



WHO WILL PAY? That was the question proposed at the meeting of the Timmins Police Commission on Tuesday evening. Town police have been guarding the union hall, day and night, for the past two weeks as the result of the altercation which took place between the Kennedy-led faction and the anti-Communists. To avoid trouble police closed the hall to both groups and posted three constables in eight-hour shifts to guard the hall. Pictured above is Constable Reg McLean. It appears likely today that either or both factions of the union will be presented with a man-sized bill from the local police department. Advance Photo

I. U. M. M. S. W. IS REJECTED NEW UNION IS FORMING

River Drive Is On

The log drive in this district commenced early this week and today along the rivers and creeks of the North logs are booming down skidways to plunge into the water on the long journey to the district's sawmills. The drive this year is a full month earlier than the drive of 1947, when one of the latest Springs in the North's history took place. Conditions generally are favorable although not a great supply of water is on hand. Last year there was too much water; rivers overflowed their banks, dams broke and logs were washed far up on the banks of the streams. A spokesman of the Fogg Lumber Company said that men for the drive have been hired every day in the past week. "We got our last lot of ten men this morning," he stated. "We had a job getting them all and it appears that the town is almost picked clean of bushmen." Drives are also underway with the Mountjoy Timber Company, the Feldman Timber Company and A. E. Wicks'. Conditions of operation with all firms are said to be excellent and it is expected that the drive will proceed without a hitch. It is estimated that the cut will be about the same as last year in Northern Ontario. At that time it amounted to 35.6 million feet of logs, 424 thousand cords of pulpwood, 33 thousand cords of fuel wood and a considerable quantity of ties poles and posts. District Forester Bill Robinson said that the only event lumberman had to guard against was running out of water. "They will have to act fast," he declared. "It is not as plentiful as it might be and if they don't take advantage of it their cut may be stranded. On the other hand, there may be heavy rains. Then water situation will be not a factor." He said that some ice still remained on the larger lakes but that it should disappear completely within the next few days if the warm weather continued.

Budget Already Half Gone, TCAC Closes Boxing Gyms, May Slash Sturgeon's Pay

Faced with the hard fact that they have spent \$16,811.76 during the first three months of the current year, while their entire annual budget for 1948 is only \$35,000, the Timmins Community Activities Committee called a halt to needless spending at a stormy meeting Tuesday evening. The committee decided that the teaching of boxing would immediately cease and that the \$350-a-month gym at 66 Third avenue would be abandoned. It was also proposed that the salary of R. E. "Bim" Sturgeon be slashed by \$50 a month. Mr. Sturgeon's pay had been increased at January 1 to \$3,800. Decision on his salary was deferred to the next meeting of the committee. If the wage cut takes place, he will receive his former salary of \$3,000 a year. Where did the \$16,811.76 disappear to in the first three months of the year? The following quarterly statements show how it did: **DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE TIMMINS COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 1948**

Fuel	711.96
Water	7.80
Sundry	1.00
Total	2799.49
Other Activities	4236.06
Capital Expenditure	
Equipment	1157.50
Total Expenditure	16,811.76
Other activities included basketball, the Drama Club and the maintenance of gymnasiums. Basketball cost \$257 for the first three months, \$129 of which was paid to referees. Drama club expenses totalled \$260.01 composed chiefly of small individual expenses. Largest single item was the payment of \$43 to ushers and ticket sellers at the recent festival. The statement moves into the big money bracket when it deals with gymnasiums, of which the committee had two at one time this winter. Total rent to March 31 was \$1,311. Gym assistants cost plenty. They were paid \$800. Lumber for platform rings cost \$535. Athletic supplies are listed at \$505. Installing showers in both gyms cost \$354. Fuel totalled \$132. Grand total of gym expenses was \$3,348. Counter balanced against this was a meagre revenue from boxing shows of \$169, leaving the net cost of maintaining the gyms at \$3,768. Compared to other expenditures the cost of maintaining weaving classes was very modest. In the entire three months only \$39.95 was spent. Other large expenditures were made in purchases "out of current revenue." These included gym equipment at \$357, heaters at \$672, roof jacks for change houses, \$76, and supplies for a public address system, \$51. Since the quarterly statement covers the period ending at March 31 and since cost-cutting was not initiated until this week, it appears that TCAC has already spent well more than half of its budgeted amount for 1948.	

Known Communist In Kiwanis Club

The Advance learned this week that a known Communist is a member of the Timmins Kiwanis Club — a useful spot and one well suited to learning the trend of thought among the town's solid businessmen. The Kiwanis Club of Timmins is the district's oldest, wealthiest and most conservative service club. As a national group the Kiwanis has emphatically gone on record as opposing Communism. During the past year the local club has heard a series of speakers condemning the Reds and their principles. Said one club member this week: "It is not quite clear how he got in. We are by no means snobbish, but usually, when there is any doubt, a man's political beliefs are challenged."

Majority Walk Out Of 241

A new union in the Porcupine is being formed this week. Aftermath of the recent struggle between Reds and anti-Reds of Local 241, it will mean the walkout of the majority of members of the local from the International Union of Mine Mill and Smelter Workers. The new union is being formed in co-operation with the Canadian Congress of Labor, which will supply organizers to assist local leaders. Some time ago Pat Conroy made an offer to supply organizers with a clean political background for the IUMMSW, but this offer was refused by Reid Robinson and Robert Carlin, board member of District 8 of IUMMSW. It is a breakaway from the IUMMSW, local unionists have decided to accept Conroy's offer. Paid organizers for the new union are said to be Leo "Buck" Behle, Ralph Carlin, Bernard Doherty and Joe Rankin. Both Doherty and Rankin have long records of effective organizing. Both have been at odds with the Communist leadership of the IUMMSW for some time. Confirmation of the formation of the new union was difficult to obtain from local labor leaders. Both Ivan Vachon, suspended president of Local 241, and "Buck" Behle were non-committal when interviewed by the Advance. However, the facts concerning the new union are so widely known among anti-Red unionists here that there can be no doubt that the new union is being formed. Who will get possession of the union hall on Algonquin boulevard? At time of writing, none of the anti-Reds appeared to care a great deal. Plans are being made to abandon the IUMMSW completely and re-possession of the hall on Algonquin boulevard does not appear to be part of the new union's plans. General sentiment appears to be that enough time has been wasted in battling the Kennedy-led faction. As far as most unionists go, Kennedy can be "administrator" of Local 241 as long as he wants; he will only have a skeleton membership in any case. What will become of the funds in the union's bank account here? The matter has also to be dealt with. When the injunction which Kennedy had obtained against Local 241 was thrown out by a judge of the Supreme Court in Toronto on Monday, power to sign cheques on the account reverted to the executive of Local 241. Reaction among the general public to the news that a new union is being formed is overwhelmingly favorable. Since the general welfare of the district depends on labor conditions here, businessmen in particular have been interested in the outcome of the struggle between Reds and anti-Reds. "It is the best thing which could happen," was the comment of one Third avenue man, "The boys in the new union can be trusted. They should get 100 per cent support from the public."

Axe-Weilding Wives Get Benefit, Why Not Accused?

"I see no reason why I should not give him the benefit of the doubt when women who chop up their husbands heads with axes are given the benefit of doubt." The speaker was Magistrate S. Atkinson in police court here Tuesday, when dealing with a local man charged with attempted theft of a taxi.

A local cab operator said that the man, who had been drinking for several days, threatened to steal his car and drive it to Montreal. The accused said he was drunk. He also claimed that he did not know how to drive a car in the first place. The magistrate dismissed the case.

Kent Residents Ask Sidewalk NOT Built

Timmins council heard something new in the way of petitions this week. The residents on the north side of Kent avenue between Wilcox and Mounjoy streets asked that a sidewalk NOT be built before their homes. "This is something new," said Mayor Karl Eyre with a surprised smile. "We'll certainly co-operate. It means saving that much of the town's money." A spokesman for the nine householders in the block said that a sidewalk would bisect the lawns before the houses and that lawns would be ruined.

Trout Season Opens Here This Saturday

With the opening of the trout season next Saturday one half hour after sunrise, district anglers are hawking their tackle out of cellar and attic in readiness for a big year. Game warden Don Sylvester stated that a good season appears to be in prospect. He said all ice was gone from the district's rivers and creeks and that fishermen would enjoy open water. He warned anglers that a legal catch can not exceed 20 fish per day with a gross weight of 10 pounds. No fisherman is permitted to have more than two days legal catch in his possession at any time. The season for pickerel does not open in this district till May 15.

J.P. Asks Town to Repair Road On Partner's Land

J. P. Bartleman, Timmins perennial politician, asked council this week to repair a private road into property on the east side on the railway. The property is owned by Rocco Bannino, one of Mr. Bartleman's business associates. Mr. Bartleman explained that Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines had originally created a subdivision in the area, but when it became necessary to empty slimes into Gillies Lake the mine had abandoned the project. Then last year, the mine had sold a piece of ground to Doran's brewery and 150 feet of the existing road into the property had been included in the sale. With this road no longer open, Mr. Bartleman termed the present means of access into Mr. Bannino's property "a quagmire." "It would take only a few loads of sand to fix the road," he stated. "I understand it would cost \$1,000," said Councilor Phil Fay. "This is a clear cut case where the town should appropriate the road," Mr. Bartleman claimed. "Both Simpson's and Star Transfer as well as a private family are cut off. Taxes are paid on the property." "I don't see how the town can do much about it when the road is on private property," said Mayor Eyre. "It is not proper to fix private roads with the town's money." "I certainly wouldn't want to see anything like \$1,000 spent on the road, but

Fire Chief Backs Clean-up Campaign

Fire Chief William Stanley, pointing out the danger of failure to take fire prevention measures, today asked residents of Timmins to participate in the annual Spring Clean-Up Campaign scheduled from May 8 to May 8. About 11,000 persons were killed by fires last year and the Canadian and United States' fire bill amounted to approximately \$700,000,000, Chief Stanley said. He explained that Spring Clean-Up is a means of removing the common hazards which cause 90 per cent of all fires. Among these hazards Chief Stanley listed accumulations of debris and other unnecessary combustible material, flammable liquids, dirty stoves and lamps, dirty chimneys, flammable roofs, dirty and defective heating plants, and dirty and defective electrical appliances. A detailed Spring Clean-Up program will be announced later, he said. The campaign is sponsored nationally by the National Fire Protection Association. I think the town could put down four or five loads of sand, under the circumstances," Mr. Bartleman stated. "The matter was referred to the public works committee for consideration."

THE WEEK'S EVENTS

- APRIL 29, 1948
Army Cadets — Shooting Practice — 4:00 p.m. — High School
Army Cadets — Signal Class — 6:30 p.m. — Armories
Rebecca Lodge — 8:00 p.m. — Oddfellows Hall
Air Cadets — Basketball — 8:15 p.m. — Birch St. School
Phalanx Club — Co-Ed Program — 7:30 p.m. — Y.M.C.A.
MAY 1, 1948
Army Cadets — Shooting Practice — 4:00 p.m. — High School
Army Cadets — Signal Class — 6:30 p.m. — Armories
United Church Women's Ass'n — May Day Tea — 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. — First United Church
MAY 2, 1948
Canadian South Slavs — 2:00 p.m. — 112 Balsam St. North
Croatian Society — 6:00 p.m. — 112 Balsam St. North
Independent Order of Foresters — 8:30 p.m. — Oddfellows Hall
MAY 3, 1948
Kiwanis Club — 12:15 p.m. — Empire Hotel
Army Cadets — 4:00 p.m. — High School
Army Cadets — Signal Class — 6:30 p.m. — Armories
Y's Men Club — 6:30 p.m. — Grand Hotel
Air Cadets — 7:00 p.m. — Central School
Air Cadets — Rifle Range — 7:00 p.m. — High School
Phalanx Club — 7:30 p.m. — Y.M.C.A.
Phalanx Club — Co-Ed Program — 7:30 p.m. — Y.M.C.A.
St. Johns Amulance Corp — 8:00 p.m. — St. John's Hall
MAY 4, 1948
Army Cadets — Shooting Practice — 4:00 p.m. — High School
Club Richelieu — 12:15 p.m. — Algonquin Hotel
Army Cadets — Signal Class — 6:30 p.m. — Armories
Oddfellows Lodge — 8:00 p.m. — Oddfellows Hall
Home & School Club — 8:00 p.m. — Central School
Comet Club — 8:00 p.m. — Finn Hall
MAY 5, 1948

Miner Says Poll Tax Improperly Collected

17 Are Initiated As Branch 88 Meets

Membership in Branch 88, Canadian Legion, the district's largest organization continues to swell. At this week's meeting 17 new members were initiated and 12 new applications for membership accepted. President Bill Shields reported that excellent progress was being made on the Memorial Hall and that it should open on schedule July 1. The Legion resolved to continue its support of a junior ball team this season. Guests at the meeting were District Commander Gordon Countryman, Zone Commander George Whiting and three members from the Iroquois Falls branch.

T. E. Running, 161 Birch street S. protested to council this week that \$10 of poll tax had been deducted from his pay when it shouldn't have been and that now he couldn't get his money back, in spite of the fact he is a property holder. He said that he had bought his property last November and at the time had requested refund of his 1947 poll tax. He did not obtain a refund. "In view of the small amount involved I didn't go any further on the matter at that time," he said. "But then last pay day the \$10 poll tax was taken off my cheque again. I came in to see the town clerk to get it back and the clerk said there was nothing he could do about it as I was not on the assessment roll." He said that the clerk had told him he would have to wait till next September for the refund, as the assessment roll would not be revised till that time. "I can't understand how a man can have his money taken from his pay in this way and then be unable to get it back. The law which permits such a thing is outmoded. It is an injustice. I think the clerk should be given the power to make refunds of poll tax as soon as sufficient evidence is presented showing the tax was collected improperly." He said that he had also asked that the taxes on his property be changed from separate to public school. He had been informed that this could not be changed till next September also. "We understand how you feel," Mayor Eyre stated. "However, the law is the law and there is not much we can do about it. I'm afraid you will have to wait till September in both matters."

Guides, Kinettes Will Use Timmins Farmers' Market

Permission was granted at this week's meeting of Timmins council to the Girl Guides and the Kinette Club to hold rummage sales in the town's farmers' market. The Guides will hold their sale May 15; the Kinettes, May 22. Town Clerk Victor Salomaa told council that he had received an offer to rent the market as a storage place during the season it was not in use. Army Cadets — Shooting Practice — 4:00 p.m. — High School
Sigma Club — 6:30 p.m. — Y.M.C.A.
Army Cadets — Signal Class — 6:30 p.m. — Armories
Comet Club — Girls Gymnastic Class — 6:30 p.m. — Ukrainian Hall
Comet Club — Boys Gymnastic Class — 7:30 p.m. — Finn Hall
A.Y.P.A. — 8:00 p.m. — St. Matthew's Parish Hall
Kinettes — 8:00 p.m. — Grand Hotel
Presbyterian Ladies Ass'n — 8:00 p.m. — MacKay Presbyterian Church
Federation of French Can. Women — 8:00 p.m. — St. Anthony's Church
Catholic Women's Sr. League — 8:15 p.m. — Church of the Nativity
St. John's Nursing Division — 8:00 p.m. — St. John's Hall

PLANE EXPECTED

The local branch of the Department of Lands and Forests is expecting the arrival of its fire-ranger aircraft within the next few days. District Forester Bill Robinson said today. The plane is a Norseman and is based on Porcupine Lake. Tom Cook, well-known bush flier, piloted the craft last year.



"A DANGEROUS MORON": That is the manner in which Timmins police describe Austin Craft, now facing a murder charge for the fatal shooting of a penitentiary messenger while making an escape at Portsmouth on Monday. Craft is the individual who perpetrated the first bank robbery in Timmins some ten years ago and was then zany enough to hand around \$100 tips. He was arrested in a local theatre on the evening of the pen in again within six weeks. Released in 1946, he was back in the pen again at Hamilton. Said a local police official in commenting on Craft's latest doings: "He is said to have fired a gun into the attendant's back as they drove out the prison gate. That is the kind of fool he is. Instead of just slugging the man, he had to shoot. It looks like the hangman's noose for him." Further evidence that Craft is both "nutty" and dangerous: When held in Timmins he set a fire in his cell, hoping to escape in the confusion. The fire was put out and he was subdued. While awaiting trial at Haileybury he slugged a guard, only to be restrained by a second guard.