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OIL CLAIMS STAKED ON NORTH MATTAGAMI RIVER

Fourteen Claims Recorded Last Week
About 40 Miles From Oil Can
Portage.

There have been suggestions at various times regarding oil fields in the far north of the North Land. Samples of oil shale have been brought down from north of Cochrane on more than one occasion, but nothing very definite has resulted from the occasional flurry regarding oil talk in this district. On one or two occasions oil claims there, for the scientific gentlemen continental and duly recorded, but the matter seemed to go no further than that. Geologists did not hasten to hail the district as a probable oil field, but that, of course, is neither here nor there, for the scientific gentlemen have seldom been convinced of the possibility of anything precious underground until after the prospectors and others have actually produced the goods. Many of the old-timers, however, have held to the belief that there was oil in the Mattagami district north of Cochrane. This faith seems to be supported by the fact that last week no less than fourteen oil claims were recorded at Haileybury last week. These claims are located alongside the Mattagami River north and west of Oil Can Portage, the point to which the present extension of the T. & N. O. from Cochrane is proposed to be built. The fourteen claims are fairly well grouped together, but they extend over an area of considerable extent. In referring to this feature The Haileyburian says:—"When the fact that an oil claim is composed of 640 acres, or one square mile, is taken into consideration, it can be seen that these fourteen claims cover a large area, and it looks as though there must be good indications of oil. Mining Recorder N. J. McAnlay says there have been previous recordings of claims in the northern part of the district, and that good samples of shale have been brought out."

Everyone in the North Land will be pleased to see the possibilities of the Oil Can oil fields thoroughly tested out, and if conditions warrant it, extensive development of the same undertaken at an early date. If there is oil of commercial grade and in commercial quantities in the district north of Cochrane, the development of the fields would be of great value to the North Land and to the Province generally. One of the big favourable

NO COST TOWN FOR LAST YEAR'S NIGHT CLASSES

Interesting Facts and Figures Regarding
Evening Classes.

Last year The Advance secured a number of interesting facts and figures regarding the Evening Classes held here last winter under the auspices of the Timmins Board of Education and the Provincial Dept. The classes last winter were considered by the Dept. as eminently successful, and locally they were undoubtedly of unusual benefit and advantage. Also it is interesting to note that they did not cost the Town anything. Even if they had cost the Town something they would have been worth it. But the figures show the total cost to have been \$1184.00. On the other side of the matter, there must be considered the fees collected of \$227.50, and the Government grant of approximately \$1000.00. The evening classes, accordingly, so far as the Town was concerned, broke even financially, the cost to the community being nothing. The total cost of \$1184.00 was made up of salaries paid of \$1084.00 and equipment of \$100.00. The total registration for the classes last year was 73. The total number of hours in which pupils were taught in the classes totalled 3655. The total attendances for the classes is placed at 2351.

The evening classes now in progress at the Public School promise to be even more successful than those of last winter. There is a larger attendance than at the same time last year and the interest seems to be even greater. These classes offer unrivalled opportunity to all in the district for improvement of education and for betterment of opportunities in life. In this way they are of the greatest benefit to the community, and if this year like last, they cost the community nothing in actual cash, then the community may well be said to be way ahead on the deal.

The Caledonian Society of Timmins is observing St. Andrew's Night by an "At Home" in the I.O.O.F. Hall on the regular meeting night, Friday of this week, November 25th, at 8 p.m.

features would be the easy accessibility, the suggested field north of Cochrane having an unusual advantage in this regard over Fort Norman, for instance.

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