



JOY
to All

Ring out, oh bells...
Loud and clear
How joyful song of Yuletide cheer.
Ring out, too, for all to hear
Our very best wishes
For a happy New Year

The Porcupine Advance

MILLIONS HEAR RADIO SERVICE OF TOWN CHURCH

General Alexander Sends His Greetings To Vets In Hospital

Every veteran in the North Bay district who is a patient under the auspices of the Department of Veterans' Affairs will receive a suitable Christmas gift, and a personal note from the Governor-General of Canada which reads as follows:

"Government House, Ottawa.
"On the occasion of our second Christmas in Canada, my wife and I send you the season's greetings. We wish you all a Merry Xmas and hope the New Year will bring you restored health and much happiness in 1948."

Alexander of Tunis.
The gifts are given from the staff of the North Bay D.V.A. District Office. The largest group are those veterans under Departmental treatment at the Haileybury Sanatorium. Others are located in hospitals of the larger centres of the District, North Bay, Sudbury, Timmins, Chapleau and Sault Ste. Marie.

Council Reduces Bus Fares

Without hullabaloo at Monday's meeting of Timmins town council, local bus lines were ordered to reduce their fares by unanimous vote of the retiring 1947 town council. The only mild objection heard came from Councillor Philip Fay who stated that two bus lines were involved in the order and that complications might result.

Council ordered by bylaw that a new schedule of tariffs which would embrace the town of Timmins and an area surrounding the town for three miles be established.

Under the bylaw a citizen can now ride from the Mattagami river as far as Coniarum Mine for five cents, provided he or she buys fares on a twenty for \$1 basis.

The new schedule of fares for Timmins, including transfers from any one run to another embracing an area three miles about the town, will be as follows:

ADULTS: single fares, 10 cents; four tickets for 25 cents and 20 tickets for \$1.

CHILDREN: single fares, 10 cents; five tickets for 25 cents and 20 tickets for \$1.

The bylaw was moved by Councillor James P. Bartleman and seconded by Councillor Hector Chateauvert. Councillors Fay, Del Villano and Roberts signified their approval when the vote was taken. Councillor Doran was absent.

The chief run affected will be the run to Schumacher and McIntyre Mine. Rates on this run have been three tickets for 25 cents.

Monday's bylaw was first proposed a month ago by Councillor Bartleman, who accused the Department of Highways of "double-crossing" Timmins when new district bus rates were announced and who stated that he had discovered that the municipality could legally regulate fares within its boundaries and within an area three miles of the town limits.

No action on the bylaw formulated at that time was taken until Monday's meeting, although it had been expected that the movers and seconders of the bylaw, Councillors Bartleman and Chateauvert, would introduce it before election day.

There is no question that the town is legally within its rights in regulating bus fares. However, as explained in an adjoining editorial, the situation is very complicated and perhaps the bus operators were advised of the town's edict cannot be made to state new rates yesterday. As the bylaw demands immediate action, lower fares should be in force in the town and district today.

MOST ARE OPEN

Most stores in the towns of Timmins, Schumacher and South Porcupine will remain open till 9 p.m. this evening to enable last minute shoppers to make purchases which have been delayed to the last minute.

Canada And U.K. To Get Broadcast From St. Matthew's

An estimated fifteen million persons in Canada and the United States and uncountried millions in the British Isles and Western Europe will be listeners on Christmas Day at 11 a.m. when Right Reverend R. J. Renison, M.A., D.D., Bishop of Moosonee, preaches at St. Matthew's Pro Cathedral here. Conducting the service, which will be broadcast over the nationwide network of the CBC in Canada and the BBC in Britain, will be Rev. Canon A. R. Chidwick, pastor of St. Matthew's.

The local broadcast will immediately follow the Christmas message of His Royal Highness King George the Sixth over both networks. The broadcast will be heard in Britain at 1600 hours Greenwich Mean Time, or 4 p.m., due to the change in time between this continent and Britain.

"Timmins has been selected for a great honor," Bishop Renison said. "Usually international services of this kind are broadcast from the great cathedrals in the Canadian cities. This is a tribute to the North. I will not only speak for myself and my church but for everyone in the North."

The bishop's address will be 15 minutes in length. The balance of the half hour will comprise special Christmas

services in St. Matthew's, conducted by Mr. Chidwick and with special emphasis on the 30-voice mixed choir which is directed by the pastor.

Mr. Chidwick told the Advance that he had been notified three weeks ago that the international broadcast would be held. He said that it was vitally important that the schedule of the broadcast be observed down to the last half-minute and for this reason the church doors of St. Matthew's would be locked at 11 a.m. Sunday.

The organist at St. Matthew's who will be heard by so many millions of listeners will be Mrs. R. Smiley.

"One of the things which pleases me about this is the fact that my mother will hear my voice for the first time in 12 years," Mr. Chidwick said.

The canon's mother, Mrs. E. A. Chidwick, who is in her late sixties, resides at North London, England. Present with her to celebrate Christmas will be the canon's married brother and married sister.

Bishop Renison will also have a large number of listeners who are relatives and friends. His two sons in Toronto will be listening in, as well as friends scattered across Canada and relatives in Ireland.

Alcoholics Anon. Set Up Local Group

Alcoholics Anonymous, the famous organization for the reclamation of drunkards which has spread across North America in recent years, is about to set up a unit, in Timmins. The Advance learned this week.

The group, which is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization of former alcoholics who strive to rescue fellow alcoholics from ruined lives and homes incurred by an inability to handle liquor, will take active steps to organize locally in the first of the year.

Organizer of the group is a bright cheery-eyed commercial traveller, himself a former alcoholic, who visits Timmins at regular intervals. Necessarily, he must remain anonymous, as is the policy with the organization.

This man visited The Advance last week in the company of a district physician who is also interested in assisting apparently hopeless "drunks" back to respectability.

"Our approach to the problem of alcoholism is the approach of men who have been through the mill themselves. None of the A.A.s are temperance cranks or anything like them. We recognize the fact that alcoholism is a disease with certain types of persons and we ourselves are that type of person. Through admitting that we ourselves are alcoholics and through gaining strength from our association

together, we have been able to beat the liquor problem," he said.

He said that the group wished to extend a helping hand to any district persons who were striving to quit alcohol. The group had no intention of invading anyone's personal life, he said, but if any person in the district felt that alcohol had become such a big factor in his or her life that it was getting beyond control, the group was eager to assist such persons back to normal ways of life.

"Our batting average is not 100 percent with every person who joins but it is remarkably high," he said. "It is all based on the fact that when a drunk comes to us he soon realizes that he is talking to someone who knows what it is all about, that the advice and support he is getting is from a former drunk who was probably a lot lower down the ladder than he himself. We don't preach at a man or scold him or consider him a hopeless outcast, for the very good reason we knew the facts about alcohol from first-hand experience," he stated.

The Advance is pleased to co-operate with this group in enabling interested persons to contact it. Any person who writes Box 5, the Advance, will have his or her mail turned over the A.A. in strictest confidence and a member of the group will contact the writers some time in January.

Local Liquor Stocks Perhaps Examined, Perhaps 'Twas Not

There may have been liquor control board inspectors examine the stock on sale in the local liquor store for "watering down" and there may not have been. But if there hasn't been, then the local store is probably unique in the province.

The province-wide probe took place last week and early this week as the result of the alleged watering down of Xmas cheer which took place recently at Waterloo.

The story of the manipulations in which staff members of the Board at Waterloo were accused of steaming off labels from the tops of bottles and replacing part of the liquor with tap water broke recently in Southern papers.

In this part of the country Cobalt and Kirkland Lake stores were among the first visited. Presumably all vendors in these provinces have been called upon to display their wares to the inspectors.

In response to an enquiry if stock in the local store had been examined, The Advance received the following information:

"We don't know anything about it. Write the Ontario Liquor Control Board."

Little Improvement In Gold Production

Although October gold statistics released yesterday in the monthly report of the Ontario Department of Mines reflect a general downward trend in bullion production in the mines of the province, the 15 producing mines of the Porcupine held their position and showed slight increases in tons milled and bullion output over September. However, production is still considerably less than in the year's peak month, July.

Following are comparative figures for July, August, September and October.

	tons milled	value
July	321,756	\$2,741,556
August	300,643	\$2,655,986
September	291,306	\$2,483,946
October	320,280	\$2,566,000

Part of the increase in October may be attributed to the fact that there was one more working day in that month than there was in September.

A downward trend is indicated in labor statistics. Company records show that 11,869 wage-earners were employed in the province in October

against 12,665 in July.

Throughout the province forty-five milled 617,836 tons of ore and recovered 150,471 ounces of gold and 25,032 ounces of silver valued at \$5,283,662 during October. Daily average figures show that 19,930 tons of ore were milled every day of the month and that 4,854 ounces of gold and 800 ounces of silver valued at \$170,441 were recovered. Average grade of ore at \$8.55 was the lowest since January of this year.

Following are latest production figures for other mining areas.

	tons milled	value
Jan. to Sept.	1,660,334	16,684,806
October	180,090	1,851,107
Total	1,840,424	18,535,913

Matachewan—Sudbury

	tons milled	value
Jan. to Sept.	392,871	1,445,571
October	46,587	198,156
Total	439,458	1,643,727

Northwestern Ontario

	tons milled	value
Jan. to Sept.	745,880	7,699,823
October	70,879	688,399
Total	816,759	8,388,222

Karl Eyre is Mayor By Narrow Margin

Karl Eyre, Timmins machine shop operator, was elected by a narrow margin over William Roberts in the balloting for the mayoralty of the town of Timmins last week. Mr. Eyre polled 2565, only 83 ballots in excess of Mr. Roberts' 2422.

The Slate For 1948 swept to five positions on town council. Lead by Philip Fay (2599) the Slate's candidates received the first five positions in the balloting. Official counts were: H. J. "Barney" Quinn, 2470; Urban Aubry, 2308; Fred Quesnel, 2226, and Les Bailey, 2116. Sixth seat on the Timmins council went to Leo Del Villano by 1912 votes.

J. V. Bonhomme, local insurance man, missed election by only 41 votes. He was followed by the sixth member of the Slate for 1948, Z. J. "Zig" Ostrowski, who polled 1604 votes.

Council veterans J. P. Bartleman and J. E. H. Chateauvert were both swept from office by substantial margins. Ray Stevenson, LPP organizer registered 977 votes. Finalist in the race was Sol Ansara, who obtained 191 votes.