

Ashes of Lightning by Vincent Cornier

PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS GILES MORETON: Twenty-five, handsome but temperamental. Reputed to be a former R.A.F. pilot, invalided out. Now works as an inspector in the Lowood tank plant.

CHAPTER XIII ACRES OF FIRE Flanagan, the reegade, had vanished. From the time he had been seen to cover away from Banni's murderous attack, no one had taken head of him.

Enclosing the war by factory is a mighty swathe of fire, three miles in circumference, were these blazing moorlands. Days, maybe weeks, would elapse before their creeping furnaces could be extinguished.

Moreton stood, like a Napoleon, meditating watching the continuous arrival of thousands of troops with all sorts of implements. Fanned out into scores of working parties, they had already begun to grapple with the massive tides of fire.

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PROFESSIONAL CARDS MASSEY BLOOR TIMMINS, ONT. S. A. COLWELL G. N. ROSS Arch. Gillies, B.A.Sc., O.L.S. Registered Architect Ontario Land Surveyor

GREGORY T. EVANS B.A. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY PUBLIC P. H. LAPORTE, C. G. A. Accounting Systems Installed Auditing

And that will mean the armoured equipment of an army will be lost. "So bad as that?" Moreton smiled bitterly. "They've timed it magnificently. You see, an absolutely new type of six-speed box was just going into production, intended for our heaviest tanks to date."

CHAPTER XIV THE GENERAL BACKS MORETON Wires throbbed with messages; field radio receivers heard rapid orders. The whole force engaged in fighting the moorland fires was re-arranged. Seventy per cent of its activities were now concentrated on trench digging and demolition work to the north of the factory.

The nucleus of the scheme came from Moreton's first-hand report of his pending on the hill. He argued that such an expensive water, extended across the possible path of the fire, would save the Corporation's work. The General Pk's idea, and had submitted it to his Royal Engineers. They approved.

Moreton grinned somewhat cynically, as he listened to the official congratulations he received. Rather nice, he told himself, to have produced such a magnificent red herring with such facility, in such a crisis.

For, to his clear-thinking and realistic mind, that was what it amounted to—the device had served to withdraw official attention from the absolute failure of his efforts in other directions.

During these weeks that he had played his waiting and watching game, in the guise of an inspector, he had never collected sufficient evidence to convict Flanagan and Helme of complicity in the various acts of sabotage he had noted. Then—from the moment Helme made that fatal suggestion on the station platform, until now, when he was eating his first meal in fifteen hours—events had moved with such rapidity as to leave him unable to exercise any single instrument which would implement success.

Flanagan had staged his mysterious disappearance under their very eyes. Helme, the progress clerk, had similarly vanished. A posse of Security police, detailed to arrest him, had searched the factory premises and, eventually, his lodgings. Evidently Helme, too, had seen the game was ended. He had been back to his rooms and had destroyed papers and clothing in a most unusual manner, by piling them in the bath and pouring acid over the heap.

General Hardisty had stated he wanted Helme's neck for the hangman's noose now he had it! For the flask which had contained the acid was of that light metal which is called "dental alloy"—a precious metal, into which platinum is entered as an acid-resisting roll. It had been made in Germany. Indeed it was officially Nazi issue given to parachute spies for the rapid destruction of their parachutes on landing.

At last definite proof had been obtained on the score of Helme's connexion with Germany—and if Helme the rat, were guilty, why not Flanagan, the wild boar, also? Altogether Moreton enjoyed his sleepy meal.

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CONSUMER'S RATION COUPON CALENDAR JANUARY COUPON VALUES BUTTER - 1/2 pound SUGAR - 1 pound Table with days of the month and coupon values for Butter, Sugar, and Preserves.

Says Hydro Will Pay Taxes at Least for Present Year Encouraging News for Municipalities Comes from New Liskeard.

Last week's New Liskeard speaker has the following in reference to Hydro and taxation, which will be read with interest locally where the question has been much discussed: Hydro Will Pay 1945 Taxes

Confirming unofficial reports that have circulated freely in Temiskaming district since shortly after announcement was made of the deal for a definite statement that has the Ontario Government as its source of authority, was made this week that municipal taxes would be paid during the present year, at least on property formerly owned by the Northern Ontario Power Company, limited, and recently acquired by the provincial authorities to be operated as part of the Hydro system in Ontario.

R. D. Cumming, Halleybury barrister who was the defeated Conservative candidate at the general election in August, 1943 and who since that time has been in close touch with the Drew Administration at Queen's Park, said in an interview in his home town that either the Hydro-Electric Commission or the Ontario Government would pay all taxes on the property, as levied for the current year, and that future policy with regard to taxation in this respect remained to be determined.

Assessments for this year have been made in many of the towns and townships of the area served by the system, and there had been considerable apprehension among officials and members of councils over what they had feared would be a serious drop in their revenues if, as they had expected, the property would go into the "exempt" columns of their rolls. In the case of Coleman township the amount at stake is close on \$9,000, Cobalt stood to lose over \$2,000, the neighboring township of Buckle received about \$1,500 last year, New Liskeard over \$2,300 and the township of Harley to quote some examples, about \$2,000, twenty per cent of its entire revenue.

From other sources it was learned this week also that in all sections where the Hydro Electric Commission operates, its properties are assessed and taxed as though it were a private corporation. Power lines and equipment are included in the assessments, although in some cases, it is stated where retail stores are operated, concessions have been made. According to Mr. Cumming, nothing definite has been decided upon with regard to the policy to be followed regarding the former holdings of the Northern Ontario Power Company and their possible taxation by the various municipalities, and this viewpoint was taken also by an official of the Hydro who is in the North Country on business for the Hydro, but the assurance that 1945 taxes will be paid is quite definite.

Mr. Cumming pointed out that taxes your sinister mysteries. That certainly out-faced Moreton. "Oh, is it Now, who has been letting cats get free? General Hardisty?" "Yes, he has!" Carol's eyes danced. "He's a perfect wizard of strategy, Giles. Do you know, he came home with me last night, and so charmed Daddy that the pair of 'em sat mumbling and laughing together until the small hours. And, between them, they've mapped out your immediate future."

No Particulars Yet Available in Death of Cfn. Boissoneault

In a reference to the death of Craftsman Power Conrad Boissoneault formerly of Timmins but whose wife resides in Cobalt. The Halleyburian last week says that no particulars have been received as to his death on overseas service. The Halleyburian article is as follows:—

Craftsman Roger Conrad Boissoneault, who was born in Halleybury and whose wife and two children are at present with her parents in Cobalt, died on December 20 as the result of an accident overseas, according to an official message received by Mrs. Boissoneault. No particulars are available she told the Halleyburian this week, and in a letter from her husband, written by him on December 18, he had given his location as in Holland then.

This letter reached Mrs. Boissoneault's husband, who enlisted from Northern Ontario, who enlisted from Northern Ontario in July, 1942 went overseas last April, and had been on the Western Front since July. When he wrote the letter last month, he was on transport duty, and he had returned to action after having been under treatment for burns to his face received on December 3, it was stated. Craftsman Boissoneault went overseas with the ROCOF transferring in England to the RCEME.

In his 31st year, Craftsman Boissoneault was born at Halleybury on Sept. 22, 1914, a son of Alfred Boissoneault, now of Timmins, and the late Mrs. Boissoneault, who died about eight years ago. He went to Timmins as a boy, attended school there and later joined the staff of Sam Bucvetsky, Ltd., with whom he was employed in all of the company's stores except Rouyn. He was located in Cobalt for two years, and had been active in athletic circles there.

Surviving are his wife, the former Anita Duval, and a son, Robert, aged three, and a daughter, Carole, six months old and born after her father left for overseas. There are also his father, five brothers and two sisters, the latter being Mrs. Roland Godin of Timmins and Mrs. Ben Kinlough of Montreal. The brothers are Roland in Timmins, Sgt. Romeo with the Provost Corps in Toronto; Paul, in Toronto; Joseph with the Canadian navy at Cornwallis and Pte. Anthony, who after being wounded at Caen on July 16 and in hospital for a time, has been shell-shocked since returning to the line and is again under treatment.

A service for the late Craftsman Boissoneault was held in St. Therese's Roman Catholic Church in Cobalt last week, with the parish priest Rev. Father A. St. Louis, officiating. Relatives present included his father, his sister and brother from Timmins and his brother Romo, together with Mr. and Mrs. L. Rouillard of Kirkland Lake, uncle and aunt of his wife.

Leonard Paul, Well-Known Figure in the North, is Dead

Leonard Paul, well-known all through the North, and a frequent visitor to Timmins during the past thirty years, coming here since the

early days in his calling as a piano tuner, died last week at Halleybury hospital. He had been around the previous week apparently as well as usual, but was stricken with pneumonia and passed away after a few days in the hospital. He was 49 years of age and was a native of Shawville, Que., coming to Halleybury about forty years ago when the family moved there. He had been totally blind since the age of two years, but in spite of this handicap he had made a name for himself as an expert piano tuner and was widely known for his expert skill in his chosen line. He travelled all through the North and had a large clientele in his calling or profession. He attended the Brantford Institute for the Blind when he was a boy and there secured a good education and training in music, and with his natural talent he developed a skill that was little short of amazing. All old-timers in the North knew Leonard Paul, and on his part he had a very wide acquaintance, easily recognizing people by their voices and other characteristics, his sense of hearing being unusually keen and his memory being truly remarkable. He had travelled across Canada, making acquaintances wherever he went, and remembering them in unusual ways. He took a keen interest in public affairs and was an able conversationalist on most topics. He was a Conservative in politics and a member of the United Church.

Born in St. Catharines on March 4, 1883, Mrs. Mason was the former Alice Maude Tinlin, second youngest daughter of the late Wm. Tinlin and Mary Anne McVeigh. She was as widely known in St. Catharines district of the Niagara peninsula as in Sudbury, having retained her family and childhood connections there by frequent visit to her birthplace. She came of sturdy, pioneer stock, her family being United Empire Loyalists who settled, very early in the 19th Century, not far from what was soon to be Brock's historic battlefield at Lundy's Lane.

One of a family of 10 children, five sons and five daughters, Mrs. Mason was the second last of her line. In addition to her husband she is survived by the youngest sister, Mrs. Edwin Moyer of St. Catharines; a nephew, William Hamilton Moyer, R.C.N.V.R., and a niece, Miss Madeline Elizabeth Bradley, of St. Catharines.

Last rites were held in the church of the Epiphany Tuesday afternoon, January 9th, at 2:30 o'clock. Interment will be in Park Lawn Cemetery.

CALL FOR FIRE BRIGADE An old maid who hadn't seen a man in years, saw a burglar climbing up the side of the building to her apartment. She rushed to the phone, dialed a number, gave her name and address. There's a burglar climbing up the building, trying to get in my apartment," she chided. "Come over right away!" A voice answered: "What you want is the police department. You've got the fire department." "I know it!" she exclaimed. "He'll never get up here without a ladder."—Empire Digest.

ANNUAL MEETING of the Timmins Branch Of The CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY will be held in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building Thursday, Jan. 25th 1945 at 8 p.m. TOWN OF TIMMINS Tax Prepayment Discount, 1945 Commencing January 2nd, 1945 your municipal taxes may be paid in advance, and a discount will be allowed on all such payments. 1945 Taxes will be payable in two instalments, as follows: First instalment, 50 p.c.—due May 31st 1945 Second instalment, 50 p.c.—due September 6th, 1945 Prepayment Discount will be allowed on all tax payments received on or before May 15th, 1945. You are urged to take advantage of the discount on prepayment by paying all or a portion of your 1945 taxes as early in the year as possible. Complete details may be obtained from the Collector. Timmins, Ontario, December 27th, 1944 A. L. SHAW, Treasurer, E. B. MARTIN, Collector