

AXIS FORCES RETREATING FROM LIBYA

Post Letters at Post Office Asks District Official

Use of Letter Box at Station Crowds Accommodation Possible on Mail Car.

Office of District Superintendent of Postal Service
North Bay, Ont., Dec. 15, 1941
To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.
Dear Sir—As you know, the Christmas Mailing Season is with us again, bringing with it increased work. The Postal Service, like the rest of the public utilities and the public in general, is glad that we do have Christmas.
However, the handling of letters and parcels increases, as you know, very materially, and what applies to Timmins applies elsewhere, making our work in the postal car more or less difficult. We increase our man power 100% but we can't increase the size of a postal car.
We all know that at Timmins many people seem to prefer the using of the letter box at the Timmins station, an accommodation which we are glad to provide, but during Christmas it is greatly overtaxed and this over-taxing sets up a congestion in the postal car. Consequently, it is difficult to get our work done as we would like.
To overcome all this trouble would be very simple if you would use your co-operation and take your mail to the Post Office, where there is an increased staff and plenty of room and equipment to do the work. We would appreciate it very much if you would mail your letters at the Post Office at all times, but at Christmas time we would be thankful if you would help us by mailing your letter and parcels at the Post Office.
Will you please do this for us?
Yours very truly,
JOHN C. ROSS,
District Superintendent.

TIMMINS AIRMAN "SOMEWHERE IN BRITAIN"



This official R.C.A.F. photograph shows members of an R.C.A.F. Squadron, "somewhere in Britain," inspecting the squadron scrapbook. The caption accompanying the photograph says that two Canadians are in the above group—Sergeant S. S. Lacey, of Timmins, Ont. (centre, holding book) and Sergeant C. D. G. Brown, of Windsor, Ont.

German-Italian Armies Said to be in Full Retreat in Eastern Part of Libya

British Forces May Have Retreating Armies Cut Off Soon. Russians Driving Germans Out of Russia All Along the Thousand Mile Front. Australians Seize Island of Timor

Stores Open Evenings

Timmins and District Stores Open Evenings for Christmas Shopping.

The business section of Timmins is very attractive this Christmas, the coloured lights, in which "V" for Victory takes prominent place, were arranged through the enterprise of the Retail Merchants' Association. The town of Timmins is to pay half the cost, provided that the town's share is not to exceed \$100.00.
Starting last night, the stores here will be open each evening from now until Christmas for the convenience of Christmas shoppers. Visitors here from the South comment on the large and varied stocks here in all lines.

Christmas Party for Members of Nurses' Alumnae Last Night

Auditorium of St. Mary's Hospital Setting for Santa's Visit.

The Nurses' Alumnae of the St. Mary's Hospital met in the residence auditorium on Wednesday evening to hold the annual Christmas party which featured a beautifully decorated Christmas tree, the visit of Santa Claus, and the distribution of gifts to all the members who had been "good children" during the past year.
A quiz contest, musical selections, both vocal and instrumental, were only a few of the pleasant pastimes of the evening, and a delicious lunch was served.
The Christmas party did not take place on the evening of a regular meeting, since this meeting has been cancelled for the month of December. The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 28th, 1942 and members are asked to turn in all completed work on layettes.

Report Timmins Airman Injured in Old Country

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McLellan, 154 Tamarack Street, received a telegram from Ottawa last night informing them that their son, Eddie, had been injured in an accident while on active service in England. The telegram said that a letter supplying more particulars would follow.
The accident is not considered to be serious, however, but more particulars will be furnished as soon as they are available. The accident happened on December 12th.
Eddie McLellan, a popular young man in Timmins, where he spent the greater part of his life, left for overseas about the end of September or the beginning of October. He holds the rank of Sergeant-Pilot in the R.C.A.F.

Successes for the British Middle East Army were indicated today when a communique from the British Middle East Command stated that the Axis forces in Eastern Libya were now in full retreat. The communique added that the enemy's front had been broken everywhere. A further communique from London said that the Axis forces attempting to withdraw from Gazala, 40 miles west of Tobruk, were being pursued by the British Army in that sector. The British forces were reported as being past Gazala already, making the Axis withdrawal particularly hard. The German and Italian line of retreat to the west and the Axis tank infantry and artillery were facing annihilation.
The Russians, too, are driving the German men away, according to reports from that battle front today. The advancing Russian armies are said to be pressing forward steadily on a thousand mile front from the Sea of Azov to Lake Ladoga. The Russian artillery are said to have struck new and heavy blows at the Axis strongholds in Crimea and the bulk of the German Crimean army is said to have been withdrawn to stiffen the defences of Mariupol, on the Sea of Azov, 110 miles west of Rostov.
A communique from Moscow at noon said that the Russians had re-captured seventy villages in their advance yesterday while the city of Kharkov has re-entered the fighting zone, indicating that the Russian advance in the Donets Basin was gaining momentum.
In the Far East where the United States and British armies and navies are battling the Japanese forces, the news is much quieter than it has been for the past few days. One official communique reports that the Netherlands East Indies army bombers have blasted a concentration of Jap warships and transports off the coast of British North Borneo. The result of the giant attack, however, was not immediately disclosed. A Japanese cruiser was reported to be blazing after an attack by a Dutch flying boat.
The Australian and Netherlands troops are reported to have occupied the Netherlands Portuguese Island of Timor at the east end of the Netherlands East Indies. Indications were that the Japanese planned an attack on the island, intending to use it as a submarine base in an attempt to cut off communication with Australia. Landing forces said that the Portuguese authorities on the island had objected to the landing but had offered no resistance.

The death occurred suddenly at her home, 62 Mountjoy street south, on Sunday morning, of Mrs. Agnes Ruir, a well-known resident of Timmins for many years. Funeral arrangements are as yet not definite, but it is expected that interment will be made in London, Ontario.
The late Mrs. Ruir was fifty-seven years old, and was born in England. During her residence here, she took very active part in the work of the Horticultural Society, and the decoration of her home at the Christmas season was noted. She leaves to mourn her loss her husband, two sons and two daughters.

Lions Enter the Curling Competition Between the District Service Clubs

Lions Send Another Donation to Lions British War Victims' Fund to Send Their Total to Six Hundred Dollars. Two Turkeys Donated to Children's Shelter.

Clear evidence that they are doing everything possible to help the various service works in the district was offered by the various committees of the Timmins Lions Club at their regular meeting in the Empire Hotel on Monday night of this week. Each committee presented a report of their work to date and a number of donations were passed to the members.
One of the items was the passing of accounts totalling \$103.00 for glasses supplied by the Sight Conservation Committee. This amount represents twenty pairs of glasses supplied during the month to needy children of school age. This is one of the main phases of the Lions Club work.
Also along the same line, four members of the club volunteered to donate their cars for a Christmas party that will be held this evening for the Blind of the district.
Accounts totalling \$403.75 for tubercular work were also passed at this week's meeting. It was also pointed out that to date there have been eight hundred tubercular tests made in the district and the work is still continuing. The Lions Club include the fighting of the dread peril of tuberculosis as an important part of their work.
Other donations that were passed at the meeting included the sum of ten dollars to be donated toward a scholarship for a pupil showing exceptional ability, the sum to be administered by the Porcupine Music Festival committee; the sum of twenty-five dollars to be donated toward the purchasing of Christmas gifts for the children of soldiers on active service, the sum to be sent to the children's committee; the sum of fifty dollars to be donated to the Canadian Red Cross Society to help them in their special drive for funds to supply medical supplies to the Russian relief.
As is their usual custom the Lions Club donated two fine turkeys to be sent to the Children's Shelter for Christmas.
Fifty dollars was donated to the Lions British Child War Victims Fund. Over \$25,000 has already been donated to this fund by the Lions Club of Ontario and the money is remitted to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, who has selected the Waifs and Strays Society as the final recipient. This donation from the Timmins club raised the total of their donations to this fund to \$600.00. This money is sent in regularly by the Lions club on behalf of the citizens of Timmins.
It was announced that the special curling events for members of Timmins service clubs will start at the McIntyre Curling Club on Sunday night. The event gets under way at eight o'clock and every member of the club is asked to participate.
Monday night's meeting was presided over by President Stan Fowler and the special guests were: Lion Maxie Silverman, of the Subury Club, and Lion Art Doddemede, of the North Bay Club. The meeting took the form of a Christmas party and every member was instructed to purchase a gift for use

Central School Helps War Causes

Half of Net Proceeds of Recent Concert Given to Worthy Services.

The large crowds attending the recent Christmas concert event by the pupils of the Central public school, Timmins, were delighted with the talent displayed by the children and thoroughly enjoyed the programme presented. They will be equally well pleased at the disposition of the money raised by the event. There was the pleasing total of \$250.00 as the net proceeds. Of this amount half (\$125.00) will go for the purchase of special equipment, etc., for the school. This will include a radio for one of the departments of the school. The other half (\$125.00) is to be given to several war and patriotic causes, including the following:
Bomb Victims Fund, \$50.00.
Russian Relief Fund, \$50.00.
Sick Childrens Hospital at Toronto, \$10.00.
Fund for fighting tuberculosis, \$10.00.
It will be noted that very worthy causes have been chosen, the pupils evidently keeping well posted on affairs to-day and the special needs there are in many different lines, all being patriotic and helpful.

Timmins Man is Arrested Yesterday Afternoon on High-grading Charge

Joseph Wilk is Apprehended on Fourth Avenue by Members of O.P.P. and R.C.M.P. Constable Bert Braney Takes Charge of Questioning This Morning.

Pinch-hitting for the Ontario Provincial Police Gold Squad (Constables Bert Braney and H. L. Thompson), Constables R. O. Stromberg and Jack Fulton, of the O.P.P. detachment in Timmins and members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police stationed here arrested a man on Fourth Avenue yesterday afternoon and charged the man with high-grading. Constables Stromberg and Fulton are the entire Provincial police strength in Timmins at the present time, the remainder of the strength being on duty in Kirkland Lake for the duration of the strike in that town.
The "catch" made yesterday afternoon was one of the largest made in Timmins for some time. The arrested man, Joseph Wilk, 12 Middleton Avenue, is reported to have had completely refined gold buttons in his possession of value amounting to more than twelve hundred dollars.
The arrested man who is of Polish descent, was reported to have been working at one of the local mines at the time of his arrest. He is forty years old and married.
Constable Bert Braney arrived in Timmins this morning and took over the questioning of the man immediately after his arrival.
Wilk will appear before Magistrate Atkinson on Monday afternoon to face the charge.

Advance to Issue Tuesday

Owing to the holiday next week on the regular publication day, and to give merchants and others a chance to catch the last-minute shoppers, The Advance will be published on Tuesday next week, Dec. 23rd.

Extra Dependents' Allowance Expected in December Cheque

During the past two weeks many enquiries have been made to the Legion pension officer, W. A. Devine, in regard to the additional allowance for those in receipt of Dependents' Allowance. The new increase gives \$9.00 for a third child, and \$6.00 for a fourth. W. A. Devine states that it should be emphasized that there is no increase in allowances to any others at the present time. Many have sought information as to not receiving cost-of-living bonus, and in regard to this the information to hand is that this is receiving the attention of the Dependents' Allowance Board. With regard to those entitled to the extra increase for large families, W. A. Devine informs The Advance that these will be adjusted in the December payments as far as it is possible to do so. The Dept. at Ottawa has an increased staff working on this matter and they hope all adjustments will be ready in time for monthly mailing. The pension officer of the Legion also announces he will be at the Legion hall, Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m. to give any additional information in regard to the above question, and also interview others who may wish to seek further adjustments in regard to pension or allowances.

Motor Car Licenses to Expire on January 31st

The Dept. of Highways for Ontario has given formal notice that all motor car licenses must be renewed on all cars in use after January, 1942.

Event for Soldiers' Children

Christmas Tree to be Held To-morrow Night at Hollinger Hall.

Mr. Austin Neame, chairman of the sub-committee to arrange a children's Christmas party for the children of soldiers on service, has gathered the names of over 200 such children. A Christmas tree and party has been arranged for these youngsters to-morrow night (Friday) commencing at 6 p.m. in the Hollinger hall. Mr. Neame and his committee have arranged a very pleasant party for the youngsters. The parents or guardians can help by attending the event with their children, so that the youngsters may be well looked after without further burdening the committee, who have already given a very large amount of time and effort to the event.

Urgent Request for Names and Particulars of the Families of Sailors

Navy League to Pay Tribute or Send Greetings to Families in Ontario Whose Husbands or Sons Were Lost at Sea. I.O.D.E. Helping the Navy League to Secure Names and Particulars. Your Help Solicited.

The Ontario Branch of the Navy League is very anxious to secure at the earliest possible minute the names of all families in the province, whose husbands or sons have been lost at sea, either in the Merchant Navy or the Naval Forces. It is the intention of the Navy League, after securing all particulars about these families, to pay tribute to the families of deceased sailors either in tangible form or by Christmas greeting.
Owing to the fact that Christmas is but a week away, there is very definite need for quick action. To overcome this situation the Navy League asked the provincial headquarters of the I.O.D.E. for assistance in securing the names and particulars of the families of deceased sailors. In turn, the provincial I.O.D.E. has made appeal to all the Chapters of the Order in Ontario. Yesterday Mrs. J. Keene, Regent of Timmins Golden Chapter of the I.O.D.E., received a letter from Mildred Kishore, Provincial Navy League Coun-

Councillor Bill Roberts to Represent Timmins on Delegation to go to Ottawa

Chairman of Public Relations Committee of Council to be Member of Northern Mining Municipalities Delegation That Will Go to Ottawa in Near Future. Next Council Meeting Will be on Monday Afternoon.

The Timmins council at their regular meeting in the council chambers yesterday afternoon, chose Councillor Bill Roberts to represent the municipality on the delegation that the Northern Mining Municipalities will send to Ottawa in the near future to interview the government officials regarding the Kirkland Lake strike situation. The proposal to send a delegation to Ottawa was passed at the meeting of the Northern Mining Municipalities here last Wednesday evening and it was decided that one man from each municipal body would be sent. The resolution at yesterday's meeting was proposed by Councillors Bill McDermott and J. W. Spooner. Councillor Terry asked to be registered as opposed to the resolution.
The meeting yesterday was another short one and very little business took place of passing the accounts took place. The council decided that they would change the date of the meeting next week to Monday afternoon instead of Wednesday as Wednesday was the day before Christmas.
A letter from the Department of