woodshed. Apply at 53 Pine Street North, next to Post Office. -1-2tf

FOR RENT—Five-roomed bungalow; newly decorated; all conveniences; immediate possession; location—73 Tamarack. Apply Frank Byck, Phone 32. -98-1

FLAT FOR RENT—Ten rooms; located at 8 Cedar Street North; \$40 per month. Apply at City Service Station, corner of Second Avenue and Cedar Street, Phone 40. -1p

ROOM AND BOARD

ROOM AND BOARD—In a well-heated private house; all conveniences. Phone 231 or call at 168 Elm Street North. -97

CHERRY ROOM, EXCELLENT BOARD—In private home at 3 Elm Street South. Also meal tickets, 21 for \$6.50. -89-90tf

WOOD FOR SALE
 WOOD FOR SALE—Dry birch, 12" \$3.00; dry birch, 16" \$3.50; dry tamarack, 16" \$3.75. Apply G. Morin, Phone 1385. 97mtf

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LOST
 MISSING — Keys, Overshoes, Coats, Overcoats, Scarves, Gloves, Mitts. FOUND—Sundry similar articles, after New Year's Party at South Porcupine High School. Please communicate with Max Smith, Fire Chief, Phone 34, South Porcupine. -1

FOR SALE
 FOR SALE—Bed outfit complete, dresser, wardrobe; Clare Bros. coal and wood range, hot water attached, practically new. Apply 52 Elm Street South, upstairs. -1-2

CARD OF THANKS
 Mrs. C. H. Pearce and family wish to thank Drs. McClinton and Buell and the Sisters and nurses of St. Mary's hospital, also the many friends and relatives for their kindness during the sickness and bereavement of her husband. -1

MISCELLANEOUS
 ALL MAKES OF RADIOS—Repaired by our expert. Estimates free; all work guaranteed. Armstrong Electric, Phone 898. Basement 30 Third Avenue. -73-74tf

First Meeting of Lions Club for 1936 To-Night

The first meeting of the Lions Club for 1936 is to be held this evening at the Legion hall.

No definite programme has been arranged except that a considerable amount of business will be dealt with.

Ryan Provision Co. Take Over Schumacher Store

Pioneer Stores, an old established provision firm in the Porcupine, has disposed of its Schumacher store to the Ryan Provision Company Limited, it was announced this morning. Neil Ryan, who has had long experience in the business, is the manager of the new firm.

The store, on First avenue in Schumacher, will be closed to-day and tomorrow, but will re-open on Saturday for business, Mr. Ryan told The Advance this morning.

T. N. O. Railway Employees Retired at End of Year

Three employees of the T. and N. O. who have served that railway for many years and with notable efficiency and faithfulness, retired at the end of the year. These employees who closed their long service with the railway at the end of the old year, were:— William A. Bird, floorman in the stores at North Bay who served 23 years with the T. and N. O.; Jos. A. Belanger, station agent at Halleybury in recent years, and who has been with the T. and N. O. for eighteen years; and John Burns, machinist, Englehart, an employee of the T. and N. O. since 1913, a service of 22 years.

These long-time services reflect credit on the railway management as well as on the employees concerned. Usually it is a good man who retains a place on a staff for a long term of years, and it is usually equally true that it is a good concern that retains the service of a good man for a long time.

A senior member of the despatching staff of the T. & N. O. Railway for many years, J. A. Dwyer, Englehart, formerly of North Bay, has been appointed station agent at Englehart. Mr. Dwyer served as despatcher in North Bay for many years. In his new position he succeeds Les Buchanan, transferred to North Bay, in a similar capacity.

Winter Term opens at Timmins Business College Mon., Jan. 6

Through our method of individual instruction, students may enroll now and prepare for the Summer and Fall positions. Be a graduate of The Timmins Business College—it pays.

S. G. Fowler is a patient in St. Mary's hospital.

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Headache?

Of all the possible sources of chronic and distressing headaches, faulty vision is perhaps the most frequent and least suspected. Have your eyes examined to-day and be sure!

CURTIS OPTICAL COMPANY
 14 Pine St. N. Phone 835

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Text of Address Given by Leonard Desaulniers

Elsewhere in this issue will be found reference to the address made by little Leonard Desaulniers at the Father and Son luncheon of the Kiwanis Club. Below will be found the address made by this young lad who appears to have a striking talent in this line for one so young:—"Dear Mr. President and members of the Kiwanis Club and my little friends:—"Our great poet Shakespeare has said "Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them." And so with me! Am I not a lucky little boy to be present at the Kiwanis Father and Son banquet? First, I wish to express my thanks to the organizers of this nice festivity which we all enjoyed so much. Then I want to say a special "thank you," Mr. President, for the honour of speaking on this occasion. When I am a man I want to follow the noble ideals and good deeds of the Kiwanians. This wonderful organization holds aloft to our young eyes the torch of learning and fraternal charity. We wish to follow the path of light traced for us. I would like to close my few words with this nice quotation:—"Lives of great men all remind us. We can make our lives sublime, And, departing, leave behind us, Footprints on the sands of time."