

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Throwing Quills

by K. L. McQ.

Christmas Spirit: Since this is the season for handing out presents we toss out a few gift suggestions for local big and little shots:

For the Daily Press—will provide to enable them to live up to the policy laid down by the founding father.

For Karl Eyre: another acclamation in 1950. It couldn't happen to a nicer fellow.

For Jimmy Bartleman: Equitable Assessments.

For Emile Brunette: Well what else can the guy have? He's got everything! Mr. Personality of Timmins!

For Mert Lake: Fewer libel suits for 1949!

For G. A. MacDonald: More and more memories of the Porcupine.

For the Editor: Bigger and better Communists. The ones we've got haven't any guts.

For Lillian O'Donnell: Bigger and better weddings and parties.

For Vic Salomaa: His own set of ladies unmentionables. He looked so winsome the other night at the Lions "stag" party with them on.

For Bill Kennedy: A letter of approbation from Comrade Stalin for the good work he has been doing.

For Adielard Houle: A better platform manner and more priming from the party for that battle of words to which he has challenged this editor.

For Fester and Kremyr: a couple of cold showers for a couple of hot heads.

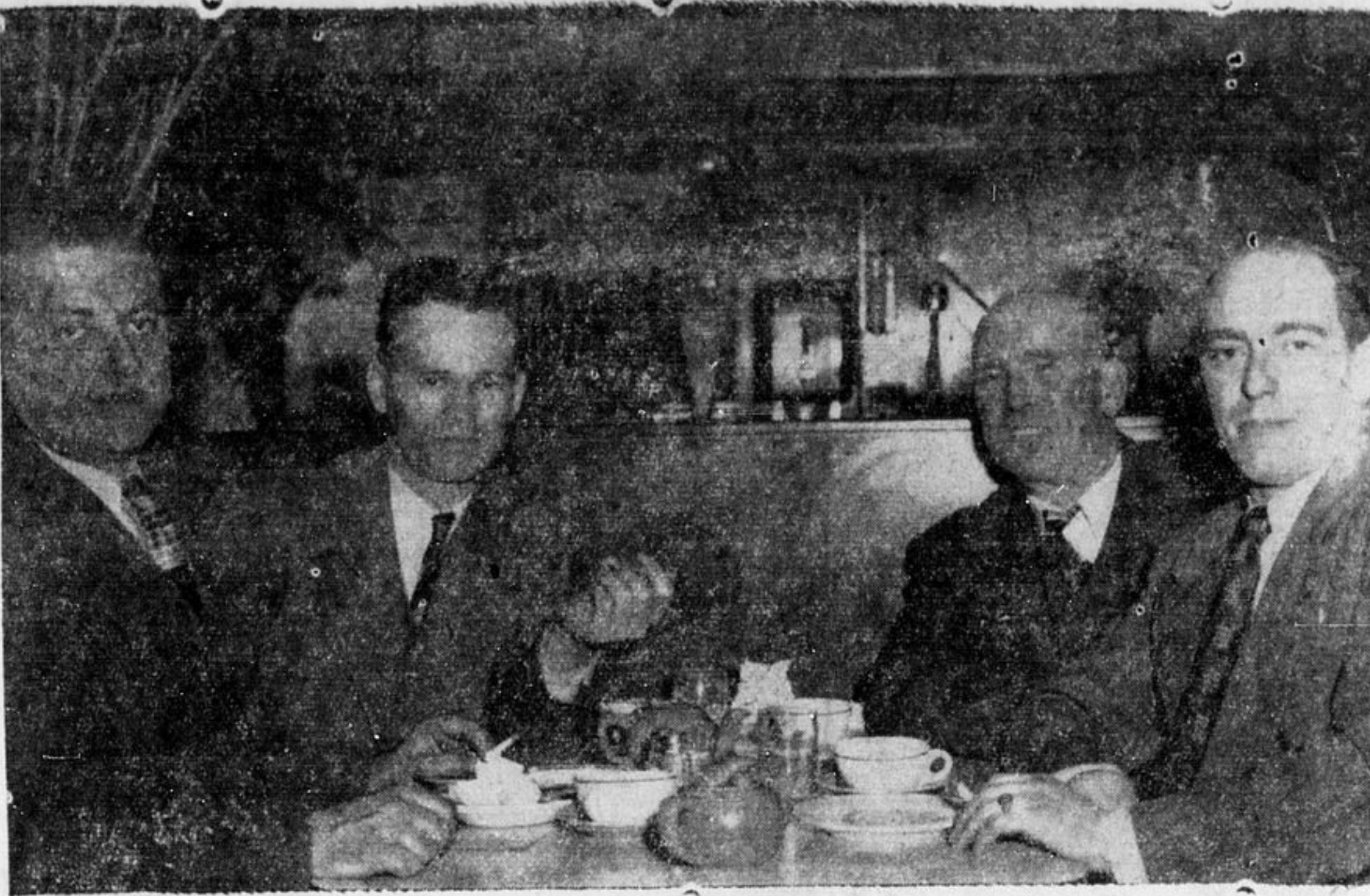
For Leo Lalonde: As much success as possible without winning the Timmins seat in the federal election.

For Percy Boyce: A little support from his party if he runs for federal seat in 1949.

For Ralph Carlin: Oh well, he's got it anyway!

For George Drew: (Georgeous George, that is) Less conceit and more leadership.

That's all folks and a Merry Christmas!



Four distinguished visitors from Ansonville, are shown above when they visited Timmins recently. Caught in the Fern Cottage restaurant, Elmo Lefebvre said that he might run as CCF candidate in Cochrane federal district next election. With him are left to right, Leon Charlebois, Elmo Lefebvre, J. deLapalme, and his son R. deLapalme.

Town Assessor Admits 1949 Assessment Made From Town Office Desk

Admitting that the re-assessment of half of the town of Timmins took him 44 days and was done mostly from his desk, George LaMarche Timmins assessor was the last witness to be heard on the lengthy Gauthier assessment appeal held last Thursday and Saturday.

The case lasted all Thursday until late afternoon and continued Saturday morning, afternoon and evening until a quarter of nine o'clock. The whole matter of the re-assessment of Timmins was gone into and 28 exhibits or examples of variations in the assessing of buildings and lands in Timmins were presented.

Mrs. Harold Gauthier represented the Gauthier Holdings with the assistance of her husband who prepared the brief.

The appeal, like that of Mr. J. P. Bartleman was based on three points. They contended that the assessment was illegal under the Assessment Act because:

1. The Town was not divided into equal sections to be assessed, (under the rotary plan the town is divided into two equal sections.)
2. The land was assessed at its actual value but not the structures on the land.
3. Inequity of the quantum of the specific properties appealed against in comparison to similar lands.

The appeal also stated that there had been "discrimination in picking out the areas of the town to be re-assessed this year."

A point which was raised also was the fact that the assessment was based in part on the old Act which stated that mining lands must not be assessed at more than the value of farm lands in the vicinity used for agricultural purposes.

The new Act amends this by removing this section entirely and places mining lands in the same category as other lands in the municipality. Therefore mining lands should be assessed on the same basis as other properties in the town.

A sample of this may be shown thus: J. P. Bartleman has 14 acres assessed at \$47,000, the Hollinger has 440 acres assessed at \$43,625.

During the appeal it was brought out that the Council passed by-law 1077 on August 16th. Under section 59 of the Act the assessment roll must be completed by September 30th. The Assessor completed the roll in 44 days, he admitted, but he said that he did most of it from his desk.

Mrs. Gauthier suggested that the re-assessment of the whole town could be done in 88 days.

Although it was stated that the reason behind the assessment of his particular section of the town first was because it was the section "most improved" in the past ten years the assessor had assessed vacant lands at actual value but not "improved" built on lands.

When cross-examined by Mrs. Gauthier, the assessor was unable to define the environments of most of the places assessed. "He shows a lack of knowledge of these places," said Mrs. Gauthier. "It is difficult to understand how he could sit at a desk and do the assessment when he is so vague on boundaries."

Mrs. Gauthier contended that "very little of other lands except the vacant lands had been re-assessed." She said that built-on lands remain at exactly the same figures. Commercial lands have not increased despite the fact that they are in the section marked off for re-assessment.

"Built on lands remain at exactly the same figures," said Mrs. Gauthier, "despite the figure juggling by the assessor."

It was noted that no members of the Court of Revision which had heard the appeals previously were present to hear the appeals before Judge Danis. They sustained the assessment and should be interested in the outcome of the whole matter. No members of the Town Council were present either.

If the assessment should be thrown out the Town will have to revert to the 1948 assessment and re-bate the added taxes which have been paid on the 1949 assessment.

Judge Danis has reserved judgement in the case.

Steel Union Gathers Miners Under Wings

By Kenneth McQuiggan, Editor.

It is during the National Steel Car strike when the Steel Union was merely beginning.

He was the same Charles Millard that he is now. Quiet and efficient. Though with a soft voice, he organized the National Steel Car Works in three days of hectic work. Later in 1946 he again was busy with the Steel Company of Canada plant.

Charles Millard has won out more by smooth organization and his ability to gather to himself exceptional young men who are well educated and willing to work the clock around for the union and Charles Millard.

No stuffed shirt, Charles Millard would just as soon talk with one unionist as the next one and he isn't seeking personal gain. He's just a tough Irishman who feels that it is his destiny to lead a steel union and he will do it to the best of his wisdom and knowledge — come hell high water or commies.

The Porcupine Mine Workers Union has been taken under the wing of the Steel Workers Union and organization has begun immediately. The former officers of the Mine Union have remained in their posts with the exception of Buck Behie who has been named as Steel Workers representative. Ralph Carlin remains as organizer and Ivan Vachon as president.

Mayor Declares Monday Boxing Day

His Worship Mayor Karl Eyre has proclaimed Monday, December 27th, as Boxing Day and a legal holiday.

Boxing Day is an old English custom which dates back to the Middle Ages. It is generally held the day after Christmas but as Christmas is on Saturday, the Mayor decided to grant the long weekend. Very thoughtful!

Merry Christmas Everybody!

Holiday Costumes Can Be Dangerous

A lighted match dropped on a little girl's skirt. Puff! A blaze. The child couldn't get the costume off fast enough to save herself.

Incidents such as that are a menace of the holidays, the National Board of Fire Underwriters warned in a plea to parents to protect their children from flammable clothing at Christmas.

Filmy party costumes, the great number of flammable decoration and the rising number of fires around the holidays — highest in the entire year — make Christmas a dangerous time for children.

Parents are advised to choose tightly woven materials in preference to porous, loose weaves, which, because of the greater amount of oxygen provided by the open spaces, blaze out of control so fast that it's impossible to remove them. Some manufacturers flameproof children's costumes. Look for the label.

The National Board recommended a flameproof solution for costumes which are likely to flash fire. The mixture of 9 ounces of borax and 4 ounces of boric acid dissolved in two quarts of warm water can be used as a last resort after each washing. They advise. The material should be well saturated, wrung out by hand and hung to dry.

Not only children's clothes, the underwriters added, but decorations around the base of the Christmas tree as well as Santa Claus' beard and costume should be made fire-resistant.

MORE BOXCARS — New boxcars — about 3,700 of them — are rolling along Canadian rails this year, according to The Financial Post. They are expected to relieve what has been a chronic boxcar shortage ever since the start of the war. Railroad men warn however, that there is likely to be a shortage in some areas again before the winter is over.

Scotty Wilson Honoured By Kiwanis On Monday

Can anything be a secret, if it is known by fifty men? The answer is that it can. W. H. Wilson (more affectionately known as "Scotty"), found that out at the weekly luncheon of the Timmins Kiwanis Club at the Empire hotel on Monday.

In his weekly bulletin as secretary, "Scotty" had announced that Monday's luncheon would have a "mystery programme." That was all he could find out about it. But to the fifty-odd other members of the club, it was no mystery programme. They had planned it as a special "Scotty's" Day, in honor of his long service as secretary of the club and his unflinching interest and effort in regard to Kiwanis affairs.

At the commencement of the luncheon, Scotty was debarred from his usual place at the piano, and close to force used to keep him from his seat as secretary. Instead, President H. J. Quinn announced in a stern Irish voice: "This is one time when Scotty is going to take his orders from me, instead of telling me what to do, and how to do it!" The first order was that Scotty should take the place of honor at the head table.

Pipe Major MacLennan, Piper John Arnott and Drummer James Auger were special guests, and these gallant Highlanders provided music (as Scotty himself would say) that delighted all with Scots' blood in their veins, and made all the Irish jealous.

Past President G. N. Ross was congratulated as master of ceremonies, and he was well along in his address before Scotty had an inkling of what was up. The opening remarks of the Past President dealt with the club's district rating for November. It was a most creditable one — 84.2 — a record for this year.

Then Kiwanian Ross swung to the secretary and his notable service, not only to the Timmins Club, of which he had been a member for twenty-four years, but also to Kiwanis in general. He had given unstinted service as secretary for the past eighteen years. He had thirteen years of consecutive perfect attendance, with a previous seven-year record, thus having twenty years of faithful and efficient, and had given without stint of his time and talent, and the club apprecia-

Road Information Service Extended

The Department of Highways is extending its 24-hour Road information service for the winter months to all parts of Ontario, according to a letter from V. H. Longstaffe, Division Engineer, New Liskeard.

Information can be obtained by telephone in this territory by calling as follows:

Timmins — call 2075 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. only.

New Liskeard — call 569 — 24 hours daily.

ENGINEERS PROGRESS — Engineering and science students who received bachelor's degrees in this spring's graduation ceremonies are now getting "starting salaries" averaging \$205 a month, it is reported in The Financial Post.

committee of the club. He said the youngsters were delighted with the committee's visit to the schools.

Guests for the day, introduced by Vice-President E. A. Woodbury, included: Pipe Major MacLennan, Piper John Arnott, Drummer James Auger, Geo. A. Jenkin, supervisor of music at Timmins public schools; Frank Burt, Timmins Press photographer; W. Lawrence, Timmins; R. Nelson, Timmins; and President M. G. Clark and Secretary R. Ship, of South Porcupine Kiwanis. President Clark was given special welcome and congratulations on his progress to recovery from injuries received in a car accident.

On account of the holiday, next week's luncheon will be on Tuesday, and will be the annual Christmas party each member being required to bring a present (not to exceed 25 cents in cost) to the member whose name was drawn, a verse, or other greeting to accompany the gift.



Packing Christmas boxes for the soldiers in Ward 7 B Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Porcupine Mine Workers Union, are shown here pausing a moment in their labours. They also packed a box for a union member at St. Mary's Hospital. Mrs. A. Jones was on the left of the group but was cut out of the picture. Left to right are Mrs. Dorval, Mrs. Cote, Mrs. Burkett, Mrs. Behie, Mrs. DeGuidice, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Sturney, Mrs. Lauzon and Mrs. Shields, who was also with the group but is not shown in the picture.

David Kerr Pioneer Resident Passes

David Kerr, prominent Schumacher citizen since 1914 died last night in Christie Street Hospital. Word to the effect was received this morning by Frank Lurlong, a life long friend.

A veteran of the First World War, the late Mr. Kerr was an active and well known political figure throughout the North and at one time was Reeve of the Township of Tisdale, and for a number of years served as councillor.

The body of the late Mr. Kerr will arrive here tomorrow morning.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Sam Walker's Funeral Parlor.



Many hands make light work. Last Saturday morning ten husky young members of the Timmins Y.M.C.A. decided to paint their hall. In one hour and a half they had the hall completely finished and are shown here smiling for the cameraman with Gower Markle, Y.M.C.A. secretary, centre. Left to right they are: Malcolm Prince, Keith Connell, Bill McLeod, Gower Markle, Ken Eastman, Tom Arnott, and Fern Lapalme. Advance Photo