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Official Report on Bannockburn Area

Preliminary Review of the Neighbouring Gold Field, as Prepared by H. C. Rickaby, of the Ontario Department of Mines.

This week just before going to press The Advance received the following report on the townships of Bannockburn, Hincks, Argyle and Montrose, in the western part of the new Matachewan gold area, as prepared by H. C. Rickaby, of the Ontario Dept. of Mines:—

This area embraces the townships of Bannockburn, Argyle, Hincks and Montrose, in the west part of the Matachewan district. The geology of these townships was done by H. C. Cooke of the Dominion Geological Survey and shown in the map accompanying his report (Mem. 115) issued in 1919. In the fall of 1930, a discovery of gold was made in the northwest part of Bannockburn township by prospectors working for the Mining Corporation of Canada. This discovery, now known as the Ashley mine, has been actively developed during the past year, with very encouraging results. Following the discovery of the Ashley vein a great many claims were staked in the surrounding area, and considerable surface prospecting has been done on a number of the groups of claims.

During the past summer this area has been studied again, particular attention being paid to the rocks and rock structures favourable to the deposition of gold. For the most part the work tends to confirm Cooke's report and map in its general geological features. The oldest rocks of the area consist of volcanic flows and tufts of basic to acid character. Overlying these volcanics in the southern part of

the area are steeply tilted sediments, thought to belong to the Timiskaming series. Algonquin granite in the form of bosses and dikes intrude the volcanics. Cooke's map shows two large bosses of granite, one in the central part of Hincks township and the other on the eastern boundary of Bannockburn, with a number of small dikes. More detailed mapping of the area shows a number of small granite bosses in Argyle township and the eastern part of Hincks. Small dikes of porphyry, porphyritic granite, and lamprophyre are very common in the greenstones. The evidence seems to show that these intrusives are all of the same age, viz., Algonquin. Several diase dikes of the Matachewan series running north and south, and traceable in some instances for distances up to two miles, cut all the above rocks. Flat lying sediments of the Cobalt series form the latest rocks of the area.

The Ashley vein occurs in volcanic flow rocks of andesitic to basaltic composition. These flows show pillow lavas alternating with fine and coarse grained phases lying in bands with a general northwest and southeast strike. The controlling factor of the vein from a structural standpoint is a north-south fault, which has been the channel for the ore-bearing solutions. The fault and vein dip about 50 degrees W., and have been traced by diamond-drilling for a distance of 1400 feet. Intrusive rocks consisting of narrow dikes of porphyritic granite, diorite and lamprophyre, cut the basalt in a direction about N. 50 degrees W. They may be seen in the footwall rocks, but it is not known if they continue in the hanging-wall side of the fault. An inclined shaft was sunk to a depth of 250 feet and somewhat over 300 feet of drifting done on each of the 125 and 250-foot levels. The vein on the lower level was strong and indicated good values over mining widths. On the upper level it was more erratic, but gave fair values over considerable lengths. On both levels the north face was in good ore, but at the south end, owing probably to complications in the faulting, the drifts had got off the vein. The management is at present engaged in sinking to 500 feet, in order to examine the vein on the 375 and 500-foot levels.

Another vein, known as the Garvey vein, on the claims of the Mining Corporation to the northwest of the Ashley, occurs also in the lavas striking approximately east and west and dipping at a low angle to the north. It shows considerable native gold and resembles the Ashley vein in its general appearance. Some shallow diamond-drill holes have been put down to intersect the vein, but without conclusive results up to the present.

The Davidson claims in the southeast part of Hincks township are at present under option to the Mining Corporation. The original showings on this property consisted of large chunks of vein material, similar to that of the Ashley, in the form of float. Surface trenching and stripping show this float to occur scattered over an area 900 feet long in an east-west direction by 400 feet wide. The management have been endeavouring by diamond-drilling and trenching to locate the source of the float. Up to the end of the field season no very definite results had been obtained. One vein had been located by trenching, but its size and position did not appear to indicate that it would have been the source of the widely scattered float. Three miles to the west of the Davidson showing is another group of claims belonging to Messrs Oliver and Tough where somewhat similar float quartz was found over a smaller area. Considerable surface trenching was done to locate its source without success.

From the standpoint of prospectors and mining companies operating in the area, the northern part of Bannockburn, the south half of Argyle, the most of Hincks township, exclusive of the area covered by Cobalt series, is good prospecting ground since it consists of basic lavas and tufts which have been subjected to much Algonquin igneous activity, shown by the presence of bosses and dikes of granite and porphyry. Apart from this the only distinguishing feature of the rocks at the Ashley mine is the structural one in the form of the fault. There is no reason to suppose that similar structures may not be found in other parts of the areas, viz., Bannockburn and southwestern Montrose. No igneous intrusives nor quartz veins were observed in the former, while in the latter the quartz veins showed little sign of mineralization. The northwestern part of Montrose is mostly covered by sand plains, while the northern part of Argyle is swampy or drift-covered and unfavourable for prospecting.

Algonquin Regt. has New Badge Designed

General Orders Authorize Badge and Motto, Suggesting Spirit of the 159th Regt. and the Algonquin Regiment.

The Algonquin Regiment has been notified through General Orders of October 15th, 1931, that the badge of the regiment has been authorized and the employment of the Royal device and motto approved.

With the change in name from the Algonquin Rifles to Algonquin Regiment new badges were required. As the Algonquins perpetuate the 159th Overseas Battalion recruited by Lieut.-Col. E. F. Armstrong, of Cobalt, an endeavour was made in designing the new badge to embody as much as possible of that which made the badge of the 159th so attractive.

The new badge has an annulus, engraved with the Imperial Crown, and inscribed "The Algonquin Regiment," the head of the bull moose with the motto "Ne-kah-ne-an" subscribed. Supporting the annulus on either side are maple leaves and beneath all a scroll inscribed "Canada."

This badge will be in silver representation of the district in which the 159th was recruited. The motto is taken from words of the Algonquin tribe which translated into English is "We Shall Lead."

Ladies' Bowling League Scores for Week of Dec. 15

The following are the scores for Dec. 15th, of the Ladies' Bowling League:—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|------|
| N.B.O. | 832 | 938 | 878 | 2648 |
| Left Overs | 775 | 1014 | 968 | 2757 |
| Left Overs win three points. | | | | |
| Business Girls | 671 | 642 | 749 | 2062 |
| Moose | 573 | 593 | 797 | 1963 |
| Business Girls win three points. | | | | |
| Trained Nurses | 627 | 614 | 546 | 1787 |
| Ramblers | 727 | 677 | 617 | 2021 |
| Ramblers win four points. | | | | |
| Business Col. | 731 | 869 | 982 | 2582 |
| Y.P.L. | 723 | 875 | 982 | 2580 |
| Business College win two points. | | | | |
| High single score—Mrs. I. Pierce, 314 | | | | |
| High total score—Mrs. I. Pierce, 716 | | | | |

Suggests Lottery for Building of Highway

The Kapuskasing Northern Tribune in an editorial article last week says:—

"To postpone construction of the mid-North section of the trans-Canada highway at the very time when construction costs are lowest, labour most plentiful, and the time for caring for unemployed by public works for magnitude most pressing, is somewhat equivalent to a business man proposing to build the basement and the fifth and sixth top floors of new premises, but leaving the construction of the first, second, third and fourth floors till a later period on account of insufficient finances. It is most self-evident that there cannot be any such thing as a trans-Canada highway until there is a continuous stretch of good motoring road from coast to coast. The highways from Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal to Hearst, and from Winnipeg and the West to Port Arthur, may be brought up to high standards as soon as possible; but unless an early start is made on the intervening gap, it will be years yet before Canadians can traverse their own country by automotive power. No, only that: the corresponding territory in the States, to the south of us, will directly benefit by the increased eastward and westward auto travel of Canadians until our own national road is finished. Going to the west, our cars will cross the border at either Windsor or the Soo; and coming east, they will have to enter Uncle Sam's territory west of Lake Superior.

"The quick and easy over-subscription of our national service loan at the end of November has proven that funds are readily obtainable within our own country for the present needs, abnormal as these needs may be. Various surveys recently made of the unemployment situation in Canada, and more particularly in Ontario, disclosed that there still are many unfortunates who have experienced the first rigors of winter without sustenance, and many relief measures have been organized to supply their most pressing needs. There has been a considerable let-down in the brave words of some politicians this past summer, to the effect that adequate projects to care for the unemployed and the needy would be got under way.

"Whether our press has been wise or not in giving lots of publicity to lotteries in other countries, with the usual emphasis on lucky Canadian holders of winning tickets, the result is to popularize these "flutters" of chance. It may be illegal to hold such lotteries in Canada, but it is plain to see that the sale of lottery tickets cannot be prevented here. We are still of the opinion that the government could finance the construction of a considerable portion of the trans-Canada highway by holding a state lottery, and thus conserving for a Canadian public work millions of dollars which are now leaving the country through subterranean channels. When the direct result of securing funds in this way was clearly shown to be the employment of thousands of nearly destitute Canadians, surely some old fogey notions about the downright wickedness of lotteries could be brushed aside. Throughout the world, there is no paraisical solution of economic ills in evidence. There is no moral distinction between a state lottery and a church bazaar unless it be in favour of the former that subserves some public function.

Major Pullen in Town in Interests of Alexo Coal

Major Pullen, formerly of this part of the North Land, where he was president and general manager of the Alexo nickel mine at Alexo, Ont., but more recently of Alexo, Alberta, was a visitor to town last week and was warmly greeted again by all the old friends here who knew of his presence in town. Major Pullen was a well-known and popular pioneer of the North and took a prominent part in public affairs as well as in the mining industry and other enterprises in the North. He was the candidate for the Conservative party in one of the elections in Temiskaming riding when that riding was the size of the present two ridings of Temiskaming. He made a splendid run, his enterprise and personality making him an able candidate. When in town last week Mr. Pullen noted that it was some six or seven years ago since his previous visit to Timmins, as he had not been back to this section of the country except that once since going to the West some ten years ago. His first visit to Timmins, or rather to what is now the town of Timmins, was some twenty years ago when there was nothing but bush on the present location of this thriving city. Since that day he notes, of course, very remarkable changes in this part of the North, and especially in the town of Timmins. Indeed, since his visit of six or seven years ago he says the progress of the town is really wonderful. Mr. Pullen still maintains a very lively interest in the North Land and is delighted at the progress made by the whole North Country and especially by centres like Timmins.

On his visit here Major Pullen was in town in the interests of the Alexo Coal Company, Limited, of Alexo, Alberta. This company mines the noted Alexo and Acorn Alberta coals. The use of the word, "Alexo" bears out the reference to Mr. Pullen's continued thought of the North where for years his heart and energy were given to another Alexo, the Alexo in the Porcupine area, where nickel was mined. As one of the officers of the Alexo Coal Company, Mr. Pullen is an enthusiast on Alexo Alberta coal. He says it is the best domestic coal mined in Canada, and that it has displaced anthracite coal almost completely in Manitoba. Alexo coal, he says, is very clean burning and does not soot up the house or the heating apparatus. Its low moisture content indicates that the coal stores well during the summer months. Its low percentage of ash saves unpleasant labour. Its high carbon content proves its lasting qualities, while it also lights quickly at low temperature and burns with intense heat. It is generally recognized as the best Alberta coal mined. It is being popularized wherever once sold, and Mr. Pullen was here to introduce it to as wide as possible a clientele in Timmins and district. F. Byck, of Timmins, is the local agent for the Alexo coal, and it is likely that the sale of this Canadian fuel of highest quality will be greatly extended at the present time.

UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION IS SERIOUS IN THE NORTH

The Northern News last week has the following editorial article on the seriousness of the unemployment problem in the North:—

"That the situation of unemployed men in Kirkland Lake and in other Northern towns is indeed serious is generally admitted and with the advent of wintry weather has been greatly accentuated. For months it has been felt that these towns were being asked to take care of more than their share of unemployed and that the government should adopt some special measures for their assistance.

"Some months ago the Ontario Minister of Lands and Forests said he would look after the unemployed of the North and as yet very little has been done. No route has as yet been announced for the trans-Canada highway westward from North Bay and work has been held up on the highway from Kirkland Lake to Noranda. With the exception of a small draft of men from Cochrane, there has been no call for men from this region for work on the parts of the trans-Canada highway already designated, as far as we have been able to learn. If there are sufficient men on this project, why does the government hold back the completion of the road from Larder Lake to Cheminis. Then there are the roads from Swastika and Timmins into the Bannockburn areas that would do much to open up the country and aid development of the mining district.

"In Kirkland Lake to-day it is almost impossible for one to pass a day without one or more requests for money or food. These men are not hoboes but are unfortunate men out of work, hungry and without adequate shelter. There are many private families who are doing much practical Christianity for these men in the way of providing necessities of life, but it is a work that should be shared by all.

"The new committee in charge of relief in the Township of Teck have a big problem on their hands and the members may rest assured that the residents will heartily support as far as they are able, any means they may choose for the raising of funds so that the local unemployed will not be compelled to go without the absolute necessities of life. The stories of hardship which are reported are too pathetic for even the most hardened to turn a deaf ear to."

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