

LOCAL ALARM SYSTEM IS EFFICIENT



HOW TO RING IN AN ALARM: This is what the interior of the fire box on your neighboring corner looks like. Many persons think that all they have to do is break the glass and turn the knob on the outer door to put in an alarm, Captain Pooley states. Here he shows that the real lever is inside the box. The outside knob merely opens the storm door protecting the unit.



HOW ALARMS ARE LOCATED: Lieutenant Frank Culhane of the Timmins fire department here examines the moving tape installed at the front of the local fire hall. This tape, controlled electrically, registers the location of fire boxes from which fire alarms are put in. Note the two groups of perforations on the tape, one a group of five and one of three. This indicates that an alarm has been rung on box number 53.



DEPARTMENT GENERATES OWN POWER: Captain Gordon Pooley, supervisor of the local fire alarm system, stands at the control board in the big battery room as he prepares to make the twice-daily check-up of the system. At his right is one of the banks of batteries which provide "juice" for the system. The department has its own power supply, as the risk in break-downs in the public power service is too great.

Town's Fire Boxes Guard Life, Homes

Strategically placed here and there on the streetcorners of Timmins are 44 fire alarm boxes, any one of which, if operated properly, will summon the fire department in the matter of a minute or two. Mechanical guardians of public safety, these alarm boxes play a major role in keeping insurance rates down as well as in protecting life and property.

All 44 boxes are hooked together on a continuous circuit, originating in the fire hall, a circuit which obtains its power from two sets of heavy wet batteries located on the second floor of the building. When the person putting in the alarm pulls the lever of a fire box anywhere in town, the circuit is interrupted in a fashion which indicates which box is ringing in.

Each of the entire system is a small cog wheel which begins to rotate when the lever is pulled. The wheel rotates in direct contact with an electrical arm. On each wheel are a series of small teeth which vary in number with every box. These teeth break the contact between the wheel and the arm; the number of times the contact is broken is registered on a moving tape in the fire hall.

For example, the box which is located at the corner of Elm and Fifth streets is box number 35. In this box there are eight teeth on the cog wheel. These

teeth are divided in two groups, one of three and one of five.

When the lever is pulled the cog wheel moves and eight interruptions in the current are registered. The tape in the fire hall begins to move. First a group of three perforations are made in it. Then it moves forward and five more appear. Three, five. Firemen immediately know that the box from which the alarm originates is 35. The doors of the fire hall swing open and two fire trucks charge into the street.

The entire system was installed and is maintained by the department. Some eleven miles of wire tie the system together. Captain Gordon Pooley is the departmental head in charge.

It is no accident that the department maintains its own source of power for the system. Lightning is the cause of numerous fires, Chief William Stanley points out, and it is also the cause of power breakdowns.

"The risk of depending on the public system is too great," says the chief.

The two banks of wet batteries are switched over every noon. One set is charged while the other stands ready to go into service. Between them they carry sufficient electricity to keep the system operating for three days, should a breakdown occur in the normal source of power.

The system is tested twice a day, at noon and at nine p.m. Thus when you hear the fire hall bell at noon and at curfew it is not merely to signify the time, but to test the system.

"It is surprising the number of people who do not know how to ring in an alarm properly," said Captain Pooley. He demonstrated on box number 35, pointing out that the knob under the glass was merely a handle to open the storm door which protects the unit.

"Some people think that all they have to do is break the glass and turn the knob of the door to register an alarm," he said. "The real lever which registers the alarm is inside."

Know the Location of Nearest Fire Box, Fire Chief Advises

Every citizen in Timmins should know the location of the fire alarm box nearest to his residence, Fire Chief William Stanley stressed this week in discussing methods whereby the public can assist in cutting down fire loss.

"When a person moves to a new neighborhood, the location of the nearest call box should be one of the first things he looks for," the chief said. "Just as the average sensible person who takes a room in a hotel always looks for the nearest fire exit, a person living in a new neighborhood should always make it a point to find the spot from which he can summon aid in case of fire."

Every citizen should also have the fire department's telephone number at the tip of his tongue, Chief Stanley said. The number is Five.

Local Band Enjoys Happy Social Night

On Saturday evening the members of Timmins Citizens Band, their ladies and friends, enjoyed a delightful social evening in the Officers Mess at the local Armouries, across the tracks from the O.N.R. station. There were seventy present, and the evening proved a very happy one.

G. A. MacDonald, Vice-president of the Band welcomed all to the event, following which there was an impromptu programme that proved most entertaining. Bandmaster F. J. Welno and Bandsman Edgar Stephens acting as masters of ceremonies.

Dancing was featured on the programme for the evening, music being furnished for this by W. H. Wilson at the piano, with Bandsman Carl Johns taking a turn at the piano, and assisting music being provided by Bandsman Ken McLeod, Saxophon. Bandsman George Taylor, Cornet, and Bandsman Clare Archer, Cornet. Secretary Cooke's fine record machine also provided attractive music during the evening.

Another big feature of the evening's pleasure was the singing of the T.H. & V.S. lads who are members of the band. Their choruses made a big hit.

Bandsman Dick Wilson, who gave the first number on the programme, set a high standard of entertainment with his cleverly presented Habitant description of a baseball game. This high standard was fully maintained by Mrs. T. Gay, whose songs brought down the house, and by Walter Avery, who won repeated encore with his topical songs.

The buffet lunch served was also a specially pleasing number. Indeed there was not a part of the whole evening that was not enjoyed by all present.

Weather and other conditions prevented the holding this year of the annual Band picnic for this year. The consensus of all at Saturday evening's social was that the Band had its "picnic" this year, and that similar social evenings might well take the place of the annual picnic event in future years.

Two men in a lighthouse saw a small boat being rowed towards it. When it was about half a mile away it began to sink, so one of the men went out to the rescue.

When the rescued man was in the lighthouse he told the men it was a good job they had saved him because he had come to see them about their income tax.

Fire Chief, C.A. Official Address Local Kiwanians

Timmins Kiwanis Club enjoyed two able addresses at the weekly luncheon at the Empire hotel on Monday. Fire Chief W. Stanley spoke briefly but effectively on Fire Prevention Week, and the guest speaker for the day, W. C. Van Camp, Local Superintendent of the District of Cochrane Children's Aid Society, gave an impressive sketch of the work of the Children's Aid.

Fire Chief Stanley, in responding to a call from president O. R. Kenne, explained that Fire Prevention Week was considered so important in the national life of the two nations on this continent that both President Truman and Premier King had issued special proclamations calling on the people to consider and observe Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5 to 11. Fire prevention should always have the interest and effort of all good citizens, said the Fire Chief, and this was particularly true at present, when building materials were in short supply, and so there was special need for conservation of property as well as the avoidance of loss of life.

In introducing the guest speaker, Mr. Van Camp, Councillor W. Roberts said that after taking a B. A. degree, Mr. Van Camp had spent three years on active service with the R. C. A. F., returning after the war to take a special course at the university in social work. He felt that this district was fortunate to secure the services of Mr. Van Camp.

In opening his address, the guest speaker referred to the vital importance to the community of the family unit. The Children's Aid was specially interested in the homes where children were involved. He pointed out that homes might be roughly divided into two classes — those in which the children had a chance for education, health and proper care, and those where conditions were undesirable.

There were homes in this district where conditions were deplorable, he said, and the work of the Children's Aid was to better these homes, or to see that the children were transferred to real homes. Referring to a recent article in the press the speaker illustrated by example some of the undesirable cases in mind. Some of these homes he said, were hopeless, but in others some improvement could be made to make them fit for the children. He showed how the social workers of the Society not only benefited the children, but also actually saved money for the community.

In addition to its main work, the Children's Aid looked after the enforcement of several other Acts for Social benefit, including Mothers' Allowance, Unmarried Parents' cases, Juvenile Court cases, and the families of returned servicemen.

In concluding, Mr. Van Camp said that the District Children's Aid had many plans for extension and improvement, but money was needed to make these dreams come true. To raise this money was the purpose of the yearly campaign now in progress. He asked the support of all to the worthy cause.

The guest speaker was thanked, on behalf of the club, by Kiwanian Jack Downey, who referred to his own experience in co-operating with Children's Aid work. He assured the speaker that he was welcomed to Timmins and he could count on the intelligent support of the Kiwanians. "Don't be discouraged by any criticism you may hear from irresponsible or thoughtless people," he said, "but keep on with the good work."

Other visitors for the day, introduced by Kiwanian Bob Harvey were: Jos. Miller, Northern Ontario representative of the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office; W. Shields, O. C. of Timmins Kiwanis Air Cadets Squadron No. 11. Community singing was led by Kiwanian Nick Basciano, with Secretary W. H. Wilson at the piano. A feature of this part of the programme was the calling forward of all the "Jacks" in the club. Half a dozen of them responded, and gave a very able rendition of "Darling, You are Growing Old."

President O. R. Kenne called attention to the fact that the Lions Club, the Kinsmen and the K. of C., and other clubs had entered a bowling club league, and the bowlers of the Kiwanis might also want to join. Kiwanian Jack Marks was named as chairman of the committee to organize a team and enter the league if enough Kiwanis bowlers were interested.

Kiwanian Jack Fulton introduced two new members — Major Majury, of the Salvation Army, a former member of North Bay Rotary Club, and Ernie Martin, transferred from the Kirkland Kiwanis. These new members will be formally inducted at a later meeting.

Past president G. N. Ross, chairman, and Past Presidents E. H. King, J. L. Fulton, J. Beattie and A. F. McDowell were named as the election nominating committee for the 1948 officers and directors.

On account of next Monday being a holiday (Thanksgiving Day), the next weekly luncheon will be on Tuesday, a round table conference to be held as usual on Monday at the Empire hotel.

Secretary W. H. Wilson called attention to the fact that next Saturday was the annual Boy Scout Apple Day. As the Kiwanis Boy Scout troop was the biggest in the camp, he thought the members should give special support to Saturday's event.

Douglas Carriere Named '47-48 Prexy Porcupine Ski Club

Douglas Carriere popular teacher at Timmins High and Vocational School, was named president of the Porcupine Ski Club at its inaugural meeting of the year last week. Mr. Carriere has been prominent in club activities for several years.

Merton Lake was named vice president, while Lee Murray is the new secretary treasurer.

Other members of the executive are: public relations, Don Moore and Marie Rochefort; membership, A. DeGulidice; chair, Rhea McNeil and Marie Rochefort; trails, Jules Baderski; jump, T. Moran; girls' activities, Lee Murray; junior activities, Dave Wemyss; instruction and competition, Jules Baderski and Merton Lake.

The Ski Club looks to enlarged activities and membership during the 1947-48 season. This summer 80 acres were acquired by the club and its total property at Mount Jamieson is now 120 acres.

In order to foster interest in skiing as a sport and club activities generally it was proposed that a ski column be carried in local newspapers.

Mr. Poothwaite: "But surely you don't believe your husband's yarn that he's been fishing. I notice he didn't bring any fish back."

Mrs. Wattleton: "That's just what makes me think he has been fishing."

Seeress Is Winner Over Dog Catcher

It was card reader and clairvoyant versus town dogcatcher in Timmins police court; this week when Madama Laurence, noted entrepreneur of looking into the future, was haled into court charged with permitting a dog to run at large.

It was not divulged whether or not the seeress had interrogated the past-boards in advance concerning the outcome of the case, but in any event she emerged the victor.

She claimed that her dog had not been out of the yard at the rear of her home, or if it had been, it had been released by children.

"I didn't see the dog on the street," she said. "But when I came home from the store I did see the dogcatcher chasing the dog around my own yard with a club."

Whether she wished to intimate that Hector Broussau had become so ambitious that he invaded backyards to capture animals, she did not specify.

The dogcatcher said that he had seen the animal on the street molesting a woman pushing a baby carriage. He said that the woman had been forced to move in a circle keeping the carriage between herself and the animal. He had chased it home.

After Magistrate Atkinson dismissed the charge Madama Laurence continued voluble in her defence.

"Don't talk too much or I may change my mind," said the cad.

President Truman is Connoisseur of Child Gen Game. There's plenty of it in that Republican Congress.

TCA's Northern Run Now Paying Its Way, Porquus Manager Says

The Northern Ontario air service of the TCA, now in the fourth month of operation under its new schedule, is proving to be an operation which is paying its way, K. N. Esselmont, airport manager at Porquus Junction, told the Advance this week.

"Month by month, passenger traffic has been increasing," Mr. Esselmont said. "Our best advertisers are the persons who have used the service. Many of these people had never flown before. I find that most of them have become repeaters."

He said that larger aircraft and more frequent flights would be inaugurated just as soon as increases in traffic warranted it.

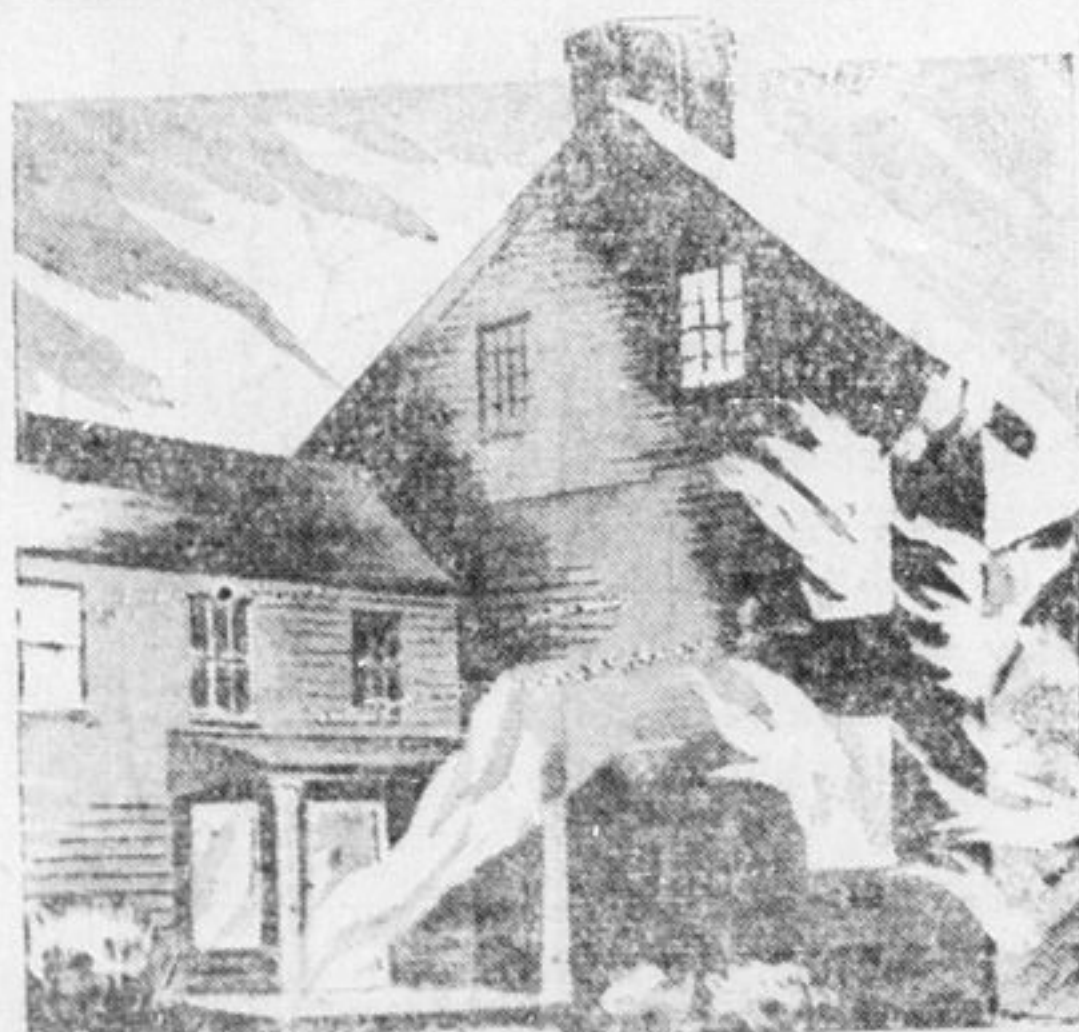
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