

Plan to Repossess Idle Mining Lands

Large Tracts of Land in North Unused Said to Slacken Industry.

Toronto, March 26—The Provincial Department of Mines intends to bring pressure to bear on persons holding idle large tracts of mining lands in the North through payment of an acreage tax of only five cents per acre.

This was disclosed in the legislature on Wednesday, as Hon. Paul Ledue, minister of mines, told Arthur W. Roebuck, former attorney-general that was the purpose behind certain changes which are being made in the Act, which passed through the committee stage on Wednesday.

Would Hoist Tax Mr. Roebuck, when the Act was up

SPRING SUIT SALE
BILTON BROS
Customs Tailors to Men for Over Fifty Years
94, King St. W. Toronto

for discussion stated that if he had his way the tax on patented mining claims would be 25 cents per acre instead of the present five cent tax.

"This, he said, would prevent mining companies holding idle 'large principalities' in Northern Ontario.

"When the regulations dealing with staking and patenting claims came up Mr. Roebuck rose to his feet.

"I would like to see the burden taken off the active prospecting industry," he said. "With staking and assessment work it costs \$1,000 a claim to get mining claims patented. Then it can be held for five cents an acre tax. This has resulted in thousands of acres of mining lands lying idle in the North. It has slowed up the industry. I would like to see it made impossible to hold a large principle in mining claims in the North."

Recover for Crown "It is true that there are large tracts held unworked in the North and we are trying to get them back to the Crown," commented Hon. Paul Ledue.

"If a man is going to hold claims un-worked, we are going to see they come back to the province.

"I would not like to see the assessment requirements reduced entirely," Mr. Roebuck said. "I would cut the Assessment Act some but would increase the charge afterwards so it would be impossible to hold these large empires. This is holding up development."

The minister of mines pointed to a clause in the Act, by which, if the acreage tax is two years in arrears the claims may revert to the Crown. This, he felt should meet Mr. Roebuck's objection.

"Are many of them much in arrears?" asked Mr. Roebuck.

"Some of them were 13 and 14 years but we have cut them down to six years," the minister replied.

Termed Shame "Isn't that a shame, even if it is only half as bad as it was, Mr. Roebuck commented. "If people can't pay five cents per acre they should forfeit their claims. I think it should be 25 cents an acre, then we would get \$10 a claim instead of \$2.

The Act also makes it impossible for persons in areas where railways are being built in to mining claims to hold up the railways for high prices for sand and gravel. Explaining, to the Hon. Leopold Macaulay a section which prohibits the sale of sand and gravel from mining claims, the minister said:

"What we're trying to do is prevent people staking claims where a railway is going through a mining country and then holding them up for sand and gravel."

Prospector Doesn't Get a Fair Deal if He Wins

At the recent banquet of the Ontario Prospectors and Developers' Association, Mr. Balmer Neill put the prospector's case in odd but telling way, in the following paragraphs:

"If we hold a winning ticket on a horse race, we step up to the ticket clerk, knowing that we are going to get our money. But suppose the pay-off clerk says 'Let me see. Your ticket calls for \$100. Your original bet was \$10 and here is the ten; then, too, we must encourage betting or I will lose my job so you are entitled to a modest profit. Here is an other \$5.' But, you say, 'what about the remaining \$85?' 'Oh,' says the clerk, 'we are putting that escrow. Before letting you have any more money we will have to test the money market and we will have to ascertain your financial requirements. Just as soon as possible all these things will be done and we will pay you the balance in such amounts and as such times as in our opinion the circumstances warrant.'" "What would happen to race track betting if the business were conducted in this manner? What has happened to prospecting? Do you get my point?"

"No race track betting is conducted upon business principles. You venture and the winnings are yours. You get the \$100 without question and, mark this, you don't have to report that \$100 to either the Dominion or Provincial income tax authorities."

Pamour Mill Starts Second Million Ton

(By Sidney Norman, Mining Editor of The Globe and Mail) With its first million tons of ore converted into gold bullion of which \$3,133,229 was recovered last year, Pamour Porcupine Gold Mines, six and one-half miles northeast of Dome Mines and the most northeasterly producer in the Porcupine area, started on the second million a month ago, and is now chewing it up at rate of 1,600 tons daily.

This great orebody, in conglomerate, has so far not been touched below the 400-foot level, although the three compartment main shaft has reached a depth of 2,100 feet. There will be eight deeper levels spaced 200 feet apart, when the present development scheme has been completed.

Four of these levels—the 600, 800, 1,000 and 1,200—have been partially opened and ore passes in part completed on the 1,400 and 1,600. Excavation for crusher chamber on the 1,700 is also under way. The present crusher equipment to serve one mine above the 400 is located on the 500, whence it drops to an ore pocket and is hoisted up the main shaft. Another hoist is to be installed on the 1,000 foot level for handling of operations below that horizon.

Massive Lenticular Orebodies The ore bodies are lenticular masses in conglomerate, stamed with quartz veins and stringers of all sizes. The strike is practically east-west and the dip of the conglomerate northerly at about 70 degrees the quartz veins and stringers dipping southerly across the conglomerate. Alues in both the quartz and matrix, the highest in and near the quartz. The main orebody is cut by a fault dipping easterly at a point close to and east of the shaft, and the easterly part displaced about 300 feet south. The greater part of the mass is on the east side of the fault, total tonnage so far mined on the west side being about 90,000 tons.

The annual report recently issued estimated ore reserves at 1,749,665 tons above the 600-foot level, averaging \$5.56 per ton, and it is not difficult to mentally confirm such figures after a visit to the 200 and 400 levels. With D. S. McLellan mine captain, an old friend of twenty-five years standing from the Slecan district of British Columbia, this scribe went by shaft to the 200-foot level and easterly by drift to the south crosscut of 300 feet, which picks up the east segment of the orebody, and then up into Stope No. 6 at the east end of the 1,500 foot orebody, where ore in mass is still showing in the face.

The average width of mass or lens is 50 feet and in places it is well up to 70 feet. From the 200 we crawled down a manway to the 400 and back to the shaft. The broken ore in stopes east of the fault placed at over 300,000 tons or over six months supply at present milling rate.

Deeper Ore Mass Found Another orebody, apparently of the same characteristics and extent has been located by diamond drill on the 1,000-foot level, on both sides of the fault, showing a length of 900 feet of about the same grade as the upper orebody, under which it seems to lie. The east end of this orebody is still open. No estimate of tonnage has, of course yet been possible there, but there is not much doubt that it will largely add to the nearly one and three-quarter million tons estimated as proven in the last report. At a matter of fact, it may prove of higher value, as considerable free gold has been observed.

4.7 Tons Per Man Shift Some idea of the size of the ore-body now being mined, and the reason for low mining costs, can be found in the fact that, with 340 men employed underground, each man produces 4.7 tons per shift to keep the mill going at 1,600 tons a day. The entire payroll—surface, mill and underground—embraces 490 men, so that if that number be considered, the man-shift ore production is still 3.16 tons. There are 28 men in the mill and 122 on surface, including the staff.

Another way of figuring is by considering the underground work completed and applying it to earnings. The total at the end of last year was \$2,227 feet, including backhole raises and stope development, and production since May, 1936, to end of 1938 has been \$6,166,647. That shows each foot of underground work has resulted in recovery of \$75. Last year, work completed reached 29,447 feet, and if that be applied to production of \$3,313,229 the result per foot would be \$112 plus. We are inclined to think that that may be a record, even in Porcupine, where large orebodies are the rule rather than the exception.

Mill Reflects Permanence The mill was evidently designed in the assurance that it is going to be a long time before the mine's resources are exhausted. The building is of steel construction, covered with insulating material sheathed with copper. The switch room is built into the mill of hollow tile and copper-sheathed insulation. All parts of the machinery are individually motorized.

Twin mill bins hold 750 tons of ore each, the feed passing by belt to two 9 x 10-foot ball mills, each run by 350 horsepower motors. From there the ore goes to classifiers in closed circuit, and overflow to 30 flotation cells. Flotation concentrate is reground in cyanide in two 5-14-foot tube mills, thence to cyanide tanks, washed by counter-current decantation and solution, then precipitated and refined.

Flotation-Cyanide Process The mill was started in May, 1936, first raised to 800 tons and then to present capacity of 1,600 tons in February 1938. The tallings are not re-treated and average recovery is about 92 1/2 per cent. At the Hallnor mill, where the same general process is used, tails are reground and re-treated, the aver-

To-day's Stocks

Table of stock prices including Alton, Aldermac, Ashley, Augie, Base Metals, Beattie, Bidgood, Bobjo, L. Lort, Broulan Porcupine, Buffalo Ankerite, Canadian Malartic, Castle Trethewey, Central Patricia, Central Porcupine, Coniagas, Coniagarum, Dome, Eldorado, Falconsbridge, Gilles Lake, Glenora, Golds, Hardrock, Hollinger, Howey, Hudson Bay, International Nickel, Kerr Addison, Kirkland Lake, Leitch, Lake Shore, Little Long Lac, McLeod Cookshutt, Macassa, McIntyre, McKenzie Red Lake, McWatters, Mining Corporation, Moneta, Naylor, Nipissing, O'Brien, Pamour, Faymaster, Pickle Crew, Pioneer, Preston East Dome, Premier, San Antonio, Sherritt Gordon, St. Anthony, Sullivan Consolidated, Sudbury Basin, Sylvanite, Siscoe, Teck Hughes, Waite Amulet, Wright Hargreaves.

age recovery being around 97.6 per cent.

On ore of the tenor of \$5.56 per ton, estimated content of Pamour reserves, saving of 92 1/2 per cent would result in recovery of \$5.14 per ton, whereas saving of 97 1/2 per cent would mean recovery of \$5.42 per ton. Whether or not the increased recovery would justify the added cost of tails treatment was a subject not mentioned, but evidently the management knows what it is doing and, in all probability, recovery could not be effected economically.

Layout Modern and Complete

The whole layout at Pamour is entirely in keeping with the thoroughness with which all operations controlled by Noranda are conceived and executed. There is an air of permanence and confidence that indicates faith in the property, not only for today and tomorrow, but for many a year to come. A townsite has been laid out on the west shore of Lake Porcupine east of the highway from South Porcupine. Office building, dry house, store house, machine and other buildings are of hollow tile insulated and all heated from a central plant. Domestic quarters are arranged on streets east of the highway, and are of modern construction, with every possible convenience. On one street are the general dormitories and dining hall for the men, all single rooms; on the next street north, two-family dwellings, for married men, and on the next, residences for officials and staff. The mine has its own postoffice.

Operations are under the management of R. M. McCauley, with the following staff: C. E. Anderson, mine superintendent; C. D. Stevenson, chief engineer; T. R. Wearing, mill superintendent; A. W. Bromley, mechanical and electrical superintendent, and D. S. McLellan and L. Aro mine captains.

Danger of Destruction of All Beaver Near Here

Number of Beaver Colonies Not Far from Timmins. Open Season May Mean Their Loss. Many in Town Have Found Pleasure in Visiting Beaver Colonies in Recent Months.

Official Report Of Ontario Gold Output

Value of Porcupine Gold For Short Month \$3,500,000.

The following is the official monthly bulletin of the Ontario Dept. of Mines for February:

Table of Ontario producing gold mines for February, including Porcupine (14) - Buffalo-Ankerite, Coniagarum, Delnate, Dome, Hallnor, Hollinger, Hollinger (Ross), Mace, McIntyre, Moneta, Naybob, Pamour, Paymaster, Porcupine Lake, Kirkland Lake (10) - Bidgood, Goldon Gate, Kirkland Lake Gold, Lake Shore, Macassa, Sylvanite, Teck-Hughes, Toburn, Upper Canada, Wright-Hargreaves, Larder Lake (3) - Kerr-Addison, Omega, Raven River, Matachewan (2) - Matachewan Consolidated, Young-Davidson, Sudbury and Temagami (4) - Lebel Oro, New Golden Rose, Ronda, Tionaga, Algoma District (3) - Algoma Summit, Cline Lake, Minto, Thunder Bay District (10) - Bankfield, Hard Rock, Leitch, Little Long Lac, MacLeod-Cockshutt, Northern Empire, Sand River, Sturgeon River, St. Anthony, Tombill, Patricia Portion (10) - Central Patricia, Cochenour Willans, Gold Eagle, Hasaga, Howey, J.M. Consolidated, Madson, McKenzie Red Lake, Pickle Crew, Sachigo, Kenora and Rainy River District (2) - Straw Lake Beach, Wendigo. The short month of 28 days in February was accountable for the decline in monthly gold production by Ontario's gold mines. Fifty-eight mines reported production to the Ontario Department of Mines as against fifty-six for January, and the corresponding values of the output were \$8,077,214 and \$8,542,291. Despite the smaller number of milling days some properties reported gains, e.g. Hollinger, Bidgood, Kerr-Addison, Young-Davidson, Sturgeon River, Tombill, and one or two smaller properties. The increases were too small however to offset the decline, and every area with the exception of Larder Lake reported lower output values. The value of gold production from Larder Lake increased from \$222,495 in January to \$230,545 in February.

Monthly Output of Ontario Gold Mines 1938-1939

Table showing monthly output of Ontario gold mines for 1938 and 1939, categorized by region: Porcupine Belt, Kirkland Lake-Larder Lake Belt, Matachewan-Sudbury-Temagami, Northwestern Ontario (includes Algoma, Thunder Bay, Patricia and Kenora and Rainy River Districts), Total for Ontario.

North Bay Nugget—Canada is enjoying a high-desirable invasion in gold being shipped in from Europe for safe-keeping.

The situation in the Porcupine camp in regard to beaver is an illustration of how difficult it is to legislate in regard to fish and game conservation without some injury somewhere to the cause. Throughout Ontario generally beaver have multiplied to an extent to justify an open season. Indeed, in some places the beaver have become an injurious pest, or at least a serious nuisance to farmers, settlers, lumbermen and others. In the Porcupine area, however, there are a number of colonies of beaver, apparently of no detriment to anyone, and at the same time a feature of interest in the sections that they have favoured by their homes. As an example, take the case of a small colony of beaver on a river only a few miles south of Timmins. During the past few months scores of people have been making regular visits to this colony and enjoying the sight of seeing at work the industrious little creatures chosen as the emblem of Canada. In this colony there are probably ten adult beavers. It would surprise most people to know how much genuine interest and pleasure has been given to many—adults and younger folks—by this colony of beaver near here. There are possibly twenty other similar colonies in the area around Timmins, and these also have proven a source of pleasure and interest to those who love nature and are concerned in conservation.

There is general regret accordingly at the recent announcement of an open season for the trapping of beaver, this open season applying to this territory. The open season seems to be justified generally in view of the increase in the number of beaver in many parts of Ontario. It is feared, however, that the effect of it here will be to destroy all the beaver in the area. The open season is to be from March 25th to April 15th, inclusive. The part of the province lying north and west of the French and Mattawa rivers and Lake Nipissing, and including Manitoulin Island, together with that portion of Nipissing district lying south of the Mattawa River, excluding Algonquin Park, are the northern districts where the open season will apply, together with several counties in Eastern Ontario. Each trapper will be permitted 10 beaver and will be required to dispose of all pelts within ten days of the closing of the season.

If the several colonies of beaver in the Porcupine area cleaned out by trappers this year, it will mean that it will be years before there will be any beaver again in the area. There may be a few who may think this a good thing, but the majority will view the prospect with regret. Mr. Phil Boudreau, local game warden, told The Advance last week that he knew of a number of beaver colonies in this immediate district and had been watching them and seeing that they were fully protected. He thought there was a danger of the extinction of the beaver here through the open season but hoped that some of them would be left. It was impossible to make regulations fit every particular section and he could see nothing that could be done in this particular case except for everybody to exercise all possible good sportsmanship and consider the matter on as broad a scale as possible. He assured The Advance that he would do all possible to protect the beaver, as he was a strong believer in conservation, but properly licensed trappers would have their rights during the open season, though he did hope that some of the colonies would be left.

Mr. J. R. Todd, president of the Porcupine Fish and Game Association, when asked for his views on the matter, said that he knew of several beaver colonies in the Porcupine area and that of course, the Porcupine Fish and Game Association was very anxious that these interesting colonies should not be destroyed, if it were possible to save them. He added that the Ontario Fish and Game Dept. was taking a very keen and intelligent interest in conservation and certainly had made decided progress in this line in recent times. It seemed that the Dept. was fully justified in allowing an open season for beaver at this time and in most cases there would be no serious depletion of the beaver. Serious beaver generally would be left to assure lots of the animals for future years. The mating season was in May, so that no young would be killed off. It would be only in areas where there were colonies of beaver in isolated groups that there would be any danger of serious depletion of the beaver. The colonies around Timmins were, perhaps, cases of this sort, but Mr. Todd hoped that the trappers would centre on sections where beaver were more numerous, and leave these small and specially interesting groups alone. He pointed out that the open season so far as it related to the province in general seemed to be fully warranted by the large increase in the number of beaver, and also by the fact that they were proving so numerous in some cases as to be injurious to the general interests. The matter had been carefully considered by the Dept. and Mr. Todd felt the general situation had been well handled. It was to be hoped that the people in general and trappers in particular would give the same broad thought to the matter, in which case the isolated small colonies of beaver near here would be left undisturbed.

Toronto Telegram—A loose tongue can get a person in a tight spot.

IT PAYS IN BIGGER LOADS AND LOWER COSTS



to Haul with CHEVROLET
THE truck for bigger loads and smaller bills... the truck that saves you money on purchase price, gas and oil and upkeep... is Chevrolet!
Timmins Garage Co., Limited
PHONE 800 TIMMINS, ONT.

ENGINEER HAS UNIQUE HOBBY



Harry C. Allin has a complete threshing outfit in the basement of his home, Maple St., Oakville, Ont. It's all in miniature, scaled one inch to the foot. Mr. Allin, who is a transmitter operator at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's station at Toronto, spends all his spare time at his hobby of making working models. Bobbie, his son, listens attentively while his dad explains the workings of the tiny steam engine which is part of the threshing outfit.