

Excellent Concert by South Porcupine Choir

Event Last Week by the South Porcupine United Church Choir Showed Undoubted General Talent and Delighted All Who Heard it. Review of the Programme Presented.

South Porcupine, April 25th. Special to The Advance.

A really excellent concert was presented in the United Church on Thursday night here, under the auspices of the choir. To some of us, who are getting used to turning a dial to get our musical inspiration and diet, it comes as somewhat of a shock to know that here in our own home town, there is talent with a capital T. We forget that the producers of the music which comes to us from distant places originate such towns as our own—but a prophet, or a musician (or a hockey player?) is not without honour, save in his own country! Therefore, although the United Church, was filled to capacity on Thursday the programme presented was good enough to have filled a hall of much larger dimensions. Each item was in itself good, there was not enough programme to tire us, and the variety of entertainment was stimulating. Dr. Fraser acted efficiently as chairman, Mr. Suttice as choir leader and director, and Miss Wanless and Miss Corinne Carlson as accompanists.

Mrs. W. W. Wilson who was appointed president of the choir at the last election, was responsible to a certain extent for promoting the concert and to her a vote of thanks is due. The concert stands out as a complete success.

The choir opened with "Ye Gates Lift up your Heads," and followed with "The Bells of St. Mary's". These, and following numbers of the choir were finely sung—some excellent voices in both bass and soprano blending well with the tenors and contraltos, but not drowning them out!

Mrs. A. Stanlake, whose beautiful effortless soprano is not heard often enough, excelled herself when she sang "For All Eternity". A deserved encore was responded to with "When the Apples Grow on a Lilac Tree" Beautiful songs, really beautifully sung! After the choir sang "The Harp that once," Mr. Tom Kelly sang "Don't Forget the Old Folks." This met with a good reception.

One of the outstanding numbers came next by the male section of the choir, "O Who Will O'er the Downs With Me!" Sung unaccompanied—an Old Country glee, sung superbly.

Two visitors from Timmins—Mr. Popischel and Mr. Leo Smitman—cello and violin—delighted the audience with their real talent. Mr. Popischel is known to us and has played here before, but the violinist is new and in his rendition of "Sunrise and You," proved his ability. Upon an encore being demanded he played "One Fleeting Hour."

George Woods—possessed of a fine tenor voice—sang "Smilin' Thro," and was rapturously encored.

Miss Betty McIntosh—a little girl of 13—astonished us when she played a classical pianoforte solo with good technique, and also accompanied it with a remarkably clever imitation of a bird whistle—and a musical bird-whistle too, reminding us of an Old Country nightingale—and, in order to correct the impression that she did it with a whistle of some kind in her mouth, we want to tell the world that it was a real whistle unsupported by

mechanism of any kind but Betty's! She surprised us all.

The second part of the programme contained numbers by the choir—"King of Kings"—"American Songs"—"Bells of St. Michael's Tower," and "Far Away."

Mrs. W. Christie in sympathetic voice sang "Thine is My Heart" and in response to a deserved encore gave "Absent."

Jerry Trueblood, whose tenor voice is always pleasing, sang "Friend o' Mine" and in response to encore gave a witty little musical medley which concerned an ancient egg.

Little Annie Kelly sang "There's Four in our Family," and had a good reception. She has a singularly sweet and true little voice.

Mr. W. Popischel gave as a cello solo Gounod's "Ave Maria," and responded with "Tranmerel" as encore. Mr. Popischel is too well known as a splendid cellist for any comment.

Messrs Vic and Dick Chowns entertained by a whistling and mouthorgan number and pleased the audience.

"O Canada" brought a very pleasant entertainment to a close.

Tennis Club Party at South Porcupine

Wedding Shower at South Porcupine. Firemen to Hold Dance in May. Other South Porcupine and Dome News.

South Porcupine, Ont., April 25th, 1936. Special to The Advance.

A wedding shower for Mrs. Ernest Pelkie (nee Dora Dillon) was held on Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. Rene Quesnel. Over twenty-five guests, young friends of the bride, were present, and she was made the recipient of many of very nice and useful gifts. A lovely lunch was served by the hostess and a happy time was had by every body. The young couple will reside on Commercial avenue west.

Don't forget the Bargain Sale tea, and evening whist party to be held in the Parish hall on Tuesday (28th), under the auspices of the Church Sewing Circle.

The firemen are putting on a dance next month (see posters) in the high school hall. They are preparing for the 1st of July tournament to be held in South Porcupine and that takes money. They hope to raise some at this dance, so be sure you are present.

Mr. Johnny Godfrey, hockey player, left for his home in Toronto on Friday.

Mrs. Jack Johnston, of Main street, entertained on Wednesday evening. The occasion was her birthday and twenty guests were invited for an evening of whist. Mrs. Murray won first honours, Mrs. Andy McGinn came second, with Mrs. Bennett third. The hostess served a very dainty lunch and received the hearty good wishes of all present for many more happy birthdays.

Mr. Earle Covey of the T. & N. O. staff left on Sunday for Englehart

where for two or three weeks he will be training as telegraph despatcher.

Mr. Stewart Hamilton left on Sunday for Williamsburg for treatment by Dr. Locke.

Mrs. W. H. Morgan, of Main street was guest at a surprise party in her honour on Tuesday 21st. Mrs. W. Smith, of Broadway, entertained guests at lunch as it was Mrs. Morgan's birthday, and a beautifully decorated birthday cake made by Mrs. Hanson was the centrepiece. Mr. Billy Brown entertained the guests with selections on the piano.

Some members of the Tennis Club met at the home of Mrs. Ellis Wright Connaught Hill, on Friday night and held at party in honour of one of their members, Mr. Fred Andrews, whose birthday it happened to be. Beside having a lovely time, lunch, etc. Fred was presented with a tennis racket as a gift from his friends.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Dagena's, of Golden avenue, on April 23rd—a son (stillborn).

Next Tuesday a combined meeting of the Men's Clubs of the Anglican and United Church is to be held in the United Church at 8 o'clock. The evening is slated to be an interesting one, for a debate, "Complete State Medical Service Should be Adopted in Ontario," is to be thrashed out. The Anglicans are taking the affirmative, and the Uniteds the negative side in this.

Guide, and Brownies News

The Guides (First South Porcupine Company) held their usual meeting on Wednesday in the Parish hall. Meeting opened and inspection was taken by Captain Naish. Horseshoe and flag-raising followed by Lillian Kaufman, assisted by Kathleen Pecore and Ruth Schmelze. The following Guides received star badges for one year's complete service:—Marion Strand, Elaine Dogue, Irene Disher, Isobel Rapsey and Joan Maxwell-Smith. Isobel Rapsey received a Knitter's Badge and second-class badges were presented to Isobel Rapsey and Lillian Kaufman, both of the Forget-me-not Patrol. Captain Naish commended the recipients and expressed the hope that they would stick to it and soon have rows of badges.

Corners were then taken and a number of second-class Guides gathered and drew ballots for Cook's Badges and Domestic Service badges. The girls are to assemble at the home of Lieut. Bessette in two weeks' time and cook a banquet for the committee. They are also to clean the house for their badges (of course each drew just what they hoped they would not draw when it came to deciding what each Guide would cook, but being Guides there were no exchanges!)

Lieut. Walker took second class tests. A lively game followed and the meeting closed with "The End of a Girl Guide Day," and "Taps."

Brownies met on Friday under Tawny Owl Smith. An observation game was played and won by the Gromes. A new knot was taught and the flag revised. Brownie Squeeze ended the meeting.

Explanation of Why Rats Leave the Ship

Well-Known Jack Tar Says it is Knowledge Not Instinct.

Timmins, Ont., April 25th, 1936

To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir:—I noted some time ago a letter written by Mr. Doling re "rats leaving a ship." There is, or rather, has been, truth in this matter in years past, but from knowledge of old-time sailors and discussion of the topic of rats which I have heard from time to time on different ships, I would say it is not instinct which tells these rodents that a ship is doomed, but knowledge. The desertion of a ship by rats is rather confined to wooden ships. A rat will penetrate to the vitals of a ship, where a sailor would be puzzled to follow. A ship is like other vessels, such as boilers, etc., in the fact that its strength lies in its weakest part. The rats, like other rodents, can tell the best and thinnest point of penetration, as householders know only too well by loss of food. So, consequently, whilst the rats are delving below for fodder, they discover a weak spot where no food is to be found, but death. These particular ships have been too long out of dry-dock, and rats are no fools, and like the birds of the air and all creatures of wild nature, they seek a protective and more comfortable domicile. So, down the hawser they go. Now, when a sailor sees a rat going down the hawser or other means of exit, you couldn't chase that sailor on board, except to get his kit-bag, for he knows that when the rats leave it is a foreboding of disaster at sea.

There have been instances in the past where unscrupulous ship-owners have sent ships to sea in an unseaworthy condition, having their eye more on insurance than cargo profit. A water ballast is an excellent thing for profit both ways. You may have your gangsters of to-day, Mr. Editor, but they are no worse than some of these ship-owners of yore, who bartered for insurance and smothered con- punation of feeling when they knew the poor sailor was doomed as well as the ship. A rum-soaked sailor is easy to sign up, and he will see no rats except those in his belly.

Yours truly,
Commodore (?) Harry Nichols.

Waterloo Chronicle:—The death of Sir Frank Barnard, former lieutenant-governor of British Columbia, recalls an interesting pioneer period of British Columbia. His father, who went West in 1860, at the time of the gold rush, established the famous Barnard's Express, which carried most of the mail and freight to the gold fields of British Columbia before the advent of the C.P.R.

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