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OVER 200 DELEGATES AT CONVENTION IN BAY

(Continued from page 1)

Boyle and St. Paul emphasized the necessity for the complete enforcement of the mining laws when amended, without fear, favor or affection. Other suggestions were that the prospector's mining license be cut to \$2.00 per year, and that recording fees be abolished. The advantage of salaried Government geologists and expert mining men here at the service of the prospectors was also touched upon, as was also the evil resulting from the greed of land speculators who tied up sections of the country through such schemes as the purchase of Veterans' lots, etc.

Cobalt delegates asked that Veterans who had completed certain work on claims before they went overseas, should be granted titles to their claims without further work or the expenditure of any further money, as the majority of them were not in a position to pay any more, and were surely entitled to special consideration in view of their work and sacrifices overseas. There was also a proposal to the effect that soldiers not coming under the above suggested benefit should be allowed to stake three claims and be granted a free patent. These resolutions received the unanimous standing support of all present.

Cobalt district delegates asked that legislation be enacted to create district good roads boards in neighboring municipalities, so that the work could be done in a co-operative and more economical manner. The discussion that resulted brought out the evils of the past haphazard road-building policy of the past, with a hope for better things in the future.

Mr. A. G. Slight referred to the discrimination under which the North Land suffered in the matter of representatives in the Dominion and Provincial parliaments and in the Senate. He urged a representation more in keeping with the population, size and resources of the North Land.

The second day was largely taken up with the discussion of railway extensions and good roads. The extensions asked for from the T. & N. O. were:—Nipissing Central to North Temiskaming, Elk Lake to Gowganda, Englehart to Skead, Timmins to Kenogami, Cochrane to James Bay and North Bay to Parry Sound.

Mr. A. J. Young, of North Bay, made a plea for less red tape and more justice in regard to helps to rural schools in the North, instancing cases where grants had been held back for alleged breach of Rule 17 of the Ontario Educational Act, and as a consequence the schools had to close down and the children go without educational facilities.

Mr. Ralph Taylor, of Cobalt, submitted a resolution that passed enthusiastically, uniting the requests for trunk roads, one from North Bay to Cochrane, and others from the Bay to Pembroke, the Soo and Toronto.

Mr. McDougall, of North Bay, advocated the development of the French River Waterway, which he pointed out would give a waterway to the Great Lakes, develop some 30,000 horse power, and develop the resources of the North. His eloquent address found general support from the convention.

The development of electric horse power in the North centred round the idea as to whether this should be under private or government ownership. The Government was too slow in starting, according to the general opinion, and if the Government would not do the work, private enterprise should be encouraged to do it. A resolution was accordingly passed to have the Act changed to give companies leases up to 70 years.

Reforestation was another live topic. In 15 or 20 years the pulp will be used up in the North at the present rate of going, according to Mr. C. Lang. He suggested more stable licenses of occupation to the

lumber companies as an inducement to them to do more reforestation.

A resolution made by Mr. St. Paul on behalf of the Porcupine Miners' Union asking for the establishment of a joint arbitration council to deal with industrial disputes before they get away, was voted down.

Capt. Lang of the Bishop-Parker Aeroplane concern asked for the support of the Convention for their proposed air service in the North. They intend to have bases at James Bay, Cochrane, New Liskeard and North Bay.

Mr. F. C. Patterson, of Powassan, suggested that the wolf bounty be made \$50.00 to encourage trappers and others to rid the country of these vicious pests that destroyed a lot of live stock and did other damage.

Premier Drury sent word that he could not be present at the Convention, but Hon. Beniah Bowman and Hon. H. Mills were present and gave addresses at a public meeting Thursday evening. The Convention was by no means pleased at the Premier's absence.

Great and continued applause greeted the reference to secession made by Mr. Wesley McKnight of New Liskeard. He made the reference in the presence of the two Cabinet ministers, looking directly at them during this part of the address. Mr. McKnight very briefly expressed the feeling of the North when he said: "There has been talk of secession, and we are giving Old Man Ontario a chance. If he doesn't wake up, then we will have to demand that he give the boys of the North Land a fair chance."

It was decided to have this "Boost-the-North Convention" as an annual affair. The next meeting will be held the third week of next January at the Sault. Mr. J. Henry, Sudbury, was chosen President; Mr. Hussey, Sault Ste Marie, first vice-president; Mr. R. S. Taylor, Cobalt, second vice-president; Mayor Ferguson, North Bay, third vice-president. Mr. R. J. Jemmett, President of the Timmins Board of Trade, was elected to the executive. The Secretary-Treasurer is Mr. C. J. O'Grady, of Sudbury.

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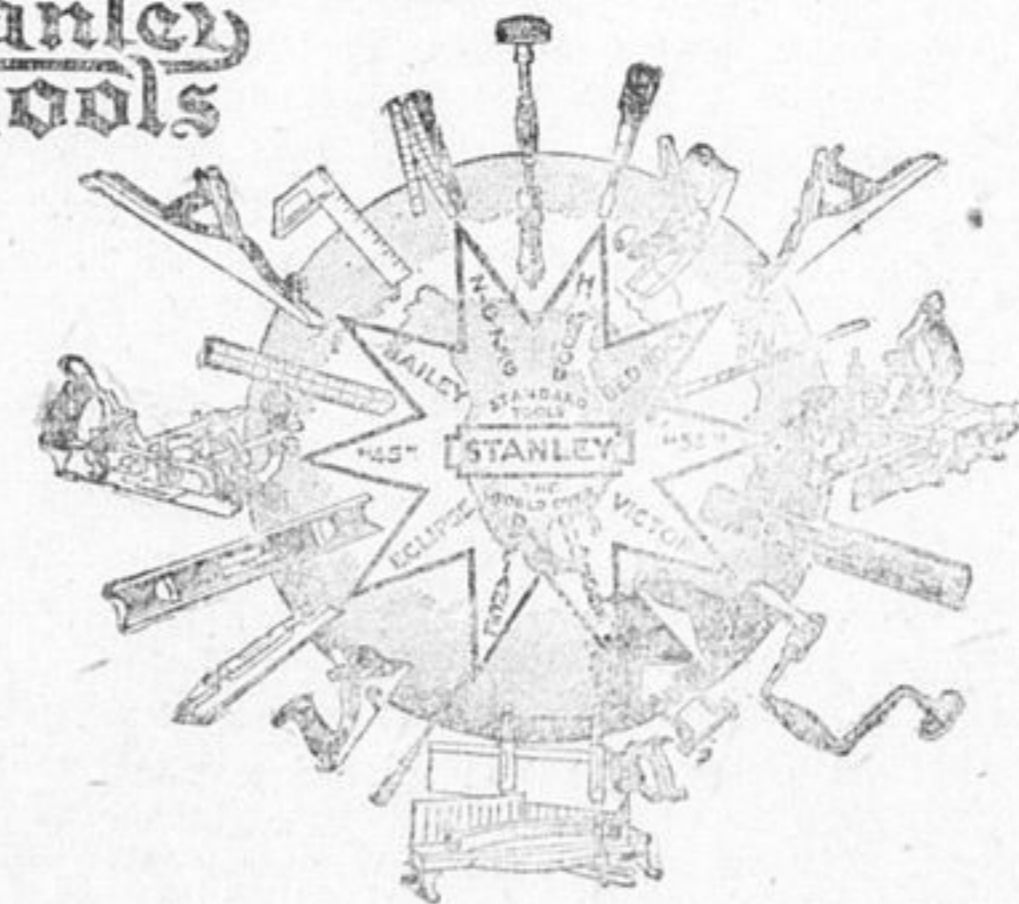
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