

Mayor Brunette Takes Council Floor To Defend 8-Hour Day For Drivers

Leo "Buck" Behie, representing Local 241, United Mine and Smelter Workers; Local 128, Ladies Auxiliary; Local 2995, Bushworkers Union; Union No. 1, Timmins Taxi-drivers; and the Timmins General Workers, Monday took the case of the unions before council so that council might know how the local unions felt regarding the intended throwing out of the 8-hour day for taxi-drivers in the town of Timmins.

As it was necessary for the deletions of the sections of the by-law to be read three times before council before becoming legal, councillor DelVillano brought in a motion which was seconded by councillor Bartleman that the rules of procedure be amended so that more than one stage, or reading, could be passed through at the one council meeting. The motion was passed.

One stage was passed at the meeting with councillors Chateaufort, Bartleman, Doran and DelVillano voting in favor of the deletions and allowing taxi-drivers to work over the 8-hour day limit, and Brunette, Roberts and Fay voting against.

Councillor Roberts then took the floor. "The 8-hour day is here to stay," he said, "and I implore members of council to reconsider their decisions before a final vote is taken."

"I am not against the 8-hour day," councillor DelVillano said, "but I do maintain it is not an affair for council, it is a matter of the provincial government to see it is enforced."

Leo "Buck" Behie, requested permission to speak.

"I represent five Timmins unions," he said, "and we feel that council should be made aware of the feeling of the unions on the 8-hour day."

"We feel that council, in throwing out the 8-hour day for taxi-drivers, is adopting an anti-union attitude, and such a move would throw back Timmins unions several years."

"It amazes me that taxi-drivers should want this 8-hour day restriction lifted after they fought so hard to have their work day cut from 14 to 8 hours."

"I can remember when taxi-companies in Timmins refused to drive the people of Timmins unless their fares were raised. That put taxi-drivers out of work and they worked to form this union to combat this."

"The idea behind the 8-hour day was to comply with the Hours of Work Act enacted in 1944, and to make work for more people. If we give free reign to any taxis to work 16 hours a day it will definitely cut down the number of jobs."

"Is a man giving service to the public when he works over 8-hours," the international organizer continued. "I maintain he is not, rather he is a menace to the public."

"We feel that today there are forces out to destroy unions, but it is hard to believe the Timmins council is one of them. Council seems divided on the question, the unions are not. They know what they want."

"I can hardly believe council intends to throw us back many years by such a move," Behie concluded.

There was a loud burst of applause from the large audience.

Councillor Bartleman rose. "I notice, your worship," he said, "that you didn't call them to order."

Mayor Brunette: "Supposing you try and call them to order."

Councillor Fay rose: "These sections of the by-law were added for the protection of the people of Timmins, it has been proved that most accidents of taxi-drivers occur during the last few hours of driving."

"I'm not opposed to the 8-hour day," councillor Doran said. "But why should taxi-drivers be singled out. Besides, as I said before, this appears to be entirely a provincial affair."

Councillor Bartleman took the floor: "I have very definite views on this matter," he said. "I and all the councillors are in favor of the 8-hour day. But it's a pitiable state of affairs when we have to depend on local police to enforce the 8-hour day."

"Let me warn labor," he continued, "that if you are going to use police to enforce the 8-hour day other factions might decide to do the same thing."

"And this nonsense about union taxis not working more than 8-hours a day. I have picked seven cards of union taxi-drivers at random. All of these drivers worked from 8 hours and 40 minutes a day to 11 hours and 50 minutes. These people insist on maintaining an 8-hour day yet they break the law themselves."

"Besides, this law states that no driver shall work more than 8 hours within 24 consecutive hours. It does not tell us what kind of work. Many drivers are doing other work and getting well paid for it. Some taxi-drivers even served on council after working an 8-hour day."

"It's a shame to restrict taxi-drivers to an 8-hour day when a member of council breaks it himself. Are those working men any different from a member of council?"

Town Clerk Resigns But Still Accountant

Town clerk Vic Salomaa Monday handed in his resignation as clerk to council with the request that he be re-instated as accountant, a position he has held in the municipal government for nearly ten years.

His resignation was accepted and his request granted with the understanding that Mr. Salomaa continue in his present position as town clerk until February 15th.

Anna Kaskas Delights Capacity Audience

(By Elizabeth Armitage)

Members of the Porcupine Community Concert Association were privileged to listen to a program of great beauty on Wednesday in the Palace Theatre. Miss Kaskas, leading contralto of the Metropolitan Opera Association, was accompanied by Mr. Constantine Callinicos, a clever pianist and conductor from New York City. Miss Kaskas in top form was most generous with songs classic and modern, running the gamut from Bach to composers of to-day.

From the first selection, which by the way, was "Art Thou With Me" by Bach substituted in place of the Handel number on the program to Malotte's setting of the "Lords Prayer", which ended the evening's entertainment, Miss Kaskas literally wore her heart on her sleeve. Her "Think of Me" by Scott was as tender as "Clorinda" by Morgan was gay. Miss Kaskas' tonal vitality and flexibility are admirable assets and coupled with fluency and clear-cut diction go to make up a very adequate technical equipment.

The singer's vocal clarity and beauty in its fullest purity of line was heard by the writer in the "Song Cycle" by Schuman. Here one heard the artist's colour palette to the full enriched throughout with a beautiful piano background. Truly an inspiring work! The Rossini Aria "Una voce poco fa" might well have been omitted by the singer, for although well done it seemed a little out of her range and more a song for a soprano. To pick out highlights in such profusion is difficult. The beautiful quality produced in "Hymne au Soleil" and the depth of feeling in "Pilgrim's Song" as compared to the gay whimsical atmosphere permeating the singing of "Young Tom O'Devon" and "At the Well" clearly indicated to her audience the thorough control the artist has over her voice.

Delightful and well chosen encores were given after each group. Included among these were "Little China Figure" by Leoni, a negro spiritual "Poor Me," by Dett "My Hero," from the "Chocolate Soldier," and "None But the Lonely Heart" by Tchaikovsky.

Miss Kaskas had throughout the evening that type of pianistic background for which a sensitive singer is always grateful. Mr. Callinicos chose a group of piano solos, all favorites with their melodic charm. As encores he played a Greek dance, a composition of his own, and "Rhapsody in Blue," by Gershwin.

L. Vachon New Pres. Local 241, For 1947

At its election meeting last Sunday Local 241 International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers elected the following slate of officers for 1947:

President: L. Vachon.
Vice-President: A. Brunet.
Secretary: N. Salomone.
Warden: C. Bourcier.
Conductor: S. Jemal.

Trustees: E. White, W. Karcha, L. Michaud, M. Magnusson, D. Walsh.
The new president, Mr. L. Vachon, is a miner at the Buffalo-Ankerite mine, where he has been employed for the past three years. He was a trustee of Local 241 in 1946 and a member of the Buffalo-Ankerite Negotiating Committee.

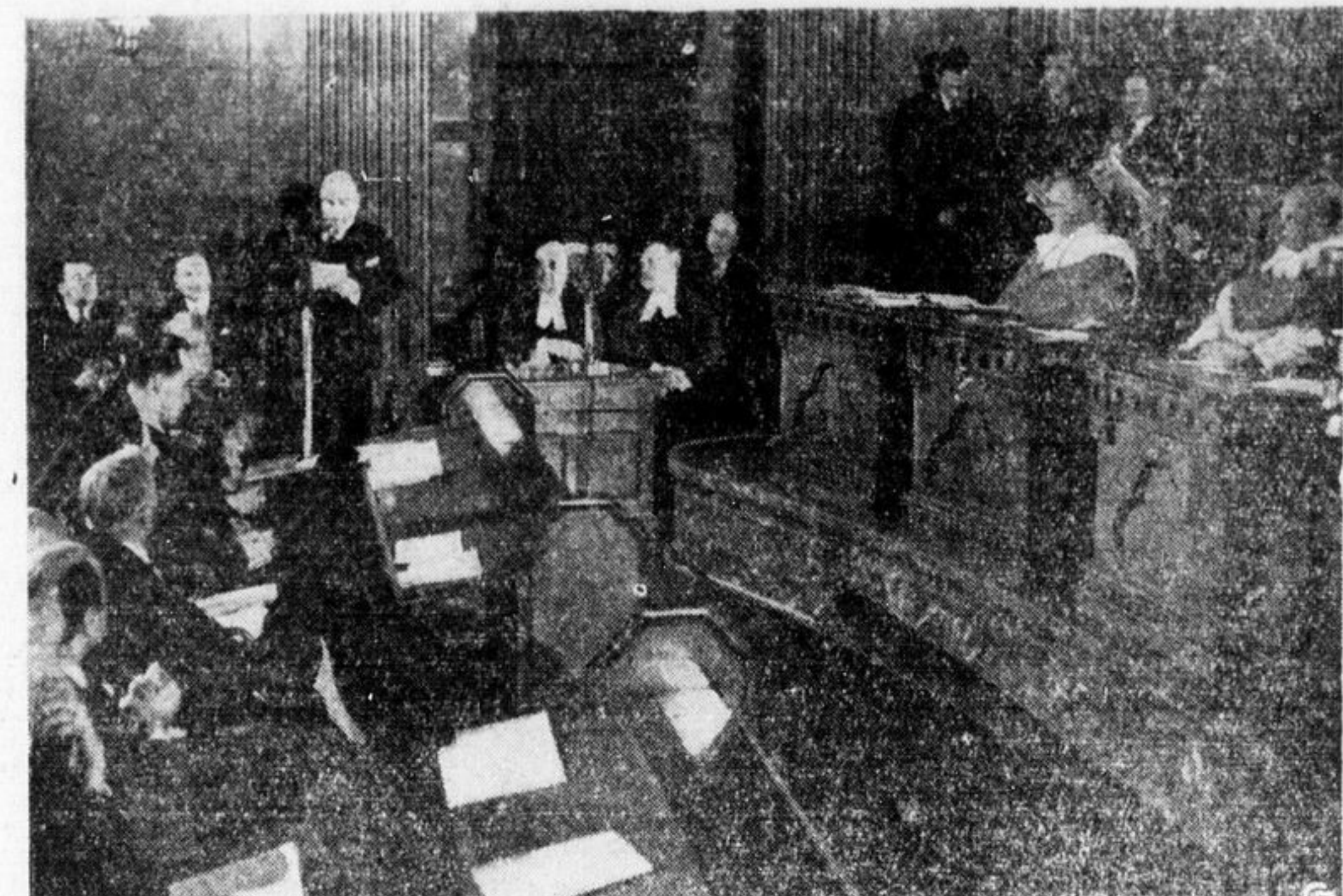
Prior to coming to Timmins Mr. Vachon was employed at Sudbury for nearly four years where he was a member of Local 598, International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, the largest individual local of any mine union in Canada.

While in Sudbury Mr. Vachon served as chairman of the Garson Committee, which looked after the union activities of the mines outside Sudbury.

Mr. Vachon is 29 years of age and was born in Cornwall, Ontario, where he started working for Canadian Cottons Ltd., and where his initial interest in unions began.

The new president is a bi-lingual, speaking both English and French fluently.

LOYAL CANADIANS RECEIVE CITIZENSHIP CERTIFICATES AT OTTAWA



"I speak as a Canadian," said Prime Minister Mackenzie King as he addressed the distinguished gathering assembled to witness the Canadian citizenship ceremony in the supreme court at Ottawa. Flanked by the former secretary of state, Paul Martin, and Hon. Colin Gibson, secretary of state, Mr. King expressed his delight at having been chosen as Citizen No. 1, and welcomed the others as fellow Canadians.

Council Unable To Make Decision, Pensioners Must Do Without Money

Evidently upset from the heated and lengthy session over the taxi-drivers by-law, council on Monday were unable to reach any decision as to what rate and for what time the 14 suspended town pensioners would be paid. As the matter rests until the council meeting next Monday the pensioners will not be paid on the regular pay-day.

"Actually the whole thing is our fault," said Mayor Brunette, commenting on the subject. "I watched two of the old pensioners going back to work today and it was really pitiful. One of them could hardly crawl, let alone work."

At the first meeting the suggestion was brought up that the pensioners be taken on the town pay-roll in an advisory capacity and paid their pension rates until legislation had been passed by the provincial legislature allowing the pensions to be paid.

Somewhat in the course of the meeting this suggestion was forgotten and it was suggested that these ex-pensioners be taken back at the rate of pay they had been receiving prior to being pensioned off.

At the meeting on Monday a resolution was brought up to pay these men their old rates retroactive to January 2nd. In the ensuing confusion it became an obsession with some councillors as to how they could pay these men from January 2nd when the ex-pensioners didn't start work until January 13th. The initiative and decision of council had shown on this question at the first meeting was lacking.

Councillor Doran, commenting on the suggestions, said: "I believe we should sit in with the auditor and solicitor and attempt to reach some decision without delay."

Mr. Bartleman said, "These men are living from hand to mouth, give them some money. Call the solicitor and see if it's all right to give them an advance."

"Give them some money from the welfare fund," Mayor Brunette suggested.

"We can't without passing a resolution," councillor Bartleman said.

"Let's defer the matter," said councillor Doran. "I'll personally see that these men get credit and don't have to suffer."

Mayor Brunette endorsed councillor Doran's suggestions that he too would see that the men received credit. "As it stands," the Mayor said, "if we pay these men the old rates it will cost the town approximately \$2,500 a month. If we pay them their pensions over the interval it will only cost \$800 a month."

All Ladies Invited To Attend Meeting W. A. of Hospital

On Wednesday Jan. 22nd, at 2 p.m. there will be a meeting of the Women's Auxiliary of St. Mary's Hospital, in the Nurses' Auditorium.

During the war years, the auxiliary carried on with a minimum of meetings, arranged by a few ladies, acting on the executive for the duration.

As announced by the president at the last meeting the auxiliary should now revert to its peace-time schedule and appoint representatives from the various church societies and numerous other organizations in Timmins and Schumacher to carry on this important work of assistance to the hospital serving our community.

An earnest invitation is extended to all ladies to be on hand Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 22nd.

Approved By Council

Mr. J. A. Belanger was appointed assessment commissioner for 1947.

Water rebates of \$45.31 were approved.

Grants to local bands in the sum of \$1,400 was passed.

Kiwanis Install 1947 Officers At Very Impressive Ceremony

Monday's luncheon of the Timmins Kiwanis Club at the Empire hotel was devoted to the formal installation of the officers for 1947, and the proceedings were both interesting and impressive.

President G. N. Ross opened the meeting, and in his address as retiring president, he showed the same happy humour that has lightened the earnestness and talent with which he has presided over the affairs of the club during the past year. He credited the success of the Kiwanis during the past year to the goodwill and support of the other officers and members. In reviewing the work of the club during the past year, he noted that all the usual activities had been carried along in effective way, with the exception of the annual turkey shoot, which could not be held last December on account of inavailability of suitable premises.

Two new activities had been undertaken by the Timmins Club in 1946, and the president thought these two followed ideals very dear to Kiwanis, both having in mind the benefit and advantage of children. One was the sponsoring of the indoor circus which allowed all children to enjoy clean and instructive entertainment at nominal cost to them, or at no cost at all. The other special activity was the work for the Crippled Children's Society. He praised the work of the committee in charge of the work, and pointed out that it would result in many handicapped children being helped or cured of injuries or conditions that interfered with their health and happiness.

After President Ross' address, Past Lieutenant-Governor P. T. Mousley was given charge of the proceedings, and commenced the formal installation ceremonies. Past Lieutenant-Governor

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Adult Education Branch Has Interesting Program

The Timmins branch of The Adult Education Board of Ontario has planned an interesting educational program for the coming year. It will include art exhibits by celebrated artists; an exhibit of handicrafts and art by local folk; a home-town concert in one of the theatres; a drama festival consisting of one-act plays by local clubs; and a radio hook-up with citizenship forum discussion groups. A brief outline of each section of their program follows:

ART EXHIBIT

There will be an art exhibit at the McIntyre Community Bldg. during the early part of February. This will consist of works and exhibits from the Ontario Art Gallery to enable local adults and children to receive an insight into the works of outstanding artists. Dates will be forthcoming in the near future. This is under the sponsorship of Mrs. "Bim" Sturgeon, President Graham Lane of the Lion's Club believes the assistance of their club can be secured.

LOCAL ARTISANS

There is a combined handicraft and art exhibit displaying the work of local artisans to be held the week of February 16th under the joint sponsorship of Mrs. B. Sturgeon and Mr. Alvin Hill. In particular there will be a practical demonstration in the handicraft department of "silk

Not a Single Jewish Child Born In Europe In 4-5 yrs. Only 20,000 Children Left

Ten Applicants For Director of C. A. C.

The Community Activities Committee resumed regular meetings on Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Wendall Brewer, chairman, presided. Bernice Kosobuski, secretary, read the minutes of the previous regular meeting and the meeting held under Martin McHugh for the allocation of time schedules for the Timmins Arena.

The correspondence was read, with the Public and Separate School Boards signifying their intention of sending a representative to the C. A. C. A letter from the Adult Education Board was read, requesting a grant of \$25.00 for their use. A motion was passed that a cheque be mailed to them immediately.

Monday night's town council meeting was discussed, and it was noted in the minutes that the town council is to make a definite decision with regards to the authorizing the C. A. C. to hire a recreational director for the town of Timmins.

Over ten applications for the position of recreational director were read to the members. Several good applications from non-residents were laid aside, the members agreeing that a local man would be more suitable, knowing the people and understanding the conditions here.

An interview is to be given to several applicants at the next Tuesday night meeting.

C. A. C. members attending the meeting were Wendall Brewer, chairman, Don Hardy, Doug Carriere, "Bim" Sturgeon, Joe Reszel, Phil Fay, and Bernice Kosobuski, secretary-treasurer.

Free Dance Friday For Teen-Agers

"Y's Teen Town" is the new name the former Canadian Young People's Club will have to uphold, as of Monday evening, when the C.Y.P.C. executive met with the Timmins Y's Men's Club at their regular dinner meeting in the Grand Hotel.

The Timmins Y's Men's Club met with the youth club on Friday evening in the Hollinger Hall, offering to sponsor them, as the British Isles Victory Club had decided they could not handle so big a job any longer.

An informal meeting of the Y's Men's Club officials was held with the youth club members after the regular business meeting to discuss plans for the new "Y's Teen Town."

A free membership dance is to be held Friday evening Jan. 17th, in the Hollinger Hall, with the music being supplied over a P. A. system belonging to a Y's Man. Modern recordings will be given priority. A meeting will also be held that evening to discuss winter sports activities for the young people, with basketball, skiing, and others suggested, along with handicrafts.

New membership cards will be issued to the members of the "Y's Teen Town". Members of the Y's Men's Club will be appointed to supervise the activities and social affairs of the new club.

Youth club members attending the Y's Men's dinner meeting were Brian Spolnia, president; John Boby, publicity; Peggy Stirling, secretary; Betty Webber, treasurer; and Bill Boychuk, entertainment.

Mrs. Janner, of London, England, in an inspiring address to the Jewish people of Timmins, gave an extremely soul-stirring picture of the plight of 20,000 Jewish children still in Europe and asked the help of local people to assist the "Youth-Aliyah" organization in getting these children to Palestine.

Mrs. L. Labow, president of the Hadassah Society, introduced Mrs. Janner, the wife of the President of the Zionist movement of Britain and Ireland, who is herself a woman of considerable distinction. Mrs. Janner is a justice of the peace in Whitechapel, a juvenile court magistrate in London, and is on the administrative committee of the Holloway Prison. She is also the founder of the Braden school for children in Whitechapel.

Mrs. Janner, speaking with a cultured English accent, said she herself owed a debt of gratitude to Canada for the way her own two children were looked after by Canadians during the war years.

"People in England asked me if I felt worried with my children in Canada," she said, "but during the blitz of London with German bombs crashing out the lives of so many people, my husband and I often thanked God that our children were safe in Canada."

"To-night," she continued, "I am here to ask you to save—not my children—but our children, 20,000 of whom are still in Europe without parents to turn to for assistance. We must be their fathers and mothers, and through "Youth-Aliyah" we can help save and get them safely to Palestine where they will have an opportunity of growing into normal, healthy children."

"Youth-Aliyah" was founded in 1932, when it came apparent that Hitler and the Nazis were intending to persecute the Jews of Germany. That year many Jewish children were sent to safety in Palestine. In the years that followed up to the outbreak of war in 1939 many Jewish children were taken out of Germany to safety. The war brought the organization's operations in Germany to a standstill.

"These children were really saved," Mrs. Janner said. "None of them experienced the horror of the children that were left in Germany and survived throughout the war years. Those children experienced the horrors of prison life, seen their parents beaten and shot, and were treated more dreadfully than animals."

"We Jews shouted from the rooftops of these outrages," said Mrs. Janner, "but few believed us until the troops of the Allied armies marched in and disclosed the horrors of an incredible civilized world."

"The world was up in arms to help, but they soon forgot. We Jews cannot forget. These are our children, and I doubt if anyone in the audience to-night did not have relatives or friends among the six million Jews who died in Europe during the war years."

"During those war years not a single Jewish child was born in the countries under German control. A whole generation was lost. Pregnant mothers were put in gas chambers, and children not old or strong enough to work in labor camps were quickly exterminated. Only 20,000 of the hardest boys who lived in concentration camps, worked in labor camps, fought with underground and partisan movements and lived like animals are alive today. There are no girls left."

"To those children that are left we have a great responsibility," Mrs. Janner said. "At present they are in displaced persons camps living under horrible conditions. Hungry, cold, forgotten, many are stricken with tuberculosis, heart disease and skin diseases. The longer the children remain in these camps the more disillusioned and hardened they become. Speed in getting them out is important."

"When the children first arrive in the beautiful harbor of Haifa, in Palestine, they are first taken to an immigration hospital, then they are given a feast by welfare societies and an attempt is made to make them realize they are loved again."

"At the feast the children will cram their pockets for another time. No attempt is made to stop them. Psychologists have mapped out a planned schedule to bring the distorted minds of these children back to normal."

"At first when the gongs ring for dinner these children run and hide, for it reminds them of the gongs of the prison camps which meant they had to line up and from the lines each tenth child was taken away. Nothing was heard of these children again."

"After several weeks these refugee children are usually normal enough to mingle with other children. Then they go to work in the fields under the sun and in the evenings learn Hebrew and to sing and play."

"In about six months the children are back to normal. They are free to lead normal healthy lives and give free vent to their emotions."

Mrs. Janner gave a brief outline of why the Zionist movement was formed: to give Jews a place they could call their own, where they could develop and progress and make their contributions to the world as Jews. While

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