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THERE comes a time when nearly every son sits in mental judgment upon his father. Sometimes, alas! that time does not come until the father is dead. The son, perhaps, may be a mere lad, faced with the knowledge that his is the task of helping to look after mother and, perhaps, younger brothers and sisters. Then it is that he judges his father. Then it is that he remembers his kindnesses, condones his weaknesses, and then it is that he wonders sorrowfully, why his father did not make better financial provision for his mother.

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**Large Coal Deposits Found On Abitibi, North of Cochrane**

Premier Ferguson Makes Announcement of Discovery at Blacksmith Rapids. T. & N. O. Extension in Areas Likely to be Made Next Spring. Estimated Ten Million Tons of Rich Lignite in Big Find. Should be Great Value to North.

The striking announcement was made at Toronto last Thursday by Premier Ferguson that a rich field of lignite had been definitely located at Blacksmith Rapids, on the Abitibi river, north of Cochrane. The new coal field is at least one mile long and half a mile wide, and it is estimated that it will yield between seven and ten million tons of commercial fuel. The despatches from Toronto since the announcement suggest that actual mining work will commence before the end of this year and that in the spring the T. & N. O. will be extended from Island Falls to the new field and thus full transportation facilities afforded. The full significance of the announcement can not be overestimated. For some time past The Advance has been keeping its readers posted on work going on in the district north of Cochrane in prospecting for coal. The success won by a North Bay syndicate so far as their work went has been duly noted while the plans of a Montreal syndicate searching for oil and coal have also been referred to. While the coal fields are some distance from Timmins the matter is of special interest here because if success is won the whole North will be benefited. Indeed, if the present discovery is anything like as good as believed now, the whole province of Ontario will be enriched.

Word from Toronto this week is to the effect that Thos. F. Sutherland, Deputy Minister of Mines, and Dr. Dyer, one of the experts of the department, left this week for Blacksmith Rapids to take charge for the immediate present of the further operations planned.

"The Department of Mines," said Premier Ferguson in his announcement at Toronto last week, "in uncovering this coal deposit has made a notable addition to the known mineral resources of Ontario. The story is not yet complete, but in the opinion of the department enough has been disclosed to warrant the discoveries being described as the most important development in the mining field of the province in many years."

"The discovery comes after years of painstaking study and examination of the Abitibi area by Dr. W. S. Dyer, geologist, and other Mines Department officials. It comes on the heels of the completion of a \$25,000 diamond drilling campaign which the Government on the recommendation of Hon. Charles McCrea and his aides, voted at the last session of the Ontario Legislature. It is a remarkable illustration of what an unswerving faith in the future of the North Country can lead to."

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway will in all probability be extended next spring, to join its present terminus Coral Rapids with Blacksmith Rapids, some 30 miles, so as to tap the new found source of wealth. The Government, Mr. Ferguson admits, has the matter under consideration at the present time.

Systematic mining of the coal will be commenced this winter. Diamond drilling according to the Premier is to be prosecuted with even greater vigor than heretofore.

Now that a substantial deposit of lignite is assured, it is urgent, in Mr. Ferguson's opinion, that its full extent and possibilities for development be made known at the earliest possible date.

With this in mind, the government will immediately establish a complete mining camp and sink a shaft at Blacksmith Rapids so that sufficient coal may be mined this fall of tests for domestic and industrial uses in the north, as well as on the T. and N. O. for railway fuel.

"The government," Mr. Ferguson further stated today, "will withdraw from staking all the areas in the vicinity of the discovery to prevent stock exploration and any chance of imposition on the public. We believe it to be the function of the government in so important a matter to ascertain the extent and value of this great asset so that the public interests may be properly conserved and the province may get its full share of the benefit which may derive from the discovery."

For a long time it has been known that there were fragmentary indications of lignite formations in the vicinity of Blacksmith Rapids, but not until the Government engaged Smith and Travers, diamond drilling operators of Sudbury, at the commencement of the present season, to undertake a vigorous exploratory campaign, was the first definite effort to establish the extent and value of the formations under way.

The pre-Cambrian formations which overlie so much of the province preclude, it is known, the possibility of coal deposits, but bordering on James Bay is a later formation, the Cretaceous, in which coal, oil and other non-metallics have been found, as in Western Canada. It is in this formation that the lignite outcroppings at Blacksmith Rapids occur, and in and around which the diamond drilling crew, under the supervision of Dr. Dyer, has, to date, centred its efforts.

Up to the present time, according to Mr. Ferguson's announcement, 10 holes have been put down. "In five cases," said the Prime Minister, "the lignite seam has been reached. It proved to

be much thicker than expected. The last hole showed a thickness of 36 feet of lignite. Hole No. 9 showed 31 feet of mineable lignite. No. 6 was 21 feet thick and No. 1, 14 feet thick. Outcroppings on the river were tested in three places. Two of the seams were eight feet in thickness, while the third was about 20 feet thick. The variation in thickness is, in Dr. Dyer's opinion due to glacial erosion. In some places the glacier has carried away the seam entirely, leaving great bodies of boulder clay.

In other places the erosion has been less and seams have been left intact. The bed is nearly flat lying, but from the data at hand it appears to dip gently toward the west and to become thicker in that direction. The total thickness of the Cretaceous formation according to the drilling is 200 feet. It consists, with the exception of lignite, entirely of clay, some of which resembles the valuable fire clay of the Mattagami River, and may prove very useful in future.

Up to the present the seams have been located by drill to a length of one mile and a width of one half mile. This means that an area of one half square mile is underlain by the lignite of an established thickness averaging 18 feet. This in itself constitutes a reserve of several million tons and it is in every way likely that a seam of such thickness will be found to be more extensive, and it is anticipated that further drilling will prove the deposit to be truly a large and important one. The present ten holes merely constitute a start in exploratory programme.

Samples of the lignite taken from the outcroppings on the river have been tested for us by the fuel division of the Department of Mines at Ottawa and have been found to be of low temperature carbonization 44 per cent. char, having a composition similar to anthracite coal and of a calorific value of 12,750 B.T.U. There are great possibilities for its use as charcoal or as pulverized fuel for industries or as briquettes for domestic use.

If coal is added to the other products of the North Land, the result should be good. This North Land, as one hopeful Northerner remarked the other day, will be SOME mining country with gold, silver, copper, nickel, coal and gas all being actively and profitably worked.

**NORTH LAND MEN NOW HAVE TO BE IN ABOUT EVERYTHING**

It is getting nowadays that nothing much happens unless the North Land has a hand in it. The famous Ned Clarke was beaten up in Toronto the other day and he told the police that his injuries were sustained in saving a man from Kapuskasing from being robbed. Ned Clarke is one of the best-known gentlemen in Toronto so far as the police are concerned. Few lawyers or policemen have been in police court oftener than Ned. The newspapermen all know Ned, and both the police and the press have a sneaking regard for Ned. He might be charged with being drunk and he might give a little difficulty before or during his arrest but he was always a gentleman in court and afterwards. Usually it was necessary to invite Ned to the police station, but last week he walked into the Dundas street west police station one evening to complain of a beating he received from six men in a vacant house on Earnaby place. He was in his stocking feet and without coat or hat. The side of his face was swollen and he had two deep cuts, one behind the left ear. He told the police that he had been sleeping in the empty house with a Frenchman from Kapuskasing whom he knew when working in the bush. The gentleman from Kapuskasing had more than \$100.00 in cash in his possession at the time, and while the two were sleeping Ned said that six men entered the place to rob his friend. As might be expected a fight ensued. Ned putting up a valiant battle. He kept the six men so occupied for a few minutes that his Kapuskasing friend was able to get out of the house with his money and without being hurt. Ned valiantly fought on to cover his friend's retreat and eventually the six men had to use bottles to beat Ned over the head to quiet him enough so that they could get away. Ned Clarke is a tough man to beat, but he does succumb. It seems to the use of a bottle, outside or inside. Ned explained to the police that the six men pounded his feet with bottles, causing injuries that made him limp. Police went to the house referred to by Clarke, but they found no clues, further than Clarke's shoes, coat and hat and a heap of empty canned heat tins, as well as some empty bottles.

Orilla News-Letter:—Germany hated to see the British troops occupy the Rhine country going on to eleven years ago. Germany now begs that they be allowed to stay until all foreign forces are withdrawn. Some compliment to British fair play.

Forest Free Press:—It has been suggested that the old familiar hymn "For Those in Peril on the Sea," should be revised and made to read, "For Those in Peril on the Road." The suggestion is a good one, as today traveling on the sea is much safer than traveling on the roads and streets.

**TOURIST TRADE WELL WORTH CATERING TO BY GOOD ROADS**

In a month or two it will be timely to start an agitation for continued improvement to the roads in the North Land. At present the Ferguson highway is in pretty good shape—better, indeed, than most roads in the south, apart from the paved highways. But every spring and early summer there are strips of the highway that are just about impassable. This could be remedied by early attention. It seems that every year the work of repairing the roads is left too late in the season. There may have been some excuse this year, but such excuse was more apparent than real. It is true that there were several weeks this spring when little progress could be made with roadwork owing to weather conditions, but at the same time this drawback could have been largely offset by the placing of large gangs at work the minute the weather permitted. There is reason to believe that the Ferguson highway may be made into a first-class highway and the people may well insist upon this being done. In this connection it may be noted that The New Liskeard Speaker thinks that the tourist trade is worth working for in this North. The Speaker says:—"Below North Bay, on the Ferguson Highway, it is said that during the past few weeks every three out of four cars met on the roads are American cars. Have the same Americans into the North Country during the year 1930? Northern Ontario can hardly estimate the income which would be received by its people if the tourist trade is encouraged as it should be, and now that the automobile has become such a factor in transportation every effort should be made to meet the necessary conditions by safe road construction."

Huntingdon Gleaner:—"This is an age of slang and the fact was forcibly brought to mind the other day when reading an episode at the recent police games in Chicago. A summary of the proposed stunts was printed on the programme, and among them was this: "A cannon fades a mark and takes it on the lam with the boodle. He is tailed by the bulls, dunce-capped, given the weeps by a Niagara pineapple and hooked for the rap." An elderly gentleman who rather prided himself on his English asked for an explanation, so an obliging police sergeant wrote the above as it would appear in the English language. "A gunman holds up a citizen and runs away with the man's money. He is trailed by the police, cornered, driven from his refuge by tear bombs, captured and sent to jail."

Kitchener Record:—A city without an airport will soon be like a "thriving" town miles from a railway station.

**NEW SERUM SUCCESSFUL IN INFANTILE PARALYSIS**

Through the use of a new serum the spread of infantile paralysis in Ontario is believed to have been definitely checked, Hon. Dr. Forbes Godfrey, Minister of Health, stated last week. He said he had enough serum on hand to meet any situation which might arise but his department did not feel able to meet the request of Quebec health authorities for a quantity of serum at present. So far about 80 cases of the disease have been successfully treated in the province.

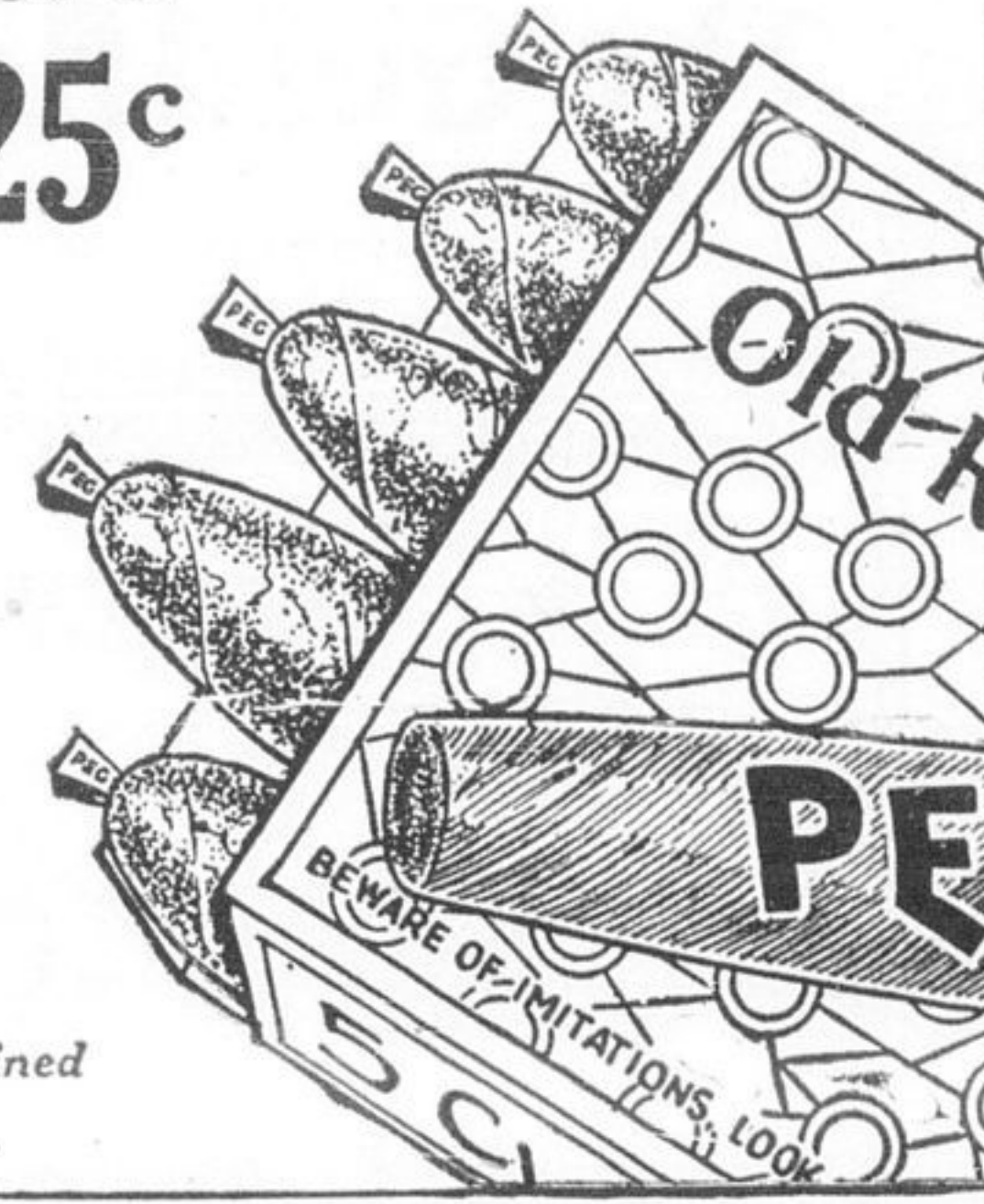
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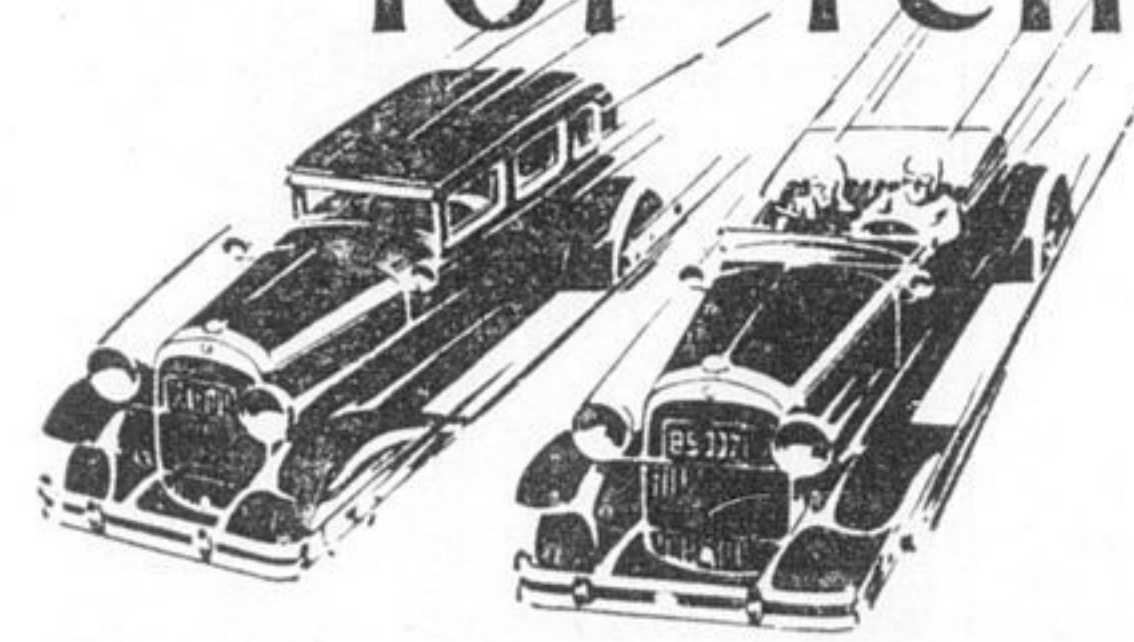
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