

# The Porcupine Advance

PHONE 28

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## Alone In The Dark

There are two manners in which the election campaign which has been waged by Councillors Philip Fay and William Roberts to "get rid of Bartleman" can be regarded.

In both their campaigns, "Down with J.P. (that noisome character)" seems to be the major plank. If only the electors would co-operate by forcing him out, everything would be happy and serene, they claim. Town business would proceed like clockwork once this meddlesome, delaying thorn in their sides were removed. And they claim that the clock would be going forward, not backward.

There are elements of the population who, through a personal dislike for Mr. Bartleman (we don't think anyone has been influenced by the asinine campaign waged against him all year by the Daily Press, now commonly known as the Giggling Girl of Cedar Street), would be very pleased to see Mr. Bartleman go down to overwhelming defeat in the polls tomorrow. Some, too will lend credence to the denunciations of Messrs Fay and Roberts probably because they have not an accurate picture of what has taken place this year.

The situation has been this: There have been two camps on council during 1947, plus two independent members who usually followed their own judgement. Camp number one comprised of Mayor Brunette and Councillors Fay and Roberts. The second was composed of Messrs Bartleman and Chateauvert. Messrs Del Villano and Doran usually voted as they themselves saw fit.

In the clashes between Mayor Brunette and Mr. Bartleman two very strong personalities met. Both are tough and hard. Mr. Brunette fought his way up from a lumberjack. Despite what his detractors say, Mr. Bartleman has a wiry persistence probably gained in the rough scramble for existence in the early days of the Porcupine camp. Neither has been willing to give an inch to the other and their rivalry finally culminated in open warfare last week, and this week, at meetings of council.

Throughout the year, Messrs Roberts and Fay have been faithful followers of Mr. Brunette, just as Mr. Chateauvert has been a faithful follower of Mr. Bartleman. When it came to verbal argument, the henchmen more or less stood aside and let the leaders cross swords, for at fencing across the council table Mr. Brunette and Mr. Bartleman were and are in a class by themselves.

Thus, an unkind observer of Mr. Fay's and Mr. Roberts' election campaigns might draw a strong analogy between their shouts for helps and denunciations and those of two small boys who suddenly find themselves alone in the dark without the comforting presence of Big Brother. As far as they are concerned, Mr. Bartleman is definitely the Big Bad Wolf who might gobble them up.

## Sound Suggestion

One of the most sensible suggestions aired during the election campaign which winds up with balloting for council tomorrow came from the lips of Z. J. "Zig" Ostrowski, who this year is running for council for the first time.

Mr. Ostrowski stated that the town of Timmins has been in the habit of purchasing a considerable amount of its supplies from business firms located outside of Timmins. He said that in some cases local firms were not even invited to tender when purchases were about to be made.

Mr. Ostrowski is correct. A considerable portion of the town's supplies does come from out of town, while local firms are in a position to supply them. He is right when he says that all possible purchases should be made here in Timmins, provided that tenders from local firms match those of outside offers, or are within a reasonable margin of these offers.

## Drunk Driving

Chief Albert Lep's annual warning concerning drunk driving over the holiday season appears in the columns of the Advance this week and wise citizens will heed it. Not only does the chief of police state that drunk drivers will be dealt with without mercy if they are apprehended, but he also points out the suffering and misery they cause their victims at a season of the year when happiness should be the keynote.

A man who gets behind the wheel of an automobile after drinking is a man who disregards his responsibilities to the general public and to himself. Driving under weather conditions prevailing at this time of year is enough in itself without adding the element of alcohol to bring about tragedy. Don't drive your car if you have been drinking. Leave it where it is and call a taxi or walk.

## The North's Future

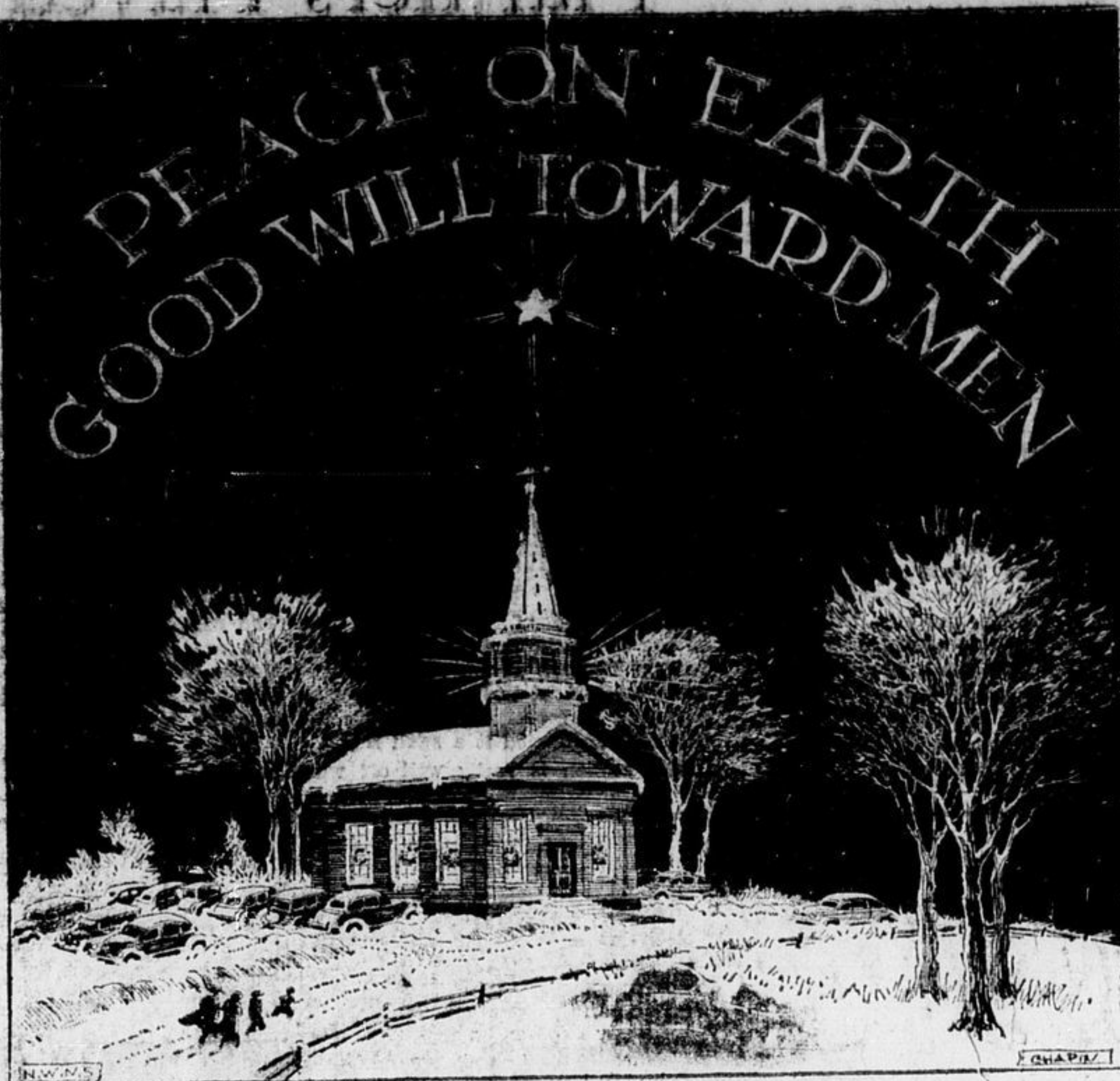
At the present time about 35,000 men in Ontario are employed in mining operations, not including prospecting. With an average family of four, this represents a total population of about 140,000. The mines could absorb immediately a further five thousand people. If development is carried out on presently explored properties and if new discoveries continue, considerable increase in employment might be expected in the mining industry. A doubling of the present labour force in the mines would be a very optimistic prospect. If this were to come about we might then contemplate an increase in the mining labour force of 35,000 and a consequent increase in population of 140,000 directly dependent upon this work.

Forests, mining, farming—these are the primary industries.

In Northern Ontario 20,000,000 acres are considered as potential agricultural land. Until a great deal more work is done to examine this land from the viewpoint of agriculture, we cannot be too certain of its quality for this purpose. A fairly safe estimate may be that about 8,000,000 acres of it may some day be turned into agriculture. If, in the course of time, 8,000,000 acres were opened up in Northern Ontario, employment for a further 80,000 would be available.

(The Honorable Dana Porter, addressing The Political Science Club at St. Hilda's College, Toronto)

## Still The Old Tale Endures



## When The Porcupine Was Young

By G. A. Macdonald

No. 30 1915 Council Did Not Like Tag Days, Either

In addition to having everything to do, and nothing to do it with, the early town councils in Timmins had all the trials and tribulations and troubles that harass more recent municipal bodies. That is, of course, with one exception. The early councils fortunately, escaped the personal ill-feeling and cross-purposes in their own ranks. None of them by any manner of means was of the "Yes! Yes!" type. They differed on many occasions but they were able to do it without personal animosity, or parties wrangling. They were too busy to play politics if any sort. There was no money concerned in holding office, and the only honour possible was that derived from work well done. Their attitude seemed to be that they were all public-spirited men, anxious to serve, and any honest difference of opinion had to be respected. None of them saw any sense in simply "raising Cain." There were too many other pressing calls to indulge in any nonsense like that.

With that one exception, however, the early councils had all the worries of more modern councils. They even had tag days to contend with. And they didn't like tag days a bit better than do councils of later days. The attitude of the 1915 town council was set forth in a resolution passed by council on October 12th. This resolution tells its own story.

"It was moved by Councillor McCoy, seconded by Councillor Moore, that the mayor forward \$500 to John S. Hendrie in response to his appeal for funds, and enclose the cheque in a letter, setting forth in detail our aversion to tag days, etc., and denations in general, and urging that all funds required for this and similar purposes be raised by general taxation, distributed equitably over the entire Dominion. This money to be forwarded only in case no collection or tag day of any kind be held on or before October 21st, 1915."

The 1915 minutes show that the first official chimney sweep for the town of Timmins goes back to Oct. 4th, thirty-one years ago. S. Grills was the man given the honor at that time.

One of the chief problems engaging the attention of council thirty-one years ago was the matter of a new public school for Timmins. Timmins never had one of those "little red school houses." The original school here was a black tar-papered shack on the lot near the site of the present Central school, which eventually replaced it. The "red" schools came later to Timmins.

The whole story of the new school is not very clearly indicated in the minutes, but there are brief notices about it in the records of the council meetings. For instance, on October 12th, council asked the town solicitor to draft a by-law for a \$90,000 new public school in Timmins. On November 12th, 1915, council gave three readings to a by-law to authorize for a \$22,000 school here. Then, on December 6th, the following motion was passed: "Proposed by Councillor Globe, seconded by Councillor Dr. Moore, That the recommendations of the School Board be taken up with the architect, and when completed be forwarded to the proper authorities for sanction." It was more than a year later, however, before the final steps were taken to provide the new school for the town.

At that same Dec. 6th meeting, the council had another more modern trouble to face. A petition had been submitted to council to rescind the early closing by-law. In this case, the

1915 council acted after the manner of some more recent councils. In other words, the council did what is scientifically known as "passing the buck." On motion of Councillors Moore and Globe, the petition to rescind the early closing by-law was laid on the table for "the present." That meant that it would not be dealt with by that year's council.

On December 20th, 1915, council instructed the clerk to put up notices for the nomination meeting on Dec. 27, and for the election, if necessary, on January 3, 1916, for the 1916 council. S. R. McCoy was named to be the poll clerk at the municipal elections.

At the same meeting authority was given for W. Gagne to put storm windows on the fire hall.

A special meeting of the 1916 council was held on Dec. 23. At this meeting, council passed the following resolution, moved by Councillor Dr. Moore and seconded by Councillor C. Dalton: "That this council approves the new road from Timmins to Schumacher, as shown on plan submitted, and that the clerk be directed to wire Mr. S. B. Clement (T. & N. O. Ry.) for permission to make new level crossing required, the said road to run in a diagonal direction from Fourth Avenue and Spruce street to said crossing."

As with its predecessors, the 1916 Timmins council was elected by acclamation. W. H. Wilson, contractor, was again mayor. The council included: A. R. Globe, assistant general manager of the Hollinger; Dr. H. H. Moore, physician and surgeon; J. P. McLaughlin, merchant; C. G. Williams, underground superintendent at the Hollinger; A. Brazeau, plumber and tinsmith; and Dr. J. A. McInnis, for the following three years an able and active town councillor, and then for over seven years the popular mayor of the town.

The 1916 council not only started in to speed up the work so well begun by previous councils on the direct works necessary for the benefit of the new town, but this council had a forward look at indirect, but vital, advantages for Timmins.

As an instance of this attitude, quotation may be made from the minutes of January 10th, 1916. Councillors Globe and Moore introduced the following resolution which passed unanimously: "That in reference to the South road to Dome Mines: 1st, the clerk write to Mr. Hearst for advice as to whether the Government will grant the town permission to spend monies on this road; 2nd, that the Board of Works interview the various mines interested as to what they will do toward building this road; 3rd, that Mr. C. M. Auer be employed to work out the details for constructing this road."

At the January 17th meeting, it was moved by Dr. McInnis, seconded by Albert Brazeau, that a letter be forwarded to Mr. Polier, thanking him for his offer of a donation from Porcupine Vipond Mine toward building of proposed road from Timmins to Dome Mines, and also the interest he is taking in the matter."

At the same meeting, it was decided, on motion of Councillors A. R. Globe and Dr. Moore, "that the council authorize an expenditure of \$500 on South road, provided that a similar amount can be raised otherwise, and that the Board of Works be authorized to take what steps they see fit."

Another motion passed at the same time, and sponsored by Councillors Williams and Dr. Moore read: "That the clerk be instructed to wire the

## Six Inch Sermon

† REV. ROBERT H. HARPER †

Christian Fellowship

Lesson: II John

Memory Selection: Phillipian 1:3, 6.

The lesson may remind us of some modern churches in the types of men found in them. "Gaius the beloved," of whom we know nothing but surmise that he was a leader and a blessed influence among the Christians of Asia Minor, is fortunately found in type in almost every church.

Diotrephes is also found, wanting to have his own way about everything. Sometimes he wants to dictate because of the money he gives to the church. But he is not concerned to live the kind of life that should entitle a man to preeminence among Christians.

It is not strange that the original Diotrephes did not welcome John and did not offer hospitality to Christian strangers. He wanted no interference with his own rule. So he was entirely lacking in the hospitality John stressed in his letter. Hospitality toward strangers was needed where inns were few and poor. Many Christians vied with one another in caring for their transient fellows. John urged this—a fellowship that was more than the giving of the "glad hand." And as ancient Christians ministered to their fellows, the bonds of love were strengthened. The dire need of hospitality is not present now, but there are still many ways in which friendship and fellowship can be cultivated among those of like faith.

In John's closing words he wrote that there were yet other things that he would not give them with pen and ink. He hoped to see his Christian friends soon.

## Fall Period Closes In Finnish-English

The Fall term of the Free English Language Evening School for Finnish-speaking Adults eleventh school year ended in South Porcupine last week on Tuesday evening and in Timmins Monday evening of this week.

The Spring term will open in Timmins Monday evening, Jan. 5, at the home of the teacher, 53 Rea, South, and in South Porcupine High School building Tuesday evening, Jan. 6.

All earlier students are welcome to continue their studies. For new students a special class will be opened in elementary English.

Each student is expected to bring a notebook and a pencil for his or her own use. All other necessary school supplies will be provided by the school free of charge to all students.

dale council for financial assistance on South Road.

While recognizing the advantage of this South Road to the Dome, the 1916 council decided to take up other matters while continuing work on the road project. Consequently, in the minutes of January 17th, the following motion is registered as duly passed: "Proposed by Councillor Globe, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin, That the Board of Works be directed to write Mr. Englehart (chairman of the T. & N. O. Commission), regarding a level crossing, waiting room, town siding, and such other matters as they deem necessary, including a freight shed."

The above resolution suggests the many needs of Timmins at that time and the effort made to secure these necessities for the town. It required patience, as well as persistence and talent on the part of mayor and councillors and board of trade to impress these needs on the outside authorities. But it all was eventually accomplished, thanks to a succession of able and public spirited officials and citizens.

# Wilbur Predicts Election Results In Council Race

The election strain is beginning to tell on Wilbur. He was in a bedraggled condition when he walked in today. But he was still as voluble as usual, despite long hours spent in beer parlors telling the public how to vote.

"It looks like Booby is a shoo-in," he stated. "The people of Timmins have taken McTavern to their hearts and even the temperance element is said to be regarding him with favor. This may be due to the fact that this week he contributed a cheque of \$100 to the WCTU as a peace offering, but on the other hand his program for Timmins in 1948 is so outstanding that it bears commendation on its own merits."

"By the way and in passing," he said, "I don't know what some of these guys running for council are thinking about when they try to get elected without presenting a platform to the public. They just say they want to get in and don't say what they intend to do when they get there. This is a very feeble platform it appears to me, old chum, and whoever is their campaign manager is doing an exceedingly punk job for them. Three quarters of the town never heard of them before and how do they expect to get elected unless they come out with something specific that will catch the public interest?"

The ex-scribe leaned back in his chair, pulled out a brace of cigars, handed one across the table and began to pare the tip of the other.

"My friend," quoth he, "I am going to give you the low-down on the results of the election right now. This is the list of guys who are going to get elected. It is a forecast of what you are going to find when ballots are counted tomorrow night. By the way, you had better put this in big type, so everyone can see it."

Following is Wilbur's fearless forecast.

### MAYOR

1. McTavern (by a landslide)
3. Karl A. Eyre
4. William Roberts

### COUNCIL

- Hector Chateauvert
- J. V. Bonhomme
- Philip Fay
- James Bartleman
- Leo Del Villano
- Barney Quinn

"Well, that's it," said the runt, "It is too bad that everybody can't get elected after all the time and money that has been spent, particularly the money, but there gotta be losers as well as winners."

"Personally I regret that Eyre and Roberts have to lose as they are both fine guys indeed. However, when McTavern came out with free rides on the busses, how could they top it? When he proposed that a zoo be built in Timmins, did they have a similar project to offer the public? When he advocated that the town should shovel everybody's private walks did they have an answer? When he proposed to slash tenants' rents by a municipal bylaw, what could they say?"

"In regard to the council, it appears to me that the old standbys are going to get the votes when John Q. Public walks into the polling booth. This new bunch who are running may be nice guys, but as I said before whoever is handling the show is making a ballocks of the situation. Their big point is we want harmony, we don't want any arguments, let's have peace and all that sort of truck---I ask you, friend, what kind of a council would that be? Is it a bunch of yes-men the people want or would they prefer to see some rousing battles over the council table?--When there is a war on in council the public at least knows that both sides of a subject are being discussed."

"Which brings me around to that unusual character James P. Bartleman. Why is everybody who is running going after J.P.? The reason is because he made most of them look like chumps in the past and will probably make them look the same way in the future. As people don't like to be made chumps, particularly when an honest and fearless reporter of the Advance (advert) is sitting by to record the situation, these people would like to see J. P. ejected from the town hall, preferably by force. It is said that some would even like to ban him from entering the town limits, suggesting that he be exported to Sweden, Outer Mongolia, Antarctica or some similarly remote spot, and stating that it would be no favor to the inhabitants of these places if he were to arrive there."

"Well, such are politics. Interesting, though aren't they?"

ED NOTE:—Wilbur appears to be playing safe in the contest for mayor. He places Mr. Roberts on the list in second position, yet the numeral "3" is beside his name. Likewise, Mr. Eyre is in third position and the numeral "4" is beside his. Wilbur apparently wants to be right, no matter what happens.

