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Land on Transcontinental Selected for Soldiers' Farms

FIRST DRAFT OF 22 RETURNED SOLDIERS ALSO SELECTED FOR MONTEITH TRAINING SCHOOL. TOWNSHIPS OF OWEN AND O'BRIEN TO BE SETTLED.

As suggested in The Advance last week the Committee sent to the North Land to select suitable land for settling Returned Soldiers upon were most impressed with the soil and conditions about 70 miles west of Cochrane. When the Committee returned to Toronto last week their recommendation was that the Townships of Owen and O'Brien, 60 or 70 miles west of Cochrane on the National Transcontinental Railway, be set apart for Returned Soldiers and Sailors who wish to settle on the land. As noted in these columns last week the Committee visiting here to "spy out the land" for the Returned Soldiers, included:—Mr. C. F. Bailey, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Private Jack Munroe, one of the North Land's own old timers, and a hero of the famous Princess Pats; Major Kennedy, of Dixie, a Returned Soldier, who is a farmer by profession; Capt. Thos. Magladery, M.P.P.; Geo. W. Lee, T. & N. O. Commissioner; J. F. Whitson of the Colonization Roads Department; and S. A. Johnston, B.S.A., of the Ontario Government staff.

The party visited various sections of the North Land and investigated and studied conditions. For the present they recommend first the setting aside of the Townships of Owen and O'Brien for the proposed settlements. Mr. Bailey, who had charge of the Committee says that this tract, which has not been opened for settlement, is typical of the best land of the clay belt of Northern Ontario. It is near McPherson, which is the station for the Dominion Experimental Farm in that district, and also for the Kapuskasing Internment Camp. The land for six miles east and west of McPherson is all clay of the right type. It has a gentle slope and is exceedingly desirable for agricultural development, well watered by the Kapuskasing River and numerous small lakes and streams. The townships are each about six miles square. Practically all the land is covered by green bush, with the exception of a strip in O'Brien Township which has been cleared by the alien enemies interned at Kapuskasing. This strip is 600 feet wide and six miles long, on either side of the railway, stretching from McPherson station to the boundary line of Fauquier township, and continuing west in the township of Owens for about three miles.

Last week another Committee was formed under the Provincial Government Act to carry out the provisions of the legislation. This Committee

includes:—Albert A. Grigg, Deputy Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, C. F. Bailey, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Wm. Banks, and J. B. Laidlaw of the Soldiers' Aid Commission of Ontario; Capt. Charles MacKay of the Military Hospitals Commission; Sergt. W. E. Turley of the Great War Veterans' Association; W. W. Nichol, Vocational Officer for Ontario, and W. C. Blackwood, Vocational Officer for Toronto, of the Hospitals Commission, and Capt. R. J. Christie, O.C. of the Toronto Recruiting Depot.

At the Monteith Training Depot, which is superintended by Mr. W. G. Nixon, the returned soldiers and sailors will be taught farming, or as much farming as they can learn in the short time they will be at Monteith. Mr. Nixon and his assistants will teach them how to hitch a horse, how to plow, how to milk, how to care for stock and how to do the thousand and one chores of a New Ontario farm.

When they graduate from the Monteith "college," the Government will give them some eighty acres of land each, with ten acres cleared off the front of each farm. The idea of Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, the author of the scheme, is to settle the men in communities, or colonies, and to make provision for co-operation in the purchase and sale of goods, produce, stock, machinery, implements, and so on; for the management by a committee or otherwise of the affairs of any colonies of settlers; for the setting apart of sites and erection thereon of public buildings for religious and secular gatherings, and schoolhouses.

The first draft of 22 Returned Soldiers was selected by the Committee last week, and will be sent on to Monteith this week to start their agricultural studies and training. Among the gallant twenty-two is one old soldier who has two sons now serving at the front, and who was himself disabled as a soldier while serving King and Country in France or Flanders. Angus Robertson, of Portree, was the first applicant to be passed by the Committee last week.

Other "drafts" of Returned Soldiers are planned to be sent North from time to time, and while the land now selected will give room for many communities of farmers, it is possible perhaps probable, that there will be one or more settlements on the T. & N. O. line if the plans prove as successful in operation as they seem in preparation.

THE STORY OF THE LAND OF SHININGTREE

Named by an Indian Chief. Now Being Named as a Rich Gold Field.

Among the promising gold fields of the great North, the name of Shiningtree is flashed forth every once in a while. The name itself has an odd attraction. It sounds to the average man "away down south" as having a peculiar significance in the matter of gold, though some think it would be still more applicable to a silver camp. The story of Shiningtree is outlined by the Canadian Mining News in a recent issue. "It is stated," says the writer, "that Shiningtree received its name from an Indian Chief called 'Chee Chee.' This chief with his warriors, so the story goes, landed on the shores of Lake Shiningtree on a bright sunny morning, and he was charmed with the picture of white birch trees glistening in the sunlight. He turned to his followers and told them he had christened the place that which in English would be 'Shiningtree.'"

There was at that time no suspicion of gold or precious metals, but the country was rich in furs and there was an abundance of good fish, so that Chee Chee's tribe made settlements there. These aborigines were living on the fat of the land in Shiningtree until the fall of 1910, when the locality was visited by a party of Ontario Government Geologists.

Accounts differ as to the finding of gold there. One account says that the discovery was made by Charles Peterson in 1911 on the northeast shore of Shiningtree Lake. Another account states that the discovery was made by a Government geologist in a section of West Shiningtree known as Granite Lake. Thomas Saville, known as the "Great White Guide of the North," was the first man to stake and record

a gold claim in the district. This claim is now being operated.

After the gold discoveries in 1911 the Gosselin vein was uncovered and the Holbrook property was discovered. These three discoveries proved up a gold area of approximately five miles square. The ore proved to be so rich in free gold that it was stated that at first prospectors would not consider reasonable prices for their claims. Some of the prettiest specimens of gold from the northland are to be seen in a cabinet in the lobby of the King Edward Hotel, contributed by Shiningtree.

The main interest now centres in West Shiningtree, which is situated on Lake Shiningtree, covering a territory of about three miles. West Shiningtree has been well prospected and shows some very fine veins carrying values, it is stated, as high as \$300 to \$400 a ton. The remainder of the Shiningtree area consists of Wasabika and Granite Lake, making about five miles square in which rich gold discoveries have been made.

West Shiningtree has been known for six years, but it can only be classed as virgin country. No shaft has been put down there as deep as 100 feet. But the surface indications are really extraordinary and considerable ore has been mined from surface and shallow workings. Comparatively little work has been done to date in the district. It will be remembered that in 1911 Porcupine reached the height of its boom, which diverted interest from other camps. However, the friends of Shiningtree claim that it is significant that the early prospectors in Shiningtree are there today. The district is an ideal country for mining, there being plenty of timber and water and land around which will grow all the necessities of life. The camp can be reached from the railroad by canoeing on the lake in the summer and by sleighing in winter. The district is about 19 miles northeast of Kashbaw on the Canadian Northern Railroad. It is the hub for the townships of McMurley, Churchill, Fawcett, and Asquith, lo-

ated in the Sudbury mining division.

Veins have been opened up, according to report, in West Shiningtree which produce mineral looking more like jewelry than ore, but the opinion of those best able to judge as to the superficial showings of the camp are that it will prove to be a big low-grade gold district.

THE FIRST "IRON MAN" TO BE FAMED IN BASEBALL

In these days of simplified spelling and perverted English, the slang term "Iron Man" has come into use in many callings. The embryo financier refers to his dollars as his "Iron Men," but the expression has found its greatest use in baseball, says a sporting writer in the Toronto Star. In these days pitchers who are able to twirl more than two games a week are referred to as "Iron Men" and the term is justly applied. In this connection it may be of some enlightenment to recall that Joseph Mellroy Mann, '75, of Princeton, was the original "Iron Man," and that he first put the curve ball into practical use in a baseball game. On October 23, 1874, the Philadelphia team visited Princeton and Mr. Cummings, Arthur Cummings, of the Old Brooklyn Stars, later of the Mutuals, and finally of the Phillies, was their pitcher. Another player on the

Philadelphia team that day was York, and he and Cummings amused the crowd at Princeton by throwing curves before the game and between the innings. Cummings pitched "ins" and "outs" and York pitched "drops." The idea thereupon occurred to Mann to utilize these curious freaks of the ball in actual pitching to batsmen. By the arrival of the following spring he had completely mastered the art of pitching all three curves. On May 28, 1875, Mann pitched for Princeton against Harvard and by his wide and effective curve, the first time it was ever used in any game, succeeded in striking out the first eight batters who faced him. The ninth batter got a hit. The Harvard players had no idea what was the trouble. About the fifth inning one of the Crimson players who had been standing behind the catcher reported to Captain Tying that the balls were curving away from the batsman and there was an immediate exodus on the part of the Harvard players to the backstop to witness this unheard-of phenomenon. It was on the following day, May 29, 1875, that Mann really won his cognomen of "Iron Man" for then he went in against Yale, and with the use of his curves, pitched the first no-hit and no-run game in the history of baseball. Twenty-nine Yale men that day faced Mann. Princeton made eight base hits and scored three runs.

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THE GREAT STRIKE RECENTLY MADE AT MANHATTAN, NEVADA

caused a tremendous revival of interest in this Nevada Gold Camp, which has been lying dormant for ten years. The recent strike made in the White Caps Mine caused a big stir on the San Francisco Stock Exchange where White Caps stock went up from 30c to \$2.07 a share in five weeks. Manhattan promises to duplicate our surpass the great camps of Tonopah and Goldfield. Opportunities are again offered where a small investment may possibly develop into a large fortune.

T. J. Fitzsimmons, E.M., Editor of Western Mining & Financial Review recently visited this camp and made the most complete report on this camp to date. It is published in the April issue of the Review.

Western Mining & Financial Review is an independent monthly magazine giving reliable news of the mining industry of the States of California, Nevada and Arizona. Subscription \$1.00 per year. A three months trial subscription will be sent for 10 cents.

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