

News From South Porcupine, Dome and the District

Children's Choir of South Porcupine and Dome Effective in Operetta

Story of Willow Pattern Plate Told in Pleasing Way, Scenic and Other Effects and Costumes, as Well as Acting, Delighted Crowd Last Night.

South Porcupine, Dec. 18—(Special to The Advance)—The story of the Willow Pattern plate as told in song and pantomime at the Public School auditorium tonight by the Children's Choir of the Dome and South Porcupine, delighted all who were present.

A charming little operetta, nicely staged and prettily costumed, well acted and pleasingly sung—Miss Burns' choice of a medium for expressing the abilities of the choir she has brought along and trained so painstakingly, is to be commended.

The auditorium is in no sense a concert hall. The stage is just a platform really too low to do justice to a play, and there are no dressing rooms. But, in looking and listening to the children performing so well, none of these deficiencies was obtrusive. The artists entered into the spirit of the play, and the audience with them. The stage setting deserves the highest praise. One very large Willow pattern plate was a centerpiece, a mural of the Great Wall of China drawn below a rail upon which were smaller plates each with the willow pattern designed thereon.

Later, on closer examination we found that these were drawings on paper plates each one done by the school pupils (large ones too)—wonderfully drawn and coloured.

The Chinese costumes were most of them made by the mothers of the young performers and did very much toward making the play a picturesque success.

The story of the willow pattern plate is known to most—the scene on the plate depicts three figures crossing a bridge, hovering doves are also in the picture.

The story goes that a mandarin, owner of the castle, wishes to wed his young daughter advantageously to a rich viceroy "when the willow tree stops blooming and the peach tree blossoms blow." The daughter loves a young secretary, and is aided by her faithful nurse to elope with him on the day when she is to marry the older man. They take with them the chest of jewels which the viceroy has brought for his bride.

They make their escape over the bridge and live happily on an island for many years, at death they are changed into doves—seen hovering in the picture.

About 1780 Turner designed the original adaptation of these scattered Chinese pictures into the willow pattern. For the first time he told in picture the whole story on one plate.

It is not fair to the choir to single out any one character for special praise. All did their parts well and looked very happy and so earnest in their desire to please us.

A stately and clever Mandarin was played by Barbara Hepburn and a decidedly gifted child is little Rita Huot, who taking the part of the Mandarin's daughter, Koog See, not only sang sweetly in a clear and true soprano but was a clever actor as well.

Norine White, as the nurse, showed special ability and sang well, as did also James Lytle as the young lover. The peach tree dance was charmingly done by the smaller Dome choristers. A "needle dance" was another, nicely carried through by older girls.

"Chorus"—Beulah Lang, who in recitative gave the story in the prologue and after the play, called the players one by one and introduced them, deserves a special note of praise.

In the interval an attractive number was sung by Nadyne Smith and Mary Harper—"Ki-Ku," a duet composed by Miss Shaw some years ago, and we believe given in the programme featuring the school's first operatic success—"Princess Chrysanthemum."

Fansto Didone—the song-bearing—had a small part but he did it with all his heart.

"Property men" were Ensel Roncato, Wilma Mawhinney, and Evelyn Jay. "Sing-song girls"—"Sui Sin Fu," Audrey Edwards; "Herald," Jim Cassie. "Lantern Bearers," Dicky Rashitan-ski, Kelly Daniber. "Banner Bearers," Ella Antilla, Betty Ellis.

Treasure Chest Bearer—Mabel Draper. Fan Bearer—Alice Betz. Ta-Jin (sultor to Kong See)—Ada Lazzacato. Parasol Bearer—Hilka Salonen. Sing Song Girls—Mabel Draper, Lucille Mitchell, Sybil Ostrom, Maimie Jarvi, Rita Aramo, Alice Betz, Ida Mahoney, Freda Hepburn, Helka Salonen, Jean Whittin, Anjo Nova, Annie Dusovich.

Rice Girls—Eda Franceschini, Annie Merlo, Eileen Pavola, Denise Coyne, Margaret Kelly, Evelyn Peccin, Carrie Ursulak, Joan Sullivan, Mary Duvich, Almo Tadej, Loma Brown. Willow Trees—Madeleine Cliffs, Katy Krizmanich, Ella Antilla, Mary Elizabeth Pearce, Priscilla White, Betty Deacon, Laila Antilla, Hilda Harry, Ruth Steeves, Laila Katola.

White Gift Service at Churches at South Porcupine

Other News of South Porcupine and the Dome.

South Porcupine, Dec. 18th—Special to The Advance.

This Sunday (22nd) the United Church will hold two "White Gift" services. The older Sunday School scholars will bring their gifts in the morning—Dome Sunday School uniting. In the afternoon (2 p.m.) the general adult gift service will be held. Christmas music and special Christmas services will be held all day. At 4.30 on Sunday afternoon the C.G.I.T. will hold a special "Candlelight Service."

The Dome Sunday School concert will take place on Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Dome Public School.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, of Pamour, a son, in Porcupine General Hospital on Dec. 17th.

Sunday was White Gift Sunday for children of the Anglican Church. A special service was held at 2.30 p.m. with Archdeacon Woodall officiating, and a full church of children in attendance, each bearing a gift wrapped in white to lay upon the chancel steps as a Christmas offering. One hundred and three gifts were brought and they will be sent to the Eastern Mooseone Mission where Canon Prewar will collect and distribute them to less fortunate children in that area. Some gifts will be sent to Foyet where the children of homesteaders will find them on Christmas morning. A voluntary gesture of the children of this Sunday School is the foregoing of their own Christmas treat this year. Instead, they wish to each bring an offering augmented by the money which would be spent on the Sunday School gifts, and send the whole amount directly to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the bombing victims of England.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Noel, of 135 Crawford St., in Porcupine General Hospital, on Dec. 17th—a daughter.

Mr. Arne Manner has been in New York City for the past month taking a special course of study in connection with the Consumers' Co-operative Association. He is expected home on Friday.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. McWilliams, of South Porcupine, to whom a son was born on Dec. 16th, in the Porcupine General Hospital.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. George Burns of South Porcupine, a son, in Porcupine General Hospital, on Dec. 18th.

Mike and Steve Capyk, with the Royal Navy stationed at Halifax, are home on leave.

Mr. W. H. Johns, of the Dome, returned this week after a month's vacation spent in California visiting his mother, and in Oregon with relatives.

Mr. W. Acton, of the Dome, is reported today as progressing favourably.

On Monday evening the W. A. of St. Paul's Church held the annual meeting with reports from the various officers and committees on the year's work, and election of officers for 1941. The year was a satisfactory one and the financial returns were well up to standard. Mrs. W. H. Johns, who has been president for more than ten consecutive years, was once more elected for the office. Mrs. B. H. Harper was put into office again as vice-president; Mrs. Wm. Fairhurst as treasurer. Selection of a secretary was left over. Mrs. F. Allen was appointed Thank-Offering Secretary and Mrs. D. Edgar took the office of Dorcas Secretary.

Mr. Grant Barron, of Crawford St., had the misfortune to break his left arm on Sunday while ski-jumping in this vicinity. He was attended by doctors at the hospital, X-ray revealing a very bad fracture of the elbow. He left on Tuesday for the Toronto General Hospital for special advice and attention.

Police Court

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J. Morel faced two traffic charges—one leaving a vehicle standing with no parking lights was withdrawn, the second of failing to give his name when requested to do so after collision, resulted in a fine of \$25.

Annual Christmas Party by Firemen of Schumacher

Schumacher, Dec. 18th. Special to The Advance.

Schumacher firemen, with their wives and children, enjoyed their Christmas party Wednesday evening in the Fire Hall. The main feature was the large Christmas tree, beautifully decorated and laden with lovely gifts, each one receiving a gift. The part of Santa Claus was very capably carried out by Mr. Reg. Stewart. During the evening the firemen served a delicious lunch to the ladies.

Miss Ruth Arkell, who has been the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wright, Fifth Avenue, for the past five months left on the Northland Sunday for her home in Niagara Falls.

Mr. Michael ("Buddy") Sloan, of Campbell's Bay, is visiting his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dwyer, First Avenue.

The Catechism classes of St. Alphonsus Parish Church held their Christmas party in the Church hall, Monday evening. A musical evening was enjoyed and Christmas carols were sung. The main feature was the large Christmas tree laden with gifts. Each one received a gift and a bag of candy from the tree.

Congratulations and good wishes are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bryers, whose wedding took place at Banff, December 7th. They are enjoying their honeymoon at Regina. Mrs. Bryers was the former Miss Miriam Laine, of Schumacher.

Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Ann Quinn, Cedar street, who received the sad news of the death of her mother.

Miss Bette MacMillan, of Toronto University, will arrive home Saturday to spend the holiday season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair MacMillan, Lake Side Drive.

The "Carry On Canada" Card club held their meeting Friday evening at the home of Mrs. Tallon, Timmins. Five hundred was played and he prize winners were: 1st, Mrs. Albert Murray; 2nd, Mrs. Fred Mohr; consolation, Mrs. W. Lang. After the cards a nice lunch was served and a social time was enjoyed.

Mrs. Phelps, Cedar Street, is leaving Friday for Winnipeg where she will spend the Christmas holidays visiting her son.

The "Twenty-fivers Bridge Club" met on Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Robert Gorrie, John Street, Timmins. Bridge was played and the prize winners were: 1st, Mrs. W. Mair; 2nd, Mrs. W. Craik. After the cards the hostess served a delicious lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

The Catholic Women's League of St. Alphonsus Parish church held a whist drive in the church hall last Wednesday evening. Whist was played and the prize winners were: 1st, Mrs. Gordon Byres; 2nd, Mrs. Fimmel; 3rd, Mrs. John O'Leary. After the cards a nice lunch was served.

Sunday, December 22nd, Christmas services will be held in Trinity United church. Christmas music will predominate. In addition to the regular choir there will be special music by the Sunday School choir. Mr. Stan Kitchen will be in charge of the church decorations.

HOWE AND THREE AIDES SAFE IN A BRITISH PORT

Hon. C. D. Howe, Canadian Minister of Munitions and Supplies arrived safely in a British port on Tuesday night, it was announced. His three associates also were safe.

Country Yokel (in city cafe): I'll have two poached eggs. Waitress: On toast? Yokel: Aye, if you haven't any places

Another Programme of Carol Singing at Schumacher School

Schumacher, Dec. 19th. Special to The Advance.

Thursday evening another programme of carol singing will be held at the public school. These programmes have been enjoyed very much by all who attended. Last Thursday evening, Mrs. Armitage sang; also the Rev. F. J. Baine and Mrs. T. Gilbert gave violin selections; accompanied by Mrs. Hurley at the piano.

The annual Christmas presents donated by Mr. Schumacher to each pupil will be on view in the school rooms Thursday (to-night).

Annual Christmas Party of Ca-Bo-Gi Club, Schumacher

Schumacher, Dec. 18th. Special to The Advance.

Sunday evening, December 15th, members of St. Alphonsus Ca-Bo-Gi Club held their annual Christmas party. A large number of members attended. Many games were played, and everybody took part in these and thoroughly enjoyed them.

The outstanding one was a reading of "The Night Before Christmas." When the words, "Santa Claus" were spoken (in the most unlikely places) everyone had to change places. A mad scramble for chairs ensued with much hilarity.

Another laugh provoker was the one where the player held on to a string in a circle, passing a metal ring around from one to the other. One player stood in the middle and it was his task to pick the person who was holding the ring at any particular moment.

Everybody brought gifts which were only identified by numbers, so that when the recipients stated what they were going to do with their gifts many were found that they were going to wear handkerchiefs or play with Teddy Bears or other equally unlikely things. The Christmas tree was beautiful, with Leo Svalute as "Santa Claus," relieving it of its burden of gifts.

A very successful sing-song was thrown in for good measure and many Christmas carols were rendered with feeling, as well as some of the popular songs.

The evening was under the very capable guidance of the president Miss Marguerite Smith.

Following the entertainment a very delicious lunch was served.

Rev. Father Martindale formally thanked the club for their gift to him of a clock and then granted permission to dance after midnight. Many remained to round out a very enjoyable evening with dancing.

S. Porcupine Pupils Issue Creditable Newspaper

South Porcupine Public School has issued a school newspaper that is a decided credit not only to the pupils concerned but also to the teachers of the school. The newspaper is titled, "Tisdale Talent," and the contents fully warrant the title, and the various items, prose and poetry alike, being of remarkably high standards for the pupils of a public school. There is no question of the talent of the pupils, and the carefulness and evident thoughtfulness and accuracy with which the little paper was produced indicate that the pupils have had superior training as well as special ability. Nadyne Smith, as editor of the publication has done a very creditable piece of work, her leading editorial article being especially worthy of comment and a poem from her pen also adding to the interest in the little publication. The staff supporting the editor was a very capable one and the result of their efforts may be set down as a complete and pleasing success.

The Christmas number of The War Cry issued by the Salvation Army is always most attractive and interesting. This year's number has a special charm. It is beautifully printed in colours and the illustrations are genuine works of art, as well as carrying the Christmas message as the Salvation Army never fails to do. The front page cover shows Joseph and Mary bending over The Babe in the Manger. The back cover pictures the symbolic candle in the window, its brilliant beams making the form of a cross in the background. The inside front cover, "Yuletide Gifts for the North Land," is a typical expression of the winter beauty of this country. Many of the other illustrations are worthy of special notice. The use of colour adds to the beauty of the pictures. The articles include messages of interest and inspiration from General Geo. L. Carpenter, Mrs. General Carpenter, Commissioner Benjamin Oramas, Col. G. W. Peacock; Christmas stories by Nellie L. McClung, Gladstone Faraday, Henry P. Milans, Angel Lane; a Christmas message for shut-ins; some short humorous stories for the season; a number of Christmas carols; and other articles and items of interest. The Christmas War Cry will be appreciated by all who have the pleasure of receiving it.

TIMMINS AUTO ELECTRIC and BATTERY SERVICE 2230 PHONE

Mrs. R. E. Durkee Honored By Friends at Golden City

South Porcupine, Dec. 18—(Special to The Advance)—Mrs. R. E. Durkee, of Golden City, who has been resident there for the past five years, left on Friday to take up permanent residence in Hamilton. During her stay in the North, Mrs. Durkee made many friends and took her part in the life of the community in church and Red Cross work. She will be missed and all extended best wishes for future happiness in her new environment while regretting her departure.

On Friday afternoon around thirty ladies met at the home of Mrs. Morley Hart in Golden City, and Mrs. Durkee was guest of honour at a lovely tea and farewell party with Mrs. J. Mason and Mrs. P. J. Dunbar acting as joint hostesses with Mrs. Hart.

A presentation was made during the afternoon of an electric sandwich toaster, and a radio lamp—a joint gift from all present as a token of esteem for Mrs. Durkee and a gesture of farewell.

Sense and Nonsense—An open question is alright except when it is being discussed by a man with an open mouth.

What to Give

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C. A. REMUS Third at Cedar Timmins Main at Golden South Porcupine

NOTICE

A meeting of the supporters of Timmins R.C. Separate Schools will be held in Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish Hall, Commercial Avenue, on Thursday, December 26th, 1940, between the hours of 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. for the nomination and election of trustees for the ensuing term.

If a poll is required, voting will take place in Holy Family School, Mountjoy Street North, on Thursday, January 2, 1941, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

H. CHARLEBOIS, R.O. J. A. WALSH, Secretary.

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