

INCO Triangle



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Port's Bill Kantymir gets up so early he confuses up from down: See Pages 6&7.



Tunnel Vision

Workers toil inside one of the huge pipes that will soon become part of the massive \$500 million Sulphur Dioxide Abatement Project at Inco's Sudbury operations. An even larger piece of equipment arrived recently when the new MK Melter arrived on a specially-equipped truck. For pictures, story see Pages 8 and 9.

Soviets visit neutrino site

It wasn't so long ago that a visit to Inco's deepest mine by Russian scientists may have raised suspicions about secret Soviet plans to infiltrate the West by tunnel.

With the thawing of the Cold War, however, infiltration has turned to co-operation. The five Soviet scientists who visited Creighton Mine recently offered razor's edge scientific information that would have once considered a state secret.

"In scientific research, one head is good, but two are much better," said Dr. George Zatsepin of the Soviet Academy of Sciences as he slipped off coveralls covered with Creighton's underground dust. "This kind of research is universal. It's mankind who gains in this. When we help each other, everybody benefits."

Dr. Zatsepin and fellow Soviet scientists and physicists from the Academy of Sciences, Institute for Nuclear Research and the Soviet Union's Baksan Neutrino Observatory were on a visit to the site of Creighton Mine's underground Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO). The enthusiasm about what they saw more than a mile underground could be seen on their faces.

"Wonderful, wonderful," said Dr. Zatsepin. "I think that Inco has done a very, very good job in giving this possibility to science, enabling science to study the most exotic particles. What they are helping to bring about is a better understanding of the development of the universe. It is work of great importance."

He said the Soviet Union has a similar neutrino observatory, a research facility three years in operation that could provide valuable information for SNO researchers. Experience gained in measurement techniques would be particularly valuable for the SNO project, he said.

"Research results will be traded freely," he said. "Co-operation is very important."

He considered the Soviet Union's Baksan observatory as the first generation of observatory, while the Creighton facility is a step beyond. He said the Soviet facility is designed conduct different types of neutrino research than SNO, but each will complement the other and each can learn from the other.

"The Sudbury observatory is second generation research. When

we decided to build the observatory in the Soviet Union, we did not have the deep shafts available to us as you have here so we had to go underneath a mountain."

Locating neutrino detecting facilities under shielding is imperative to filter out stray background radiation. Neutrinos, having little or no mass (still to be determined), penetrate the shielding.

Dr. Zatsepin said that while there has always been East/West co-operation in some of the basic research, the normalization of relations over the past few years will mean even more co-operation that will help expedite results.

"A better relationship between East and West can't help but give a boost to this kind of research."

Physicist Victor Matveev agrees. The director of the Institute for Nuclear Research at the Academy of Sciences said the trading of information and co-operation is much better than before.

He praised Inco, saying that the company can be proud of its support of the scientific community. "It's an excellent example of the support of science by industry."

The prospect for scientific re-

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Inco's leadership wins national award

Inco Limited's environmental efforts are reaping recognition from all corners of the country.

In a ceremony at Montreal's Botanical Gardens this month, Inco received the 1991 Environmental Achievement Award for Corporate Environmental Leadership.

Presented by the Honorable Jean J. Charest, federal Minister of the Environment, the award acknowledges Inco's outstanding contribution to the conservation, protection and improvement of our environment — specifically through the Sulphur Dioxide Abatement Project.

Environment Canada hails the project as "the largest environmental clean-up in Canadian corporate history, committing \$494 million over five years to reduce sulphur dioxide emission levels."

"In addition," read the release, "the company has developed an Environmental Impact Policy affirming its commitment to sustainable development."

"It has proceeded with the greening of reclaimed tailings in Sudbury, and it has continued en-

vironmental auditing of its operations worldwide."

In accepting the award on behalf of the company, Vice-Chairman Walter Curlook told the gathering the honor pleased him in more ways than one.

"I'm pleased to be here as a Canadian corporate citizen to receive this award on behalf of Inco. But I'm also pleased to be here as a private Canadian citizen," he said.

"If we are to achieve our objectives of making substantial improvements to our environments, both workplace and external environments, and if we are to establish the groundwork for assured sustainable development, then both private and corporate citizens across Canada must work cooperatively and determinedly towards these goals."

"At Inco, lowering emissions to improve both workplace and external environments is a relentless pursuit. Our private and corporate consciousness will not permit us to rest, or even to relax."

"I give you my personal assur-

Continued on Page 2



Safe Art

Flood scooptram driver-turned cartoonist Skip Laverne likes to think that 10 years of drawing safety cartoons has helped his workmates earn the enviable safety record that the Flood-Stobie-Garson Complex has enjoyed over the past few years. For more pictures and story on Skip, see Page 15.

4&5 Landmarks disappear
10 Pensioner Days
13 Port's club grows



Creighton geologist Emile Mailloux explains model of mine to visiting Soviets, Dr. George Zatsepin and Professor Victor Matveev.

Cold War thaw spurs sharing of research

Continued from Page 1

search today is better than ever before, he said. "The only limitation today is interest . . . and funding." He said he and the other visi-

tors have been impressed by the friendliness, hospitality and warmth of Inco people and Canadians in general. "There's a real desire to co-operate here," he said.

Other Soviet visitors included Dr. Vladimir Gavrin, Mrs. Tanja Gavrin and Dr. Pshukov, all of the Baksan observatory.



Soviet scientists, visiting officials and their Inco hosts pose at the Creighton SNO plaque. Standing at the right is Project Coordinator Bob Coulter, and seated, front right is Project Coordinator Ken Langille of General Engineering.

Environmental leadership earns recognition

Continued from Page 1

ance as well as that of my company. Inco, that we will continue our efforts to not only protect the environment, but also to enhance it whenever we can."

Ontario Division President Bill Clement is equally proud of the national recognition afforded Inco, particularly since much of it centres on work being done here in Sudbury.

"Each and every employee in the Ontario Division can take pride in their contributions to the company winning this award," said Clement.

"Inco has proven that environ-

mental concerns can be reflected in economic decisions and the Ontario Division has embraced that approach wholeheartedly. We've known for some time now we were on the right track with our environ-

mental efforts. It's nice to know that others feel the same way."

Environment Canada, celebrating its 20th anniversary, honored six individuals and organizations for their contributions.

What are you doing during the shutdown?



Tazim Kassam, design and drafting, Engineering: "I'm going to England to visit my sister and in-laws for two months. I'll take it in conjunction with the shutdown. The last time I saw them was five years ago."



Dave Warendt, industrial mechanical apprentice, Frood Mine: "I'll be going to the Ottawa Valley to camp for a week. I only have two weeks, so the second week I plan to do some fishing north of Sudbury. It's the kind of holiday I like, to take it easy and relax."



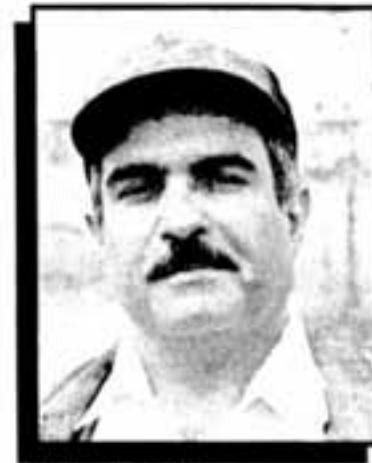
Dermott Kinsella, electrician, Frood Mine: "The plans are to do some boating. I'm thinking of buying a boat and if I get that, I'll stay home. If not, maybe I'll take a trip down east to visit relatives. I'm only taking two weeks this summer."



Fred Coleman, heavy duty garage mechanic, Little Stobie: "I won't be going away this summer. I've got a lot to do around the house. Maybe we'll do some overnight trips. I'm going on pension in a few months, so I'm in no rush for my holidays."



Mike Giguere, industrial mechanic, Little Stobie: "I'll be working through the shutdown and taking off three weeks in August. I've worked the shutdown for three of the last four years. The weather seems to be better for travelling in August."



Nashaat Taha, garage mechanic, North Mine: "There's a lot of work to do around the house so what are you going to do? I'll be home and fixing up the inside of the house, wallpapering, redo the kitchen. I've let it go for 10 years, and this is the year to get at it."



Robert McJannet, miner services leader, North Mine: "I've got a trailer on Manitoulin Island and I plan to spend all my holidays relaxing there. Sometimes I travel, but I love it up there. I alternate. One year we travel, next year we stay home."



Brian Cayen, sampler, Copper Refinery: "I'm not much in the planning department. I'll probably do some fishing with friends and my sons. I usually do some travelling but I'll be sticking around this year. I'm looking forward to taking it easy."



Marcel Gaudette, utility worker, Copper Refinery: "I don't like to travel much. It takes me an hour to go to work and an hour to get back home to Warren, so by the time I get to my vacation, I'm sick of travelling. I'll do some fishing and gardening."



Don McDougall, motorman, South Mine: "I was going to the east coast this year, but I changed my mind. I'll do some short distance travelling in Ontario, day trips, weekend trips. Next year I want to take a trip to Alaska so I'll just relax this year."

Welders earn advanced certification

Copper Refinery welding a high pressure job

Welders at the Copper Refinery work at a high pressure job, and they've got the papers to prove it.

In fact they volunteered for it. "About a year-and-a-half ago in November the Copper Refinery agreed to take part in two pilot projects. The first would qualify them to do repairs on high pressure systems under the authority of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. The second would register their plant with the Canadian Welding Bureau," said Central Utilities general foreman, Al Higgins.

At least once a week, for almost two years, groups of Copper Refinery and Central Utilities personnel have been taking part in education programs, training sessions, writing down procedures and preparing quality assurance manuals.

Engineers, supervisors, and welders had to study and test for the certification that covered just about all aspects of welding.

"There's lots of high pressure work to be done around here. Previously, we had to call in the Ministry to inspect and test every high pressure repair or installation. That's a very time-consuming procedure."

With the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations repair authorization, the refinery is allowed to do its own preparations, repairs and testing on pressure systems, with only a yearly audit from the Ministry.

The registry with the Canadian Welding Bureau also proves that refinery welders, supervisors and engineers involved in the welding projects are some of the best around.

"The system we have in place now ensures that we get high quality work done, thoroughly planned, executed to the last detail," said Al.

Welding supervisor Bill Ingram said the refinery's welding jobs have taken on a new dimension. "It's a lot more involved now, with careful procedures strictly adhered to in planning, execution and testing. For the guys doing the work, there is a lot more detail to look after."

Good results

"Already," said Bill, "the results are obvious. There's less rework. ... fewer things have to be repeated. I have a feeling this kind of thing will eventually be done at all Inco plants and mines."

Refinery welders have enhanced their skills as part of the



Experts in their field are from left, Dale Gutjahr, Michael Guyan, John Kirkland, Don Hache, Bill Ingram, Gerry Stevens, Ed Schillemore and Mike Fogerty.

program and will find their work more intricate.

There is also increased pressure on supervisors to keep close tabs on welding projects.

There's more guidance now and welders are given the fine details of

every job to be undertaken. Maintenance welding supervisor John Kirkland said the established repair and inspecting plan procedure involves everybody from the plant engineer to the man with the torch.

"It's an involved process, but it

ensures the best work," said John.

Refinery quality control inspector Mike Fogerty said the pilot project was part of Inco's overall quality improvement thrust. "I think this proves the great confidence we put in our people."

Creighton miner wins hockey award

As he consents to an interview, John (Jack) Jamieson makes one demand. After receiving a prestigious award bestowed only on a handful of Northern Ontarians, John insists that several colleagues — whose names otherwise would not have surfaced — get some recognition as well.

"I want to make sure those guys are included in this," says John of many friends and acquaintances who have helped him with various endeavors in minor hockey circles over the years.

John, a mine foreman at Creighton No. 3 shaft, is the 1991 recipient of the Ken Neeb Memorial Award.

The award was established in 1975, in memory of a convener of the Northern Ontario Hockey Association from Noranda, Que. It is awarded annually to an NOHA volunteer for "outstanding contribution to minor hockey in Northern Ontario."

This year the award was bestowed on John in recognition of his 17 years of dedicated service to minor hockey in the town of Walden and throughout Northern Ontario.

But when asked about the award, one of John's first reactions is to share the recognition with his fellow volunteers, administrators and coaches.

"One guy gets an award like this, but you can't do these things by yourself," he says. It's a typical response from John and one that would surprise few who know him.

On the night John was honored by the NOHA, close friend Fred Buchy noted how John "doesn't want to be pointed out or placed on a pedestal and that's what is so

special about him."

Buchy is one of the many fellow volunteers who John praised after receiving his award. Others include Dennis Tucker, also an Inco foreman, Jimmy Arber and Ronny Rheault.

"Every time there's something to do, these guys and myself always get together to pull it off," says John, who also received a minor hockey award in 1988 from the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.

"There are so many other people who deserve some credit but they're too numerous to mention," he adds.

It likely would be just as difficult to document the extent of John's contributions to minor hockey over the years, which began when his son, John Jr. took up the sport.

John coached his son's tyke team that year and he later coached in every other age group, up to the midget level. He also served for three years as president of the Walden Minor Hockey Association and for the last two years has been the NOHA convener for the Walden area, administering hockey programs in the community.

From the moment he started coaching, John says, he fully intended to make a long-term commitment.

"I knew what I was getting into. We have a good community and you have to put something back into the community."

While he has invested considerable time and effort in minor hockey, John says it hasn't been like work at all.

"When you enjoy something, it's not really a job," he says. "I enjoy the kids, to see them go from

tyke right up to midget, progressing through the ranks — that's what it's all about."

Over the years, John has seen his share of talented youngsters emerge from Walden's minor hockey system.

He once coached Troy Crowder, now with the National Hockey League's New Jersey Devils, and he followed the progress of Craig Duncanson, a former member of the Los Angeles Kings now playing in the American Hockey League.

"There have been a lot of others who have gone on to play junior A hockey, university — they're all over the place," he says.

But regardless of their skill level, John says the players he has coached and seen grow up "have all been pretty good kids."

One shining example, he says, is the success of teen dances he conceived a few years ago to raise funds for minor hockey.

"Everybody was pretty edgy about the idea when we started, but it's been going now for about five years and we've never had an incident. That says something about these kids."

Along with the dances, John has had a hand in numerous successful fundraisers and tournaments.

The most memorable, he says, was an exhibition series in 1989 between local bantam teams and a touring Finnish club.

When the Finnish team played in Walden, "we filled the arena that afternoon," John says. "And we beat them, too."

But the rewards for the players and organizers went beyond the on-ice competition, he adds.

"Some of the kids will never get to play international hockey again or experience something like this, so they'll remember that for a long time."

As he looks ahead to a little relaxation this summer, John also is set to begin an 18th year on the minor hockey scene.

"I'll be back in September," he says. One possibility is a job as an NOHA council director, responsible for an area stretching from Espanola to Valley East.

If that opportunity falls through, "I've got a grandson (Daniel) coming up in a year or so, so I might start coaching again."



John Jamieson displays awards he has won in recent years.

Mill closing marks end of era

Frood-Stobie Mill shift over . . . forever

For many, May 23 marked the end of an era at Inco.

That was the day the Frood-Stobie Mill closed its doors for the last time. The Frood-Stobie Mill operations are now consolidated at Clarabelle Mill, part of the Sulphur Dioxide Abatement Program.

Ironically, on a day when modern technology was pushing to the fore, workplace conversation centred on nearly a quarter century of memories.

"I'm kind of sorry to see it close," said Reg Worthing. "I was hoping to take my pension here to tell you the truth. I only have six more years to go."

Reg, a loader/operator with 24 years service, has been at Frood-Stobie Mill longer than anyone. He helped build the place while working with the contracting firm Fraser Brace and hired on with Inco when the job was completed.

"I was laid off on a Friday and hired on at the mill by Monday," he said. "Over the years I've worked with a lot of good men and a lot of good bosses."

"It's going to seem strange for a lot of us not coming to work here anymore. I'll bet half the guys here have spent their entire careers at Inco right here at this mill. But change is inevitable. You build another place that's more modern and it's going to take over."

Process Foreman Doug Olivier, a 24-year veteran, said Frood-Stobie Mill led a charmed life for years.

"Ever since Clarabelle Mill started up in late 1969 they've been talking about closing this place down, so we've lasted quite a while," he said. "I came here in 1967 when the place opened and

since then I've seen mills close down at Levack and Creighton. I guess this will be the last mill to go because the company doesn't have any more."

"I'll miss coming here — I live in Val Caron and it was nice and close to home. I've had 24 good years here and I've enjoyed my co-workers."

Rick Bailey might be considered a short-timer at the Frood-Stobie Mill compared to fellas like Doug and Reg, but he's an old hand at closing down a plant.

"I came here in 1979 after they closed down the Levack Mill," said Rick, superintendent at Frood-Stobie since late last year. "I've been through this before."

"I really appreciate the way people here accepted the plant going down. We cut back on a lot of equipment here (in order to facilitate the change in milling operations) but still maintained our production. I'm proud of our performance and I'm proud of the people here."

"We process 18,000 tons of ore a day here but that SAG (semi-autogenous grinding) mill at Clarabelle can process 20,000 or more tons a day. Closing this plant is like anything else in today's competitive world. You'd be out of business if you didn't keep up with technology."

Stan Bidochka adopts a similar philosophy.

He feels progress can't be stopped and there's no reason anyone should want it to be.

A maintenance mechanic first-class with 34 years service, Stan was on hand to start up Frood-Stobie Mill and now he's around to shut it down. "In 1967 I was one of



Superintendent Rick Bailey and maintenance general foreman Lloyd Landstrom: Sign of pride.

the first guys here," he said. "I left for a while in '69 but returned here in 1975."

"I'm not sad to see it close, that's just the way it goes. I worked with a nice gang of people here, both hourly and supervision. I have

Inco in 1959 and was a member of the very first maintenance crew at Frood-Stobie Mill in 1967. Today, he's maintenance general foreman and admits it's hard saying goodbye to the plant he's known so well for so long.

"The people at this mill made it what it is. We worked as a team. When the chips were down the people dug in and got the job done."

no complaints and no regrets. But I'm close to pension age now and I'd like to spend a month or two around that new SAG mill before I decide to retire. That's the latest in milling technology."

Lloyd Landstrom started with

"I've seen an awful lot of good, capable people come through this mill and go on to very important jobs," he said. "I've always considered this place a training ground for those individuals. They were all good people and all good friends."

"I have a lot of mixed emotions over this place closing. I suppose I relate it to a similar thing that happened when I was younger. I was raised in the Peace River area of British Columbia and I had to pull up my roots when I was 10 or 11 years old. That was a personal thing but a somewhat similar situation."

"The people at this mill made it what it is. We worked as a team. When the chips were down the people dug in and got the job done. Our safety record was good as well (the mill earned a Five Star safety rating three years ago)."

"It's been just a great place to work and there'll probably be a delayed reaction to this place closing. The real test will be when we walk out and turn off the lights."



Process foreman Doug Olivier in the Mill control room.



Loader/operator Reg Worthing stands by mill.



Maintenance mechanic Stan Bidochka: Progress unstoppable.

New Smelter acid plant takes over

Roaster building, acid plant cease operations

Ray Mayer wore a black armband to work last month to mourn the passing of a friend.

But the memories acquired in a 38-year kinship will keep him smiling for many years to come.

May 30 was the final day of operation for the Copper Cliff Nickel Refinery's Roaster Building and Acid Plant. The closure makes way for the new Acid Plant at the Smelter which was constructed as part of Inco's \$500 million Sulphur Dioxide Abatement Project.

"It's sad to see this place go down," said Ray, supervisor of

Inco bought the acid operation from CIL in 1981 and the Iron Ore Plant name was dropped soon afterwards when Inco stopped making iron ore pellets. Both operations were absorbed by the Nickel Refinery as part of the Sulphur Products Department.

Over the years, the operation has roasted almost 24 million tons of pyrrhotite and produced more than 14 million tons of sulphuric acid.

"When we started we had two roasters and we expanded to six roasters in 1962," said Ray. "Since 1982, we've been down to a three-roaster operation because we were down to only one acid plant — there were three at one time. The downsizing came because the acid market was not there and it was getting very costly to operate three plants."

Ray's intimate knowledge of the operation is entirely firsthand.

Starting with Inco in 1953, his first two years on the job were spent working on pilot plants to open the new Iron Ore Plant. When it opened he never looked back.

"I was here to open it up and I'm here to close the books, at least as far as roasting is concerned," said Ray. "It's been a very good relationship but better technology has taken over."

"We've done all the preliminary work here as far as Inco running an Acid Plant. Now they've got a lot of experienced people to run the new plant at the Smelter."

Instrument technician Jack Cullen has worked at the Acid Plant since 1963, first with Canadian Industries Limited and then with Inco when ownership of the plant changed hands.

That marked the start of his sec-



Wearing an armband, Ray Mayer overlooks the roaster building (left) and acid plant

ond stretch with Inco. He worked for the company from 1949 to 1955.

Despite his long association with the Acid Plant, Jack has no mixed

Maintenance foreman John Buchowski knows progress is inevitable but it doesn't change his sense of loss.

known here."

Those "nice people" are the wellspring for a wealth of memories and Ray's black armband seemed to tap it for those around him.

"The memories that really stick



Jack Cullen

Operations and Maintenance. "I've been involved with this operation my entire career at Inco and it's been a good place to work. The black armband was intended to get the attention of the guys. Everybody knew we were going to shut down and everybody knew the date we were going to shut down — but something like this doesn't hit home until that day actually comes."

"The morning I wore that armband people stopped, looked and realized what was going on without having to ask. I just wanted them to know that this is the end of an era."

The era Ray refers to has been a colorful one indeed. The Roaster Building was built in 1955 under the name of the Iron Ore Plant. The first Acid Plant, owned by Canadian Industries Limited, was built three years later.



Ray Mayer presses the stop button in a symbolic gesture.

emotions about its closure.

"It's progress," he said. "That's a part of life and that's just the way it is. You can't stop it."

A 44-year veteran and the oldest staff employee at Inco at 61, John has spent most of his career working in the Roaster Building.

"It's sad," he said. "I hate to see it go down. I think the Iron Ore Plant was one of the best places I ever worked. It's a close-knit group here of unit and staff employees — sort of like a family."

"When you're working with a good bunch of people it's something that stays with you. You never forget that."

Roaster operator Webb Hilborn has spent all of his 36 years at Inco in the Roaster Building and he, too, is sorry to see it close.

"I only have two more years to go before retirement," he said. "I figured two more years here would be nice."

"Now, I've got to go out and meet new people and I don't know if they'll be as nice as the ones I've



Webb Hilborn

out in my mind are of the good years — the expansion years," said Ray.

"This Iron Ore operation was something that was going to be very much a part of all of our futures and those of the next generation. But technology and the economy wouldn't allow us to continue. The iron ore market fell through."



The roaster building crew lines up in the control room for a last look before operations cease.



Maintenance Foreman John Buchowski: Sad to see it go.



Superintendent of Safety and Administration Del Fraipont and Percy Rogers of Plant Security run up the colors for the event.



Clubhouse stewardess Fran Hobbs prepares for guests.



Minus his pipe but sporting instead the latest fashion in cooking wear, Bill Kantymir doles out the burgers to visitors.

Event enhances already high morale

First Port Colborne Family Day:

Gold, and lots of it, is what Megan Bagu wanted to see.

"I've always wanted to see where dad worked but I was always too young before," said the eager eight-year-old daughter of Port Colborne Precious Metals Refinery operator Mark Bagu. "What

I really want to see is gold. This much gold," she added, drawing a circle with both arms.

It was the first "Family Day" at the Port Colborne Refinery and Superintendent of Operations Bill Kantymir found himself out of practice at organizing such events.

"Didn't ask for enough volunteers to help out," puffed Bill as he hauled another table across the road from the Inco clubhouse to the grassed area in front of the main gate where the barbecues were being set up.

Bill and others such as Accounting Services Supervisor George DeRuyte, electricians Larry Virag and Superintendent of Safety and Administration Del Fraipont were at the plant almost at the crack

of dawn, hours before the army of eager, inquisitive and hungry employees and their families showed up.

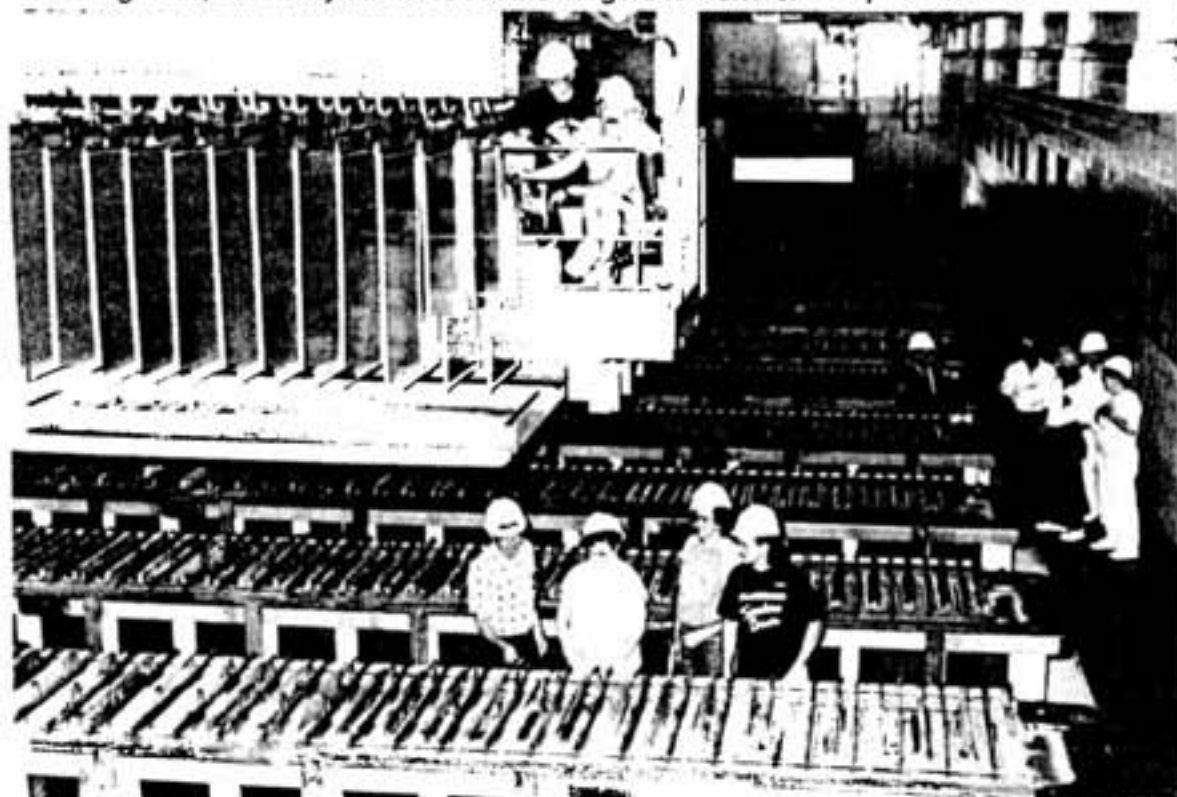
Bill said the task of organizing the Family Day was to have gone to Port Colborne's supervisor of Public Affairs Elaine Arnold, but Elaine was off the job recuperating from an operation. The legwork fell to others.

"Not that management isn't used to doing the legwork and rolling up our sleeves around here," said Bill as he sucked another drag from the pipe that's become his trademark. "In fact, there's nothing unusual about it. It's almost expected."

By the time the first visitors showed up, chairs and tables were



Megan Bagu demonstrates the amount of gold she expects to see.



Maurice Beauregard takes son Maurice Jr. on the overhead crane.



Industrial tradesman Emile Holmes and wife Judy look on as son Aaron signs in for a tour of the refinery.



Pensioner Cal Peyton and electrician Larry Virag handle the seating arrangement.



Ready with the goodies. Note Bill Kantymir at bottom of photo armed with a can of pop, cook's hat and a spatula.

Let's (puff, puff) do it again!

set up under a tent canopy. Other tables and chairs were placed esthetically on the club lawn and in the shade of trees. Bill, dressed in apron and chef's hat, was stoking the charcoal in the barbecues.

Family members, particularly the youngsters, were especially enthusiastic about seeing the inside of buildings they'd only heard about before.

Aaron Holmes, son of industrial tradesman Emile Holmes, was typical.

"I've never been inside here before," said Aaron, 8. "I always hear about where dad works and what he does. I ask all the time. But it's better to see it for myself."

Although it was the first Family Day event, the refinery has held open houses periodically. But even those have been allowed to lapse over the past few years.

"I can't remember the last time we had an open house here," said

Bill. "I know it was over five years ago, so many of the younger kids haven't had a chance to see where mom or dad works. There's been a tremendous amount of changes around here in the past few years, so even family members who have seen the place before would find new things to see."

The refinery usually tries to accommodate the small percentage of employees who request to have family or friends tour their workplace through the year, but the Family Day set aside for plant-wide tours was well-received by employees and their families. No formal tours were set up and employees and their families were given the freedom to see what interested them.

"We've had all kinds of positive comments. I think it went very well," said Bill. "I didn't hear one negative comment. Believe me, the people here don't hesitate to

give you their comments. There's no doubt that our people take pride in where they work and what they do for a living."

While Port Colborne may be a smaller, more isolated entity than Inco's Sudbury operations, Bill sees that as being an advantage.

"We all know each other on a nickname or first name basis here," he said. "We have a mature workforce and most of us have known each other for many years. It makes for a friendly place to work. We have very good morale here and I think that's reflected in the work our people do. There's no question that people who like what they do, where they work and who they work with are more productive employees. The relationship we have here with our employees and the relationships employees here have with each other took many years to develop, and now it's bearing fruit."



Cobalt Hydrate operator Filippo Capobianco conducts an outside tour with John, Mimi and Filomena Capobianco.



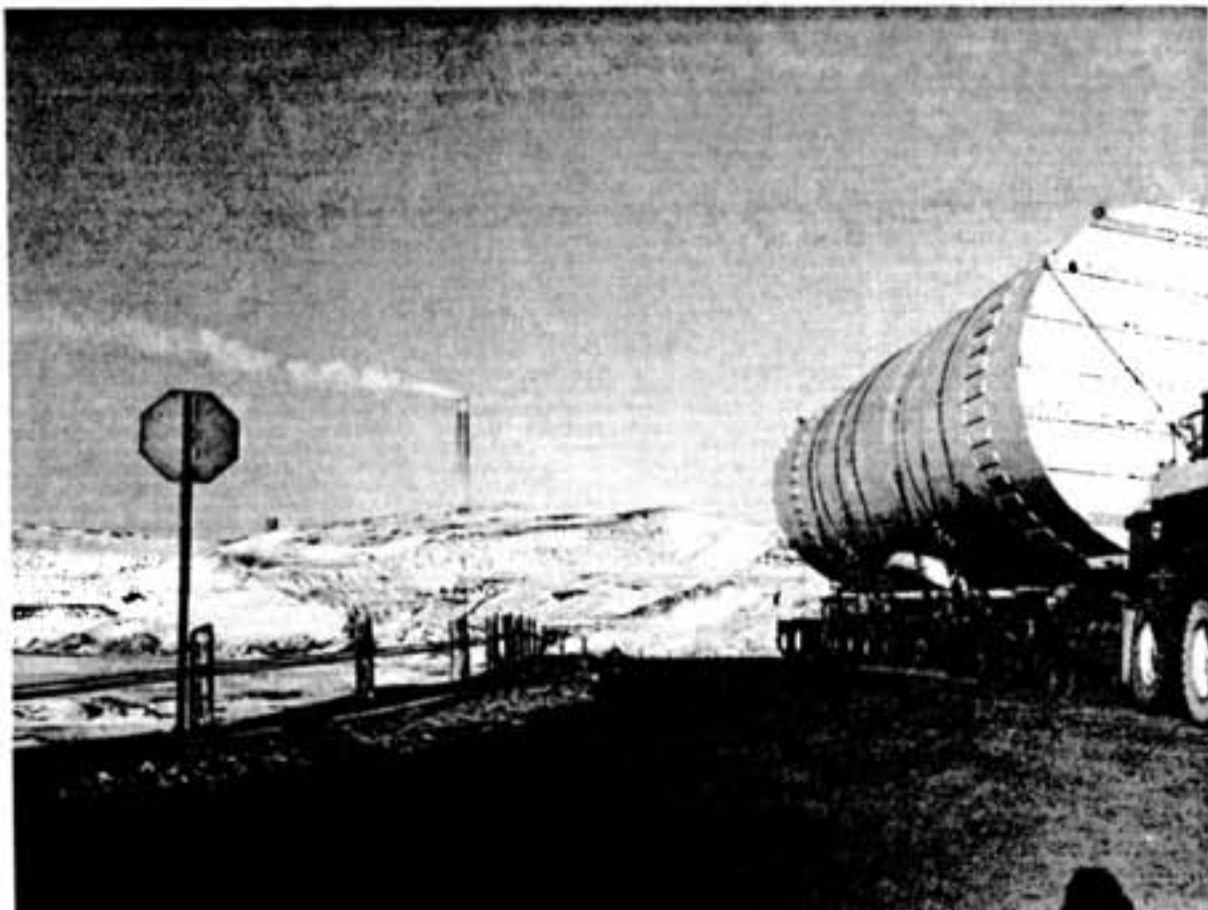
Cobalt operator Bernard Gervais shows sons Eric (left) and Daniel the controls of the purification circuit panel.



Cobalt operator Nick Seredine demonstrates the packing machine to Jennifer, Manual and Cynthia Borg.



A workman is dwarfed by the huge melter shell.



The melter shell arrived at Inco on a specially-equipped truck. Eighty steerable wheels were on the truck. The 160-ton shell maneuvered into place

How to install a Smelter

With the \$500 million Sulphur Dioxide Abatement Project construction underway, some people are hesitant about putting their foot in the Smelter door.

When a new piece of equipment arrived earlier this spring, it took workmen eight hours to bring it through the Smelter door.

The inches per hour had nothing to do with hesitancy, according to Sulphur Dioxide Abatement Project Services superintendent Victor Englesakis. The new equipment was a 160-ton MK Melter shell, and its almost 16 foot diameter left only precious inches between the shell and the Smelter door frame.

So delicate, exacting and innovative was the moving and installation of the huge melter that project construction manager J.P. McLeavy of Wright Engineers Ltd. sent a letter to Inco project manager Peter Garritsen complimenting Inco and other people on the job.

"Please be advised that the

movement of this unit from Toronto to Sudbury by rail, the transfer at the Fisher Pit Siding from rail to road transporter and the movement from the Fisher Pit Siding onto Inco property involved many people," he wrote.

"As you can well appreciate the

ule.

The contractor was Process Mechanical Installations Ltd., of Ayre, Ontario.

The huge melter will melt copper sulphide and will take the place of two smaller converters. A major part of Inco's copper circuit.

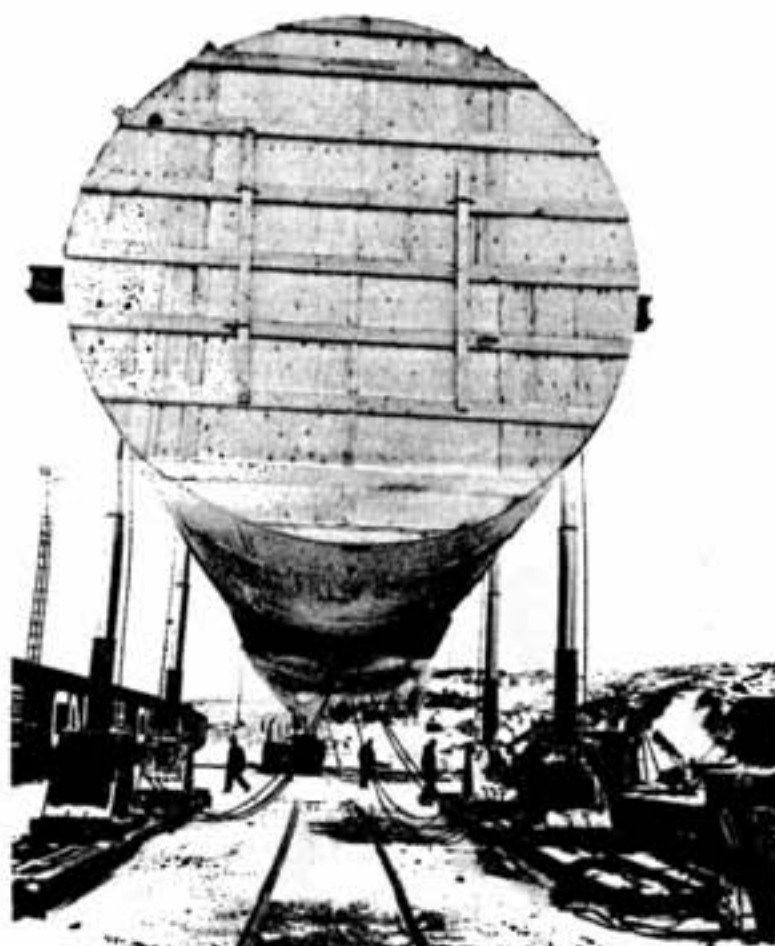
"The effort of all concerned to achieve this milestone under operating conditions is an example of total co-operation, communication and planning by all parties to achieve a common goal."

installation of this equipment under ideal conditions is difficult at best. The effort of all concerned to achieve this milestone under operating conditions is an example of total co-operation, communication and planning by all parties to achieve a common goal."

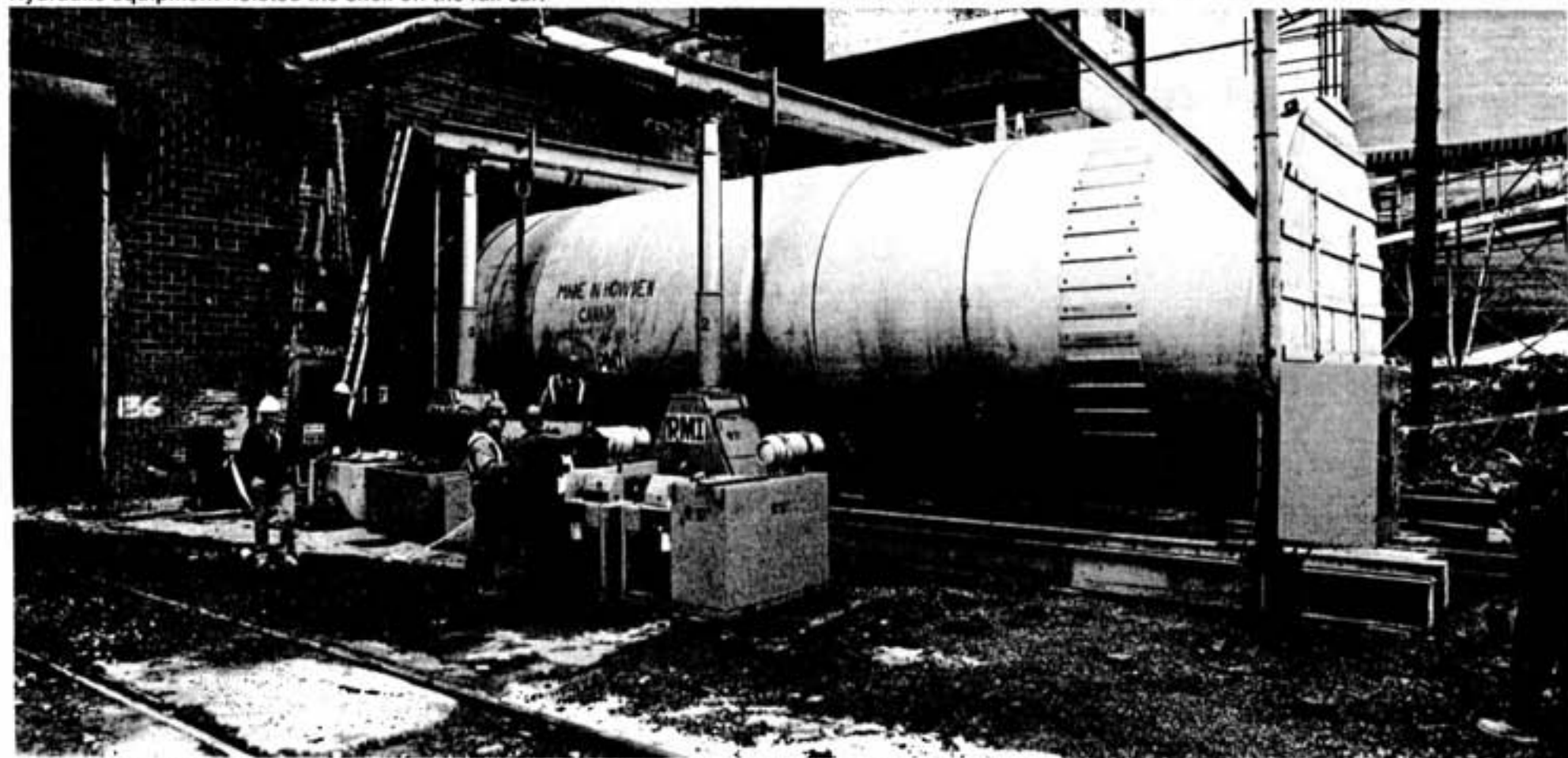
He concluded by saying that continuing efforts as exemplified by this job will enhance Inco's ability to complete successfully the SO₂ Abatement Project on sched-

the vessel will receive all of the copper Inco produces at Sudbury. To be lined with brick, the huge drum-like vessel rotates on rider rings. When the molten copper is ready to be poured out, the entire melter rotates on the rings and the copper is poured out into a ladle through a single opening in the wall of the cylinder.

Not only was the move into the Smelter building a complicated manoeuvre, but all aspects of the



Hydraulic equipment hoisted the shell off the rail car.



Above, the shell is inched through the Smelter door. At right, a view from the inside of the building of the same operation.



to maneuver the huge shell.



A tight fit through the Smelter door.

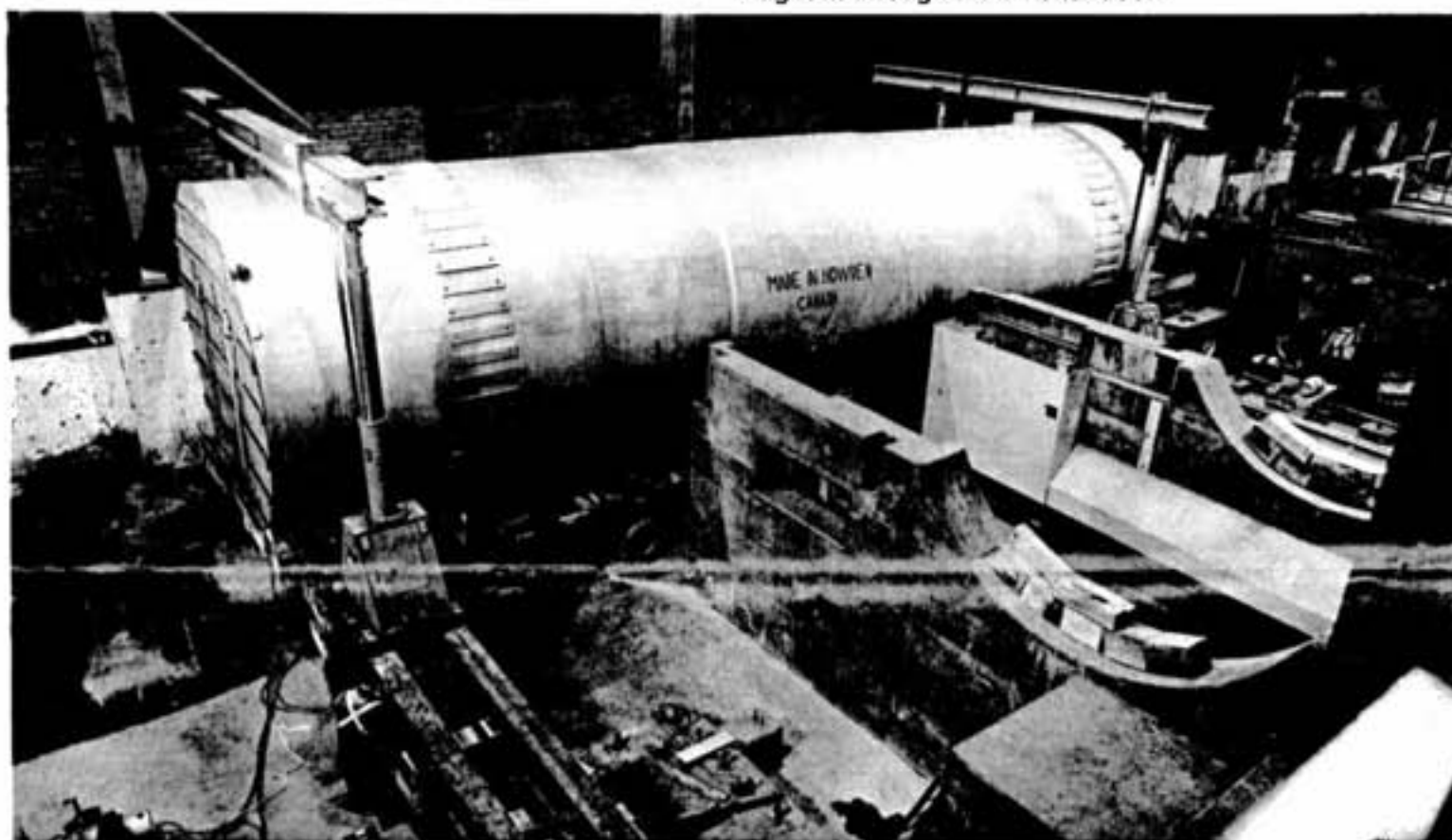
r melter

project required full attention. Victor said a train consisting of one engine, a single specially-equipped railway car and a caboose was used to bring the melter from Toronto to Sudbury. Once here, hydraulic equipment had to be set up to lift the unit off the railway car and onto a specially-equipped truck which was used to bring the melter shell to the Inco site.

"The truck had 80 wheels," said Victor. "All of them steerable."

Once through the Smelter door, the huge melter had to be lifted with hydraulic gear onto the previously built concrete foundations.

"It was quite an accomplishment," said Victor. "The last operation got underway midnight Friday and the melter was in place by Saturday night."



Hydraulic equipment moved the melter shell onto previously installed concrete cradles on the Smelter floor.





Hundreds of pensioners lined up for the buffet lunch over the five-day event.



Retired Div Shops chief maintenance planner Peter Semler gets his name tag from Carolyn McChesney and Sandy Roberts.

'Good old days' renewed at pensioner event



Retired electrical foreman Malcolm Finlayson and retired maintenance mechanic Ray Murray compete at cards.

Packed to the rafters is the only way to describe the Caruso Club earlier this month as hundreds of Inco pensioners turned out to be reunited with old friends and acquaintances.

It was the week-long annual Pensioner Days event hosted by Inco and attracting pensioners from all over Ontario. Some from as far away as the Maritimes made the annual pilgrimage to the Club to spend time with people who helped make the company the success it is today.

"I like to come back to see how things are going, to keep in touch with people I haven't seen since last year," said John Casagrande who was involved in an animated discussion with long-time friend George Venedan.

"We talk about the old days, how it used to be. It's interesting to see how much things have changed," said John. A track maintenance worker with Transportation, the 76-year-old retired in 1978. He gets back to visit his old worksite occasionally and even recognizes one or two people he used to work with, but he finds the changes star-

ting. "The punch cards are gone," he said.

George Venedan, 66, retired in 1970 after 22 years with Inco. A conductor with Transportation, he remembers when 22,000 people worked at Inco. "With that many people, it's hard to keep in touch with everybody you know."

He said things were different back when he was still working. The work was much harder. "The way we worked back then, young people today wouldn't last long," he said to the nodding approval of John. "They probably wouldn't

even start. They'd go home."

But both agree that although working conditions were difficult "back then," there was always high spirits, good morale and a sense of family among Inco people.

"Transportation was a much larger group back then, but it was a close-knit group," said John. "It made the job interesting."

But even though things are a lot easier today both admit they're not envious of their replacements.

"I'm enjoying my retirement," said George. "I'd rather not go back to work."



Retired plate shop worker Arrigo Molino, 71, bowls the Bocce ball while retired Stobie miner Mike Campanale, 68, looks on.



Old friends John Casagrande and George Venedan catch up on the latest happenings.

Family Days a resounding success

Garson, Little Stobie keep it in family . . . separately

More than 700 employees, family and friends stormed the gates at Garson and Little Stobie mines recently for the first Family Days held here as far back as anyone can remember.

"Ivon (Garson-Little Stobie superintendent Ivon Chaumont) initially wanted to hold one event for both locations," said safety foreman Arnold Sten, "but people were so enthusiastic about it that he switched to holding two individual events."

He said that many employees wanted to show their family and friends where they worked and that would be easier if each area held its own separate Family Day.

"It was held on a volunteer basis and we had no trouble getting people to help out," said Arnold.

"It came from the heart and that's probably why it was such a success."

Both locations pulled out all the stops to show visitors what a modern mine is all about. Underground tours were held at both locations, down to 360 feet at Garson and down to the 2,000-foot level at Little Stobie. Of special interest at Little Stobie was the new 70-ton fully-automated vehicle being commissioned at the mine.

There were demonstrations of remote mucking with the scooptram, surface crushing demonstrations and a bus tour of the old pit at Garson Mine that is in the final stages of reclamation.

"We wanted our people to see what is being done to reclaim areas previously mined by Inco," said

Arnold. "We want them to know that we are not simply walking away from big gaping holes in the ground."

Included in the exhibit were pictures of the pit when it was in operation. "That way," said Arnold, "people could see how much has been done to reclaim the land."

Most shops were open and

mining equipment was on display, including an old drill last used in the 1940s.

Of particular interest to visitors was Ivon Chaumont's office, where electronic equipment and monitors allowed them to see what was happening underground at Little Stobie. Mine engineering offices were open to visitors as well, fea-

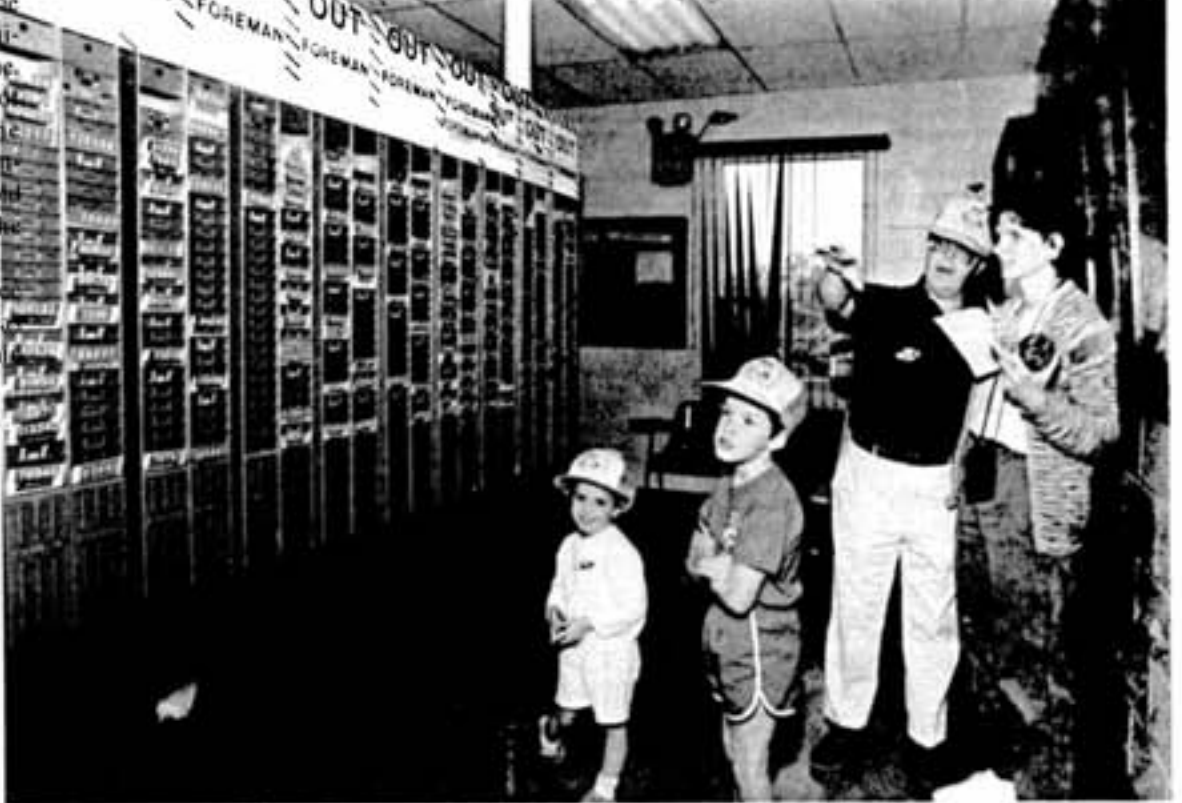
turing state-of-the-art electronic equipment used in modern engineering.

The usual refreshments, donuts and coffee, and soft drinks were available to all.

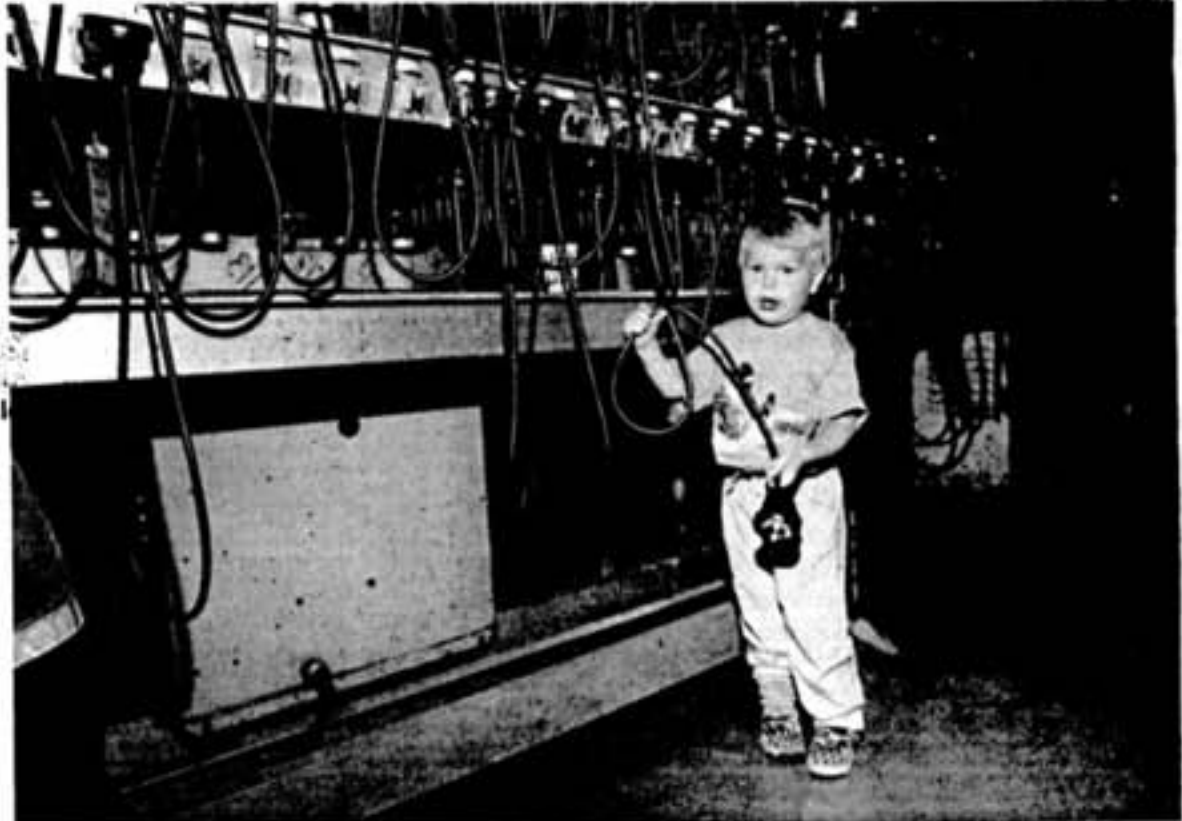
"Judging from all the reaction we've had, everybody had a good time. I imagine we'll be doing this again," said Arnold.



Michael Asunmaa, grandson of Garson in-the-hole driller Floyd Laking, sees if he measures up.



Surveyor Bob O'Reilly, wife Roberta and children Neal and Erin check out the check-in board during a Little Stobie Mine tour.



Justin Beaulieu, son of Little Stobie longhole driller Rick Beaulieu, lights up.



Brittany Asunmaa, granddaughter of Garson driller Floyd Laking enjoys the goodies. Doing the feeding is dad Allan Asunmaa.



Garson construction leader Roger Menard's family takes a rest on a grader. They are with Marjorie, daughter Debbie, and grandchildren Jason and Robbie.

Management/labor environmental committee formed

Inco Vice-Chairman Walter Curlook and Steelworkers' Ontario Director Leo Gerard will co-chair an Environmental Awareness Committee created with the sign-

ing of a new collective agreement. Also to take seats on the new committee will be three Ontario Division senior management representatives including a vice-

president. The Division appointments have yet to be announced.

On the committee as well are the presidents of the Steelworkers' Locals 6500 (Sudbury) and 6200

(Port Colborne).

The cooperative agreement marks the first time in Canadian industrial labor relations that concern about the environment has led

to the establishment of a senior level union-management committee.

"This is an obvious and important arena for cooperation between the company and the union," said Dr. Curlook. "It gives us an opportunity to work on problems together and shows the communities in which we operate that maintaining and improving the quality of life requires a team effort."

Mr. Gerard said the committee is another big step toward expanding the union's traditional focus on health and safety to include the environment. "Now that it is enshrined in the collective agreement," he added, "there is a binding commitment to ensure that the environment remains a joint priority."

Included in the environmental committee's duties will be to examine environmental laws and regulations that apply to Inco's Ontario Division and to review and assess environmental matters that relate to the division's operations.

The committee will also study and make recommendations with respect to the application of the Internal Responsibility System to these environmental considerations. It will develop and make recommendations to the company relating to employee training to increase awareness of responsibility for workplace environmental matters and the impact of operations on the external environment.

Also on the agenda is a study followed by recommendations for enlarging the focus of the existing safety, health and environment committees so that these environmental issues become part of their jurisdiction.

New meaning for lean, mean at Thompson

Inco takes pride in its accomplishments as a lean and mean competitor in the international nickel business, but the leanest and meanest of them all is a 40-year-old Thompson mill mechanic who has managed to wean himself off peanut butter.

Last winter, Derek Stone was fed up with his 226 pound, 40-inch waist, rotund frame. He quit eating his favorite peanut butter, candy bars and potato chips and began exercising, running to and from work every day.

Today, he's down to a svelte 160 pounds and feeling wonderful about it.

In a recent edition of the Manitoba Division's newsletter "Extra," there's a picture of Derek holding out the waist of an old pair of pants he's wearing with enough room left over to park a scooptram.

Derek admits he's lucky to have the kind of metabolism that allows him to lose weight quickly. He lost four or five pounds a week with no ill effects.

He's determined to keep the weight off. "I worked hard to take it off," he said. "Not everyone wakes up at 5:30 in the morning just to run to work."

Now that's mean and lean... and determined.



In your yard...

Blue - Eyed Mary

By Ellen L. Heale, P.Ag.

Five different categories exist in Ontario to describe the status of flora or fauna. Rare species are native or indigenous and represented by small, stable populations, or occur sporadically or are found in very restricted areas. Rare species must be monitored periodically. In Ontario, this category includes 15 plant species. These are the broad beech fern, Hill's pondweed, few-flowered club-rush, green dragon, prairie white fringed orchid, Shumard oak, dwarf hackberry, prairie rose, hop tree, swamp rose mallow, western silver-leaf aster, Indian plantain, dense blazing star, false rue-anemone and the wild hyacinth.

A second category, threatened species have experienced a definite decline throughout a major portion of their range. If the factors that are responsible for the decline of threatened species continues, the plants may become endangered. The bird's foot violet is one of 12 threatened species in the province. The American chestnut is another. Great stands of these trees were lost at the turn of the century due to a severe fungus disease. The fungus continues to kill young trees. There are 49 known sites in Ontario containing at least one tree 10 cm in diameter. Sites continue to be threatened by clearing of woodlots. A member of the bean (legume) family, the Kentucky coffee tree is a large tree with large leaves made up of feather-like leaflets. It is a native of the very southern part of the Province. Clearing of land for agricultural use has led to its destruction. However, the Kentucky coffee tree is extensively planted as a landscape ornamental. Blue dye can be extracted from the inner bark of the blue ash, a fourth threatened plant. Less than 20 populations of this species exist.

A beautiful orchid exists only at Point Pelee National Park and Rondeau Provincial Park. The nodding pogonia or three bird orchid has three delicate pink flowers that resemble birds. Unfortunately the flower blooms for only a few hours. The nodding pogonia is threatened by grazing livestock and whitetailed deer. The purple twayblade is another native orchid. Five to 30 violet-mauve flowers are borne on a single stem. Twelve sites exist, with less than 3 to 34 plants at each site (total of 120 plants). Purple twayblades have been lost due to development and land clearing.

An aquatic herb called the American water-willow is another threatened plant species. It has been recorded at 10 locations in Ontario and is vulnerable to land development. The American water-willow is often the first plant to colonize gravel bars and is important in bank stabilization. Colicroot was used in pioneer days to make a bitter tonic as a remedy for colic. This perennial plant is a member of the lily family. Colicroot exists at only 17 sites and is threatened by agricultural and residential development and trail-bike traffic. American ginseng is another threatened perennial herb. Plants do not produce seed until they are five to eight years old, then 18 to 22 months are required for seed germination. Fifty-one stands exist throughout southern Ontario. However, the survival of American ginseng is at risk from collectors and commercial trade due to its reputation as a cure-all. Other threatening factors include the loss of woodlands to agricultural and urban expansion, grazing and susceptibility to disease.

A lovely perennial wildflower, with a spike of deep purple flowers is closely related to many tropical and subtropical species. The only Canadian population of blueheart exists within a 12 km stretch of the Lake Huron shoreline. The next closest population is 800 km away, at the southern tip of Lake Michigan. A final threatened species is the Pitcher's thistle. It is found along the shores of the upper Great Lakes and Manitoulin Island. A single stem grows one metre in height with creamy-yellow flowers. Thistle leaves are spine tipped. The greatest threat to the Pitcher's thistle is lakeshore recreational development and all-terrain vehicles.

Small and Large Whorled Pogonias

There are 18 plants and animals officially listed as endangered in Ontario. Endangered species are threatened with immediate extinction throughout a significant portion of their range. Six plants are protected under the Endangered Species Act. The Endangered Species Act (Revised 1980) is administered under the control and direction of the

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The regulations apply to any species of fauna and flora that is threatened with extinction due to destruction of a habitat, over exploitation, disease, predators, the use of chemicals or any other factors considered relevant. No person shall wilfully kill, injure, interfere with or take any species of flora or destroy or interfere with their habitat. Anyone guilty of an offence, on conviction is liable to a fine (of not more than \$3,000) or to imprisonment (not more than 6 months), or both. The exact location of the two remaining colonies of the small white lady's slipper, an endangered orchid in Ontario, is a closely guarded secret. It takes 12 years or more to grow from seed to a flowering plant. Other rare species are often found in the same spot as the small white lady's slipper, or close by.

The small whorled pogonia is included in the list of endangered plants along with four species that were added recently. The heart-leaved plantain is a perennial aquatic herb. Historically it was used by Indians as a medicine and a tea. In Ontario 300 plants are at a single location on the Ipperwash Military Reserve. This is the last known colony in Canada and the northernmost one in North America. All the leaves of an orchid called the large whorled pogonia are arranged in a single circle (whorl) near the top of the stem. This endangered species is only found at three locations in Ontario; nine non-flowering plants at two sites and 34 plants at another site in Oxford County. The large whorled pogonia is threatened by habitat destruction, collection, trampling and plant damage.

The cucumبتree, a magnolia, grows at the northern limit of its range in the extreme southern part of the Province. Nine stands of naturally-occurring cucumber trees are currently protected from indiscriminate cutting and land clearing. However, seven of these sites contain only one or a few nonreproducing trees. With proper management and the cooperation of the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Carolinian Canada Landowner Stewardship Program, the future of the cucumber tree should be more secure.

The only native species of cactus found in southwestern Ontario is the prickly pear cactus. The fruit of this endangered species are large, succulent and pear-shaped. Two natural populations are found on Pelee Island and Point Pelee National Park. The prickly pear cactus is threatened by collection, trampling, competing vegetation and shoreline erosion. However, it is commercially available as an outdoor plant in the southwestern part of the province.

The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada has designated a further six species as endangered (this is under review by the Ministry of Natural Resources). Gattinger's and Skinner's purple false foxgloves are annual wildflowers. These plants are parasitic on the roots of other plants. Twenty one of the 22 sites where they are located are on the Walpole Island Indian Reserve. Another endangered annual wildflower is the pink milkwort. Two small colonies are also located on the Reserve. The only Canadian colony of hoary mountain mint is found on a slope overlooking Burlington Bay. It is a relative of catnip, sage and common garden mint. The primary threat to the survival of hoary mountain mint is habitat destruction. Slender bush clover is a member of the bean family. It has two distinct types of flowers. Two colonies of slender bush clover were discovered near Windsor. However, one has since been lost due to trail-bike activities. The final endangered species is spotted wintergreen, a member of the heather blueberry family. One of three small colonies (five to 40 stems) is located in Wasaga Beach Provincial Park.

A species that exists elsewhere, but no longer exists in the wild in Ontario is termed extirpated. The only plant in this category is the blue-eyed Mary. This blue and white wildflower was last confirmed in Elgin County in 1954 but the woodland site has since been cleared. The possibility does exist for extirpated plant species to be restored to their former ranges.

Finally, extinct species were formerly indigenous or native to Ontario but no longer exist anywhere in their former range. Survival or extinction of any species is influenced by its genetic characteristics, the ability to make effective use of the available habitat and the structure of the population. In Ontario the passenger pigeon and the Eastern elk are extinct. No plant species have ceased to exist.



Port Colborne Refinery Manager Len Kowal and wife Chris welcome guests Roy Harrington and wife Em and new club member Dave Stremlaw and his wife Silvia. Roy is maintenance/engineering superintendent and Dave is utility nickel supervisor.

Port Quarter Century an intimate event

This year's Port Colborne Quarter Century Club members numbered under a dozen, but what they lacked in size they made up in heart.

"We're a smaller group here," said Accounting Services supervisor George DeRuyte. "We're a close-knit bunch and our events tend to be almost family affairs."

Unlike this year's Sudbury event that saw the club grow by over 500 new members, the Port

Colborne club grew by a modest 11 inductees.

The celebrations were held at the Port Colborne Club, and more than 30 people turned out to help make the event a success.

Milling, Smelting and Refining Vice-President Bob Browne was on hand from Sudbury to congratulate the new club members, and Supervisor of Operations Bill Kantymir acted as master of cer-

emonies by doing the introductions and providing a brief history of each new member's service with the company.

Reaching 25 years with the company this year were: William Bearss, William Bilodeau, Gaston Desjardins, Paul Dion, Italo Iannandrea, Leo Lange, Gerald Marleau, Jack Parker, David Stremlaw, Robert Surridge and Lawrence Virag.



Bill Kantymir (standing) enjoys a laugh with Electrocobalt supervisor Mark Pataran, Bonnie Jackson and Judy DeRuyte.



A dance followed the dinner and presentation of Quarter Century pins.



Precious Metals Refinery Operator Leo Lange pins his wife Joyce with a corsage.



Accounting Supervisor George DeRuyte and his wife Judy.



Port Colborne Refinery Manager Len Kowal presents gift to Joyce Lange. Also on the receiving line were Milling, Smelting and Refining Vice-President Bob Browne and Superintendent of operations Bill Kantymir.



Machinist Italo Iannandrea pins a corsage on his wife Linda.



HERITAGE T H R E A D S

A Few Eggs In Other Baskets

by Marty McAllister

In today's Copper Cliff, when you turn from Power Street onto Cobalt, pause a moment and look straight ahead. Just above and beyond the buildings at the street's right-hand turn, you'll see the meager remains of the old Ontario Smelting Works — built by the Orford Copper Company in 1900 to improve the grade of Canadian Copper's matte.

The Orford Company, you'll recall, had the refinery at Constable Hook, New Jersey. Colonel R.M. Thompson was that company's main man and became International Nickel's first Chairman, in 1902. But I digress.

When the "Smelting Works" plant burned in 1904, no one thought they would bother to rebuild it. The new smelter (about where the Orford building is today) was almost finished and it would be shipping high-grade matte to Constable Hook anyway. So, when the gutted plant was indeed rebuilt the following year and given a new name, folks had good reason to be curious.

Everyone who worked there knew what was really going on, of course, but outsiders were misled by the name — and that was just fine. Security was tight, and the fewer curiosity-seekers the better.

History repeats itself

It's strange how random events end up tying together.

In the spring of 1902, while the International Nickel Company was being formed with millions in private capital, a contrasting event took place in North Bay. Unable to attract private investment, the government of Ontario was the sponsor at the sod-turning for the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway — to run from North Bay to New Liskeard. Conventional wisdom had it that this colonization road would never pay its way. But, as Sudburians knew, railroad construction is full of surprises.

By August of 1903, the T&NO had progressed to within about 12 miles of New Liskeard with only one more lake in its way. During the railway's rugged detour around Long Lake, two lumbermen were out looking for timber to be cut into ties. What James McKinley and Ernest Darragh found instead was native silver, assaying as high as 4,000 ounces to the ton. Not long after, a railroad blacksmith named Fred La Rose made a similar discovery, only at the northern end of the lake. This caught the attention of Dr. Willet G. Miller, Ontario's first full-time provincial geologist.

As the excited professor prepared to return to Toronto with samples and stories, another railroad employee, Tom Hebert, took him in secret to see yet another discovery. "I was the second person to see that vein," Miller recalled. "It was a text-book vein, it was so perfect."

Dr. Miller did something else. Struck by the presence of another rare mineral in these rich ores, he put up a signpost where the T&NO station would be and lettered it: COBALT.

It was that third discovery that qualifies this story for inclusion in Heritage Threads. The Hebert claims were first sold to a local group, who in turn sold all 846 acres to Ellis P. Earle, an executive at Standard Oil in New York. It made sense that Earle should then find mining men as partners — and it made wonderful sense that the ones he found were also rich. So, in 1904, he set up the Nipissing Mining Company — "The Big Nip" — in partnership with three top men at International Nickel: board chairman Robert M. Thompson, president Ambrose Monell and second vice-president Joseph Raphael DeLamar.

Some, like the Canadian Mining Review, said the Nipissing board was controlled by the "hated nickel trust". Be that as it may, what would be one of the biggest silver producers in history was in capable hands. And they knew just how to acquire a refinery in a hurry.

"Shucks," Colonel Thompson might have said, "we have just the place, down at Copper Cliff. It needs a little fixing up but it can be ready by the time Nipissing is ready to ship ore."

Hi-ho Silver

And so it was that the old Ontario Smelting Works were rebuilt and put back in service in 1905 as the Cobalt Plant. (It was eventually given the official name "Silver Plant", but the first name stuck.) The name was a bit of a ruse in that it only referred to the source of the feed. The real business was to receive green ore from the Big Nip — and ship silver bullion to Balbach Smelting & Refining in Newark. The green speiss, kind of a compound of leftovers from the process, was shipped to — where else? — the Orford Copper Company at Camden, also in New Jersey. Roaster ashes were taken on the short run to the Copper Cliff Smelter.

The Camden plant had belonged to Joseph Wharton back in pre-International Nickel days, but then became part of the Orford Copper subsidiary. The bits and pieces that had been collected were starting to pay off.

The Cobalt plant handled about 30 tons per day. Not a big deal until you consider that each of those precious tons contained around 2,500 troy ounces of silver. Production at the old plant was discontinued in 1912, but not until it had earned a unique place in our history.

Epilog

The Inco executives who had invested their own money in Cobalt came to be known as "the Monell syndicate" — a rather more respectable name than "the hated nickel trust". The Nipissing Mine paid them handsome dividends, but silver was not their only venture beyond the nickel industry.

In 1910, even while the Cobalt Plant was still going strong, this high-stakes investment club hitched its wagon to a yet brighter star. It's a story worth telling — next time.

Have a safe, happy vacation! See you in August.

LETTERS

Inco helps science fair

On behalf of the Sudbury Board of Education's Elementary Science Fair Committee, I'd like to thank Inco and the staff members who took part in judging our 1991 Science Fair.

Nathalie Riendeau, Loris Molino, Ric Stratton-Crawley of Copper Cliff Smelter Technical Services; Lola Skelton of Copper Cliff Nickel Refinery Process Technology, Sharon Taylor of Copper Cliff Central Process Technology and Steve Gorecki of Copper Cliff Computer Services.

All were instrumental in ensuring a very successful Fair. All provided sound judging and helpful comments to our budding scientists. Such co-operation between industry and education can only enrich both.

Yours truly,

Lesley Flowers

Chairperson

S.B.E. Elementary Science Fair Committee

Hugh Ferguson earns praise

Once again you have published an excellent "Triangle" packed with interesting material for people outside the company as well as inside.

The Ontario Mining Association's Annual High School Teachers Tour will be coming to Sudbury on September 26-27, 1991. I have asked if we can visit Stobie Mine to see the training program and I hope the teachers will meet Hugh Ferguson who has been very important to the Ontario mining industry's modular training program.

Could I get 40 copies of the March Triangle to send to the teachers during the summer? I would like them to see Hugh's story, as well as several other articles in this edition. Thanks for considering this request.

Yours sincerely,

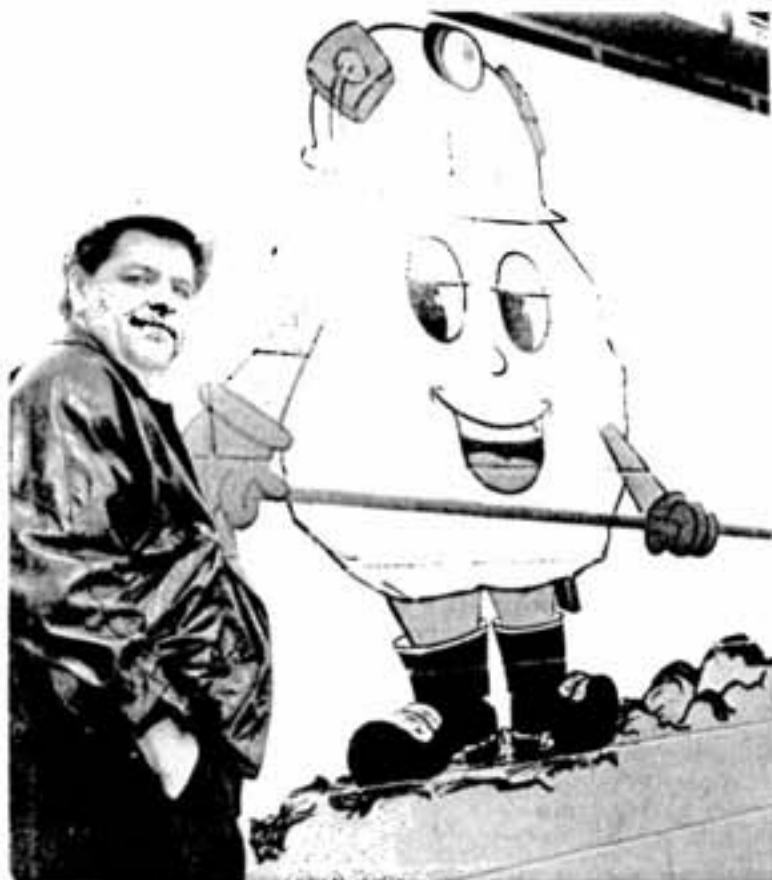
Bruce Campbell

Manager, Technical Services
Ontario Mining Association

12th Annual Bowl

It was keen competition when about 60 people turned out for the 12th annual Foot and Hanging Wall Mixed Bowling Tournament at Whitewater Lanes in Azilda. The event was won by the team consisting of Senior Geological Analyst Ken Randall and his wife Marguerite, Mars Napoli and James Koronovich of Field Exploration, Connie Chapman and Carol Mailloux. Carol is wife of Emile Mailloux of Mines Exploration. From left, below, geologist Dwayne Car demonstrates an unusual wind up while Valerie Jackson, wife of Coleman Mine geologist Roger Jackson, lines up a shot. Little Stobie geologist Bruce Prieur concentrates before releasing the shot and geologist Ed Pattison lets a shot go.





"Skip" Laverne with Rocky Ore: Helping to keep things safe.



For Skip, safety is a drawn out affair

Skip Laverne is one of those few people making a living at something he's loved all his life, yet sometimes it downright terrifies him.

"It's not like driving a scoop tram, you know," said the former Frood Mine scooptram operator. "You turn the key and it runs."

It's those mornings when Skip sits behind his desk and stares at the threatening blank sheet of white paper. Those mornings when nothing comes . . . and no place to put the key.

"I used to go home dog tired from working underground, but it was kind of a good feeling," said Skip. "On a bad day here you go home mentally tensed up, a different, less pleasant exhaustion."

Not that he's complaining. After all, for the past 10 years he's been doing something he's wanted to do all his life. It's just that the work looked so easy from underground. It looked like fun and games. How hard can it be to draw a cartoon?

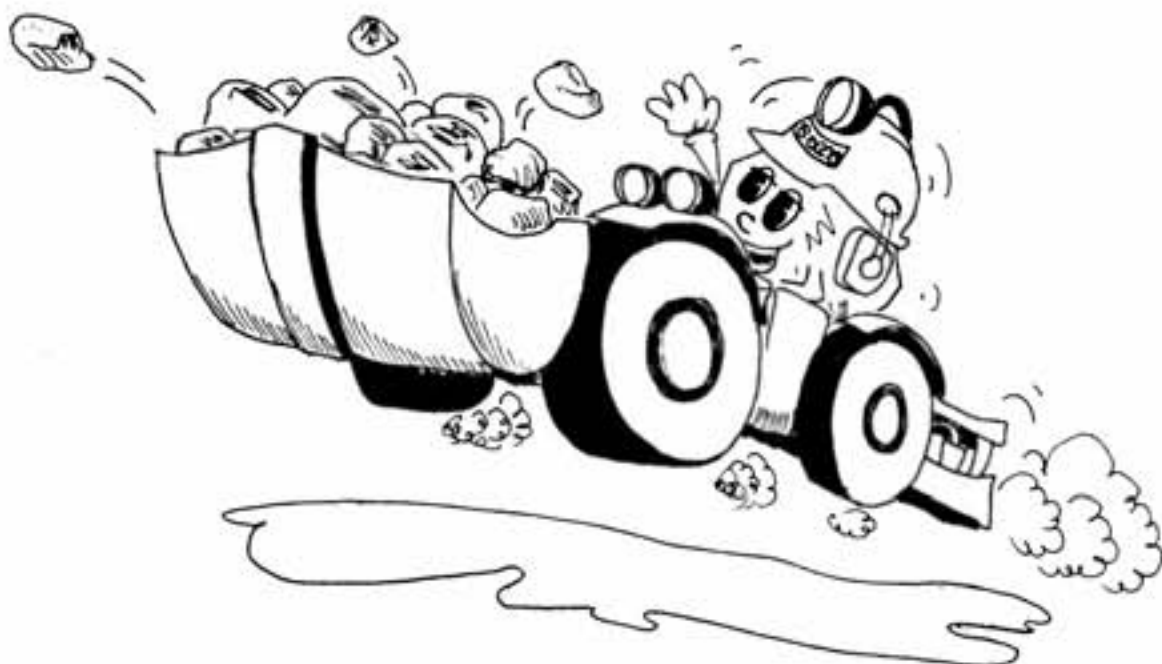
"I've never liked repetition,

doing the same thing twice," he said. "Sometimes I forget that I've done something before, so today I try to get my material back to keep a record."

Skip (a nickname he's had from childhood - he's never worked a skip in the mine or curled) has been doodling cartoons on paper since he was a kid. "I don't know where I got the talent from," he mused. "Dad was a carpenter."

"Since starting underground at Frood in 1970, I drew lots of cartoons of incidents that happened around here, usually something funny. At first I did it on my own, but later people used to come up to me and ask me to draw something. I was scooping steady graveyard for 10 years," he said, "so I really didn't have the time to do it on any kind of a regular basis."

Although he does signs and serious posters and drawings, it's the humor that he enjoys the most. He recalls one drawing he made after a miner at Frood broke his arm when he ran his car into a



snowbank.

"He claimed it was from a skiing accident so I drew a cartoon of his car going over a ski jump."

In 1981, Skip was asked to come to surface and do sign work and safety slogans. The Frood safety record at the time was dismal, he said, and the new job was an effort to turn it around. He's been cranking them out ever since.

"It's not like a general safety slogan or sign," he said. "You can tailor a cartoon to the specific situation you want to correct. When it comes to safety, the mine's gone from one of the worst to among the best in the division. I'd like to think that my cartoons have helped in bringing that about."

There's no end to work, he said. When he's not doing cartoons, he's making signs. He figures the work is about a 50-50 split between cartoons and sign-painting.

Recently, his work has begun circulating throughout the entire complex. Cartoons are sent for a month's display at Frood, Stobie, Garson and Little Stobie before he gets them back.

Cartoon character "Rocky Ore" is displayed prominently at the complex. He's the creation of Skip, and the character idea earned him a Suggestion Plan award. "He delivers safety messages," said Skip, "but I try not to oversell him. I

don't want to wear him out."

While most of his cartoons are light, he does some serious posters as well. "Some things you just can't kid around about. Safety is a serious business."

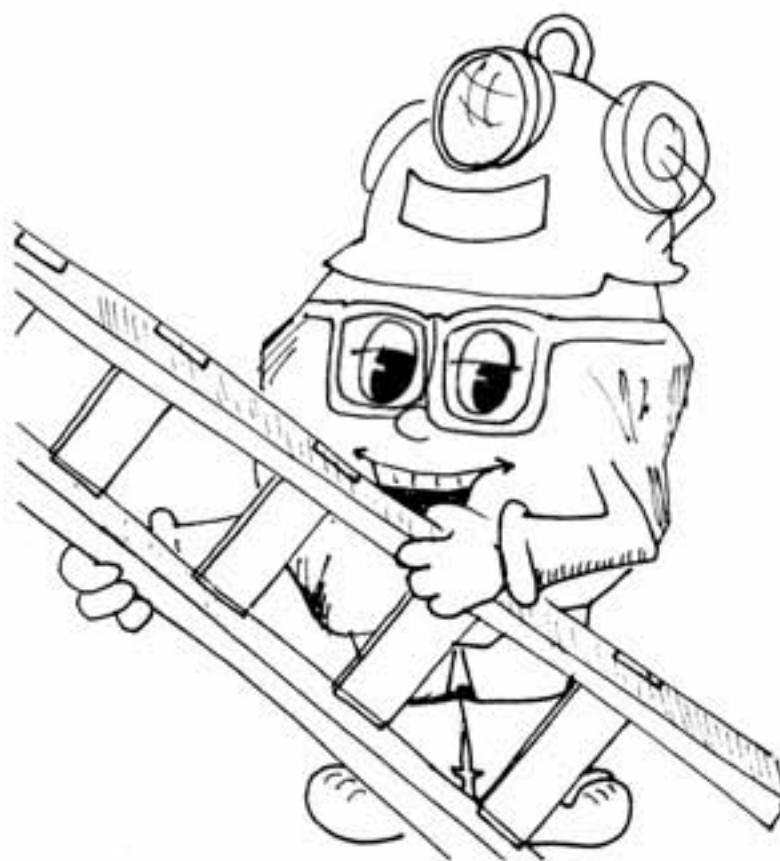
Skip admits he has no formal training in art and the thought of doing it for a living had never occurred to him. He said he learns as he goes. "You always learn some-

thing new. It's always different. I always try to change my style a little to avoid repetition. to keep it interesting."

Ironically, it's the captions with the cartoons that give him problems. "I can't spell worth a darn," he said with a grin. "People are quick to point out when something is spelled wrong. There sure are a lot of proof readers around."



Frood Mine foreman Bruce Fraser and "Skip" Laverne take a look at the newest posting in the Frood Warm Room.



Miner's March

You probably won't recognize him in his other uniform, but that's Copper Cliff South Mine shaft services leader Ray Hobden leading a group of sea cadets during a march past at the annual inspection of the Navy League of Canada's Sudbury corps. Ray, an instructor with the corps, is just one of many Inco people who volunteer their time and effort teaching the youngsters good citizenship, self-confidence and leadership. The annual inspection included a display of drill with arms, sailing, survival, navigation, semaphore, canoeing and ropework.



"P-s-s-s-t, ^{INCO}Triangle!!
Hear the one about the miner who . . ."

The ^{INCO}Triangle always interested in hearing from any employees or pensioners who have story tips or suggestions for future issues. It won't be possible for us to acknowledge all story ideas, but you will be contacted if we need more information.
Cut out the form below and send it to Public Affairs or give us a call at 682-5428, 682-5429.
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Driving Golf Balls

Train conductor Leo Boudreau takes a swing at the ball during Transportation's 14th annual Brass Bell Golf Tournament at Pine Grove Golf and Country Club. It was a record-setting event this year with almost 100 people turning out. The tournament was won by guest golfer John Thompson, brother of trackman Frank Thompson.

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Letters and comments are welcomed and should be addressed to the editor at Inco Limited, Public Affairs Department, Copper Cliff, Ontario POM 1NO. Phone 705-682-5428