

## This Week On Capital Hill

By Fred C. Dillon

Special to The Porcupine Advance

There was no dearth of legislation this week as parliament moved closer to prorogation.

On Monday matters of international aspect received approval of the House. On the motion for the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), peace treaties with Italy, Roumania, Hungary and Finland were approved. Ratification of these treaties had been awaited for a long time since, until such had been done, Canada was legally at war with the countries concerned.

The constitution of the International Refugee Organization was signed at New York in December, 1946. This organization will take over the work of UNRRA insofar as it affects displaced persons in European countries.

Canada's contribution to the first year budget of the I.R.O. totals \$5,440,717.

Mr. L. St. Laurent, Secretary of State for External Affairs, moved adoption of this constitution and agreement was reached with but little delay. The matter had previously been given a thorough examination by the members of the Parliamentary Committee on External Affairs.

Amendments to the constitution of the International Labour Organization necessitated by the dissolution of the League of Nations and subsequent entry of the International Labour Organization into official relationship with the United Nations, were moved for adoption by Labour Minister, Humphrey Mitchell. The motion was agreed to without debate.

Health Minister Martin's Old Age Pensions Bill continued its ride over a rock road to conclusion this week. Mr. Martin announced an amendment to the bill whereby blind persons would be eligible for pension at the age of 21 years. The previous age limit had been set at 40. This means that 1,700 additional blind people will now receive a pension. The cost to the government for one year, as a result of this amendment, will be just slightly more than \$450,000.

This amendment was received with much favour by all parties of the House. The bill received third reading, was passed, and now goes to the Senate for final approval.

During the war a fund was accumulated from profits made through the sale of supplies through army canteens. The problem of disposing of these funds was handed to a special committee of parliament which drafted a bill called the Army Benevolent Fund Act.

National Defence Minister Claxton piloted the bill through the House and explained its content. "The bill would establish a board consisting of five members appointed by the governor in council, of whom one is to be nominated by the Canadian Legion and another by the National Council of Veterans Association in Canada," said the Minister. "The purpose of the benevolent fund which is to be established by this bill is that it be administered and paid out for the benefit of veterans and their dependents."

It is expected that the total amount of money in the fund will be approximately \$9,000,000. About ten minutes was the required time for the House to consider this bill and agree on its passage without change.

Canada's hopes for the immediate adoption of a national labor code received the cold water treatment on Friday when Prime Minister King made the following statement: "With regard to the labour bill, there are a great many who feel that we ought to get that measure through at once, but there are a very large number who are of the view that it would be the part of wisdom, in the light of what we know has happened in connection with legislation in some other parts of the world, particularly legislation affecting industrial questions, that it would be better to deal with that most important question, if we allowed this measure to stand over until another session."

It has been the expressed opinion of many labor authorities that Canada should sit in the sidelines and view the outcome of the controversy precipitated by the United States recently adopted labor bill. It would appear, from the Prime Minister's statement, that the government is of like opinion.

In view of the delaying of the labour bill the old regulations affecting labour relations, as laid down in the now-famous P.C. 1003, continue in force. P.C. 1003 was the wartime labour bill which was given new life with the passing, during the present session, of the so-called omnibus bill. This bill extended the life of certain emergency measures that are still considered necessary during "the National Emergency arising out of the War".

It is expected that proceedings of the house will be brought to a close by July 12th.

### THE GOLDEN LION

Next year the 28th annual convention of district "A" of Lions International will be held in Timmins and should bring 800 visitors to town.

## Bright Lights Hold No Appeal For Fort George Resident Visiting Here

Out from the far-flung shores of bleak Fort George where there is still six feet and in some places more than that of snow, where ice flows are only commencing to break and make their way down the swiftly flowing river, came William Spencer, factor of the Hudson Bay Company Stores. This is his second trip into civilization. Fifty years of age, a man of slight build with hair turning gray at the temples, eyes that are tired and lined from gazing over wide expanses of water, ice, snow and treeless plain, and a face the color of brown leather, he made his first trip in 1897. Cochrane was his destination then where he went to see a dentist. Having heard about the city of Toronto he decided that perhaps the bright lights of the city might hold for him a special lure. He made the journey and satisfied himself that everything was very interesting. But for him the city held no appeal. Therefore, he returned to his log cabin at Fort George where he remained, more than content, for the last ten years. Now after all that time he has come to Timmins. The reason? Because his sight is failing and it was necessary that he see an optician. However his first call upon arrival here was to the offices of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police where he solicited help to find his way around. Assistance was gladly given him by Corporal Green and Constable Al McKeown.

## Name Calling and Blows Land Woman in Court

"I was minding my own business," stated Miss Monica Breton giving evidence against Mrs. Valencia Harju who was accused in Timmins Police Court of assaulting the witness. She continued to tell the court how she had gone to the show with her two neices and was sitting behind the defendant who shortly after the show started complained that she, Miss Breton, was putting her feet on her seat.

An argument and tussle followed which according to witnesses must have rivalled the "Grunt and Groan" adjectives who were recently at the McIntyre Arena. From their statements it would seem that Mrs. Harju called Miss Breton "Horse Face" and that the young lady retaliated by calling her aggressor "Baby Elephant". They then exchanged blows and according to those who had ringside seats the first blow struck was by the accused and she piled in one or two more to different parts of the body before they locked in the "Amazon Clinch" and really pulled hair.

The hair pulling was witnessed by the usherette who on hearing the noise shone her torch on the scrapper and they were definitely trying to scalp each other. Another witness admitted that he enjoyed both the fight and the picture.

After Miss Breton broke the hold she started to run towards the exit but collapsed on the stairs and the manager of the theatre called the police. The accused woman claimed that as a result of the battle she had a black eye but did not claim to have her glasses broken and since she wore them in court and we presume at the picture show Miss Breton must have a small fist or the glasses were removed before the fight began. The girl did not suffer any ill-effects but complained of pains in her chest and her dress was torn.

Mrs. Harju had a record which included assault, obtaining money under false pretences and was known by several aliases. He was fined \$10 and costs.

## Sunday Community Sing-Songs Popular

The Timmins Band under the direction of Fred Wolno opened the program, when the Timmins Y's Men's Club held their second Community sing-song for this year, in the Hollinger Park.

The gathering did not draw as large a crowd as the opening night but between 1,300 and 1,400 people enjoyed the singing and gave Mrs. G. Armitage a big hand when she sang "The World is Waiting for the Sunrise," as a solo.

As always there was a special spot for the kids and this time they competed in a bubble-gum contest which drew lots of laughs.

stores, the people, the conveniences, the mines, he replied simply, but mostly because I now realize a lifelong dream. Would you like to remain here? we asked him. "Oh no, the gentleman told us, I'd find it too difficult to become accustomed to the artificially fast past here, people rushing on the streets, in trains and automobiles, in stores and offices, everyone seems to get everything done in a hurry. We, up at Fort George, deliberately avoid such pressure. We take time off for a morning and afternoon chat and a smoke-o. Maybe we're not as efficient as you people here, but I think we're much happier. And I don't think so many of us suffer from stomach ulcers, or die in our forties of heart failure. Look at me, I'm fifty and I've never been sick a day in my life. Neither has my wife and she is the mother of 11 children, whose ages range from 26 years down to the tender age of seven.

We also learned that both the factor and his wife were born at James Bay. Mr. Spencer is of Scottish descent. His parents were in charge of the Hudson Bay post there. Mrs. Spencer, is the daughter of Rev. Samuel Iserhoff and Mrs. Iserhoff. It will be recalled they were the kindly Indians who made their first visit to the outside world last year. The momentous occasion marking Rev. Iserhoff's ordination to the Ministry of the Anglican Church.

"Are there many persons living up there?" we queried. There are about 800 persons we were told. Of these only 20 are white men and women. The remainder of the populace is comprised of Indians and Eskimos. (Continued on Page Four)

## PREFERS CABIN HOME TO BRIGHT LIGHTS



Pictured as he sat in the offices of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police waiting for an appointment with a local optician is William Spencer, factor of the Hudson Bay Company Stores at Fort George. This is his second trip into civilization during his fifty year span of life. Advance Photo

## New Fire Department Uniforms Cost \$1705

The Timmins Fire Department are to be supplied with 31 new suits each with two pairs of trousers. The contract was awarded to the firm of Sam Bucovetsky Limited by the council at their meeting on Monday, and will cost the Town \$55 for each suit.

## Small Boy Injured When Struck By Car On 3rd and Cedar

Another small child has been injured. This morning at 11:20 a.m., Peter Atherton, aged three and a half, of 166 A Hemlock street was struck by a car as he ran across Cedar street at the corner of Third avenue. He received injuries to his left leg. The extent of the injuries will not be known until X-rays have been taken but it is learned that the calf and ankle are badly bruised and torn. He was taken to St. Mary's hospital.

The driver of the car, William Carpenter, 7 Wende avenue, did not see the boy and stopped when his wife heard a scream. The boy was pinned by the rear wheel resting on his legs.

A witness stated that the child came from nowhere and seemed to run into the side of the car. Police had not completed their investigation at the time of going to press and were unable to issue a statement.

### TIMMINS FIRST SAILOR



Able Bodied Seaman Bob Hardy returned to Canada last week after having served in the navy for seven years and two months. He was immediately discharged at Ottawa on Saturday.

His parents who reside at 6 Transmission Line Timmins went south for a vacation Sunday with their son Harry and his wife. Bob on learning this made haste to join them.

## Veteran Fined \$100 For Attempted Car Theft While Drunk

John Snyder pleaded guilty before acting magistrate S. Platus, K. C. in Timmins Police Court to stealing a car on July 1st while under the influence of liquor.

The accused seemed to be resigned to a sentence and stated that he had domestic trouble but did not disclose the nature of it.

Police in evidence told how they were called to Cedar street in front of the Rainbow Cafe where the accused had started the car by adjusting the wiring under the dash-panel. He was very drunk and had been able to travel any distance the charge might have been more serious. He was fined \$100 or 3 months and when sentence was passed Snyder seemed amazed that it was so long a term. After some consideration the convicted man paid his fine.

## On Four Day Spree Threatened to Shoot A Police Officer

Luke Corbiel fined \$100 and has .22 rifle seized.

Charged with pointing a .22 rifle with a bullet in the breech and eight more in the magazine at a police officer, Luke Corbiel, Timmins, was fined \$100 and costs and the rifle seized by acting magistrate S. Platus K.C. in Timmins Police Court.

In passing sentence the magistrate stated, "That might be true but the gun might have gone off. I'll have to find you guilty." The magistrate was referring to the statements of the officers who arrested Corbiel and had told the court that the accused seemed like a man who was mentally ill.

On the stand Constable Moran told how he had been called to 16 Elm St. N., by neighbours who claimed that there was a crazy man in the garden waving a gun about. When he, the constable had approached him the accused warned him that if he came nearer he would shoot. "I kept on towards him and when about fifteen feet from him he cocked the gun. There was a fence between us so I decided I had better get further instructions from headquarters before taking further action," the constable stated.

While her son was pointing the gun at the officer his mother had come to the back door and called to her son not to shoot. When the constable was in the patrol car putting the call through to headquarters the mother approached and he warned her that if the son pointed the gun at him again he would shoot him on sight.

When a sergeant of the Timmins police arrived there was no sign of Corbiel in his own home but after a search they found him in the home of a neighbour hiding under the bed.

After arrest he told police officer Moran that he had trouble with his common law wife who was pregnant and blamed him. He had been drinking for four or five days and did not mean to shoot anyone but had taken the gun to shoot birds.

## Pulpwood And Logging Industry Request Better Working Conditions

### Summer Bonselpiel To Be Held At McIntyre

Sixty Four Rinks to Compete for Prizes Valued At \$600.

From the McIntyre Arena comes welcome news for followers of the "roarin' game". A Summer Bonselpiel will be held from August 25th, to 31st, and sixty four rinks will participate.

Entries are now being received and the first 64 rinks to enter will of course be accepted. Closing date is August 9th.

A cordial invitation is extended to out-of-town curling enthusiasts to participate in this, the first summer bonselpiel to be held at the Arena for five years. Huntsville has already a rink entered for the competitions.

Three events will be featured and four sets of prizes are offered for each event. Prizes valued at \$600 are to be awarded at this great summer curling event.

Players are guaranteed three games and the times of drawing will be five, seven and nine o'clock each evening.

Entries are coming fast, so all those who plan on taking part in the summer bonselpiel are advised to make application without delay. Don't forget a very special invitation is extended to out-of-town rinks.

## 6 Months Hard Labor For Shoplifting

Crown Attorney S. A. Caldbeck, K.C. read out a long list of convictions before sentence of six months hard labor was passed by acting magistrate S. Platus, K.C., on Jake Gross for shoplifting.

The accused had pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing two pairs of trousers and two shirts from a Third avenue departmental store and attempting to carry them out in a shopping bag.

## Gillies Lake Swimming Dock To Be Built By Timmins Kinsmen Club

Club anxious to assist T.C.A.C. Drive for Safer Swimming.

Despite the hot weather, Kinsmen met in goodly number at their regular meeting, Monday evening in the main dining room of the Empire Hotel. Business discussions embraced many subjects, and the chief one of which concerned the assistance to the T.C.A.C. in their plans to erect, in the near future, a swimming dock at Gillies Lake, and for the safety of that assistance up to the amount of \$350 be given the T.C.A.C. for the first section of the swimming dock was passed. This is the initial step set by Kinsmen in helping to set up suitable swimming conveniences at Gillies Lake, and for the safety of children. This floating dock was described by Recreational Director Bim Sturgeon. Plans will be under the supervision of the Kinsmen Ways and Means committee, and with proper supervision of construction experts.

The main topic was, of course, the 8th Annual Kinsmen Barn Dance, to be held at the Riverside Pavilion, this coming Friday, July 11th. Claude Bowker, Henry Kelneck, and their committees have lined up novel features for the occasion, among which are suitable prizes for those who dress up in "farm fashions", and a free photograph offer was also inaugurated by Kinsmen Harry Charbonneau. The only stipulation is that those "snapped" must appear in legitimate farmyard attire. It is expected that further interesting surprises will greet those attending this annual frolic. President Os Carter, and 38 Kinsmen, heartily welcomed Secretary Eric Lamminen, who has been confined to hospital, on account of illness. In the absence of Secretary Eric the minutes were read by Larry Labow and Charles Leppan.

Greetings also were extended to "Frosty" Innis, a former member of the club, also to Frank Boivin, and Fred Butterfield who were guests. Mr. Boivin gave three delightful vocal renditions including the one entitled "I Love You Only" which won Mr. Boivin the award of the Rose Bowl, at the 1947 Musical festival this year.

Past President Ellet Smith gave full details on the forthcoming Charter nights of the Kapuskasing and Smooth Rock Falls, Kinsmen clubs. These events will take place on July 28th and July 29th respectively, at which General Secretary Major Ban-

## Schedule "B" on camp conditions and Equipment to be extended to cover all matters of Major Concern to Employees.

In their quarterly meeting held in Port Arthur the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union decided to request that all displaced persons coming to Canada to work in the bush should be treated as free men and be allowed to work under the same agreements as apply to Canadian bushmen. It would be detrimental to the home bush workers if one set of regulations were applied to the displaced persons containing guarantees of employment which might in time mean workers preference.

The 16,000 workers in Ontario's pulpwood and logging industry took their first step towards negotiating for increased wages and better working conditions.

The Council is seeking the following terms:

1. (a) One dollar (\$1.25) per day increase in basic rates of pay for all monthly and day work.
- (b) Fifteen per cent (15%) increase in piece-work rates.
2. Eight hour day with overtime at the rate of time-and-a-half with double pay on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.
3. That all firms employing bush workers introduce the 'stamp system' as the only practical way to control the granting of holidays with pay. The system would follow the pattern of the one now used in construction and other industries.
4. Union Security to be provided for in all agreements.

A request was also tabled to have sleeping quarters improved, proper locker facilities for employees, tap water to conform with Health Regulations. Recreational rooms to be provided in every camp which could also serve as a reading room, school room and for showing movies.

These and many other proposals to improve working and living conditions for bush workers are being sought by the council.

## W. H. "Scotty" Wilson Tells Of Heroism During Fire Of 1911

Particularly timely, and of historical importance, was the address on Monday at the weekly luncheon of the Timmins Kiwanis at the Empire hotel. Kiwanian W. H. Wilson ("Scotty") was the speaker for the day, and his subject was "The Porcupine Fire of 1911."

Friday of this week, July 11th, is the 36th anniversary of this disastrous fire which wiped out South Porcupine, Pottsville, and other communities in the Porcupine, causing serious loss of life. Kiwanian Scotty gave a vivid picture of the fire, and also of the able organization that looked after the people left homeless by the fire.

Kiwanian H. G. Laidlaw introduced the speaker for the day. A number of photographs taken at the time of the fire added to the interest of the address. These photographs were kindly loaned for the occasion by Mrs. John Dalton, Sr.

In opening his address, Kiwanian Wilson pointed out that the fire of 1911 was one of the worst of its kind ever to occur on this continent. It burned over twenty townships — an immense area of over 760 square miles. The weather conditions before the fire had been dry and hot, just as in the case of the recent bush fire near Hearst, but in 1911 there were no appliances for fighting bush fires as there are to-day, and in addition the extent of the Porcupine fire makes the Hearst one look like a mere blaze. Describing the approach of the fire of 1911, "Scotty" said: "The whole world seemed on fire."

When the fire struck South Porcupine, which was practically wiped out, the speaker was at Golden City.

(Continued on Page Four)