

# The Kowkash Gold Area Well Worth Prospecting

(Continued from last issue)

### Economic Geology.

At present gold is the chief mineral sought for in the area, but there was considerable prospecting for iron in earlier years.

The iron occurs on the Onaman iron range, which was examined in detail by E. S. Moore in 1907 and 1908. He found the iron formation to occur in two bands, called the northern and southern ranges, the former extending for nine miles and the latter three miles in an east and west direction. The formation is composed largely of red jasper, often banded, and magnetite. There are considerable deposits of these minerals, but they are interbedded with much slate and some greywacke.

Quartz veins carrying gold values in parts of the area have been known for some time, particularly from the Cross-Summit lake area. A. H. A. Robinson, in 1906, obtained an assay return of 80 cents per ton from a vein on the west shore of Summit lake. Another sample on the Lily river, two miles from Summit lake, yielded \$2.80 of gold per ton. W. A. Parks reports an assay value of \$1 per ton in gold from a sample from Cross lake. In 1909 E. V. Neelands obtained traces of gold from several samples collected along the Kawashkagama river above Howard falls.

Dodds' find in 1915 led to others, particulars of which are given below. The prospectors are busily engaged in the region but enough prospecting has not yet been done to prove the prospects.

A boolder of pyrite, about three feet across, was reported from a point about two miles northwest of Paska station.

A few specks of native copper were seen in quartz veins near the Tashota gravel pit.

No silver was present in the several samples which were assayed.

The trees are mostly second growth and consist of small spruce, poplar, balsam of gilead, pine, birch and cedar, along the rivers occasionally attaining a diameter of two feet. On the whole, these are suitable for pulpwood and locally for ties, posts and small timber. Large areas have been recently burned. The east boundary of the Nipigon forest reserve, which is not surveyed, is approximately shown on the map.

Small tracts of country are suitable for agricultural purposes.

Whitefish, pickerel, pike, suckers and brook trout are plentiful in these waters. The rapids on the Kawashkagama river and the numerous brooks entering the river are famed for their speckled trout, some of which are two feet in length.

Many small undeveloped water powers occur on the rivers. Howard falls on the Kawashkagama river would make an excellent water power. The 19-ft. fall here is caused by a hornblende-chlorite ridge through which the river cuts, making a narrow canyon-like gorge fourteen chains long. W. J. Wilson notes that the gorge is from twenty to thirty feet deep, and the water descends in steps and slides varying from one to five feet.

### Description of Gold Claims.

The main properties visited are described as follows:

**Dodds.**—The original gold find which caused the rush to the area was made on the Dodds' claim, T.B. 2424, about three-quarters of a mile east of Howard falls, on the Kawashkagama river. The quartz vein strikes 10 degrees south of east and dips 75 degrees to the north, thus conforming in strike and dip with the country rock. On the surface, the vein which is one to five inches wide, averages three inches in width. The quartz is somewhat glassy in appearance and largely free from sulphides. An abundance of free gold occurred for four or five feet along the hanging wall part of the vein. On the north side of the vein is a rusty schist band six inches wide which is heavily impregnated with iron pyrites. The wall rock is pillow lava (meta-basalt) altered in places to schist. Numerous quartz porphyry dikes up to thirty feet wide occur on the claim.

The claim was optioned by T. B. Caldwell, of Lanark, Ont., and Messrs Fraser and Orn. On October 23rd the vein had been stripped for 100 feet, exposing two specks of gold toward the western end, and a 14-foot pit had been sunk. In sinking, the showing of free gold disappeared in a few feet. At the bottom of the shaft the vein is two inches wide with a foot of pyritous schist on the foot wall, but no gold was visible. A channel sample across twelve inches of the pyritous schist from the bottom of the shaft gave an assay of \$2 in gold. Work was suspended early

in November. It is reported that arrangements have been made to sink a 150-foot shaft.

Richardson-London-Ogilvie — During the first week in October, 1915, gold was found on claim T.B. 2509, near the first rapids on the Kawashkagama river below the junction of Johnson creek. The quartz vein is narrow, averaging about two inches in width over a length of 200 feet. The vein strikes south 85 degrees east and dips about 70 degrees to the south. The rock is Keewatin pillow lava, and near the vein is a biotite granite dike 6 feet wide. Coarse gold could be seen in 6 or 7 places along the vein, and pyrite is also present. Rock outcrops in this vicinity are scarce, but further trenching may reveal larger auriferous quartz veins.

**Dawson.**—About two miles northwest of the Richardson claim across sand plains and intervening swamps is the Dawson claim, T.B. 2620, where gold was reported to have been found about October 22nd, 1915. The quartz vein strikes north and south for 400 feet and dips about 60 degrees to the east. The vein is lenticular and will average about one foot in width. Chalcopyrite, pyrite and chlorite are disseminated throughout the rusty quartz. The country rock is massive, green, altered Keewatin diabase.

**Devanney.**—On account of obtaining visible gold and high assays from the Devanney claim, near Tashota, 22 miles west of Kowkash station, as much staking has gone on around Tashota as around the Dodds' property. The Devanney claim, T.B. 2650, lies about one and a quarter miles north of Tashota station on the north west shore of Tashota Lake. The vein strikes south 60 degrees east and dips from 50 to 70 degrees to the southwest. The vein is lenticular, varying from a few inches up to four feet in width, and having an average width of a foot or more. It can be traced intermittently for about 600 feet. The quartz is milky, in places rusty, and contains a little fine gold, a telluride in considerable amount, also pyrite and pyrrolite. A polished surface of the ore shows that there are probably three tellurides present. Three pieces of quartz containing a small amount of the tellurium mineral gave \$27.60 in gold to the ton. The wall rock is a Keewatin greenstone consisting of chlorite, calcite and quartz. Quartz porphyry dikes occur on the claim and in the vicinity. The little trenching that has been done shows the prospect to be an interesting one.

**McFarlane-Manion.**—At mileage 54.3 west of Grant, or four miles east of Redmond on the north side of the track on claim T.B. 2722, is a quartz-calcite vein, two to ten feet wide in a Keewatin greenstone which is said to

## ABITIBI PAPER CO. HOLD ANNUAL BALL IN NEW HALL

A point where they can enjoy a little well-earned recreation, and have arranged for the first annual ball to be held on the night of Monday, April 24th. The Company's new Public Hall will be opened on that occasion for the first time, and we have no hesitation at all in saying that it is one of the finest halls on this side of Toronto, as regards light, space, layout, and its beautiful hardwood dancing floor.

Invitations have been sent broadcast, North and South of this town, and a special train has been arranged with the T. & N. O. Commission to meet No. 1 at Porquois Junction on that evening. Everything that forethought and business acumen can suggest has been done to make Easter

extend across several claims in an east-west direction. Mr. McFarlane has sunk a pit 11 feet deep on the vein where it strikes south 70 degrees east and dips 70 degrees to the north. A one-half inch vein of galena occurs near the foot wall. Chipped samples for assay taken in three sections with a moil and hammer across the vein at the bottom of the pit gave as follows: No. 1, 1 1/2 ft. hanging wall part of vein, gold none, silver none; No. 2, 3 1/2 ft. centre of vein, gold \$1.20, silver none; No. 3, 1 1/2 in. foot wall part of vein, containing galena, gold \$6.00, silver none.

### Conclusions.

The Kowkash area, comprising 600 or more square miles, is similar geologically to other northern Ontario Keewatin areas, for instance, Porcupine. In these schistose rocks quartz veins are plentiful. Gold, at this early stage, is known to be widely distributed. The Dodds vein contained a small rich pocket of ore, and the Devanney vein carries a telluride in addition to gold. Enough work has not been done to prove that the gold occurs in paying quantities. Prospecting is somewhat difficult in places on account of the heavy overburden while other parts are rocky and burned. The transportation facilities are excellent on account of the railway and splendid waterways. The area is worthy of thorough prospecting, which it undoubtedly will receive during the coming summer. Besides gold, the prospector should be on the lookout for iron and pyrite.

The mammoth pulp and paper plant of the Abitibi Power and Paper Co. is in full swing and turning up to capacity.

The paper makers have now got to Monday night a memorable one for everyone having the good fortune to be present.

Mr. A. F. McLeod, one of the machine tenders, is chairman of the Committee, and he has been untiring in his efforts to make the ball a big success. We have pleasant recollections of the Firemen's Ball last year, just previous to the first paper machine starting, but the present occasion is somewhat on a different scale, and will be, we trust, only the forerunner of many such affairs.

Arrangements have already been made with the various hotels on the Townsite to accommodate the large number of ladies and gentlemen who will come in, but if the gentlemen portion of the visitors have to put up with a little bit of crowding, we know they will not mind the inconvenience.

A train will leave Ironquois Falls at 7.50 on the morning of the 25th for connections South and on the Porcupine Branch, and at 12.45 p.m. for North and the Porcupine Branch.

A very enjoyable night is anticipated and we understand one of the finest orchestras obtainable has been engaged for the occasion.

## HOUSE BURNS IN LAKEVIEW TOWNSITE WITH TOTAL LOSS

The large frame house, property of Mrs. Sollers, was totally destroyed by fire at noon on Saturday last. The fire started downstairs and it is believed was due to stove-pipe cleaning operations which were in progress at the time, and Mr. R. Worrill who was doing the work was in the upstairs part of the house when the conflagration started. He sustained slight burns in making his escape. Valuable aid in preventing the flames from spreading to Mr. Crawford's house, which is nearby, was given by Mr. G. Hamilton who had several lengths of hose close at hand and was able to get a stream of water on the building in pretty quick time. Also the boys of the 159th Battalion were soon on hand to render aid. The local Fire Brigade were on the scene with their usual swiftness. The loss will be a heavy one. Mrs. Sollers was about to leave for the south and had most of her personal effects packed and all arrangements completed.

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