SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

COBALT, SOUTH LORRAIN AND GOWGANDA.

The May production of McKinley-Darragh-Savage Mine reached a total of 206,781 ounces, which showed an increase of more than 40,000 ounces over April, and is the highest for the present year. The increase in production was partly due to a better grade of ore being treated and partly to the starting of the new mill extension. Of the total ounces produced only 42,662 ounces came from the Savage mine. 75 tons daily is being transported from the Savage by the aerial tramway to the McKinley concentrator. This ore is being taken from the Savage dumps. A total battery of fifty stamps is now in operation.

The production of the Cobalt Townsite for the two weeks ending June 7th was 81,900 ounces. The production of the Casey Cobalt for the same period was 40,400 ounces.

The Cobalt Lake Mining Company this month went on a regular production basis of 35,000 ounces. All forty stamps are now dropping in the mill and about 150 tons are being treated daily. The plant has a capacity of about 175 tons daily, which will probably be reached shortly. Underground some high grade ore has been discovered in what has been called No. 1 vein. It is most probably a continuation of one of the best producers of the Cobalt Townsite, and has been opened up within a few hundred feet of the Townsite extension line. There is a continuous shoot of high grade ore for ninety feet on this vein, and it promises to be one of the most important on the Lake property. A considerable tonnage of ore is being run through the mill from the dump at No. 6 shaft.

The King Edward, another old mine, once abandoned, is showing up well. It is leased and operated by the York Ontario. The general manager, Mr. Jackman, reports to shareholders that since February the developments at the mine have been satisfactory. Silver ore has been found on numerous veins. This ore varies from small veins of high grade ore to several feet of milling ore. At the end of April it was reported that there was on hand about 7 tons of high grade silver ore assaying about a thousand ounces to the ton and about 3 tons of second grade assaying 200 ounces to the ton. Three drills are working in the mine and the small plant is treating ore at a customs rate of $3.00 per ton.

The Meteor Mining Company is now working again. Some years ago this company bought the Powell claim on Diabase Mountain and ran a tunnel for some distance into the side of the hill. From this tunnel a shaft was sunk 100 ft. Work is being resumed at this point.

PORCUPINE, SWASTIKA AND KIRKLAND LAKE.

The strike at Porcupine is virtually over. Twice it was brought forward at the union meeting that the strike should be declared off, but on both occasions it was decided that it should be continued. At the last meeting, however, it was felt by the leaders that they could no longer hold their men, and while they did not declare the strike off they gave the union men permission to seek work. This they did with alacrity. The married men went the rounds first; and after they had had a chance to secure berths, the single men followed. Any company in Porcupine that desires to work can now get a full complement of men.

Upwards of a thousand men went on strike last September, but not a third of these were in camp when the strike virtually ended. For the past two months they have been drifting out of camp to other Northern Ontario fields, to Cobalt, and to Kirkland Lake and Swastika. Some dozen of them accepted government work on the Kirkland Lake road at two dollars a day and board.

The strike began last September with the determination of the McEnaney, Jupiter, Plenaurum, McIntyre and Vipond to cut wages, owing to better conditions prevailing in the camp. A conciliation board was formed and heard evidence. The strike followed when the award was made, the men refusing to accept it. It has been attended with more violence than is usual in a Canadian strike, although no one has been seriously injured. For instance, the last Hollinger report chronicles the fact that one of the houses of the shift bosses had been burned down and when investigation was made it was found to have been sprinkled with petroleum.

Now that the strike is virtually off, the camp has already begun to show signs of mending. The mines that fought the strike have, as a matter of fact, been steadily improving; but many in the prospective stage decided that it would be more advantageous to shut down till the strike was over rather than to incur the expense of fighting it. These will now start up again almost at once. The industrial conditions in the Porcupine camp have been subjected to a unique succession of disasters. There was first the big fire which swept out of existence the work of a busy six months. the boom that followed it was almost as disastrous since it was inevitably followed by a depression, then just as business was picking up again in the various settlements the strike arrested progress again. Now it would seem there is again a clear sky and the camp should be in a good position in every respect in the fall.

Hollinger May Report.—Owing to the fact that the mill only ran 49 per cent. of the time possible for the four weeks ending May 20th the net profits for the Hollinger Gold Mines were only $48,611.34. Mr. P. A. Robbins gives the cause as due to a total shut down of power for twelve days, owing to mishaps at the power plants in the camp. However, conditions are again normal, and the mine and the mill producing satisfactorily.

The profits from the first of the year to May 20th are $598,505.70.

Mr. P. A. Robbins' report says, in part: During the shut down the mine was operated at reduced capacity by means of steam-driven compressors and the development ore was not hoisted from the mine until the resumption of milling operations. In order to get the mine clear it was necessary to mill this development rock when milling operations were resumed and the month's operations, therefore, show a falling off in grade as well as a great reduction (one-half) in tonnage treated. Having milled only 50 per cent. of the usual output, and having been put to a heavy policing cost, it will be understood that the total costs per ton are of necessity abnormally high, but the present period will show a reduction in costs to a figure considerably below those previously published. The approximate average value of all ore hoisted was $17.53 per ton. Mining costs:

Production	3.506 per ton milled.
Exploration	$0.227 per ton milled.
Development	0.745 per ton milled.
Total	$4.478 per ton milled.