

Allies Now At Outskirts of Cologne

No Blame Attached to Anyone by Carelessness or Neglect at Paymaster

Coroner E. R. Tucker Presides at Enquiry Into Recent Accident. Jury Brings in Recommendations Seeking Safety From Similar Tragedies. Jury Finds "Dogs" Faulty in Construction. Commission Urged to Early Action.

South Porcupine, Feb. 28th. Special to The Advance.

An enquiry into the deaths of sixteen men killed last February 2nd, when the mine cage in which they were going underground fell on account of a broken cable at the Paymaster Mine, was heard here under Coroner E. R. Tucker, with Mr. Caldwell for the crown.

The inquest lasted Monday and Tuesday morning after twenty-four witnesses had given evidence.

The jury consisted of Charles Kemsley, Walter Cliff, John Pecore, John MacDonald and Sam Rock.

The Verdict

The following verdict was returned after the jury were out over an hour and a half.

"We find that Russell Dillon came to his death at 8 a.m. on February 2nd, 1945, in No. 5 shaft Paymaster Mine, Township of Tisdale, through first by breaking of the rope and, secondly, through the failure of the safety dogs to function properly and stop the cage. From evidence submitted the rope broke because of internal corrosion, of which there was no indication from external examination.

"We consider the dogs faulty in design and operation and recommend that all safety dogs and attachments be approved by a competent authority appointed by the Department of Mines before permitting the use of same.

"Also that study be made of the prevention of internal deterioration of hoisting ropes by a commission appointed by the Provincial Government and every effort be made to prevent it.

"We strongly recommend that there be no delay by said commission in making investigation of all cables, safety devices and hoisting equipment, to prevent the recurrence of this serious and deplorable accident.

"We find that no blame can be attached to any one through carelessness or neglect."

Coroner Sums Up for Jury

In his address to the jury Coroner E. R. Tucker said: "We have been given a clear and concise report of what the situation has been at the Paymaster Mine. Death of the sixteen miners was caused in the first instance by the breaking cable; then with the failure of the safety devices taking care of such a happening. They did not function. There is no doubt of that.

"As to the cable:—There have been various witnesses. The hoistman swears the first he saw of the accident was the slacking of the cable. The cable so far as he knew had no unusual strain (or jerk).

"Now we have heard the opinions of experts regarding the difficulty of detecting flaws. Expert witnesses coming from Toronto after testing part of the cable say that cable had deteriorated and stated and explained the difficulty of discovering that. There was no exterior indication of internal corrosion.

"Considerable evidence as to care received has been given. Witnesses are definite as to proper lubrication and that this cable was not exposed to unusual exposure.

"I warn you that you must base your decision on evidence, not rumours."

"The evidence of witnesses is not contradicted. They gave evidence in sworn manner and all agreed. I point out that suggestion has been made that possibly strain such as a jerk might have caused the break; in justice to the hoistman, he applied the brakes in proper order and in time as coming to stop . . . the possibility of kinks—but witnesses failed to prove kinks. The question of failure of safety devices—you gentlemen are quite qualified to consider this subject. The guides, dogs, and measurements in your possession let you have a pretty fair idea of the truth of the condition of the dogs. Superintendent Newman has given his evidence. In his opinion the dogs functioned all the way down.

"The accumulation of shavings and the condition of the parts suggest that possible the broken portion of the cable attached to the cage had some influence in causing the dogs to release. The guides were being replaced by new ones. We are not dealing with the future but as things were.

"My impression of the witnesses is that they were endeavoring to give us the true story as they saw it.

"There is no evidence of covering up or hedging—not much contradiction.

"The evidence of experts from the Wabi Iron Works, which made the cage and dogs, is not as clear. I would suggest that you have the dogs

Three Men Hanged To-day for the "Hot Stove" Murder

Despatches to-day from Fort Francis, Ontario, say that three men died early this morning on the gallows in the jail basement at Fort Francis for what is known as the "hot stove" murder of Mrs. Viola Jamieson last July. The men executed were two men named Skrypnik aged 23 and 38 years old respectively, and William Schmidt, aged 29. In a robbery case they tortured the woman to force her to produce money they believed she had hidden.

British Marine Commandos Land on Walcheren at Westkapelle



The final phase of the battle to free the approaches to the Belgian port of Antwerp began on November 1st, when Royal Marine Commandos landed at dusk at Westkapelle, the westernmost point of the island of Walcheren. By dusk the town had been captured and a bridgehead 3,000 yards long to the south had been established. From this bridgehead the Commandos pushed north and south the next day, along the dyke beside the sea to Domburg and Zoutelande. Photo taken aboard one of the landing craft that ran the gauntlet of enemy shore batteries shows:— Cerlikon gunners left and right—Able Seaman K. S. Nicholson, (Reading); Able Seaman W. B. Ardern (Northwick, Cheshire); Able Seaman F. McCabe.

5th Casualty for Timmins Bandsmen

Glen Tansley Reported This Week as Killed Overseas

Word was received here this week that Glen Tansley has been killed on service overseas. He was a popular young man in town and his death will bring sincere sorrow here. He was on the staff of the A. & P. Store before enlisting. He was also a popular member of the Timmins Citizens Band. He is the fifth casualty among the thirty bandsmen of the Timmins Citizens Band who enlisted for overseas service. Three others have been officially reported as dead and one other as missing.

South Porcupine Soldier Was a Prisoner-of-war

South Porcupine Feb. 28th. Special to The Advance.

L-Cpl. Steve Ostovich, of Porcupine who was recently repatriated to Canada after being a prisoner-of-war in a German prison camp is home. He came over on the Swedish liner Gripsholm.

Injured in battle before captured, Steve had a leg amputated while a prisoner. He was serving with the Algonquin Rgt. in Holland when wounded and captured.

Exchange:—Some people get the idea they are worth a lot of money just because they have it.

Germans Reported as Stifening Resistance On All Fronts of Battle

General MacArthur's Forces Reported as Taking Another Philippine Island. Marines have Captured the Town of Motoyama on Iwo Island. R. A. F. Bombers Pasted Berlin Again Last Night

Danger From Icicles

Buildings Along Parts of Wilson Avenue Particularly Dangerous

Due to the weather conditions recently, icicles form a danger these days to safety. This is particularly true in regard to buildings along Wilson avenue. Clusters of icicles there are ready to fall and they are so big and so sharpened at the points that the result may be serious, especially for children who may be passing. It would be a good idea to rake these icicles off before they fall on someone perhaps with serious results.

Squadron Leader "Babe" Everard Now Prisoner-of-War

Reported at Christmas Time as Among the Missing

Word was received in town this week that Squadron Leader Hedley Everard, D.F.C. has been found to be a prisoner-of-war in Germany. At Christmas time this gallant young flier, who has won high honours in his service overseas, was reported as "missing." There was general hope that he had made a safe landing and would eventually be found safe, even though a prisoner-of-war.

Despatches from Paris say that the battle for Cologne is now well under way. Allied troops are said to be within a mile and a half of Cologne, with some at the outskirts of the city. The ninth U.S. army is moving on Muenchen Gladdach.

General MacArthur's forces may have taken another Philippine island according to Tokio radio which says that a successful landing on Palawan Island has been effected.

R.A.F. bombers again gave Berlin a lambasting last night.

Marines have captured the town of Motoyama on Iwo Island.

Russian forces are still smashing along towards the Baltic.

A despatch from Montreal this morning says that Lionel Deslands, 31 years of age, a soldier was beaten and booted to death in a Montreal restaurant last night. Shortly afterwards Francis Mederic, 27, was arrested and will be charged with the slaying.

Flight Sergt. H. Bateman Home Again from Overseas

Flight Sergt. Harold Bateman, R.C.A.F., who was one of the first in Timmins to enlist in the R.C.A.F. at the opening of the war, arrived home on Monday for a 30-day leave from overseas. He is one of the thirty members of the Timmins Citizens Band enlisted for overseas service in this war.

LIEUTENANT GEO. DARLING WINS THE MILITARY CROSS

Another Timmins soldier to win honour overseas is Lieutenant Geo. Darling of the Royal Canadian Engineers who won the Military Cross for conspicuous courage and resourcefulness in service.

Nearly a Thousand People View the Boy Scouts Hobby Show Held Here

Big Feature of Boy Scout Week in Timmins was the Exhibition of Crafts and Novelties by the Boys. Craftsmanship, Scrap Book Collections, Mineral Specimens, Baking, Model Planes, Ships, Stamps and Many Other Interesting Items.

Boy Scout Week was well celebrated in Timmins. Many were roused to greater interest in this great boys' movement by the excellence of last week gave an outline of the programme for the week and in the main this was carried through as announced. There was one important change and that was that it was found impossible to carry week and in the main this was carried through as announced. There was one important change and that was that it was found impossible to carry through the musical contest planned in connection with the Hobby Show. So many boys make a hobby of music that it would have taken too much time to try to carry along this feature with the full programme of the Hobby show. Accordingly the musical contests were postponed and will be conducted on a special occasion later this year.

While the Hobby Show was the outstanding feature of the week, the banquet on Thursday night for Scouters Leaders, Committee and friends was a big event. Rev. Fr. Martindale was the guest speaker and delivered a very

able and helpful address. Other speakers were Mayor Brunette, E. L. Longmore, W. F. Law, and Scoutmaster Nick Basiano.

The Hobby Show attracted around four hundred people the first night and Saturday night there were even more interested and pleased with this wonderful exhibition. Remarkable examples of the craftsmanship of the boys were on display as well as stamp collections, mineral samples, scrap books model planes and ships and other articles as well as scores of other interesting things in which Boy Scouts are concerned as hobbies.

The following were the prize winners:

The only special award to an individual was to Allan Geary of Porcupine for a model Spitfire plane.

Two model airports, complete with runways planes, searchlights, attendants, etc., made by members of the Fifth Timmins Kiwanis Troop were awarded first and second prizes in their class.

Scouts

1.—Eighth St. Anthony's Troop

2.—Porcupine Scouts.

3.—Fifth Timmins Kiwanis.

4.—First South Porcupine.

5.—Seventh Canadian Legion.

Cubs

1.—St. Matthew's Cubs.

2.—Cubs from Porcupine.

3.—Timmins Police Cubs.

4.—Fifth Timmins Cub Pack.

5.—Fourth St. Anthony's

2.—Porcupine Scouts.

3.—Fifth Timmins Kiwanis.

4.—First South Porcupine.

5.—Seventh Canadian Legion.

Cubs

1.—St. Matthew's Cubs.

2.—Cubs from Porcupine.

3.—Timmins Police Cubs.

4.—Fifth Timmins Cub Pack.

5.—Fourth St. Anthony's

Canadians Should Learn More About China and Its People, Club Speaker Says

Rev. H. J. Veals, Missionary in China for Many Years, Gives Unusually Interesting and Educative Address at Kiwanis Club. Graphic Description of Life in China by one who Admits he Loves China and Its People. China making Progress to Greater Development.

"Canadians should know more about China and its people," said Rev. H. J. Veals who spent many years in mission work in China, in an address at the weekly Kiwanis luncheon at the Empire hotel on Monday. They did know more about China after listening to his interesting address and it gave the members of the club a new outlook on the Chinese question. In opening his address Rev. Mr. Veals, who spent over twenty years in missionary work in China, said that for over two thousand years there had been little change in China, the relationship between the different classes of people remaining static on account of the influence of the Confucius doctrines. In 1911 came the revolution and a republic was declared. He pointed out, however, that this did not mean democracy. Indeed, even to-day there was not democratic government. The common people (the people of a hundred names as the Chinese phrase called them) had no votes and there were no elections as here. Progress to democracy was slow. In a few short years Japan had modernized industrially, but this was of slower growth in China. The great need of China had been unity. As an illustration of this the speaker said that in one large province alone there had been over 200 civil wars. For their own profit the Chinese war lords had kept China from becoming a united nation. The part played by the Communists in China was touched by the speaker. The speaker mentioned incidentally that the Communists had been much against Christianity, as against other religions. The present Government even had not gone all the way in looking after the needs of the people. They had done much, however, for education and for agriculture, though the war had hindered their efforts along this line. There was more unity in China to-day than twenty years ago so there was progress even if it was slow.

During the years 1937 to 1942 there had been too great a "build-up" of the Chinese in the outside world. Part of the country was under more or less Communist control and that meant only one party was tolerated. In the other part of China the regular government felt that it could not give too great play either to opposition forces. The need for railways and roads in China could hardly be over exaggerated. In one area of 1,000,000 people there was not a single trained doctor. Poverty of the common people had to be overcome and there were many problems of health and industry to be solved. China had great resources however, and he believed it would be a great nation of world importance. "I have learned to love the people of China," he said, and he felt that the opportunity would come to them to better themselves and take their rightful place in a peaceful world.

The speaker was introduced by Rev. W. M. Mustard, and thanked by A. Gillies.

Visitors for the day were: Rev. A. R. Chidwick, Rev. E. Gilmour Smith, Rev. Fr. Maxim, C. Newell and J. Hornick. Claude Desaulniers was the winner of the weekly war savings draw.

Toronto Telegram:—These V weapons coming out of Germany are nothing new. Many a young American has done nearly as much damage driving a V-8.

before you. You know what happened. You are not here to persecute anyone. You are here to find those responsible as to where, how and by what means these persons lost their lives.

"Rumours going around must not be in your minds. On the other hand you are not here to cover up anyone who is negligent.

"The evidence in general points to no one individual as being negligent; but you must consider whether a dangerous position existed at that time. If you feel those dogs are not safe—feel the equipment is not what it should be it is your duty to the public and the relatives of the deceased men, and your object in view should be that these unfortunate accidents are not repeated.

"While your primary duty is to find cause of death—the law prescribes the function of an inquest to be of some assistance in preventing another death.

"No one has any right to question your course. You may retire or adjourn to some future date. The government is going into the question of safety equipment for mines.

"The commission investigating have so many questions to explore that an entirely new system of safety devices in mines may develop.

"You have a very serious responsibility. The eyes of the public are all on you and expect you to do your duty. Do the right thing by your own conscience."

Witnesses examined:—A. F. Newman (Supt. at Paymaster); R. S. Rayner; Mike Kobsey; L. Poloquin; C. Duke-shire (hoistman); J. E. Armstrong; Frank Ash; A. Beauchamp; Paul Strigner Onni Kukilainen; Hector Poitras; A. Valette; Matti Laurila; T. Jokinen; L. Bilodeau; E. Taillefer; W. Bimm J. McGrath; Dr. McLaren; Dr. Johnson; Sgt. G. Archambault (photos); Robert Stuart (Tensile Wire Expert from Dept. of Mines); Wm. F. Brown (Cable Wire Rope Co.); F. Johnson (Wabi Iron Works); C. Mc-

Timms and other police.

Annual Meeting of the Victorian Order Nurses to be Interesting Event

All Specially Invited to Attend on Thursday Evening Next, March 8th, in Municipal Hall. Reports for Year to be Presented. Officers Elected. Brief but Specially Valuable Addresses to be Featured

Mr. George Gedge, president of the Timmins Branch Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada, announced today that the annual meeting of the local Branch will take place on Thursday, March 8th, at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

An interesting meeting is planned, with informal talks by local citizens. Short addresses will be given by Miss L. Kelly, Supervisor of Nurses for the Porcupine Health Unit, and by Dr. J. A. Kinngar.

Miss Eleanor Webster, R.N., Nurse-in-Charge of the Timmins Branch will tell directly of the work of the Victorian Order Nurses in the Porcupine. Mrs. C. Jutras, Miss C. Mansfield and Miss C. Weiss, staff nurses, will attend. Reports by the officers of the Timmins Executive will be presented by Mr. G. Gedge, President; Mr. W. Long, Treasurer; Mrs. A. F. Carriere, Convener of Nursing and Supplies; Mrs. A. A. Rose, Secretary.

Invitations have been mailed to local organizations, societies and welfare agencies. In view of the fact that the annual meeting of the Victorian Order has been looked upon as an opportunity of making better known to the public the services offered by the Order, the Timmins Executive is anxious for every interested citizen to realize that he is entitled, and most cordially invited to attend.

It is believed that many whose nursing needs could be met by a visiting trained nurse do not realize that the services of the local Victorian Order Nurses are available to them.

No home is too humble or too luxurious to use the trained nursing services offered by the Victorian Order. Treatments, dressings and general nursing care for medical and surgical cases can be given in the home under the orders of an attending physician. Maternal and infant care are important, fully-developed branches of the service. Weekly or semi-weekly visits can be made to chronically ill patients. The fee is on a cost basis and adjusted to the circumstances of the patient. For those who can pay it is moderate; for those whose circumstances require it, the cost for the service is reduced; for those who cannot pay, the visit is free.

Apart from bedside nursing care in the home, which is the fundamental principle of the service, all forms of educational and advisory administrative work that tend to prevent disease in the community and so raise the standard of health are part of the V.O.N. service.

In view of the inevitable expansion of the work in the near future in co-operation and collaboration with government health services, the President, Mr. George Gedge, hopes for a capacity attendance of citizens at the annual meeting on March 8th.

By-law Being Prepared To Make Changes in Plan of Conducting Dog Pound

Council Accepts Report of Committee. Recommendation that Taxi Cabs be Equipped with Taxi Meters. Minister of Highways Requested to Sponsor Legislation to Permit the Town to Pass a By-law to Limit Speed in Town Limits.

At the regular meeting of town council on Monday evening, the committee report on better dog control was accepted and a by-law to make the new provisions effective will be prepared.

The committee recommendation including the following:—

Pound to be placed in condition at Moneta warehouse property with small house for the poundkeeper, who could also act as watchman.

Town fees for unclaimed dogs—\$2 for male and \$5 for female dogs. No dog owner permitted to reclaim dog more than twice in year. No person other than the license owner permitted to reclaim dogs from pound. No dogs to be sold by poundkeeper. Poundkeepers' hours from 1 to 5 p.m. All pound fees to be paid to police office between the hours of 1 and 4 p.m., and all orders on poundkeeper to be issued from police office. Poundkeeper to be on monthly salary basis. Chief constable to engage 6 dog catchers, or as many as required. Dog catcher's fee to be set at \$1.00 for male and \$2.00 for female dogs. Dog license year to start on April 1st and run to March 31st, as in case of other town licenses. Licenses to be issued with tags. Lost tags to be replaced at cost of 50 cents.

A letter was received by council from the Commanding Officer of H. M. C. S. Timmins, expressing the thanks of the officers and men for the Christmas parcels sent them by Timmins.

A request from the Victorian Order of Nurses for the usual grant, and the requisition from the Public School Board and the Public Library Board were deferred until the estimates were made.

A letter from the Committee for the Development of Aviation was referred to the Public Relations Committee.

A letter from the National Film Board suggested the appointment of a local committee or film council to conduct volunteer projection service. The National Film board will loan films, service and insure machines, etc. Timmins owns a projector and has

found the service of value. The following committee was appointed:—Karl A. Eyre, Fire Chief W. Stanley, Dr. Graham B. Lane, Medical Officer of Health, Police Chief Leo Gagnon, and Mayor J. E. Brunette.

The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, asked for a donation. The matter was deferred to the time of making the estimates for the year.

The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association asked in regard to the lot adjoining the town market. The Association wants to purchase this lot or part of it. Referred to Public Works Committee.

Last year a change was made in the rates of compensation under some sections of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The town has asked that this section be made retroactive and council decided to keep this idea before the Government.

Council passed a motion providing that application be made to the Transit Controller, Department of Munitions and Supply, for extension of bus routes as follows:—Hollinger Mine route—westerly to Wilson and Preston; North Road—northerly to Jubilee Ave. The engineer was authorized to construct a sign at the station for the Porcupine Citizens' Rehabilitation Committee, at an approximate cost of \$250.00.

The issuer of licenses is instructed hereafter to require the approval of the Sanitary Inspector or Medical Health Officer before issuing or renewing any victualling house license under the provisions of By-law 682.

Council recommended that all taxicabs be equipped with taximeters as soon as such equipment is procurable.

Council requested the Ontario Minister of Highways to sponsor such legislation as will permit Timmins to restrict the speed of vehicles within the town limits to 25 miles per hour.

Mayor J. Emile Brunette presided at the council meeting and Councillors Ellen M. Terry, W. Roberts, M. Karol, W. McDermott and J. V. Bonhommes were present.