

Throwing Quills

'Twas the night before Christmas
And all through the town,
Not a creature was stirring
And no one fell down.
It wasn't for lack of Xmas cheer, you know,
But the thermometer registered 30 below!

by Hic Cup

'Twas a quiet Christmas for Timmins, the oldesters tell me. But the oldesters tell me a lot of things that are hard to credit. Timmins will never be the old town is taming down. One young man back from University informs us that the town is getting a "settled look" whatever that may be. It is true, if G. A. MacDonald is right, that Christmas and New Year's are not celebrated in the manner of yesteryear. Although at Emile Brunette's the guests were treated to a huge fire in the beautiful fireplace. Instead of ye olde yule logge though his little daughter Carol lugged in prest logs which are manufactured at the local sawmills. They are basically wood but they are not encrusted with holly and ivy like those shown in the olde prints.

Christmas eve was so cold that few people moved abroad any more than they could help. It made for a more cosy Christmas as so many people were chilled that they kept fast hold on the nearest and dearest as much as possible. We haven't seen G. A. for several days so he couldn't have had such a bad Christmas. "Awfully quiet," he tells us.

Excellent party at Frank Boivin's home. Rene Barrett and Frank and their wives sang dozens of songs for their guests and the guests joined in. A real old fashioned Christmas party.

Emile Brunette served his "Brunette Special" which has delayed action. Moise Daigneult danced a Russian dance until he thought he would change his name. Emile and Moise did an adagio dance which was delightful to behold. The finale was when Moise lifted Emile right off the floor and swung him around. What a sight!

Bob Harvey and wife arrived from Nawth Bay saying that they wouldn't miss a Timmins Christmas for anything.

Five Chief Stanley had to stay sober but enjoyed the fun. "Someone has to stay sober," said the chief by way of explanation.

As a general rule the parties in town were subdued. No serious fires. . . no murders. . . no more than the usual number of car accidents.

Christmas Day was quiet while everyone consumed tons of turkey and candies and nuts.

Churches were packed with the faithful for worship of the Christ Child. Candle light Christmas Eve services were well attended as were services on Christmas day. Sunday, being milder, was a day for visiting. Everyone brought out their best wine and cakes.

As G. A. says: "A Timmins Christmas is a Timmins Christmas." And we must agree. It was wonderful!



The Christmas party at Night Hawk Centre was enjoyed by more than two dozen children at the home of Mrs. L. Vince who, although she was visiting friends in the South, left the keys of her home with a neighbor in order that the children might have a Christmas party. Shown here are Bobby Rooksby, Billy Rooksby, Jackie Todd, Etta Tuck and Shirley Todd.

Cleaners Safe Cleaned By Same Bandits Who Cracked Mike's Grocery

Fire Ravages S. Porcupine Store

Fire swept through the Dominion Store building in South Porcupine last night, destroying most of the building. The South Porcupine firemen were called out in the below zero weather at seven o'clock and fought the flames for several hours.

Three families who lived in apartments above the store reached safety untouched by the fire. Their furniture was badly damaged by fire and smoke. The entire stock of the Dominion Store was ruined by flames and smoke.

The origin of the fire is as yet unknown and an estimate of the damage has not been reached but it is roughly estimated at \$25,000.

The safecrackers that sprung the safe at Timmins Valet Cleaners Monday night may be the same boys that walked away with \$2,000 from Mike's Grocery store a few weeks ago. The work has the same professional touch. The bandits seemed unconcerned about the noise they made and as in the Mike's store case, they made plenty of noise while they hacked away at the safe with their tools.

Neighbors of the Spruce street North shop of Valet Cleaners heard the noise plainly. But as one neighbor said, "We often here them working in there and we thought that someone was working late, that's all."

The men were excellent "mechanics" and brought their own tools. By making a small hole in the boiler room window and using a long thin bar they were able to open the window and enter the building. The job on the safes was neat.

Citizens Question Twp, Zone By-law

by Mrs. Maxwell Smith

An Objection Meeting was held in the Whitney Council Chambers 11 a.m. Wednesday. Chairman was Town Clerk Gigg.

Lawyers present were R. Langdon representing V. H. Evans (objector), G. Evans representing Dr. Boutin and Harold Gauthier representing 20 ratepayer objectors. There was a full house of orderly representatives of the township.

Lawyer Langdon stated that written objections should have until 1 p.m. Thursday to be placed.

To which the chairman agreed. He also objected to the matter of By-law 337) being rushed through as was indicated by the notices to ratepayers concerning objections which were dated Dec. 16th. (Explained by clerk as due to oppressive work — small staff and nomination meeting and election.)

Objections were also raised to form of notice and time set.

"This matter is too important to be rushed through, as indicated today. Written objections will be forwarded to Municipal Board by Registered mail today," said Mr. Langdon.

Objectors present took oath from voicing objections, the majority being definitely against the alteration of any existing conditions and requiring explanation concerning most.

One ratepayer caused smiles and applause when he said, "Mr. Gardner, I figure them by-laws not any good."

Mr. Gardner in response to one query said "The plans a 33ft. lot frontage should never have been registered. It is difficult now, that this condition for the good of a desirable community, has to be altered. If a man owns two such lots he must keep them together as one lot."

One objector said, "I should be able to do what I like with those lots, they were sold by Whitney twp. in good faith."

Another said it would be "pretty hard" for him to move back his building five feet.

Another said "This bylaw will scare people away from our town." To which the Reeve replied, "This bylaw is designed to bring people in and make this place a desirable community to live in; to have a reasonable area for garden, lawn, and a pleasant place to live."

Comments by objectors:

"Causing inconvenience to a number of people."

"It is a little late. The town is now built up."

"If the Timmins people can build on a 30ft. lot why can't Whitney?"

"This bylaw is being rejected here by every taxpayer except the Township Solicitor."

"Let another By-law be drafted by the new council and put ones on the new Council coming up."

"If this by-law is not to be foisted on people, request the Municipal Board to come here instead of sitting in Toronto on this question."

"We have right to properly air objections, have had no chance to have a hearing."

The new council will meet Jan. 3rd and written objections will be received then and forwarded to the Municipal Board.

Mr. Gardner gave a fair and reasonable account of the reasons for the drafting of the new By-law (337) being "a bylaw to regulate the use of land and the character, location, and use of buildings and structures."

Whitney (Golden City, Pottsville, Porcupine) has within the past ten years grown from a primitive straggling community into what promises to be a fine town. Water and sewage installation have modernized it.

The time has come for definite regulations concerning urban restrictions and building, and while some individual cases may appear penalized, the by-law has been constructed to benefit the community as a whole, and make the township of Whitney, a modern desirable place in which to live."

G.B. Alford Retiring From O.N.R. Dec. 31

It was announced by Mr. Archibald Freeman, General Manager, Ontario Northland Railway, that Mr. G. B. Alford, Purchasing Agent and Store Keeper, has retired after forty years service with the railway, effective December 31st, 1948.

He is being succeeded by Mr. Lester Roland Hume, Assistant Purchasing Agent and Store Keeper. Mr. Hume was born in Cheater, N. S. on September 29th, 1896. He moved with his family to North Bay in September 1913 and attended the North Bay Collegiate Institute, graduating in 1915. He began his railway career on February 14th, 1916, with the Canadian Pacific Railway in the Auditor of Stores and Mechanical Accounts Department at North Bay. On May 2nd, 1917, he resigned to take a position as Junior Clerk in the Purchasing and Stores Department of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, with which Department he has been identified ever since. He advanced through various positions to that of Chief Clerk on April 1st, 1923 and on November 1st, 1937, he was promoted to his late position as Assistant Purchasing Agent and Storekeeper.

In spite of intense application to his railway work, Lester has found time for many related and extraneous activities. He is a member of the Toronto Branch of the National Association of Purchasing Agents and a member of the National Office Management Association. He has been a District Deputy Grand Master of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, is a member of the Nipissing Lodge, A. F. and A.M. and has been active on the Board of Management of the First Baptist Church, North Bay. His interest in sport has also been wide. He is a charter member of the T. & N. O. Tennis Club, is a member of the North Bay Golf and Country Club and of the North Bay Curler's Club. He has been President of the latter and also President of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Curling Association. In March, 1948, he represented Northern Ontario during the week of the MacDonald Briar at Calgary.

Apart from his experiences and ability, Mr. Hume's faculty for making and keeping friends assures a brilliant career in his new and highly responsible post.

Frank Sicoli Is Standout In Porkies 3--2 Win

Scottish Curlers Here Jan. 19 and 20

The Scottish Curlers Team No. 1 of 25 men will visit Timmins and play a couple of games here and be entertained by the Porcupine Curling Club on January 19th and 20th. The six rinks of the curlers will give an exhibition of their curling on the afternoon of the 19th and later be entertained at dinner by the Porcupine Curling Club.

The following day, the 20th, the Scottish Curlers will have a luncheon at the McIntyre and then play another game in the afternoon. The evening of the 20th they will leave on the Northland. The whole trip is being sponsored by the O.N.R. in conjunction with the Canadian National Railways. On their trip North Archie Freeman of the O.N.R. will be host to the famous curling team, and they will have a special car.

Representatives from the Curling Clubs of Kapuskasing, Cochrane, Iroquois Falls and North Bay will attend the meet.

From here they will entrain for Sudbury, and then across Canada. E. O. Walls, secretary of the Porcupine Curling Club says that all the details of the visit have not been completely planned yet, there will be another meeting this evening to make complete plans.

Frankie Sicoli's scrappy Porkie winger, last night drove home the winning marker in the Porkies 3-2 win over the high-powered Hollinger Greenshirts. The tally came at the 4 minute mark in the overtime session and gave the South Enders a share in the top berth in the League's standings. They are now knotted with Greensweaters at so are in a better position.

The winners came through the hard way, spotting the Hollyites two goals and then came roaring back in the final frame to tie the count and then go on to win it in the extra time. Hollinger was not up to their usual strength for the contest as they were forced to play minus their prolific scorer, Ralph Orlando, and their ageless veteran, Wink Wilson. Swede Larson sat it out for the Porkies, still suffering from an infected eye. The depleted Hollinger ranks made it necessary for Alex Stewart to do an 'ironman' stunt, as he played most of the 60 minutes. A total of only 7 penalties were handed out by referees Sparky Vail and Gus Lang. 5 to the losers and two to the Porkies. Pontello and Gordon each managed to pick up two of the sentences.

The first period was scoreless but the Porkies missed numerous good scoring chances. Time and again they were right on Brownlee's doorstep but were turned away each occasion. The veteran backstop was never better as he robbed Adamo, Ladds and Houston of sure-fire markers. The Porkies couldn't bulge the twine but carried most of the play of the period.

Andy Theriault, pocket-sized Green-shirt winger, opened the scoring for the Hollyites early in the middle frame as he hit pay-dirt on a passing play with linemate Doug Glaister. Hollinger then took a commanding lead in the play and went two goals up when Nanny Pontello drove a hard one past Freeman, Theriault being on the assisting end. That was the end of the Hollinger goal-getting however.

The third period was less than a minute old when Houston scored the prettiest goal of the evening. He took Billy Adamo's pass, breezed in on Brownlee, pulled him-out-of-the-net and parked the rubber behind him. Terry Talentino, Husky Porkie rear-guard, started the play and was given a well-earned assist. The goal gave the winners renewed hope and they once again swarmed all over the Hollinger cge. Jackie Ladds was the boy who finally potted the equalizer but it was of the fluky type. He had just been robbed of a golden opportunity by Brownlee and went into the crozier after a loose puck. In an attempt to pass it out, the disc hit a Hollinger player and entered the net.

The goal forced the overtime and paved the way for Sicoli's heart-breaking goal. Although Hollinger were out-played most of the way, they were shorthanded and began to tire near the end. They went down fighting however as Jackie Ladds received a high-sticking penalty with only seconds to go, and Joe Schwab pulled Brownlee, sending six forwards against four but time ran out and they didn't even get a shot on goal.

Jr. Chamber of Com. Drive for Members

The Timmins Junior Chamber of Commerce are commencing a membership drive in January. This youngest of the Timmins service clubs has been quite active in the past year since its inception and has great plans for 1949.

Civic minded, the Junior Chamber of Commerce sponsored the "Get out and Vote" campaign during the recent municipal election campaign which is credited with bringing the poll up from 34 percent last year to 44 percent this year. A creditable achievement.

Their plans are "hush-hush" at the moment but are sure to be along lines which will benefit the town. The membership, which is gathered from among the young businessmen of the town, is energetic and looking to the future. They seek to aid in the building of Timmins in a fully matured and rounded out community. That is a fall order, but youth and enthusiasm can do amazing things.

Hold Up Man Runs When Asked to Show Gun

When Peter Patry was asked to produce the gun with which he threatened Roy Hawkes in the Broadway Cigar Store last night, Peter Patry decided that discretion was the better part of valour and ran.

The police were called to the cigar store at 8.13 p.m. and were told that Patry had gone across the street to the Ambassador Hotel where he roomed. Patry was picked up in the hotel by the police. Police said that he showed signs of having been drinking.

Patry said that he was a miner, single and 24 years of age.

He entered the store saying, "This is a stick-up." He kept his hand in his pocket.

Roy Hawkes who was looking after the cigar store asked Patry to produce the gun. Patry hesitated a moment then saw the proprietor Mr. DeMarco entering the store. He brushed past DeMarco and fled to his hotel.

In his annual message to shareholders, he said, "The high level of business activity should promote prudence rather than overconfidence and indiscretion."

Kiwanis Kristmas Kaper

A good attendance enjoyed the annual Christmas party of Timmins Kiwanis Club at the Empire hotel on Tuesday, Monday being Boxing Day, a public holiday.

The gifts (none costing more than a quarter) were happy and humorous, while the accompanying messages created much laughter. While the messages were pointedly personal, they were all in good humor. Most of them were in verse, and good verse at that. Among those creating the greatest interest and amusement were those: to Past President Ross, to Arch. Gillies, to President Barney Quinn to "the Gaijopping Major," and to Nick Basciano. At the suggestion of President H. J. Quinn, the gifts chiefly toys and novelties, were turned over to Major Majury to add to the presents for the Salvation Army Christmas party this week.

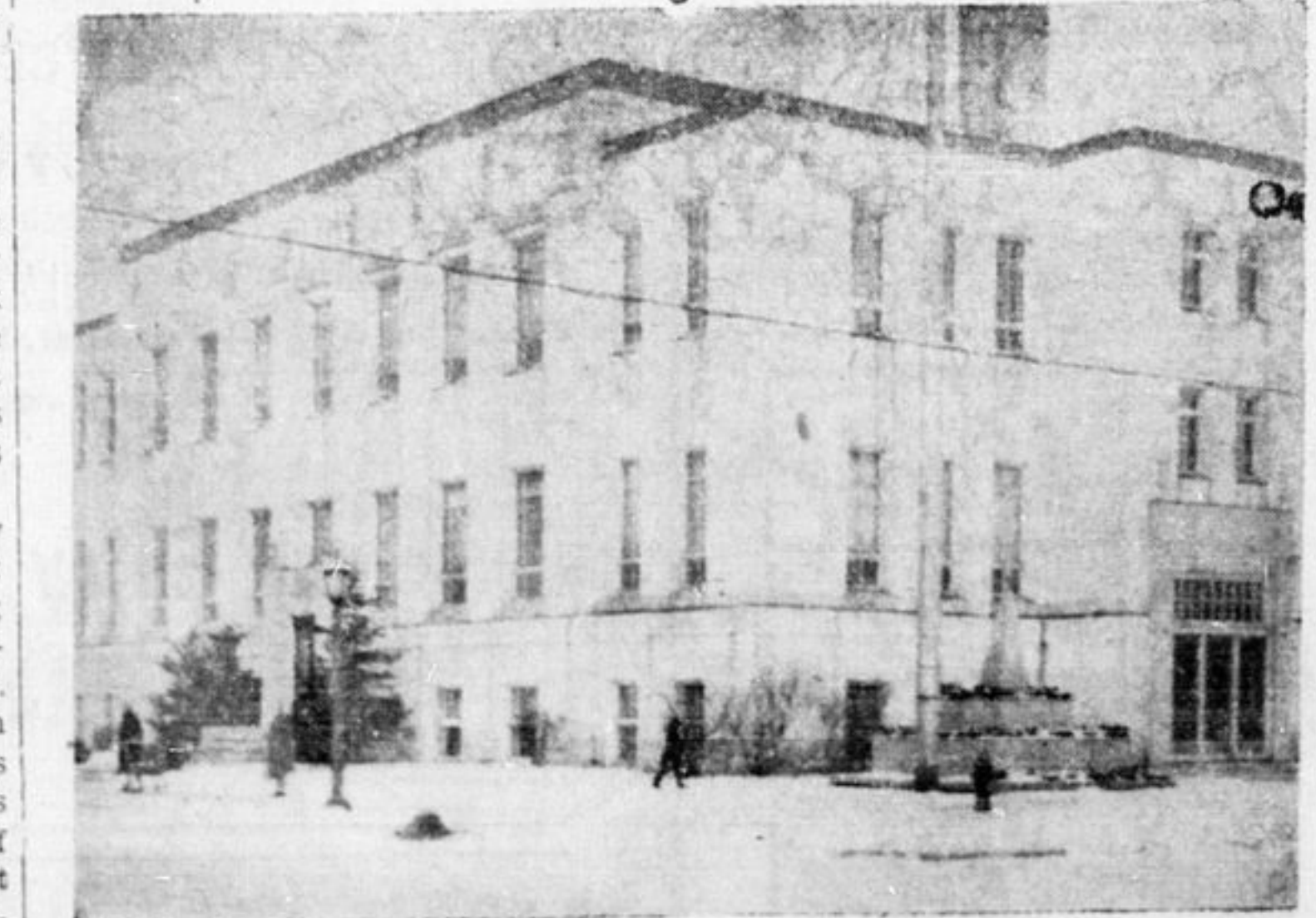
A feature of the community singing for the day, led by Nick Basciano, with Secretary W. H. Wilson at the piano, was the conscription of a choir of members who had not taken a drink during the Christmas season. The choir that gathered was so large that many doubted its legitimacy and this doubt was strengthened after that choir rendered "Sweet Adeline."

Guests for the day, introduced by Vice-President F. A. Woodbury, were: Sam Heckleum Rochester, New York; W. J. Cagne, North Bay; and J. Masters and C. R. Whittaker of Toronto.

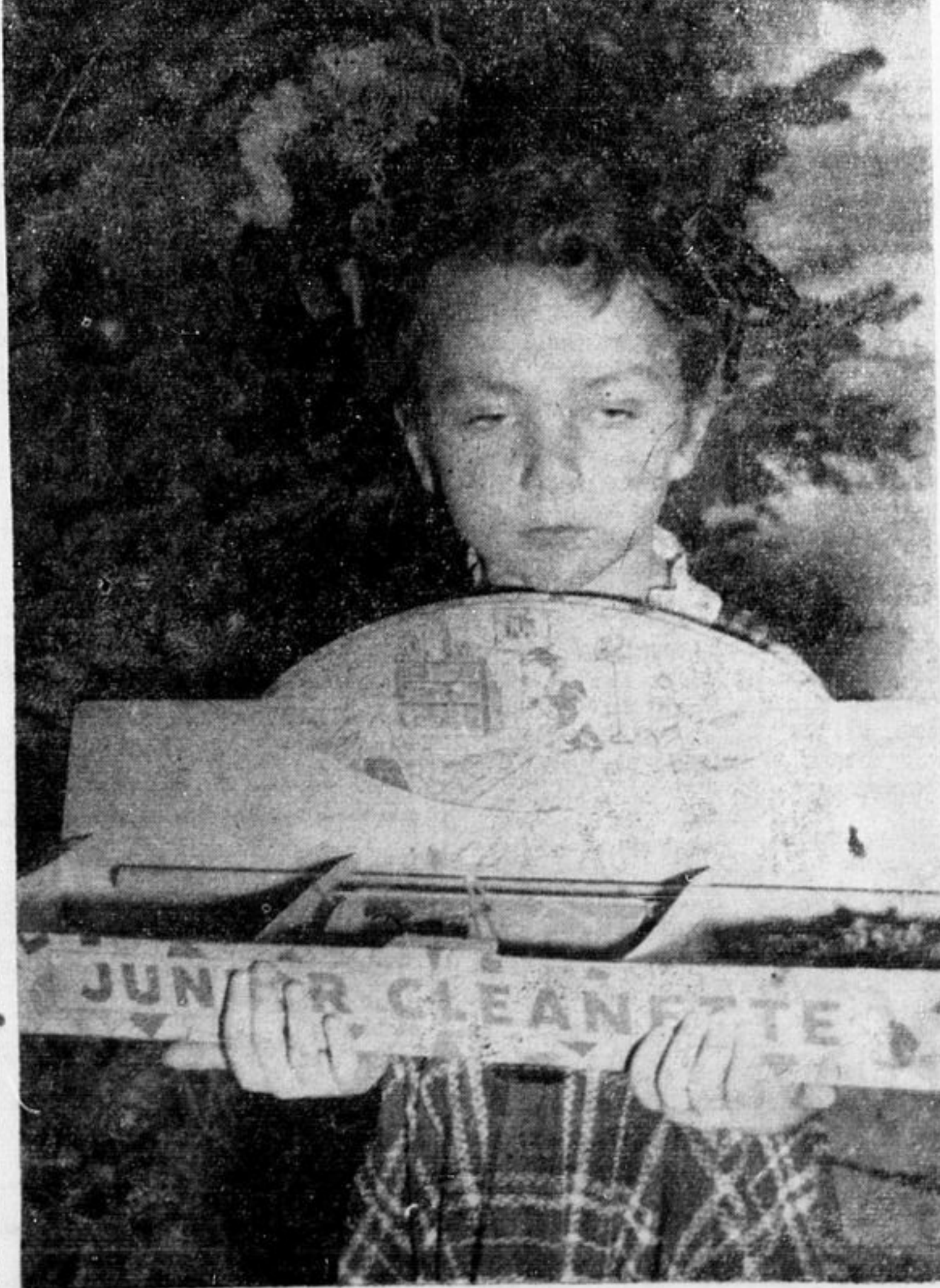
Frank Feldman read a letter from J. W. Spooner, expressing the thanks of the township officials, the parents and the children of the Township of Mountjoy for the Christmas treat given by the school children of the Township by the Timmins Kiwanis, through the agriculture committee.

Mayor Karl A. Eyre told the gathering of the thanks and appreciation he had heard given to the Santa Claus Fund of the Council of Service Clubs of the Porcupine.

This being the last meeting of the Kiwanis for this year. "Auld Langward looking citizens of South Porcupine and a credit to the North. The modernistic lines and modern interiors of the buildings have attracted notice from visitors from both Canada and the United States. The building is also modernly equipped with accounting machines and other equipment to facilitate the work of the township.



The Tisdale Township building is one of the finest municipal buildings in Canada and was designed by R. Franklin the architect who designed the South Porcupine High School and the South Porcupine Hospital. These fine buildings are a credit to the forward looking citizens of South Porcupine.



Little sleepy head could hardly keep her eyes open after waiting up for Santa. But it was worth it. Here little Etta Tuck of Night Hawk Centre holds one of her favorite presents received from the old gentleman's overflowing bag of presents. She was so tired that she couldn't even venture a smile for the cameraman. The Christmas party was held last Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. L. Vince, Night Hawk Centre.

NEED VOTES, NOT YAWNS—With the season of municipal elections upon us again and several by-elections brewing, remarks The Financial Post editorially, cries of "get out the vote" and "vote as you like, but vote" are heard from press radio, billboards and handbills across the nation.

To too many people such urgings evoke only a stifled yawn or a polite sneer as though to say local politics were beneath their notice, too trivial to be bothered with. They feel they must hold the power of their franchise in reserve for general elections when matters of national import are at stake.

Drive Safely — It's your life.