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Steam Roller Works at the Conference

No Attempt Made to Check Up on Delegates to Conference. Some Serious Misrepresentations Made.

There are several references in this issue of the so-called conference at North Bay last week, but probably none more interesting and illuminating than the article from The New Liskeard Speaker given herewith. All through the discussion of the proposed route of the Trans-Canada highway, The Speaker has stood four-square for the interests of this part of the North Land and for the good of the Dominion as a whole. The route of the Trans-Canada highway has been considered and discussed literally for years. To those taking an interest in public affairs it is no new question. It will be recalled that one of the arguments used in urging the construction of the Ferguson highway and the road west from Cochrane was that these roads would form part of the Trans-Canada highway that would link up east and west. Some of the newspapers that are now wabbling all over the North were particularly urgent in pressing this argument when it was of little import. The Speaker, however, is never a wabblor on any subject. The New Liskeard Speaker usually considers its views before expressing them, and then knowing the case it presents it has no occasion to jump from one thing to another. All through the controversy The Speaker has not only maintained its stand, which is the considered stand after long study, and the stand adopted by the Northern Ontario Associated Boards of Trade. The report of the conference as given by The Speaker is well worth reading. The Speaker in its report says:—

"Name it what you may, the alleged conference held at North Bay on Wednesday to 'pick' a route for the road through Northern Ontario proved most entertaining, and at the same time exemplified the success of the steam rolling tactics adopted by the C. P. R. towns in gaining an advantage over those opposed to the North Shore of Lake Superior route for the Trans-Canada highway through Northern Ontario.

"Members of the Temiskaming Associated Board of Trade, after already having twice endorsed the Northern Route, with a turn down to Port Arthur and Fort William, for the third time at Iroquois Falls last week endorsed that resolution and directed that a committee attend the conference on Wednesday to present the resolution and move a motion asking for immediate conclusion of surveys, a decision on the part of the Government and commencement of work on which ever route the Government engineers decided was the correct one. Could anything have been fairer, less open to selfishness and more of a compromising nature? At the conference on Wednesday President Wright and Col. Armstrong ably and logically presented this phase of the question and under ordinary circumstances, their remarks would have received greater consideration than they did.

"However, the 'crowd' came down with one object in view, and that object was to attempt to compel the Governments to build the road along the Lake Shore. This was apparent from the opening moments of the meeting, and the discussion really featured a battle between Soo and Chapleau interests, the Northern delegation keeping pretty much out of the 'scrap' having decided to leave it up to the Governments interested. During the controversy between Mr. James Lyons, M.P.P. of the Soo and Mr. George Nicholson, M.P. for East Algoma who were the only members of parliament present, contradictions were numerous and invariably it was shown that gross exaggeration had been made by the speaker so checked. For example Mr. Lyons left the impression that a place called White River, celebrated for the severity of its winter weather, was a community about the size of New Liskeard. On being checked up by a Chapleau delegate it was found that there were only about sixty householders in the community referred to. On other occasions it was shown that the considerable mileage of road alleged to have been put down really constituted about a third of the actual distance the road had traversed from its starting point. These are but a few instances which demonstrated the differences of opinion as between the Chapleau and Soo interests, and only goes to prove the reasonableness of the resolution of the Northern Associated Boards.

Economical Plans for Clearing Land

Superintendent of Kapuskasing Experimental Station Gives Helpful Information on Land Clearing in North.

The following article on "Economical Methods of Land Clearing in Northern Ontario" has been received by The Advance from J. S. Ballantyne, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station, Kapuskasing, Ont. Mr. Ballantyne has been a resident of the North Land for around a quarter of a century, with practical experience as settler and farmer, as well as having a wide scientific knowledge of agricultural affairs. If anyone is in position to give assistance to settlers and others in regard to land clearing or allied questions, it should be Mr. Ballantyne. In regard to methods of land clearing Mr. Ballantyne says:—

"In a timbered country such as we have in Northern Ontario, the clearing of land is of vital importance. Several methods have been tried out, but the only sane method and one that can be recommended is: first, select an area that has clay soil or shallow muck preferably; secondly, cut all merchantable timber such as pulp logs and fire wood properly, pile all brush and timber of no value so that the area is all piled for a fire which is the chief factor in cheap clearing. When the proper time arrives for a fire, the area should be burned and any logs left should be re-piled and burned. On the success of the burn depends the whole matter of efficiency in future clearing as it keeps down sucker growth and also insures a good catch of grass and clover which is essential for pasture and the building up of the soil for a crop when the time arrives for the final clearing, which takes from seven to eight years if the stumps are left to decay and rot. In an experiment in land clearing conducted at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Kapuskasing, Ont., it was found that the cost of clearing decreased in five years from \$63 to \$46. Where the period was extended to 8 to 12 years and left in pasture the cost dropped to \$10 and \$18 per acre the work being accomplished by hand, owing to the process of the weathering agents which is of vital importance. A light seeding of grass is recommended immediately after the burn, such as four pounds of red clover, two pounds alsike and four pounds of timothy. This insures a good pasture and also assists in keeping sucker growth in check, which is one of the problems of the North, as second growth poplar, etc., soon kill out pasture and in a few years you have a second cost if proper methods are not resorted to in the pioneer stage."

Gardens Popular in the Distant Mining Camps

All who have lived in new mining camps or at mining properties in far-distant spots know how popular the home garden becomes. At nearly all of the mining properties where activity is carried on some distance from the larger settlements and centres, there is always a desire to have a garden and always somebody who will make that desire come true. At nearly all outlying mining properties that are being worked there are gardens that are the pride and delight of all. This feature of life at the new properties is touched upon in the special annual number of The Northern Miner last week as follows:—

"Sometimes the getting in of fresh vegetables to outlying mining operations is quite a problem. The toting of vegetables over long portages or rough roads is quite a chore and while evaporated vegetables and fruit are splendidly prepared, they pall on the appetite after a steady diet. After a few weeks of tinned stuff it is not unusual to hear the request at table, 'Pass up the 'desecrated' potatoes, Bill'.

"One of the first things after the clearing away of bush is the planting of a garden. No matter how hopeless the outlook for a crop the garden gets tender care. Usually the cook adds it to his multitudinous tasks, but miners from underground and others on the staff take a whirl at farming in off time hours.

"Gardens was the subject of discussion at dinner in Bannockburn last week where will be found men who have taken part in Mining Corporation's efforts to find new mines in Manitoba, Quebec and elsewhere. 'Do you remember the garden we had in Manitoba?' one of the diners asked in a general way. 'Sure,' answered a chorus. 'And it was some garden,' was the comment of one individual. All those in the know laughed heartily and it was apparent that Manitoba's world-famed fertility did not extend to the bush country to the north. 'How much did we really get out of the garden?' the cook was asked. 'I think we got enough for soup for one meal.'

"And the making of life as pleasant as possible in these out of the way spots, occupies a big part of the thoughts of the manager. His crew is usually made up of Bills, Georges, Jacks, men whose families on the 'outside' the manager knows well. They don't send grouches to these places. It doesn't pay to have temperamental workers around. They can wreck a good organization in no time. The owner of a temperament is urged to take a change in scenery and that without delay.

"Talking about gardens, three Swedish prospectors at Red Lake have put in 20 bags of potatoes—nearly a farm—and expect to dig up a couple of hundred bags this fall. The price of spuds in there in winter is about \$4 or \$5 a bag at times, so that the men expect to make a little expense money out of their gardening.

"Howey Mine has a splendid garden, where a considerable proportion of the vegetable requirements for the year are grown. Most of the outlying mines which work the year around follow the same practice."

CLAIMS THAT TROUT ARE WORTH FIVE DOLLARS EACH

(Financial News.)
At Paul Lake, near Kamloops, a young Canadian scientist, Charles Motley, is studying the life habits of trout, conducting his research under the auspices of the biological board of Canada.

Mr. Motley told a representative of the Financial News that every trout taken from Paul Lake is worth about \$5 to the community. The value he sets upon these little game fish as tourist "bait" is higher than that placed upon the finest sockeye salmon ever sold to a British Columbia cannery.

Anglers come to Canada from all over the world for trout fishing and spend large sums of money in cities, on boats and railways and at fishing resorts.

When the Federal Government begins to study means of increasing the stocks of sport fish in stream and lakes that are not patronized by spawning salmon, it suggests that they are becoming conscious of the cash value of tourists traffic and their work deserves the support of the public.

GRADING OF DIFFERENT QUALITIES CANNED GOODS

Summer is the season in which the camper and tourist hold sway throughout the length and breadth of the land. It is also the time of the year when, perhaps more than at any other, canned goods are in demand. It is during this season that the travelling and camping public come to realize the true worth to them of the commercial inspection service supervised by the Fruit Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Under this service all canned products of field, orchard and farm are put up under close inspection, and each individual container in addition to conforming with a specific size must be clearly marked with the true quality of the product it contains. There are three grades of quality defined by statute. These are—"Fancy" which is the highest grade and as nearly perfect as possible; "Choice" which, while not quite so perfect in appearance, is, as the term implies, a real good quality for the products; and "Standard," for use where appearance is not the principal consideration, and which provides high food value and good flavour at little cost.

Exchange.—After a girl gets married, she begins to realize her husband spoke the truth when he used to say he wasn't worthy of her.

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"The battle waged all afternoon and until early evening when the chairman decided to apply the closure and call for a vote. There was no attempt made to check up on the delegates present, and it was alleged that there were men at the meeting hoisting for the North Shore route representing nothing more than a "sign post." However, "everything went" and three resolutions were placed before the meeting. The first vote was in connection with a resolution from Chapleau asking that the Government be asked to link up the Hearst-Soo sections with a road going West from some point to be agreed upon. This was lost. The second vote, which was the amendment and the resolution and advanced by the Soo was as follows:—

"That this conference make a recommendation to the Government of Ontario that they build the road from Sault Ste. Marie on to White River and through to Nipigon, and that the road be connected up from Hearst to Hornepayne and White River; and for every mile built between the Soo and White River that one mile be built between Hearst and White River. And that we leave it to the Government as to which line they want to call the Trans-Canada Highway. Also that we ask for a road from the Trans-Canada highway into Chapleau"

"This resolution received the support of the majority of those present at the conference." Then followed the original resolution which had been presented by Mr. Wright from the Temiskaming Associated Boards of Trade,

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MINING CLAIM HOLDERS

DEPARTMENT OF MINES

NOTICE

To Holders of Mining Claims in Ontario Not Yet Patented or Leased.

Notice is hereby given to holders of mining claims, wheresoever situated, upon which the work specified in the Mining Act has been prohibited or restricted to a stated period by the Minister of Lands and Forests under the authority of the Mining Act, or where permission to do the work has been given under conditions and limitations designed to protect the timber, THAT under the Forest Fires Prevention Act, 1930, they are required to apply to the District Forester in the District in which the land is situated for a permit to perform such work, and that failure to apply for such permit, or upon issue of the same, failure to perform and record the work prescribed by the Mining Act, will subject their claim to cancellation. The time for performing and recording the said work is extended by Order-in-Council to and including the 15th day of November, 1931. If the work upon the claim is required, the time for computing the date before which further work upon the claim is required, will be computed as from the said 15th day of November, 1931.

The name and address of the District Forester to whom application for such permit should be made, may be obtained from the Recorder of the Mining Division in which the claim is situated. A miner's license in the name of the applicant, or due renewal of the same, must accompany the application and the number or numbers of the mining claim or claims must be clearly stated.

T. F. SUTHERLAND,
Acting Deputy Minister of Mines.

Toronto, December 9th, 1930.

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