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CABLE ADDRESS "MACHIN"

H. A. C. MACHIN,
EARLE C. POPHAM,
ALSO OF THE MANITOBA BAR

KENORA, CANADA April 17th., 1926.

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, K. C., P. C.,
House of Commons,
OTTAWA.

Dear Mr. Meighen:-

At the request of our Kenora friends I am taking the liberty of writing you with reference to the proposed incorporation of a Railway from a point on the National Railway near Quibell, in this District via. Red Lake to the Pas particulars of which are contained in the newspaper advertisement clipping I attach.

I am asked to inform you that there is serious objection on the part of the Residents of this section of the District of Kenora to this Charter being granted as the proposed Railway, if authorized and built, serves no great portion of this District, and with the present Railway situation in Canada it is desirable that future Railways be planned to serve the greatest needs of any particular locality.

The Backus interests in this District, now known as the Kenora Paper Mills (having already expended some \$15,000,000.00 locally) have the right, under their Agreement with the Ontario Government, to construct a logging road from Kenora to the English River for the purpose of reaching their raw material. This logging road has got to be built. The people of Kenora feel that in view of the possible opening up of a new Gold Camp at Red Lake of the proportions and magnitude of the Porcupine Camp, that the time is ripe to consolidate the Backus interests with a private Company and instead of building a logging road to seek sanction of the Ontario Government and an Ontario Charter to build a Standard Common Carrier Railway into Red Lake from Kenora. This would mean that from the English River, South, to Kenora, there would be adequate tonnage from the Backus limits to justify the operation of that portion and if, as it is hoped, the Red Lake District becomes a permanent Gold Camp, justification would then exist to build the line North another fifty miles into Red Lake thus giving Kenora the chance of becoming the supply base for that Country. In view of the fact that Kenora is the Judicial and Governmental centre this communication would obviate the necessity of setting up and duplicating the Judicial and Government machinery in the North.

In company with those interested I have interviewed the Premier of Ontario in connection with the matter and while we have nothing definite from him (in view of the lack of information as to the permanency of the Red Lake District) we

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