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**Quebec Prospectors Have Lively Meeting**

**Suggest Mines Commissioner for Quebec.**

Rouyn, March 9.—Although a certain amount of mild excitement was introduced into the meeting by the belligerent attitude of an old prospector, who felt that every man's hand was against him and who could not be persuaded to sit down and hold his peace until a police constable had been sent for, a great deal of serious business was done into and thoroughly discussed on Saturday afternoon in the town hall, by the Northwestern Quebec Prospectors and Developers Association.

In the very near future a delegation composed of A. J. Provencher, president of the association and Martial Dumulon, one of the directors, will go to Quebec City to meet Hon. Onesime Gagnon, Minister of Mines, to present several petitions, which were discussed at great length at Saturday's meeting. Delegates will also go from Amos, Senneville and Montreal.

**Mines Commissioner**

One of the suggestions made was that a mining commissioner should be appointed for the province who would be empowered to decide all disputes, and whose decision would be subject only to an appeal to the Superior Court. However, F. J. McNally, advocate, who had been asked to the meeting, did not see the necessity of this, as he claimed, that in most cases, the disputes would reach the courts, where, he was convinced receive absolutely fair and just treatment.

He urged the members to concentrate on more important matters, one of which was, to his mind, the amendment of the regulation that demanded that vendors' stock remain pooled and in escrow until the mine goes into production, and also of the regulation that, which fixed the price of vendors' stock at a minimum of 15 cents. In the opinion of the speaker, this should vary according to the state of the mar-

ket. Mr. McNally also discussed Bill No. 5, and while neither favouring nor condemning it, stated that a great deal of misapprehension existed concerning it, and that the inconvenience caused to mining companies by it was not so great as most people imagined, and that certain advantages had accrued from it, notably in the matter of workers' wages and resources.

**Access To Courts**

M. F. Cuddy, also of the legal fraternity, likewise addressed the meeting and was in agreement with the previous speaker, insofar as the objections to the appointment of a mining commissioner were concerned, and he further suggested that prospectors and such should be able to appeal to the Supreme Court with the same facility with which they can approach the commissioner, in the Province of Ontario—this as regards costs, delays and every other detail. He was not fully in accord with Mr. McNally in regard to Bill No. 5. While good in principle, he considered that the application thereof was faulty and could be considerably improved.

Other questions which received consideration were that fireproof metal tags be supplied with each certificate issued—that the records of staking of claims, etc., be kept in the recording office of the division in which such claims are situated—that the laws governing the respective rights of prospectors and farm settlers, which are still ambiguous, be clarified—and that mining ground be free of taxes for two years and that the tax of 50 cents per acre be paid for the third and subsequent years and that this be deducted from the patent fee at such time as the ground be patented.

The last clause came in for a great deal of discussion, many being of the opinion that claims should be automatically patented at the end of five years, if, during that time, the taxes have been paid and the necessary work done on them.

Another constructive suggestion was that a committee, formed of local lawyers, be formed to look into and thoroughly discuss the problems of mining

**Operating Gain Shown by Matachewan Consolidated**

Gross return from operations of \$709,620 from 132,764 tons of ore milled is reported by Matachewan Consolidated Mines Limited for the year ended December 31, 1937. Cost of operations totalled \$594,696, leaving an operating profit of \$104,924. A net loss of \$20,879 is shown after all charges including taxes, depreciation and deferred development were written off. Assets include \$10,230 cash, \$65,800 bullion settlements outstanding and metal in process, \$10,132. Accounts and wages payable total \$49,915.

President T. Lindsley, in his statement to shareholders, writes: "The net working capital at the end of the year amounted to \$83,397 which is a considerable improvement over the figures for the previous year. All construction and other capital expenses are now at an end and the cash position should continue to improve during 1938."

**Paymaster's Output \$107,777 in February**

Production in 1937 at Rate of Over a Million a Year.

Production at Paymaster Consolidated Mines, Porcupine district, for February, is estimated at \$107,777 from treatment of 13,714 tons of ore for an average recovery of \$7.86 per ton. This compares with \$117,446 in January, a new high monthly record for the mine, when 15,200 tons of ore were treated for an average recovery of \$7.73. Output for the first two months of the year is \$225,223 from 28,914 tons, an average of \$7.75. In the same two months of 1937, production was \$187,454 from 23,645 tons for an average of \$7.31.

Production during 1937 was \$1,267,392 from 170,298 tons for an average of \$7.44. Total production since commencement of mining operations on Sept. 24, 1934, now amounts to \$3,105,831.

**Barrie Examiner:—** Canadians are painfully aware of the burden of taxation, but apparently we have some distance to go to equal Colorado. Discussing the matter of taxation, the Denver Post says: "Colorado people are harassed with every conceivable kind of tax that has ever been heard of."

A number of matters of minor importance were also debated. It is probable that a banquet will be held again this year by members of the association.

**About Mines, Signs, Carbuncles, Radio**

**Not to Mention Law Fees, Googol, Prophets**

(By Thomas Richard Henry in The Toronto Telegram)

We notice an item in the Wall Street Journal that will be read with a great deal of interest by hold-up men and gangsters.

For the moment we are not referring to the wolves that howl on Wall Street. We are referring to "stick-up" men—the kind of stick-up men who use a gun instead of a share of stock.

The item is the result of a pistol tournament and the winner was Harold Voebel of Central Hanover Bank.

He had an average of 299 after shooting three perfect scores of 300.

If we were going to hold up a bank teller, we wouldn't pick on Mr. Voebel.

**Missed a Stop Sign**

This is supposed to have happened. George was something of a prodigal employee and far from home.

He asked the manager of the branch office to wire the boss for train fare home.

The branch office manager wired: "George has no money. Wants transportation home. Will I give it to him?"

He received a wire from the boss reading "Don't let George walk."

George got his transportation after which the boss went roaring to the telegraph office.

The wire that he had given the telegrapher was "Don't Let George walk."

**High Radio Programs**

We have a little message for the companies that put kiddy programs on the air of the type of Dangerous Dan McGrew and his Lady Lou.

The ladies of the land are objecting to high heaven about these melodramas—and some of them are mellow to an advanced stage.

Adults hear them by accident but the children eat them up—and then go shivering to bed asking why the nice lady killed the man.

Some of these programs make the dime novels that an earlier generation used to consume in the woodshed sound like fairy tales.

The ladies will soon take a more practical step than saying that such and such a program is terrible and shouldn't be allowed.

They will start listening for the company that sponsors it.

Such programs seem to us to be an admirable way for a company to build up ill-will, if any company is interested in building up ill-will.

**Prophets With Profits**

Some of the publicity men wandering around at large can certainly go to

town when they are given a free hand in predicting profits.

We notice one blurb that says concerning a mine, "an operating profit of \$6.17 per ton is indicated, which would amount to approximately \$6.73 per share on an annual basis."

Since the mine happens to be selling for 58 cents a share on the Toronto Stock Exchange, \$6.73 a share would seem to be quite a generous estimate of possible profits.

**Googol**

Columbia University has coined the word "googol" which represents a word beginning with 1 and followed by 100 cyphers.

It might be a nice short word for newspaper men to put in a heading a few years hence when they are talking about the C.N.R. debt.

**Fee Simple Again**

Yesterday we had a word or two to say concerning fees of various professional men.

We were talking to a friend of ours this morning who has just returned from a trip to Blighty.

While in England he had been blessed with six carbuncles.

He called a Harley street doctor who charged him ten pounds to look at the carbuncles.

We don't know what he would have charged to treat them. Neither does our friend. He just paid his \$50 and took his carbuncles away with him.

**Val D'Or Claims Big Criminal Gang of 15**

**Four Men Under Arrest as Alleged Members of Robbery Syndicate.**

Here's a thrilling story from last week's issue of The Val D'Or-Lamaque News:—

With four of a fifteen-man alleged gang of desperadoes already in the hands of the Val D'Or police the solution of a long series of crimes, ranging from ordinary theft and receiving stolen goods, to breaking and entering, armed holdup and robbery with violence, is expected within several days. Chief Leopold Therrien and his star sleuth, Sergeant Pat Peeney, expect to rid the town and surrounding district of that most undesirable element, organized crime.

The first arrest was made within an hour of the most daring coup which could have cost the life of Bob Mondok, Sunday night when Val D'Or was in the midst of its Winter Carnival celebration. Developments followed rapidly with two arrests being made Tuesday morning. Wild rumors to the effect Maurice Fiset, one of the trio, had shot

several bullets at Chief Therrien were soon spiked by the young police head. A great quantity of the stolen goods held by the alleged gang has been recovered.

"I cannot give you more details for the present," Chief Therrien told The News at press time. "Publish the first details for now and you'll have a complete story for your next issue when we hope to have captured the rest of the gang."

**Behind Chicago Cafe**

Leo Seguin, 36 years of age, and with several aliases and a criminal record, was arrested at 8:20 Sunday night by local police, less than an hour after he is alleged to have struck Bob Mondok, laborer, in the latter's shack behind the Chicago Cafe.

According to Chief Therrien Seguin has confessed his many crimes, implicating Maurice Fiset, 28, alias Gaston Gravel, as his accomplice in the brutal holdup of Mondok, and the many robberies made by breaking and entering, as well as Maurice Gerad, 30, alias Maurice Raymond Gravel, for receiving the goods stolen by Fiset and himself.

Fiset was arrested in his room at a local hotel at 7:30 Tuesday morning and Gerad's arrest followed about an hour later at the house where he was a boarder.

At the Police Station, it was reported that Seguin struck Mondok with an axe, inflicting painful wounds to his head after he, Mondok, had succeeded in disarming young Fiset. The 38 caliber Colt held by Fiset when he rushed into Mondok's house, followed by Seguin, was found in the alleged gunman's possession when nabbed in his bedroom. Mondok's daring attitude made Seguin reckless.

**Up Flew the Firearm**

The revolver flew in the air, over the stove and landed out of Fiset's reach, according to the police version. It was then that Seguin became haywire, grabbed an axe on the woodpile and landed several blows to Mondok's head, rendering him unconscious. When he regained consciousness, he noticed his "uninvited guests" had departed with some twenty dollars he had in his possession.

Mondok walked groggily to the Police Station where he reported the holdup and assault. He was then taken to the office of Dr. J. Matton who treated his multiple head wounds. His condition is not considered serious though he is suffering acute pain. Several stitches were required to close the wounds.

Police already on the alert here, since the Malartic holdup and the Express break-in last Saturday night, made a minute inspection of Mondok's shack. They found a blood-stained axe. The blood drops had fallen to some kindling near the stove. These were taken to headquarters to serve as evidence against Fiset and Seguin.

Also recovered, besides the gun, identified as the one used in both the Malartic and the Val D'Or holdups, were typewriters clothes caps, candy, cigar lighters, cigarettes, and other merchandise alleged to have been stolen in the daring series of thefts and robberies.

**In Chronological Order**

Here is the police report on the crimes in which the trio is involved:

December 14th breaking and entering the Goldfield Hardware Store.

February 3rd, breaking and entering the Mines & Merchants Supply Store, Val D'Or, with theft of \$553 in goods and money.

February 23rd, breaking and entering the Russian Kid Poolroom, Val D'Or, stealing \$125 in cigars, cigarettes and chocolate bars.

February 25th, armed holdup at the Courtemanche Hardware store in Malartic. Fiset is alleged to have entered the store, last Friday night, and to have asked the clerk to change a dollar bill. While the clerk went to do so, he ordered him to "stick 'em up" and then to lie on the floor, while he pilfered the cashbox and helped himself with whatever interested him.

February 26th, while all Val D'Or was preparing for the Coronation of Miss Sophia Luknow as Queen of its first Winter Carnival, breaking and entering the Express office at the Val D'Or C.N.R. station, stealing various merchandise including several typewriters, four or five men's suits, caps, cigarette lighters, etc.

February 27th, at 7:30 when the Carnival was reaching its full swing, Fiset and Seguin are alleged to have entered the home of Mr. Mondok, as-

saunting him and relieving him of some \$20 in bills and currency.

In Fiset's possession were a revolver, a box of bullets to fit with the same weapon, a piece of fuse and dynamite caps, as well as cigarette lighters.

Besides suffering scalp and facial wounds, Mondok had his three remaining teeth knocked off completely.

**To-day's Stocks**

| Listed               |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Afion                | 1 1/2  |
| Ashley               | 9      |
| Brett                | 6 1/2  |
| Base Metals          | 32 1/2 |
| Big Missouri         | 42     |
| Beattie              | 1.35   |
| Bidgood              | 42     |
| Bobjo                | 10     |
| Buffaloe             | 9.00   |
| Brualone Ankerite    | 15.50  |
| Canadian Malartic    | 1.10   |
| Castle Tretheway     | 61     |
| Central Porcupine    | 14     |
| Central Patricia     | 2.93   |
| Cniagas              | 1.50   |
| Coniaurum            | 1.37   |
| Con. Chibougamau     | 27     |
| Darkwater            | 18     |
| Dcme                 | 54.00  |
| Eldorado             | 3.05   |
| Falconbridge         | 6.10   |
| Glenora              | 4 1/2  |
| Golddale             | 21 1/2 |
| Granada              | 7      |
| Gunnar               | 95     |
| Hardrock             | 2.15   |
| Hollinger            | 13.75  |
| Howey                | 28     |
| Hudson Bay           | 26     |
| International Nickel | 49.75  |
| Jackson Manion       | 11     |
| Kerr Addison         | 2.10   |
| Kirkland Lake        | 1.21   |
| Lebl Oro             | 10     |
| Leitch               | 96     |
| Lake Shore           | 53.75  |
| Lee Gold             | 2      |
| Little Long Lac      | 4.95   |
| Macassa              | 4.75   |
| McLeod Cookshuit     | 3.50   |
| Manitoba and East    | 2 1/2  |
| McIntyre             | 40.00  |
| McKenzie Red Lake    | 95     |
| McVittie Graham      | 20     |
| McWatters            | 66     |
| Mining Corporation   | 2.00   |
| Moneta               | 2.25   |
| Naybob               | 25     |
| Nipissing            | 2.01   |
| Noranda              | 61.50  |
| O'Brien              | 3.95   |
| Omega                | 3.75   |
| Pamour               | 60     |
| Faymaster            | 60     |
| Pickle Crow          | 4.70   |
| Pioneer              | 3.20   |
| Preston East Dome    | 1.11   |
| Premier              | 2.18   |
| Rcad Authier         | 3.60   |
| Reno                 | 55     |
| San Antonio          | 1.38   |
| Red Lake Goldshore   | 29     |
| Sherritt Gordon      | 1.36   |
| St. Anthony          | 15 1/2 |
| Sullivan Con.        | 1.19   |
| Sudbury Basin        | 3.15   |
| Stadacona            | 28     |
| Sylvanite            | 3.15   |
| Siscoe               | 2.65   |
| Teck Hughes          | 5.35   |
| Toburn               | 2.35   |
| Ventures             | 5.75   |
| Wright Hargreaves    | 7.90   |

Detroit Free Press:—Do not be quick until you are sure.

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| and Bumper Guards      | Twin Horns                                   |
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| Tire and Tube          | One Windshield Wiper                         |
| Tire Lock              | One Sun Visor                                |
| One Tail Light         |  |

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|------------------------|-------------------|
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| Extra Windshield Wiper | Lock and Clock    |
| Extra Sun Visor        | Rustless Steel    |
| De Luxe Steering Wheel | Wheel Bands       |

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