

# RosSPORT Notes

by ANNE TODESCO  
It is almost mail time. Many of us are anxious to read the latest news on the Hemlo Gold Rush. It brings many an interesting future picture of great activity along the north shore of Lake Superior to our minds. How many of the north westerners have ever stopped to think of the many phases of the natural resources we have right here in our area? To name a few, there is hunting, fur trapping, timber, hunting, minerals and water. All point to industry and the employment of many people. What is known to Eastern Ontarioans as a vast, rocky and isolated territory might now become a well populated and progressive town. Prospecting has made sparks of interest to flourish along the north shore since the findings of gold at Hemlo and other minerals from Wawa to Schreiber and Winston. Everyone interested in the search for a get rich quick

method is out looking for precious ores. They are looking over old mining sites with the hope that they'll find a new vein of the continuation of from old diggings. The shiny and glittering stuff beckons and lures prospectors and would-be prospectors to try their luck in the field. Mining will become a reality in this area. Finding signs of gold and other metals are older than RosSPORT and Schreiber. When the early adventurers, voyagers and discoverers appeared along the north shores of Lake Superior way back in the 1600's and 1700's, the Indians mined copper on the islands and shores of the great lake. They worshipped the bright metal in their pagan way, also made articles from the copper. There's gold in them there hills is being proven today as mining men and prospectors, engineers and surveyors swarm over the hills in the area. Old sites are

being gone over and new ore locations being discovered. According to information men have been in the area for years and their findings have been fantastic. The findings in the Hemlo area near Marathon and at Winston between Schreiber and RosSPORT are big. We could take a short trip back in time and view some old diggings. Down on Worthington Bay between Schreiber and RosSPORT, quite a location was built up. The buildings were painted white and yellow. They consisted of bunk houses, cookery, offices and assay buildings. These buildings were heated with either steam or hot water systems as many of the radiators were found. Once the mine stopped functioning buildings were dismantled and the rads carried away to be utilized elsewhere. The name of the mining site has been forgotten as has who owned it at different times. According to information received, many people have been researching through the archives for the mine's actual history. One of our veteran prospectors the late Clem Downey has obtained quite an amount of this mine's history as he had been involved with its workings. In the early 1900's the McKellar brothers did find traces of gold and staked some claims and later the North Shore Mines was formed and was in operation a few years but closed when the First World War came and the company had difficulty in procuring labour and materials needed as they were required for the war. Other people tried to bring this mine back into operation but

lacked financial support and getting sponsors interested in its development. So there lies the site of an early mining project where dreams have been lost. There is much evidence of early prospecting and mining in these hills. I understand that the Duck Lake and the McCoshens claims were active for awhile with showings of gold, silver and zinc. The McCoshen diggings were near the top of Walker's Lake hill just west of Schreiber. I remember seeing the small tunnel but the hill is overgrown by brush and trees and is difficult to locate. I often wonder if the site is still in the McCoshen family or if someone else owns it now. Then there were the Gold Range and the Harkness Hayes holdings east of Schreiber and the old Empress Mine on Jackfish Lake. I cannot recall the name of the man and his wife who used to come every summer from New York to spend some time at the Empress mine site. There will still be some buildings in a fair state the last time I was there. I often went to this mine on a Sunday for lunch with this couple. Mining history is being made again in the district. Millions of dollars could be involved in drilling and surveying. One can travel back in time and recall hearing the tales of early mining

projects in this part of Ontario. In 1870 a shaft was sunk on an island in the Moffat Straits between RosSPORT and Nipigon. It was about 76 feet deep the a few years ago some men representing the Montreal Mining Co. investigated this shaft and found some of the shoring timbers in fairly good shape after all those years. Father Allouez, a Jesuit missionary reported findings of copper, silver and lead having been found on the islands and hills ashore of Lake Superior. Baron La Houtan reported large findings of copper in this area in the late 1800's — a surveyor by the name of Monsouer Henry wintered at Michipecon in 1767. He built a sloop near there at Pointe Aux Pens to carry the ore and fur to eastern markets. A large sample of ore from there still is displayed in a British Museum. Six men were appointed trustees for the Montreal Mining Co. They were Sir George Simpson, Hon. George Moffatt, Hon. Peter Magill, a William Merideth, Thos. Crengon and Stewart Derbisheres. Moffatt was elected chairman with Derbisheres the Sec. Treas. They engaged competent surveyors, geologists, miners, voyagers and mechanics to start working the is-

lands and shores of Lake Superior looking for precious ores wanted. Many of our islands, straits etc. are named after these men. They engaged in covering the area from the Soo to Pigeon River. There is so much in the story of prospecting and surveying this part of the North Shore. The first recorded exploration occurred in the 16th century. So you can see that minerals have been known in this area for a great number of years. It is said that the ores found here could be over a million or more years old. There are many sites of old diggings about the district, some have been discovered from their hiding among the heavy bushes. A story well known here is about an Indian by the name of Neganijig who had a small digging into the face of mileage 19 hill between RosSPORT and Pays Plat. He supposedly found gold. That site is overgrown as well but no doubt could be located if wanted. Any way the story goes that he made the long trip by canoe to Port Arthur Landing to see for himself the wonderful big place that he had heard about. When approaching the landing in the evening he heard the church bells ringing and was quite fascinated by the beautiful tones of the bells. Then and there he decided that his small church at the Pays Plat mission must have a

bell as well. So he returned home and managed to sell his claims to someone and gave the money to the priest to purchase the bell. This was supposed to have happened in the 1800's. This story came to me through a Chief by name of Louis Mushquash. He couldn't recall who the white man was that bought the claims. However the church got the bell and I believe that the same bell is still in the belfry of the little church at the mission. I often wonder just who among the early people in the area was able to buy the diggings and who owns them now. Wouldn't it be great if the Zenmac mines at Selim near here opened again? Stories are heard about a new vein of ore found near the old mine. It was originally the Zenith mine but when it reopened a few years ago it was renamed the Zenmack. The company had a mill built near the track where the pellets were loaded from the mill to railway cars and shipped east. The Beardmore, Nakina and Geraldton mines are coming into the limelight again. It would be great if they were opened again offering employment to many people and to see new settlements along the north shore with highway seventeen and the mainline of the CPR right at their doorstep. It would be a big boost to the economy of the area. The future looks bright for everyone.

## THANK YOU

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to Registered Nurses Nancy, Sharon and Barbara and also the Physiotherapist, Bev. of the Home Care Program. Tender loving care exemplifies their performance with each and every patient. I have had the privilege of knowing them since the inception of the Program and know that my present progress has been due to their gentle hands. In my case I would have been a burden to my family without their help and encouragement. They instill the hope and constant drive that is so necessary when recuperating. In short, they bring their hearts with every visit. So I thank you from the bottom of my heart. You are indeed a very special breed. With sincere appreciation, Helen Stokes

## THANK YOU

Hats off to the Mill Ambulance attendants, Dr. Wilkes, nursing, physiotherapy and other staffs at The McCausland Hospital for their professional care while I was hospitalized. In addition I will not forget the concern expressed by friends in their own special way for myself and my family. Sincerely, Ray Stachiw

## Women of the Moose

It was with sadness that the co-workers of Chapter 1425 learned of the death of co-worker Betty Sweet on February 15, 1983, in Duncan B.C. Betty joined the Terrace Bay chapter on February 26, 1957 and she held the office of Senior Regent from 1966 to 1967. Her kindness, patience and advice were always welcomed and appreciated by the

co-workers. The Charter was draped on March 1983 at the Chapter Meeting in Betty's memory and will remain draped for 30 days. We, the co-workers of Terrace Bay chapter 1426 extend our deepest sympathy to Betty's family. Though Betty is no longer with us, we will always cherish her memory. On February 12, 1983 the Women of the Moose sponsored a very successful Valentine's dance at the Moose House in Terrace Bay. The Valentine King and Queen chosen for the evening were Trudi Langdord and Larry Grenier. The door prize was won by Brenda Maenpaa. The music was provided by the Music Man. Moose Haven Chairman Elain DesChatelets and her committee were in charge of the Chapter Night program held on March 1. Following a delicious lunch, a penny auction took place. All items for the auction were green or wrapped in green as St. Patricks Day was the theme. A business meeting was held March 15 and the next chapter night meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 5 at 8 p.m. at the Moose House.

## Notice Of Meeting

Lake Nipigon Riding Progressive Conservative Association

will be holding a meeting on

**Sunday, April 10**  
**at 3:00 p.m.**

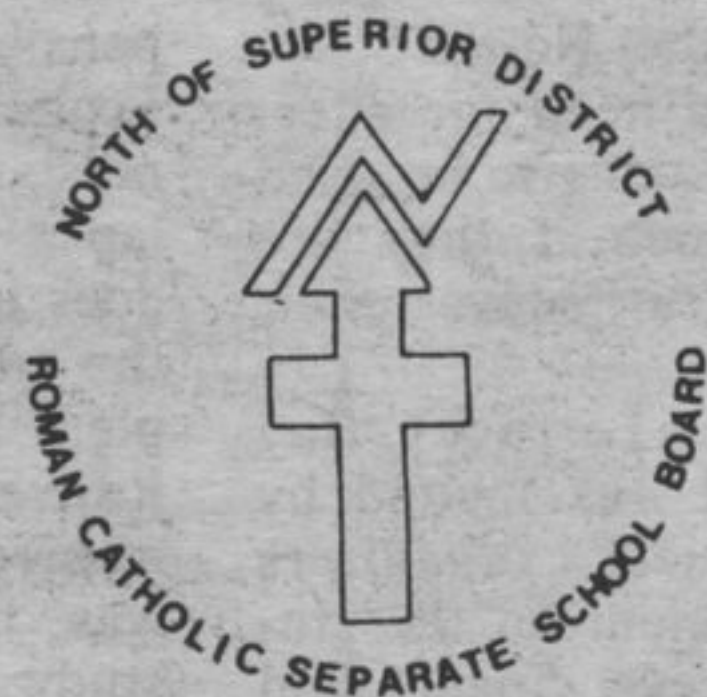
At The International Inn, Nipigon.

**Main Topic:** Delegates to the Federal P.C. Leadership Convention for Cochrane/Superior Riding.

For further information contact:  
Joe Figliomeni 824-2037  
or Mike Spadoni 824-2733

ST. MARTIN SCHOOL  
Terrace Bay

**REGISTRATION**  
Kindergarten &  
Jr. Kindergarten



**Monday, April 11 - Friday, April 15, 1983**  
**Between 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.**

Parents are requested to bring to the school birth and baptismal certificates. — (Children currently attending St. Martin School need not reregister).  
**KINDERGARTEN** - To be eligible to attend Kindergarten in September 1983, children must be 5 years old on or before December 31, 1983. (Born in 1978).  
**JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN** - To be eligible to attend Junior Kindergarten in September 1983, children must be 4 years old on or before December 31, 1983. (Born in 1979).

For additional information please call -  
St. Martin School  
825-3255

J. Bunkis  
Chairman

P.M. Gillen  
Director of Education