



THE COBALT LODGE

Newsletter of the Cobalt Historical Society



Volume 19

No. 2

2010

P.O. Box 309

Cobalt, On P0J 1C0

Cobalt News

Three New Businesses Open

THE DIVA SHOP Kartina Chitaroni is doing nails at her glamorous store in the former Gem Shop on Silver Street. A visual champagne glass of sparking jewellery, gleaming purses, beaded clothing and shiny shoes, this is the place to treat yourself or buy gifts.

ROB'S HAIR LOUNGE Rob Manseau has opened at 38 Silver Street (below the Canadian Legion Br. 44). He is a hairstylist, colourist and barber. For appointments call 622-9204.

THE ORANGE PEAR CAFÉ Located at 32 Silver Street next to the Fraser Hotel, this newly established café is owned and operated by Sharon and David Margetson who live in Cobalt. The Café is open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays serving soups, sandwiches and baked goods. There are a variety of teas and coffees as well as some soft drink beverages, apple cider and hot chocolate.

Cobalt Lake

In an earlier Newsletter, there was the story of the bottom of Cobalt Lake falling into mine workings. Al Smith's father Arnold was the Mine Manager of the Mining Corporation and gave The Cobalt Lode precise details as to why and how this happened. Below is an extract from Forty-Second Annual Report of the Ontario Dept. of Mines for 1932.

"[in 1931] the cobalt ore contract was terminated....At the beginning of the year, the bulk of the remaining silver ore was contained in old stope backs in proximity to the bottom of Cobalt Lake, such ore being overlain with accumulated mill tailings. To make this ore available for extraction, an opening was blasted through from the underground workings and 400,000 tons of the overlying tailings flowed by gravity into the worked-out sections of the mine. This operation permitted the safe and easy extraction of the ore at an unusually low cost per ounce of silver. All available tonnage was completely removed by the end of the year, and the long productive record of the corporation at Cobalt came to an end.

Total Production in Ounces Fine Silver to December 31, 1932

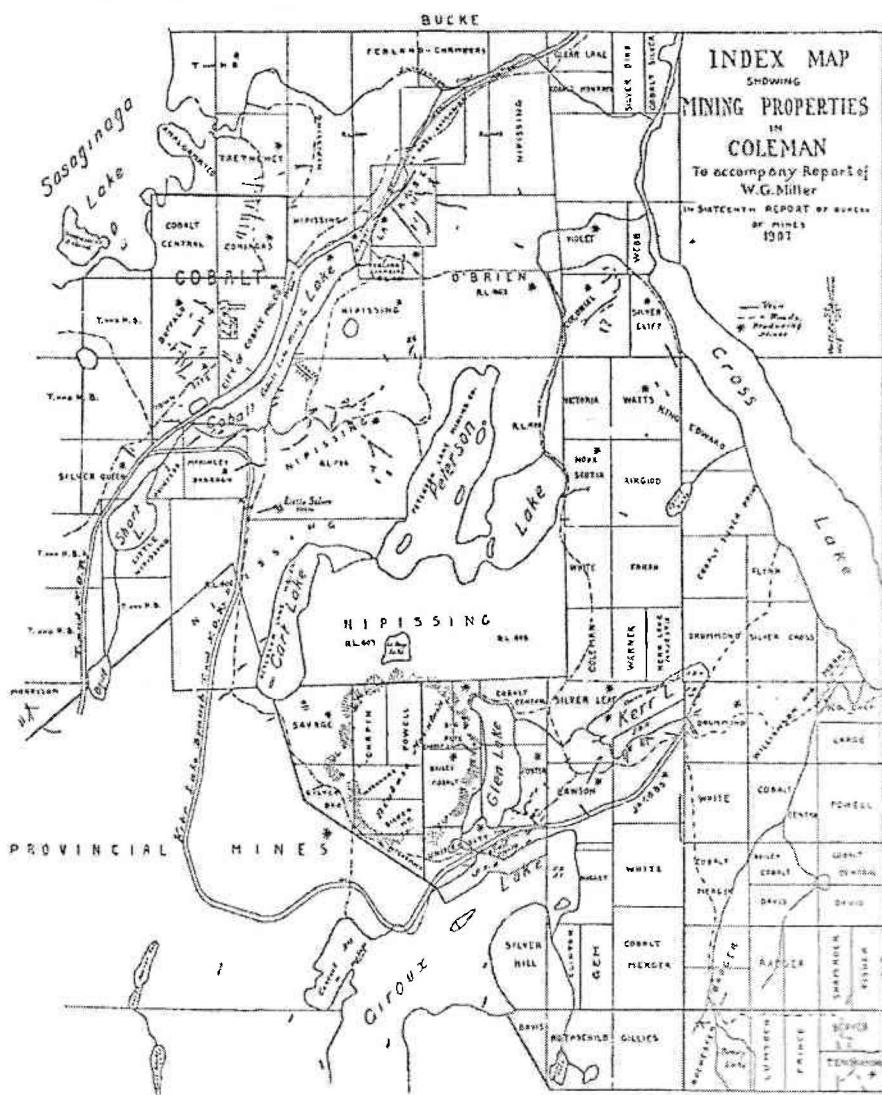
	Cobalt mines	South Lorrain mines	Total
Prior to 1908.....	118,616		118,616
Year ended December 31, 1908.....	633,516		633,516
" " " 1909.....	442,254		442,254
" " " 1910.....	471,965		471,965
" " " 1911.....	1,777,002		1,777,002
" " " 1912.....	2,827,826		2,827,826
" " " 1913.....	3,784,718		3,784,718
January 1, 1914, to March 31, 1914.....	866,622		866,622
April 1, 1914, to December 31, 1914.....	3,185,124		3,185,124
Year ended December 31, 1915.....	4,563,956		4,563,956
" " " 1916.....	4,457,441		4,457,441
" " " 1917.....	4,485,542		4,485,542
" " " 1918.....	1,708,252		1,708,252
" " " 1919.....	1,230,653		1,230,653
" " " 1920.....	1,664,018		1,664,018
" " " 1921.....	1,226,717		1,226,717
" " " 1922.....	1,462,269		1,462,269
" " " 1923.....	727,115	1,333,334	2,060,449
" " " 1924.....	851,280	521,878	1,373,158
" " " 1925.....	898,008	1,134,097	2,032,105
" " " 1926.....	1,105,456	1,104,597	2,210,053
" " " 1927.....	1,217,180	902,591	2,119,771
" " " 1928.....	918,266	395,692	1,313,958
" " " 1929.....	970,954	14,295	985,249
" " " 1930.....	559,286	404,903	964,189
" " " 1931.....	733,425	320,302	1,053,727
" " " 1932.....	1,155,647	22,144	1,177,791
Total.....	44,043,108	6,153,833	50,196,941

Cobalt Treasure

On the right is a poem by Capt. Jack E. Leckie written in 1908 using the names of some of the mining properties in the Cobalt Mining Camp. See how many can be located on the enclosed maps.

Who was Capt. Jack E. Leckie?

In *Temiskaming Treasure Trails 1907-1909*, p. 179, Peter Fancy remarks that Jack Leckie and Eddie Holland (former Cobalt Postmaster) were the composers of the “Song of Porcupine”. Then in the 1910-1915 volume on p.4, Peter discusses how the “Cobalt Song” came into being with Jack Leckie replacing words in a song about Rosseau (East of Perry Sound). The song was completed by Leonard Steenman and Robert MacAdam. Peter further remarks that when Capt. Leckie left in March 1912 for British Columbia his engineering skills would be missed.



Some explanations:

“doffed his Beaver” — removed his hat — top hats were made from the fur of beavers, this was what the “fur trade” was all about.
 “Mechan” is pronounced Meehan ie. Mean.

The Lay of the Cobalt Mines
by Capt. J. E. Leckie,
Cobalt, Ontario
1908

Will you have a little "Nip"
Said the "Queen" to me one day
As she and "Nancy Helen"
Came down the "Right of Way".

Sure I'll take a "Little Nip"
And "KindED" will join us too
Come on "Old Chap" says I
For I'm feeling "Cobalt Blue".

Then the "Princess" came along
She looked like "La Rose" to me
She was feeling "Silver Cross"
So I took her on my knee.

She tried to look “Majestic”
But she dropped her “Crown Reserve”
When I took her to my “Chambers”
You bet I had a nerve.

Then O'Brien he came strolling by,
 "Watts" the matter here? he said
 Its enough to "Madden" anyone
 My "Silver Bird" is dead.

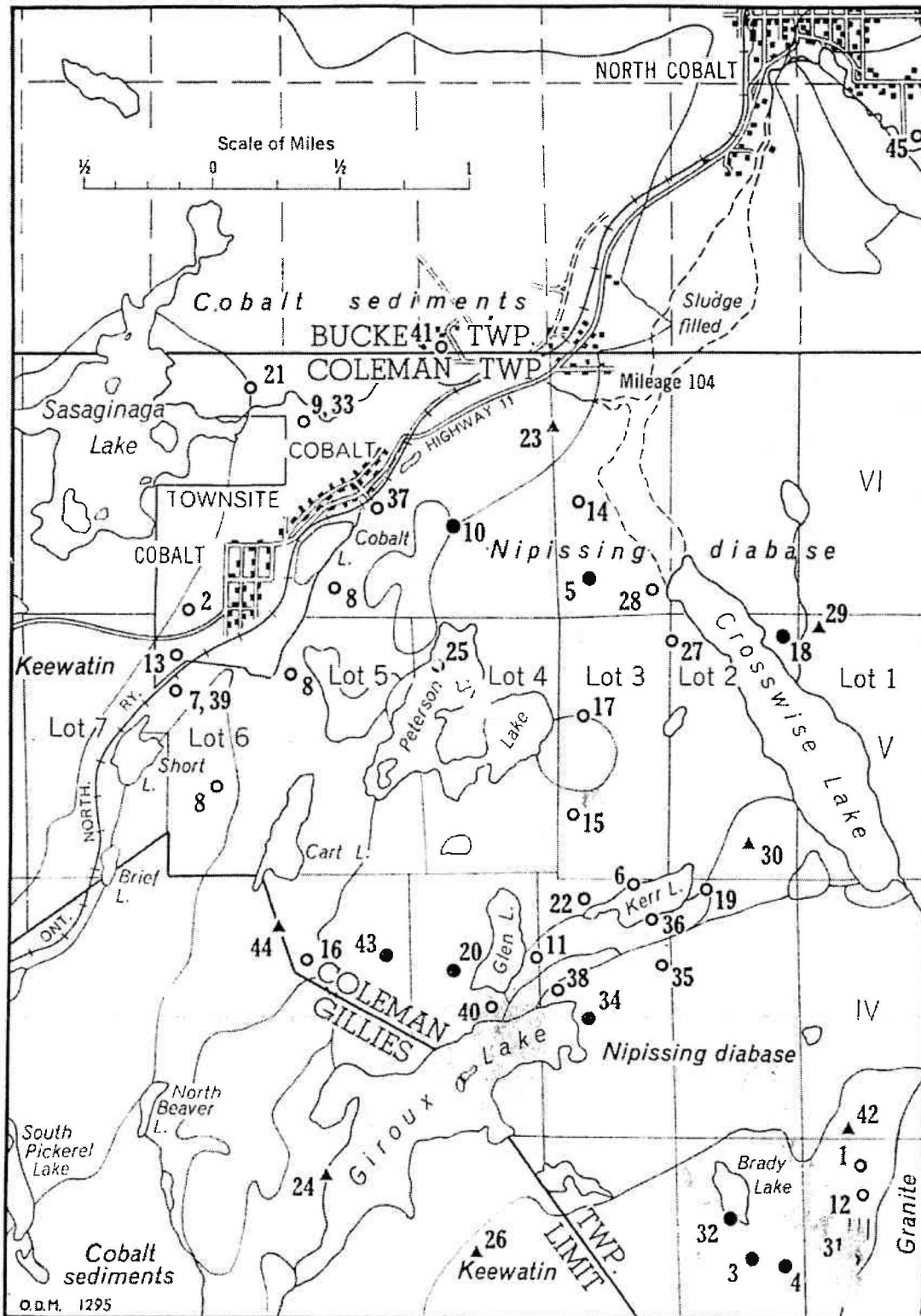
Oh dear, oh dear, the “Duchess” cried
And she trembled like a “Leaf”
“Fer-lands” sake “Mann” what you will do
You must feel “Mechan” with drief.

The Colonial doffed his “Beaver”
As he stepped on the verandah
The “Silver Bird” was killed said he
In a fight with my “Gowganda”.

Then "Violet" with her "Badger"
Close at her "Silver Heels"
Inquired about the "Jack Pot"
That was rousing at these squeals.

You look so very “Savage”
Step to the “Silver Bar”
“Big Pete” will serve you whiskey
Till you don’t know where you are.

MINES OF THE COBALT CAMP



Producer ●
 Past Producer ○
 Mineral Occurrence ▲

NOT SHOWN ON MAP
 ● Langis Silver
 Mines in Silver Centre Area
 ● Keeley-Frontier Mines
 ▲ Larum Mines
 ○ Miller-Lorrain Mines
 ○ Kirkland Townsite Mines

NAME AND STATUS
 Agnico Mines Ltd.
 1 ○ Beaver Mine (leased to Pator-son Silver)
 2 ○ Buffalo Mine
 3 ● Christopher Mine
 4 ● Cobalt Lode Mine
 5 ○ Colonial Mine

- 6 ○ Crown Reserve Mine
- 7 ○ McKinlay-Darragh Mine
- 8 ○ Nipissing Mine
- 9 ○ Nipissing Mine
- 10 ● O'Brien Mine
- 11 ○ Penn Cobalt Mine (Penn Canadian, Foster)
- 12 ○ Temiskaming Mine
- 13 ○ Townsite Mine
- 14 ○ Violet Mine (under development)
- Cobalt Mines & Refiners Ltd.
- 15 ○ Juno Metals Mine (Reliance)
- 16 ○ Monsilvo and Savage Mines
- 17 ○ Nova Scotia Mine
- 18 ● Deer Horn Mines Ltd. (Cross Lake O'Brien)
- 19 ○ Drummond Mine
- 20 ● Glen Lake Silver Mines Ltd. (Bailey)
- Hudson Bay Mines Ltd.
- 21 ○ Coleman township property
- 22 ○ Lakelof Silver Mining Co. Ltd. (Silver Leaf)
- 23 ▲ Mentor Exploration, etc. (Sycoe)
- 24 ▲ Nu-Silco Mines Ltd. (under development)
- 25 ○ Peterson Lake Silver Cobalt Mining Co.
- 26 ▲ Professor Silver Mines Ltd. (under development)
- Rix-Athabaska Uranium Mines
- 27 ○ King Edward Mine
- 28 ○ Silver Leaf Mine
- 29 ▲ Rockzone Mines Ltd. (Smith Cobalt)
- 30 ▲ Silver Cross Mine
- 31 ○ Patricia Silver (Silver Dollar Mines Ltd.) (Cochrane) (under development)
- Silver Miller Mines Ltd.
- 32 ● Brady Lake Mine (leased to Agnico)
- 33 ○ Chambers-Ferland Mine
- 34 ● Conisil Mine
- 35 ○ Hargrave Mine (under development)
- 36 ○ Kerr Lake Mine (leased by L. Cadesky)
- 37 ○ Lawson Mine (leased by L. Cadesky)
- 38 ○ LaRose Mine
- 39 ○ Princess Mine
- 40 ○ University Mine (leased by Glen Lake)
- 41 ○ United Cobalt Mines Ltd. (Genesee)
- 42 ▲ Silver Regent Mines Ltd. (Fisher-Eplett) (under development)
- 43 ● Silver Summit Mines Ltd. (Savage Mine) (in production 1963)
- 44 ▲ Silverfields Mine (Alexandra)
- 45 ○ Silvermaqua Mines Ltd. (Harrison Hibbert, Ruby, Red Rock, Green Mechan Mines) (under development)

Ads and Memories

Below is a reply to our page of advertisements in Newsletter Volume 19, No. 1.

By Terry Cassidy - It is good to see a whole page of ads with no websites or email addresses, but with phone numbers like 10 and 112. And you don't even have to remember those the operator knew them all.

I don't remember Harold McLean at Bass Lake. The O'Shaughnessys had the concession when I camped there, in a big heavy canvas wall tent with birch ridge poles. Terry O'Shaughnessy and I were the same weight, and we boxed in the Lions (or was it the Kiwanis?) bouts.

Lemon's Grocery was very familiar. I walked there in my sleep once from Ruby Street, sometime around 1941, and then after the war, when we lived on Nickel Street, I was probably sent there for some items several times a week. Every family had a sales book, and the purchases would be recorded in writing, along with a helpful summary of the current balance.

Don Russell was a family friend. Once, my sister Pat and I were downtown I was about six and Pat four when we met Mr. Russell and he bought us chocolate bars. One whole one each! Never before had we had such a huge chunk of chocolate in our hands. We were both very sick later. I remember this incident as happening right outside the Boston Grill. Was this the height of sophisticated dining in Cobalt? After the war, I remember the fascination of sitting in a booth and looking at the endless receding images of myself in the mirrors on both sides of the restaurant.

Across the street was Larry Stadelman's store, where we bought our annual supply of school texts. Larry kept a large garage across from our house on Nickel Street, where he housed a magnificent green 1928 Packard, hoisted on blocks from October to May. Down the street was Shaw's drugstore, where some of us would crouch, out of sight of Mr. Shaw, and hopefully out of mind, while we devoured the latest comic books for free. It was an encouragement to speed-reading that has stood me in good stead.

One advertisement was notably absent. While Mr. Rowdon's Hardware store was useful in a mundane way, Tommy Black's store was more of an adventure in esoteric stock and a curious philosophy of customer relations. And the efficacy of advertising.

Cobalt may have had its limitations as a shopper's paradise, but I doubt if today's mallrats had the same fun as kids in Cobalt.

ENJOY YOURSELF It's Later Than You Think A. GIACHINO International Traveling Ticket Agency - Cobalt Joy "See This World Before the Next" Cor. Silver St. & Prospect Ave., Cobalt	WE MEET AT THE FRASER HOTEL Phone 119 Cobalt, Ontario McISAAC TRANSPORTATION Phone 230, Cobalt Phases 100 and 351, Malleybury	SINGER SEWING MACHINE CO. NEW AND USED MACHINES AT ANY TIME Rentals Phone 235 - 34 Long St., Cobalt
THOMPSON'S FOOD MARKET Phone 252 COBALT, ONTARIO	SMELL SERVICE GENERAL TIRE O. M. L. SERVICE NORTHERN NASH MOTORS Phone 112 Cobalt, Ontario	LEMON'S GROCERY Choice GROCERIES AND MEATS Phone 15 - Nickel & Prospect, Cobalt
PEERLESS BAKERY TASTY BREAD and DOUGHNUTS Phone 3 Cobalt, Ont.	BASS LAKE TOURIST CAMP HAROLD McLEAN, Lessee TOURIST INFORMATION Write, Phone or Wire for Cabins BOATING BATHING FISHING SOFTBALL CANOEING FISHING TRIPS ARRANGED - DAILY BUS SERVICE Light Lunches Served from Booth	P. J. HASSETT GROCERIES AND MEATS Phone 30 Cobalt
BEATRICE BEAUTY PARLOR EXPERIENCED HAIR DRESSER FINGER WAVING Machine and Appliances Phone 182 - Long St. - Cobalt	THE L. STADELMAN CO. Bathbills, Bars, Glasses, Souvenirs, Postcards Underwood Portable Typewriters - Books on the North Phone 125 Cobalt	D. J. RUSSELL MINING MACHINERY & SUPPLIES Phone 250 Cobalt
H. A. BOLAN QUALITY MEATS AND GROCERIES Phone 123 Cobalt, Ont.	COBALT TAXI SERVICE Phone 230 THE SQUARE COBALT	TRI-TOWN ELECTRIC HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES AND HARDWARE Phone 61 Cobalt
TODD INSURANCE AGENCY Frank M. Todd, Agent ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE Cobalt - Phone 54 - Ontario	BOSTON GRILL ICE CREAM - CONFECTIONERY - LUNCHES Cobalt Ontario	J. N. DROUST MEATS AND GROCERIES 199 Long St. - Cobalt
ST. LAURENT CONFECTIONERY Phone 278 - 99 Long St. - Cobalt	COBALT AERATED WATER Manufacturers COBALT PEPSI SODA Authorized Bottlers of COCA-COLA Phone 106 Cobalt, Ontario	F. C. SHAW DRUGGIST Phone 59 Cobalt
COBALT CARTAGE LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE HAULING O.H.R. Regular Delivery Phone 104 Cobalt	GAMBLE-ROBINSON LTD. FRUITS AND GROCERIES WHOLESALE Phone 100 - 101 Cobalt	A. DAMIANI MEATS AND GROCERIES We Deliver Phone 136 Cobalt
W. PETERSON GROCERIES FRESH VEGETABLES Phone 10 Cobalt	ERIC E. SMITH VIOLIN LESSONS PIANO TUNING 50 Nickel Street - Cobalt	C. E. CAIN & SON FURNITURE AND STOVES Phone 78 - 38 Long St. Cobalt
H. W. ROWDON HARDWARE Phone 49 - Box 590 Long Street - Cobalt	SAM BUCOVETSKY LIMITED The Working Man's Store OUTFITTERS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY Phone 310 - Long St. - Cobalt	
W. C. INCH, K.C. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR NOTARY PUBLIC, ETC. Marine Gelson Block Phone: 35 Cobalt - 386, Malleybury		