

# TEN YEARS AGO IN TIMMINS

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files

The Kiwanee Fair ten years ago was an outstanding success in every way—as an entertainment, financially, as an educational feature, and as a sample of what can be accomplished in a big way by the people of the town and district. The highest credit, of course, was due to the Kiwanees who staged the whole "show." Then to all assisting and co-operating, and to the public for very generous support. About \$4000.00 was netted for the Children's Aid Shelter. Every feature of the fair was wonderfully well arranged and carried through. The Baby Show, the Fashion Show and the Cake Contest were the outstanding features. Music by the Croatian orchestra in the evenings and the piano music in the afternoons by Mrs. C. Rutherford were added attractions to the fashion show.

The sixth anniversary services of the Timmins Salvation Army ten years ago proved successful and inspiring. The services were conducted by Adjutant and Mrs. Crowe and Lieut. Patterson and were most interesting and pleasing. At the same time the Ladies' Home League held a sale of work that was attractive and successful, and a banquet

was held for the members and officers of the Army.

Ten years ago work was commenced on the building at the rear of Blahney's store to be used as the Government Liquor Store for Timmins. The alterations to be made were not extensive and were completed in a short time, and the liquor store was ready to open by the first week in July. Martin & Caron had the contract for the carpenter work. Smith & Elston for the plumbing, E. Allworth for the electrical work, and Frank Valois for the painting.

Ten years ago an inquest was opened into the death of Miss Mary McKeown at the fire in the Reed block. Several witnesses were called and after a thorough investigation the jury brought in the verdict—"That Miss Mary McKeown came to her death from injuries received in falling from the top floor of the building known as the Reed Block, Timmins, on the night of Sunday, June 12, 1927, in an effort to escape from the said building which was on fire at the time."

The court of revision on the assessment roll ten years ago, heard about 250 appeals. So far as most of the

appeals, the assessments were confirmed, though there were some minor changes made. The most of the cases were without special features of interest, appeals being made mostly on the idea that the valuations were placed too high.

Ten years ago the Timmins Fire Brigade was very gratified at the expressions of appreciation given the department for the skill and energy shown in fighting the fire that had occurred at the Reed Block. The Hollinger Stores (now the property of Sam Bucovsky Limited) which was alongside the Reed Block, was, of course, in danger so long as there was a fire in progress in that block, and it accordingly recognized the fact that the good work of the Timmins fire chief and his men in this fire, was of great value to the Hollinger Stores, and therewith presented the fire brigade with a cheque of \$50.00.

The Ontario Cabinet ten years ago issued an order-in-council creating the Provincial Forestry Board consisting of the Forestry Act and passed at the session of the legislature. Among those on the board was H. S. Schanche of Incoqueles Falls.

Ten years ago the Kiwanis acted as secretary of the branch of the Motor League. There was a large attendance at the weekly luncheon of the club in the Empire hotel, and the meeting was a very interesting one. The representatives that year to the Kiwanis International which then took place at Memphis, Tenn., were Mr. Jos. Weston and Dr. Lee Honey.

The first case of a liquor permit be-

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ing cancelled in this North Land was ten years ago, when John Eneril, of Kirkland Lake, was charged with selling a case of liquor which he had purchased from the vendor's a few days previous to the time of his sentence and the cancellation of the liquor permit.

Ten years ago the members of Lancashire Social Club held their first annual supper in the Hollinger Recreation hall. About 100 sat down to the tables which were very tastefully arranged. The menu for the supper included real Lancashire Potato Pie, the marvellous disappearance of which proved that, although made in Canada, the recipe had lost none of its flavour on the way over, and was much enjoyed by all.

The handsome new office building of Homer L. Gibson & Co., next door to the Bank of Commerce, Pine street, was opened ten years ago for business. The building was of brick and tile with a very attractive front, and was up-to-date in every respect. It took the very highest rank in this North Land as a brokerage office.

A disastrous fire visited South Porcupine on Saturday, June 18th, 1927, when the well-equipped garage of G. W. Rayner, on Bruce avenue, quickly went up in smoke. The alarm was sounded at two minutes to twelve but in spite of an amazingly quick response by the firemen long before one o'clock the building and contents were a mass of smouldering ruins. Mr. Rayner, suffered heavy loss, and had it not been for the fact that there was little vent the firemen would have had an exceptionally difficult task to keep the fire from spreading to other houses.

A special feature of the birthday observance of the Timmins Salvation Army ten years ago was the musical programme given in the Army hall. This programme was one of the highest musical interest and excellence and roused very general appreciation from all in attendance. G. A. Macdonald presided for the occasion, and after some stories and humour, referred in high praise to the good work, social, moral and religious, accomplished by the Salvation Army in over 80 countries of the world and in over 50 different languages. Every number on the programme was specially appreciated on merit and the whole evening was a delightful one for all who enjoyed music.

Ten years ago the Timmins baseball team won from South Porcupine, the score running high in the match when South End team had a weakened lineup. This match was another in the series of the Temiskaming Baseball League.

The Gentry's circus paid its first visit to Timmins ten years ago, and drew very large crowds. The crowd for the evening show was the largest ever gathered for any similar event in Timmins, being larger than best ever drawn by Sparks' circus, although the Gentry's was not as good or as big as the Sparks'.

Ten years ago a special train came to Timmins, bearing a party of distinguished visitors on a brief tour of the North Land. The party was in charge of Mr. Geo. W. Lee, chairman of the T. & N. O. Commission, and others of the commissions accompanied the visitors here. There were 15 or 20 guests all told. An inspection was made of the mines of the Porcupine camp, and the party left here for Iroquois Falls where the big paper mill was viewed.

The success of the Cake Booths in the Kiwanee Fair at the rink ten years ago was so pronounced as to fully warrant mention in The Advance. There was a very large entry list in each and every department. Few people had ever before seen such a wonderful showing of cakes and other cooking. The department was in charge of Mrs. G. H. Gauthier, Mrs. D. Sutherland and Mrs. W. R. Sullivan (Schumacher), and these ladies with their skilled and willing assistants, too numerous to mention, certainly handled the immense amount of work entailed in very effective and successful way.

Ten years ago Mr. Chas. Roach had the misfortune to get his nose broken in a rather peculiar accident while golfing. Mr. Roach and Dr. V. K. O'Gorman were having a match and had just driven off number one tee. Dr. O'Gorman in playing his second stroke, in following through, struck Mr. Roach across the side of his face, making a small gash and breaking his nose.

The Baby Show of the Kiwanee Fair ten years ago was certainly a great success, and reflected the highest credit on all concerned. Seldom has there been such an array of healthy, happy, handsome youngsters. Everybody was delighted with the Baby Show, and scry for the judges. The special prize of a town lot on Wilson avenue, was won by baby George Harrower, 12 months, this lot being donated by Mr. C. M. Auer.

Capt. Ritchie of the Fire Prevention Branch of the Ontario Fire Marshal's office, came to town ten years ago, and was making an inspection and review of the town with a view to assuring greater safety from fire. Last week, the representative of the Fire Preven-

tion Branch was in town on the same errand, showing that history repeats itself.

Ten years ago, while walking up Maple street north, at midnight on a Sunday evening, John Waznich was struck on the left arm by a bullet. He said the first intimation that he had that anything had happened was a stinging in his arm. Then he noticed that the blood was coming from the wound, and hurried to a nearby house where friends dressed the wound and called the police and a doctor. The injury was not a serious one and the man made rapid recovery. The investigation by the police led to the decision that the bullet was a stray one which had been intended to silence some cat or dog.

Ten years ago the Ladies' Auxiliary assembled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Duncan, of Schumacher, for the purpose of saying farewell to Mrs. George Henderson, a faithful church worker, on the eve of her departure to her new home at Rouyn. The guest was the recipient of a shower of handkerchiefs as a sign: token of remembrance.

Ten years ago the game between Timmins and South Porcupine resulted in a win of 10-2 in favour of Timmins. There was not a very large crowd despite the fact that it was a fine evening. The lack of grand stand was telling considerably on the attendance at these baseball games. The game was marked by an unfortunate accident when Mr. Bert Longworth, catcher for South Porcupine, got his thumb so badly broken that the bone protruded right through the flesh. It was some time before a doctor could be found to look after it, and it had to be reset the next day after being x-rayed.

Among the locals ten years ago were: "Mrs. J. W. Wray is on a holiday trip to her old home at North bay and other Southern points." "Miss W. Rutherford, of the High School staff, left on Saturday for the summer vacation."

"Miss Ruby Garbutt, of the High School staff, left on Saturday for the summer vacation." "Mr. Ernest Chase, who has been in the far South for a couple of weeks, returned to town on Sunday with Mrs. Chase." "Mr. Wm. Smart, of the head office of Homer L. Gibson & Co., Toronto, was a visitor to town this week, being here for the opening of the new offices here." "Mrs. W. T. Montgomery left this week for a visit to her former home at Beamsville, Ont."

"Mayor and Mrs. Lindsay and daughter, Robena, of Mattawa, are visiting their daughter and sister, Mrs. A. C. Dorschner, 73 Elm street, south." "Kirkland Lake has purchased a car-load of calcium chloride for use on the streets as a preventative of dust, and has found the plan works very well." "His many friends in Timmins and district will regret very much to learn that Mr. Wm. Baacke has been very ill at the Kirkland Lake Red Cross hospital. All will, however, be delighted to know that he is now much better and is making steady progress to recovery." "His innumerable friends will regret to learn that Mr. James Ormston is ill with appendicitis. All will wish him a speedy and complete recovery."

## Mining and Timber "Travel" in the North

Hudson Gives Example of How Transportation Problem is Attacked.

(By R. S. Williams, in Canada Lumberman)

Hudson, Ontario, up to six years ago wasn't much more than a flag stop on the main line of the Canadian railroad. Today it is the hub of a vast wheel of airplane, tractor, train, and barge transportation lines extending themselves into the mining country and lumber camps, most of which have blossomed since the price of gold was boosted to \$35 an ounce.

The development of gold mines and lumber camps in the country to the north of Hudson and extending fan-wise east and west is nothing less than startling to those who have not kept pace with the activities of this section. It has been known for years that gold was to be had in the tree-clad hills to the north, but development was so expensive under old methods that little was done until the increased price of gold stimulated the operators. A concomitant development that has assisted materially in effecting steady and economical transportation of equipment to the mines and lumber camps is the crawler tractor.

Transportation to Mines

The entire country around Hudson is so interlaced with lakes that surveying any sort of all-weather roads is prohibitive from the standpoint of expense. Looking down on this region from a plane 5,000 feet high, it appears that there is almost no land at all. The country seems to be entirely water, yet the truth is that very few of the many lakes are connected deeply enough so that freight boats can travel from one to the other. Transportation from the railroad to the mines thus becomes a vital problem.

Because of the absence of roads and the multitude of lakes, it is only during the winter that heavy freighting can be done. Then the surface of the lakes is frozen to a safe depth to support the huge crawler tractor trains composed of loaded sleighs. These trains, made up of International Diesel Tractors and from four to six sleighs, weigh between thirty and fifty tons. The local term for these trips is a "swing." Just what the significance of this term is no one seems to know, but all those who have to do with the operation refer to the tractor train and its trip either to or from the mines as a "swing."

Because of the unusual conditions encountered, it has been necessary for the International Harvester Company to spend a great deal of time and money developing special equipment calculated to overcome the peculiar difficulties and obstacles that are found in this

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For instance, there is the matter of "slush." The lakes are covered with from eighteen to thirty inches of snow which is heavy. The weight of the snow, combined with the weight of the tractor trains moving at four miles an hour, bears down on the surface of the ice sufficiently so that water is forced up through cracks to form pools on top of the ice but under the snow. Here it remains unfrozen regardless of the temperature because of the protecting insulation of the snow blanket.

When the crawler tractor encounters one of the slush areas the crawler treads bring the slush to the surface, where it freezes almost immediately. This is only one of many peculiar obstacles that make the hauling of heavy freight during the winter a hazardous occupation and one which tests the design and endurance of the equipment.

From Hudson to Mines

Trips from Hudson to the various mines consume from forty hours to a week, depending on traveling conditions. There are no roads whatsoever, and the trains keep to the lakes excepting where it is necessary to portage over wooded ridges from one lake to another.

The only other means of transportation in this country is by airplane. These are used for passengers, mail, and light rush shipments. Should a tractor train break down en route, it is customary to fly the repairs and an expert to the scene of the trouble and remedy the difficulty with the least possible delay.

Lumbering operations have followed in the wake of the mining development. This is another industry that would be seriously handicapped without the aid of the efficient crawler tractor, which makes its own trail and is not dependent on surveyed roads or the open highway. From two to four sleighs heavily loaded with logs are pulled from the forests to the lakes or rivers, where the logs are piled on the ice awaiting the spring break-up.

In all these operations, both mining and lumbering, International Tractors are found in quantities. Part of this preference for Internationals is based on the fact that a real attempt to develop equipment and attachments calculated to overcome the extraordinary conditions that confront the operators.

## Ingenious Housewife Can Modernize Old Furniture

Many people would like to take advantage of the Home Improvement Plan but feel that it would not be worthwhile because they cannot afford new furniture for the modernized home.

The ingenious housewife can do a lot to modernize old furniture. Even some of the most "hopeless" pieces can be revamped. One home owner redecorated her home and then went to work with other funds on her furniture which had been purchased in the era when the value and style of a piece was judged by the number of curlicues it boasted.

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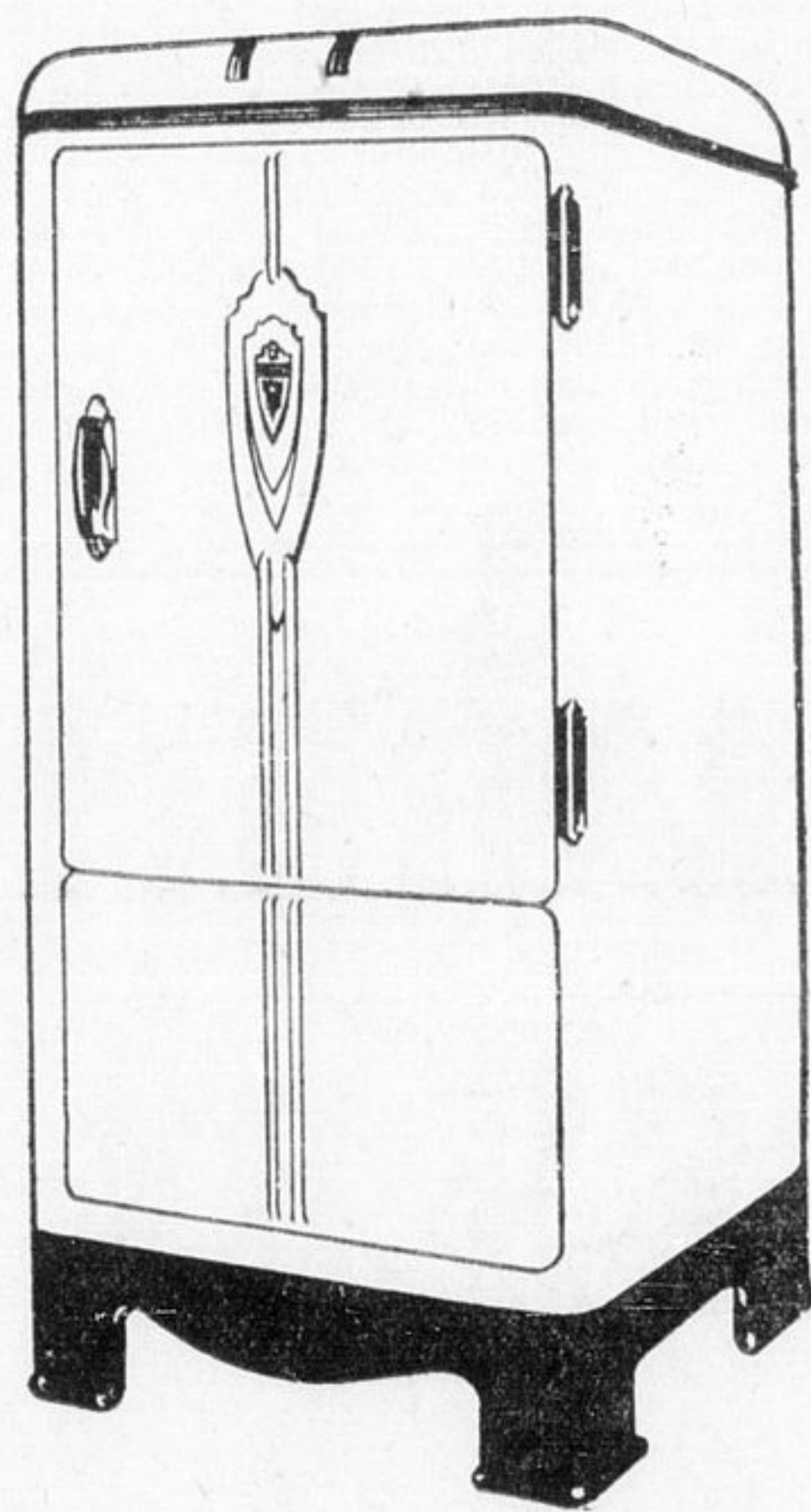
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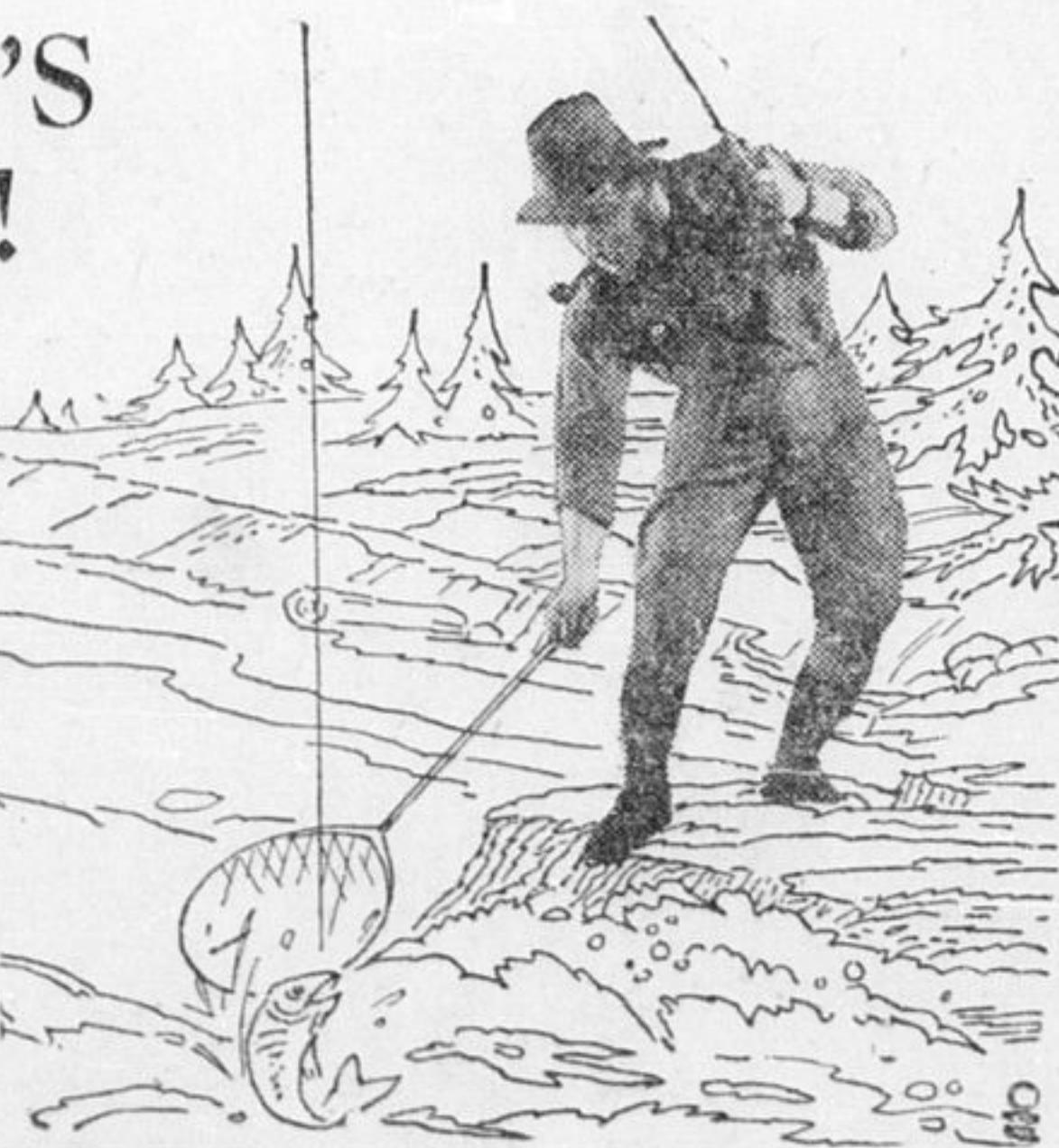
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