



Cut Ribbon To Open Mine Lab

It was metal shears, not scissors when Federal Mines Minister William M. Benidickson (second from right) last week cut a strip of pure nickel to open the million dollar Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited metallurgical laboratory in Richvale. Looking on from left are Joanne Prosser, lab employee; John Addison, York North M.P.; H. J. Fraser, Falconbridge president; and Minister of Mines for Ontario, George Wardrope.

"There is a vitally important role for federal and provincial government research in the mineral industry, but I also believe that industry in Canada should be doing more of its own operating research." Hon. William M. Benidickson, federal Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, said last Wednesday at the official opening of Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited metallurgical laboratories.

The minister cut a pure nickel ribbon produced in the laboratory to officially open the million-dollar structure. He said that with endeavours such as the Falconbridge laboratory, federal government programs can be directed more towards basic research and to projects which, though in the national interest, could not be undertaken in the early stages by an individual company.

He also urged the encouragement of new talent in the mining industry. "At a time such as this," he said, "with university enrolments in some mineral science fields at a critically low point, we, in industry and government must take stock and come up with a solution."

Commenting on the opening of the laboratory, H. J. Fraser, president of Falconbridge, said the expansion of his company's research facilities marked a fundamental change in its policy, and termed it an "investment in the future."

"Up until now," he said, "Falconbridge has marketed refined nickel only, and there has been no serious attempt on our part to follow through with an enlargement into the fields of nickel application."

"In the future, supported now by this research establishment and a complement of engineering and technical talent, Falconbridge is dedicated to a search of wider horizons in terms of uses for its products."

"We were prompted to make this additional investment ourselves," he continued, "because we firmly believe that you cannot make industry research-minded by simply providing research in government institutions or universities."

"Both of these bodies have important contributions to make and are making them. At the same time there is no substitute for science on the ground," he said.

More Active Home And School Supporters Needed

The season for activity by home and school associations is now well underway. Interested parents have met their children's teachers, and a programme of interest has been planned in each group which will give members a better insight into the working of our educational system.

From the beginning of home and school activity in Richmond Hill service to the schools has been a paramount objective. More than 30 years ago, the public school provided the ingredients from which the teachers made cocoa for all children carrying lunch to what is now McConaghy School. One woman who recalls enjoying this noontime treat told "The Liberal" that "Miss Fannie Richardson made the best brew."

At the same time a sum of money was set aside to be administered by the teachers to provide warm and weather-proof clothing for needy children. It will be recalled that this was during the worst depression years when many parents were unable to provide these necessities.

At a later period, the Richmond Hill Home and School Association also provided a half pint of milk daily for some children. Those parents who could afford to do so paid for their child's milk along with their own milk bill.

More recent projects of the association in the town have been the provision of library books in the newer schools and of playground equipment in others.

These are only a few examples of the work the associations have accomplished for the benefit of many succeeding groups of pupils in the public schools.

Home and school groups are limited to one money-making project during the year. The sum of money raised plus the annual fees are the only source of income available.

At the present time associations are active in four of the six public schools. In two of the largest schools, Beverley Acres and Walter Scott the association is inactive, although in the latter school it continued to operate until the close of last school year. As is true of every volunteer organization difficulties are often encountered in maintaining a regular, steady flow of capable and willing leaders. It is hoped that these associations will soon find the leadership

necessary to reactivate the programme of home and school work in their districts.

Training in leadership is not the least of the results achieved by the organization. Such training spills over to the benefit of the whole community. Many past and present school trustees and members of town council had their interest in school and municipal administration aroused while serving in an executive position with home and school.

Superintendent Gordon McIntyre paid tribute to the local groups when contacted by "The Liberal" in these words, "I heartily support all activities of home and school in Richmond Hill. The local organizations are well run and some very fine work has been accomplished in the past. Principals and teachers, generally, have given full support to the association which is an indication that they feel that it is performing an excellent job. These organizations keep open lines of communication between the educationists and parents, and are a great help to us in keeping in touch with what parents of our children expect from the school system."

OKay Student Teachers For 2 Markham Schools

Toronto Teachers' College students will be allowed to do practice teaching again this year in two Markham Township School Area schools.

This was a decision taken by board members when they met recently with Inspector Maynard Hallman to discuss problems of the coming term.

In discussing the advisability of such a programme, Mr. Hallman said, "This is a two-way street. We hope that any teacher we hire would have had this training, and it keeps the critics of the alert. I believe this is a bargain."

Chairman of Finance S. R. Patterson agreed. "We are part of a teaching programme," he said, "and how else are students to learn?"

Chairman Arnold Mortson and other board members felt a change of teachers is beneficial to children.

At Buttonville, No. 5, practice teaching will be done in the junior and intermediate rooms, and at No. 4 school on Leslie Street, students will practice in the primary and junior rooms. They will visit the area four times during the year, at suitable intervals.

At No. 7 school, north of Victoria Square on Don Mills Road, Principal Mrs. Lorisa Myers has found it necessary to resign at Christmas time, and the board agreed a student teaching programme would be inconvenient for a new principal.

Salary schedules for teachers were discussed, and Inspector Hallman urged the board to set forth their policy. It was agreed that a special committee meeting should be called for clarification and review of teachers' credentials and the salary schedule as it applies in T.S.A. No. 3.

Religious education classes were considered this year, but Mr. Mortson reported to the board that as yet no minister has been found with available time. Other ministers will be contacted. It was suggested by S. R. Patterson that religious history might be more valuable to pupils and this idea will be presented to the Department of Education.

That Oral French classes be introduced into T.S.A. No. 3 schools was given more thought and Mr. Hallman suggested the board should apply to the Department of Education through his office before such classes could be established. Any teacher of this subject would re-

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