

PROSPECTING USUALLY AN INCURABLE DISEASE

Qualifications and Qualities of Prospectors Described by One Who Has Been One of Them

Prospectors are noted for their humour. On the trail they have time for thought and study and philosophy and so they attain an insight and a detached way of looking at things that marks them out as philosophers. Often their philosophy takes the turn of being hard on themselves and easy on others in their judgments. This is apparently the type of humour that characterizes W. C. Kennedy, once an active prospector in this North Land, but now with Solloway, Mills & Co., Toronto. All will not agree with the picture he paints of the prospector, but all will recognize that it has many noteworthy features, and at least it has the advantage of being interesting. Mr. Kennedy says:—

"Prospecting is in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred an incurable disease and the victim, after a season's hard slugging with nothing but fly-bites and callouses for his pains, usually swears 'never again.' However, after a week's change from his own cooking and a visit to the local bootlegger the grouch disappears and then all that is necessary to send him off on another two-hundred-mile trip is a rumour of a find and the necessary grub-stake.

"The writer was bitten by the bug quite early in life, in fact in 1904, when at a tender age the symptoms first appeared. While attending public school in New Liskeard the teacher told us one day of silver being found five miles south of Haileybury on the right of way of the new railway which was then being built. We remember playing 'hockey' for three weeks and camping on Cobalt Lake while prospecting for silver. Although practically the whole country was open and we found cobalt bloom and other encouraging signs, we did not stake a claim as we thought it was useless unless one found silver in large chunks. This was a tactical error, as a few months afterwards any claim in this vicinity would have brought \$25,000 cash.

"We have been at the game more or less consistently ever since and although not yet having found the pot at the end of the rainbow, we still have hopes and have managed to keep ahead of the bailiff.

"To be a successful prospector one should be strong in the back, weak in the head and a philosopher as well as an optimist. Also one should be too bull-headed to know when to quit.

"The beginner should try to hook up with an experienced prospector, and after a season or two he will be able to roughly classify the various rocks, read blue-prints and other maps, including those issued by the government in connection with their reports of geological surveys. He will learn how to handle his compass in staking claims and how to keep a course across difficult and unknown country. He will also by this time have mastered the art of flipping the flap-jack, handling his canoe in fast water, mushing huskies with the necessary profanity, and making camp under adverse conditions when everything may be wet or it may be forty below.

"Around the camp-fire each night the amateur will hear discussed geology, theology, politics, prize-fighters or what have you? He will soon be able to talk about porphyries, contacts, intrusions, faults, glaciation, dips, strike, winzes, folds, striae and paleozoic, after which he can consider himself a prospector, if not exactly a sour-dough.

"The amateur usually loads himself with samples, but after wearing out three set of pockets he gets over it as he discovers no one believes a sample came from where he says it does anyway.

"It is admitted that Ontario possesses a few hundred of the most able and efficient prospectors in the world. Many of them are in a position of financial independence and do not hesitate to charter special trains and aeroplanes to reach an objective when they receive reliable information of an important discovery. In this regard a lot of credit is due the Ontario and Dominion governments for their geological reports and maps; also classes held by Dr. W. L. Goodwin and others of the Department of Mines.

"It is a wonderful feeling when you slip your canoe into the water on a nice spring morning with a congenial partner and a three months grub-stake. One is absolutely independent of ordinary mortals, wars, famines, and females. In fact when one leaves civilization all the problems of ordinary existence cease, and the man is back to the primitive. His only combat is with Nature, in the way of storms, rapids, etc. If he would have fish for breakfast, all he need do is drop his troll over the side of the canoe and let the poor fish do the rest. Then, too, there is venison on the hoof in almost every bay. In the meantime the prospector tries to read the story in the rocks as the scalloped horizon beckons him on. There is always the chance that tomorrow he may stumble onto another Lake Shore, Hollinger or Flin Flon.

"The writer has a different sort of job now, but in case the boss should hand him his ticket some morning he has saved up the old hob-nailed boots and flannel shirt and could hit the trail again."

Town of Timmins Financial Statement

ABSTRACT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES From December 15th, 1926 to December 31st, 1926

| RECEIPTS | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Taxes, 1925 and previous years | \$10,425.81 |
| Refund, National Iron | 88.55 |
| Refund, Curran & Briggs | 520.29 |
| Sewer Services | 125.00 |
| Bank Loan | 40,000.00 |
| Housing | 40.00 |
| General Licenses | 76.00 |
| Police Fines | \$483.50 |
| Police Refunds | 435.77 |
| Water Rates | 430.60 |
| Poll Tax | 865.00 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | \$53,490.52 |

| EXPENDITURES | |
|---|--------------------|
| Overdrawn Bank Balance at December 15th, 1926 | \$2,784.42 |
| Salaries and Allowances | \$1,254.85 |
| Donation | 375.00 |
| Poll Tax Rebates | 100.00 |
| Franchise Expenses | 179.80 |
| Election Expenses | 22.55 |
| Assessment | 3.50 |
| Tax Rebates | 320.18 |
| Water Rates Rebates | 4.41 |
| Waterworks Construction | 207.72 |
| Waterworks Maintenance | 1,792.27 |
| High School | 3,000.00 |
| Sewers Construction | 50.98 |
| Sewers Maintenance | 168.50 |
| Sewers Service | 118.92 |
| Garbage | 587.50 |
| Incinerator | 381.10 |
| Board of Health, Sundry | 566.22 |
| Public School | 7,000.00 |
| Separate School | 5,000.00 |
| Street Maintenance | 2,236.32 |
| Debtenture | 8,410.85 |
| Debtenture Interest | 5,984.88 |
| Imperial Bank Interest | 1,825.90 |
| Printing and Advertising | 560.73 |
| Office Maintenance | 6.50 |
| Fire Department Maintenance | 1,745.10 |
| Police Department Maintenance | 1,594.93 |
| Charity | 2,299.60 |
| Municipal Building Maintenance | 184.82 |
| Band Stand | .75 |
| 1926 Concrete Walks Construction | 102.60 |
| | \$46,086.48 |
| Bank Balance at December 31st, 1926 | 4,619.62 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | \$53,490.52 |

ABSTRACT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES January 1st, 1927 to December 15th, 1927

| RECEIPTS | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bank Balance at January 1st, 1927 | \$ 4,619.62 |
| Taxes 1925 and previous years | \$ 24,586.67 |
| Taxes 1926 | 294,482.86 |
| Taxes 1927 | 336,529.50 |
| | \$655,599.03 |
| Police Fines | 12,333.43 |
| Water Rates | 46,785.41 |
| House Sewer Connections | 4,542.00 |
| Sundry Debtors | 77.03 |
| Board of Health | 210.00 |
| Turn On Penalty | 80.00 |
| Railway Tax | 86.51 |
| Incinerator | 1,305.55 |
| Election | 27.63 |
| Police Department Refunds | 985.80 |
| Weight Scales Receipts | 59.10 |
| Sale of Fire Horse | 100.00 |
| Dept. of Northern Development | 1,104.49 |
| Fire Department Refunds | 56.26 |
| Workmen's Compensation | 340.00 |
| Legal Expenses Refund | 27.81 |
| Part Payment St. Pierre Loan | 50.00 |
| Royalty | 60,155.90 |
| Street Equipment | 200.00 |
| Rent | 200.00 |
| Charity Refunds | 389.28 |
| Sale of Supplies | 114.25 |
| Poll Tax | 4,190.00 |
| Bank Loans | 366,500.00 |
| Penalty on Taxes | 648.47 |
| General Licenses | 6,410.50 |
| Dog Tax | 1,747.00 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | \$1,168,945.07 |

| EXPENDITURES | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Salary and Allowance | \$ 28,000.00 |
| High School | 74,000.00 |
| Separate School | 48,000.00 |
| | 150,000.00 |
| Waterworks Maintenance | 26,447.41 |
| Sewer Maintenance | 8,086.91 |
| House Sewer Service | 4,501.58 |
| Street Maintenance | 45,248.04 |
| Garbage | 13,512.50 |
| Incinerator | 3,502.38 |
| Board of Health | 9,339.07 |
| Engineer Department Maintenance | 2,962.45 |
| Fire Department Maintenance | 20,239.37 |
| Police Department Maintenance | 20,784.32 |
| Plank Walk Construction | 3,816.02 |
| Plank Walk Maintenance | 706.62 |
| Debtenture Repayments | 46,065.48 |
| Debtenture Interest | 51,931.05 |
| Imperial Bank Interest | 20,908.81 |
| Printing, Advertising, and Stationery | 1,840.60 |
| Office Maintenance | 264.67 |
| Charity | 24,127.65 |
| Municipal Buildings | 2,670.56 |
| Stamps | 434.50 |
| Band Stand | 8.25 |
| Election Expense | 608.33 |
| Donation | 5,284.75 |
| Tax Rebates | 665.18 |
| Poll Tax Rebates | 1,815.00 |
| Legal Expenses | 1,642.31 |
| Library Board | 5,000.00 |
| Water Rates Rebates | 626.63 |
| St. Pierre Loan | 700.00 |
| 1926 Assessment | 262.86 |
| Transient Trader Licenses Refunds | 320.00 |
| Tags | 82.06 |
| 1927 Assessment | 4,843.13 |
| Tax Collector Petty Cash | 100.00 |
| 1926 Audit | 650.00 |
| Tax Collection | 1,742.84 |
| Loan Retired | 531,500.00 |
| Library Audit | 25.00 |
| | \$ 7,858.25 |

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Travelling Expenses | 98.00 |
| Post Office Box | 8.00 |
| Weight Scales | 11.75 |
| Office Equipment | 539.25 |
| Sundry Debtor | 478.62 |
| Dog Tax Rebates | 25.00 |
| Waterworks Petty Cash | 50.00 |
| Cemetery | 1.00 |
| Moneta School Addition | 14,000.00 |
| Poll Tax Petty Cash | 100.00 |
| Technical School | 72,000.00 |
| Taxes Town Properties | 84.81 |
| Licenses Rebates | 46.00 |
| Garnishee Costs | 79.62 |
| Liability Insurance | 618.00 |
| Fire Dept. Equipment | 800.00 |
| Opening of Broadway | 231.85 |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 28.10 |
| Penalty Rebates | 3.42 |
| Annexation | 10.00 |
| Contingent Claims | 750.00 |
| Street Equipment | 5447.83 |
| Police Department Equipment | 1,541.00 |
| Workmen's Compensation | 2,175.88 |
| Meters | 2,816.29 |
| Waterworks Construction 1927 | 10,058.63 |
| Sewer Construction 1927 | 9,962.31 |
| Paving Construction 1927 | 6,776.95 |
| Concrete Walks 1927 | 7,673.24 |
| Waterworks Construction 1926 | 2,378.57 |
| Sewer Construction 1926 | 1,550.19 |
| Concrete Walks 1926 | 528.95 |
| Bank Balance "General" | \$5,383.90 |
| Bank Balance "Pay Roll" | 1,563.33 |
| | 6,947.23 |
| | 45,876.07 |

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$1,168,945.07

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES For Period Ending December 15th, 1927

| ASSETS | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Bank Balance— | |
| General Account 11/15/27 | \$ 5,383.90 |
| Bank Balance— | |
| Pay Roll Account, 11/15/27 | 1,563.33 |
| Petty Cash Funds— | |
| Treasurer | 100.00 |
| Water Rates Collector | 50.00 |
| Tax Collector | 100.00 |
| Poll Tax Collector | 100.00 |
| Unpaid Taxes— | |
| Uncollected, 1927 | 97,290.97 |
| Tax Arrears— | |
| Uncollected, 1925 Land | 29,653.51 |
| Uncollected, 1925 Business and Income | 13,965.43 |
| Uncollected, 1926 | 49,341.83 |
| To Be Debtentured— | |
| Moneta School Addition | 30,000.00 |
| Technical School | 95,500.00 |
| Waterworks Construction 1926 | 22,000.00 |
| Sewer Construction, 1926 | 4,500.00 |
| Cement Walks Construction, 1926 | 20,500.00 |
| Waterworks Construction 1927 | 10,753.14 |
| Sewers Construction 1927 | 10,656.81 |
| Cement Walks Construction 1927 | 7,673.24 |
| Sundry Debtor | 478.62 |
| Construction Material | 8,107.71 |
| Fuel | 350.00 |
| E. St. Pierre Loan | 650.00 |
| Accounts Receivable | 405.00 |
| Tax Collector Shortages and Overs | 24.33 |
| Wood Walk Constructed, 1927 | 3,816.02 |
| Fourth Avenue Pavement | 6,776.95 |
| Surplus Current Account | .03 |
| Capital Assets Subject to Debtenture— | |
| Waterworks System | 315,801.20 |
| Sewerage | 154,625.00 |
| Incinerator | 11,100.00 |
| Cement Walks | 59,115.01 |
| Pavements | 151,480.00 |
| Public School Assets | 256,500.00 |
| High School Assets | 135,000.00 |
| High School Principal's Residence | 6,000.00 |
| Trunk Sewers | 81,168.00 |
| | \$1,170,789.21 |
| Less Depreciation Reserve | 221,444.89 |
| Capital Assets Free From Debtenture— | |
| Fire Department Premises | 17,056.31 |
| Fire Department Equipment | 25,295.14 |
| Fire Department, Moneta | 1,279.31 |
| Fire Team | 500.00 |
| Municipal Buildings | 11,641.95 |
| Jail Equipment | 473.67 |
| Office Equipment | 2,741.04 |
| Engineer Department Equipment | 200.00 |
| Road Equipment | 7,026.90 |
| Tools, Sewers | 1,005.25 |
| Tools, Waterworks | 1,798.50 |
| Work Team | 400.00 |
| Store House | 800.00 |
| Town Scales | 508.27 |
| Band Stand | 440.00 |
| Band Instruments | 1,000.00 |
| Park | 737.60 |
| Fire Chief's Residence | 1,500.00 |
| Police Chief's Residence | 4,000.00 |
| Cemetery Building | 500.00 |
| Real Estate | 8,216.41 |
| Police Department Equipment | 1,541.00 |
| Tractor | 4,102.83 |
| Water Meters | 2,827.76 |
| | 95,591.94 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$1,464,677.08 |
| Assets are subject to Reserve for Depreciation. | |
| LIABILITIES | |
| Imperial Bank Loans | \$ 2,968.09 |
| High School Board | 4,653.74 |
| Public School Board | 21,494.56 |
| Separate School Board | 29,116.39 |
| Local Improvements— | |
| Levy Owners' Portion | 4,766.19 |
| Levy Town Portion | 602.73 |
| Public Library | 1,617.45 |
| Debtenture Instalments Payable | 24,885.49 |
| Reserve for Uncollected Taxes | 26,342.87 |
| Reserve for Contingent Claims | 1,250.00 |
| Tax Suspense Account | 241.87 |
| Outstanding Cheques | 94.70 |
| Capital Liabilities— | |
| Debtenture Debt | 949,344.32 |
| Surplus Account Capital | 84,502.07 |
| | 1,033,846.39 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | \$1,421,264.08 |
| Surplus at December 15, 1927 | 43,413.00 |
| | \$1,464,677.08 |

E. L. LONGMORE, Mayor

H. E. MONTGOMERY, Treasurer