

# SHORTAGE OF POWER MAY HIT MINES

## 1948 Council Listens To Mayor's Inaugural Address



Property  
Les Bailey

Fire and Light  
Fred Quesnel

Works  
Philip Fay

Welfare  
Leo Del Villano

Public Relations  
Urban Aubry

Finance  
Barney Quinn

## Council Starts Year Behind Closed Doors

After private discussion behind closed doors Monday morning, with Councillor Leo Del Villano absent, the five members of the Slate for 1948 decided who would run the town affairs. Their committee appointments were announced and passed at council's inaugural meeting which took place later in the morning in public.

### Appointments

Heading the town's committees this year will be: Public Works: chairman, Philip Fay; vice chairman, Barney Quinn. Finance: Chairman, Barney Quinn; vice chairman, Philip Fay. Public Relations: chairman, Urban Aubry; vice chairman, Fred Quesnel. Fire and Light: chairman, Fred Quesnel, vice chairman, Urban Aubry. Property: chairman Les Bailey; vice chairman, Leo Del Villano. Welfare: chairman, Leo Del Villano; vice chairman, Les Bailey.

Despite the fact that Mr. Del Villano was one of the two members of council who served on the 1947 council he was again given what is considered the junior post among the committees. Mr. Del Villano told the Advance that he had been notified that a meeting would take place, but that due to the fact he is a government employee he was unable to attend at that time of day.

Last year discussion of committee appointments took place in public and with all members of council present.

## Stay North, Mr. Miner! Jobs In South Ontario Far From Plentiful

Few, if any, jobs are available in the manufacturing towns and cities of Southern Ontario, according to a bulletin issued this week by the Department of Labor. After noting the recent trend of workers migrating to southern towns for employment, the bulletin says: "Nearly all available factory vacancies, even in textile manufacturing, have been filled. Employers are keeping their hiring to a minimum in the industries where the effects of import restrictions are difficult to predict. Electric power is still in short supply and has curtailed production."

## Enforce Bus Fares ... Union

The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers will bring all possible pressure to bear to see that the bus fares outlined in the transportation bylaw passed recently by the retiring 1947 Timmins town council are enforced, Ray Lachance, international representative, said this week. "The new fares are just and equitable," Mr. Lachance said, "The union is certainly interested in seeing that they are enforced and that they are not changed through some technicality or other."

He said that the matter had been under discussion among miners at all mines within the three mile radius in which fares are regulated and that at a union meeting Monday at Coniarium, union leaders were asked to see that the fares were enforced.

"We went to the town hall and asked that they be put into effect at once," Mr. Lachance said, "We were told by town officials that the interpretation of the bylaw was by no means clear and that the matter would be settled at next meeting of council on Monday." A second union official intimated that a union delegation would appear at the next meeting of council. "The reductions in bus fares are of vital importance to the workingman of the Porcupine. This is a matter which concerns every man who carries a lunch pail in Timmins," this official said.

## South End Trucker Escapes From Wreck

Paul Lamothe, 21 year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lamothe, Tisdale avenue, South Porcupine, was reported out of danger today after his escape from death last Monday afternoon when the converted army vehicle he was driving struck a freight train at the Dome level crossing.

After delivering a load of mine timbers to Dome, Lamothe's vehicle approached the level crossing too late for the driver to bring the heavy truck to a halt. After skidding almost five hundred feet, the truck struck the moving cars of the train and was hurled into the railway right of way, a twisted mass of wreckage. The driver was extricated from the wreck by miners who happened to be passing. He was rushed to Porcupine General Hospital, where X-rays showed that he had received no serious injuries.

1945 in tries to gain an Ontario legislative seat have only whetted his appetite for "the big time" in Ottawa. Liberal stalwarts in Timmins agree that when—and not if—Brunette goes to Ottawa there won't be a bench far enough back to keep him quiet when the subject of northern Ontario comes up.

## Chain Letters Reappear

Want to get rich quick? Want to make the tidy sum of \$2,048 from a \$4 investment and a postage stamp? Well, the chain letter boys are at it again in Northern Ontario, and the first crop of the easy-money missives was circulating in Timmins this week. And it was circulating with considerable speed.

This time what is claimed to be a foolproof system has been devised. Just follow the rules and you can't lose, optimistic investors in the scheme say. You see, the direct and personal approach is being used.

It works like this. You buy the letter from the person at the bottom of the list for \$2. Then you send the person at the top of the list \$2. IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PERSON FROM WHOM YOU PURCHASED THE LETTER.

So far you have laid out \$4, \$2 for the letter and \$2 for the person at the top of the list.

Now you make two copies of the letter, scratch out the name of the person at the top and add your own name at the bottom. You sell these two letters to other persons. Result: you obtain your \$4 investment back at once. And you see personally that the parties to whom you have sold the two letters fulfill their obligation by mailing in your presence \$2 to the person at the top of the list.

Sounds like a foolproof scheme and there are already several hundred people in Timmins who fervently hope it is. One letter-buyer interviewed by the Advance said that his name had moved forward five places on the list within 12 hours.

The chain letter scheme was brought into Timmins by a local salesman who bought a letter in Lachute, Quebec. His home town looking like an exceedingly green and fertile pasture for this sort of scheme, the salesman lost no time in getting things underway here.

Here is the way the letter reads: Note that the word "memo" and not "chain letter" is used: "Guaranteed!"

"Build yourself a nest egg with the Two Dollar Club!" "If you properly follow instructions this cheat-proof memo will build you and your friends a sizeable nest egg in a very short time. This is fool-proof if everyone follows the instructions and abides willingly by the rules."

Then the rules as aforementioned are outlined.

## Charges Against Drivers Headline Court Docket

Driving cases again featured the weekly docket of Timmins police court. Charges of careless driving against two motorists were dismissed while a third driver was convicted of this offence. A fourth driver was found guilty of being drunk while in charge of a vehicle.

## Classes in Weaving To Commence Feb. 9

At Wednesday's meeting of the Timmins Adult Education Group executive Mrs. E. Murphy, convener, reported that the classes in weaving at Timmins would start on February 9th. The course will be a six-week one, with experienced and fully competent instructors. Full equipment for the course will be brought here, including big looms and fifty draft patterns.

Special stress was given by Mrs. Murphy to the fact that the course in weaving is not just an ordinary hobby project but a designed plan to inaugurate a profitable industry in the North. Those taking the classes are expected to follow the work after the course is completed, and make woven articles for commercial sale. There is a very wide field for profitable work in this home art.

## Mine-Mill Chieftain Visits Here Sunday

John Clark, newly-installed International President of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union (CIO-CCLU) will be the main speaker at a public meeting and rally to be sponsored this Sunday afternoon by Timmins Mine & Smelter Local 241, union officials announced today.

Clark, a former smelter worker from Great Falls, Montana, will be in Timmins to participate in the sessions of the union's Canadian Wage Policy Committee which opens its first 1948 meeting here Saturday morning.



Clark, and other speakers, will discuss the union's Canadian wage policy and review the progress of the Mine-Mill campaign for higher wages and new contracts in other sections of the Canadian metal industry. Also scheduled to address the meeting are Mine-Mill Vice President Reid Robinson; the union in British VVG; Robert Carlin, MLA for Sudbury District and union Board Member; Harry

Murphy, regional director of the union in British Columbia; and representatives of the major gold miners local union in Northern Ontario and Quebec. Ivan Vachon, president of local 241 will chair the public meeting. Among the members of the union's top Canadian wage policy body who may also briefly address the Sunday meeting are Nels Thibault, president of the Sudbury Local 598 (the largest single local union in the Mine-Mill international), and James McFarlane, an official of the MMSW local at Kimberley, B.C.

The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Empire Theater, union officials here announced. Miner's families and friends "and all other Porcupine residents interested in the welfare of the miners and the community" are invited to attend, Local 241 president Vachon told the Advance.

The Saturday meeting of the wage policy group was called by International Union officers "to plan our 1948 wage campaign throughout the Dominion and to coordinate our entire organization in support of the gold miners' demands for a substantial wage increase," a local International Union staff representative stated.

In the official call for the meeting, issued by Mine-Mill International headquarters, particular emphasis was given to the importance of the wage campaign in the gold industry, as well as in the rest of the jurisdiction of our union in Canada is more important now than ever," the call declared.

A reception party in honor of Mr. Clark has also been planned by local unionists as part of their weekend activities as hosts to the out-of-town representatives and officials. The reception will take place at the Timmins Union Hall Saturday evening at 8.

## Increase In Output Curtailed

The acute shortage of electric power in North Ontario will likely eliminate any possibility of expanding the output of gold mines in the Porcupine camp till after the Spring break-up, the Advance learned this week. Local mines have been planning methods of increasing output in order to take advantage of the subsidy for additional production recently announced by Ottawa.

"We are operating at absolute capacity," a spokesman of the Hydro Electric Power Commission told the Advance. "Unless there is an unreasonable thaw to provide more water the mines will probably be effected."

The pulp and paper industry in the North — at Kapuskasing, Iroquois Falls and Smooth Rock Falls — has already been forced to cut production due to the critical shortage of water to drive the turbines of power plants.

"Everything depends on the weather," the Hydro representative said. "If there is a thaw on a wide-spread basis we will be able to generate more power. Otherwise there is nothing we can do."

A graphic illustration of what has happened to electric power production in North Ontario is gained from the Hydro's report for November which was published this week.

Actual loads for North Ontario properties for a maximum 20-minute peak were 193,487 kilowatts, an increase of eight percent over the same month a year ago.

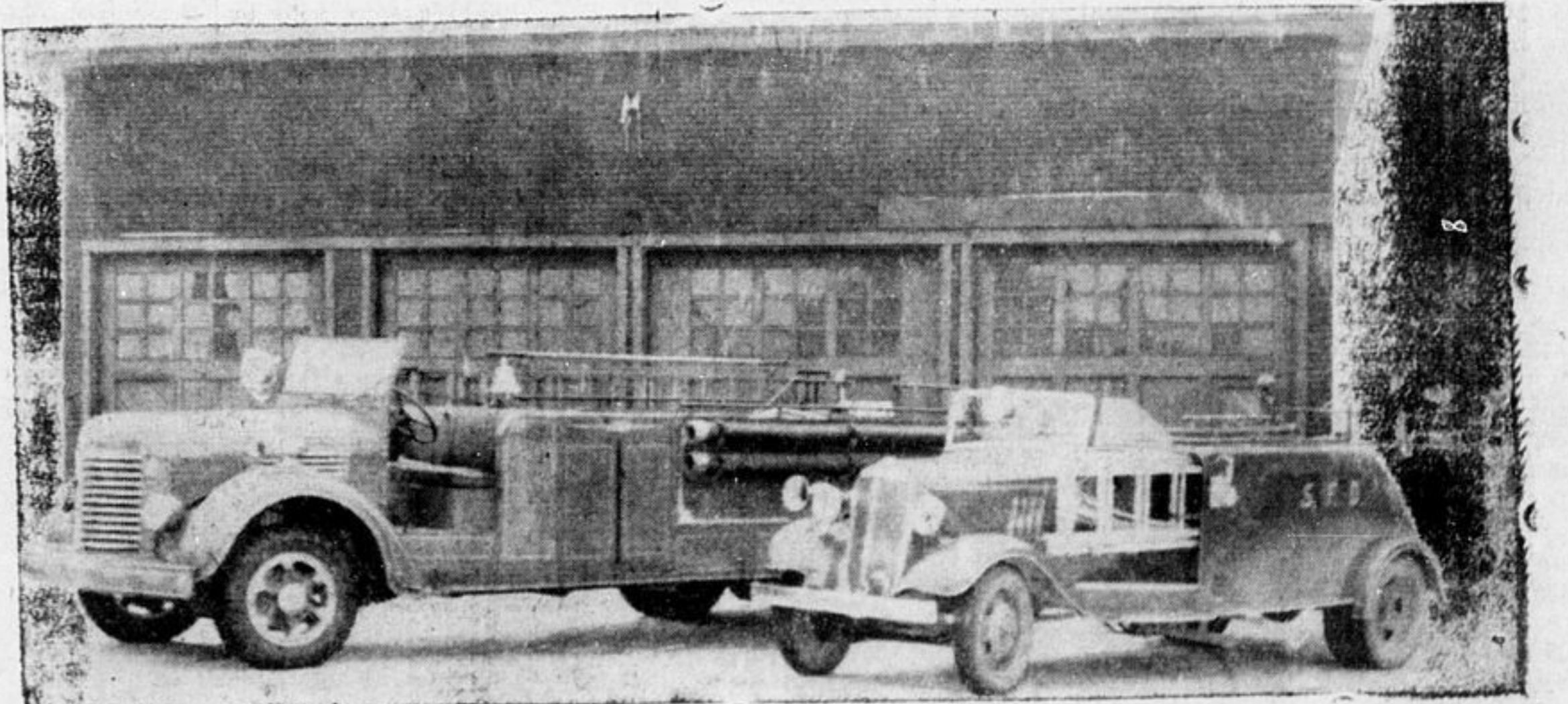
Meanwhile, the total power generated and purchased was 193,397 or LESS than the loads demanded.

At the same time, due to the shortage of water the total power generated and purchased had dropped from 214,794 kilowatts in the same month in the previous year.

Or in other words, actual power production in the North dropped by 10 percent, while demands increased 8 percent. Hence the predicament in which Northern Ontario industry finds itself today.

## Chief Lepic Warns Drivers

Police Chief Albert Lepic reiterated his warning this week that local motorists must take added precautions due to the slippery conditions of the town streets. The chief pointed as an example to the accident at the level crossing at Dome mine in which the truck driven by Paul Lamothe was wrecked and the driver injured. "This truck skidded a distance of 500 feet," the chief said. "This should be ample evidence to all drivers that extra care must be taken due to the condition of the roads."



PROVES ITS WORTH: Pictured above is the new 600-gallon-per-minute pumper which was received by Schumacher Fire Department at New Years. Beside it is the smaller fire truck which has been in use in the town for a number of years. The new pumper, formerly equipment used by the RCAF at a Saskatchewan airport, was put to good use last night when fire broke out in the Recreation hotel. Advance Photo

## Heavy Damage in Schumacher Hotel Fire; Chief Injured, New Truck Proves Worth

The new Bickle Seagrave pumper acquired at New Year's by the Schumacher fire department made its debut as a piece of working equipment last night at 11:45 p.m. when Schumacher firemen rushed to the Recreation hotel to quell a blaze which was gaining considerable headway.

Five hotel rooms were damaged and loss is estimated to be between \$3000 and \$4000. The fire broke out as the result of a cigarette burning in a chesterfield in a room on the second floor.

Fire Chief Charlie Juskesh received a severe cut to the hand when an upstairs window blew out as he was mounting a ladder to the flames. Glass from the broken window scattered about the chief and struck his hand.

Firemen had two hoses playing on the fire within two and one half minutes after the alarm was received. The blaze was quickly brought under control.

Last night's fire was the most serious in Schumacher in more than a year. Fire losses during all of 1947 were practically negligible.

The new Bickle Seagrave pumper which has been added to the Schumacher department is a piece of excellent force equipment which was used during the war at a Saskatchewan airport. It is a "triple combination" affair, consisting of a pump, a hose body and ladders.

The new pumper will throw 600 gallons of water per minute. It carries 1,200 feet of 2 1/2 inch hose and a 32 foot ladder.

"We are mighty pleased to get the new pumper," Fire Chief Juskesh told the Advance. "It proved its value last night."

Schumacher fire brigade consists of 24 volunteer members. Deputy Chief is "Mac" MacMillan. In the eyes of Schumacher residents it is something of an honor to belong to the fire brigade and there is a long waiting list of applicants for membership.

Schumacher is adequately provided with facilities to fight fires in any part of town. There are 38 street hydrants and water pressure varies between 90 and 100 pounds, a high standard. There are sixteen alarm boxes in town. Moreover, although volunteers, three firemen reside in the top of the fire hall ready for any emergency.

Volunteer response to calls is excellent, with a year-round average of 20 firemen appearing when alarms are given.