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MAPS NOW AVAILABLE FOR LAKES ON HUDSON ROUTE

Oxford, Gods and Knee Lakes Mapped by Dept. of Interior. Some Interesting Details of Hudson Bay Area

There is always interest hereabouts in the great Hudson Bay area, and the following from the Department of the Interior at Ottawa, sent to The Advance this week, should be of particular interest to readers:—

A new map sheet just issued by the Topographical Survey of the Department of the Interior is of particular interest to those who have their eye upon the development of Canada's hinterland. In this, a provisional edition of the Oxford House four-mile sheet of the National Topographic series, some 5600 square miles of territory have been represented upon the map. The map has been compiled from the use of aerial photographs and from data obtained by explorers and surveyors. There are still a few blank spaces upon the sheet but for the most part the areas of Knee, Gods and Oxford lakes with the labyrinthine lake and river systems tributary thereto are revealed in their true outline and detail.

Oxford lake, an expansion of Hayes river, was on the ancient route inland from York factory to Norway House. A considerable contrast to the new sheet is Arrowsmith's map of 1795, wherein the mere outline of the lake is shown. Oxford lake was called "Path-apoo-winepee," meaning "holy lake."

Coleen lake shown on the map about 25 miles south of Oxford lake is named for Chief Factor Coleen of York Fort who on the 5th of July, 1798, issued instructions to William Sinclair as follows:—

"Men are to be selected to man four or five canoes fitted out from Boats, Cargoes and the Rock Store. You are to proceed to the head of Trout River (now the portion of the Hayes connecting Oxford and Knee lakes) where you are to build a substantial house. Eight men will be appointed to conduct canoes. They will receive double Trip Money. After your house is built the men to collect timber in readiness for the erection of a stone house for trading goods, independent of your dwelling. . . . these buildings to be surrounded by Stockadoes to secure you from the attack of Indians; the quantity of Goods you will have in charge will require this Security I have engaged Indians to hunt for you. A stock of English provisions will be sent . . . by the Falls boats.

It is of interest to remember that Sinclair's "English Provisions" came in via the Hudson Bay route.

Then while still there was only a thin fringe of settlement along the St. Lawrence, Ontario and Erie fronts, Oxford House reared itself on this early North American highway of the Hayes.

At the time that Nelson fought the battle of the Nile, leaving Napoleon's army stranded in Egypt, on August 1, 1798, William Sinclair was in occupation of the new house, a building 42 feet by 24, with an upper story 9 feet under the ridge pole. Ever since that time barley and quantities of vegetables have been raised at the post. Later, in 1815 to 1817, William Sinclair was in charge of the newly established depot of Knee Lake.

In 1819 Sir John Franklin passed Oxford House and recorded that it exhibited "unequivocal signs of decay." Deputy Governor Nicolas Garry going east on his return to England via York Factory on the 18th of August, 1821, finds the buildings in "good order and the situation very pleasant" with a high mountain behind the house from which a fine view could be obtained. Garry's mountain was one by courtesy only being slightly higher than the surface of the surrounding country which is one of unusually low relief averaging 50 feet.

Furs in those old days were as gold, beaver skins being the medium of exchange and regarded as equivalent to coin of the realm. This is still one of the richest fur-bearing regions but men today seek also for minerals.

Supplies and winter equipment have been taken over a winter road from Wabowden Station on the Hudson Bay Railway at Mile 137, where also is located a commercial air base for transportation purposes.

With all of the transport facilities the old canoe routes are still open. Gods lake, lying diagonally across the southeast half of the map, may be reached from both Oxford and Knee lakes. Several canoe routes to Norway House and Island lake with the main route to Hudson Bay are marginally marked on the map and the falls and portages shown.

In the district around Touchwood lake at the centre of the sheet is a fertile soil of clay and sandy loam which produces garden products and displays an abundant wild vegetation. An area north and south of this lake and in the southeast corner of the map exhibits sparse detail being off the regular travelled routes and not having been flown over.

Throughout the region spruce occurs of sufficient size for building purposes and aspen, jackpine, balsam poplar and tamarack exhibit abundant growth. Numerous in the lakes and rivers are the finny tribes of the trout, whitefish, pickled and pike kinds.

The population of the country is chiefly confined to the Indian Reserves contiguous to the Hudson's Bay Company's posts at Oxford lake and Gods lake.

Copies of the new Oxford Lake map of the National Topographic series may be obtained upon application to the Surveyor General, Department of Interior, Ottawa, remitting 25 cents each for those in sheet form, or fifty cents each if required on linen back or in folder cover. The companion sheets of Island Lake and Norway House may also be obtained for the same prices.

London Opinion—"Feed a cold and starve a fever," say the doctors. What we would like to know is why every girl we take out has a cold instead of a fever."

The fishing at Wendigo, near Englehart, and at Temagami, is reported as very good this year. Nearer Timmins there are fishermen who have met with pleasing success recently, but they are reticent about giving out information and not altogether from selfish motives. As one fisherman put it:—"To mention a particular creek or lake as having fine fish is to run the risk of having it all fished out before your own next visit."

NEWS OF ENGLEHART AND BOSTON CREEK MINING AREA

New Vein Reported at the Barry-Hollinger. Work Started on Many Claims in the District.

A review is given in last week's issue of The Englehart Times of the mining news of that area. The Times says:—"There has been little news percolating through the usual channels regarding local mines. The main item is the announcement of a new vein at Barry-Hollinger, of which four feet show very marked and spectacular gold. If this proves to be, as present indications would imply, a considerable body of high-grade ore, we may expect Barry's milling heads to show a much higher average than the \$5 odd reported for the first quarter of the year. The mill has been operating on a 55 ton a day schedule, but it looks as if it will be stepped up shortly to cope with the rock being taken out, which considerably exceeds that tonnage. There is nothing new regarding Paterson and Amity, which seem to be going on satisfactorily on recent discoveries. Gold Hill's 1,100 ft. level is stated to have yielded a far more important vein than those on the upper levels, and the steady efforts of the management show signs of being rewarded at long last.

"With work starting on the McPherson claims, and to be shortly resumed on the O Be Joyful, two prospects near to town will get a good look over. The formation of the strike on the O Be Joyful, with syenite intrusions, is reminiscent of the Teck Hughes. We understand that this prospect will be in experienced hands for the immediate work of the season.

"It may have been the weather samples—from 92 in the shade to almost freezing—or the rates at Thorncliffe, or the new Hoover tariff, or the wheat surplus; in any case the mining market outdid itself for bearishness last week. Perfectly respectable stocks were forced down to figures representing not half their developed values. Vipond went to 80, K.L.G. about the same, and even Lake Shore and No-

randa slipped downhill at an alarming rate. Friday showed a slight reaction at the close, and sellers' prices showed a reluctance to part. The holiday till Tuesday seems to have given investors a change of heart. A rise in Chicago wheat prices, a bullish tendency in New York, and the June dividends must have heartened the market. Speculators with a little money left who saw in Friday's figures rock bottom were able to turn over, in most cases, a fair profit for their faith on Tuesday. Newbec, the magnet for last week's money languished at 55 on Tuesday, after a high for the week of 95, while humbler stocks which sold as low as 21 on Friday reached the 30's on Tuesday. There seems no reason why the investor which a chance to pick the stocks with solid assets behind them should not, in the long run, benefit by present conditions, since the market price of many of the developed mines is still far below their realisable assets.

There is no further news as to the Boston Creek Smelter to date, but it is not necessarily too good to be true. Where copper at 18c a pound exists in paying quantity, capital will not pass it by. The world's enormous electrical developments—half of France, for example has been served since the war by new Hydro plants, and the rest will be served within 5 years—call for more and more copper, and the end of the demand is not in sight. And the world must have more gold to maintain its currency standards. Our North land has gold and copper; they need them.

Annual Military Camp of the Algonquin Rifles

This part of the North land did its full part in supplying men for the world war, but in times of peace there is not so much interest taken in military matters. There is, however, one military unit for this North Land that has been maintained through the interest and earnest enthusiasm and far-sightedness of a few good citizens. This is the Algonquin Rifles, and among those whose efforts and time and talent have kept the regiment together, special mention may be made of Major Mac Lang, of Halleybury, and Lieut. McDougall, of South Porcupine. Until

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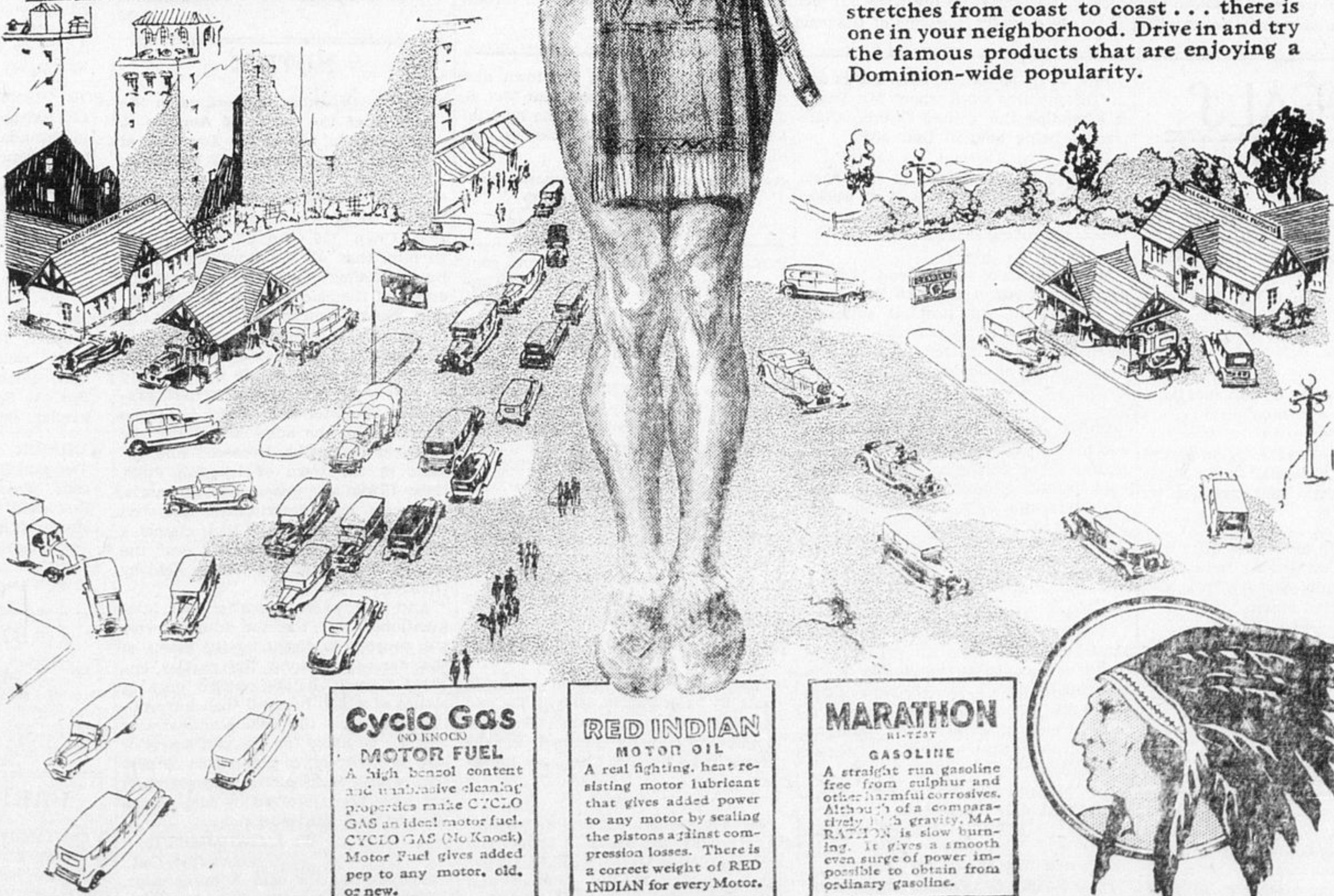
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