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Ontario Mineral Production Likely \$100,000,000 in 1928

Estimates of Ontario Department of Mines Suggests Increase of Ten Million Over Last Year. Value for First Nine Months of This Year Over Ten per cent. Above Similar Period in 1927.

Returns and estimates issued this week by the Ontario Department of Mines show that Ontario's mineral output for this year, 1928, is expected to total \$100,000,000. The total production for 1927 amounted to \$90,283,447. Values of metalliferous output from mines of the Province for the nine months ended Sept. 30 amounted to \$50,675,310, an increase of \$4,756,197, or 10.3 per cent. over the corresponding period of the previous year. It is expected that metals will provide \$69,000,000 of the estimated total for the current year. The metal mining industry has experienced a particularly encouraging year. A large metallic output, together with an average production of non-metals and a marked increase in the building and construction industries, indicate a substantial increase in the total production this year.

The three principal divisions, gold, silver-cobalt and nickel-copper mining are deserving of special comment. Gold mining, despite important gains by the Teck-Hughes and Lake Shore, has shown a slight decrease due to the curtailed operations at the Hollinger mine where the grade of ore and tonnage milled fell off during the period. Further details will be found under the heading "gold." The production of silver has continued to decline, due principally to the depletion of the mines, and, although considerably less in quantity than in 1927, production from present mines will continue for a number of years. Not since 1918, the year of maximum war-time production, has the nickel-copper industry shown such progress, as in the current year.

The outstanding features of 1928 were the extension of the well-known producing areas, the use of geophysical processes, and exploration by prospectors with the aid of the aeroplane and "kicker" equipped canoe which resulted in many important new fields of minerals, more particularly in the Patricia portion of Kenora district.

New gold discoveries have been made this season in the Patricia portion of Kenora district. In 1925 and 1926 the Red Lake area was staked, and this was followed by finds at Woman, Narrow and Confederation Lakes some 50 miles to the east. In 1927 development commenced at Fort Hope on the Albany River, a distance of 250 miles east of Red Lake. This season, at Pickle Lake and Crow River, at Shonia Lake near Cat Lake, and at other points in line between Red Lake and Fort Hope, discoveries have been reported and claim staking has followed. At Favorable Lake, 230 miles north of Sioux Lookout on the Canadian National Railway or 125 miles north of Red Lake silver and gold bearing deposits were discovered a year ago, and were examined this past summer by Dr. M. E. Hurst for the Ontario Department of Mines. Diamond drilling was done by the Favorable Lake Mining and Exploration Company, and assays from 16 holes averaged \$12.27 over a width of eight feet.

The total output of gold from Ontario's mines during the nine months' period was 1,146,888 fine ounces valued at \$23,708,312 as against 1,165,044 fine ounces worth \$24,081,275 in the corresponding period of 1927, or a decrease of \$372,963 in value. This falling off, however, does not indicate any recession of the gold mining industry. The setback may be entirely accounted for by the lowering of the tonnage milled at the Hollinger and also to a loss in milling time due to a disastrous fire in February. In the same area the McIntyre and Dome mines have continued to operate steadily at normal capacity. Offsetting this condition, was the remarkable increase in production at Kirkland Lake. In this area two properties, the Teck-Hughes and the Lake Shore, increased their combined output by over 50 per cent. or from \$4,220,078 in the first nine months of 1927 to \$6,476,903 for the corresponding period of 1928, the Wright-Hargreaves, Sylvanite and Kirkland Lake Gold maintaining their normal rate of production.

During the period nine properties at Porcupine and ten at Kirkland Lake were active, the total tonnage milled being 3,142,272 tons as against 3,172,399 tons in 1927, notwithstanding a decrease of 299,862 tons by the Hollinger. In the nickel-copper industry at Sudbury the outstanding development was that at the Froid and Froid Extension mines by the International Nickel Company of Canada and the Mond Nickel Company, respectively. Here has been developed a very large deposit of copper-nickel ore carrying important quantities of precious metals, including platinum metals, gold and silver. The mass of ore, which on the upper levels carries from 4 to 6 per cent. of nickel and copper combined, runs much higher in copper at the lower horizons, and from diamond drill cores shows as high as 20 per cent. copper. Shafts on both properties have reached a depth of over 3,000 feet, and lateral development is proceeding. At Copper Cliff a new smelter unit, with stack over 500 feet in height, is under construction, a result of developing the Froid ore body. Expansion is planned at the Coniston plant of the Mond Company. Undoubtedly the economic handling of this immense deposit would be improved by an amalgamation of the Mond and International companies as mooted in the press. At the International refinery at Port Colborne the second and third refinery units are being constructed with a view to increasing the output of electrolytic nickel and copper. The Falconbridge, Mond Nickel and Foy Offset nickel-copper deposits are under development.

In the area known as the Sudbury Basin an important amount of development was carried out both by diamond drilling and also by shaft sinking and drifts, principally on the Treadwell-Yukon, and Sudbury Basin properties, which are zinc-copper-lead deposits. A pilot mill of 300 tons capacity has been operated during the period by the Treadwell-Yukon, and the resulting flotation concentrates are stored at the company's railway siding near Larchwood station. The mill is now treating about 180 tons daily.

Expansion has taken place in every department of the nickel-copper industry; in ore raised, ore smelted, also in matter produced, refined and exported. Profits have increased and dividends have been correspondingly greater. The new and ever-expanding uses of nickel coupled with a steady rise in the price of copper have had their effect, with the result that the future for Ontario's nickel-copper industry would appear to be bright.

LAST-MINUTE SALE OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

A last-minute sale of Christmas gifts will be held in the basement of the United Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th, at 3 p.m., under the auspices of the Girls' Club. There will be a large assortment of fancy work, knitted goods, novelties, etc., for sale. Afternoon tea will be served, and there will be a fishpond for the children.

WOMAN MISSING EIGHT DAYS FROM NEAR SUDBURY

The Sudbury Star last week says:—"Missing for eight days in the vicinity of Cameron Lake, south west of Vermilion Lake, it is feared that Mrs. I. Samaski is either drowned or has perished in the bush from exposure. An active search is being conducted for the woman by residents of the vicinity under the direction of Sergeant R. Knight, of the Provincial Police who is at the scene. Mrs. Samaski is believed to have crossed Cameron Lake in a canoe but only meagre details concerning her disappearance are known."

ATTORNEY-GENERAL MAKES ENQUIRY ABOUT STOCK

Attorney-General Price, it is understood, is conducting a governmental investigation into the circumstances surrounding the recent slump in the stock of the Jackson-Manion Mines. The slump in Jackson-Manion was one of the most spectacular fluctuations in mining stock this year. In a few days the stock dropped from 90 cents per share to 17 cents. There were all sorts of stories going around one way and another in regard to the stock and after the apparently official statements given out the drop of the stock caused much comment and well as considerable cursing. Dr. R. J. Manion, M.P., of Fort William, who is one of the directors of the Jackson-Manion, has written suggesting an investigation of the case. His claim is that the directors are as badly in need of authoritative information as anyone else. He suggests that some of the directors stand to lose heavily unless there is a change in regard to the matter. In the meantime, the Attorney-General has sent out a questionnaire to Toronto brokers, asking them to report on all transactions in Jackson-Manion executed by them between Oct. 1st and Nov. 20th.

The production of silver fell off considerably during the period, but the decrease is more apparent than real, since the figures for silver production are based as nearly as possible on the sales of silver in the bullion form. While the largest bullion producers showed decreases in bullion output, the silver contained in exported material was considerably higher. In September a fire occurred at the plant of the Deloro Smelting and Refining Company. As a result this oxide plant was forced to close down for a month. Nipissing Mining Corporation and O'Brien mines in the order named were the chief producers at Cobalt. At South Lorrain the Keeley, Frontier and Lorrain Trout Lake reported a smaller production than in the corresponding period of 1927. The Miller Lake O'Brien at Gowganda showed an increased output, while that of the Castle-Trethewey was lower. At the Keeley mine some success is attending efforts to locate ore at the lower contact of the diabase sill.

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JUDGE MULLIGAN PASSES AFTER BRILLIANT CAREER

His Honour James Arthur Mulligan, senior judge of the Carleton county court, died at his Sudbury residence on Thursday last, aged 67 years. He had been ill more or less for four years past, death following a heart attack some four days previously. The late Judge Mulligan was a native of Pembroke, Ont. He had a brilliant career in the law being at one time a partner of Sir John A. Macdonald. The late Judge Mulligan at one time enjoyed wide reputation as a criminal lawyer, his moving appeals to juries being masterpieces of eloquence. For several years he practised law in Sudbury. He was elevated to the bench in 1922. He is survived by a widow (formerly Miss Elizabeth Frances Murray, of Pembroke) and two daughters and three sons.

LOST WORKERS FOUND IN SAFETY IN BARREN LANDS

According to press despatches seven men for whom a search by air and land proved unsuccessful for 20 days, were found safe on Saturday last, at the end of steel, mile 442, on the Hudson Bay Railway.

While en route from Fort Churchill, where they had worked during the summer for the Department of Railways and Canals to the end of steel, where they were to have entrained for their winter homes, the men became lost on the trail which for 70 miles traverses the barren lands. This was on November 3. Today the men were brought to the end of steel by a trapper in whose cabin, on the Little Churchill River, they had found shelter after wandering across the barrens but with scanty food rations for nine days.

The men are S. Smith, Prince Albert; Edward Rudantz, Winnipegosis; A. Nowosad and T. Salonyka, Winnipeg; Stanley Hutka, Pine River, Man.; Mike Husak, address unknown, and N. Sharatur, of The Pas.

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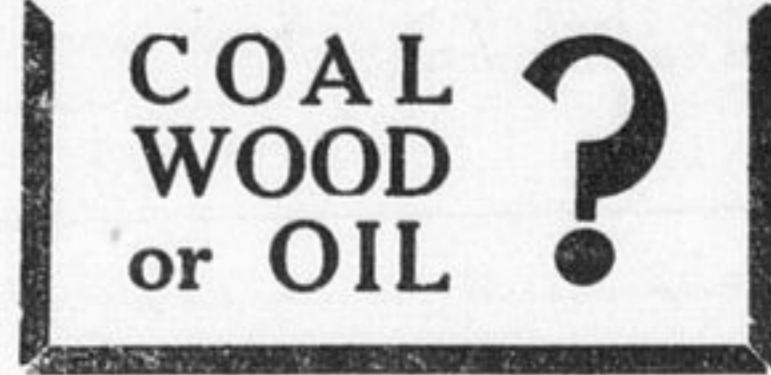
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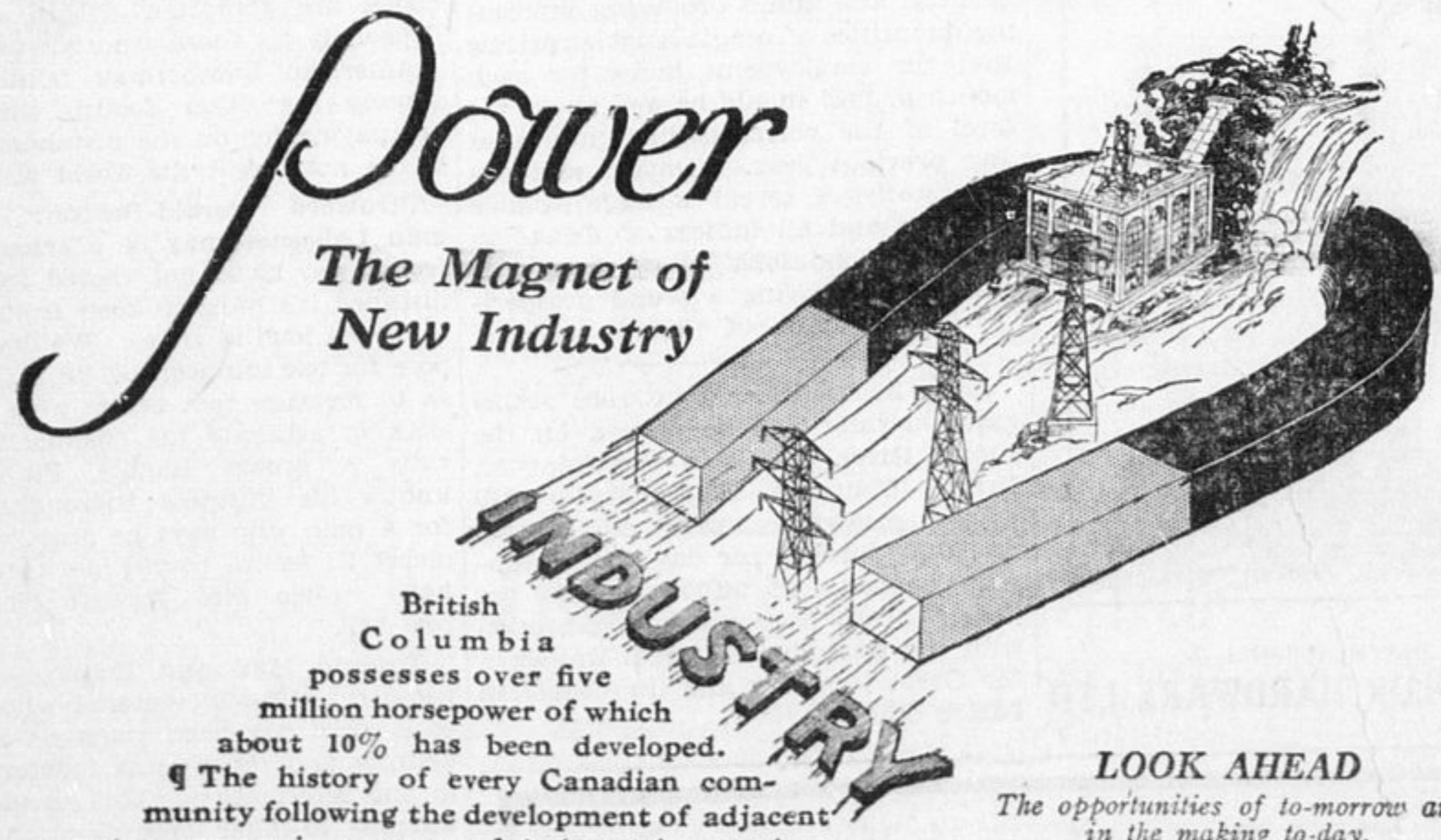
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