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NEVER COLDER THAN 48 BELOW UP IN THIS NORTH

At Least, So Says the Meteorologist Stationed at Cochrane Town. The 48 Below Weather Was in 1910

In an effort to upset the widely-held theory that it is cold sometimes in this North Land, a correspondent writing from Cochrane to The North Bay Nugget and The Sudbury Star, gives official facts and figures to prove that the thermometer at Cochrane has never gone below 48 degrees since the Government Meteorological Station was established at that town. Every one, except those living at Cochrane, will be ready to admit that Cochrane is about the coldest place in this part of the North, and if it has never been below 48 at Cochrane, then it has never been more than 48 below at any other North Land point. It may be, however, that the cold is so dry that the thermometer does not feel the cold at Cochrane.

It will be interesting to most old-timers to learn that 1910 held the coldest weather on record in this North. Many would be inclined off-hand to give the blame to the winter of 1916, when it went below 40 one night and forgot to come up past 30 for what seemed like a couple of winters, and maybe was a couple of weeks. However, that winter broke the back of the cold in the North Land and more recently the winter up here have been mild. Indeed, on several occasions when Toronto, New York, Chicago and other points south have been suffering blizzards, snow-storms and blood-freezing cold and there has been mild and charming weather in this North. The Advance has recommended the North Land as a summer resort for the unfortunate folks of the South during their cold winter months.

To get back to the correspondent's article, however, here is the Cochrane despatch on the weather:—

"With the weatherman playing unusual capers for this time of the year, it is interesting to note that the approach of winter in the Northland has been more severe this year than it was during the close of 1924. On Saturday night, November 28, the mercury fell to its lowest ebb of the current season, registering 17 degrees below zero and remaining at 16 degrees below for the greater part of the following day.

"Last year the lowest temperature up to this date was 7 degrees below on November 17th. The first week in December was mild and the lowest temperature recorded up until December 14th was 11 degrees. A spell of continuous below zero weather then set in and lasted until December 20. This date is marked as the coldest day of the winter 30 degrees below zero.

"The meteorological records kept here by Mr. McDougal Douglass serve to explode some of the most popular winter legends connected with the North Country.

"For instance examination of his records brings out the fact that the lowest temperature reached by the mercury since the meteorological station was established at Cochrane was 48 degrees below zero, and this was reached only once in the winter of 1910.

"It was a beautiful, clear starlit night," said Mr. Douglass. "There was not a breath of wind. About nine o'clock I went out to examine my thermometers. I did not have a cap or mitts and did not notice it was so cold. My instruments were just a few yards from the door and just as I was looking at the thermometer I felt my ear crack, I knew it was frozen, and just then I read the temperature, 48 below zero."

TEMISKAMING MAN TAKES FIFTH PRIZE AT CHICAGO

The New Liskeard Speaker last week says:—

"The district of Temiskaming has again proven itself to be capable of competing against the world for honours in the growing of grain. At the International Grain and Hay Show, held at Chicago, during the same time as the International Live Stock Exposition, a Temiskaming entry carried off fifth prize in field peas. This is an open competition, and the International is considered a world event. Mr. Chas. Thomas, the veteran seed grower of the district is the exhibitor of this sample, and is to be congratulated most heartily. It was forwarded to Chicago through cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, at New Liskeard and at Essex.

"Coming immediately following the announcement of last week of the rather spectacular wins in barley at Toronto and Ottawa, it goes to show that Temiskaming exhibitors have something worthwhile. At the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto, J. M. Gray, took 3rd prize and Edson Jibb, 6th prize in open competition in barley, with 42 competitors from all over Canada. It was, however, at Ottawa, that the greatest showing was made."

Rev. J. O. Watt, for some years pastor of the Presbyterian church at Haileybury, and known to many in this district, left last week to take up his new duties as pastor of a church at Waterloo Ont.

DR. BELL TELLS OF THE PROGRESS AT VIPOND

Development Work During Last Few Weeks Has Resulted in Decided Improvement of Position of Mine

Dr. J. McIntosh Bell, in an interview with Gibson's Fortnightly Mining Review, give a very comprehensive review of conditions at the Vipond. The material of this interview has been summarized by the Mining Review as follows:—

"As a result of the development work accomplished during the last few weeks, the position of the Vipond mine shows a decided improvement. This is principally due to results obtained in the Western or North Thompson section of the property. In this area very substantial tonnages of ore of an excellent grade are being opened up by the work which is in progress on various levels from 200 to 300 feet. On the 300-foot level this ore body, which has an average width of 20 feet, has already been proven for a length of over 100 feet, with a probability of a considerably greater length. The same ore body has been tapped on the 200ft. and 500ft. levels with equally favorable results so far as the work has been advanced.

"In the central section of the mine, a new ore body which lies north of, but contiguous to the central vein system, has also been tapped. Although development of this new ore body has not proceeded very far as yet, it has been proven to have a width in places of about 12 feet with excellent values. It may be a development of major importance.

"These developments can be said to have changed the outlook at the Vipond mine completely. If a new estimate of ore reserves were now being prepared, it can be safely said that it would be subject to a sharp revision upwards from the \$2,400,000 shown in the last Annual Report. As a matter of fact, the developments above recited have been of such a favorable nature that an immediate doubling of mill capacity has been decided upon. Construction work on the addition is already under way and some of the new machinery is arriving at the property.

"The additions being made will give the mill a capacity of 300 tons daily. It is expected that the work will have been completed and that the mill will be handling this double tonnage about the end of May. The Company's treasury is in such a position that no new financing, nor any increase in capitalization will be needed. Vipond would now appear to be a real mine, which will, when the increased tonnage is being handled, be able to demonstrate a real earning power. The Company's authorized and issued capital of \$2,000,000—the lowest of any Northern Ontario gold producer with the exception of Lake Shore—is distinctly in its favor."

AND HE'S HAD TO WEAR HIS WEEK-DAY TEETH SUNDAYS

The Haileyburian last week says:—"A perfectly good set of false teeth is among the things recovered from the sewer on the Lake Shore Road which is being cleaned out this week. Just how these came to be dropped into the drain down which they evidently came, is a question that is puzzling the brain of Joe Police, the streets foreman, and he says it is very doubtful if they will be claimed by the original owner. In another section of the sewer there was found a piece of rock weighing five or six pounds."

This North Land is a world of mystery!

DISTRICT ROAD ENGINEER RESIGNS HIS POSITION

Mr. E. W. Neelands, District Engineer for the Northern Development Branch in the Cobalt, Haileybury and New Liskeard district, which includes Kirkland Lake, etc., has resigned the position. He will return to the practice of his profession. No doubt it is the lack of as good a salary and as large a field for advancement, together with the usual tendency to a plenitude of public criticism, that tempts good men to prefer private employ to public services. It is a great pity from the standpoint of the public services that Government employ should not be as attractive as private service for men of special ability. The men who prove to be unusually efficient and desirable as Government employees are too often tempted to take private service because of the better pay, better conditions and freedom from carping criticism. The men promised Government jobs during an election campaign are usually the type unfitted for such service and undeserving very often even from the party standpoint. That Mr. Neelands was a good man and filled the position well seems to be proven by the general approval given his work. This approval is summed up in the following lines by The Northern News of Cobalt:—"Under the regime of Mr. Neelands the roadwork of the district has been conducted in a very efficient manner, and his successor will be up against a stout proposition to maintain the same service. Motorists declare the roads never were in such a good shape and they give much of the credit to the retiring engineer."

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