

The Porcupine Advance

TWO PHONES—26 and 2020
TIMMINS, ONTARIO

Members Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association; Ontario
Quebec Newspaper Association
Published Every Thursday by
GEO. LAKE, Owner and Publisher

Subscription Rates:

Canada—\$2.00 Per Year. United States—\$3.00 Per Year.

Timmins, Ont., Thursday, Dec. 23rd, 1943

CHRISTMAS WISHES

Again The Advance extends to all its readers and friends, and to the friends of its readers and friends the best wishes for a Merry Christmas. And that takes in a lot of territory.

In extending the season's compliments The Advance is tempted to say that never was Christmas more needed than in this present time, but glancing through old files of this paper it is found that exactly that same expression has been used several times before in Christmas editorials. Of course, it is but natural that there should be some form of repetition. It would be expected that writing year after year on the same subject there should be some similarity in the treatment of the topic. What preacher has ever preached thirty or forty sermons on the one text without repeating in later sermons what has been said in earlier ones? And the preacher has the advantage of being able to dig down to the bottom of the barrel and repeating verbatim a sermon preached thirty or forty years ago, without danger of being accused of repeating himself. Not so, the newspaper! There is always the probability of some reader having a file of the newspaper whereby one year may be checked up with another. The newspaper has not even the privilege of purloining from other newspapers with any degree of safety. In this connection, there is the classic example of the Central Ontario newspaper some years ago that published a Christmas editorial that appeared to have originality and interest, and though for a time this newspaper enjoyed some credit for the purloined editorial, it was later discovered that it had been stolen the year before from a newspaper that had stolen it the year before from the columns of the Central Ontario's own hated rival.

Although originality of thought can scarcely be expected on a subject on which so much has been written as in the case of Christmas, it is not difficult to defend the statement that the world needs Christmas to-day more than any other year in its history. Such a statement was true enough when The Advance voiced it at Christmas, 1916, when the last war was in progress. It was equally true when it was repeated twenty years after, in the days of the depression. It was true when it was used in the Christmas times during the present war. There can be little question of its truth to-day. The fact is that it was true in each succeeding year—in peace or war—in prosperity or the reverse. Probably it had more force of truth in the days when it seemed least needed—when people imagined all was right with the world. Certainly, there were times when the true spirit of Christmas was needed to stir people from contentment with false luxury and a peace worse than war—to rouse people from complacency and indifference and selfishness. This bad old, sad old world needs Christmas every year. Indeed the world would be the better for more frequent Christmas seasons. For many years The Advance advocated a three day Christmas—a day to prepare, a day to celebrate, and a day to sober up. With Boxing Day—the day after Christmas—now generally observed as a holiday, this three-day holiday plan for Christmas appears to be on the way to being almost achieved. Last year Christmas fell on a Friday, with Saturday as Boxing Day, and the day after that being Sunday, another holiday, there were the three holidays in a row. This year Christmas Day is Saturday and Monday has been named officially in Timmins as a holiday, again making a three-day holiday. Next year Christmas Day follows a Sunday and Tuesday being Boxing Day and a holiday, there will be again the three holidays in a row. Thus the suggestion of The Advance for a three-day holiday for Christmas appears to be established, for in the matter of holidays the people in general are more than likely to insist on making a tradition of anything that happens three years in succession.

Having thus secured the boon of a three-day Christmas, The Advance herewith turns its attention to more frequent observances of Christmas. For a start the plan might be tried of having a summer celebration of Christmas. There are certainly times in the warm days when the Christmas spirit seems to be very desirable and necessary. In any event in this country it would help break up the winters. So many have been tunelessly singing of "A White Christmas," that the tide may turn and there may be popular demand for a "green Christmas." About the only way to assure a "green Christmas" in this North Land would be to hold the event in July or August. That summer plan would also have its advantage for Toronto, Montreal, Hamilton and Calabogie, where at present the only Christmas they have in the year is handicapped by snow that ties up traffic, and delays passengers and mails. Once having two observances of Christmas in a year, it would not be difficult to extend the observance to a few more times in the year. The more Christmas seasons in the year the better for the world at large.

What makes Christmas different from other

times and seasons? What is the Christmas spirit? The answer may be found in the words that that Christmas is the time of thought for others, of unselfishness and generosity, of goodwill, of kindness, of thoughtfulness and of jollity and good humour. The world would be better in every way for less elections and more Christmases. Among the wishes of this Christmas it may be well to include the earnest hope that there might be more and longer Christmases each year.

In the meantime, The Advance sincerely wishes to one and all and everybody and all their relations, a Very Merry Christmas, and many of them.

NOT SO GOOD A CHRISTMAS

The present Christmas will not be the worst in history. But there have been better—at least in Timmins. There are many who sorrow for those who are in danger far away. There are those who mourn for those who will not return. To all these the spirit of Christmas will give some measure of sympathy and comfort in the thought of the happy Christmases yet to be—when there will be no sorrow and no more tears.

There are others less worthy, however, who ask for sympathy on false grounds. For instance, there is the short-sighted fellow who vociferously declares that the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has rationed Christmas and put Santa Claus on the coupon system. They pretend to see the children cheated of Christmas joy by the scarcity of toys and the lack of mechanical devices supposed to satisfy the hearts of children. It is true that most of the wonderful gifts that crowded the market some years ago are now unobtainable for the duration of the war, but there are compensations for all this. Parents and others are using their own ingenuity to devise toys and tricks that will delight the youngsters. It should be remembered that the little girl smiled at the beautiful doll with eyes that opened and closed and that actually spoke when properly pressed but she loved the old rag doll that her mother made. The little boy's eyes gleamed at the sight of the factory-made electric train but he had more real fun with the wagon his father made. The young lady of to-day will be as delighted with her first pair of rayon silk stockings as her older sister with with the nylon ones of years ago. It is not the actual value or utility of the gifts that make them precious but the spirit behind the giving and the spirit behind the receiving. The children this year will have as merry a Christmas as any of past generations, because it is Christmas and because they are children.

If there is any sympathy to be handed out it should go to the grown-ups. To the worry and work and anxiety of filling the Christmas stockings from the supplies available, they have had to line up in queues for the harder liquors and stand in line for beer. If they even mention some of their troubles or complain about train service or mail service or any other service, someone is sure to say in reproving tone, "Don't you know there's a war on!" That is the unkindest cut of all. And then on top of it, they can not look forward to the old Christmas fun of years gone by. There will be no electric trains or wonderful mechanical devices to play with on the plea of showing the children how they are operated. It will not seem like Christmas to some mothers, when they do not hear some childish voice cry "Oh, Daddy! you've broken my wonderful electric hoist!"

This Christmas, however, is no time for just sympathy! If you know of any child lacking a toy or a Christmas meal, don't send sympathy—send the goods. Support the spirit of Christmas—cheerfulness, goodwill, good humour, friendship, unselfishness and love. Make it a merry Christmas for all within reach.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR

Years ago there was a Timmins livery that advertised "Free Rigs to-morrow." Occasionally some stranger who had paid for a rig one day would call next day and ask for a free rig. "Free rigs to-morrow" he would be told. On the same principle it is safe enough to say that the war will be won by next Christmas. It makes a comforting thought for this Christmas. It is well to remember that even should the enemy collapse it will take literally years to assure the real "winning of the war." The enemy will have to be cleared out of all the occupied countries and assurance made that the freed countries will be able to care for themselves and keep order within their gates. The home land of the Huns must also be invaded and a cleaning-up process carried on there. Had this been done in the last war it is doubtful if there would have been the present war. The great mistake of the last peace, despite the silly sentimentalists, was that Germany was left without any real conception of what war really meant. The present bombings of German cities and towns is no doubt teaching this perverse nation something about war and its evils in a way that cannot escape their notice. Even this, however, is not enough. German territory must be invaded and order and humanity restored to the world. The trial of a few leaders will not be sufficient to impress upon the Huns the evil they have wrought. The whole German people must be shown war at their own doors. This will take some time. It may not be over in a year, though the belief persists—and with much logic behind it—that when the Germans finally are really beaten their collapse will be sudden as it was in the last war.

Viewing the progress of the war during the past year should encourage all right-thinking people.

The Russians continue to make decided progress in their freeing of their land from the evil invader. The confidence of the Russians is evidenced by their trial of Germans and traitors during the past few days. Of course, it is quite evident that the Russians have no reason to fear reprisals. They know that there is no brutality or bestiality that the enemy will not practice, has not practised, no matter what the Russians may do or say. But it is not likely that the Soviet would have taken time off for trials were they not well on the way to final victory over the enemy.

Progress of the Allied Nations in Italy has been more important than many appear to think now. There was a time when too many believed that the freeing of Italy from the Hun was only a matter of routine. It is fully realized now that this is not the case, but that time and effort will be required to restore Italy. It is also realized that the taking-over of Italy is not the most pressing problem of the day. No doubt it is felt that while the Germans could be driven from Italy by ruthless bombing and destruction, this plan would scarcely be justified.

Probably the greatest progress to victory is being made at present through the wholesale bombing of German towns and cities. As Premier Churchill promised, scores of British bombs are being dropped on German cities for every one on British communities. While there is a vast difference between German and Allied bombing plans, the effect of the British system seems to work more surely for victory. German bombing is indiscriminate and its chief purpose seemed to be terrorization and destruction of morale. It failed in these objectives. The British plan is to attack and destroy war plants and supplies and weapons of war. This is of direct military value while the effect on morale must be even greater than the simple killing of people through indiscriminate bombing.

There is more progress being made against the Japanese than is generally realized. Here there is no hope of collapse. It appears as if the Japanese fighting forces will have to be exterminated to reach victory in that quarter. Steady progress is being made to that end.

On all fronts the war to-day is going well. It is no time for complacency or slackening of effort, but neither is it time for any discouragement. "Carry on" should be the watchword. It might well be added that the signs are favourable enough that due preparation should be made that victory should not find the nations as unprepared as they were for war.

Officers Elected for Schumacher W. M. Society

Attractive Christmas Feature at Meeting in Trinity Church Hall.

Scumacher, Dec. 22nd. Special to The Advance.

The Women's Missionary Society of Trinity United Church held their meeting Wednesday afternoon in the Church hall. This being the Christmas meeting there was a large attendance of members and friends. The president, Mrs. H. Lang, was in the chair and Mrs. Randolph was pianist.

The candle lighting ceremony was very impressive each one present taking part in it.

Mrs. Jackson, of Timmins, President of the Cochrane Presbyterian, gave a very inspiring Christmas message.

The election of officers was held and the new officers elected for the year are as follows:—

Honorary President — Mrs. Lora Carlson.

Past President — Mrs. H. Leng.

President — Mrs. Bert Waite.

Vice President — Mrs. H. Waddell.

Secretary — Mrs. Wes MacLaren.

Treasurer — Mrs. Wallace Lang.

Temperance Sec. — Mrs. H. Christ-opher.

Christian Fellowship Sec. — Mrs. Dave Killens.

Supply Secretary — Mrs. George Ship-pan.

Community Friendship Sec. — Miss Mayowna.

After the election of officers a dainty lunch was served. After lunch a social period was enjoyed.

Old Resident of Pottsville Dies at Age of 89 Years

Ephraim Selin Lived in Pottsville Since 1910.

South Porcupine, Dec. 22nd. Special to The Advance.

Ephraim Selin, of Pottsville, died in

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

Still stands the motto of the King:

"Put into your task whatever it may be, all the courage and purpose of which you are capable. Keep your hearts proud and your resolve unshaken. Let us go forward to that task as one man, a smile on our lips and our heads held high and with God's help we shall not fail."

J. V. McArea's column in The Globe and Mail last Friday was headed: "Gibson Tells Story of Dam Destruction." There has been a lot of that kind of destruction lately.

Firemen and police at Montreal were out on strike for several days during the past week and the city was consequently without its proper protection from lawlessness and the ravages of fire. Air Raid Precaution groups and militia were said to be ready to handle any emergency that might arise. Had such an emergency occurred, it is certain that the make-shift police or firemen would not have been able to cope as successfully with the event as would have been the case with trained and experienced police and firemen. Discussion of the strike has centred around the alleged shortcomings of the city administration, the governments, and the police and firemen. Those most vitally concerned—the people at large—seemed to have been given little consideration. This is the way it goes in most strikes. There is much talk about the striker's side and the other side, while the people's side is forgotten. The International Fire Fighter's Union, to which Timmins firemen belong, has the proper perspective. It is one of the first rules of their organization that the public safety is the first consideration—that there shall be no strikes of the sort that occurred in Montreal. The betterment secured by the International Fire Fighter's Union in the way of better wages, better hours and better conditions tells its own story. The public should take cognizance of the matter, and give support to the organization that considers the public safety and welfare as paramount. In Timmins, for instance, it might be a proper thing to consider the idea of three shifts instead of two for the firemen. Such a plan would be advantageous to the public as well as the firemen, as it would mean keener efficiency.

Last week the C.B.C., solemnly announced that Premier Churchill had "pneumonia in the Middle East." Anyway, no one can accuse the Prime Minister of having anything wrong in his Far North.

were the angels, the Virgin Mother role being taken by Genevieve Dougherty.

Carols sung were:—
(1) "D'ou viens tu bergere?"
(2) "Les anges dans nos Campagnes."
(3) "It est ne le Divin."
(4) "Noel Provencale."

Christmas Party Held by Members of Ca-Bo-Gi Club

Evening Greatly Enjoyed Sunday, in Church of Nativity Basement.

Last Sunday night the basement of the Church of Nativity was the scene of a gay Christmas party given by the members of the Ca-Bo-Gi Club.

The evening presented bright entertainment and a fine programme, which began with a Christmas play enacted by several of the pupils of the Holy Family School. Father Callaghan addressed the audience giving a short but very interesting talk on the Christmas season. The Ca-Bo-Gi choir was also present and gave three very fine numbers which included "Silent Night," "Adeste Fideles," in which Miss Jean Murtagh gave a lovely solo, and the "First Noel." The choir was accompanied at the piano by Miss Murtagh.

A very happy feature of the evening, and one causing much merriment was that provided by Jack Burgoyne who portrayed Santa Claus. He read letters received by Santa from the various members present, and duly presented

Porcupine General Hospital on Friday, December 17th, after a short illness.

He was one of the oldest residents in the Porcupine Camp being 89 years old.

He had lived in Pottsville since 1910 coming here from Cobalt. He was born in Finland in 1854 and came to Canada in 1905. He worked first in construction work for the C.P.R. and later became a prospector.

His only relative in Canada is a son, Arvi, who works in a lumber camp.

A very pleasing and kindly incident in the death of this elderly man is the fact that, being poor and without funds, the Finnish people in the camp made up a collection to ensure him having fitting ceremonies at his interment.

They had been very good to him while he lived, and on Sunday many friends attended the funeral service which was held from the Chapel of Hunkin's Funeral Home. Revd. A. J. Hemec officiated in both Finnish and English. Pallbearers were Messrs. A. Koskela, H. Vayrynen, O. Simola, F. Ranta, J. Pushka and I. Luoma.

E. Telkkinen gave a vocal solo at the service.

Interment was made in Tisdale Cemetery.

Christmas Story in Tableau Form at H.S. at South Porcupine

Carols Sung in French by Pupils in Charge of Miss Wilkins.

South Porcupine Dec. 22nd. Special to The Advance.

A very pretty little tableau was enacted in the S. Porcupine High School on Wednesday morning.

It was for the benefit of the students chiefly, only one or two outsiders being present.

The Christmas Story was staged in tableau in the Assembly Hall, and first form students enacted and sang the appropriate music. The carols sung were all sung in French, showing what could be accomplished after only four months tuition, and the affair was in charge of Miss Wilkins, French teacher, on the piano.

Marilyn Cliff accompanied the singing. Phyllis Lively and Martha Rivett

them, and the others present with a Christmas gift.

A very delicious lunch was served by the committee in charge, and then a community sing was enjoyed by every one, Miss Cappy Lang providing the musical accompaniment.

Veteran of Last War Answers the Last Call

John Liemen Buried at Timmins on Sunday with Legion Honours.

The death occurred last Saturday at St. Mary's hospital of John Liemen, a veteran of Great War I and a long standing member of the Canadian Legion Timmins branch. The deceased served with distinction in the last war and carried a small piece of shrapnel in his body since that time. This caused much illness and lowered his vitality to such an extent that during the past year he has been a patient both at St. Mary's and Christie Street hospitals for lengthy periods. Death came suddenly however and was a shock to his many comrades and friends. The late John Liemen was born in Norway 54 years ago, and came to Canada in his early teens and worked at both the Hollinger and Pamour mines. His wife predeceased him 18 years ago. One daughter Kitty survives.

Burial took place on Sunday, Dec. 20, at the Legion plot in the Timmins cemetery. Capt. Church, S.A., conducted a short service at the Legion hall. Legion honours were given at the graveside. Pallbearers were: Comrades Fred Curtis, H. Craig, C. Sullivan, A. Welin, A. Jenkin, J. Campbell, Cpl. Dickinson of the Algonquin Regt (R) sounded the "Last Post" and "Reveille" Walker's Funeral Home conducted the funeral.



DIAMONDS



6 DIAMONDS

Lovely Wedding Ensemble! In natural gold mountings. \$37.00 up



DIAMOND SOLITAIRE

A beautiful selection of Diamond Rings in natural gold. Prices range from \$25. to \$500.

Charges can be made according to W. P. & T. B. regulations.

L. Halperin

Jeweller and Optometrist

7 Pine N. Timmins



Santa Says!

You Need Your Daily Quota of Milk More Than Ever Now!

Under the strain of Christmas shopping you've probably missed one or two meals. That is why you should drink MORE Milk now to get that extra energy Milk can give you and the protection you need in this trying time.

Timmins Dairy

Telephone 935

Superior Fuels

143 Commercial Ave.

Phone 2120

To all our many friends and customers, we take this opportunity of extending to one and all the Heartiest Greetings of the Season and hope for Peace and all it conveys for the Coming Year.