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## BIG THINGS AHEAD FOR NORTH LAND

"A Remarkable Outlook" Says Toronto Journal.

In a recent issue The Canadian Mining News devotes some special attention to the North Land. In one of two of the cases quoted of mines re-opened this year the mines have since closed down temporarily, but this is more than offset by unmentioned mines now opened up with good prospects. Consequently, it is not too much to say that the article in The Canadian Mining News, despite its apparent tone of optimism, is after all only a very conservative and careful statement of facts that are quite evident to those who live in the North Country and study its prospects at close range. The Canadian Mining News says:-

This year there is a remarkable outlook for the north country. During 1916 development work has been resumed by no less than 18 companies in Porcupine, these being the Anchorite, Apex, Augerite, Chisolm, Vet, Davidson, Dome Extension, Gold Reef, Inspiration, Jupiter, Maidens-MacDonald, McIntyre, Newray, Perseverance, Platt, Vet, Premier, Ross, Success and West Dome. These holdings extend from the extreme northern part of Tisdale to the Maidens-MacDonald in Deloro and from the Inspiration in the west of Tisdale to the Gold Reef in Whitney Township. Besides there are several other properties which have been or are about to be re-opened. McIntyre began dividend payments in 1917 and at least two other companies are expected to join the dividend list from Porcupine in the next six months.

Kirkland Lake has one dividend payer, but by the end of 1917 will probably have two or three more. Boston Creek is now the most promising new gold mine and camp in the north country and will make history during the present year. This property has developed a million and a half of the finest tonnage of bonanza ore ever seen in that country and is getting ready to treat this ore with our shipping and plans are maturing for the building of a mill on the ground. Cobalt is still on a prosperous basis, although the camp has had a history almost equal to that of the Comstock Lode and has paid to stockholders in dividends to date approximately \$70,000,000. Several of the mines there are operating the Caloway flotation process, providing for an increased recovery of around two ounces of silver from each ton of ore treated. This adds something like \$1.50 per ton to the value of Cobalt ore and enhanced prices for silver are likewise vastly important in the revenues of the great silver camp. Geology is also playing a prominent part in the rejuvenation of Cobalt, notably in the cases of Temiskaming and Beaver, where exploratory work has proceeded below the diabase still with results which are reported to be very encouraging and in the draining of some of the lake areas, where a large acreage of silver veins and veinlets have been exposed. We understand the other day that the Kerr Lake had uncovered another silver sidewalk.

We believe the future of Ontario absolutely discounts the possibility of bearish influences intervening to any material extent. Come war or come peace, we believe the destiny of this section is fully assured. With the return of peace, new capital will seek this great province with its vast undeveloped resources and the labor market, which has been frightfully liquidated and depleted, due to the demands of the war, will be augmented and workers will be supplied, with cheaper material and lesser living costs, to carry forward Ontario's matchless destiny, "mid snow and ice, to 'Excelsior'!"

## PLAN OF THE U.S. "SELECTIVE DRAFT"

In the North Land, as elsewhere throughout Canada, there are many who believe that this country should have had some form of compulsory military service from the very commencement of the war. Such people, and of course others with different views will be interested in the plan adopted by the United States president and endorsed so strongly by Congress and the U.S. Senate. All will, however, be still more interested in watching the actual working out of the plan. It is very much within the range of probability that there will be much dissatisfaction with the method adopted in the United States,—perhaps as much dissatisfaction as with our own "hit and miss" plan here. Undoubtedly, there is opportunity for all sorts of favoritism and injustice if the U.S. plan is conducted with any eye to political pull and influence,—and does any one doubt but

## People's Railway Made Over \$528,000 Profit Last Year

ANNUAL REPORT OF T. & N. O. JUST ISSUED GIVES INTERESTING FACTS FOR LAST FISCAL YEAR.

The fifteenth annual report of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway Commission, for the fiscal year ending October 31st, 1916, has just been issued by the King's Printer. It contains much interesting information about the People's Railway.

The total operating revenue for last year was \$2,138,121.95, as against \$1,550,403.33 for 1915. The operating expenses were \$1,594,177.46 for 1916 while for 1915 they were \$1,556,049.87.

The net operating revenue for 1916 was \$543,944.49, while for 1915 it was less than \$200,000. Thus 1916 was the best year the T. & N. O. has yet enjoyed, despite the many handicaps encountered.

It is expected that this census will result in 7,000,000 names being obtained. From this list of 7,000,000 names, two million of those who can be most easily spared will be chosen. Of course in this choosing there will be no opportunity for wholesale favoritism, oh, no! Then from the 2,000,000, five hundred thousand will be chosen by lot, and each state will be required to furnish a proportionate number of the half million.

After registration, exemptions will be granted to Legislative, Executive and Judicial officers of the United States and the several States, persons belonging to religious organizations whose creeds are against war and preachers of any religious denomination.

Furthermore, the President may in his discretion exempt, or draft for partial service, Custom House clerks, persons handling mails, workmen employed in arsenals, navy yards and armories, persons engaged in industries necessary to the maintenance of the military establishments, pilots and mariners of merchant vessels, persons having dependant families and all persons who are morally or physically deficient. Those who are "financially deficient" are naturally not mentioned. Not many of them all will escape even "by lot."

All this figures out to leave the total net earnings at \$528,705.46 for 1916.

On the main line, North Bay to Cochrane, the mileage operated is 252.29 miles. The Charlton branch is 7.60 miles; Porcupine and Iroquois Falls branches, 40.11; Elk Lake, 28.50. These with the Nipissing Central, 13.26 miles, and the yards, sidings, and double tracking bring the total mileage up to 454.31 miles. The net mileage of road operated is 328.5.

The total payroll for 1916 amounted to \$1,127,885.74. In 1915 it was \$953,209.41.

The revenue for 1916 from freight business amounted to \$1,320,569.33, and from passenger service \$624,968.12.

For additions and betterments to the service, such as shops, engine houses, machinery, additional rolling stock, ties, rails, etc., \$463,604.15 was expended in 1916, as against \$112,921.55 in 1915, and \$488,710.75 in 1914.

During the year practically all freight clerks, checkers, truckers and

general station staffs, have been given increases ranging from \$5 to \$10 per month. Material increases were also given laborers and maintenance of way men.

For Fire Relief purposes last July the Commission put all its facilities at the disposal of those in charge of relief work, incurring thus an expenditure for relief trains, telegrams, shipments diverted, etc., etc., amounting to \$9,822.07.

The T. & N. O. Railways' Patriotic Association, which includes the employees of the road, is given a proud place in the report by the Commission. The Commission gave \$10,000 to the Patriotic Fund and Red Cross, while the employees contributed \$22,309.88. The above is apart from many personal subscriptions made direct by employees and members of the Commission, and exclusive of the monthly subscriptions by the entire office staff in Toronto to the "50,000" Club.

A total of 91 employees joined the Canadian Expeditionary Forces since war was declared. This means (exclusive of the reservists who joined the colors of their respective countries) that over 11 per cent. of the employees of the Commission have enlisted. To those joining Canadian battalions the Commission have given an honorary recognition in the form of a donation to each member, and this has entailed an expenditure of over \$11,500.

### FOURTEEN HORSES WERE BURNED NEAR BALTIMORE

On the eve of the opening of the spring meet of the Maryland Club, fire broke out last week at the Pimlico race track, and burned the twin stables of Dr. J. S. Tyree and the Sage people of New York. Fourteen valuable horses perished, including Don Moran and San Fara. Incendiaryism is suspected. As will be noted by the item elsewhere in this issue this is the second bunch of valuable race-horses to be burned to death recently through fires thought to be of incendiary origin.

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