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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY SUGGESTS OIL NEAR BAY

Under Technical Phraseology Lies the Hope of Striking Oil in James Bay Region.

Any one who has the courage, the patience and the persistence to wade through the technical terminology of the recent report of Dr. M. Y. Williams, who made a geological survey last year of the district south of James Bay, stands a fine chance of striking oil in that region. Beneath the burden of references to sedimentary rocks, the Palaeozoic and later ages interstream areas, oil seepages, Trenton, Nelson, Churchill and other formations, economic accumulations, Salina outcroppings, dolomitic beds, Pre-Cambrian crystalline rocks, subsidiary folds, anticlines, Onondaga outcrops, and Ohio shales,—beneath all these there is the hope of the possibility of oil being tapped by the enterprising. It will be noted that the phraseology becomes more hopeful as it proceeds. It becomes "warmer," as the school phrase used to term it in the hunting game for lost treasure, Ohio "shales," for instance, sounds quite "hot" on the trail of oil. These geological reports necessarily have to be more or less technical in their terms, or the geological gentlemen would not be considered as fully earning their salaries. But reading such terminological terrors the North Land newspapermen may also be considered as earning their pay. A partly translated passage of the geological survey reads as follows:—"The Ohio shales, as already described, outcrop on Mattagami River, just north of Speight's 1911 base line, and on Abitibi River in Long Rapids. The outcrops along the Mattagami are of limited extent, but there is evidence that the outcropping beds are of Portage age; and if they are the whole Ohio shale section may be present. Prospecting may show still larger areas of shale are present than is indicated by the discoveries made so far. The shales along Abitibi River near the upper end of Land Rapids occur in a syncline about one and a half miles wide, and as north dipping beds about one-half mile across near the lower end of the rapids. These beds also lie in a syncline. The section extends upwards from the top of the Onondago limestone and may be as much as 100 feet thick. Exposed sections in the west bank of the Abitibi River are 30 feet high and sections seen in the east bank are probably higher. The black shales are interbedded with soft green shales of varying amount and even within the black shales the oil content varies considerably."

A rough translation (and very rough it is on the translator) of the rest of the report would sum the finding up about as follows:—"The formation is of the type commonly found to contain oil accumulations. Elsewhere these oil accumulations are indicated by "oil seepages," but these "oil seepages" are not found in the James Bay region, but the report tempers this latter fact by saying:—"Owing, however, to the long period

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ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE OF PORCUPINE LODGE.

The annual church parade of Porcupine Lodge, A. F. & A. M., took place on Sunday morning to the Union Church, South Porcupine. There were over seventy members of the Lodge and visiting brethren in attendance and the services were specially attractive and pleasing. Rev. W. Arnes preached a thoughtful and inspiring sermon appropriate to the occasion. Special music for the event was given by the choir, and a solo by Mr. Max Smith, was one of the features of the service.

OVER A MILLION FOR T. & N. O. IN ESTIMATES FOR YEAR.

The estimates for the year for the Province of Ontario ask among other items for \$1,057,772.00 for additions and improvements to the T. & N. O. Railway. Of this million dollar vote, the chief big item is for \$225,000.00 for additional locomotives. More than a million dollars might well be spent on extensions and additions to the lines and equipment of the T. & N. O. Railway with advantage to the railway and the people, as a strictly business investment. Money wisely spent on the T. & N. O. will return to the people through the receipts of the People's Railway.

PORCUPINE CROWN AND KRIST MERGER RATIFIED.

Last week the shareholders of the Porcupine Crown and of the Thompson-Krist companies ratified the agreement made by the directors of the two companies to merge the properties and have them operated by a new company to be known as the North Crown Mines. The North Crown Mines took over the properties last week and active operations will be carried on upon both properties. The North Crown Mines starts off with \$30,000, in addition to the two properties and their equipments. The mill of the Porcupine Crown is running at present at about 140 tons a day, the ore being of good grade that makes a fair profit. It is understood the Thompson-Krist will be developed from the workings of the Porcupine Crown. Those who have studied the situation look upon the merger as an excellent move for both properties and one that will prove of mutual advantage.

FIRST GAMES OF THE TIMMINS GOLF CLUB.

According to the weather in the recent prevailing winters, the football and lacrosse clubs in Timmins may be considered as rather "rushing the season" in holding matches recently, but the Golf enthusiasts in Timmins have all others successfully outlasted in the matter of forwarding summer sports. Not only were the golf enthusiasts actively playing the game of golf six weeks ago and more, but they actually staged the opening matches of the season on Saturday, May, 8th. The matches commenced at 2.30 p. m. One team represented the President, Mr. A. T. Brigham, and the other the Vice-President, Mr. John W. Fogg. There were fifteen matches, there being 30 players altogether. The result of the afternoon's play was that the President's team won by four matches with one of the fifteen matches being a draw. The afternoon was most enjoyable, and everything certainly augurs well for a successful golf season. All the former golf enthusiasts continue to show increasing interest in the game while new lovers of the links seem to come forward from day to day. Golf increases in popularity in Timmins and promises to become THE outdoor game of the town.

Railway mail clerks from North Bay, Ottawa, Hamilton and Toronto recently gathered and held a meeting to discuss the possibility of the Dominion Government accepting the recommendations of the Civil Service Commission to reduce the maximum salary from \$1680 to \$1560. Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed with the Civil Service Commission, and it was intimated that if the suggested reduction took place there would be a strike.

of weathering along the rivers, which may have dissipated any oil formerly present, and to the heavy burden of clay, silt and muskeg moss which covers the interstream areas, the lack of observed oil seepages is not to be wondered at." Another trouble, so far as may be judged from the report, is the fact that the Onondago limestone has not been properly covered by "impervious shales" to retain the oil. However, things may be better at depth and beneath an over-burden of big words the geological survey leaves the hope for oil. If the geological survey gentlemen were slung in their talk they would no doubt give the prospectors and others interested the same instruction that the old drill sergeant gave his men, "Drill, ye barriers, drill!"

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