

TERRACE BAY

NEWS

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LARGEST CIRCULATION IN TERRACE BAY April 8th, 1954.

JOHN SECHESKY RETIRES

APRIL 15TH.

In years to come, it will always be in the records that John Sechesky was the first LongLac employee to retire. We have had a lot of "firsts" at Terrace Bay. John has seen or participated in many of them. Now he himself is making history.

April 15th will be John's last day with LongLac. And on that day he will no doubt think back to the days of Terrace Bay's early development. His employment with this company dates back to September 16th, 1946.

Shortly after John Sechesky arrived at Terrace Bay, a truck was hit by a train at the old C.P.R. level crossing in the South Camp. From then on until the overhead bridge was completed in '48 we had a watchman at that crossing. John was the man chosen for the job and there never was another level-crossing accident.

To many people a watchman's job is just another way to make a living. But John looked on it as more than that. He always had a cheerful greeting for everyone and his friendly manner made him many friends both locally and among visitors to the project. One of his services was to keep everyone posted on the temperature. (He had somehow wangled a thermometer which was installed on the warming hut that gave him protection from the bitter elements.) One morning the mercury was down to 47 below. That was the winter of '46 and '47.

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In John's opinion it was the worst winter we have had.

When the crossing job was ended, John moved to the mill as a watchman and it is from this job that he now retires.

John Sechesky was born in Poland April 16th, 1889. His parents brought him to Canada when he was ten. The family settled in Winnipeg where his father carried on his trade as a fully qualified shoe maker (he did no shoe repairs). Later the family moved to the Lakehead which John has called home for the past forty years.

Before coming to Terrace Bay, previous employment included: foreman of section crews and extra gangs for both C.P.R. and Algoma Central; employment during the war at Canada Car; operation of a meat market and later a shoe repair business in Port Arthur.

One of John's four children, Frank came to Terrace Bay in '46. He's now married and settled down here. A daughter, Veronica, (Mrs. Jack O'Connor) lived here from April '49 to November '50 while her husband was in LongLac's employ.

Asked if he had anything in particular to say, John Sechesky stated without hesitation that he was "well pleased to have worked here", - that we have a "good management", - that he has "no complaints".

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