

The Porcupine Advance

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"We Shall Not Sleep"

"Few other areas in Canada equalled the proportion of men enlisting in the Porcupine for overseas service in the first world war," states G. A. MacDonald elsewhere on this page. This is great news. Would Mr. MacDonald please divulge who these men were, how many there were, how many killed, who they were, in the first war, the second war, or both, for no one else in town or out of town, seems to know or care.

Why Did They Die

Six tons of fish suddenly died in Porcupine Lake. Works Superintendent Farren required three men to pick them up and load trucks on Monday, May 22. Later a government man investigated and, according to a CKGB broadcast, the cause was "thick ice, long winter and lack of oxygen."

If that is the case, why did it not occur in other lakes. There are other lakes of all sizes hereabouts. If the ice was so thick how is it that men fished all winter, chopped holes in the ice.

This is not a case of hundreds of fish in several lakes. It is a case of thousands of fish in one lake, and in one lake only, not in other lakes of any size in the vicinity. Why?

Towards completely illuminating these mysterious deaths — a deplorable loss — this paper has written to the department concerned in Toronto.

Professional Calibre Impending

District artists warrant every commendation. That the visiting Mr. Winter "was amazed" is not in the least unexpected. He should be. Chief source of wonder is how so many — hundreds — have learned so much in a few years.

The exhibition is but three years of age. Most of the artists have not painted for much longer than that period. Certainly some of it is, and much of it on the verge of, professional calibre.

The only criticism would seem to be that there should be more prizes, more honorable mentions, for, in groups of about 50, there were but three "stars" awarded.

And against any squawk about crudity or greenhorns, there is a wonderful bright freshness, a youthful vigor, about many of the paintings, which is of course in complete accord with the North.

Why is it that Churchill paints? Why is it that Viscount Alexanders paintings, his own work, fill a large room at Government House? Why does Don Wright of Timmins turn out good canvasses? Because, as Mr. Winter said, one should paint to please oneself, and because it is of the finest mediums of self-expression, and also a field of maturity much waiting in the Porcupine. May it continue to flourish.

Milk Company Shows Fine Film

Apparently Kiwanians emerged quite impressed after seeing "That Babies May Live" on Monday. Even though there is a commercial aspect to this film, it is unquestionably a fine undertaking on the part of the Carnation Company. And it is most fervently to be hoped that many of these films will be shown where they are most needed, which is, of course, in Quebec, where the infant mortality rate has been consistently high, according to "Life" magazine (19.10.42), and Three Rivers has an infant mortality rate higher than that of Bombay.

Finest Speech By Any Porcupiner

To a reporter another speech is as is scoop of ice cream to a soda-jerker, another un-made bed to a housewife, another lamp post to a dog. A reporter becomes so inured to speeches that they roll through his mind into his Underwood like an endless towel. And nice nine men out of ten are bottomless gas bags who spend minutes, rather than hours, days or weeks, on the preparation of speeches, we are nearly all strangers who leave not a footprint on the endless streets of life.

Therefore the occasional few are heard with pleasure; and hence the words of Mayor Fay, the work of at least one month, are in part republished below without any apology. Let old-timers jog their memories: What Porcupiner ever outspoke the speech of Philip Fay on Thursday May 25?

"We wanted to see you. . . your name became a legend to us here in Canada because of your military achievements. Your fame was enhanced, if that is possible, by the tributes paid to you by those Canadian soldiers who were privileged to serve under you.

This community has, in two world wars, made a great contribution in manpower to fight in the cause of freedom, and in that way we have shown, in the most tangible form, the loyalty and devotion we all feel for our King and Country. In times of war that loyalty and devotion is given without stint and it is evident for all to see. But in times of peace it is more difficult for us to express what we feel.

"But whether or not we show it, we have deep in our hearts, a deep feeling of pride and respect for our Sovereigns, who by their personal examples have shown the whole world what it means to be free and democratic citizens in the British Commonwealth of Nations. I would ask you to convey to Their Majesties, our expression of devotion and loyalty to them.

"It is an honor for me, as Mayor of Timmins, to express to you and Lady Alexander, my great pleasure for the honor bestowed upon us, and speaking on behalf of the citizens of our town, I bid you welcome to Timmins. It is my sincere hope that you will take with you, pleasant memories of your visit here, and that sometime in the no distant future, we will again be honored by your presence.

Let's Hope It Remains

The town hall flag post was to be taken down, (because it caused a leak in the roof), according to a motion passed at a recent council meeting. It would come down, said engineer John Kelman, but he thought it might be well to wait until after Their Excellencies' visit.

It is not down yet. It is still up. And it is comforting to see that it is still up. And to that end the following suggestion is offered:

The post "whips" too much, does it? All right, why not cut two feet off the top; and cut the flag to about one-quarter its present size? It is that great huge flag which pulls and "whips" the post. A smaller flag and shorter post would almost eliminate "whipping."

A much smaller flag would not look well? Why not? The town hall flag is the biggest upon buildings hereabouts, and on the shortest post. That is one reason why it started "whipping" in the first place. Also, the present large flag is far out of proportion to its post.

In The Days When The Porcupine Was Young

By G. A. Macdonald

No. 150 Timmins Golden Chapter I. O. D. E.

Few other areas in Canada equalled the proportion of men enlisting in the Porcupine for overseas service in the first world war. The women of the Porcupine Camp showed equal patriotism. Their fork for the Red Cross, the D. Y. B. Club, the Patriotic Fund, the numerous church and lodge patriotic societies, the Navy League, and all the other organizations working for patriotic causes, was outstanding. There was no question as to the devotion of the women of Timmins and the Porcupine to the British Empire.

It was almost inevitable that the ladies so interested in patriotic effort should be attracted to a patriotic society of their own. During the war years the thought was mentioned many times. It may be that one good Timmins lady explained why nothing was done before 1919, when she said: "We're just too busy working for patriotic causes to organize anything but the work itself."

I.O.D.E. Comes to Timmins

As soon as the war was over, the thought of establishing a chapter of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire was taken up in Timmins. Mrs. J. A. McInnis, wife of the mayor of Timmins at the time, was one of the leaders in the proposal to bring the I.O.D.E. to Timmins. She was strongly supported by a large group of other ladies.

On Tuesday evening, May 12, 1919, there was a large and enthusiastic gathering of the ladies of Timmins to hear an address by Mrs. George Mitchell, of Cobalt, acting as an organizing secretary for the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire. The meeting was held in the old town hall. Everything else about that meeting was a credit to Timmins.

Mrs. Mitchell gave an able and eloquent outline of the aims and objects of the I.O.D.E., and the notable work being accomplished by the Order in days of peace, no less than in times of war.

Mrs. Mitchell noted in passing that there were at the time some 750 Chapters, with a total membership of 50,000. Before the ladies went home from that meeting, there were approximately 751 Chapters, with a total membership of at least 50,031.

The First Officers

After the gathering had formally decided by resolution to establish a new chapter of the I.O.D.E. under the title, "Timmins Golden Chapter," at the meeting proceeded to elect the first officers.

So impressed were the Timmins

ladies with the address of Mrs. Mitchell, of Cobalt, that she was asked to accept the office of Honorary Regent of the new chapter. She graciously declined, suggesting instead that this office should go to Mrs. Alexander, one of the most popular and beloved of all the ladies in Timmins, and the oldest British subject present at the meeting. Mrs. Alexander, bright and charming at seventy-five or more, declined all other offices, but was prevailed upon to accept this honorary position.

The first officers of Timmins Golden Chapter I.O.D.E. were as follows: Honorary Regent—Mrs. Margaret Alexander; Regent, Mrs. (Dr.) J. A. McInnis; First Vice Regent, Miss Ellen Copp; Second Vice-Regent, Mrs. L. E. Dorway; Secretary, Mrs. Gordon D. Mitchell; Echo's Secretary, Mrs. Digby Grimston; Educational Secretary, Mrs. R. Allen; Treasurer, Mrs. J. Paul Taitton; Standard Bearer, Mrs. A. F. Carriere.

Honours to Mrs. Mitchell, Cobalt. At the conclusion of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Mitchell of Cobalt, for her inspiring address, and her talented aid in instituting the new chapter of the I.O.D.E. Mrs. Mitchell was also named as one of the Councillors of the new chapter. Her hesitation in accepting this office, was overcome, amid laughter and applause, when one good lady said bluntly: "You see, we want to keep you as our friend. We want to have the right to call on you for advice at any time!"

"Deeds Will Prove Our Worth!" Timmins Golden Chapter I.O.D.E. was happy in its choice of a motto, and happy, too, through the thirty-one years since then, in keeping that motto alive by living up to it.

The motto adopted by Timmins Golden Chapter was: "Deeds Will Prove Our Worth!"

Through the years the "Worth" of Timmins Golden Chapter has been amply proven by the "Deeds."

During the last world war Timmins Chapter, like all the other chapters of the I.O.D.E., did its part in patriotic effort, while in the days of peace the Chapter has always been alert and ready for any patriotic work, and has been particularly valuable because it has viewed as patriotic anything that tends to welfare any progress and betterment.

Scholarships for bright students financially unable to continue, at school on their own resources; essay contests to encourage patriotic study and thought; interest in moral issues

and in affairs affecting municipal, provincial and Dominion progress; all these found keen attention and ready action from Timmins Golden Chapter.

There are many patriotic occasions in piece time, as well as in war, and in these the Timmins Golden Chapter always took special part. Some of the historic patriotic parades in Timmins, for example, will be remembered because of the artistic and effective floats entered by the I.O.D.E. The impressive "Britannia" float with Mrs. J. E. Keene as Queen, and others of the Golden Chapter as supporting cast, was a particularly effective example of the interest and the talent of the local I.O.D.E.

The First Two Years

But it is not the intention, here and now, to attempt to review the activities and enterprises of Timmins Golden Chapter as supporting cast, was a particularly effective example of the interest and the talent of the local I.O.D.E.

The First Two Years

But it is not the intention, here and now, to attempt to review the activities and enterprises of Timmins Golden Chapter during the first thirty-one years of its useful life. Instead, there will be only brief reference to the work of the Chapter during the years. In those first two years, deeds certainly proved the worth of Timmins Golden Chapter. As the Order has continued along somewhat similar lines through the years, the record for the two years suggests the pattern of the worth of the Order.

A Good Service Club

At the commencement of its career Timmins Golden Chapter gave leadership in many matters now looked after by service clubs. Before 1923 there was not a single service club in the Camp. In addition to what might be termed service club work Timmins Golden Chapter found scores of other helpful works to do. For example, the Chapter was of considerable value to the town and other authorities when effort was made to secure a complete list of all the men who had enlisted from Timmins and district in the first world war.

And That Civic Banquet

All arrangements for the civic banquet tendered the returned men on December 2nd, 1919, at Timmins, were left in the hands of the local Chapter of the I.O.D.E. That banquet proved a genuine feast—a feast of music and friendliness, as well as of the choicest food. That banquet established a high standard for I.O.D.E. events, but the local chapter always appeared to be able to meet its own high standards.

Those high standards were certainly maintained in the first Rose Ball held under the auspices of the I.O.D.E. in the Masonic hall on New Year's Eve, 1919. With about 150 couples present the event was a great success from every standpoint. One local man voiced a general opinion when he said: "I never saw an old year go out and a new one come in under happier auspices." The I. O.D.E. Rose Ball has held its popularity through the years.

Brought Chautauqua Here

Perhaps, the outstanding service of Timmins Golden Chapter in 1920 was the sponsoring of the famous Chautauqua entertainments at Timmins. This meant four afternoons and four evenings of high-class entertainment. The event in 1920 was held in the Timmins rink in the latter part of July. There were lectures by famous travellers and philosophers, music by outstanding artists, vocal and instrumental, and variety entertainment of the most attractive kind.

The spirit of co-operation of those early days is suggested by the fact that on the Sunday preceding the event, immine Citizens' Band opened the event with a band concert in the rink, some of the artists of the Chautauqua taking a part in the program. In addition the immine Citizens' Band presented a brief programme before each of the evening sessions of the Chautauqua.

by the press. Fishing in Northern Ontario was nil. I went to fish at the Moose River one day, and had no strike at all — the water was too high, too muddy and too fast. ALEXANDER OF TUNIS Government House, Ottawa. 1.6.50.

Letters to the Editor

ST. MARY'S \$29,000.00

To The Advance, Sir,

I have for acknowledgement your letter of recent date in which you ask for information regarding the amount of the Government grant to St. Mary's Hospital, Timmins, for the year 1949.

This amounted to \$23,956.95 plus a special bonus of \$5,989.23 (being 25 per cent of the grant, which was awarded to all hospitals in the Province for the year 1949).

J. T. PHAIR, M.B., D.H.
Deputy Minister of Health, Department of Health, Toronto, 25.5.50.

NOTE: — Since government revenue is usually about ten percent of total expenditures (though of course it varies, according to size, indigents, improvements and other factors), the expenditures of St. Mary's Hospital might be estimated at about one quarter of a million dollars for the year 1949. — Ed.

FISHING NO GOOD

To The Advance, Sir,

I am sorry not to have been able to answer before but have only just returned to Ottawa after a three-week tour.

I can tell you little more than you already know about the flood in Winnipeg which has been well covered

NATURE UNSPOILED



YOURS TO PROTECT

THE CRESTED FLYCATCHER is common in parks, orchards and woodlands. He's olive-grey, reddish-brown and sulphur-yellow in color. Look for his short, ragged crest. His loud, harsh cry is heard in tall trees everywhere. He lives on insects, and should be protected.

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Bishop, in The St. Louis Star-Times