



Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Lacroix

—Nugget Staff Photo

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17/4/73
**Golden Wedding celebrated
by Mr., Mrs. Lacroix, Cobalt**

COBALT (Staff)—Well known in Cobalt and Earlington, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Lacroix were surrounded by friends and relatives when they celebrated their Golden Wedding recently.

They were married at Earlington, April 4, 1923. Mr. Lacroix was born at Ste. Clothide, Que., and worked for a time as a butcher in Montreal. He moved to

Earlington in 1921 where he established a grocery business which he operated for more than 30 years. Mrs. Lacroix, the former Auxilia Lafleche, is originally from Sturgeon Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Lacroix moved to Cobalt in 1955 and he was associated with Herbert Fuels Company for many years.

They have one daughter and five sons: Mrs. Marcel Cusson (Fernandey) of Kapuskasing; Gerard, Gilles and Guy, all of Cobalt, Jean Claude of Kapuskasing and Marius of Holtyre. They are the proud grandparents of 22 children and great grandparents of two children.

Pioneer Cobalt Businessman Antonio Giachino Retires

COBALT—Antonio Giachino, a well known and highly respected business man of Cobalt has retired at the age of 80 and at the present time is spending a holiday with his son in Toronto.

He plans to visit his native land, Italy, which he left at the early age of sixteen years.

Few men in Northern Ontario can look back on a life as full and diversified as that of Mr. Giachino. His father was famous as a blaster and driller and was head foreman during the construction of the famous railroad tunnel of the Saint Gotthard Pass in the Alps, connecting Italy with Switzerland.



Mr. Giachino, senior, was left completely blind following an accident as he was instructing his crew on time fuse lighting. At this time Antonio was only two years old, the

youngest of a family of thirteen children. His mother was left without any financial aid and the support of a large family fell on her shoulders.

Mr. Giachino was born in Piedmont, Italy, in 1878. He left home in December of 1894 heading for Montpelier, Vermont. His first job was roasting peanuts in an Italian fruit store, then as a waiter in a restaurant. His next job was as manager of a Workers' Union Co-operative Store and on the side he acted as a court interpreter for a famous judge, who later helped him establish his own business, a variety store.

In 1905 he came to Cobalt and in 1909 after the big Cobalt fire he sold out his business in the States, came back to Cobalt and built the famous Byjou Theatre on Lang Street. He was elected to Cobalt Council and in 1919 was chairman of the Police Committee.

In 1920 he bought the Bank of Montreal building and opened up the International Provision Store. He gained recognition throughout the north country for his delicatessen, and fancy imported foodstuffs.

In partnership with several others, he built the Grand Theatre on Silver Street, then shortly after he built his own theatre, the "Lyric" on the site of the present Classic Theatre with a cafeteria restaurant beside it. On opening day the entire proceeds were turned over to the Red Cross and over a hundred meals were served that day.

one of the finest refrigeration plants in Northern Ontario.

He carried on his business in the store from 1925 to 1933 when he sold out buying it back again in 1936. He rented it to Dominion Stores Limited when they first came to Cobalt.

In 1934 Mr. Giachino went to Chicago World's Fair and brought back to Canada the first 16 mm sound motion picture projector. After finding out that films were not available here, he bought a camera and made several reels of his own, then went to New York to obtain some sound films. With his movie outfit he travelled all over Northern Ontario and Quebec showing movies to the people of smaller communities where no theatres were available. His shows soon became regular features especially among the school children. He has a large library of movie films and was often called upon to entertain groups and clubs throughout the north country.

In 1949 he took over the agency for Trans-Canada Air Lines from which he has retired at the age of 80 years, deserving of a well-earned rest. His reputation as a travel agent is widely known.

Mr. Giachino is enjoying good health except for failing eyesight.

He has one son D. M. Giachino, residing in Toronto, and a daughter Mrs. E. Morrisette, Timmins.

Mrs. Giachino is at present in Italy.

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