

Russia Moves Aably to End Battle of Leningrad

Inquest Into Death of David Palmer Opened at Golden City This Week

Adjourned to Wednesday, Feb. 2nd, When Two Important Witnesses will be Examined. Adjournment Made on Account of Illness of One Witness in Case.

South Porcupine, Jan. 19th. Special to The Advance.

An inquest was begun on Wednesday afternoon in the Township Hall at Porcupine into the death of David Palmer who was found brutally done to death at the Gold Ridge Stock Farm Porcupine on May 14th 1943.

Mr. S. A. Caldbick acted for the Crown and Mr. P. C. Evans was coroner. Inspector Kennedy, of the Criminal Investigation Dept., of Toronto was also present.

Owing to an important witness—Mrs. Ducasse—being ill in hospital the enquiry was adjourned until Wednesday Feb. 2nd, at 4 p.m. when further enquiry will be made.

The jury, under John Morrison, foreman, consisted of Oscar Henderson, Jacob Saxe, S. Sheldrick and D. Zonkin, who were cautioned before being dismissed on the danger of talking on the matter between themselves before the date of the next enquiry.

Dr. Paul gave evidence of the nature and extent of the wounds inflicted on Palmer, when he presided at a post-mortem approximately ten hours after death. Photographs were produced and examined by the jury. Dr. Paul is of the opinion that only two blows were inflicted, with a rounded heavy instrument, evidently by a very strong person, and caused the face to be badly distorted, and the other fractured the skull, the bones piercing the brain. A lead pipe in the hands of an ordinary person would be sufficient to cause the blows.

The body was evidently moved after the murder as it was found lying on a blanket alongside a tarpaulin where a groove indicated as with the head of deceased, was filled with blood.

Stanley Nelson testified knowing deceased for three years. His duties on the farm were driving the truck, etc. Age around 33; he said that Palmer was a good lad a satisfactory worker and got into no trouble that he knew of.

He slept in the office adjacent to the boiler room where his body was found.

On the day previous to the tragedy Palmer had been in Timmins ploughing the Victory Gardens, and left at 15 to 9 on the tractor and came through South Porcupine. They went into the Central Hotel and had some beer and came home.

Nearing the farm they picked up two young ladies, Misses Ruby Beauchamp and Hazel Barr, and drove them to Golden City.

He left Palmer at around 10.30 and saw him no more.

Next morning as Palmer was to have picked him up at 6 a.m. he phoned twice and as he got no answer at 6.30 went over to the office. He saw no David but Oliva Puska, Hiram Levert and Morris Kennelly were round.

As they had not seen Palmer either they started to look around, and one of them opened the boiler room door finding the body.

Police were notified and the body was not touched until the police got there.

This witness testified that the drawer of the desk in the office had been rifled and gas coupons—between 30 and 40—had been taken.

He knew Palmer had Victory Bonds and a small amount of money.

Morris Kennelly corroborated Nelsons evidence, adding that he had heard nothing in the night and that Palmer was a nice quiet fellow.

Percy Hammel knew Palmer for two years. His evidence brought out that Palmer's car could be distinguished by the noise it made, having no muffler.

Hazel Barr and Ruby Beauchamp were both questioned. Both knew Palmer and Nelson and had been given a lift home the night of the tragedy by them.

Jack Gauthier testified as to Palmer being a satisfactory workman, quiet living, and secretive.

P. O. Lynch gave evidence of being called to the Gold Ridge Stock Farm on the morning of May 14th. He opened a sealed letter to Palmers sister (which was filed) and which spoke of his intention of leaving and going away. Dated May 12th.

A search for the weapon revealed nothing. He found that a cash withdrawal of \$1700 from Palmer's bank, had been made on March 4th and investigated thoroughly the nature of the transaction between one Bernard and Palmer, as to buying a truck which they intended to operate as partners on the Alaskan Highway. This money had been accounted for and turned back to Palmer's people.

Mary Burns testified that in talking over the phone on May 12th to Palmer,

he had made an appointment to see her on Friday night as he had something very important to tell her. He gave no intimation of what this was, and she did not see him again.

P. O. Stromberg searched for a weapon in the surrounding district with no success with fifteen or twenty men.

A door and wall panelling were exhibits brought to the inquest by the officer. Two important witnesses will be called on Wednesday, Feb. 2nd.—Mrs. Ducasse and Stanley Markiewicz.

Blood Donor Clinic Here Jan. 23 - 24

Those Able to Help Should Leave Their Names with Mr. Douglas or Mr. Harkness.

The dates for the Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic (the fourth to be held here) have been announced as Sunday and Monday, Jan. 23rd and 24th. The three previous Blood Donor Clinics have been especially successful and the coming one should be up to the same standard. The need is even greater than before. The clinic gives opportunity to men and women to contribute in direct way to the war effort and to the gallant men on active service. The blood given at these clinics will be the means of saving the lives of many of the wounded. Anyone in good health and between the ages of 18 and 60 years can join the list of blood donors by handing in their names to either J. M. Douglas, 173 Spruce street, north, or A. R. Harkness, at the Marshall-Ecclestone Store.

Timmins Kiwanis Visit Kiwanis at South Porcupine

The Timmins Kiwanis Club regular meeting last Monday was held at South Porcupine in the evening as an inter-club visit to the South Porcupine Club on the 29th anniversary of Kiwanis International.

Those members of the Timmins club who could not make the trip to South Porcupine met at the Empire Hotel at noon under the chairmanship of Vice-President Frank Bailey, over twenty being present. There were three visitors Kiwanian Percy R. Craven, of New Liskeard Kiwanis Club; Sgt. H. A. Heavener, Edmonton, Alta., and Sgt. R. R. Stewart, Paris, Ont. Both officers are from the R.C.A.F. headquarters at North Bay on a routine visit to Timmins, and were introduced by Kiwanian Fritz Woodbury.

The draw for the War Savings Certificate was postponed for a week, making two to be drawn for next Monday.

The annual Civic Luncheon of the Kiwanis Club will take place on Monday next, Jan. 24th, at 12.15 p.m. in the Empire Hotel, Timmins. Invitations have been sent to the Mayor and Council, Town Clerk A. L. Shaw, Chief of Police L. H. Gagnon and Fire Chief William Stanley, and a large attendance of the members is expected.

Timmins Red Cross to Hold Annual Meeting This (Thursday) Evening

All Contributors to the Red Cross Urged to Attend the Meeting and Hear the Annual Reports of the Several Activities of the Branch. Officers for Ensuing Year to be Elected.

Most people believe that the Timmins Branch of the Red Cross Society has done a remarkably fine job during the past year, and indeed, from the beginning of the war. They can show their appreciation of this by turning out in large numbers to the annual meeting to be held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building this (Thursday) evening commencing at 8 o'clock. In addition they will find the meeting of very special interest for the annual reports of the various departments of the work will be presented to the meeting. All who have donated to the Red

More Aircraft Workers with Bright Ideas



Here are seven workers of Boeing Aircraft of Canada who illustrate the benefits of the Employee Suggestion Plan, applying not only to that big Vancouver plant but as well to leading aircraft plants from coast to coast. They shared in a recent total Boeing award of \$1,088 to workers who have contributed bright ideas to short-cut production. Left to right in this picture are: Earl McComber, William Gallop, Roger Pack, Ernie Ferguson, Ernie Williams, Aileen Badger (making the presentation) and Harry Spence. While none of these workers took national awards in the recent announcement of aircraft-savings winners, they show what is going on behind the scenes in every aircraft plant in the country participating in the national aircraft suggestion plan which has already saved the nation \$236,904 directly with an untold sum of indirect or later saving.

Speakers Show that King Government has not Played Fair with Labour or People

Choose Rational Reform Rather than Reaction and Radicalism Says Bert Merson, Labour Leader. Dangers of Regimentation and Dictatorship Pointed Out at Meeting Here.

There were very able and earnest addresses at the meeting in the Oddfellows hall on Tuesday evening under the auspices of the Progressive Conservative Association of Timmins. The speakers made it plain that the choice of the vote in the coming Dominion election was between the reaction and selfish partyism of the Mackenzie King party, the dangerous radicalism of the C.C.F. party, and the rational and earnest reform policy of the Progressive Conservatives. The danger of regimentation and dictatorship such as has cursed Italy and Germany was also touched upon. The addresses made very decided impression upon all present. The chief speakers were Earl Dinsmore Progressive Conservative organizer for Northern Ontario, and Bert Merson outstanding Labour leader.

In view of the fact that the meeting was originally planned for Thursday evening and so advertised at first and the short time to announce the change to Tuesday night as the only time Mr. Merson could be present, the attendance was good.

Mr. Don McInnis president of the Progressive Conservatives of Timmins, occupied the chair, and gave hearty welcome to all attending. He urged all to study the serious problems facing the country and to join the party that offered progress and good government without regimentation or loss of liberty.

Mrs. H. Shook, president of the Ladies' Progressive Conservative Association of Timmins, referred to the part the women of to-day were playing in the war effort and the industrial life of the country. They were engaged in practically every line of work, from knitting to making munitions. They were releasing men for active combat work. To those chivalrous people who feared that the women of to-day were losing their womanly attribute, she replied that the country and the people would benefit. Mrs. Shook pointed out that because of their homes and their children they had very special interest and concern in the government of the country, and she urged all women to take an active part in studying public questions and in voting so that this might be a prosperous and a happy country for the opportunities and liberty for which sons and husbands fought to-day might be preserved and

extended. In introducing Earl Dinsmore, A. F. McDowell, secretary of Cochrane Riding Progressive Conservatives, said that Mr. Dinsmore had the distinction of being honoured in the town where he was born. He was the youngest member of the Sault Ste. Marie council in point of years, but the oldest in service, having been elected for nine successive years in the ward where he was born and educated. Mr. McDowell said that Mr. Dinsmore held the high regard of labour men and had been for several years an official in the trade union for the occupation he followed—the International Bricklayers' Union.

In opening his address Earl Dinsmore pointed to the decided swing that was taking place among the electors to the Progressive Conservative Party. The Conservative party in Ontario in the days of Premier Henry seemed to fall into a rut, and there was a swing over to the Liberals. The Liberals in their turn got into another rut, with partyism played so ruthlessly that the people were disgusted and the C.C.F. gained favour as a means for registering a protest against parties in the rut. The people, however, were finding out that the C.C.F. was a political party also much in a rut. In his own riding of Sault Ste. Marie the C.C.F. had intended to discharge every government employee from the humblest to the highest and replace them with C.C.F. office seekers. He condemned the C.C.F. for the fact that it did not have a definite policy for all the country, but sought office by a variety of appeals to different sections and classes. He quoted leaders like Joliffe, Winch, McGillis, Agnes Macphail and others to show how one advocated one policy and another claimed that he alone held the real C.C.F. policy. There was no doubt, however, but that the C.C.F. was a socialist party and would regiment and control everybody and everything if they got into power. Labour would be the worst sufferer in such a case. Some of the leaders of the C.C.F. boasted about being revolutionary socialists and sought to set class against class. He condemned the affiliation of the C.C.F. and C.I.O. as against the interests of labour, and pointed out that a political party professing to serve the interests of all the people could not at the same time honestly pretend to be able to reduce all trades and callings to the one level.

Mr. Dinsmore pointed out how Premier King had failed to play fair with labour. Instead of that he had been playing selfish politics all the time. This was the real cause of most of the strikes that had occurred. If the King Government had taken labour into its confidence and used the workers fairly the war production effort would have been greatly accelerated.

The speaker also condemned the C.C.F. for the attitude of some of its leaders to the British Empire. In this connection he quoted several instances that were distinctly displeasing to all loyal people. Analysis was made of C.C.F. socialist promises and it was shown by Mr. Dinsmore that the farmer, the small businessman and labour would be the chief sufferers if such policies were put into effect.

In referring to provincial affairs the speaker expressed his firm faith in Premier Drew and his belief that the Premier would do well for the province and the people. He expected the C.C.F. would oppose everything, but in case

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Most Fire Calls Due to Chimneys and Stovepipes

Fire Chief Stanley Advises Household to Take Advantage of Soft Spells to Have Pipes and Chimneys Cleaned.

Since this time last week there were six calls answered by the fire brigade. Of this number three were for chimneys and pipes. Usually the proportion of chimney fires is even greater than this, and Fire Chief Stanley says that with the fuel now obtainable this is not a matter for wonder. He urges, however, that householders take advantage of any mild weather like enjoyed this week to have pipes and chimneys cleaned. This will avoid inconvenience and danger from chimney and pipe fires.

Several hundred dollars' damage was done in a fire at the garage at 133 Wilson avenue on Thursday evening last. The fire originated from a defective chimney. Only part of the loss was covered by insurance.

There was a small fire at 13 Elm street north, owned by J. J. McKay, when on Friday a little blaze in the boiler room from unknown cause burned a hole in a step but otherwise did no damage.

An oil burner that overflowed on Saturday evening at 10 Borden avenue caused a fire call but no damage resulted.

Twenty from North Join the R.C.A.F. at North Bay Centre

Includes One from Timmins, One from South Porcupine, One from Matheson.

Squadron Leader J. M. MacDonald, Commanding Officer, No. 7 Recruiting Centre, R.C.A.F., North Bay, reports twenty men and eleven women enlisted during the weeks, Dec. 31st, to Jan. 17th, 1944, in air crew and other trades at North Bay Centre. Of the twenty men joining the R. C. A. F. there were four from Sudbury, three from North Bay, three from Kirkland Lake, and one each from the following places:—Timmins, South Porcupine, Matheson, Earleton, Noranda, Ferris, Sault Ste. Marie, Callendar, Hilton Beach, Thessalon.

Timmins—Ivor George Foyle, 75 Fifth avenue. South Porcupine—Walter James Dugue, 81 Smith avenue.

Matheson—Wilfred Roland Dupont. Earleton—Joseph Francis Porteous. Kirkland Lake—Albert James Allsopp, 80 Fourth street; Fred Ervin Bucknall, 43 Taylor avenue; Baxter Thomas Leduc, 2 Kirkpatrick street. Noranda—Archie Mallory.

Of the eleven enlisting in the R.C.A.F. (Women's Division), there were two from Timmins; one from Schumacher; one from Matheson; one from New Liskeard; one from Sault Ste. Marie, two from Sudbury and three from Copper Cliff. Among these enlistments were the following:

Timmins—Eileen Helen Leiterman, 15 Cherry street. Laurette Queenville, 75 Cameron St. Schumacher—Shirley Mae McMaster, 54 Fourth avenue. Matheson—Charlotte Elsie Veitch. New Liskeard—Phyllis Irene Nelson.

Committed to Industrial School for Theft of Truck

At Juvenile court this week two boys of fifteen years of age were committed to the Alfred School for the theft of a truck. Other lads concerned in this and other theft cases were in Police court and were remanded for sentence.

Soviet Navy Assisting Land Forces in Bitter Battle of Leningrad

20,000 Germans Killed in Six Days. Fierce Fighting in Italy, with Canadian Troops in Action There. Big Air Battle over Rabaul. Eighteen Jap Planes Shot Down.

Week-end May be Changeable

Hollinger Weather Bureau Gives Forecast for Next Few Days.

To-day will be mostly cloudy and fine says Mr. Wheeler of the Hollinger Weather Observatory, and the weather will continue to be changeable.

This morning at 8 o'clock the thermometer stood at 0 degrees. Snowfall for the week was 2 inches.

Maximum and minimum temperatures for the week were: Thursday January 13th, 28 and 24; Friday, January 14th, 28 and 0; Saturday, January 15th, 17 and -8; Sunday, January 16th 20 and -12; Monday, January 17th, 2 and 12; Tuesday, January 18th, 34 and 24; Wednesday, January 19th, 33 and 0

Special Meeting of Town Council on January 27th

The next meeting of the town council will be a special meeting called for Thursday afternoon, January 27th, at 3.30 p.m.

Labour-Progressives to Nominate Garth Teeple

Al Proctor, Labour-Progressive Party organizer, announces that all clubs in the Cochrane riding have endorsed Pilot Officer Garth Teeple as candidate for the Federal riding of Cochrane. A convention to officially nominate P.C. Teeple will be held at either Timmins or Cochrane on Feb. 27th. Garth Teeple contested the riding in 1940.

Volunteer Fire Brigade Holds Its Twenty-fifth Annual Banquet Event

Record Attendance. Members of Council and Others are Guests. Tributes Paid to Memory of Late Fire Chief A. Borland. Many Good Words for New Chief, His Staff and the Volunteers.

There was a record attendance at the twenty-fifth annual banquet given by the Timmins Volunteer Firemen in the Legion hall on Monday evening of this week. The hall was filled to capacity without a single vacant seat. The guests invited for the evening were the Mayor and councillors and their ladies, and a few special friends of the Volunteer Firemen. These, with the Firemen and their wives crowded the capacity of the hall. Specially honoured guests of the evening were Mrs. Alex Borland, Sr., and Miss Maimie Borland, and the Volunteer Firemen were especially pleased that these two still held their interest and affection for the boys of the Fire Brigade. Immediately after the opening of the event, there was a two minute's silence observed in respect for the memory of the late Fire Chief Alex Borland, for a quarter of a century fire chief here. During the evening there were many earnest tributes paid to the life and work of the late Chief Borland.

The catering for the evening was done by the Algonquin Club and the ladies of this organization certainly presented a very attractive menu with the best of service and won the praise of all. Chairman Jack Archer of the Volunteer Firemen presided in very able way and added to the interest of the evening by his happy comments. Volunteer Fireman Jack Hunt led the community singing which featured the banquet, with W. H. Wilson at the piano. "Scotty" was given a popular ovation when called to the piano. Acting Mayor J. W. Spooner expressed the regret of Mayor Brunette at having to miss the banquet, being called out of town on business. It was the first time since his election to the council that the mayor had missed the Volunteer Firemen's banquet. Acting Mayor Spooner praised the work of the volunteer firemen and the paid brigade as well. He paid tribute to the late Fire Chief Borland and noted that the new Chief, Fire Chief W. Stanley and his men were maintaining the high standards of efficiency and public service.

After the magic, dancing was enjoyed, the music being provided by Joe Adamo and his orchestra.

Despatches from Moscow say that Russian warships yesterday opened the battle to end the siege of Leningrad, shelling German positions from the Baltic and putting two important objectives out of action. The naval action paved the way for the land smash, which has now developed into a two-pronged offensive. 20,000 Germans have been killed in six days.

London, England, is taking less notice about the separate peace yarns published in Russia, the general opinion now being that the rumours arise from German attempts to send out peace feelers, and that as the enemy position becomes more and more desperate the rumours will increase. British opinion, however, has made it clear that there will be no peace negotiations with Germany — that the only terms are unconditional surrender.

From Algiers come reports that British troops of the Fifth Army have forced the lower Garigliano river and set up three separate bridgeheads, despite desperate German attempts to throw them back. Canadian troops, including a new Canadian artillery unit are engaged in fierce fighting along the Adriatic coast. Allied airmen have bombed rail yards north of Rome, severing the two major rail lines leading down to Rome and temporarily isolating the former Italian capital.

The Chinese report two Japanese warships being hit by a mine about 200 miles up the Yangtse river with heavy loss of life.

There has been a big air battle over Rabaul in the southwest Pacific, engaging 100 enemy fighters. Eighteen Jap planes were shot down and others damaged, and three Jap vessels sunk in the harbour and five other vessels hit. The Allies had twelve bombers that failed to return.

Navy bombers struck their first blow at the Caroline Islands bombing the airbase on Kussie Island.

ice. Acting Mayor Spooner gave the "unofficial" announcement that the new councillor, Councillor J. V. Bonhomme, would likely be the chairman for 1944 of the Fire and Light Dept.

Among the others called on for brief addresses were:—Councillors McDermott, Gladstone, Terry, Eyre and Bonhomme and Fire Chief W. Stanley, Ed Copps, Jack Morrison, G. A. Macdonald, J. D. MacLean, Clerk-Treasurer A. L. Shaw, E. H. Hill and President Nicholson, of the Canadian Legion. All the speakers made reference to the late Chief Borland, and to the able way in which the present fire chief and brigade were carrying on. There were also wit and humour and good stories in the brief addresses. Chief W. Stanley paid tribute to the late Chief Borland and the efficient and smooth-working organization he had built up for the town. Chief Stanley also had praise for the men of the brigade, both paid firemen and volunteers and the good work they were doing. He thanked the council, newspapers, the radio, the town employees and the general public for the co-operation given and assured all that in every way possible the fire department would be at the service of the people.

Clerk-Treasurer Shaw had particular praise for the public spirit and helpfulness of the volunteer firemen. In the days when the town had difficulty in financing all the services needed the volunteer firemen through the skill and experience in fire fighting had been of the greatest value to Timmins.

After the banquet Mr. Thos. Nixon gave an exhibition of magic, mystery and sleight-of-hand that delighted all. This was a special highlight of the evening and greatly enjoyed. The act was put on with professional skill and finish and the various stunts mystified the gathering while his honourous patter added to the pleasure of the occasion.

After the magic, dancing was enjoyed, the music being provided by Joe Adamo and his orchestra.