

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

Out of the mass of words with which Mr. Justice J. A. Hope, Chairman of the Royal Commission on Education, assailed those who enjoyed an excellent chicken dinner at the McIntyre last Friday, some are more worth repeating than most of the words heard in after-dinner speeches.

He offered, for example, the quotation: "You cannot have a different world, if you have an inane people." Then he went on to urge a wider appreciation of those ideas which we are far too prone to take for granted -- the ideals contained in a proper concept of democracy.

So that none of the dozing dinners would miss the point entirely, Mr. Justice Hope dug up another quotation, which might well be used as a definition of democracy, a system of government which provides "that degree of freedom, without which law becomes tyranny; that degree of law, without which freedom becomes license."

We heartily recommend the above quotations to the public in general. We would be particularly pleased if we could know that those people who, by virtue of their various offices, are temporarily custodians of democracy, had cut out the quotations and pasted them securely inside their hats. This, we feel, would offer some assurance that they had something worthwhile on their minds, or near them.

By "custodians of democracy" we mean those elected to office in federal, provincial and municipal governments, or those who hold office on police commissions, trade unions, etc., to all of whom the following editorial is most respectfully addressed.

LIBERTY . . . OR LICENSE?

In the Globe & Mail of Sept. 21 have been printed two of the ugliest photographs we have seen in some time. They bear witness to some of the ugliest incidents ever to be written into the day-to-day record of Canadian affairs. They form distressing testimony of the form which man's inhumanity to man may take, when principles of Christianity and of democracy are forgotten or deliberately laid aside.

The photographs bear witness to two cases where those on strike in the steel plant in Hamilton, tried by means of "Molotov cocktails," to destroy by fire the homes of those who chose to remain at work. While the non-strikers were securely imprisoned within the steel plant, some courageous strikers fastened bottles of gas and oil to their homes and ignited them, with consequent hazard to the entire community and to the wives and children left defenseless by the illegal picketing employed in an illegal strike.

Now, let us say again what we have said many times before: we are in favor of the principle of unionism; we agree to the premise that strike action may sometimes be the only method of securing wage agreements which are satisfactory to the workers.

But let us also state, for the love of God and in respect of human decency, that a man who sets fire to another's home, who would destroy another's family and life-time earnings over a difference of opinion in a peaceful state, belongs in jail. And with him in the cells should be those persons who, having been elected to positions of authority, condone such acts by failure properly to exercise such authority.

It is high time that those persons who were elected to office under the principles of democracy are reminded of their duty to observe, protect and maintain those principles.

It is improbable, although not impossible, that a similar situation might develop in the Porcupine Camp. Wage agreements are coming up for renewal in the near future. While it is difficult to imagine anything so stupid as strike action occurring in the gold mining industry at the present time, the situation in Hamilton might conceivably be duplicated here.

It is, the common people of the Porcupine have a right to some assurance from their elected representatives that law and order will be maintained in this area. It is not a matter of politics, nor of unionism or non-unionism -- it is simply a matter of stating that the law which exists for all will be used for the protection of all, to ensure "that degree of freedom, without which law becomes tyranny; that degree of law, without which freedom becomes license."

The time for such an assurance is now -- before any question of law-breaking arises. Let us be assured that throughout the Porcupine the law will be enforced for the common good of all. Let our authorities in public office offer us some guarantee that what happened in Hamilton will not happen here.

THE POLICE ENQUIRY

It is difficult to reconstruct an event, or a series of events, months after their occurrence. This is made clear in the enquiry into the Police Department of the Town of Timmins, conducted by Inspector W. H. Loughheed, as brought before the Police Commission on Tuesday.

Anyone attempting to summarize editorially the contents of the 50-page report of Inspector Loughheed runs immediately into the fact that a goodly number of charges were aired, some of them substantiated, many of them were not.

In brief, the situation would appear to resolve itself into a situation wherein liquor held as exhibits within the police department's office was found to be tampered with. Those discovering the irregularities disclosed them to the chief of police who for a time took no action at all, and then only ineffectual action. This in turn resulted in the deputy-chief and other officers of the force bringing the matter directly to the attention of the Police Commission itself, and demanding that an investigation be made.

In the meantime the chief, against whom complaints were made, and the deputy-chief and sergeant who led in making the complaints, were asked to resign. This they refused to do, and were dismissed.

The entire picture is not altogether pretty, but the Town of Timmins is left to find some consolation in the fact that the officers complaining of the alleged irregularities had the courage to do so, although they realized it might cost them their jobs, and that as a result of their action the irregularities complained of were done away with -- leaving a police force which, although, in this writer's view, has been weakened, can now enjoy the full confidence and respect of the public.

The public is also left with the hope that, should ever irregularities occur in the future, there may be found within the police force officers who will similarly put the public welfare before their own and stand forth to draw attention to such irregularities.

In the meantime, the public can share with Inspector Loughheed the knowledge that Police Chief A. Lepic "has the confidence of the entire force, and shows promise of becoming a capable executive officer," and, to quote further, "his record in the police department has been exemplary."

RURAL SCHOOL CONDITIONS

Thanks are due to H. W. Brown, former school inspector here, for his able presentation of a brief on conditions affecting rural education on the outskirts of the camp, before the Royal Commission on Education here last week.

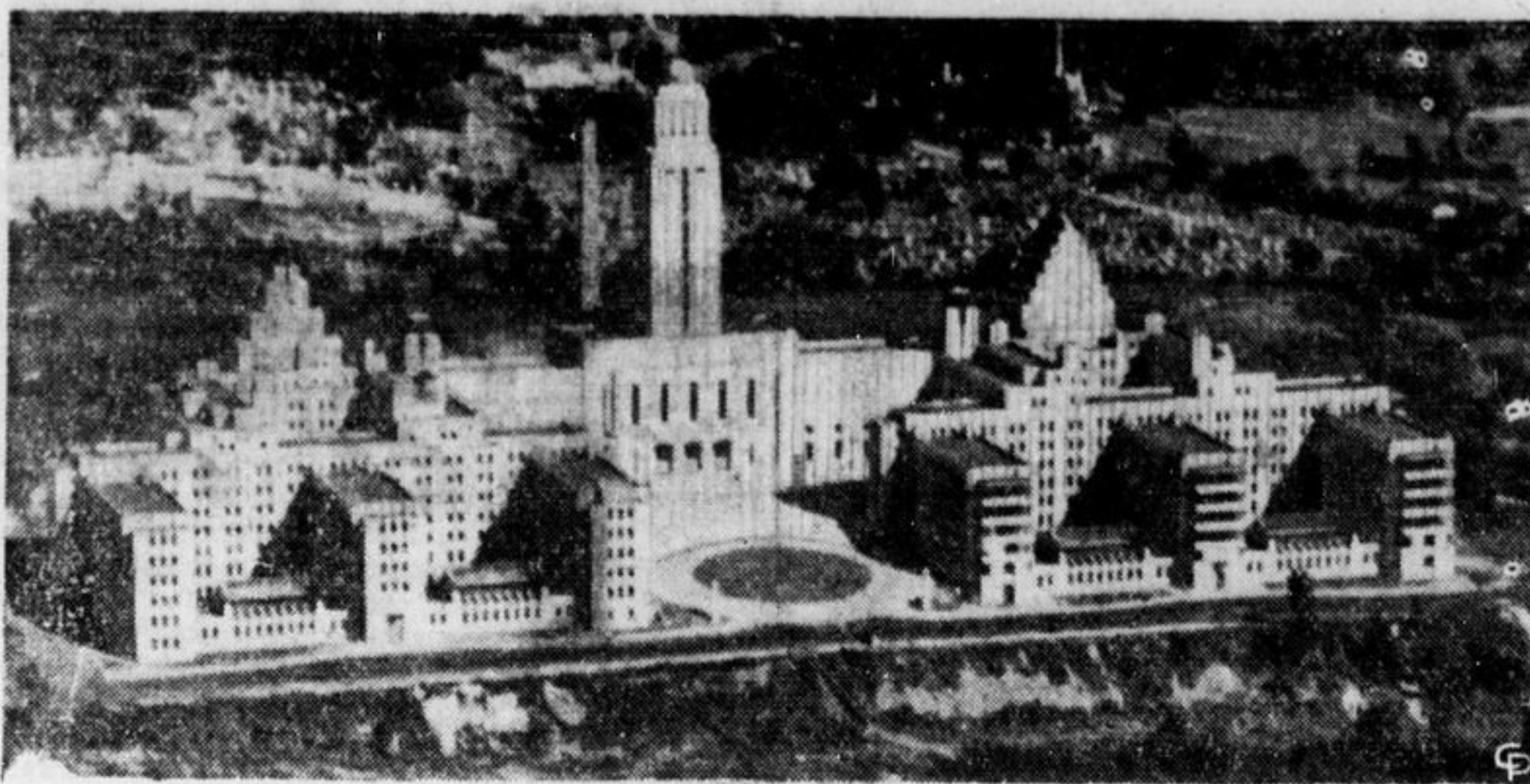
The conditions described are of long standing, a fact which makes them all the more deplorable, as it has added greatly to the number of lives which have been thwarted by wretched educational facilities for many of the children brought up in the outlying areas here, and by no educational facilities at all for many other children similarly situated.

Now that the matter has been brought to attention by so well-qualified an authority, before a body so well qualified to see that something is done about the situation, it is to be hoped that prompt and adequate action will be taken.

In case the "ridiculous" conditions affecting many rural children are not promptly amended, however, it is hoped that the matter will not be allowed to drift until another Royal Commission happens to come this way. If remedial action does not come within the reasonable future, it now becomes the duty of local authorities to bring the situation again to the attention of the provincial government.

We have now been awakened to the fact that rural children have been much neglected in the educational field. . . . let's make sure we do not go back to sleep again until the rural child is given a fair break in this matter.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE OPENS IN MONTREAL



About 45 of the International Labor Organization member countries have sent delegations to the I.L.O. conference which has opened in Montreal. The conference is being attended by more than 500 delegates, advisers, and others attached to the delegations. The conference is being held in the University of Montreal, shown ABOVE.

Lepic Named Chief; Archambault Inspector; By Police Commission

Police Commission Meets To Consider Recommendations Of Report

"The attorney-general has no objection to making public this report," the letter, accompanying the summary of the inquiry into the Timmins police department by Inspector Loughheed, stated.

"I have no objection myself," remarked Judge Denis when the matter came up for consideration by the Police Commission on Tuesday night. The Judge voiced the fear that only portions of the report might be printed and that the efforts of the investigator would be colored thereby.

"We always have to take that chance," stated Magistrate S. Atkinson. "I think we are safe in leaving it to the papers," observed Mayor J. E. Brunette, chairman of the Commission.

"I was away when the report was made," the Judge pointed out. "I only received a copy last night. I would like to defer considering recommendations of the report, until I have had more time."

"We can't possibly appoint five constables," Magistrate S. Atkinson stated. "Because we have not the money for it. But one thing I think we should do, and that is appoint a chief of police."

Twenty-nine applications, including several from present members of the force and one from the former chief of police, Leo Gagnon, who was present at the meeting and represented by Gregory Evans.

"Someone has to take the lead," remarked Mayor Brunette. "I don't think we should go out of town for a chief. I am going to make a recommendation that the present acting chief be made chief."

"I would like to see the records of all men now on the force who have made applications," Judge Denis said. "And I would like to talk privately with them," said Magistrate Atkinson. The Commission accordingly withdrew to consider the matter. Later, reporters were informed that the application of Acting Chief Albert Lepic had been approved.

The addition of five men to the force, as recommended in the inquiry, and the appointment of an inspector and another sergeant, must be covered by by-law, and further action was deferred until the town council would approve one.

"It is my opinion that (the Chief's) action was highly irregular and is subject to censure," Inspector Loughheed stated.

LEGION MEETS SATURDAY

Branch No. 88 of the Canadian Legion will hold one of its most important meetings of the year at 8 p.m., on Saturday evening in the McIntyre Auditorium.

Receiving of membership applications, initiation of new members and discussion of a new form for election of officers, will be followed by consideration of the plans for the new Legion Hall.

Following the meeting there will be a "smoker," with entertainment and refreshments.

TRACK MEET SUNDAY

The track and field meet being conducted under the auspices of the Youth Welfare Council is being held on Sunday at the Hollinger Park.

Events, both in boys' and girls' classes, are in three groups: 12-14 years; 15-17 years; and 18 years and over.

One hundred yard dash, 220-yard dash; 120 and 440 yard hurdles; running broad and high jump, hop, step and jump, 8-lb shot put and pole vault are included in the boys' junior events, and the races in longer or short distances, form a feature of the events for girls and older boys.

Relays, javelin and discus throwing are among the events for older boys; softball throws and basketball throws have been added to all girls' events. Entry forms are still available from Helen Korri or other Council members.

Police Enquiry Deals With Charges Of Former Chief And Deputy-Chief

ELECTED

In about 50 typewritten pages of foolscap, Inspector W. H. Loughheed, of the Criminal Investigation Branch of the Provincial Police turned into the Timmins Police Commission his report of the inquiry into the Timmins Police department.

In the first 20-odd pages, Inspector Loughheed gives the history and background of the police force and events leading up to the investigation. These have been previously made public and dealt with the complaint of Deputy-Police J. P. Downey, Sgt. J. P. Gariepy and others to the effect that liquor held in the police vault as exhibits had been tampered with, and that no effective investigation had been made.

Inspector Loughheed's report then went into the evidence in various cases where it was stated liquor had been tampered with. "There is no evidence to support that any change in the system was made at that time," the report comments.

Intimidation Charges

"Intimidation Charges" was the next heading on the report, which reads: "According to testimony submitted by Gariepy, he was called to the home of the Chief Constable at 5 a.m. on Jan. 30, 1946, the day following the first meeting held by the Board, at which time the Deputy Chief Constable had submitted his first letter of complaint."

"Sgt. Thompson gave in evidence that on Jan. 30, 1946 at 6.15 a.m. he was called to the Chief Constable's house."

"It is my opinion that (the Chief's) action was highly irregular and is subject to censure," Inspector Loughheed states.

"Charge that the Chief Constable failed to co-ordinate the work of his department and the work of the Force suffered as a result."

"Evidence in abundance supports this charge," the report states. "By this (the Chief's) failure to take action he lost the confidence and control of at least a portion of the personnel and this condition was allowed to continue for about 14 months, until the time of his dismissal."

"Charge that favoritism in the assignment of escort duties was displayed by the Chief Constable."

"The Chief Constable should not be subject to censure concerning these assignments, as it is nearly always a practice to assign officers of the detective branch of any police force to this type of duty," the report reads.

Charge that the Chief Constable failed to officially commend officers for good work."

"Sufficient evidence in support of this charge was not produced and the Chief Constable should be given benefit of the doubt," the report states.

"Charge that the Chief Constable had failed to co-operate with Downey in juvenile delinquency work and in 1937 had acquiesced in an attempt to corrupt that officer."

It was charged that while Downey was a constable, he had been delegated by the town council to work in preventive measures in connection with juvenile delinquency, and while on this special duty was called to the office of a local solicitor and told an out-of-town gambling interest wished to share premises with the Timmins Police Amateur Athletic Ass'n and would pay a monthly sum of \$250 which was doubled, then tripled.

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Real Caouette, 29, who was the winner in the Pontiac federal by-election in Quebec. Mr. Caouette was elected under the banner of L'Union des Electeurs de Pontiac, the name by which the Social Credit party has become known in Quebec.

Winter Sports Plan For Gillies Lake Told To Kiwanians

Winter Recreational Centre Is Outlined To Club By C. F. Huckerby.

C. F. Huckerby, of the Hollinger engineering staff, was the guest speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Kiwanian club at the Empire hotel on Monday. He spoke on a plan for an attractive and useful winter recreation centre which could be established at Gillies Lake. This plan was presented to a recent meeting of the Timmins Youth Welfare Council, where it met with approval.

At the luncheon, the club enjoyed a bountiful supply of delicious corn-on-the-cob and luscious peaches from the Niagara district. These were the gifts of Dr. Lee Honey and W. W. Tanner, former members of the club. A hearty vote of thanks for these delicacies was enthusiastically passed.

Guests for the day were introduced by Kiwanian Phil Kinkel. In addition to the guest speaker, these included: A. A. Clarabut, Kirkland Lake; F. J. Colton, St. Catharines; W. H. R. Burrows, Orillia.

Communion singing was led by Kiwanian Gordon Campbell, with Secretary W. H. Wilson at the piano.

President G. N. Ross brought up the matter of the annual turkey shoot. It was generally believed that preparations for this event in the last year or so had been left until too late a date. This year preparations will be made sooner, and the event may be started earlier. The committee named for this year's turkey shoot include J. F. Parker, chairman, F. Bailey, and P. Woodbury.

The president also announced the date of the annual election of officers to be November 4th. The nominating committee named includes E. H. King, (chairman), F. Bailey, J. Beattie, P. O'clock, T. Moistley, F. McDowell, and their report is to be brought in on October 14th, when nominations from the floor may also be made.

Kiwanian F. A. Woodbury introduced the guest speaker for the day. He said that Mr. Huckerby, who has been on the engineering staff of the Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines for several years, has served the town well on the school board and in many other capacities. The plan for a winter recreation centre that Mr. Huckerby would speak upon, had been submitted to the Timmins Youth Welfare Council, and been heartily endorsed.

In opening his address, Mr. Huckerby explained that he had often thought that something special might be made for winter sports and recreation at Gillies Lake, and had mentioned this idea to Councillor Faye.

Instead of the idea simply being "fled," Councillor Faye had arranged for him to present it to the Timmins Youth Welfare Council. That body had been pleased with the plan, and so he was presenting it to the Kiwanians.

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Mayor Brunette Answers Ratepayers

Tax Increase Discussed In Give And Take Of Public Meeting Last Night

"Were you reported correctly in The Press of Sept. 10?" W. J. Stewart asked Mayor J. E. Brunette toward the close of the Ratepayers' Ass'n meeting last night.

Mr. Stewart had stepped up to the front of the meeting, brandishing a copy of the Journal in question, with the obvious intention of proving that the Mayor had supported the legality of the tax rate by quoting only a part of the Municipal Act.

Mayor Brunette refused to answer Mr. Stewart.

"Why did you stop quoting the Act where you did?" Mr. Stewart continued, but if he had hoped to lay a bombshell under the Mayor's chair, he was disappointed. It turned out to be an egg.

The reporter who had interviewed the Mayor on the question, and to whom the Mayor had quoted the Act, got to his feet to offer the information that the Mayor had stopped at a certain point at the reporter's request, as in his opinion the Mayor had quoted enough to clarify the issue.

Mr. Stewart's only other contribution to the meeting was his refusal to address the chair, and his insistence on speaking to the mayor directly.

"I have been at bigger meetings than this, and never been called to order," Mr. Stewart complained.

"I will call you to order when necessary," declared Vice-President Poitras, who occupied the chair in the absence of President Chateaufort.

"You mentioned at our first meeting that you might be a candidate," Mr. Poitras reminded Mr. Stewart. "I think you are trying to make this a political meeting."

The incident above referred to, however, inadequately reflected the trend of the meeting, which for the most part showed, on the part of the ratepayers, a genuine desire to obtain information, and a sincere desire, on the part of the Mayor, to supply the answers.

The Mayor had the help of Town Clerk and Treasurer Salomaa, and Town Engineer McLean.

All present had been given a summary, comparing revenue and expenditures for 1945 and 1946. While some of those present had prepared questions concerning the years, 1939 and 1946, the Mayor suggested that it was between 1945 and 1946 that the tax rate had shown the increase complained of.

(Editor's Note: Any persons interested in the reasons behind the increased tax rate are urged to pick up a copy of this summary from the town hall. It's worth reading, for anyone wishing to discuss the matter intelligently.)

"He has never failed in the past to answer any questions put to him," stated Chairman Poitras, in introducing Mayor Brunette.

"I am glad to be here," the Mayor assured the meeting. "I waited for an invitation, as it would look like politics if I came without one. You have invited me to bring my officers, too, and there may be some things I can't answer."

"I am only sorry that the Ratepayers' Ass'n was not organized in the spring, but I think your Association can accomplish a lot by trying to find out what is wrong. The statements handed to you tonight are pretty well self-explanatory. I have people working for the town who earn more than I do, and I have them here with me tonight. Let the meeting ask questions and I will do my best to answer them. Anything I can't explain, can be dealt with by the town clerk, engineer or assessor."

The first item to come under fire was the matter of the town employees' retirement and group insurance fund, which had accounted for an increase of \$10,399.17 in "general government" expenditures.

"I think this thing should be thrashed out from A to Z," the Mayor declared. "Even if it takes until one o'clock. If we are to blame, I will take the blame."

He stoutly defended the principle of pensioning employees at the age of 65. Inasmuch as the town would not take on new employees under the age of 55, it meant that a minimum of 10 years service would be required, and in such cases the pension would be the minimum one, as those entering the employ of the town at such an age would not command the salaries earned by those with longer experience.

To Mr. Bartleman's expressed doubt as to the legal power of the council to institute such a scheme, the Mayor said they had the advice of a solicitor in drafting the by-law, and were seeking an order-in-council to confirm it. To an objection that men pensioned by the town were doing other work, the Mayor declared his refusal to interfere with anything a man over 65 might do to help himself.

Kitchener was instituting a similar plan, with pensions payable at the age of 60, Mr. McInnis volunteered. An increase of \$25,114.99 for "protection" was made up of \$15,117.77

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WE DON'T KNOW DEPARTMENT

The staff of The Advance fully appreciate public curiosity, and make every effort to deal with it.

However, the staff above mentioned would be pleased if people would stop phoning up to ask the following questions:

- 1. Is it true that someone stole 52 cents from the Bank of Commerce?
2. Is it true that a lady welfare worker recently and accidentally got locked in the cells?

NEW RANKS

While a town by-law has still to be passed by council to cover the new appointments suggested in the inquiry by Inspector Loughheed, these are the men named by the Police Commission, for the jobs:

- Inspector - George Archambault
Sergeant of Detectives - Ernest Gagnon
Sergeants - Roland Munroe, Gordon Beacock

The rank of Chief Lepic and of other sergeants are already provided for in the present by-law.

Crowd Enjoys Sunday Night Band Concert

A huge crowd packed around the bandstand at the station on Sunday night to hear a much-appreciated program of music by members of the Timmins Citizens' Band. A wide variety of selections was covered: marches, waltzes, hymns and an overture.

No Laboratory Yet, Council States

A request from the Ontario Department of Health asking council to obtain space for a laboratory here, was received by the town council on Wednesday. It isn't the first time such a request has been received but granting the request is not possible this year, the council had already decided.

"These people know we haven't any money for other work this year," stated Councillor Wm. Roberts.

"The council is on record as recommending it for the consideration of council in 1947," Mayor J. E. Brunette stated. It is understood the specific request for laboratory could not be considered in time to include it in the 1946 estimates.

New Club For Moneta Young Folk

To be known as the "Moneta Recreation Club," the town's newest young people's group, got away to a flying start on Tuesday night in the council chambers, when a well attended meeting named an executive and discussed plans for its future activities.

The group is headed by Leo Del-Vilano as president; Helen Mustato, vice-president; Douglas Preston, 2nd vice-president; Sally Fripparti, treasurer; and Enzo Persichini, as secretary.

Object of the new organization, in general, will be the promotion of recreational activities for young folk from 15 years of age and up, in the Moneta district. One of the first problems to be dealt with, it is understood, will be that of finding a suitable meeting place and facilities for carrying on the club's program.

On Friday night the executive will meet to discuss initiation and monthly fees, etc.

Ration Book Workers Are Thanked

"I wonder if you could find space to express our thanks to those who volunteered for the work of distributing the new ration books," said Mr. C. R. Stiver of the municipal staff today.

Mr. Stiver was enthusiastic over both the quality and the quantity of the work handled. In the four schools alone, he said, 26,284 books had been given out, and the work had gone very smoothly. With those given out by employers, the ration book total for Timmins was near 29,000, and the total for the camp was 42,178.

THANKSGIVING OCT. 14

Thanksgiving day, a statutory holiday, is being observed on Monday, Oct. 14.

There will be no letter carrier or parcel post delivery, but the post office wicket will be open from 8 to 10 a.m. and the lobby will be open until 6 p.m. Mail collection is as usual.