

# TEN YEARS AGO IN TIMMINS

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files

At the regular meeting of the town council ten years ago Mayor George S. Drew presided, and Councillors A. G. Carson, H. Charlebois, R. Richardson, P. Doull, Alf. Caron and C. P. Ramsay were present. Councillor Caron was present on crutches, but all were pleased to see him able to be around again after his accident when he fell his leg broken while attempting to stop a runaway horse that threatened to do serious injury or damage. Mayor Drew referred to the matter of notices sent out before the water is shut off in the case of arrears. Previous to 1926 one notice was sent to those in arrears for water rates and then the water was shut off. The 1926 council thought this procedure could be made more lenient, and so it was decided to send out a second notice before finally shutting off the water. The plan had not worked out well. While there used to be only 30 to 40 delinquents for water rates, there were now 200 getting behind. "Leniency in this case does not seem to help," said the mayor. Council decided that the one notice and the regular bill the occupant of the house should have ample notice. The clerical work in sending out the second notice was also costly to the town.

At the regular weekly luncheon of the Kiwanis Club ten years ago at the Empire Hotel, the president, W. Rinn, occupied the chair. There was no regular speaker of the day, and the meeting was given over to a general discussion of matters of business and plans for the program of the club's activities that year. One of the special matters coming up was the question of having the famous Welsh Choir, which was then touring the West, visit Timmins on their return trip.

There was a fairly good attendance at the rink ten years ago when the Porcupine Ski Club put on their ice circus. The programme was generally enjoyed, and as a result of the event the funds of the P.S.C. were benefitted to a certain extent. The programme of races and other entertainments provided was most interesting. One of the specialties was a humorous sketch on ice. One of the actors in this two-character playlet took the part of "Mademoiselle from Drinkwater Pit," and her efforts to secure the attention and affection of the other actor brought forth much applause and caused a great deal of amusement.

The last game of the N.O.H.A. series between Timmins Juniors and Kirkland Lake resulted in the latter winning out by the narrow margin of the odd goal in three when the teams lined up at the rink here ten years ago. The game was witnessed by a large crowd of fans, undoubtedly attracted to the rink on account of the local boys beating their opponents at Kirkland Lake the previous week, by the same score by which they lost out in their home town. It came as a great surprise that the play of the Timmins team had been of such quality as to beat the team which had inflicted so severe a trouncing on several occasions when they had met previously.

Music lovers had another genuine treat, in the excellent programme put

There was very general regret here at the death ten years ago of James Frances Malloy, for over a year the head mechanic at the Timmins Garage. Death was due to typhoid fever, Mr. Malloy being ill about a month. Despite all that could be done for him and all possible medical skill and care he succumbed to the disease on Monday, February 11, 1929.

In The Advance ten years ago: "Patrons of the Timmins liquor store report something in the nature of a 'rush' on that Government institution last week. Numbers of foreigners, especially, hastened to lay in a supply of their favourite brands of 'Oh, be Joyful', with the idea in mind of forestalling any curtailment of the Government's sale of liquor here. The situation developed from the misleading heading across the face of one of the Toronto daily newspapers. This heading suggested that the proposed amendments to the Mining Act now before the Legislature would mean that the liquor stores would be closed in all mining areas. The carelessly worded article beneath the heading, written apparently by some one in too big a hurry to study out what the aforesaid amendments meant, also added to the confusion. In effect the article suggested that after the amendments became law, no liquor could be sold within six miles of any mine. It was not pointed out that the clause distinctly exempted cities, towns and villages."

Among the local items in The Advance ten years ago were:—"Born—In Timmins, Ont., on Tuesday, February 12th, 1929, to Mr. and Mrs. Austin Andrews—a son." "Mr. D. B. Curtis was called to Barrie this week on account of the illness of his father." "Mr. and Mrs. V. Woodbury left last week for the South to spend a month or two. They will visit Texas and other Southern States before their return."

## Second Fire in Two Weeks at Val d'Or

### Four Buildings Destroyed by Fire Saturday.

Val d'Or, Que., Feb. 14—Four buildings stood in ruins this week following Val d'Or's second destructive main street fire in two weeks which threatened Saturday to wipe out the town's business section.

Fanned by a driving west wind, the flames in less than three hours destroyed the Ritz Hotel, gutted seven business establishments and damaged the C.N.R. telegraph office. Guests from the 10-room hotel escaped without injury as did occupants of the other buildings, mostly two-story structures. Firemen worked in biting cold weather and in the face of a raging blizzard that blew down trees and disrupted telephonic and telegraphic communications for several hours.

The fire began at 3 a.m. and by 7 o'clock had destroyed the Cash and Save store, Youneda Bread Company, Morissette Ladies' Wear, Girouard Jewellery, Valder Shoe Repair shop, the National Pharmacy and Whiston's.

The block, all wooden buildings was in the heart of the town's shopping centre and for a time it was feared the flames would spread across the narrow road to neighbouring stores. The temperature was below zero as firemen, overworked during the past few days because of numerous chimney fires set by the gale, struggled with stiffened hoses. Profiting by a change in the direction of the wind, the firemen were able, however, to hold the flames to the four buildings.

The fire occurred within 100 feet of the costly Lalonde block fire of two weeks ago.

Guests from the hotel fled in night attire and were given shelter in nearby homes. Members of a family living behind the National Pharmacy store also fled in night clothes.

## Small Operating Profit for Haileybury Hotel

Haileybury, Feb. 16—(Special to The Advance)—An operating profit on the Haileybury Hotel of \$604.21 for the year 1938 was reported to the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Temiskaming Hotel Company, held here Tuesday afternoon with ten persons in attendance, four of them directors of the company. Figures of J. A. Legris, K.C., the secretary-treasurer, showed a revenue of \$37,108.75 and expenses of \$36,504.54, and it was estimated that with even a slight increase in tourist trade during the coming season bank loans, cut \$3,500 last year, can be reduced by \$4,000 in 1939 to a figure of approximately \$10,000. Income from rentals last year was given as \$2,361.50. M. J. Conkey, president, was in the chair, and the directors were re-elected in the Conkey, Mr. Legris, Mrs. G. A. Bagshaw, J. E. McCuaig and H. P. Strong.

Exchange: The man who says everything that goes up must come down, isn't referring to taxes.



... and I do hope you chaps don't think there was anything funny about the draw, just because I organized it. —Humorist.

## Terms "Secession" "Ridiculous" Talk

### Too Many Sections Now in New Ontario.

The following is an editorial from Monday's issue of The North Bay Nugget:—

**Ridiculous Talk**  
The old bogey man "secession" has again been raised in Northern Ontario with a view to "scaring" the provincial government into meeting what are termed "just demands."

Of all the threats that have issued from the North over a long period of time, secession is the most ridiculous, for it is something which Northern Ontario couldn't advance with agreement in all sections and even if it resulted in gaining what the term means, it is extremely doubtful if northerners could make an auspicious start at setting up a new province.

The mayor of Timmins, J. P. Bartolman revised the old scare at a meeting of the Association of Northern Ontario Municipalities at South Porcupine Friday night. He argued that separation from the older part of the province is the logical channel through which northern municipalities could hope to get recognition from the southern part of the province.

As it reads, that claim is ridiculous, for were the North to gain separation from the southern part of the province, the South wouldn't have any reason for showing "proper recognition" to this region. He further charged: "They come up here and put us on the back, tell us what our fellows we are and then forget it." One would infer that the Timmins mayor considers the entire South is opposed to granting the North due consideration.

The sum and substance of the dissatisfaction upon which the secession idea was based is a claim for a greater share of mines taxation for municipalities of mining regions. As was contended by Reeve Carter of Teek township (Kirkland Lake) mining centres cannot hope to gain recognition in this respect until the provincial government obtains some concession from the Dominion government. And so, this directs the grievance at the Dominion administration and, therefore, secession, as advocated by the mayor of Timmins, wouldn't gain the North's point. The Dominion government and not Queen's Park, draws the major part of taxes from the mines, and for no good reason. Mining centres are justified in pressing this claim but they are advancing it in the wrong direction. Until such time as the province gets a better break in mines taxation from Ottawa, it is ridiculous to press claims upon Queen's Park or to deride the southern part of the province.

Certainly Southern Ontario is not as sympathetic toward or as considerate of Northern Ontario's needs as it should be, but we're never going to win its goodwill or greater assistance by threatening to set up a new province. This threat must cause many laughs in the South, for southerners know the North wouldn't know where to commence if such an opportunity was opened.

Just what would we do if Ontario and the Dominion agreed to the setting up of a new province? From where would we derive revenues and how would we be able to balance accounts with the section from which it is suggested we cut adrift? For the most part, revenues would have to come from industry. This would mean taxation upon mines, lumbering and tourist trade, with possibility of a little being realized from the sale of timbered lands. Our plaint now is that we're not getting a due share of mines taxation. This wouldn't be rectified by setting up a new province for the creation of a new principal government wouldn't impel the Dominion government to be more liberal.

Another argument against secession is that the North is now split four ways in the matter of viewpoint. We have the northwestern region advocating a policy for that section, the Sault Ste. Marie region greatly concerned with advancing its peculiar interests, the Sudbury-North Bay area holding opinions not always reconcilable with those of other parts, and we have the T. & N. O. district with distinct views on the development and advancement of the North for general good. Yes, we must first weld these districts into one with a viewpoint and policy that will advance welfare in a general manner before we even consider starting out on our own.

The Nugget has frequently advocated Northern Ontario conferences for the purpose of promoting a better understanding among the peoples of the various "sections" and also for the purpose of evincing unity and determination when advancing anything before either government. The existing "sectionalism" displayed in clamors for rights in the Trans-Canada highway project, is the greatest of our deterrents. Remove this by developing "understanding" and we'll get along much better with our development and expansion plans.

## Says There are 100,000 People in Rackets in Canada

The following is an editorial from last week's issue of The Huntingdon Gleaner:—

"When a R.C.M.P. officer in this Province was asked what rackets operated in Huntingdon County he stated that there was hardly a thing that was sold but what there was not a racket connected with it when sold by many strangers. In brief, there are hundreds of rackets."

"These rackets are not carried on so much at this season of the year when transportation is not so good but during the season when the roads are more open the 'racket boys' cover the countryside. Very often their actual racket is but a sideline in comparison with their real motive, according to the R.C.M.P. When, during the course of their calls on houses they find that the occupants of the house are all away on holidays it is an immediate signal to them that an opportunity presents itself to break into the house and do a little 'thieving.'

"The role of the salesman acts as a cloak for them to operate their various rackets. In this district we have experienced during the past summer quite a few rackets, a number of which are the photograph, cheap gasoline, false advertising, clothing and other rackets."

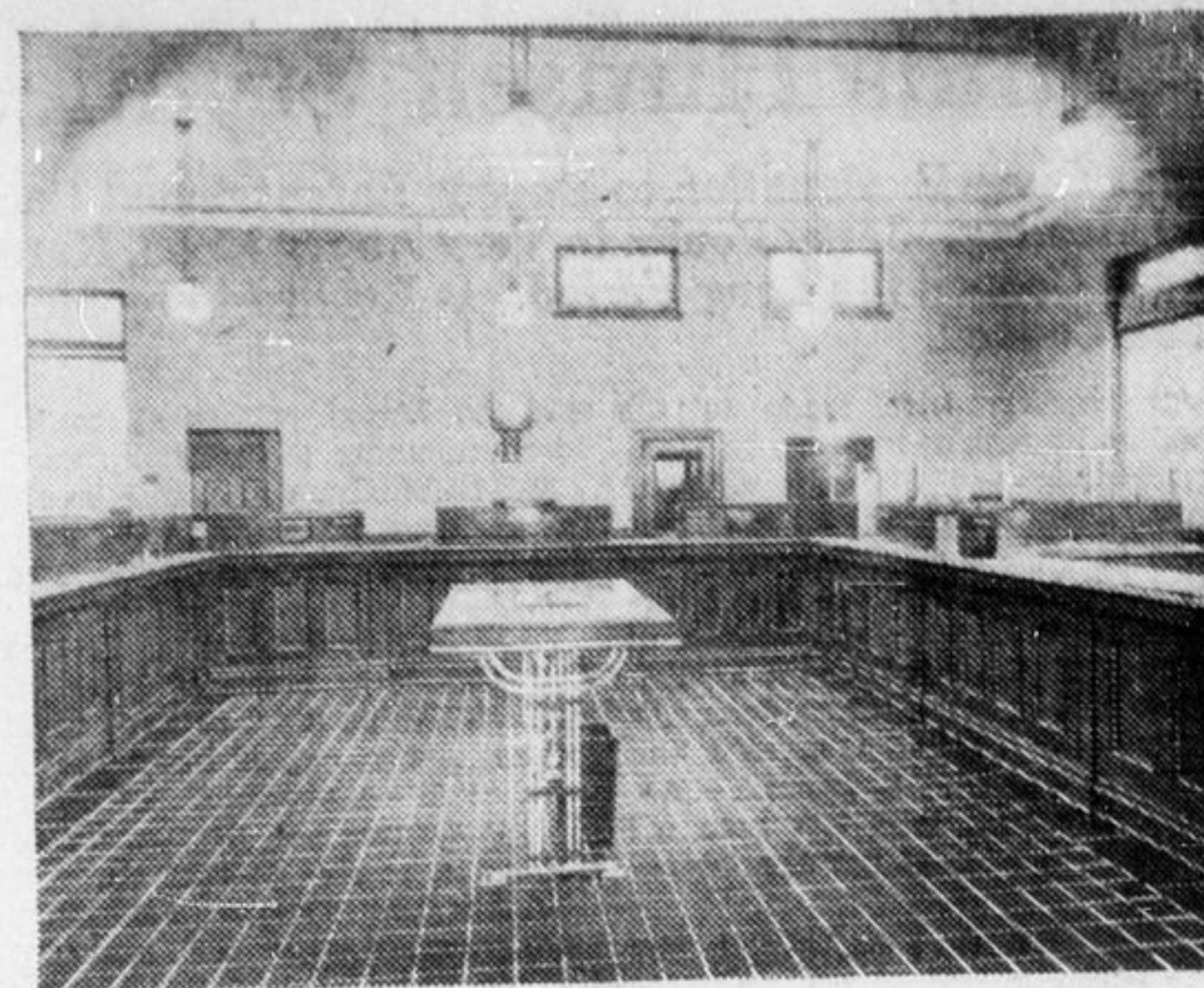
"In case you might think that rackets are not prevalent in Canada it might be pointed out that it has been carefully estimated that there are 100,000 people in Canada who make their living from rackets and their average income is about \$3,000. These figures are the result of a survey made by one of the Better Business Bureaus established in a Canadian city."

"The assistant manager of this particular Better Business Bureau stated, 'People seldom regard crime as a personal menace but they overlook the many insidious forms of petty racketeering that operate in the twilight area between the legal and the illegal.'

"A Better Business Bureau, which is an organization in a city whose purpose it is to disseminate fact information in an effort to protect the consumer from fraud, was first established at Minneapolis in 1914. There are now 67 Bureaus on the continent who are fighting the rackets. The steps the Bureau takes in fighting rackets is first to warn the promoters and then if the warning does not take effect to turn on publicity through the radio and newspapers. No racket can operate successfully when the public is informed of how it works."

Globe and Mail: The Canadian government is investigating Nazi propaganda activities linked with German government officials, according to a statement by the Prime Minister. It might be well also to investigate locations for concentration camps, which were found so useful in the last war.

## HANDSOME BANK PREMISES



Interior view of the Timmins Branch of the Dominion Bank, showing the handsome and well-equipped premises now used exclusively for bank purposes.

## Timmins Branch Backed by Strong Institution

### The Dominion Bank Increases Local Facilities for Service. Originally Opened Branch in Timmins in May 1920. Business Steadily Expanded Here.

The enlarged premises provided this year for the Timmins branch of the Dominion Bank typifies the steady growth of this institution as a whole. The permanent building erected by The Dominion Bank in Timmins a number of years ago, proof of the foresight of the management of the Bank, and their confidence in the future of this community, has heretofore been used only in part for banking purposes. The increase in the Bank's business here has now necessitated occupation of the entire building.

Efficient and dependable banking service is at present provided through 133 branches of The Dominion Bank in Canada. This bank was a pioneer in the development of the Canadian branch banking system as a whole, having established the first city-suburban branch in Toronto in 1872. The Canadian branch banking system is much admired in other countries, particularly in the United States, for its combination of local service and attention to local interests with financial strength and sound connections.

The Dominion Bank originally opened for business in an old wooden, one-story building on Pine street, next to Meyer's Drug Store, on the 13th of May, 1920. The first manager of the branch was Mr. W. J. Duncais, who is now manager in the Dominion Square branch in Montreal. He was succeeded by Mr. John L. Hunt, who was in

charge here from March, 1923, to October, 1930. In that year Mr. F. A. Burt assumed the management, which he still holds.

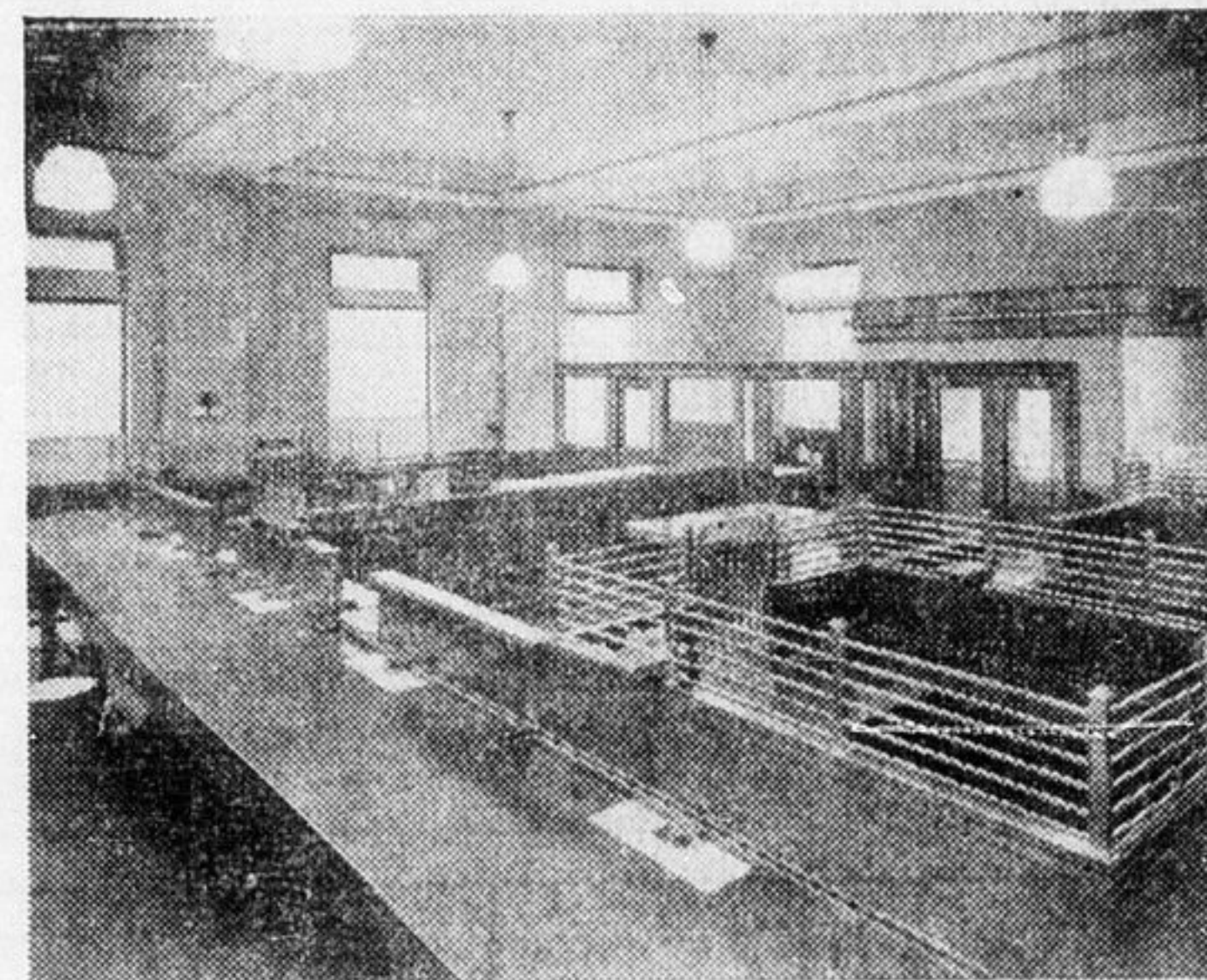
When the Timmins branch was established The Dominion Bank was in a position to give to the people of this district, through this branch, the benefits of a banking service of great stability, already proved by 51 years' experience. The year 1869 was the date when first steps were taken towards the founding of this bank, although its charter was not taken out until 1871.

It is interesting that a member of the founding group, now the Rt. Hon. Sir Wm. Mulock, P.C., K.C.M.G., is still living and interested in the bank.

C. H. Carlisle is now president of The Dominion Bank, and Robert Rae the general manager.

Timmins is favoured in having five branch banks, representatives of Canada's most progressive banking institutions, and the local managers, who are highly respected citizens, are deeply interested in the promotion and welfare of this district.

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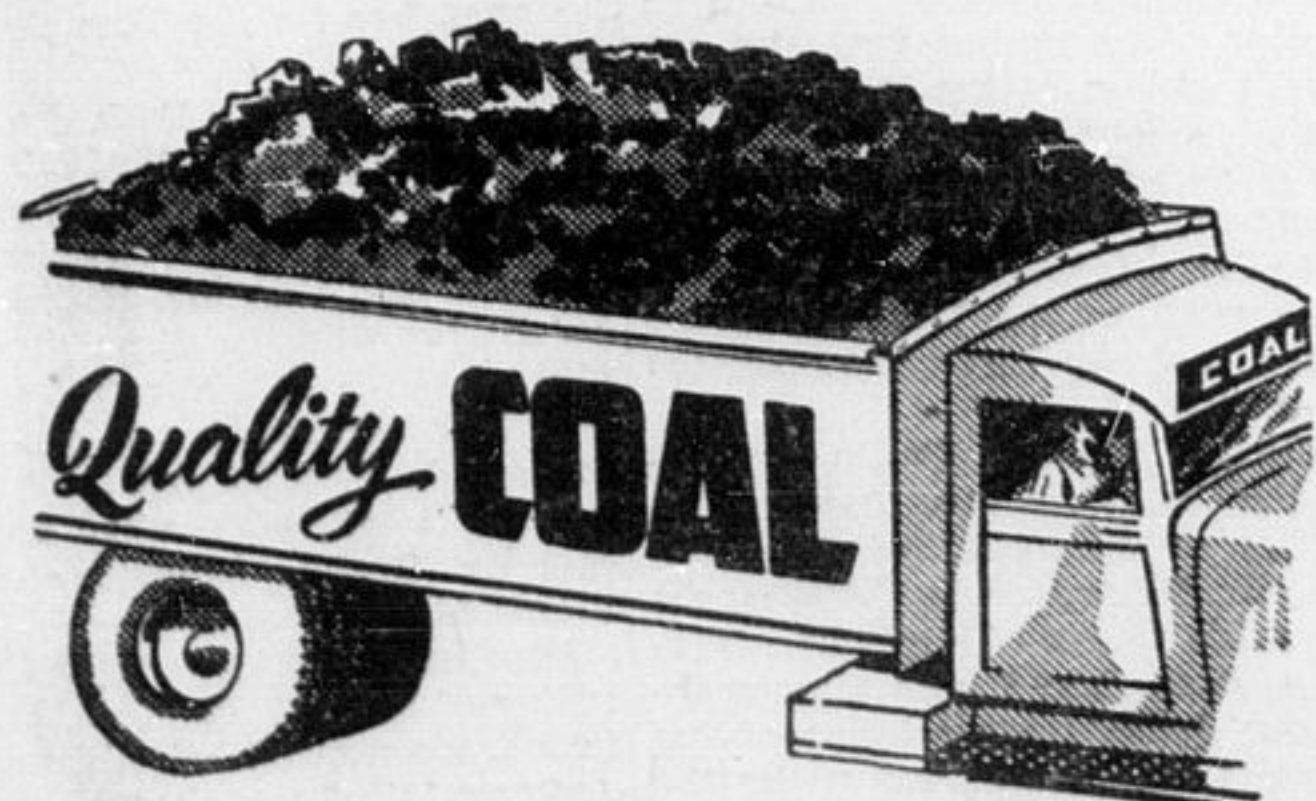
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