

The Porcupine Advance

PHONE 26

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

Members Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association; Ontario-Quebec Newspaper Association

Published every Thursday by Merton W. Lake

Subscription Rates:

Canada \$2.00 Per Year. United States: \$3.00 Per Year

Timmins, Ontario, Thursday April 22nd, 1948

40 YEARS A MAGISTRATE

The Advance wishes to express unreserved congratulations to Magistrate S. Atkinson who has completed 40 years on the bench...

No harsh, humorless autocrat, his court has been the scene of justice tempered with kindness and mercy...

He is a credit to the administration of justice in this section of the land and the Advance wishes him many more years of useful service to the citizens of the North.

WANTED: A MINISTER OF MINES

Despite the short notice of one week, the political pot is already boiling in the North. The three major parties, Conservative, Liberal and CCF are already making plans for intensive electioneering.

Speculation is rife concerning who will be the candidates to oppose each other when the day of balloting arrives...

Chief subject under discussion among the politics of the district is who will be the candidates for the Liberals and the Conservatives. Many names are mooted but principally for the Liberals J. Emile Brunette, ex-mayor of Timmins and Reeve Ann Shipley of Teck township are mentioned.

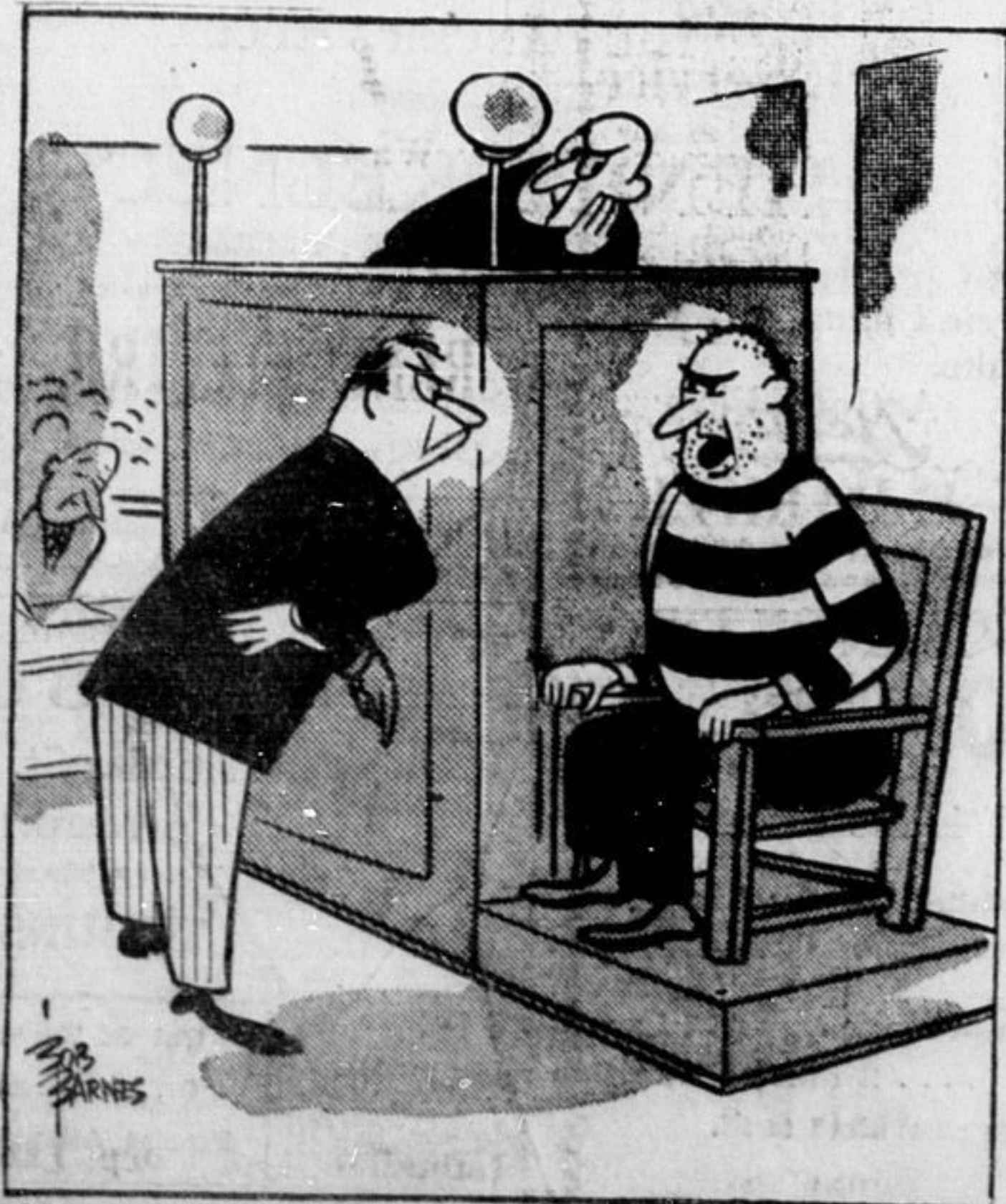
While this paper has considerable respect for the capabilities and sincerity of Mr. Grummett, it is inclined to believe that the CCF member will have a stiff fight on his hands on June 7.

In the second place, it is about time that this district had someone in Queen's Park who knows the mining business from the ground up---who understands its problems and who knows what remedies are required to bring it back to flourishing life.

With all respect to Mr. Grummett, the only person now sitting in Queen's Park who is acquainted thoroughly with mining is Robert Carlin of Sudbury. However, Carlin is no asset to the industry or its employees.

But if a businesslike mine manager such as Mr. Saxton---who has an excellent record of fair treatment of his employees should prove to be the representative of this district as a member of the party in power, much might be expected for the North.

There is always the possibility that such a man would be appointed Minister of Mines, for at present Provincial Treasurer Frost is doubling in this role principally for the lack of a suitable man to fill it.



"What'cha think I am? An ol' Tattle-Tale?"

In The Days When The Porcupine Was Young

By G. A. Macdonald

No. 48. Motion Pictures In Timmins In The Early Days

Since the very early days, Timmins has always had a large number of motion picture fans, and these fans have fared unaccountably well, the accommodation, and the pictures shown, being of the very best, in relation to the times and the circumstances.

It was the late T. F. King who brought the first motion pictures to Timmins. Just a little later, Leo Mascioli and associates fitted up the Empire Theatre in the block on the north side of Third Avenue between Pine and Cedar streets, about where the Dominion Stores now are located.

Late in 1916, the New Empire Theatre was built and equipped by Leo Mascioli, P. M. Bardessono and Charles Pierce, and the first Empire Theatre became the "Old Empire Theatre."

The Old Empire Theatre was used occasionally for special shows, and for matinees for children. It was also available on Sundays for church services.

Although the New Empire Theatre was a frame building, covered with metal sheeting for additional fire protection, it was a very creditable amusement place for the town at that time. It had a seating capacity of 600 or 700, but often more than a thousand had to be accommodated, particularly at the patriotic meetings so frequently held those days.

P. M. Bardessono made an ideal manager for the original New Empire Theatre. He was a stickler for order and decorum in the theatre, and he had the shrewd opinion that if certain common conventions were observed carefully, there would be perfect order as a matter of routine.

His theory was fully proven by results. The stranger in town who forgot to remove his hat in the theatre would hear from "Pete" very promptly. The first sound of loud talking or disorder would find Pete right on the spot.

Another factor that helped Pete keep the theatre on the high plane he desired was the fact that he had the talent of securing the best pictures available as soon as they were issued. He seemed to have an uncanny judgment as to which pictures would be acclaimed here.

Once in a while he would be in doubt in the matter in regard to some particular picture. In that case he would secure the film and give it a private showing to a group of the local picture fans.

On their judgement he would decide whether or not the film would be a success; here at the extra cost that would be required to bring it here soon after its issue. It was a common thing in the early days for the Advance to point out that some noted or popular picture was shown in Timmins before it was shown in Toronto.

The New Empire was equipped only for the silent films, the "talkies" not being known at that time. When the talkies were established, the present New Empire Theatre was built on the site of the original New Empire Theatre.

It is true that the old silent pictures lacked much of the finish of the films of today. At the same time, there were films thirty-odd years ago that will remain in memory as outstanding examples of art and dramatic talent.

The Bluebird Pictures, for example, were of such merit as would make them attractive even to this day. Some of those silent films of 1916, 1917 and 1918 were described as spectacular, colossal, stupendous. And so they were. For example, there was the war picture, "Sea-Defence." It showed battleships, acrobatics, 50,000 troops, 3,000 horses, and a cast of over 400.

There was a traditional story at the time that a local Scotsman demanded his money back, because he said there were only 2,997 horses in the drama.

Other war pictures that had much of the spectacular were: "The King's Visit to the Front," "War as it Really Is," "Hearts of the World," "Hearts of Humanity," "The Battle of Courcette," "Liberty," "The Pearl of the Army," and "The Battle Fronts."

No listing of the spectacular would be complete without special reference to two remarkable classics of the moving picture art -- "The Birth of a Nation," shown here in 1916, and "Intolerance," in 1917.

In the films shown at the original New Empire Theatre there were many where the plays, or the artists, or both, were deservedly famous. Such a list would include: Theda Bara in "Romeo and Juliet"; "The Divine Sarah Bernhardt" in "Mothers of France"; Douglas Fairbanks in "In Again, Out Again"; George M. Cohan in "Broadway Jones"; Anna Pavlova in "The Dumb Girl of Portici"; William Farnum in "Fighting Blood"; C. Aubrey Smith in "The Witching Hour"; Helen Ware in "The Garden of Allah"; William Russell in "Pride and the Man."

Should any old-timer deplore the present tendency to "sexiness" in the films of to-day, and suggest that it was not so in the early days, it would be well to call his attention to some popular films thirty-odd years ago.

For instance, there was the film, "The Girl Who Did Not Care," shown at the New Empire in 1917. The advertising said that the original title of the picture was "The Sex Lure," but the Motion Picture License Commission for New York had personally changed the title to "The Girl Who Did Not Care." The picture was heralded as "a warning to wives" and a lesson to husbands. Most people were disappointed in this picture -- one way, or the other. "Pete's" apology was to the effect that the censors must have spoiled the film.

Another one that was expected (or hoped) to be of the "rich" type was the picture, "Beware Strangers." In his advertisement of this film, Pete said it was "the one and only film that made New Yorkers gasp and shocked Chicagoans." It was another disappointment. There was neither shock nor gasp here; just a few giggles here and there.

Serials were popular here in the days of the original New Empire. One of the favourites was Mrs. Vernon Castle in "Paris." Another was "The Lass of the Lumberlands," 15 episodes, featuring Helen Holmes. Then, of course, there was Pearl White, who had a host of fans, who worried from week to week over the dangers and difficulties into which Pearl wandered, to be left at the crucial moment "to be continued next week." Many a time the poor girl was left hanging over a cliff or tied on a railway track for a full week.

Other favourites at the New Empire Theatre included: Francis Ford, in "Poisoned Lips"; J. Walter Kerrigan, in "A Son of the Immortals"; Clara Kimball Young, in "The Common Law"; Theda Bara, in "The Serpent"; William Farnum, in "A Man of Sorrows"; Clara Kimball Young, in "The Price She Paid"; Alice Brady, in "Dancer's Peril"; Lillian Walker, in "The Last of the Age"; Anita Stewart, in "The Girl Philippa."

Few of the names in the above lists will be familiar to present-day readers. This applies to the names of plays as well as the names of actors and actresses. C. Aubrey Smith and Anita Stewart are two names that will be familiar to present-day people, and the name of Douglas Fairbanks is kept alive by the son who followed the original Douglas Fairbanks on the stage at Hollywood. The majority of names, however, have joined the limbo of forgotten folks, though it must be admitted that the types of pictures have not changed as much as might be expected.

Inspector Fagend Is Simply Ka-Razy Over Vital Facts

In the last episode of this tale we left our hero being interviewed by Inspector Isadore Fagend, noted criminologist of the C.I.B. The Inspector had rushed from Toronto to investigate the mysterious theft of Hatrack, Wilbur's educated moose. As the episode closed the Inspector was obtaining vital statistics on the missing animal.

"Height?" asked the inspector. "Seven feet, one inch," replied Wilbur. "Tail isn't he? Weight?" "1,100 pounds."

"Color of eyes?" "Brown." "Color of hair?" "Brown." "Fair, dark or medium complexion?" Wilbur scratched his head. "Medium, I suppose you would say."

"Married or single?" "Single, as far as I know." "Bearded or clean-shaven?" Wilbur gaped. "You got me. I don't know what you would call him."

"Well, d'd he have hair on his face?" asked the Inspector irritably. "He did."

"Then evidently he's bearded. Now, what about his personal habits? Did he smoke, drink or go with the girls who do?" "Well, he hasn't been in civilization long enough to acquire the first two habits, though he probably will in time," said Wilbur. "In regard to the third, I cannot say. Sometimes he has a rather crafty look in his eye."

"Ha," exclaimed the inspector, "There may be a female at the bottom of the case. Shershay la femme! Say have you got any beer in the house?"

Wilbur departed to the cellar and returned presently, bringing a case of brew. The inspector produced a bottle opener from his vest pocket and ripped the caps off two bottles. He drank his pint at a single gulp.

"Ah," he exclaimed, "Now, on with the investigation!" "By all means," said Wilbur.

"What was he wearing? Was his suit grey, brown or black. Tailored to measure or ready-made. Did his clothing bear any trade labels? What kind of a hat did he have on?"

"He was naked except for a brown fur coat," replied Wilbur. "He was hairless, though he was wearing two large ornaments on his head called horns. They are standard equipment with most moose of the male gender."

"Brown fur coat," wrote the inspector, "Hairless. He was wearing horns, eh? That should be a real distinguishing mark. Can't confuse him with a horse now, doncha know?"

"Right," said Wilbur, "Have another beer." "Don't mind if I do," replied the great man. He yanked another bottle out of the carton. This time he tore the cap off with his teeth as Wilbur gazed in admiration.

"Did he have any enemies? Did anybody write him threatening letters or did he receive mysterious phone calls?" "Not that I know of," replied the ex-scribe.

"Too bad," sighed the inspector, "It would lend an element of mystery to the case. A case is not much use if there is no mystery attached. Now, what did he like to eat?"

"He was a vegetarian, but aside from that he would eat anything. He was fond of carrots, beets, turnips, hay, oats, anything in that line. And it appeared he had a sweet tooth for ladies' hats. He enjoyed a lady's hat just like you and I enjoy a T-bone steak. He also liked sawdust; in fact he would eat it like porridge."

"You have said enough!" cried the inspector, leaping to his feet. "The case is solved." He grabbed the telephone, shouted for local police headquarters.

"Calling all cars!" he cried, "Inspector Isadore Fagend speaking. Throw armed guards around all hat shops, saw-mills and vegetable stores. Act at once! Put ten men on every location. Be on the lookout for a man-- I mean a moose seven feet tall, wearing a brown fur coat and two appendages sticking out of his head. Answers to the name of Smith. First name Hatrack. Medium complexion, brown eyes, brown hair. To your posts at once!"

He slammed down the receiver, grabbed it again, shouted for the Daily Press.

"Fagend speaking," he cried, "Inspector Isadore Fagend of the C.I.B. Send your eight best reporters to McCafferty's bearding house. . . What, you haven't got eight? Exclusive story on the missing moose. Brilliant sleuth solves moose mystery. Send four photographers. Police genius advances iron-clad theory. Predicts animal recovered immediately, if not sooner. Send your entire staff, including the general manager!"

The great man put down the telephone. He leaned back on the sofa as Wilbur gazed in admiration.

"There," said Fagend, "I told you you'd get action. Open another beer."

DALE CARNEGIE Author of "How to Win Friends and Influence People"

DEVELOPING THE FINE ART OF COURTESY

If you walk into a man's office, or his home, and he treats you rudely, you dislike him for all time. Even though he may some day attempt to undo his former rudeness, he can never entirely obliterate it.

Then take these truths home to yourself. If you have never developed the Fine Art of Courtesy, do so now. Here are three rules to practise which will see you through:

1. Show your desire to please. Joseph C. Grew, our former ambassador to Japan, says that the desire to please evinces an "I-want-to-like-you-spirit." And if you show a man that you like him, it isn't possible for him to dislike you.

2. Smile. I don't mean a silly grin for there's nothing as treacherous as a perpetual grin. Some politicians practise this method of winning friends and they couldn't make a greater mistake. Listen and you'll hear your constituents say "I wish he'd wipe that silly grin off his face," and "Doesn't he know that the business of this country is sometimes a serious matter?"

3. Treat the other fellow as you want to be treated. This rule alone would probably do the trick, but the other two make it sure-fire. Written hundreds of years ago, you've heard of it as the Golden Rule, and it is plagiarized from the Holy Bible. Any rule that has worked so many years must have gotten results. There never has been, and there never will be, a rule more important nor more effective than this one. Try it out!

T. Morrow morning start out with the intent to show courtesy to all with whom you come in contact throughout the day. I'd love to know your thoughts when you check up tomorrow night. I'd be willing to bet that you promise yourself a repeat performance.

Robert Carlin Given Lambasting in House

Robert Carlin, CCF representative for Sudbury, and board member of the International Union of Mine Mill and Smelter Workers, has come in for some harsh criticisms lately for his connections with the Communists.

Following is what Edward A. Mac Gillivray, Liberal member for Glangarry had to say in a recent debate in the house at Queen's Park:

"The CCF in particular should clean house. There are too many Red-tinted members of the CCF. They should be made to declare themselves for what they are instead of masquerading as Socialists."

"I have yet to hear the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Carlin) definitely refute the charge that he is a party-line follower of the 'Reds.' He claims he is content to leave it to the members of his union to pass judgement on him in this respect."

"That will not suffice for the general public. He sits in this House as a member of the CCF, and when I say that, I challenge him to get up and prove that they have not got more pseudo-Communists in their ranks than the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Carlin). And remember this, I am not challenging the hon. member (Mr. Carlin) with being one, but he has not concretely denied that charge to my satisfaction, Mr. Speaker, and not, I believe, to your complete satisfaction."

MR. G. ANDERSON (Fort William): "Mr. Speaker, I do not want to interrupt the hon. member (Mr. MacGillivray)."

MR. MacGILLIVRAY: "I will be through in a moment. You can sit down and make a big speech afterwards."

"That will not suffice for the general public. The hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Carlin) sits in this house as a member of the CCF. Yet prominent members of his union are known to be carrying on the subversive doctrines of Soviet Russia. The hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Carlin), if he is true to the party to which he claims allegiance should leave no doubt in the minds of all of us as to his stand on this menacing movement."

SOME HCN. MEMBERS: "Hear, hear."

Questions and Answers

Iroquois Falls, Ontario

Editor: Porcupine Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir:

Can you tell me anything about the Rosierucians?

Frankly, I'm interested in the matter but am somewhat confused because, judging by the announcements appearing in various papers and magazines, there must be more than one body by that name -- but which is pseudo and which isn't?

A reply through your questions and answers column will be satisfactory if you think the information of interest to any other of your readers.

Sincerely yours Subscriber

ANSWER: While no data on the Rosierucians is available locally, it is recalled that they are but one of a number of strange religious sects which seem to flourish under the warm sun of California. If there are two of them, there are probably two too many. To distinguish which of the two is pseudo is beyond the ratiocinations of the editor of this paper. Both are probably harmless, however, providing the admission fee to the society is not too heavy a strain on the pocketbook.

D.D.

Witnesses Convened Without Incident

Some 450 mild-mannered persons filled into the Empire theatre here last Sunday at the semi-annual gathering of the Northern Ontario Circuit of the Jehovah's Witnesses. In contrast with the troubled meetings which the sect has experienced in other sections of the country, the meeting here proceeded harmoniously and without incident.

Speaker was L. K. Greenless of the Watchtower Society at Toronto. An Advance reporter covering the meeting found nothing in his address betelling other religions or the government.

However, he predicted the direst of fates for those who persecute Jehovah's Witnesses. He declared that enemies of the sect would "bite the dust" and that "their bodies would lie on the ground unwept and unburied" on the day of Armageddon, a war which is supposed to destroy the world of today. According to Mr. Greenless, Armageddon is in the "immediate future." He declared that "at the atomic bomb and other man-made contraptions would be as 'mule-sticks or egg-shells' against the onslaughts of the vengeful legions of Jehovah."

TENDERS

Construction of Sewer and Watermains

The Town of Timmins invites Tenders for the Construction of 7800 feet of Sewer and Water Mains Program of work, specifications, form of Tender, etc., may be had on application to the Town Engineer.

Tenders must be submitted not later than 4 p.m., E.S.T., April 30th, 1948, and must be marked "Tenders for Sewer and Watermains".

The right is reserved to reject any or all tenders.

Timmins, Ont. April 22nd, 1948 V Salomaa Clerk