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TO BEAUTIFY THE GROUNDS AT THE C.A.S. SHELTER

Recently the Kiwanees passed a donation of \$15.00 to purchase shrubs and other plants for the C.A.S. Shelter grounds here. The ladies looked after the building of a lawn and the planting of flowers at the Shelter when it was first established, and now they intend to proceed to further beautify the place. Mrs. G. H. Gauthier, who is an expert at horticultural matters had charge of the work before and will likely lend the same assistance this spring. The ladies recognize the value of beautiful surroundings to the work of the C.A.S. Shelter and the work of carrying out the idea of beautifying the Shelter grounds will be carried out as soon as favourable weather arrives.

Sudbury Star:—A good many newspapers are publishing extracts from the Bible, which must be spot news to a lot of their readers.

More Lignite, Gas and Oil May be at James Bay

In discussing the question of lignite, gas and oil in the James Bay Basin north of Cochrane The North Bay Nugget last week has the following:—

"Certain definite and conclusive conclusions have been reached with regard to the geology of the area in which government drills have located huge tonnages of lignite on the James Bay slope, according to reliable information obtained this week. As a result of these conclusions while no announcement has been made it is possible the government may proceed with its explorations in the lignite field on an even more extensive scale this year than before. While there is some difference of opinion on the subject, it is said in well-informed geological circles that the possibilities of finding oil and gas in addition to the proven deposits of lignite have not yet been exhausted.

"The beds of lignite, it has now been established, are found in a basin formed by an irregularity in the underlying basic rocks, permitting an accumulation of clay and vegetation over a period of years, protected from erosion which has formed a certain area of cretaceous formation that is favorable for the habitation of coal, oil and gas. One drill hole, put down vertically for exploratory purposes, did not enter the basic granite until a depth of 1,000 feet, indicating that the basin was at least 1,000 feet deep at that point. Below the lignite beds, it is said, the drilling denoted certain strata of shale and limestone, the porous quality of the latter suggesting possibilities of oil accumulation.

"The basin in which the lignite has been found is at least five miles across in one direction, while its length has not yet been determined. There is also said to be the possibility of other similar basins being found in the vast area which forms what is known as the James Bay slope.

"The government's exploratory activities in this field have now extended over the past two years. A third drill was despatched this week from the Sudbury shops of Smith and Travers to the lignite field, and will probably take part in the program for the coming summer. A third shaft for testing purposes has reached a depth of about 35 feet, where further progress has been temporarily retarded by caving difficulties."

Toronto Mail and Empire:—The Kitchener suggestion that hockey referees should be kept off the ice altogether is not well adapted to modern rinks. If the games were played on the ice of a lake or river it might be feasible to make some arrangements for the referee to swim along underneath.

Gold Production Up in the Province

World Demand for Gold Finding Resurgence in Output in Ontario. Ontario Dept. of Mines Helping the Industry

The following article on Ontario's gold production and the mining industry in general is by Hon. Chas. McCrea, Minister of Mines for Ontario:

Increased gold production was the outstanding feature of the mining industry of Ontario during the year 1930. At a time when the world is crying out for more and more of this indispensable medium of exchange, Ontario responded to the call by an output of nearly 36 million dollars.

This represents the highwater mark of gold production by the province. Ontario to-day produces 82 percent of the total gold output of the Dominion, and is responsible for placing Canada this year second on the list of gold mining countries of the world—a position which has been held for many years by the United States.

The general slump in the prices of base and rare metals has had a world-wide effect on mining and mineral production, and many mining operations in various parts of the world have been either suspended or curtailed during the past year.

Despite this handicap, however, the production of metals, including gold, in Ontario only fell off in value in 1930 to the extent of a little over half a million dollars. This is the more remarkable when it is remembered that 1929 was the peak year in the history of mining in Ontario.

Silver production advanced in quantity during the year under the stimulus of the good market for cobalt, with which it is associated. Many of the properties of the Cobalt mining area were worked for the cobalt content of the ore, and the silver was recovered incidentally. The exceptional decline in the price of silver is attracting wide interest, and any revival in the popularity of this metal would certainly enhance the value of many of the mines and mining prospects of Ontario.

Notwithstanding the decline in the price of copper, production of this metal in Ontario during the past year was much increased. The output of copper advanced from 88 million pounds in 1929 to 127 million pounds in 1930. Practically all was produced by the mines of Sudbury.

The total value of the nickel output for the year was down about ten percent, as compared with the previous year. Platinum metals showed over 100 percent increase in quantity, but the lower market prices of these rare metals cut into the value, which, nevertheless, was 50 percent over that of 1929. Lead and zinc were on a restricted basis during the past year owing to low market prices. Production in non-metallic minerals in 1930 was about the same as that of the previous year.

There is every evidence of a revival of interest and activity in prospecting. Some new and a number of old properties are coming under development. The discovery of rich gold deposits at Bannockburn in the Matachewan district, goes to show how little is yet known of the possibilities of the more accessible areas, to say nothing of the remoter parts of the province.

The world's need for gold, and the rapid depletion of the mines in the older gold producing countries, is directing the attention of mining men and speculative capital to the partially developed gold properties of Ontario, and to the exploration of the great unprospected areas of the province.

Exploration of the Onakawana lignite fields is being continued by the Department of Mines. Up to the present between five and six miles square have been proven to contain lignite, the seams running from 10 to 12 feet to 50 or 60 feet in thickness, and the total quantity of lignite indicated being estimated at 135 to 150 million tons. High-grade refractory clays are found associated with the lignite. The T. & N. O. railway crosses the field en route from Cochrane to Moose River Crossing.

The Department of Mines continues from year to year to carry out a systematic survey of the geological formations of areas favorable for the occurrence of minerals. By this means a wealth of information has been accumulated in the shape of exploration reports and geological maps, which are of great assistance to the prospector and the miner.

DEATH AT COBALT OF THE MOTHER OF JAMES LEGRIS

A despatch this week from Cobalt says that the funeral took place on Tuesday morning, March 3rd, from St. Patrick's Roman Catholic church in that town of Mrs. Edward Legris, member of a pioneer Renfrew county family, who died of old age at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. C. Woodworth. Of Irish descent, Mrs. Legris was born near Calabogie in 1846, her maiden name being Amelia Enright. With her husband she came to Cobalt in the camp's earlier days, and Mr. Legris died there about 22 years ago. Surviving are one son, James Legris, Timmins, and three daughters, Mrs. Woodworth and Mrs. J. E. Proulx, Cobalt, and Mrs. W. J. O'Connor, Fort William.

Toronto Mail and Empire:—The mills of the gods grind slowly but they grind exceedingly small, in which latter respect at least they resemble the mills of the tax rate.

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SOMETHING SPECIAL DOING ABOUT THE DOME PROPERTY

(From The Northern Miner)

"H. P. DePencier, Dome's vice-president and general manager, is now in South Africa, on company business, according to information from informed sources."

The prediction that Dome would have low per ton costs this year is being borne out, so a director spoken to by The Northern Miner declares. He had no figures to offer but agreed that they were "very low."

"Dome is all right. We'll have some news for you pretty soon, good news." He would not say where General Manager DePencier is nor what he is doing. "Too much publicity is not good when you are trying to negotiate something that you believe will benefit the company. I know the shareholders are prepared to possess themselves in patience for a time yet."

The question of colloidal gold and a process for recovering this mysterious material was brought up but failed to elicit anything more than the response that it would be a wonderful thing for the world and for Dome if the matter reached a happy conclusion. Colloidal gold is a substance which is reported by experimenters to exist in most gold ores but which cannot be detected by ordinary assay and extraction practices. (It has been rumored that a process for recovering it has been evolved and that Dome's general manager is now in England looking into the matter. A metallurgist of high standing in his profession and who has been very successful in his milling work in Northern Ontario, chatting with The Northern Miner recently, said that he was quite sure there was something more than talk to colloidal gold.)

The virtual admission that Mr. DePencier is investigating something of importance is interesting. Likewise the word that costs per ton are exceptionally low.

North Bay Nugget:—The Sudbury police made short work of an alleged Communist uprising in that city. Prosecutions will follow, and that quite rightly with deportation a possibility in all probability.

Planes of Value in the Mining Areas

Consolidated Airmen Fly 425,000 Miles Since Service Started, with No Serious Injury to Anyone. Prospecting and Mining Helped.

According to despatches from Ottawa last week, airmen of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada, engaged in aerial exploration, have flown approximately 425,000 miles since the inception of the service in the winter of 1928-29. W. G. Jewitt of that Company stated in an address Thursday at the annual general meeting of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, in session at the Chateau Laurier. In the thousands of miles travelled there had been no serious injury to the personnel, he stated. Prince Albert, Sask., The Pas, Man., Sioux Lookout, Ont., Sameterre, Quebec, and Burns Lake, B.C. have been used as bases for aerial exploration, he stated, and the operations of the staff extended and enlarged.

The aeroplanes were used for reconnaissance, prospecting, examination of properties and supply of properties. The use of the aeroplane had aided in controlling and expediting the work of prospecting parties, he said.

"One season's prospecting has demonstrated a widely mineralized area about which even yet is little known," stated J. P. Norrie, mining engineer of the Dominion Explorers, Ltd., in regard to Great Bear Lake-Coppermine area in the Arctic circle.

He told of 168 claims being staked for copper in this area by his company in the territory in 1930. "To date little work has been done on any of the discoveries, so that nothing is known of the size of the deposits," he said.

"The aeroplane is indispensable for transporting men and supplies and is useful in obtaining an idea of the topography and perhaps unusual geological conditions, but it still remains for the prospector with his canoe to do the real work," he said.

G. G. Duncan of the Northern Aerial Minerals Exploration Company also addressed the meeting on the explorations of his company in the Coppermine area in 1929 and 1930. There were three types of occurrence, that disseminated native copper, amygdaloidal and sheet copper, he said. One find had been of massive bornite, in a draw having a width of 30 feet, extending for 2,000 feet. About half a mile distant there was a vein of massive chalcocite. These were only a number of the discoveries made, he stated.

Huntingdon Gleaner:—A dog can be too loyal. This was demonstrated in the case of a Dodge City, Kansas, farmer, wanted on a liquor charge. Officers had sought him all over the place without avail. They returned for a second search. He could not be located in the house, barn, or any of the outbuildings. A dog was noticed standing in the doorway of a small coal shed. He remained there without moving. As the officers were about to leave, one of them became curious. He went to the building. Although a previous search there had been futile, he made a better search. The structure contained a small loft which previously had escaped detection. The farmer, hiding in this, was captured.

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