

# J. E. H. Chateauvert New President Of Red Cross

The annual meeting of the Timmins branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society was held in the council chambers of the Municipal Building at 8.00 p.m., Friday, Dec. 6.

The president, Mr. Stubbs, thanked the members of the retiring executive for their efforts during the year and for the work accomplished. He explained that the annual meeting had been called in December, instead of January, to give the new executive more time to prepare for the membership drive in March 1947.

The women's war work committee had been disbanded in the spring when the work of this committee had ended. A new service, the Homemaker's Service had been organized in the early fall.

In November, Sq-Ldr. E. Harston, the Field Secretary of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Red Cross Society visited the Porcupine district, spending four days here, speaking to many groups of people. Sq-Ldr. Harston emphasized the value of peace time work to the country and outlined the various fields of endeavour in which the Red Cross should work.

**Finances Good**

The treasurer, Mr. Fuke, reported a balance in the bank of \$8,292.95 at the end of 11 months operations. He stated that after December the books would be audited and the audit statement published.

**Nursing Reserve**

Mrs. G. R. Gibson gave a report on the Nursing Reserve and Home Nursing section. She noted that this section had recently been renamed, "The Volunteer Nursing Service". There had been one refresher course held for those who attended last year's classes; out of 47 eligible only 17 attended.

There had also been a course in home nursing for 23 women, none of whom joined the Reserve. She stated that women wished to take the nursing courses but were not anxious to join the Reserve.

Miss Read, supervisor of the Volunteer Nursing Section for this part of Ontario had urged the continuance of the Volunteer Nursing Reserve.

**War Brides**

Mrs. A. Neame reported that she had met 71 war brides with 32 children. She stated that most of the war brides were settling into their new surroundings very well. A few were desirous of going home.

**Homemakers**

In Mrs. J. M. Douglas's absence, Miss F. Farr read the report of the Homemakers committee. The report outlined the preliminary work which went into the organization of this section, the co-operation of the Schumacher branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society, Mrs. W. R. Nankervis, the supervisor, and two homemakers went to Toronto in September for a two week training course. From this beginning we now have six homemakers working.

**Disposal of Equipment**

Mr. J. E. H. Chateauvert reported upon the disposal of equipment.

**191,237 Articles Clothing**

Mrs. W. J. McCoy reported on the Womens War Work committee. From January until March when the work rooms closed, 804 articles of civilian clothing and 526 knitted garments were shipped. During the war years from 1939 until 1946 a total of 191,237 articles were made and shipped from Timmins. This total can be broken down into:

- 31,644 knitted articles.
  - 135,618 hospital and surgical supplies
  - 23,177 civilian clothing, blankets, quilts and afghans.
  - 798 comfort bags and slippers.
- Nursing People**
- Mrs. H. R. Channen, the secretary reported that searches for people had been made in this district on request of International Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland.
- There have been many searches sent from here for people in Europe. About 500 letters were mailed and about 398 letters had been received by this branch.
- There had been 48 interviews for brides requiring special information or aid.
- New Officers Elected**
- New officers elected for 1947 were:— President, Mr. J. E. H. Chateauvert; 1st Vice Pres. Mr. D. A. Moore; 2nd Vice Pres. Mr. A. E. Perry; Treasurer Mr. H. J. Fuke; Homemakers' Committee; Mrs. J. M. Douglas; Welfare Miss Farr; Executive, Mr. J. R. Charlebois.

# LIVERPOOL REVISITED

BY LEWIS MILLIGAN

To visit one's native place after a long lapse of years is always more or less a sad experience, for even though there may be little or no material changes, as in the case of remote rural areas, the human changes are such as to render one an utter stranger in among one's own kith and kin. This Rip Van Winkle feeling is still more emphasized in returning to a great and progressive city like Liverpool, which has in the meantime extended its borders and covered with streets of houses what one remembers as outlying countryside.

The changes I found in Liverpool which impressed and saddened me most were not those wrought by the slow hand of time, but those inflicted by the sudden onslaught of war. Judging by what I saw of the results of bombing in London, I would not hesitate in saying that the City of Liverpool suffered far greater concentrated damage than the Metropolis.

The devastation of downtown sections of the city is indescribable. You can walk from Leicester Square to the foot of Fleet Street in London and see very little damage, but you are confronted with wrecked buildings and gaps at every turn in the heart of Liverpool. In the area from Lord Street southward, entire blocks have been obliterated, leaving a wide open space of two or three hundred acres.

Along the ten-mile line of docks and in Bootle there is destruction everywhere. Scores of ships were sunk at the wharves and in the river, at least one of which still blocks the ferry traffic opposite the Pier Head. This was evidently a very large vessel for the place where it lies is indicated by a small lightship, marked "Wreck" and a lighted buoy some distance away. When a munition-ship was blown up in one of the docks, parts of the vessel were found miles away, including an anchor and a heavy iron bollard torn from the dockside.

Most of the damage in Liverpool was done in 1941 when the blitz was kept up for eight consecutive nights. A friend who lived through those continuous nights of terror told me that the effect upon the population was such that he believed that if the bombing had been kept up much longer there would have been riots in the city. It was complained at the time that London was getting all the publicity in the news while the

attack on Liverpool was only mentioned in a general way as a raid on the Merseyside.

Thirty-five years ago Liverpool was noted for its slums, and these were situated near the docks and especially in the Scotland Road district, which was represented in Parliament for many years by T. P. O'Connor. Attempts have since been made to clean up these slum areas and several large apartment blocks were erected.

It would seem that the German bombers were bent on finishing the job of clearing these slums for they demolished street after street of dwellings in and around Scotland Road, leaving the new apartment buildings untouched.

As part of its slum clearance scheme the City of Liverpool built thousands of modern dwellings on the outskirts, covering large areas of the former countryside, including the estates of Lord Derby and Lord Sefton. Most of these new dwellings are occupied by clean working class people, but some of the older ones that I inspected have deteriorated into semi-slums.

I was told that in some instances where people were removed from the downtown slums into modern houses, the tenants used the baths for strange purposes. Fish hawkers are said to have kept their donkeys in the back gardens and barrows on the front lawns. The city authorities, however, soon put a stop to such malpractices.

Some places, like some people, grow old gracefully, but this cannot be said of the older parts of Liverpool and most of the cities in England. They grow old dirtily, due chiefly to the heavy air which precipitates the soot from the smoke, blackening the exteriors of fine pieces of architecture and streets of brick houses that were bright and new a generation ago. Of course, there has been little or no exterior painting during the war years and this accounts to some extent for the general appearance of neglect.

Plans for reconstructing the blitzed areas of Liverpool have been drawn up, but apart from patching up a few damaged buildings there is no sign of rebuilding. The people seem to have been stunned, which indeed they were, and have not yet recovered their old-time spirit of enterprise. There is a general tendency throughout England to wait and see what the Government is going to do.

# Musical Program In Store At Timmins High

An interesting musical program is promised at the Timmins High and Vocational School to be held in the school auditorium at 8.30 p.m., Friday, December 13th.

The program will consist of Christmas carols and songs, ancient and modern. There will be selections of unison songs, part songs, songs with descant, solos, boy's chorus, girl's chorus, and a variety of orchestral arrangements.

The second half of the program will follow the story of Christmas through the old Testament prophecies of the Messiah's coming, to the manger scene and the shepherds and wisemen, with appropriate music for each part.

The school orchestra and chorus will be under the direction and conducted by Edouard Bartlett.

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9.00 South Porcupine Red Wings v Schumacher Lions


**SUNDAY**  
8.30 Week-end Skating Club

**MONDAY**  
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