

News From South Porcupine, Dome and the District

Meeting Girl Guides Association at South Porcupine

South Porcupine, June 21st, Special to the Advance

The last meeting before the summer vacation, of the Association Committee for the Girl Guides, was held on Monday at the home of the President, Mrs. L. Sharp of the Hallnor mines.

An account of the Committee's activities for the year was given by the Secretary, Mrs. R. P. Smith (of Timmins) and Mrs. Hesse (Treasurer) handed in the Treasurer's Report, Miss Clatworthy, of Timmins, was a guest and gave a report to the Committee of the work (she is Company Lieutenant) with our Girl Guides in South Porcupine. There will be no Guide camp this year, but the Committee will assist in transportation for a week-end camp at Horseshoe Lake with Miss Clatworthy in charge.

After the business session Mrs. Sharp voiced the regrets of the committee at losing Miss Dorothy Wilkins from the camp, her activities and work with our Guides for the past eight years being gratefully acknowledged by the association. As a slight tribute to the esteem in which Miss Wilkins is held and as a parting gift, she was presented with a Royal Crown Derby cup and saucer. In thanking the ladies Miss Wilkins spoke of her regret at leaving the camp for Oshawa but her intentions are to pay periodical visits to the North. Refreshments were served with Mrs. Lloyd Durkin acting as assistant hostess with her mother, Mrs. L. Sharp. Present were: Mrs. R. P. Smith, Mrs. M. Bessette, Mrs. E. K. Martin, Mrs. Maxwell Smith, Mrs. F. C. Evans, Mrs. J. Dugan, Miss Essie Kain, V.O.N., Mrs. E. Stark, Miss Clatworthy, Miss D. Wilkins, and Mrs. L. Sharp.

Mrs. W. G. Woods and children have returned from a month's visit to relatives in Toronto and Montreal.

Mr. Fred Laforest, who has been in Toronto for the past ten months, returned home on Thursday last.

Miss June Courchesne left on Monday to spend the summer in Temiskaming.

Mr. Wright, of Toronto, is spending a few days visiting his daughter, Mrs. Rupert Martin, and family on Tisdale St.

Miss Marietta Nenonen, of the Consumers' Co-operative staff, leaves this week for three weeks' holiday in Sault Ste. Marie.

Master Robert McIntosh returned home this week for the summer holidays, from Albert College, Belleville. Congratulations to Bob who has completed his full junior matriculation at sixteen.

P.O. Vladimir Hyrnuk of the R.C.N.V.R. is home for a few days on leave.

Miss Ellen Disher returned on Sunday from Toronto and will again take up residence in South Porcupine.

Mr. and Mrs. McManus, of Noranda, were guests over the week-end of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kavanagh.

Mr. W. T. Bishop, of Toronto, was a guest at the home of Mrs. Olive McIntosh over the week-end.

The auditorium of the Public School was the scene of a pleasant incident on Friday afternoon. Afternoon tea was served to the staffs of both the South Porcupine and Dome Public Schools, and farewell gifts made to two of the staff of South Porcupine School, who are leaving at the end of the term. Miss Houston acted for the staff in presenting Mrs. Black (who has been teaching here for 18 months) with four very nice cups and saucers. Mr. Robert Ship presented Mr. Clifton (with the staff one year) with a fountain pen with the good wishes of all the teachers. Each recipient replied suitably with evident pleasure.

Miss Mary Frumkin is paying an extended visit to relatives in Chicago and Milwaukee, after visiting her brother in Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Raede and baby from Newfoundland have taken up residence in town.

Mr. and Mrs. "Mickey" McCann, of Preston East Dome, arrived home on Friday after visiting in Ottawa.

Mrs. Gordon Bucknam and baby from Toronto are visiting at the parental home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller.

Mrs. McDonald, of Timmins, (nee Eva McLeod, of Kirkland Lake) was visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Duggan of Bruce Ave. this week.

Mrs. Hyman Kaplan and little son are visiting her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. L. Slotnick, from Vancouver. They may stay for the summer months. Bob Cunningham, gunner in the Tank Corps, formerly of Pamour, is visiting friends in town.

News has been received by Mrs. Robert Parker Gordon (nee Mary McIntosh) that her husband—a gunner with the Eighth Army in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy—has been wounded in action. Just how seriously she has not been notified. Mrs. Gordon is now residing in Toronto.

There is unusual lament over the frost of Saturday night. Many promising gardens were blackened overnight and there had been constant demand this week for beans to plant again, and tomato plants to replace those that are no more! The Victory Gardens which looked so nice—the Kiwanis plots on the ballground—all have felt the fingers of destruction. Those who boasted that their potatoes were up well, now regret that they were not like some of their less energetic neighbors, and had planted them a little later. Even the yellow summer lilies out in bloom keeled over with the cold, and some of the iris blooms were destroyed. Tomato plants that were covered by papers were even ruined. The frost must have been quite severe. Five degrees were noted here.

A.C. Ernie Pelkie, of St. Thomas, is visiting at his home at Dome Ex. on two weeks' furlough. His next posting will be at Dorval, Que.

Mrs. Matthews, of Toronto, is visiting her sister, Mrs. C. McInnis, of Bruce Ave., arriving on Wednesday.

Mr. Maxwell Smith and Mr. Frank Willis, of Schumacher, left on Tuesday to attend the Assessors' Convention being held in Toronto from Wednesday to Friday of this week.

Chief McInnis, of the Tisdale Police, leaves today to attend the Police Chiefs' Convention in Vancouver.

Mrs. Henderson, from Havelock, is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Randall Wood.

Police Court

William Doyle paid \$1 and costs for having insufficient lights on his car.

Victor Jondolin, of Timmins, pleaded guilty in court to theft of war savings certificates from Dan Smiezin of the Finlandia Boarding House, South Porcupine. His plea was that he was drunk when he did it. The story was that Jondolin with some others came over by invitation to a party at Smiezin's rooms. After supper the host left his guests and during that time war savings certificates to the value of \$116.97 were abstracted from Smiezin's rooms. In some manner (alleged forger) these certificates were cashed and some bills of Jondolin's paid with the money. The crime was then traced to accused who confessed. Restitution of the money had been made. Defendant had no record, his only appearance in court once before was in connection with some horses killed on the railway when he was driving. The magistrate sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

Acquitted on Arson Charge

After only twenty minutes deliberation a trial jury acquitted Gregorio Frustaglio of South Porcupine, on a charge of arson, when he was given trial in District Court at Cochrane before His Honour Judge R. A. Danis and a jury. The following more extended account is from The Northland Post last week:

On Monday afternoon a Grand Jury returned a true bill against the accused and his trial began the next morning with swearing in of a petit jury.

Accused owned a bungalow at 18 Cecil ave., South Porcupine, which was partially destroyed by fire in the early morning of December 30th, last year. Frustaglio who came from the southern part of Italy in 1929 at the age of 17, had had the house built in 1939 at a cost of \$2,175; improvements had increased its cost to approximately \$2,500, but it had been insured for \$3,000; accused stated this amount had been suggested by the Clerk in the insurance office when he first took out the policy when he commenced occupancy. He and his family (wife and two children) had lived there until November, 1943 when they had gone to live with Mrs. Frustaglio's parents. After two periods in the hospital the wife had been ordered to spend six weeks in bed as a result of a heart ailment.

On the night before the fire Frustaglio had gone to the Cecil avenue house to light the fires, as he said he did whenever it was cold. He had stayed there from 6 to 10; about 8 his brother who lived not far away dropped in for half an hour, and the brother testified that there was nothing unusual in the house, no sign of various incendiary preparations found the next morning.

About 2:30 in the morning a neighbour, Mrs. E. Blakeman, testified she had got up to treat a sore throat and had noticed dim light in the Frustaglio house; just before seven she had seen smoke and fire, and had turned in an alarm.

When firemen and police arrived the dining room was badly burned, and other rooms had been damaged by smoke. They found the shades on a couple of windows tacked down, with gummed papers at the sides; the floors were strewn with paper, arranged in such a manner that it would have led fire from the Quebec heater in the dining room to other parts of the house. Floors bed clothing, dresser cover and other articles were saturated with an oily substance. Professor J. L. Rogers, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto, and consulting chemist to the provincial police, testified that he had not been able to sufficient of the oil to identify it, but it would have the effect of expediting burning; it might have been a vegetable oil.

In the ceiling of the dining room a hole had been cut, the work having been done from the false attic access to which was gained by a ladder at the back of the house. In this attic there was a bottle on its side, from which an oil-saturated string led to chair pre-

cariously balanced on one leg, a short distance from the heater. All doors were locked; in the inner front door there was a key inside, with a length of cordwood suspended by a string so that the key could not be turned from the outside.

Placed in the witness box by his counsel, Dean Kester, K. C., Frustaglio claimed everything was normal in the house when he left about 10 the night before the fire; there was no hole in the ceiling, no paper on the floor, etc. He had left all doors locked. About a month before the fire he had lost a set of keys to the house.

Accused had been involved in a street fight with a woman from northern Italy, for which Frustaglio had been fined \$10. He testified this woman had threatened to "get him some time", also that he had received three threatening letters. Mr. Kester tried to file the third of these letters, the only one available, as an exhibit, but after lengthy argument by counsel this was refused by the judge. However, counsel drew the jury's attention to antagonism between northern and southern Italians, their reputation for nursing feelings of vengeance, and stated that the defence did not deny the fire was of incendiary origin, but contended that accused had enemies, who had been responsible.

Frustaglio had claimed \$1,485 for loss of the house, and \$2,000 for contents; contents loss he valued at \$2,376, but had only \$2,000 insurance. The insurance adjuster estimated depreciated value of the house at \$2,000, and contents value at \$1,000. Property values in the Porcupine Camp had appreciated, defence contended.

Accused admitted that he had arranged the contraption on front door key to prevent turning, and in addressing jury assistant Crown Attorney A. V. Waters, K. C., who acted for the Crown, pointed out that there was a similarity between type of mechanism there and that used to spread the fire. An enemy trying to insure Frustaglio, Mr. Waters argued, wouldn't take the time and trouble to make the arrangements which had been made to lead the fire through the house.

In summing up, Judge Danis stated that to prove arson where a man's own property was involved there must be direct evidence of an intent to defraud. Where a case rests upon circumstantial evidence the jury must be satisfied that the facts are such as to be inconsistent with any rational explanation other than the guilt of the accused, in order to justify a verdict of guilty.

Schumacher and South Porcupine Holding Tag Days For the Sailors

Tag Day at Schumacher on June 23rd and at South Porcupine on June 24th

Men of the Royal Canadian Navy and the Canadian Merchant Marine have certainly played their full part and are continuing to do so in the great invasion. Surely all will agree that they deserve the most wholehearted support. In the invasion work the soldiers tell of the remarkable work of the navy and the transports. There is praise indeed for Canada's men of the sea.

In reference to this, it may be well to mention the report of David H. Gib-

son, C. B. E., Dominion President of the Navy League who has just returned from a tour inspection of Navy League clubs and depots on the east coast. The care and service of the Navy League at these ports are builders of morale and so help to efficiency. There is no doubt but that thousands of these seamen recently serviced by the Navy League took part in the invasion work.

"The welfare and interests of nearly two million visitors to the Navy League's clubs and hotels on the east coast during the year have been well taken care of," Mr. Gibson stated. "This figure of course includes many who have made many return trips. 80,000 naval ratings and Wrens enjoyed the privileges of the club at Digby, N. S., while another 23,000 ratings used the club at Pictou. At Whitney Pier 69, 000 merchant seamen were cared for, receiving 15,623 comforts. 300,000 used the Navy League form at Halifax, with similar number of men in all series using the Navy League's recreation centre there."

In commenting in the above, Dr. J. A. McInnis, president of the Porcupine Branch of the Navy League, says:—"On behalf of our merchant seamen and our men of the Navy, the Porcupine Branch is having a tag day in Schumacher on Friday, June 23rd, and in South Porcupine on Saturday, June 24th. I am confident there will be a generous response. We should all be proud to help the Navy League in this work."

Two More South Porcupine Airmen Reported Missing

South Porcupine, June 21st. Special to The Advance

Our sincere sympathy is offered to Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Donaldson (of Timmins, formerly of S. Porcupine) who heard on Tuesday that their son, Ken, of the R. C. A. F., was missing after operations over enemy territory. Their son, Eric, was killed in Italy quite recently, and we earnestly hope that to prove arson where a man's own property was involved there must be direct evidence of an intent to defraud.

Where a case rests upon circumstantial evidence the jury must be satisfied that the facts are such as to be inconsistent with any rational explanation other than the guilt of the accused, in order to justify a verdict of guilty.

Another on the "missing" list was noted last week—a boy who although not a native—spent some years in the

camp, employed at the Dome and other mines here. He is Lloyd Franklin R.C.A.F. brother of Harold Franklin (R.C.A.F.) who was reported missing over a year ago. Lloyd was reported missing on May 17th.

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Treasurer's Sale of Lands for Taxes

Township of Tisdale, District of Cochrane

TO WIT:

By virtue of a warrant issued by the Reeve of the Township of Tisdale bearing date the 16th day of May, 1944, sale of lands in arrears of taxes in the Township of Tisdale will be held at the Council Chambers, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon on the 12th day of September, 1944, unless the taxes and costs are sooner paid. Notice is hereby given that the list of lands for sale for arrears of taxes is being published in the Ontario Gazette on the 3rd day of June, 1944, the 1st day of July, 1944 and the 5th day of August, 1944, and that copies of the said list may be had at my office.

Treasurer's Office this 17th day of May, 1944.

P. H. MURPHY, Treasurer.

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