

Lack Of Roads Holds Up Mining Development Here, Prospector States

Transportation of Equipment To New Properties Too Costly and Uncertain

By JACK WILSON
The need for better roads to enable travel and transportation of machinery to and from property in the district is preventing the development of many properties, according to many mining men.

George Darby, who has been engaged in prospecting for a great many years and is an old-timer of the Camp, gave several reasons for a more concerted interest in the improvement of road conditions, during an interview this week.

Mr. Darby has recently had a special job made of an army jeep to enable him to get to and from some of his properties. In some instances he said the use of a saddle horse or foot was the only means of getting into the camps.

"We need immediate assistance in this respect," he said. "We don't want highways, just good roads. Special equipment for travel is too costly. If the roads were improved so we could get in with a jalopy it would be okay."

"On one road, to properties to the west part of the district, horses at times get so badly mired that they had to be shot," he said. On another occasion, two barrels of gasoline were being taken in by a diamond drill concern and at the end of the trip one barrel had been lost. The cost of the operation ran to between \$40 and \$50.

"There are many opportunities in the making of new mines," he stated. "There are many good finds, but the cost of transportation almost overshadows that of development as we have to put almost as much money in transportation as we do in development. With the boys back from war and all this new equipment we should be able to improve the roads," he said.

It is almost impossible to get diamond drill companies to go into some of the properties, Mr. Darby stated, due to the difficulty of getting in and the uncertainty of men getting out with their equipment. Then there is the problem of getting men out of the camps if they should be injured.

The day following the interview, Mr. Darby was going up to his camp at the Red Sucker River, either by horseback or foot, to take medicine in to a sick man.

"We can't get him out unless we force him to walk, and we won't do that," he said, "the man has the flu."

The conditions of the roads is hindering everything in connection with mining, he pointed out, stating in conclusion that the profits were drained on transportation costs and that many interests were tied up and the owners desperate, all due to the lack of interest in providing suitable roads to probable future mines.

Completes 33 Years With Hollinger Here

After 33 years with the Hollinger, W. H. Pritchard has retired from his position as master mechanic to take up less arduous duties with that company. Mr. Pritchard has spent 52 years in his trade, 48 years of it in the mining industry.

His first mine was the Silver Mountain, 45 miles west of Port Arthur, where he worked for eight years. He then went to Alma, Colorado, following which he journeyed to Cobalt in 1909, spending four years there before beginning his 33-year stretch here.

Mr. Pritchard will continue to look after the company-owned houses. It is announced, and will be available in an advisory capacity. His place as master mechanic will be taken by Roy Heath.

Red Cross Will Use War Funds To Aid People In Europe

Canadian Red Cross in conjunction with the Canadian United Allied Relief Fund, purposes to expend in 1946 some \$5,000,000 of its remaining war funds on relief supplies for war-stricken populations in Europe and China and in addition will allocate large amounts of supplies on hand from its Overseas and Canadian warehouses for the same purpose. Commitments against this 1946 allocation are already underway.

Officials at the National Headquarters of the Society making this announcement referred to despatches from its overseas representatives stating that suffering in Europe and China due to the war had reached acute proportions and called for every possible assistance.

Considerable expenditures from available funds and the distribution of large quantities of supplies on hand are also planned for relief in Britain in 1946, it was stated.

Town Seeks 100 Lots For Veterans' Homes

Wartime Housing Approves Project For Timmins

Approval of 100 houses to be constructed for rental here was received by the Timmins council on Monday from Wartime Housing Limited. The proposal is known as "Timmins Project No. 1."

"The first thing they will want to know now, is the location of the lots," Town Clerk A. L. Shaw advised.

"Suppose the chairman of the finance committee calls a meeting to discuss the cost," Councillor J. V. Bonhomme suggested.

"It will cost money, there is no doubt of that," Mayor J. E. Brunette declared. "The tax loss will be \$7,500 on 100 houses."

"That is the difference between normal taxes and what Wartime Housing will pay," the Town Clerk informed the council. "You can figure on normal taxes of \$90 to \$125 a year per house, and of this we will lose an average of \$75 per house. We cannot make money at it."

The Mayor suggested getting lots near the centre of town where they would keep their value.

"On the basis of 100 houses it will be quite an expense," Mr. Bonhomme said.

The council will give further consideration to the matter at a meeting to be held Friday afternoon.

Eight Scholarships Will Be Offered By Festival Of Music

Membership Cards Include Admission Privileges

Eight scholarships will be awarded this year at the coming Porcupine Festival of Music, it was disclosed at a meeting of the executive committee in the municipal building on Monday evening. E. B. Weir, honorary president, acted as chairman in the absence of president H. W. Brown.

The classes in which scholarships will be awarded are senior vocal (19-25 years); junior vocal (15-18 years); junior vocal, (13-14 years); violin; and miscellaneous instrumental. Two scholarships will be awarded in both junior and senior piano classes.

The scholarship fund committee is not making a general canvass, this year, it is stated, but will be glad to accept contributions from any person or organization wishing to help in the education of the young musicians.

The rules governing the marking of school choruses have been slightly changed. Chorus receiving 80% or over will receive a First Class certificate, 75-79 a Second Class certificate, and under 75 a Third Class certificate.

An invitation has been sent to the Sand Claims School to enter the Festival this year. As this school has a very small attendance, it was felt that it was not fair to ask them to compete with the larger schools, but they are being invited to exhibit their talents on a non-competitive basis.

Membership cards for the 1946 Festival are now on sale. One of these cards entitles the holder to a membership in the Festival Association, with voting privileges, and entrance to any and all Festival sessions for this year.

Membership cards may be obtained from any members of the executive committee or from Miss Blanche Dodge, Gift and Book Nook; Moisiey and Ball drug store, and The Music Box.

The next and final meeting of the executive committee will be held on Monday, Apr. 29, at 8 p.m. in the municipal building. All members are requested to be present.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL



Above is a new portrait of Field Marshal Viscount Alexander of Tunis, Canada's new Governor-General. With Viscountess Alexander he will arrive at Halifax on Apr. 10. A special train will bring the new Governor direct to Ottawa where he will be sworn in on Apr. 12.

Council Okays Move To Inquire Into Constables' Conduct

Law Ass'n. Spurs Action On Resolution Passed By Police Commission

"That the Attorney-General of Ontario be requested to cause an investigation and inquiry to be made into the Police Department of the Town of Timmins, including the conduct of the constables, the administration of the police force, the system of policing the municipality, and the police needs of the municipality."

The above resolution, originally forwarded by the Police Commission several weeks ago, brought a reply to the effect that such a request could only be acted upon if it came from the town council.

Accordingly, the Timmins Porcupine Law Association informed council on Monday that they had, at a meeting held Mar. 28, voted unanimously to ask the council to pass the required resolution. This the council has done, using the original form of the request.

"I understand that if we ask for the investigation they will not over-charge us," Councillor Wm. Roberts stated. "There is a nominal charge."

An investigation lasting two months in Sudbury had cost that city some \$600, Mayor J. E. Brunette pointed out and it was not expected the investigation here would last that long. "I am willing to go ahead with it," Councillor W. P. McDermott, chairman of the finance committee, stated. "It will clear up a lot of things."

"This mysterious disappearance of liquor has not been cleaned up yet," Councillor J. V. Bonhomme reminded the council. "This resolution does not cover everything."

"There may have been things which we on the Commission did not know about," the Mayor, who is chairman of the Police Commission, agreed. He claimed however, that the dismissed officers were not fired because of the disappearance of the liquor, but because of friction in the department.

Council To Spend \$700 For Relaying Of Sewers

The town will pay some \$700 for relaying sewers now cutting across property from which the Municipal Construction Co. plans to excavate gravel, it was decided at Monday's council meeting.

The town had originally laid the sewer across the property as a shortcut, on a verbal agreement to remove them on request. The construction company will undertake to dig and fill the ditches at its own expense.

High School Orchestra And Choir Plan Concert

Timmins High School orchestra and choir will present a concert at the McIntyre arena on the evening of Monday, Apr. 15, it was learned this week.

Youthful "Mob" Ends Three Months Of Activity Here

Three Timmins juveniles will go before the next juvenile court on Apr. 9 to answer charges resulting from the theft of money from milk bottles over the past three months.

The amount of money taken from the bottles ranged from 7c to \$3 and the streets in which activity was concerned are Murdoch, Hemlock, Cherry, Birch, Fifth Ave., Toke, Spruce, Patricia Blvd. and Hart St. Thefts were reported on 42 occasions.

Do Right To Canines, Don't Write To Press Dog-Catcher Is Told

Freedom of the press can be carried too far, particularly when the carrying is done by a civil servant. Or so L. Dubeau, Timmins dog-catcher learned when he was called before the town council on Monday to account for his action in writing to The Daily Press, in which he complained of the unkindly attitude taken by the public concerning his duties.

"You are the dog-catcher here," Councillor Philo Fay informed Mr. Dubeau. "That is your job. You are paid by the tax-payers. You published this letter in the press. You get yourself and council into trouble."

"This man who phoned me used dirty --" Mr. Dubeau started to explain.

"You are a public servant, you must take abuse," Councillor J. V. Bonhomme declared.

"I have been on the job a year and have caught 1600 dogs," the dog-catcher pointed out.

"That is your job," said Mr. Fay, unrelentingly. "Do it and keep your nose clean."

It seems the tax-payers have been phoning the police concerning excessive dogs, and the police have been referring them to Mr. Dubeau, day and night. As Mr. Dubeau obviously has to leave the phone from time to time to gather his harvest, his wife has to answer the phone and listen to a good deal of abuse. Owners whose dogs have been taken by the dog-catcher are not always happy about it, particularly when they are not notified of the event by the party responsible.

"My by-law says I don't have to report to the owner," said Mr. Dubeau, defending his position. "In 48 hours I can destroy them."

"Is it true you catch only the small dogs, and let the big dogs go?" Councillor Wm. McDermott asked.

"I don't see the big dogs," Mr. Dubeau declared. "I get hundreds of dogs every month. I wish one of you was on my phone. The town pays me to catch dogs. It does not pay my wife to answer the phone. She has five children."

Council, after thinking over this aspect of the case, decided that the police would keep a record of calls for the dog catcher instead of referring them to Mrs. Dubeau.

Which is what Mr. Dubeau probably had in mind when he wrote to the paper.

RECRUITING AGENT?



Sam Carr, national organizer of the Labor-Progressive party, who has been named by Igor Gouzenko as a recruiting agent for the spy ring. Gouzenko is the star witness in the espionage investigation.

Taxi Rates Set By Council; Insurance Limits Are Changed

By a by-law passed by Council on Monday taxi charges within the town limits are as follows:

- Up to 15 minutes -- 50c
- 15-20 minutes -- 75c
- 20-30 minutes -- \$1.25
- 30-40 minutes -- \$1.75
- 45-60 minutes -- \$2.50
- Over one hour, \$3 per hour.

These charges, which will be displayed in taxi offices and in each cab, are now effective. The times mentioned are from the time the driver "signifies his presence" to the time the passenger alights. Drivers are required to call at the door of the address to which they are summoned, and will not use their horns unless they are otherwise unable to locate their customer.

Other changes include the raising of public liability insurance limits to not exceeding \$10,000 per person or \$20,000 per group of persons injured in one accident, and \$1,000 property damage. All drivers must be licensed, be decently dressed and civil, the by-law states.

"What about a trip to South Porcupine?" Jack Carson of Windsor Taxi, asked. He thought time spent in journeying to such points to pick up a fare should be chargeable.

"This is for Timmins," Mayor J. E. Brunette informed him. "We have no authority outside of the town, but if we had any complaints we might consider action."

The Mayor stated meters, when available, would cost about \$60 each and a new by-law would be required.

ASK FOR ANNEXATION

The council on Monday deferred decision on a petition for annexation by residents in a section of Mounjoy township, in order to check up on the authenticity of the signers of the proposal.

FEW RESPOND TO INVITATION TO DISCUSS NEW INDUSTRIES HERE

A scanty attendance was accorded a meeting called last week by the Employment Advisory Committee in the offices of the National Employment Service, to consider the matter of new industries for Timmins.

None of the committee were present. Aside from Mr. Charron and Mrs. Cran of the N.E.S., only three others attended. They were Tom McNeil of the Mine Mill and Smelter Workers Union, Councillor W. P. McDermott and M. W. Lake, the latter representing the Canadian Legion.

Invitations sent to the service clubs, the Board of Trade and Retail Merchants Association, apparently went unheeded.

"We have many young people who are too young for the mines," Mr. Charron pointed out, in commenting on the meeting. "These young people have to be taken care of and there is another group coming out of school this spring. Many of them will be forced to go out of town for employment."

"We should try to get new indus-

tries here to take care of these young people," Mr. Charron stated. "We should be giving the town publicity to the extent people will want to come here to locate in business."

"We have had the mines for many years and will continue to have them," Ralph Carlin of the Union stated. "But we should have new industries to take care of the young people."

"At the very time the young people should be near their parents, they have to leave town to seek work elsewhere," Mr. Carlin said. "We should be thinking of the future of the city of Timmins and encourage new industries."

CUSSING COSTS MONEY

James Adams, 20-year-old laborer of 1 Lakeshore Rd., was assessed \$5 and costs at a special court on Wednesday morning.

Adams was charged with disorderly conduct following his exhibition of shouting and swearing on Third Ave., at about midnight on Tuesday.

Timmins Board of Trade Takes Action On Radio Broadcast By The C.B.C.

Padded Cell Inmate Starts \$50 Fire

Four chimney calls and a call from the police station comprised Monday's activity for the local fire department.

The call to the police station brought firemen to the scene of a cell fire which was extinguished with hand extinguishers. The fire occurred in the padded cell where a man was being lodged previous to his hearing in regard mental illness. The man started the fire with strips of paper and the damage to the leather padding of the cell is estimated to be about \$50.

The man was later committed to an institution.

On Tuesday the department was summoned to the Timmins Dairy where a spark from an acetylene torch had ignited the cork insulation of a nearby refrigerator. The slight blaze was extinguished before the arrival of firemen.

At 8:17 p.m. yesterday a fire in the attic of a home at 9 Wilcox St. North brought firemen out. The fire is thought to have been caused by the cord connected to a hot plate. Damage was slight.

Council Unanimous In Approving Tax Increases For 1946

Mayor: "Let's Face It" Bonhomme: "Let's Get Some Steel Helmets."

The Timmins town council, which strives to please most of the people most of the time, dealt with a matter on Monday which it evidently realized would please no one -- a marked increase in the tax rate.

Mayor J. Emile Brunette, looking over the agenda, tried to put a bright face on the matter.

"Next is a small item -- the tax rate," he announced.

"A small matter, but it mounts up during the year," commented Councillor J. V. Bonhomme, who evidently did not feel too happy about the way the public would receive the news. "I think we better buy some steel helmets and protect ourselves against assassination."

"That takes care of you personally," agreed Town Clerk A. L. Shaw, expressing the hope that the town hall was bomb-proof.

"We might just as well face the picture," Mayor Brunette declared. Mining activity was not yet such as to contribute taxes on a pre-war scale, the Mayor intimated.

On the other hand, it is learned, taxes have been held down during the war by curtailing necessary expenditures, and the time has now come when these cannot be delayed any longer, and it is not possible to delay these expenditures until such time as increased revenues from the mining industry are available.

Consequently, public school supporters face an increase in the 1946 tax rate of 31.9 per cent., to 67 mills; separate school supporters will pay 45.03 mills, an increase of 37.8 per cent. Council adopted the new tax rate unanimously.

The Advance's own expert on tax rates (he rents an apartment) states that the new rate is not unduly high, compared with the rate obtaining in other centres. The tax rate, he points out, is not the only factor in determining the amount of taxes a property-owner will pay.

The assessment value determined by the town is equally important. The Advance expert points out that an owner of a property having a market value of \$5,000 in Timmins would pay taxes on only 50 to 60 per cent. of that amount. "That is, if the assessment value were raised, a tax rate of 40 or 50 mills would still bring the town the same amount of tax money."

In other words, the town council could have lowered the tax rate, thus getting loud applause, then, by increasing the assessment values of taxable property, obtained the required revenue.

The increase in the tax rate for separate school supporters seems particularly marked, but is accounted for in part by the separate school board's demand for an additional \$24,000 this year.

IT SNEW!

The March Lion has seemingly come to life overnight even though having been off the beam for four days.

Sidney Wheeler, the Hollinger weatherman, predicts that the day will remain stormy and moderately cold though it will clear late tonight.

The temperature at 8 o'clock was 26 degrees and between 2 a.m. and 8 a.m. 5 inches of snow had fallen.

BIKE LICENSES LATER

Bicycle licenses will not be available until April 16, it was learned this week.

Prospectors and Developers Join in Condemning Description Given Town

"The C.B.C. broadcast of March 28, on the Porcupine Camp and town of Timmins was strongly censured as inaccurate and misleading as well as being detrimental to the North," thus was the feeling of the meeting of the Prospectors and Developers Association, held here on Friday night, recorded.

J. Brady, commenting on the feeling of those in attendance said, "all at the meeting as a whole were very resentful of the script as prepared. The feeling was that it was an absolute mockery of our industry and people."

"Through the broadcast they illustrated the town of Timmins as a camp, that our homes were of one and one-half stores and of frame construction. They were just shacks."

Roy Hardy informed The Advance that as the secretary of the Board of Trade, he was forwarding a letter to the C.B.C. requesting a copy of the script used on the broadcast, for the purpose of checking the inaccuracies as set down.

In regard his own feelings towards the broadcast Mr. Hardy stated, "it made the town, the people, the mines and the unions look ridiculous. I am surprised that the C.B.C. would let a thing like that go out and I absolutely think that the C.B.C. should apologize to the community."

"The broadcast was an absolute ridicule," he concluded.

G. E. Charron of the National Employment Service shared the opinion that much of the broadcast was nonsense, although he held that the portion of it in which Ed. Copps, editor of The Daily Press, was interviewed, was both interesting and informative.

Health Unit Fosters Immunization Plan for Camp Youngsters

Those of Pre-School Age Will Visit Family Doctor, Dentists, Clinic

The initial step in a campaign to acquaint parents with an immunization program for an estimated 1000 youngsters in the Porcupine between the ages of six months and six years will be a letter enclosed in the month-end account notices of the Hydro Electric Power Commission, it was learned this week.

The program, being conducted by the Porcupine Health Unit, is more or less a preparation for youngsters entering school in the Fall. It begins with a dental and physical examination by the family physician and dentist and attendance at immunization clinics being conducted every fourth Saturday, commencing Apr. 27, in six Timmins schools, Schumacher public school, South Porcupine public school and Whitney town hall.

In Timmins the clinics will be held at 9:30 a.m. in Birch Street school, Monera, Central, St. Charles, St. Alphonsse and the Holy Family schools.

The quota for the clinics is 1000 and the Health Unit has expressed the hope that all parents with youngsters of pre-school age will take advantage of the program.

Young People Hear Of Teen Age Dance

Alex Lamb, publicity chairman for the local Y's Men's Club, addressed members of the Canadian Young People's club during their meeting at the Hollinger Hall last night. The address was centered on the coming Y's Men's dance for the teen agers of the town on April 24.

All the young people's organizations of the town are to be approached in this manner. Mr. Lamb also outlined the work of the Y's Men's club and made mention of other possible functions planned for the benefit of the youth in Timmins, and save the young people tickets to sell for the coming dance.

Following the address the Young People held their regular dance period with music supplied by the club orchestra under the direction of Earl Simard.

A Young People's Dance is scheduled for Apr. 16 at which the price of admission will be the purchase of a club crest.

Previous to last night's meeting an executive meeting was held at which the business for the past year was brought up to date.

Offers \$350 For Lot

An offer of \$350 for a town-owned lot listed at \$700 did not seem much of a bargain to the council on Monday, and accordingly Councillors J. V. Bonhomme and the Town Clerk were asked to investigate, before any action was taken.

And Never Keep Them In A Refrigerator!

Have a banana! They have come all the way from New Orleans with the trip having taken eight days. The bananas are now found in one of the heated store rooms at Gamble-Robinson where they will be ripened before being placed on the market.

The store room is heated by an electric agent and directly above the heater is a fan which keeps the air in constant circulation, thereby insuring an equal distribution of the heat throughout the room. The bananas are hung from hooks on the ceiling with a cord tied to the stalks. And the bananas are green.

The time taken to ripen the fruit is roughly about 48 hours. In that time the banana becomes yellow. Another point is that the rooms are cork insulated and well lighted.

The car they are shipped in is heated also and the fruit is loaded into the

car in stalks. The weight of the fruit, per car, is anywhere from ten to twelve tons.

The fruit has travelled from Central America, taking three days by boat, to New Orleans, and from New Orleans to Timmins, taking eight days.

To dwell on the subject of the banana, we find that true origin of the banana is legendary but that its earliest home is thought to have been in Southern Asia. Early in the sixteenth century, it is claimed, the fruit was brought to the western hemisphere by a Spanish missionary. Now the fruit is grown in nearly all of the moist, tropical countries but is not grown commercially in the United States.

Concerning the growth of the fruit, it is found that each plant bears but one stem of fruit and when that is harvested, the plant becomes of no

further value. It is cut down and allowed to rot and fertilize the soil for the new plants growing from the same root stick.

The height of the plants is anywhere from 15 to 30 feet and they bear fruit in from 12 to 15 months. The fruit may be harvested from the same plantation every day in the year. Even if the bananas are to be used in the tropics, they are cut green and allowed to ripen off the plant. A plant ripened banana is mealy in character and possesses little flavor.

Once the fruit is taken from the plant, every precaution is exercised so as not to bruise or damage it in transit. Special conveyor equipment is used for loading in the tropics and unloading in the States and it is brought to the States by fast ships with controlled temperatures and air conditions and are landed at such

places as New York, New Orleans, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Charleston, Mobile and Galveston.

From these places the fruit is shipped in cooled cars in the summer and in heated cars in the winter.

The ideal temperature for bananas ranges between 60 and 65 degrees and they should never be placed in the refrigerator, nor should they ever be exposed to the hot sun. They are best for eating when all the green has disappeared and the skin is flecked with brown spots. The scars or blemishes that are frequently seen on the skin of the banana do not affect the eating quality of the fruit in any way, because they rarely go all the way through the skin into the pulp.

And there you have it -- our friend the banana.