

# Town Tax Rate Jumps 6 Mills

## S.S. Rate Likely 85 P.S. Between 69-70 No Living Bonus

The tax rate of the town of Timmins will be increased by approximately six mills, the Advance learned from an authoritative source this morning. This would raise the separate school rate to approximately 85 mills, while the public school rate will be between 69 and 70 mills.

It is not expected that the budget will be publicly announced till next Tuesday or Wednesday.

A feature of the budget will be the fact that no cost of living bonus will be granted town employees. However, town employees received their routine raises according to a previous salary schedule when they obtained their pay checks Wednesday.

For every night of the past three weeks town fathers have been in session in an effort to pare the town's expenditures down to a minimum. They faced a big problem for when the original requests of all the town's boards and departments were made it appeared that the tax rate would reach a stratospheric level. If all requests had been granted, the separate school rate would have been 91.97 mills and the public school rate 75.88 mills.

## Town Bylaw Against Wed Women Working?

Among the letters to council presented at this week's meeting of the town fathers was a letter from a resident protesting the employment of married women. The writer suggested that the town pass a bylaw prohibiting such women from working anywhere in the municipality.

"We can pass bylaws about a lot of things," said town clerk Victor Salocma, "but this is something over which we have no authority."

He added a subdued, "Thank goodness."

The letter to council follows:  
Timmins, Ontario,  
April 7, 1948.

Timmins Town Council,  
Town Hall—Timmins,  
Ontario.  
Attention: Town Clerk  
Dear Sir:

A lot has been said recently in regard to married women working. In a town the size of Timmins, it is not fair to employ married women when so many of our young girls have to leave town to seek a position or be told at the Employment Bureau that there is nothing for them.

The Timmins Town Council should take this matter up at their meetings and discuss it as to the feasibility of passing a by-law prohibiting married women being employed where one of our high school girls, with very little training on the part of the employer, could be just as efficient.

The Timmins Board of Trade and the Timmins Retail Merchants Association should also discuss this issue at their weekly meeting. The principal of the Timmins High and Vocational School should interest himself in having an outlet for the students graduating every year. Mothers who have girls of working age walking the streets should insist that something be done about this matter right away.

I would suggest that you see your representative in the Council, also the Mayor, as to the importance of this question.

Please do not misunderstand me, I am not speaking of the widows or the married women whose husbands are so incapacitated that they cannot support their families, but rather to the married women whose husbands are in well-paying positions. Through my observation while in department stores and business offices, I could give you the names of at least 125 married women that could be replaced nicely by single girls.

The question is—what is going to be done about it, if anything?  
A Taxpayer

A woman charged with permitting a dog to run at large was dismissed in police court this week. She said the dog was her husband's.

## Says We Don't Know Color Of Porcupine

The residents of the Porcupine do not realize the tourist possibilities of this district, according to Deputy Minister Thomas McCaul of the Ontario Department of Travel and Publicity. Mr. McCaul was guest speaker here last night at a joint meeting of the district's Lions Clubs.

"You probably don't realize the color this place possesses as a frontier mining town," Mr. McCaul stated. "The place has tremendous possibilities as a tourist centre if properly publicized."

He said that during 1947, 24,000,000 Americans crossed the border into Canada and of this number 18,000,000 came

## Trucker Demands Probe

For a time in police court here Tuesday it appeared that a local trucker was going to be removed to the police cells for contempt of court. He was charged with having a truck parked illegally on Wilson avenue overnight.

"I am going to fight it," he replied vigorously when Magistrate S. Atkinson asked him if he pleaded guilty or not guilty.

Police testified that they had first seen the truck at 3 a.m. and had returned to find it in the same place at 5 a.m.

"What about the two other trucks on the other side of the road?" the accused asked belligerently. "One of them has been there for five months and the other for three. They are there every night and they don't get tickets."

"We are trying your case and not their cases," said the magistrate.

The man continued to remonstrate loudly. "There should be an investigation. I reported this to police and nothing was done. Why can they park there every night without getting tickets? All I want is justice to be done."

"We are not trying their cases," repeated the magistrate.

"I reported this to the police commission and nothing has been done," the trucker said.

"When did you report it to the police commission? I am a member of the police commission and I certainly never heard anything about it," said the cad.

"Maybe I didn't report it to the police commission, but I reported it to the police themselves. They did not do anything. And another thing, why do they charge \$2.50 costs here when costs in Toronto are \$1? Why is this?"

"I'll take no more of your impudence. You will be going downstairs if you don't be quiet. Was your truck parked there or not?"

The man admitted that his vehicle had been in the location police had claimed. He was fined \$1 and costs.

Normally, when a case is settled out of court costs are \$2.50. However, when a case goes to court they are higher. The trucker paid a total of \$6.50.



**WORK OF LOCAL ARTIST** Mrs. Joseph Berini, 5 Hemlock street, proudly surveys the work of her son, Clement, 18, local youth who is a student at the private art school of Professor J. Lesperance, of Montreal. Clement, who was born in Timmins, has been studying at the school since last October. Already a skilled amateur artist when he went to Montreal, the local youth's talent is expanding steadily under instruction, as the above paintings testify. Clement is equally at home in water colors and oils. He is a former student of St. Anthony's school and, prior to studying art professionally attended the Seminary of the Sacred Heart at Ottawa.

## Thumbs Down on Grocery, Balsam St. Residents Say

Residents on Balsam street S. don't want any more corner groceries on their street. This week town clerk Victor Salocma read a petition signed by 25 residents of the street asking council not to authorize the establishment of a grocery at 63 Balsam street S.

### NOTHING TO SAY

It is not very frequent that J. P. Bartleman, ex-councillor who faithfully attends the meetings of the present council, has nothing to say. But such was the case last Monday, when Mayor Karl Evre asked Mr. Bartleman if he had anything to present to council. "No, no," said J. P., shaking his head.

## Rise in Gold Inevitable, Jules R. Timmins States

At the annual meeting of Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines last week, Jules R. Timmins, president of Canada's largest gold producer, re-affirmed his faith in the gold mining industry. Addressing company directors, he said:

"The natural questions in your minds might well be—what of Hollinger's future? Why do I remain a Hollinger shareholder? Can any improvement be expected in the gold mining industry?"

"In spite of the march of Communism in the world, faith in the inherent value of gold appears to be stronger than ever before. For centuries metallurgical has proven the reliable yardstick for commerce and international trade, its basic value steadily increasing through the years. As the president of one of the United States largest gold mines put it so aptly recently in New York, 'This faith in gold is maintained and strengthened by the very conditions which create the temporary difficulties of the producers, that is inflation through the vast increase in debt and monetary obligations of our own and practically all major governments.'"

"During the past two years there have been numerous rumours regarding a general currency devaluation in regard to gold. Although I am not prepared to hazard a guess as to when such a devaluation will take place, I agree that it is inevitable and based on the devalued value of paper money. I believe that the increase in the price of gold, when it comes, will be substantial."

"Therefore, if my reasoning be correct, any company having large reserves of ore, even though such ore may be marginal under present conditions, is in a favorable long-term position, always provided that such company has the resources to carry it through the interim period. The gold industry, like all industries, has its cycles, good and bad. At the present time we are in a bad cycle, but we do not expect this condition to continue."

## Wife Gives Birth To Twin Daughters; Father Can't Pay \$20 Fine, Is Jailed

It looked like a routine case where a drunk had done damage to property, but it was not. There was something close to tragedy in the matter.

It happened in police court here this week when a local man appeared before Magistrate S. Atkinson on a charge of wilful damage to a Cedar street hotel front.

But stones at the corners of Algonquin and Pine and Cedar and Third avenue will be moved slightly, council decided this week. They will be moved back in order not to interfere with traffic at the new stop lights.

The charge was laid by the hotelman after a charge of drunkenness by police was dropped. Alphonse Robillard, of the St. Charles hotel, took the stand to testify that the man had been causing a disturbance in the hotel last Saturday and that he had been ejected. He said that after the man had been ejected he had put his foot through the plate glass window of the door.

The man said nothing in his own defence. Magistrate S. Atkinson sentenced him to a fine of \$20 and costs, plus \$11 damages for the window, or 30 days in jail.

The man did not have money to pay his fine, so he went to Montiel Wednesday. He is still there.

Where is the tragedy? Well, on the day before the man was arrested his wife gave birth to twin daughters in South Porcupine General Hospital. She is still there.

Meanwhile the other children in the family have been taken into custody of the Children's Aid Society.

## TO THE EDITOR

April 5, 1948

The Editor,  
Porcupine Advance.

Dear Sir:

I wonder if you would have a little space left in your paper to print this letter. I would like to express my views on the St. Cyr murder trial. The many people of Timmins and for hundreds of miles around were shocked to hear the verdict handed down by the jury.

Mrs. Clara St. Cyr confessed she had killed her husband while he was asleep. Supposing all the lies that were brought in before the court were true. She could have easily left him and his home and taken with her the children she so dearly loved, and still claimed support for herself and children.

The law of the country and the law of God says "Thou shalt not kill," unless for self defence. And she took the law of the country in her own hands. The jury gave her credit for her wrong doings. The public were very shocked to hear she had been freed. She should have been sentenced as any other person, whether it be man or woman, for the killing she admitted she herself had done.

Now that she has been freed, any woman desiring to have her husband out of the way could just reach for the axe, and while he is asleep commit the same offence. I am not a

Miner

## High Costs Require Rail Hike -- Reynolds

### District's First Robin Noted At South End

The first robin to appear in the Porcupine district was reported yesterday by Mrs. Maxwell Smith, Advance representative at South Porcupine.

"I glanced out the window at breakfast and there he was singing away in a tree on the front lawn," Mrs. Smith said today. "He was back there again this morning."

## Anti-Reds Invite P. Conroy

An invitation is being extended to Pat Conroy, secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Congress of Labor, to visit the Porcupine within the next few weeks, Ralph Carlin, business agent of Local 241, said today.

"It will be a big boost to the democratic-thinking miners of the district if Mr. Conroy comes here," he said. "We are hoping that he will arrive the Sunday after next. When he does come, a meeting will be held which will be open to all the public."

It was Mr. Conroy who proposed to supply union organizers to replace Communist-line organizers among the miners of the North. Mr. Conroy's proposals, together with the government's ban on American Reds, was the major factor in creating the present rift in the International Union of Mine Mill and Smelter Workers.

Meanwhile, little change in union affairs has taken place here since last Sunday, when at a packed meeting in the union hall several hundred miners emphatically rejected the Red elements and proposals. The union hall on Algonquin boulevard is still in the

The Ontario Northland Railway is just as much in need of the coming increase in freight rates as any other Canadian railway, Col. G. E. Reynolds, Chairman of the ONR, said in an interview with The Advance yesterday. "Cost of operation of the road have mounted steadily and the proposed 21 percent increase in rates is not as impressive as it first appears," Col. Reynolds said. "The point is that two of our biggest items, coal and pulpwood are affected only slightly by the increase. With coal there will be no increase whatever in rates, while with pulpwood the increase is almost negligible. These two commodities account for a very large proportion of our revenue."

He pointed out that at the present time railway employees were asking for a wage increase across the board of 30 cents per hour.

"I am not sure how much our employees will obtain, but it is certain that they will receive something. It is probable that their increases will match the entire increase in revenue due to the hike in freight rates," he declared.

He stated that it was estimated that the increase in rates would mean only an increase between \$700,000 and \$1,000,000 during the year, due to the fact that pulpwood and coal are not included.

"Due to the increase wages for employees and increased costs of materials our operating costs per year have increased \$2,000,000 since 1943," he declared. "In addition there is a great deal of deferred maintenance which will have to be done this year, amounting at least to \$300,000. This is in addition to our routine maintenance. . . . The replacements must be made as well as rail replacements. In many places widening of banks must be done. All these things were overlooked during the war due to a lack of men and materials."

He said that another objective of the road was to build up a reserve of half a million treated, seasoned railway ties. Lately the road has been using green ties, which only have a life of four and one half years in contrast of 24-28 years for treated ties.

"Railway ties are a good example of how operating costs have increased. Green ties were formerly \$1.15 apiece and now they are \$1.85. Rails are up more than 65 percent," he said.

## Another Bylaw Is Passed Offering Reward Of \$25.

You would think that if the town council passed one bylaw authorizing a reward of \$25 for the arrest of a person ringing in a false alarm that would be sufficient. Such is not the case; a separate bylaw has to be passed after each alarm.

This week council authorized the usual reward for apprehension of the person who rang in a false alarm on April 11.

## Vet With Money To Pay Almost Sent To Cells

A one-legged war vet who was sentenced to \$25 and costs or 15 days in jail in police court this week on a charge of creating a disturbance almost got shepherded into the line-up of prisoners scheduled for Montiel.

Not aware of court procedure, he seated himself after his case was heard and did not go to the desk to pay his fine. When court ended he was told to get into the line-up heading for the cells. "But I've got the money," he protested. He was told where to pay his fine and left the building.

## Convention of April 3rd and 4th.

A vote of no confidence was given International Vice President Reid Robison, International Representatives Harlow Wildman, William Kennedy, R. A. LaChance, Oliver Breton, and Publicity Directors Henry Myers and Horowitz, and the International Executive Board were requested to remove them.

The membership reaffirmed its position on the thirty-five cent per hour wage increase which was recommended by the Wage Policy Convention held last January. It was also agreed to the setting up of the provisional committee for organizing in the district. Ivan Vachon, this local's president, was elected to this committee as the Timmins representative.

It was further agreed that no per capita tax would be paid into the International office until the suspension of the local's executive officers had been lifted and until the proposals of the Canadian Congress of Labour had been accepted by the International Executive Board.



RALPH CARLIN