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**ZIG-ZAG**

Gomez Has Signed—Batters Beware



MR. AND MRS. VERNON GOMEZ

They may call him "Goofy," but Southpaw Vernon Gomez has proved himself far from "Goofy" either when toting the slab against opposing American League batsmen or facing New York Yankee officials in salary negotiations. Back from an Oriental tour, Lefty cast one glance at his fine record last year and demanded more money. He held out when Yankees submitted an initial offer—and got it. Mrs. Gomez seen with Vernon, was formerly the musical-comedy star, June O'Day.

## Increases Shown in Gold and Silver Production

Quantity and Values Improved in 1935. Enlarged Operations Account for Gain. Porcupine and Kirkland Responsible for 97½ per cent. of Ontario's Gold.

(By G. C. Bateman, Secretary of the Ontario Mining Association)

Canada's gold production in 1934 amounted to 2,964,395 ozs. valued at \$102,242,481.

This represents an increase of 15,109 ozs. in quantity and \$17,692,244 in value. The increase in ounce production is particularly gratifying in view of the general decrease in the average grade of ore treated. The only available figures for 1934 regarding decrease in grade are from Ontario and these show that for the first nine months of 1934 the average recovery per ton was 324 z. compared with 383 oz. for the corresponding period of 1933, a decrease of over 15 p.c.

It is interesting to note that this percentage decrease in Ontario is the same as on the Rand in South Africa, for the same period.

Of the total Canadian production: (1) 71.25 p.c. came from Ontario (2) 13 p.c. from Quebec (3) 9.67 p.c. from British Columbia (4) 3.36 p.c. came from Manitoba. Of the Ontario production 97.1-2 p.c. came from Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, and was almost equally divided between the two camps but with Kirkland Lake occupying the leading position. There was, however, a marked difference in the recovery per ton, being 256 oz. per ton in Porcupine, and 507 oz. in Kirkland, so that with a little over 35 p.c. of the total tonnage of the two camps, Kirkland produced more gold than Porcupine.

In Quebec the Noranda was responsible for the major part of the production and in Manitoba the Flin Flon and San Antonio were the most important factors in the production of that province.

During 1934 Canadian gold mines treated more tons, employed more men, bought more supplies, paid more wages, paid a higher average rate of wages, and paid more taxes than ever before in their history.

**Mine Wages High**  
The records of the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board of the average weekly earnings of all claimants, which should be a fair basis of comparison for the average earnings of all employees, show that the average for the mining group was 30 p.c. higher than for any of the 23 other classes of industry in the province.

It is rather difficult to determine the wages paid by the gold mining industry but we estimate approximately \$23,500,000. This of course is only for the gold mines and does not take into consideration such mines as the Noranda and Hudson Bay, nor does it take into account a considerable amount of wages paid out by exploration and development companies and for prospecting.

It will be generally found that including purchases of new equipment, for a pit account, other expenditures, exclusive of taxes, head office expenses and purchase price of properties, will practically equal wages. This means that the gold mining industry alone, excluding by-product gold producers, paid \$47,000,000 for wages, supplies and services, which is a most important contribution to our national economy.

Taxes are also an important item, important not only in amount, but because they constitute a large and uncontrollable item in the cost of production. For these figures we must again go to Ontario, which at the present time is the only place where they are available. The following table showing the taxes of the seven Ontario gold mines subject to the bullion tax, indicates the rapidly mounting costs of these imposts.

Taxes Increased			
Total direct taxes not including customs duties, sales tax, etc.—			
	1932	1933	1934
	\$2,657,160	\$3,786,686	\$6,762,293
Taxes per oz	\$1.29	\$1.99	\$3.56
Taxes per ton	59c	81c	\$1.34

It is estimated that operating at the same rate, and with no change in the tax rate or basis of depletion, these same mines will pay \$850,000 more taxes in 1935 than they did in 1934. In at least one Northern Ontario mine taxes last year were over \$2.25 per ton and for every dollar paid for wages 83c was paid in direct taxes. Levies on this scale, which impinge directly upon working costs, are bound to have an adverse effect upon the industry, which has in fact been manifest since the bullion tax was imposed about a year ago.

Early in 1934 the United States established a price for gold of \$35.00. With the increased price of gold and particularly with defacto stabilization at \$35.00 which removed a considerable part of the element of uncertainty, the whole economics of gold mining was changed. The increased price of gold was in a large measure used to convert low grade material into ore, which is shown by the drop of 22 p.c. in the average grade of ore treated between 1932 and 1934, thus materially lengthening the lives of the mines and the mining communities. Not only this but a tremendous impetus was given to prospecting and the development of new properties, with the result that more new mining plants were started or put into operation in 1934 than in any time in the history of gold mining in this country. Profits were also greatly increased but in my opinion the maximum profits per ton that we are likely to see realized in Canada were won in the six months' period ending March 31st, 1934.

From time to time fears are expressed regarding the future of gold. A study of the past and of the present indicates that there need be little apprehension on his score. For thousands of years gold has been considered as a metal of great value which does not

## Deputy Announces the Muskrat Season

Opens March 18th in This Part of Ontario and Closes on April 15th This Year.

D. J. Taylor, deputy minister of game and fisheries announced yesterday the details of the open season for muskrat in the province.

In the section lying south of the French and Mattawa Rivers, with the exception of Essex, Kent, Egin, Norfolk, Haldimand, Welland, Lincoln, Wentworth, Brant, Oxford, Middlesex and Lambton counties and the districts of Parry Sound and Muskoka the season will open March 25 and close April 25.

In the counties excepted from the general provision the season will open March 18 and end April 15. The season in the district of Parry Sound and Muskoka will open April 1 and close April 30.

The deputy minister announced the period during which 1934-1935 resident trappers' licenses in the southern section are valid has been extended until April 30 to provide for trapping muskrats during this open season.

## The Moral is to Deal with Local Men who are Known

The Rouyn-Noranda Press last week says:—"Stewart J. Allen, who a year ago made several visits to Noranda and Rouyn, as the representative of a small Ontario insurance company, and by somewhat spectacular methods succeeded in placing quite a large volume of business here, was sentenced in Toronto on Monday to two years in Kingston penitentiary for keeping money due to clients. It is now alleged that Allen's business in the twin cities has not all been satisfactory, and The Press learns that one man who paid a premium of over \$100 has not yet received his policy. His methods were unethical and in some respects irregular, and it is believed that if the facts were known there are a number who have reason to regret their relations with him. All of which goes to prove again that the public would do well to be on their guard against high-pressure outsiders who are known to them. We have locally many reliable agents for old established Canadian insurance companies who can be depended upon to deal fairly and honestly with their clients and give them ethical and dependable service."

## Using Shirt Buttons as Fish Bait on Lake Simcoe

Fish have been caught with worms and a bent pin for a hook, flies of varied hues and all sizes and shapes, bugs, beetles and what have you, but along comes a hardy angler up on Lake Simcoe, in Ontario, and catches fish through the ice with a pearl shirt button, according to information reaching the Fish and Game Department of the Canadian National Railways. Next time you happen to forget your flies or other bait, or the doggone fish won't bite, just slice a pearl button off your shirt or whatever other part of your clothing happens to be hung together with a pearl button and use it. We might add to this piece of advice by suggesting you include pearl shirt buttons along with your flies and other bait.

Toronto Globe.—Parliamentary usage isn't what it used to be in Washington, either, when legislators find it necessary to resort to such words as "hooey" and "haywire."

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## Much Interest in New Gold Strike in Quebec Side

(From The Halleyburian)

Recent gold discoveries in the Mud Lake area, on the Quebec side of Lake Temiskaming, about 45 miles from Halleybury, have brought considerable activity in local circles this week. Both the McIntyre and the Coniagas are working on promising finds and a portion of their men and some of the supplies are being shipped in from Halleybury over the air route.

On Monday night 14 men arrived in town from the McIntyre, expecting to be taken in to the new workings by plane on Tuesday morning, but the weather was not fit for flying operations and they stayed over until yesterday morning, when a plane from the Dominion Skyways' base at Rouyn came down and transported the crew to their new location. The machine made two trips with the men and their baggage, leaving on the second trip shortly after noon.

There is a considerable quantity of freight being handled through Halleybury for the Coniagas operations in the same area, several tons being in transit by air today. There is a motor road to within a comparatively short distance of the location, but this is not being



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## Ontario Mines Handle Big Tonnage Increase

The effect of the premium on gold is seen in the annual report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, which discloses that the quantity of ore treated in the gold mines of the province increased from 5,621,517 tons in 1933 to 6,504,835 in 1935. Figured at the old price of gold the value would have been \$1,024,918 below that of the previous year. The advance in gold has enabled the mines to treat ore of a lower grade, thus lengthening the life of the mines and the communities now dependent on the industry.

Among the gold-producing areas Kirkland Lake continues to supply the highest-grade ore. The average value per ton in that camp last year was \$17.18; at Porcupine it was \$8.50; Matchewan \$6.13, and Northwestern Ontario \$4.82. In this connection, says the report of the department, it is of interest to note that in the Transvaal the record for 1934 as compared with 1933 shows an increase in tonnage milled of nearly eight per cent, but a decrease in grade from 5.844 to 5.150 dwt. per ton of ore or almost 12 per cent.

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**\$37,227,480 DIVIDENDS PAID BY ONTARIO MINES**

The sum of \$37,227,480 was paid in dividends by the mining companies of Ontario during the year 1934, the gold producers contributing over two-thirds of the total. The record is as follows:

Gold	\$26,841,466
Nickel-copper	10,126,014
Silver-cobalt	260,000
Total	\$37,227,480

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