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NORTH LAND LOSES ONE OF ITS LEADING FIGURES

Mr. J. W. Mahon Passes Away, Following an Attack of Pneumonia.

In the death at his home in Cobalt last Thursday of Mr. J. W. Mahon, the North Land loses one of its leading legal men and a prominent figure in the general public life of the district. Judge Mahon, as he was familiarly called, was well known throughout the whole North Land, both for his ability as a lawyer and for his talent as a public speaker. For nearly twelve years he practised law at Cobalt, and for over two years past has had a branch office in Timmins. As a legal man he occupied a prominent position in the North Land, and his standing as a public man was equally high. He took a leading part on the Liberal side in election contests, and his services were much in demand as a speaker on political platforms. He was at various times president of the Liberal Associations in Temiskaming, and was always classed by his friends as one of the promising candidates for the district. In various patriotic movements and in other district activities he gave useful and capable service. He was one of the organizers and the first president of the Canadian Club of Temiskaming, and his interest in the Cobalt Board of Trade, of which he was president this year, was also helpful and noteworthy. The late Mr. Mahon was an ardent follower of the game of curling, and was one of the active members of the executive of the Hailybury Curling Club. In the early days of the war he gave very able assistance to the work of recruiting, and his talent could always be depended upon for any patriotic work in Cobalt. He was Town Solicitor for Cobalt this year, and last year held a similar position for Timmins.

The late John W. Mahon was born on the farm homestead in Oxford County, Ontario, on September 27th., 1872. After a brief mercantile experience, he returned to Woodstock College Institute and graduated as a school teacher. Later he took up the study of law, and was called to the bar in 1900. He entered the firm of Smith & Mahon, Woodstock, as the junior partner, and in 1907 he came to Cobalt as the local representative of the Toronto firm of Ryckman, Kerr & McInnis. In 1908 he opened up offices at Cobalt on his own account. The late Mr. Mahon was a widower, and the near relatives surviving are his mother, Mrs. Thomas Mahon, Woodstock, and a brother, Mr. George F. Mahon, of the firm of McKay & Mahon, barristers, Woodstock. The remains were taken to Woodstock on Friday, the funeral being held there on Monday of this week.

The late Judge Mahon will be much missed in the North Land. He was able as a lawyer, eloquent as a speaker, capable as a public man, and prominent in good works for the advancement of this new country. He never missed an opportunity to advance the good word for the North Land. Regret at his death is both general and sincere.

The late Mr. Mahon was taken ill about three weeks ago with pneumonia and almost from the first his condition was critical. On Wednesday of last week he seemed to be better, and it was thought that there was a chance for his recovery. On Thursday, however, his condition was again very serious, and on Thursday afternoon about four o'clock he passed away.

LABOR SHORTAGE WELL ON WAY TO REMEDY HERE.

The labor situation in the North Land is already showing evidences of improvement. During the past few weeks several hundred men have come into the Porcupine and more are coming every day. The majority reaching here so far have been for work in the lumber camps around the district. Last week a lumber company brought in a couple of hundred men. The mines, however, are also receiving their share of new men and many of the old-timers are returning to the Camp now that things "do not look so rosy down south." The closing of the munition works has made a great change in the labor market, so far as it effects mechanical employments and ordinary labor. The Hollinger, McIntyre, Dome and other mines, especially the two first-named, are taking men daily, but a great number are still required to bring working forces up to the desired point. It is estimated that about 2000 men could be used in the Porcupine Camp.

TIME OFFICE ROBBED BY 19-YEAR-OLD WITH GUN

Louis Lamotte Steals Cheques and Cash from Burke, Lindsay and McCluskey's Camp.

Saturday evening about six o'clock while Timekeeper Kelley's son was in the time office of Burke, Lindsay & McCluskey's camp about eight miles up the river, near Wawaitin, a young fellow entered the office and held up young Kelly with a revolver. The burglar took four blank cheques, marked by the bank, and about \$7 in cash, and then made good his escape. He was traced down the river and it was thought that he had taken a room at Power's hotel. Some men came up street looking for the Provincial police and they found Officer Allen at his favorite stand at the Imperial Bank corner, just ready for such eventualities. The officer hurried down to the landing and in a room in the hotel found his young man. The young fellow made an apparent attempt to destroy the cheques when he saw the officer, but in this he was frustrated. He proved to be Louis Andre Lamotte, whose mother lives down near the river. He admitted the hold-up, and the money and three of the blank cheques were found on him. He said that he had lost the fourth cheque. He also admitted taking another cheque for over \$50 some time ago and passing it at a local store. He was arrested at about 8.30 p.m., less than three hours after the robbery. Shortly after Officer Allen made the arrest, Chief Wilson appeared on the scene, his assistance having been called for by phone from some of those interested at the robbed camp. Young Lamotte, who will not be nineteen until later this month, was locked up in the Timmins jail, without bail. He will likely be tried on Thursday before Magistrate Atkinson.

CAPT. LINDSAY CHARGED WITH BREACH OF O. T. A.

At an early hour on Sunday morning Officer Burke noticed three men driving down to the river and returning shortly after in happy mood. He stopped the three men and searched them and found one of them carrying a bottle of liquor. The man claimed that he had paid \$8 for this bottle and that he had purchased it at a house or shack down by the Mattagami. Provincial Officer Moore, of So. Porcupine, and Chief Roy were enlisted for further investigation of the case, the man with the bottle first being locked up for having liquor in a public place. "Capt." S. B. Lindsay's house was searched and five 5-gallon kegs of liquor, as well as a number of bottles of liquor, taken from the place. The man arrested identified Capt. Lindsay's shack as the place where he had bought the bottle. In the Capt.'s place a quantity of "brew" was found, together with wine, etc. The kegs were found to contain wine, high-wines, etc. Capt. Lindsay was taken to South Porcupine on Sunday afternoon, but later released on bail. The cases will come before Magistrate Atkinson on Thursday. As Mr. Lindsay has a private residence, and so is entitled to keep liquor for his own use, the case will likely hinge on the proof as to the selling to the three men or others.

COUNCIL MEETINGS SHOULD BE HELD NIGHTS.

The general opinion seems to strengthen in regard to the holding of Council meetings in the evening, instead of in the afternoons. Not only would evening sessions allow of more general attendance at these meetings by the ratepayers, and so keep up an intelligent interest in municipal matters, but if the working men of the town are to be fairly represented on the Council Board, night sessions will be the most convenient and the least costly for the Councillors. This is one of the questions that a Ratepayers' Association could discuss and consider, and for this reason it is especially regrettable that the ban on public meetings has prevented the organization of such an Association here. However, the lifting of the ban will likely allow a Ratepayers' Association to organize and get busy before the elections for 1919.

Among the visitors to Timmins last week was P. L. McHale, formerly in the jewelry business here, and who was drafted for service some months ago. Recently he secured his discharge from the Artillery branch of the Army, and he is now a traveller for a boot and shoe firm in North Bay.

WORKING FOR BETTER TRAIN AND MAIL SERVICE

Cochrane District Conservative Association Try to Better Conditions.

A number from Timmins, South Porcupine, Porcupine, Hoyle, Porquis Junction, Iroquois Falls, Swastika, Ramore, Cochrane and other points in the district attended the meeting of the Cochrane District Liberal-Conservative Association, held at Cochrane on Wednesday last. The meeting eventually resolved itself into a gathering whose chief politics seemed to be the advancement of the interests of the district. The chief topics for discussion were the inadequate train and mail service given to the North Land. Mayor McCoubrey, of Iroquois Falls, took a leading part in expressing the general needs of the district. It was pointed out that the present mail service for the district was very unsatisfactory, and the train service was much the same. Among the changes suggested were the running through daily between Cochrane and North Bay of Trains Nos. 46 and 47 and the placing of a dining car to run the whole length of the T. & N.O. from North Bay to Cochrane. The inconvenience and detriment to the district of the present mode of mail service was also emphasized, and plans were suggested for providing against the necessity for carrying mail down the line before distribution.

In connection with these matters, it is understood that Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Minister of Lands, Forests & Mines, has asked for a deputation of leading men from the North Land to wait upon him in Toronto at an early date and talk over the situation with a view to make such changes as will please and convenience the people of the district. It is likely that this deputation will be made up of the Mayors, Reeves, etc., of the various municipalities.

Mr. Norris Howey, of Schumacher, who joined the Royal Air Force some months ago, and who has been in training in Toronto for some time, returned last week on extended leave. The ending of the war will mean the honorable discharge of a great many of the young men enlisting in the R. A.F., and those who have not taken out commissions are already being given extended furloughs previous to being discharged from the service.

RATEPAYERS MEETING NOT HELD ON FRIDAY

On Account of the Ban, Board of Health Said Meeting Could Not be Held.

The meeting of citizens to organize a Ratepayers' Association was not allowed to gather on Friday evening last, as advertised. Those interested in the meeting had thought that as the Board of Trade had been allowed to meet the previous week and as the poolrooms and other public places were allowed to run as usual, there would not be objection to this public meeting of ratepayers specially interested in municipal matters in the town. The Board of Health, however, took a different view, and refused permission for the gathering to be held. The official pronouncement of the Board was that the ban was still on all public meetings, and that so long as the churches were kept closed other public gatherings could not be expected. In regard to the Board of Trade meeting, the Medical Health Officer said that it was held without the knowledge of the Board. The members of the local Board of Health are:—Dr. H. H. Moore, Chas. Pierce, H. E. Montgomery (secretary), and the Mayor, by virtue of his office.

According to reports, members of the present Council said last week that it was the intention of the present municipal authorities to call a public meeting of the ratepayers, as soon as the ban is lifted, for the discussion of questions affecting the town.

In the meantime, those who favored the organization of a Ratepayers' Association, are still of the opinion that such an organization would be a benefit to the town, and they intend to proceed with it. A public meeting will be called for the purpose of organizing, as soon as the ban is lifted.

Gunner John Carnovale, of the Canadian Field Artillery, who went overseas a couple of months ago with the Second Canadian Tank Battalion, arrived back in the Camp on Monday evening on leave, pending honorable discharge. Gunner Woodward, who left here to join the same company of artillerymen, later secured his transfer and has joined the Mobile Veterinary Section of the Canadian Expeditionary Force going to Siberia. He is now, no doubt, on his way to Russia for service.

Notes, Comments and Opinions Of Interest To Mining World

The work of installing electric power at the Davidson Mine has been completed.

The shaft on the Mondeau claims in the Boston Creek district is to be sunk from the 60-foot to the 200-foot level.

The Secretary of the Dome Mines Company, Mr. A. Fasken, officially announced in Toronto last week that the rumor that the Dome Mine directors intended to propose a new issue of capital stock was without foundation, and so untrue.

At a meeting of the directors held in New York on Friday last, Mr. J. S. Bache was elected president of the Dome Mines to succeed the late Capt. De Lamar. Mr. A. H. Curtis, also of New York was elected treasurer. The new president of the Dome Mines is the head of a large brokerage business in New York. The directors are expected to visit the property in the near future.

It is expected that the Burnside at Kirkland Lake will have its mill in operation before the end of this year. There has been some delay in securing parts of the equipment, but it is now thought that everything will be ready to start running in a week or two. This will make the fourth mill to be installed at Kirkland Lake. The Aladdin-Cobalt Company control the Burnside property.

According to information from Boston Creek, it was decided at a recent meeting of the directors in Dayton, Ohio, to increase the capitalization of the Miller-Independence from 500,000 to 700,000 shares. The issuing of the new stock is to provide for the erection of a mill several times larger than the one at present on the property. Recent discoveries and developments at the Miller-Independence are said to

make necessary much larger equipment as the property is proving more important than anticipated.

The Gold Lake Mining Co. in Deloro have bought the whole mining equipment, outfit, buildings, etc., from the Slade-Forbes Asbestos property. The asbestos property is looked upon as a good proposition, and it will likely be re-opened later, but in the meantime financial conditions have caused its closing down and the disposal of the equipment, etc. This equipment includes a first-class small mining plant and with some conditions it will mean a good equipment for the Gold Lake property which is now being explored and developed.

Every day there is new evidence apparent of the fact that with the end of the war there will come a decided boom in the gold mining industry. The increase of general public interest in gold mining stocks is one indication of the way things are going to boom. It is generally admitted that the world must have gold and more gold to right financial conditions and to stabilize the industrial and commercial position of the nations. The demand for gold will be a noteworthy one. The Porcupine will take an important part in the supplying of that demand. This district has one of the largest gold mines in the world, with several other mines that have proven themselves large producers of gold. And, further, the Porcupine has a known gold-bearing area that may be said to have been scarcely "surface-scratched as yet." The opportunity for development is great indeed. The difficulties arising from war conditions are gradually dying away, and with the return to more normal conditions including a possibility for an good supply of labor, the established mines of the Porcupine will boom, and there promises to be a boom also in the development of new properties.

HOLLINGER OUTPUT WILL BE OVER \$6,250,000

Wonderful Record of Big Mine During Year, Despite Unusual Handicaps.

Estimates based on the production of the Hollinger Mine during the past eleven months and the probable production during the present, show that the big gold mine will make a record this year, despite all the handicaps under which the gold industry has labored during the days of war. For the year the production of the Hollinger will exceed over \$6,250,000. This is the greatest year's production in the history of the mine and the greatest production of any gold mine in Canada at any time. This record has been made with only half the number of men required and only half the milling capacity utilized. Despite all handicaps, however, the production has been over half a million dollars per month, or at the rate of over \$17,200 per day. The work has also been conducted at a fair profit, the net profits for the year being estimated as approximately three million dollars, or nearly 11 per cent. on the company's issued capital.

Development work has not been neglected either during the year. Several important ore bodies have been added to those previously proven up. The mine is in first-class condition from every standpoint, and with the return of normal conditions the Hollinger will undoubtedly make astonishing progress.

FIRE PROTECTION ORDER HAS SOME ODD FEATURES.

The orders recently sent out by the Provincial Forest Fire Protection Department regarding the cutting down of bush and the clearing of certain lands around towns in the North Land as a protection against forest fires, have given rise to some odd situations. The orders call on property owners in the fire area to clear up their land before May 1st., and inform the owners that if they do not get the timber and slash off before May, the Government will have the work done and charge the cost against the property. This idea places one man, for instance, in an odd position. He has sold his timber and all his timber rights and so considers that he can not touch the wood or interfere in any way. On the other hand if the timber is not cleared away by May 1st the work will be done by the Government at the expense of the property. "I can't do the clearing, and the buyer of the timber did not contract to do it by May 1st., so I don't know what is what," says the owner. He thinks he will leave it to lawyers or politicians to worry over it. Other men have valuable timber, they say, but may not be able to get it off in time. Of course, they have had lots of time before this, as the work was expected to be done this year. Others want to keep the timber until they get their mines going, the timber having hitherto been reserved pending mining development on the properties. The necessity of the North from forest fires is generally recognized, and the wisdom of a cleared fire area around towns more or less generally commended. So, those who suffer from the regulations will do so in the public interest, and the only regret will be that the cost in certain cases should not be wholly borne by the Government. At that it would be cheaper than Relief Commissions.

THREE FINED FOR HAVING OBJECTIONABLE LITERATURE

Three more aliens were fined at the Police Court here on Thursday last for having objectionable literature in their possession. The fines were \$200 and costs each. Officer Allen gave evidence in each case and in that against A. Beliege Constable McInnis, of Moneta, gave important evidence and prosecuted the case. The case against Jack Maluk for having objectionable literature in his possession was remanded for a week. Another case laid by Constable McInnis was that against an Austrian charged with stealing a pair of boots from in front of Mr. Thomas' store. As the Austrian had a sick wife and a baby ill at the time of theft, and the prosecution was not pushed for a time. The baby has since died. In view of the fact of the recovery of the boots and the paying of costs, Constable McInnis did not press for a more severe penalty than the imposing of a suspended sentence. Magistrate Atkinson accordingly, after a warning and some good advice, allowed the Austrian to go on suspended sentence.

FOR TWO YEARS SCOUT IN NO MAN'S LAND

Sergt. Mike Wernick Revisits Camp After Useful and Exciting Service Overseas.

Sergt. Mike Wernick, a popular old-timer of the Porcupine, was the guest here over the week-end of Mr. John W. Fogg. Sergt. Wernick is home from overseas after several years of strenuous and helpful service for King and Country and the Right. For the past two years he has been on the dangerous service of scouting at night in No Man's Land, sleeping by day and gathering information, under cover of darkness in the danger zone. He has been wounded three times. The first time the wound was in the knee and in a short time he was back again at service. The second time, shrapnel did the damage, but Sergt. Wernick could not be kept long from active service. The third time, a big shell caused the trouble. The monster shell dropped right among a party of eight, killing four outright. Sergt. Wernick did not realize even that he was there until afterwards. No apparent injury had been done to him, but it was found that his ear drums had been injured. For two months and a half he could not hear at all, and even now he is partially deaf. When he was in the Porcupine, Sergt. Wernick was recognized by all as the right kind of a "good scout." In France he won a similar enviable reputation as a good scout, as a man and as a soldier. He won the Military Medal and other honors for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty.

Sergt. Wernick enlisted for service at Calgary and was one of the eighty accepted for the Princess Pats from the three hundred and sixty who came from the West to join that regiment. He had a fine record from his service in the South African War that helped secure him a place in Canada's finest and most exclusive regiment. Overseas, Sergt. Wernick was transferred to Scout work where his pluck and cleverness were of unusual value.

Sergt. Wernick came to the Porcupine just after the 1911 fire. He conducted a cigar store, and poolroom at South Porcupine, and his friends in the Camp are numerous indeed. His many friends will be pleased to know that it is his intention to go into business again either here or at Sudbury, and all will hope that he will find a suitable place here. He left Monday morning for Sudbury for a visit.

Sergt. Wernick made an unusually speedy trip from overseas, sailing on Nov. 30th, and reaching here on Dec. 6th. It is to be hoped that he will make an equally speedy return to Timmins and settle here among his many old friends.

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL HAS COST OVER \$2,000

Bills for This Amount at Meeting of Council on Tuesday.

In the absence of the Mayor at the meeting of the Council called for Tuesday afternoon, Councillor A. Brazeau was voted to the chair as acting Mayor. Councillors Chas. Pierce, Dr. Moore and Dr. Moore and Dr. McInnis were the other members present.

One of the special items of business was the passing of accounts in connection with the Emergency Hospital. These accounts totaled over \$2,000, and there are others yet to be sent in. Timmins, however, has the comfort that the epidemic cost many other towns much more than it cost Timmins. It is the intention to close the Emergency Hospital as soon as possible, and in the meantime no patients from outside places will be admitted except in cases of absolute necessity. Among the accounts passed by the Council on Tuesday in connection with the Emergency Hospital were the following for groceries, provisions, supplies, furnishings, ambulance service, etc.:—J. P. McLaughlin, \$973.80; Chas. Pierce & Sons, \$48.45; Dr. Moore, \$97.90; Charley Wing, \$98.05; E. J. Meyers, \$188.47; J. Dalton, \$340.50; Marshall-Ecclestone Co., \$85.46; Northern Canada, \$100.76.

On motion of Councillors Chas. A. Pierce and Dr. Moore, the taxes of Sergt. J. Studor for 1917 and 1918 were ordered refunded.

The payment of \$3,000 on account of the work on the jail building was authorized to Hill, Clarke & Francis. Council adjourned to the call of the Mayor.

The statutory meeting of the Council will be held on Dec. 16th., the 15th falling on a Sunday.