

seeing that it was to benefit directly the two Mines first mentioned on the list. They would at least be passive in the matter. Indeed, Mr. Bailey, Manager of the Townsite Mine, and a member of the Board of Trade, proposed at the outset of the meeting that the Board should approve of the draining of the Lake, and it is probable that the seven others would act similarly to the Townsite.

The only formidable opposition so far came from Item 5 on the above list, viz.: Mr. A. Ferland, representing the Township of Coleman, his argument being that the seceding of the two mines from Coleman and their incorporation in the Town of Cobalt would have such a depleting effect upon the funds of the Township exchequer that the Township Council would, on this account, "oppose strenuously" the project. With this in view, he pointedly asked the Mayor "if the Town Council would be in favor of the proposal, if the two Mines were not brought into the Town." But, inasmuch as the two Mines mentioned had volunteered of their own accord to come into the Town and to make the proposal they did, that question became totally irrelevant. The proposition was made to the Council and the Council agreed, subject to certain conditions and formalities to be afterwards stipulated by the proposing parties, the Council having accepted the proposition after having approved of the details, as laid out by Mr. Gordon, considering that this would be carried out in letter and spirit. The Township cannot stop the freedom of action of the two Mines mentioned, when they desire for economic reasons of their own, to be incorporated within the Town.

Notwithstanding that the opposition to the project at the Board of Trade meeting utterly collapsed when the facts of the case were set out and explained by Mr. Gordon, yet there are a number of citizens, who have conscientious scruples about the propriety of draining the Lake, on sanitary grounds—they are afraid that such drying up would result in a fever epidemic.

IMPORTANT LEGAL OPINION

This view was voiced by the two lawyers present. Mr. J. W. Mahon said "he did not hesitate to say that he was at first opposed to the draining of the Lake simply because it might cause an epidemic, but, from the explanations