

No More Romance In Gold Mining

Machine and Geologists Take the Glamour Out of Rich Industry

BY JOHN KAMPS

HELENA, Mont. (CP) — Machines have deglamorized gold mining. Some 45 years ago prospectors bought a mule, pack, grub, pickaxe, pan and plug of tobacco and took off into the mountains. When he made a strike, hundreds joined him, hacked gold out of the hills and washed it out of the streams.

It's different now. Geologists find and test gold-bearing gravel, and determine exactly how much precious metal it contains. A company builds a half-million-dollar dredge, loads it on several railway cars, ships it to the "strike" and sets it up on a small, man-made lake. A man pulls levers and the machine washes and sifts the gold on a mechanical 24-hour basis.

A number of these giant dredges are working Montana diggings overlooked or abandoned by miners during the bonanzas of the 1800's. One operated by Winston Brothers of Minneapolis, has been working historic Prickly Pear gulch near Helena since 1939.

The Winston dredge floats on the water of tiny Prickly Pear creek. It is powered by electricity. It's a tremendous machine of steel superstructure, which floats on a pontoon-type steel hull that is roughly 100 feet long and 50 feet wide, and it weighs more than 600 tons.

The dredge has a continuously moving line of 86 steel buckets which dig 32 to 45 feet below the water level into gravel and sand. Each bucket brings six to eight cubic feet of material. It takes about 360 horsepower to keep the ponderous bucket chain moving.

Occasionally, when a bucket strikes a boulder, the dredge bucks like a rodeo cañuse, despite two 13-ton anchor spuds driven deep into bed rock beneath the creek.

A dregmaster directs the digging with levers. The buckets dump automatically and the gravel and sand hit the first separation press in a circular compartment, under heavy streams of water. Rocks and gravel are carried out on a belt and the finer stuff is retained.

Water raffles perform the next process and then the black gold-bearing sand goes into eight two-cell placer rigs which bounce and sift out the precious metal.

The process eventually is finished in a small cylinder the amalgamating barrel. Mercury feeds into the barrel to attract the gold. The payoff looks like a ball of lead foil. That is placed in a retort which extracts the mercury and leaves a gold brick for shipment to the Denver mint.

Occasionally a sapphire turns up. One Montana dredge was permitted to keep working during the war, mining commercial sapphires for technical instruments.

The Winston dredge has plowed through miles of Prickly Pear gulch. The machine has buried topsoil and piled up gravel along the valley — in meadows owned by a rancher, who receives royalty on every ounce of gold that goes through the mill.

A dredge runs through 4,000 to 6,000 cubic yards of gravel every 24 hours. Operators say each yard must yield about 20 cents worth of gold to pay expenses and provide a profit. That figures about \$1,000 a day gross, and it would seem that almost any royalty on such a sum would rent a lot of pastureland.

CIDER IS POPULAR BUT APPLES SCARCE

LONDON (CP) — Beer shortages have made cider more popular than ever in the United Kingdom but agriculture ministry reports on the 1946 cider apple crop indicate cider supplies also may run short soon.

In 1945 the crop was small and the industry this year expected the heavy production which usually follows a poor year. But with maturity at hand the Hereford crop is only fair, in Gloucester light and in South Devon not more than one-tenth of a good crop.

"It is now obvious that the total amount of apples available to the cider factories will fall far short of requirements," said the ministry. "Stocks of cider carried over are smaller than for many years past and the output and shortage of many factories have both been increased. Indeed, a good crop in all areas would not more than meet present needs."

Growers of market apples are being asked to assist cider production by selling small and low-grade apples to cider makers, who will pay up to 14 pounds (\$56) a ton for suitable lots.

NEW CEMENT PLANT FOR WEST COAST

VICTORIA, B. C. (CP) — A plant costing several million dollars will be constructed and a new tonnage established at Hore Lake on Vancouver Island by the British Columbia Cement Company Ltd., company officials have announced.

Lime deposits are estimated to be sufficient for 375 years of capacity operation of the plant. More than 200 workers will be employed. The townsite will be laid out on the eastern end of the lake where the "mountain of lime" is located.

RECOLLECTIONS OF ACTON

BACK IN 1896

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, October 22nd, 1896

It is but a few months since the new survey of Fairview Cemetery was opened, but already a considerable number of plots have been sold and interments taken place. Three fine monuments have lately been placed.

Geulph City Council made a wise choice at their meeting on Monday evening when Mr. J. James Moore was selected as city treasurer. Mr. Moore is the eldest son of Principal Thomas T. Moore of Acton Public School, and Mr. Moore has himself been principal of St. George's School in Geulph.

The Acton Tanning Co. has closed down for a week or ten days to permit of new furnaces being put in. Potatoes are selling at 35c per bag. Wheat has sold on the market this week for 88c to 90c.

Mr. Alex. Secord is having his fine residence on Bowser Avenue fitted with radiators and pipes.

The first snow storm of the season was experienced on Saturday. About an inch of snow fell but soon melted.

The anniversary services in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday last were largely attended. Rev. D. Strachan, D.D. of Hespeler was the preacher. The solo in the evening by Mrs. Fred Thompson was appreciated.

BORN
GRANT, In Elm on Thursday, 15th October, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grant, a daughter.
WEST, In Rockwood on Saturday, October 17th, to Mr. and Mrs. Thos. West, a daughter.

BACK IN 1926

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, October 22nd, 1926

A tug-of-war match last Saturday afternoon in the Park between the Beardmore & Co. and Acton Tanning Co. plants proved quite an interesting feature for a number of spectators.

Acton's new crest is the same as the one used by Acton, England, except for changing the oak leaves, which support the design to Canadian maple leaves. Mr. H. P. Moore has requested the pleasure of having the new crest prepared by a competent artist and engraving made of the same.

A mock parliament was organized by the Young People's League of the United Church on Monday night. The candidates for the Premiership were Frank Cook, Melbourne Overholt and Grenville Masales, Frank Cook was elected.

Mr. Harry Gibbons has sold his farm at Churchhill to Mr. John Eakin of Streetville.

MARRIED
WATKINS-STEWART, At Acton, on Saturday, October 23rd, 1926, by Rev. A. C. Stewart, M.A., Mary Eleanor, daughter of James Stewart and the late Mrs. Stewart, to John H. Watkins, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Watkins, all of Acton.

DIED
YOUNG, At the family residence, Acton, on Wednesday, October 27, 1926, Annie Young, wife of Daniel H. Young, in her 55th year.

Blind Gardener Awarded Prize

65-Year-Old Yorkton, Sask. Man Has Best-Kept Garden

YORKTON, Sask. (CP) — The "green" fingers which won Charles Baldwin of Yorkton a special prize for his garden recently are also "seeing" fingers.

Mr. Baldwin has been blind for 20 years. The Yorkton horticultural society awarded the 65-year-old former travelling salesman a special first prize for the best kept home grounds in the town. He does his own planting and weeding, distinguishing varieties by texture of their leaves, stems and flowers.

His garden, which stretches over almost half a city block, is bordered with rows of flowers and contains 50 trees, all of them planted by Mr. Baldwin.

"I use a string and a couple of pegs and I take plenty of time," he said when asked how he was able to plant the rows of flowers straight.

The garden trees provide a natural sanctuary for birds and Mr. Baldwin knows them by their calls.

"There is a meadow lark that has been coming back here for the past six years. Each spring she has her nest in the same spot just outside the fence area."

When snow comes, Mr. Baldwin chops and piles his own supply of wood which he uses in the hearth fire he stacks while listening to hockey games and boxing matches.

Mr. Baldwin said that for one without sight the first two years of sightlessness call for a great deal of adjustment "but after that a person doesn't miss it to any great degree."

WOULD HIRE ENGINEER

LAKE MEGANTIC, Que. (CP) — The town council will study a motion by councillor Wilfrid Belfleur that a permanent town engineer be engaged. The council voted to study the question after other councillors proposed that steps be taken to interview candidates for the proposed position.

AUCTION SALE

45 — HEAD DAIRY CATTLE — 45 AND DAIRY EQUIPMENT
The undersigned have received instructions from

PERCY BAINE
To sell by public auction at his farm, situated on 24 Highway about 2 miles N.E. of Geulph on

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd
Commencing at 2 o'clock, the following dairy cattle:

FRESH COWS Holstein Cow, fresh in Oct.; Holstein Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.; Jersey Cow, fresh in Oct.

SPRINGERS Blue Grey Holstein, due at time of sale; Holstein, due Oct. 15; Holstein, due Oct. 20; Jersey, due Nov. 1; Jersey Holstein, due Nov. 28; Ayrshire, due Dec. 5; Guernsey Cow, due Dec. 21; Hereford Cow, due Dec. 13; Jersey Holstein, due Dec. 4; Holstein Heifer, due Dec. 7; Jersey Ayrshire, due Dec. 6; Guernsey Cow, due Dec. 28; Holstein Cow, due Jan. Jersey Holstein Cow, bred Sept. 1, in full flow; Hereford, bred Aug. 28, in full flow; Holstein, bred Aug. 21, milking well; Blue, bred Aug. 20, milking well; Jersey Holstein, bred Aug. 26; Holstein, bred May 29; Holstein, bred June 1; Jersey Holstein, bred June 3; Jersey Holstein, bred Aug. 26; Brindle Heifer, bred June 1; Holstein Heifer, bred Aug. 26; Brindle Heifer, recently bred; Registered, in full, rising F.F.S., bred by E. J. Moore, Orton; De Laval Milking Machine, pump equipment, etc.; Milk Cans, Pails, Strainers, etc.

YOUNG STOCK 2 Holstein Heifers, 18 months; 2 Holstein Heifers, 10 months; 4 Holstein Heifers, 6 months; 3 Holstein Heifers, 3 months; 2 Holstein Heifers, 1 month; 1 Holstein Heifer, 2 weeks.

STOCKERS 4 Shorthorn Stockers, 1 Hereford Heifer, 6 months; 1 Hereford Heifer, 3 months; all cattle sold subject to blood test.

TERMS Cash on day of sale. No reserve as the proprietor is quitting the dairy business because of ill health.

Utokin W. I. will have a lunch counter on the grounds. Any person in need of good commercial dairy stock would do well to attend this sale.

HINDLEY AND ELLIOTT, Auctioneers, E. Gibbini, Clerk, B-2-13

CLEARING AUCTION SALE

OF CHOICE CATTLE, HORSES, PIGS, FARM IMPLEMENTS, HAY, GRAIN AND FURNITURE.

The undersigned have received instructions from

ARTHUR COULSON
To sell by public auction at his farm, Lot 3, Con. 4, Top of Nelson, 3 miles north of Nelson village, 1 1/2 miles south of Lowville on

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1st
Commencing at 10 o'clock, sharp, the following:

HORSES 1 Black Percheron Gelding, 4 yrs. old; 1 Bay Gelding, 12 yrs. old; 1 Black Mare, aged.

COWS AND YOUNG CATTLE — 2 part bred Hereford Cows, fresh calves at side; 1 part bred Hereford Cow, fresh 2 mos., not bred; 1 part bred Hereford Heifer, milking well, bred 2 mos.; 1 part bred Holstein Heifer, milking well, bred 2 mos.; 1 Blue Cow, milking well, bred 1 mos.; 1 Blue Heifer, milking well, bred 3 mos.; 1 Blue Heifer, milking well, bred 2 mos.; 1 part bred Hereford Cow, milking well, bred in June; 1 part bred Durham Cow, milking well, bred 1 mos.; 3 Holstein Heifer Calves, 4 mos. old; 1 Hereford Heifer, 2 yrs. old, fat; 1 Holstein Heifer, 6 mos. old; 2 Veal Calves. This is a choice, general purpose herd showing lots of milk and size.

PIGS AND POULTRY 25 year-old Hens, Rock and Red; 4 York Shoats; HAY, GRAIN, POTATOES, AND APPLES — 20 ton Timothy and Clover Hay, well cured; 10 ton Wheat Straw; 300 bus. Fall Wheat; 400 bus. Oats; A quantity of Timothy Seed; 25 bags Potatoes; quantity of Baldwin Apples.

FARM IMPLEMENTS, ETC. — M. H. Grain Binder, 6 ft., like new; Deering Corn Binder, in good shape; Int. Manure Spreader, like new; M. H. Grain Drill, 11 hoe; Sloop Sledge; Land Roller, steel, 2-row; Corn Suffer, with all attachments; Cock-shut Disc, 14-plate; Single Furrow Quebec Riding Plow; Walking Plow; Drag Harrows; Seed Harrows; M. H. Hay Loader; Dump Rake; Hay Fence Stretcher; Hay Fork and Rope; Milk Pails; Power Cream Separator with electric motor, 25 cycle, Viking, 100 lbs. new; Strainers; Water Pails; Water Cans; Grain Bags; Sacks; Odd Collars; Set of heavy Team Harness with new breeching; Odd Harness; Long Ladders; Cutter; Grindstone; Forks; Hoes; Shovels; Chains, etc.

FURNITURE — Brass Bed, spring & Mattress; Odd Bed, Spring, and Mattress; Dressers; Wash Stands; Hall Settee; Cook Stove; Wood Heater; Set of Wicker Chairs; High-backed Dining Room Chairs; Morris Chair; Arm Chair; Music Cabinet; Hall Hanging Lamp; Dining Room Hanging Lamp; Table Lamp; Coleman Lamp, quantity of Pictures and Pictures Frames; Rocking Chairs; Odd Chairs; Odd Tables, large and small; Odd Dishes.

TERMS — Cash settlement with clerk on day of sale. No reserve as the farm is sold and proprietor is giving up possession immediately after sale.

HINDLEY AND ELLIOTT, Auctioneers, E. Headhead, Clerk, B-16-2

Improvements to Lighten the Farmer's Burden

Only a farmer can appreciate the degree of skill, ingenuity and labor involved in keeping a farm running and producing successfully. Only a farmer can understand the long hours, the thought and the constant care necessary to make a farm operate at a profit.

But, to-day, modern science is doing much to lighten the farmer's burden and to increase his profits. Functional machinery, time-saving appliances, new methods of stock-breeding and raising, electrical aids to lighten the housewife's duties — all these things are now available to the farmer, to help him make his farm a "go-ahead" concern.

Farmers who wish to take advantage of such improvements will find a ready ally in the Bank of Montreal. The Bank's farm improvement loan plan makes it possible to own all the equipment required to make a farm pay profits.

A visit to the local branch of the B. of M. and a talk with the manager, William Clayton, may prove this low interest repayment plan meets your particular needs. You will find his sympathetic understanding of your financial problems can help make your burden lighter.

NEW FATHER REPORTS SHORTAGE OF NAMES

SYRACUSE, N. Y. (CP) — Now there's a shortage of girls' first names, according to the father of a three-week-old Liverpool, N. Y. girl, who returned a name form to the county unfilled.

In a letter to Bernard M. Mitchell, county registrar of vital statistics, the father wrote:

"We have not named the child yet and have no reason for believing we will do so soon. The fact is, we spent some time getting a name. The child turned out to be a girl and we could not use the name we spent so much trouble getting. Times being what they are shortages of everything — it will be impossible to get a name within a reasonable time."

Mitchell said it was the first time in the history of the department that a supplemental name form had been returned without the necessary information written in.

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DOMINION OF CANADA BONDS
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HAVE BEEN CALLED FOR PAYMENT NOVEMBER 1st 1946
These bonds should be presented for redemption with all coupons of later date attached. No further interest will be paid on these bonds after this date.

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Let's do THIS Together, too!
The new Canada Savings Bonds are here because most Canadians who bought Victory Bonds during the war said they would like to buy similar government securities with their savings after the war.
Canada Savings Bonds are for sale to individuals only. They are not intended to interfere with normal spending. They are designed especially to provide a convenient investment for personal savings.
There will be no organized house-to-house selling campaign. But your Bank of Nova Scotia Branch will gladly give you full information about Canada Savings Bonds, and arrange your purchase if you like. Let's talk it over together.
Canada Savings Bonds
— Backed by all resources of the Dominion of Canada.
— Registered in name of owner.
— Denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000.
— Immediately redeemable at face value plus interest.
— Interest coupons payable annually.
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