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LIGHTS AND SHADOWS IN LIFE IN A MINING CAMP

Described by Rev. J. D. Parks, For Over Ten Years a Valued Citizen of Timmins. Many Humorous Incidents Wittily Sketched.

Rev. J. D. Parks, now of North Bay, but for many years a valued and valuable worker in Timmins, is always able to lighten and brighten any subject with wit and humour and give striking interest to any question he might discuss. At North Bay recently he dealt with life as he saw it in a mining camp, his address to the North Bay Lion's Club being a most interesting one. The North Bay Nugget reviews the address at some length and many readers of The Advance will be pleased to read the review. The Nugget says:—

"Experience while in a mining camp in Northern Ontario" was the theme of an address given by Rev. J. D. Parks, at the Lions Club Monday night luncheon-meeting, held in the Empire hotel. President A. Beattie presided.

"The lights and shadows of a mining camp are almost the same as are experienced in almost every camp," he said. "The life of a camp can be divided into three periods. At first the discovery is thoroughly investigated to determine whether there is a chance that it can be developed into a producer.

"The second stage is one of rapid growth. Business men, must prepare for the reaping of the present, not knowing what the future will be. I realized while I was in Timmins of the uncertainty of the future. One winter I had to conduct two services on

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NO INTEREST SHOWN IN THE AUCTION OF MINE CLAIMS

No bidders appeared when Sheriff Caldwell recently put up for sale at public auction four claims in Coleman township owned by the Penn Canadian mines and which had been seized under instructions from the dominion government under the income tax act, 1917. The proceedings were under an order from the exchequer court. It is alleged that the company owes the federal authorities over \$2,500 as taxes on ore produced at the Glen lake property of the company years ago, and several prospective bidders were under the impression that this part of the holdings was up at auction. The claims are in southeast Coleman and very little work has been done on them. The Penn Canadian has not operated for years and most of the buildings at Glen lake, owned by the W. J. Haines estate, have been dismantled, some of them after sale by the municipality for taxes due.

DEATH OF MRS. J. A. DONNELL FORMERLY OF HAILEYBURY

Word was received in Haileybury last week of the death at Saskatoon, Sask., of Mrs. Donnell, wife of the Rev. J. A. Donnell, formerly pastor for several years of the Haileybury Presbyterian church. The message was received by Geo. T. Hamilton, the postmaster at Haileybury, and a particular friend of Rev. J. A. Donnell while the latter was in Haileybury. The late Mrs. Donnell had many friends in the North Land where the family lived for several years. Rev. Mr. Donnell being pastor of the Haileybury Presbyterian church and taking an active part in many public affairs. Rev. Mr. Donnell and family went to the West some years ago. Rev. Mr. Donnell being given the call to a church in Saskatoon. The late Mrs. Donnell is survived by the bereaved husband and one daughter, Margaret, to whom the sympathy of all will be extended.

Sunday nights to accommodate the church-goers.

"The third stage is that of civilization and consolidation. This is the period when schools and public buildings are constructed and citizens build substantial homes, and take an interest in municipal government. While Cobalt is not so lively today, yet the schools are overcrowded. Many of their fathers work in adjoining towns. I was in Timmins during the second stage. I had many interesting experiences. I have given evidence against a man who threatened to kill another man who wanted to go to church and have also been a witness in manslaughter court cases.

"Some of us, because of our professions, see the shadows more than others do. Some are of a lighter vein. At my first wedding in Timmins, the bridegroom, a Finlander, gave me \$10 after the service had been completed. Soon after he had left, he returned and asked me for the change, telling me that he considered his bride worth only \$5. Another bridegroom took off his suitcase, while a third man kissed the bride two or three times during the service to make sure that he kissed her at the right time.

"Sometimes there is tragedy. Life, after all, I suppose is like that. There are things which make you laugh, but yet the same thing might make you cry at another time. I have been at funeral services of men who opened up the North, those who can justly claim the title of real pioneers. I have been at funerals when three-quarters of the people were drunk and yet crying. They were sincere. There was comradeship behind it all.

"I have seen people in mining camps, in the depths of sorrow. A mining camp is the front lines of space. Think of the suddenness and awfulness of things which might happen to the miners. During the Hollinger mine fire, about 50 men were trapped and 39 men lost their lives. I cannot begin to describe the sorrow of women and children.

"It's a fine thing to take the dividends. But I would like you to have sympathy for the miners. Do not forget that they are going into the depths of the earth, selling their lives. Realize that the capital is worthless without the men. They are heroes.

"As in the mines there is the muck which contains millions of dollars worth of minerals, so the men on the surface look likemuck to some people, but in their hearts, the miners are brave, kind and brotherly.

"I learned a lot. Now I will not point my finger at any man. We know not what may be his hidden treasures and qualities." Lion Dr. P. McIntyre was elected

third vice-president. Lion F. Fidgeon, who has left the city and taken up residence in Toronto, has been replaced as first vice-president by Lion A. H. Kilgour and Lion W. A. Thompson is second vice-president.

The club is conducting a campaign known as the election of the Sultan of Turkey and his Cabinet. Twelve turkeys will be given away, next week, the proceeds to be used to assist the blind and those afflicted with defective eyesight and to provide milk for undernourished school children.

El Dorado Times:—"He worked like a horse and spent his money like an ass."

MR. AND MRS. ROBT. BOYLE WEDDED FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS

Well-Known Cobalt Couple Last Week Observe Notable Wedding Anniversary. Two Daughters Reside in Timmins.

The fifty-eighth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Boyle, of Cobalt, was observed last week by these well-known pioneer residents of the North Land. Mr. and Mrs. Boyle who live on Lang street, Cobalt, are widely-known and highly esteemed all through the North where they have been helpful residents since 1907. Some of the members of the family were present at Cobalt last week for the 58th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Boyle but others of the family were unable to attend on account of the long distances to be travelled.

Despatches from Cobalt last week give the information that Mr. and Mrs. Boyle were married in Holy Trinity Anglican Church at Pembroke, on November 6, 1871, the officiating clergyman being the then rector of the parish, Rev. Mr. Nesbitt. Both bride and groom of the ceremony of 58 years ago are members of families which are numbered among the earliest settlers of Renfrew county. Mr. Boyle's parents located in the Lake Dore section. Before her marriage, Mrs. Boyle was Miss Margaret McAuley, whose parents settled in Alice township, six miles from Pembroke.

A unique feature of the anniversary is that the bridesmaid and the groomsmen are still living. The former, who was Miss Eliza Boyle, the groom's sister, is now Mrs. George Davis, of Maynooth, and the groomsmen, Mr. William McAuley, brother of the bride, still resides on the old homestead in Alice township. Mr. and Mrs. Boyle both come of long-lived families. They came to Cobalt in 1907 and have made their home here since. Previously, they had lived in Sault Ste. Marie, Copper Cliff, Cache Bay and Warren.

Surviving members of the family are three sons and six daughters. The sons are William Boyle, in Neudorf, Sask., James E. Boyle, formerly of South Porcupine, and now in Toronto, and Hugh, living in Haileybury. The daughters are Mrs. Alex Lafave and Mrs. James G. Hood, of Kenaston, Sask.; Mrs. Walter Armitage and Mrs. M. A. Ellis, in Timmins, and Mrs. Frank Lendrum and Miss Henrietta Boyle, in Cobalt.

Ottawa Journal:—"The president of the General Motors said the recent slump on Wall Street was "healthy"—no doubt for those who came out at the right end. But what about the other fellows? Will their experience be healthy for them, too?"

Huntingdon Gleaner:—"A black hawk took part in the stunt-flying competition for the Border City trophy at Windsor, Ont., last week. J. B. Duckworth was up in the air with his plane competing for the prize. The hawk took after him and the thousands of spectators saw Duckworth loop-the-loop and the bird do the same. The bird did a perfect imitation. Duckworth produced all his bag of tricks and the hawk kept pace until at last Duckworth pulled one which the bird would not attempt; the pilot went into a tail spin.

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SOME NOTES ABOUT LOST VESSELS IN THE FAR NORTH

Eskimos Bank Accounts and Stefansson Romances Referred to. Eskimos Use Gasoline and are Ready to Pay \$5.00 a Gallon for it.

In a group of notes on matters referring to the Far North last week The Northern Miner made the suggestion that Vilhjalmur Stefansson rather colours the story of the Far North when he lectures in the South. From a reading of The Northern Miner notes one would be led to believe that other explorers and pioneers of the Far North, as well as Hudson Bay Company men and others in a position to know the facts are rather inclined to be amused at Stefansson's lectures and the sort of material with which they are filled. Which may be as it may be. However, frequent visits by members of The Northern Miner staff to the arctic regions and the faculty for close and shrewd observation give much weight to what The Northern Miner may say. The fact that the Hudson Bay factors and the missionaries in the Far North support the presentation of the country as pictured by The Northern Miner naturally gives weight to anything the mining paper may say about the arctic country and its people. Hence, the following notes from The Northern Miner last week should be of more than passing interest:—"The only sign of the "Patrick and Michael," N.A.M.E.'s schooner lost in Chesterfield Inlet, is the topmast. It sticks up a few feet above high tide, a melancholy reminder of a grievous accident of the sea. The vessels of the aerial exploration companies have had no luck. The "Morso," of Dominion Explorers, met a quick fate near Churchill when it took fire and was blown up by its gasoline stores this summer. The "Patrick and Michael" did not survive its first year in the North, foundering on an uncharted reef. Masters of both vessels had years of experience in the waters of the North."

Speaking of the Eskimos and some of their methods and characteristics, The Northern Miner says:—"The Eskimos of the Bathurst Inlet area head for the coast and the trading posts in the late fall, after spending the summer inland along the lakes. They trade their furs for various things, including gasoline at \$5 a gallon. They have primus stoves. In winter they use seal oil for house heating, but prefer the gasoline for summer use. At the mouth of the Mackenzie the Eskimos, who engage largely in fishing, have small schooners with outboard motors. "Actually," says "Pat" Reid, "these people have bank accounts away down in Edmonton or somewhere." They do not make their own deposits but have traders, missionaries and travellers do it for them. This is a far cry from the common idea of the northern native's financial status. Presently one of them will buy a plane. They have not yet begun playing the market. There is a virgin field here for some high pressure salesman.

In reference to Vilhjalmur Stefansson, The Miner makes the following paragraph:—"Vilhjalmur Stefansson gave a very amusing address in Toronto last week. His pet topic, "The Friendly Arctic," was presented with a few frills which rather startled his audience and, indeed, might even surprise the Eskimos upon whom he poses as an authority. For one thing, he said that half of them had never heard of snow houses unless they had been to school. Mr. Stefansson is in the position that nobody, even the Hudson's Bay people who have been in the Arctic for so many years before the explorer was born, or set out to make a living by lecturing on the Far North, agrees with him about the Arctic. It is a case of Stefansson against the world. But he is amusing, and that is something."

As will be noted by the professional card in another column of this issue Dr. S. R. Harrison and Dr. L. Hudson are now practising together as physicians and surgeons.

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