

Large Throng Attends Dinner To Hear Recreation Experts

By G. A. Macdonald

For some weeks past Wendell B. Brewer, president of the Timmins Community Activities Committee, has been promising to bring to Timmins two experts who would explain in detail the aims and objects, the benefits and value of the Community Activities Committees in Ontario, with special reference to Timmins.

It is not often that a promise is so fully and so richly fulfilled, and in so pleasing a way, as in this case.

The scene was the large dining hall of the McIntyre Community building on Tuesday evening, and the speakers were Gordon Wright, director of physical and health training, of the Department of Education, Toronto, and Professor Charles E. Henry, head of the Social Work Department of Toronto University. The two addresses were not only informative, but they proved so interesting that they held the keenest attention of the large audience.

The banquet was organized by the

Timmins Community Activities Committee as a joint meeting of all the service clubs of the Camp. All clubs were well represented, together with a number of ladies and some visitors. There were many present from South Porcupine, and of course Schumacher was well represented, with visitors also present from Sudbury and New Liskeard. In all, there would be about two hundred in attendance, and all enjoyed the event from beginning to end.

The full course dinner served by the McIntyre Dining Room set a high standard, while another special feature was the beautiful music furnished by Paul Kenack and his Croatan Orchestra.

President Brewer, of the Timmins Community Activities Committee, who presided at the gathering, gave hearty welcome to his guests, with a special word later for those from a distance. He pointed out that after two years of effort, he felt that the C.A.C. has accomplished something, and he believed it was now of a sound foundation for the future. What was specially needed now was the complete support of every citizen in the community.

He briefly sketched the history of the organization, and pointed out that while it was the people's money that was being expended in the various activities, the total cost to the taxpayers was no more than had been spent by the town for the various enterprises for the common advantage, and so secured more and better. C.A.C. co-ordinated the various activities. The benefit rested in the fact that there was the further advantage of recreation to assist and extend the co-ordination.

This year it should be more, but he believed the ratepayers who studied the plan and its results would feel the expenditure was well worth while.

In opening his address, Gordon Wright quoted a definition of "Recreation," which he felt covered the meaning as it applied to Communities Activities work. "Recreation," definition said, "is what you and I choose to do in our spare time, out of which we get much satisfaction."

Referring to the strain of modern industry and work in these days of mass production and machine efficiency, he showed that the monotony of most present-day work demanded decided change and interest.

Shorter forms of recreation. In a word, the purpose of the community activities committees plan was to provide opportunity for the many forms of recreation needed. Because of the need, the Government had introduced its program of recreation along with physical training.

Mr. Wright, who spent some years on the Schumacher high school staff before the war, spoke admirably of the good work years ago of the Timmins Police Athletic Association. He noted that the Timmins Community Activities Committee followed along the same ideas, but on much broader field of effort.

Touching on the long list of activities coming under the C.A.C., Mr. Wright emphasized the thought that the committee should not take undue credit for all this, but that due appreciation should be given to the organizations that carried through the various lines of the big program. The purpose of the C.A.C. was to co-ordinate the various efforts, so that the best results would ensue.

Outlining some of the activities, badminton, tennis, hockey, five outdoor rinks, slides, playgrounds, the summer program on Gages Lake, the marble tournament, the drama club, the kennel club, the art exhibit, the camera club, the music festival, and others, Mr. Wright said that so much had been accomplished that it would be difficult to live up to what had been started.

The speaker made a special plea for increased attention to the young people just leaving school. Too often they seemed to be forgotten people, yet they needed recreation as much as anyone else, but were not so easy to come forward with their requests.

The necessity for trained elders was also stressed by Mr. Wright.

A. A. Rose, principal of Timmins High and Vocational School, expressed the thanks of the gathering for the able address of Mr. Wright.

In the introduction to his inspiring address, Prof. Henry, who has spent many years in service in the United States, explained his return to his homeland of Canada. In addition to a nostalgia for this wonderful province of "two million lakes," charming scenery and remarkable resources, he felt the growing conviction that Canada is on the verge of the greatest development.

Touching on Canada's achievements during the recent war, the remarkable progress made in medical and other sciences, as well as industrially, Prof. Henry voiced the opinion that Canadians at home do not seem to appreciate the potential greatness of this Dominion. Referring to Child Welfare, Workman's Compensation, Mothers' Allowances, the physical fitness program, and other forward plans for social welfare, Prof. Henry could see this country marching right out in front of real world progress.

The speaker quoted from the book, "Canada, the Pknotown Country," by the Canadian author, Bruce Hutchinson, to show how imperfectly Canadians in general understood and knew their country and the great destiny that beckoned.

A vivid picture of life today and one hundred years ago was given by the speaker to indicate the new approach to life that must be made. In the older days it seemed to be possible to mix fun with the work, but now fun and work seemed to be separated completely. This was particularly true in the cities, where complexity, congestion and anonymity reigned.

The tension and tiredness of today was more nervous than physical, the speaker suggested, and the need for recreation was the more imperative. There was a decline in family life of the restful and re-invigorating type of former days, due to congestion and other causes. Accordingly, the need for recreation was a vital one, and Communities Activities Committees had a wide field to cover.

Professor Henry stressed three special points—the importance of citizenship participation in the communities activities, the interpretation of recreation and what it does, and the need for leadership training.

He suggested that the ordinary people of each neighborhood should be consulted as to the forms of recreation they desired. Recreation should be for all—"for everybody, from the kindergarten to old age," he said. He added a word or two as to recreations that had been inaugurated, with success, for the older folk, as well as for the young.

In touching on the need for leadership training, Prof. Henry quoted from incidents in his own experience to prove the value of training as compared with the untrained effort.

In closing he complimented Timmins on the scope of its drama and handicrafts. "Take in everybody!" was his advice.

The inspiring address in which Dr. J. B. McClinton moved a vote of thanks to Prof. Henry for his address was another feature of the evening.

Among those at the head table were Mayor J. E. Brunette, Councillors, W. Roberts, L. DeVillano, Philip Fay, J. E. H. Chateauvert and J. P. Bartleman, and members of the Timmins Community Activities Committee.

THE "Y" WEEK



Program Council Meets

The Program Council of the Timmins Porcupine Community Y.M.C.A. met under the chairmanship of W. Sweeney, in room 3 of the council chamber. The program council is composed of the program committee of the board of directors of the Y.M.C.A. and also representatives of each group operating under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. The announcement was made to the council that the Y.M.C.A. plans to operate an employment agency during the Christmas season to help needy boys and girls secure part-time or full-time employment during the holidays. Anyone needing part-time help is requested to contact the Y.M.C.A. office, 4 Third Avenue, phone 509.

Kenack Plays At Teen Town

The first Teen Town dance of the season was held last Friday evening in the lounge of the Kenack Hotel. Kenack's band was on hand for this opening night and his music was enjoyed by all. On occasion Henry himself stepped down on the platform to lead the group in a rousing Paul Jones. He commended plans to make Teen Town a weekly affair.

Basketball Group

All of the Y.M.C.A. groups which are interested in playing basketball have been allotted time and space in the Birch Street School gymnasium on Wednesday evening. However, as the number of groups interested keeps expanding, more space will have to be provided and the committee in charge is at present trying to secure additional accommodation.

Tri-Y and Hi-Y Induction

The Timmins High and Vocational School was the scene of the induction and initiation session of the joint Tri-Y and Hi-Y Clubs. All the new members of these clubs swore to be faithful to the high purpose of their groups and to "create, maintain and extend throughout the school and the community high standards of Christian character." Miss I. McClure and Mr. H. Birkenshaw of the School Staff, who are the club advisors, assisted

VICTORY

Alan Ladd's diving skill, which he has retained by constant practice since he won the West Coast diving championship in 1932, proved mighty handy during a dance hall free-for-all sequence in his current Paramount hit, "Wild Harvest," at the Victory Theatre.

Ladd portrays the leader of a tough wheat harvesting combine crew which tangles with a rival outfit during a harvest dance in a small Kansas town. During the fight, in which chairs and beer bottles also play prominent roles, Ladd executes a perfect swan dive from a ten-foot high rafter and spreads four of his crew's assailants.

Ladd insisted on doing the stunt himself and his diving technique was so perfect that only one "take" was required—to the happiness of the four men he kayoed.

In addition to Ladd, "Wild Harvest" stars Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston and Lloyd Nolan with excellent support from Dick Erdman, Allen Jenkins and Will Wright, among others.

SOUTH PORCUPINE LOCALS

Four Normal School pupils from North Bay are taking their "Continuing teaching week" in South Porcupine Public School this week. They are Aina Heikkala and Tony Fasan (of South Porcupine) Roy Hawthiney (Dome) and Bob Boyce (Schumacher).

Miss McLee who is touring the North in the interests of the Junior Red Cross was visiting the public school this week and has enrolled a number of members, augmenting those already working for this good cause through the teaching staff.

Moving time in South Porcupine recently included Dr. and Mrs. McKittrick to the Dome. Mr. and Mrs. Terry Holmes from Bloor to Bruce (Dr. McKittrick's former home), and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sullivan from Front to Bloor (Mr. Holmes' former residence).

Mrs. George Yorke with son Robert and Mrs. James Copeland and little daughter, have left for a holiday in Bracebridge, Toronto and Pelmerston.

At a Penny Sale held on Tuesday evening by the Ladies of the Legion in the Legion Hall, Mrs. Harold Dillon won the bedspread upon which tickets had been sold.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray and Mrs. D. Murray of Twin Falls and children were guests this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Rapsey.

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