

As provided in the said Act, the claims advanced respectively by Mr. Drayton and his associates, and by the Florence Mining Company were argued by Counsel before the Executive Council and Orders-in-Council were passed disallowing the same.

The Florence Mining people have made misstatements as to matters of fact, both in their petition to the Government and in the columns of certain Toronto Liberal newspapers to which the company has obtained access. Their allegation that the map shown in the Haileybury Recorder's office did not show the lake to be withdrawn was shown to be unfounded.

They alleged also that the copy of the Order-in-Council of 14th August, 1905, was not posted up at the time of Green's discovery. As a matter of fact the order was posted and remained in position for months, until taken down in the course of some repairs. The copy still exists; its appearance shows plainly that it has been exposed to the light and it also has the corners turned down and small holes through them showing that it had been tacked up on the wall.

#### **MR. COCHRANE'S WARNING.**

It was a matter of common knowledge of the mining men of Cobalt that the bed of Cobalt Lake, the Gillies Limit and Kerr Lake were withdrawn. Those interested in Green's alleged discovery through the ice in March, of 1906, were approached in a manner which indicated quite clearly that Green and his associates knew they were trespassing on forbidden ground. They were, it is stated on excellent authority, asked to put their money blindly into "a good thing." Asked what it was by those whose financial assistance they were so mysteriously seeking the promoters of the ice drilling shrugged their shoulders and hinted at "Something big," which could not be spoken of just yet, but wait! **They knew they were doing wrong.** As a matter of fact rumors of a diamond drill on the ice reached the Minister of Mines in February, 1906, and he, on the 20th of that month, wrote the gentleman alleged to be interested, stating that he (Mr. Cochrane), rather questioned the report and hoped to hear that it was not true. **"As you know the lake has been withdrawn by Order-in-Council, and people are not to interfere with it."**

This letter, while not addressed to the party who really had the drill on the ice, indicated quite clearly the Minister's position.