

**The Story
of**

DISCOVERY

Northwest Territories

COMPILED BY MEMBERS OF THE DISCOVERY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



D I S C O V E R Y - Giauque Lake in background



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DISCOVERY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On the tenth of September, 1960, Mrs. Hough visited Discovery to interest the women in forming a Women's Institute. In this she was successful, for early in November, at one of our weekly sewing meetings, we decided to form a W.I. using one of the sewing evenings per month for a regular meeting and programme. The first general meeting was held in December with fifteen members present. Mrs. Gladys Vear became the first president, Mrs. Eve Stedman, vice-president, and Mrs. Helen Falloon, secretary-treasurer.

During Mrs. Hough's stay she was the guest of Miss Helen Magee (now Mrs. Falloon, our secretary-treasurer). On Sunday Miss Magee and some friends took Mrs. Hough fishing and with true northern hospitality allowed her to catch the only two fish caught that day - a pike and a trout.

Here, our activities are very limited, but we do our best to "start where you are with what you have." Due to our unusual set-up we are without many of the usual ways to do community social work. We have no elderly people to help or entertain, no community hall or school for which to buy equipment, no need to equip a playground and no native population to aid. However, in spite of this, we seem to have managed to help in a number of ways.

Soon after our organization was formed, we sponsored a drive to raise funds to help one of our members and her family in time of need. This drive was most successful and enabled her to have medical attention over a long period and meant that her husband could be with her to give much needed moral and physical support.

We have from time to time sent magazines to the Yellowknife Hospital in the hope that these would supplement the meagre supply of reading material there and so help fill some of the lonely hours for the patients.

Several times we collected good used clothing for the Children's Aid Society in Yellowknife. We spent many evenings getting this all mended before shipping. Crib sheets and baby quilts were also made and shipped at the same time. Now that the agency is no longer locally administered there is no further need for such assistance.

The programme for one regular meeting consisted of a sewing bee at which a quantity of babies' nighties were made. A touch of embroidery was added to each so they certainly didn't have a mass-produced institutional appearance. Our thanks to the manager of Discovery Mines, who arranged for the pick-up and return of sewing machines and cutting tables.

A cheque was sent to swell the funds of the Retarded Children's school in Yellowknife. At that time it was just getting established and having difficulties financing this new worthwhile project.

Clean clothing was collected for the Hay River Flood Relief. Again the ladies spent a busy evening at the school making sure all clothing was mended. Clothes were sorted, then carefully packed each box labelled as to contents such as babies' clothes, girls age 4 to 6, boys age 10 to 12 etc. In all, thirty-five boxes were shipped to the clothing depot in Yellowknife.

We received letters of thanks and praise for this generous, most useful donation.

We always send a cheery card to each member or child in the hospital. This is a round-robin type of card on which each member writes a little note.

Each member - and there have been quite a few - who have been unfortunate enough to have to go "outside" to the hospital, has received flowers. This perfect single rose received every second day during the hospital stay, has been a great joy to the patient and a constant reminder that all her fellow W.I. members are thinking of her.

One of the most rewarding projects, in which all members are greatly interested, is our sponsoring a child. We have adopted Po Ching Ho of Hong Kong through the Save The Children. The W.I. have already sent a gift of five dollars for her birthday and plan to send other gifts as well as bundles of used clothing which we hope will contain articles for the whole family. A member is keeping in touch by letter and on occasions such as Valentine's Day, we will all write a little note. The whole camp shows interest in our adoption. This common interest in such a worthwhile project will benefit both the donors and the receiver.

Since all of us are home-makers, anything in the Home Economics line is most interesting to us. Speakers from "outside" are all too few here but we have had two excellent demonstrations. The first was by our general manager's daughter



Home Economist Miss Rayner - Fish demonstration at Kilgour residence



Tea for Mrs. Haggerty at Vear residence.

A

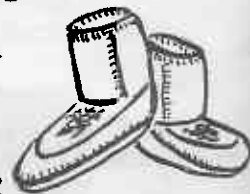
Jocelyne Kilgour. On one of her visits home from her work as Home Economist with the Ontario Department of Agriculture she gave a demonstration and talk on sandwich making.

Miss Rayner of the Fisheries Department, gave us a most informative demonstration on ways to cook and use fish. No subject could have been more apt for Discovery since our lake abounds in fish, and fishing is the main summer recreation. Her visit caused a flurry of coffee parties and teas and the fresh ideas and conversational topics made these especially cheery get-togethers.

Local demonstrations have been most worthwhile too. One was on bun making and one on the cutting and cooking of meats. The November, 1963 meeting was one of our most interesting. Daphne Borden gave us a demonstration on the making of Christmas decorations from tin can lids. Almost unbelievable were the beautiful and varied articles made at no cost at all. Other Christmas articles were shown too - decorations and gifts.

Three of our most successful roll calls have been casserole recipes, salad recipes and household hints. Little booklets were compiled from these and every member received a copy and is a better cook because of these.

Besides the sewing and mending evenings mentioned, our programme for at least two meetings has been the sewing of duffles and mitts. Duffles are a warm slipper to be worn inside mocassins and mukluks. The W.I. purchased this fine material obtainable only in the north. Two expert cutters cut out these articles of all sizes so not a square inch was wasted. The cost per article was carefully worked out and the members paid the W.I. for material used. In order to make these as finished a product as possible, we learned four strand braiding to make the gay ties needed and also learned pom-pom making. Both the braids and the pom-poms go on other articles of clothing as well. Another simple craft we have all participated in has been the making of flower pots from plastic beach bottles.



Mrs. Hagel, a barrister from Yellowknife, gave us a most informative talk on the very important subject of the need for wills and on women's and children's rights. This is a subject we try to stress, feeling that such knowledge will make us better citizens. During her visit there were teas, a coffee party and a curling game. The curling club donated a prize for this game, and our guest of honor was on the prize winning rink.

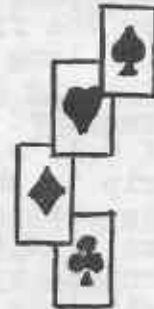
For one of the whist drives we have the school children make posters. We were amazed and delighted with the response and talent shown. Small prizes were given.

Films are a favourite type of programme. We have had a number of these and would be most happy to obtain more. Two of our members showed their slides and talked on their trip around the world taken before marriage, while both were still nursing.

Other slides and talks have been given by our members on Hawaii and on Mexico. The Fisheries of the Great Slave Lake was of great interest as we saw soon after Miss Rayner's fish demonstration. We have had talks on living in Germany, Scotland and Mexico and on Christmas customs in these and other lands.

Our field of money making projects is necessarily limited because of our small market. To start things off we had a "grab-bag" sale. Each member contributed a useful article she had made herself, and each was sold, sight unseen, for a dollar. This was most interesting and many were the lovely aprons, pot holders, knitted slippers, embroidered tea towels, jars of marmalade, and even a cake or two that changed hands. Everyone was most happy with her surprise!

We have put on a number of whist drives in the Recreation Hall, all of which have drawn good crowds and been most enjoyable. The whist, the prizes, the chance to meet everyone, all bring the "boys" out of the bunkhouses. But the biggest drawing card of all is no doubt the bountiful home made lunch the ladies provide. At our last one, we all proudly wore our new pins.



We have also held two Penny Auctions which provide amusement as well as funds. This is a sort of white-elephant sale - each member donates a number of articles she doesn't want and these are sold by an auctioneer to the highest bidder. This may be a pair of earrings too large for the owner's taste, gloves too small, a scarf the wrong colour, a group of pocket books, a toaster no longer in use or maybe some bit of groceries in too large a supply in your grubstake. Though not useful to one, the article may be just what someone else needs or likes particularly. Often you go home with more than you took - but if it was a bargain, who cares!

The most recent method of money raising, and I may add most profitable, has been the raffle of cakes at the Recreation Club's Social evenings. The men are happy to buy tickets in the hopes of winning a delicious cake and also because they know the money is to be used to help us "adopt" our child.

Our public relations officers, Mrs. Gibson and later Mrs. Macdonald have had letters from all across Canada expressing interest in our North, our life here, and in our Institute. Mrs. Macdonald is in quite regular correspondence with a lady in Aberdeen, Scotland and with one in Tasmania. These two frequently send magazines and papers as well as small gifts such as pictorial calendars and a tea towel with all the Scottish crests. We in turn have sent them such magazines as North, The Beaver and McCall's Needlework and bundles of various farm papers. We also have sent each of them one of our new and very beautiful N.C.W.I. pins. This correspondence brings us closer to people in these places and makes us realize that we are members of a most worthwhile world-wide organization.

But it is not all work and no play for W.I. Each meeting

is a social gathering where the fifteen or more members enjoy the opportunity to chat and exchange news. But in the course of these informal conversations many ideas on child care, health, cooking, books and gardening are exchanged. Here too, we are perhaps most useful to our German members (one-third of our membership). For our December meeting we join in a long established Christmas Party. Our June meeting is always an out-door pot luck supper followed by a brief business meeting before closing for the summer.

An outstanding event in our history was the visit of our National President, Mrs. J. Haggerty on September 8th, 1963. All who heard her inspiring and informative address realized, perhaps for the first time, what a fine organization we belong to. We will long remember her visit. Mrs. Haggerty expressed pleasure at being here and surprise and delight at the flowers. She then presented Mrs. Kilgour with a pin. In her talk she told of work of W.I.'s, suggested various activities for us and told of her trip to the Conference in Australia. It was her first-hand description of conditions in Hong Kong that led to our sponsoring the little girl, Po. At the conclusion of her fine address, Mrs. Nendsa, vice-president presented her with a souvenir spoon. A delicious lunch was served from a table decorated with local flowers, and we enjoyed a pleasant social hour.

Mrs. Haggerty will probably long remember her visit, too, but for quite a different reason. Never before had she flown in "bush" planes, and never before had she been lost in the North West Territories!

We had expected Mrs. Haggerty to arrive on Sunday morning, September 8th, and so were surprised and a bit dismayed to learn Saturday morning that she was about to board the plane leaving Yellowknife at 9:50 a.m. The reason for the dismay was that her hostess, our local president, had planned on spending the day at Snare Falls, a power plant seventy-five miles west. However, Mrs. Haggerty was contacted by phone and invited to go along for the jaunt to which she readily agreed.

Due to fog, aircraft schedules were delayed that day. The plane made one start but had to return to Yellowknife. About noon the weather cleared enough for flying, so she came to Discovery, dropped her bag and boarded the second plane which had arrived about the same time and set off. They arrived at Snare, and here Mrs. Haggerty, Mrs. Kilgour and daughter Alison alighted, while Mr. Kilgour and the chief electrician proceeded to a nearby property on business. The ladies spent a very pleasant afternoon visiting Mrs. Tench, wife of the manager of the power plant. They had tea, visited the spic and span power plant which to everyone's astonishment is decorated with a large mural on the inside wall, had a delicious dinner and boarded the plane about 7:00 p.m. for the return journey.

About five minutes out they ran into a heavy fog bank. The pilot veered sharply hoping to get around this and from that time on, it was quite obvious to all that the pilot didn't know where he was. They flew and flew and flew long after they should have

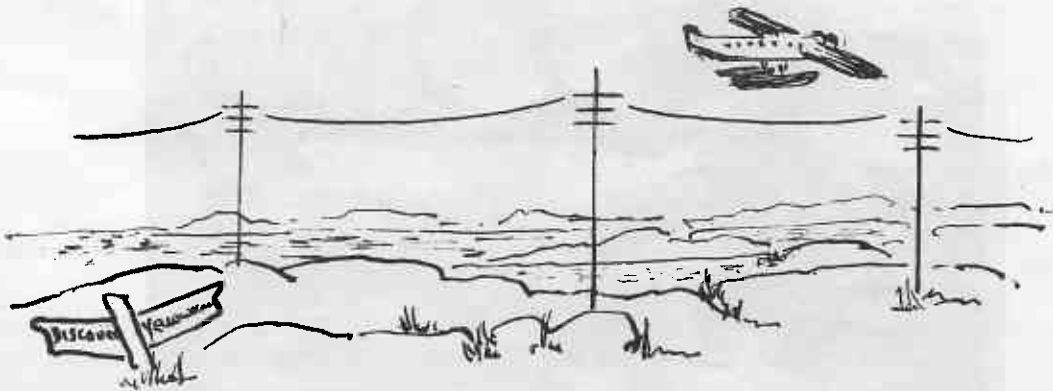
arrived at Discovery. Finally after dark, they flew across a power line which was thankfully followed into Yellowknife, not Discovery. They had all had visions of spending a chilly uncomfortable night "sitting down" on some unknown lake, so the twinkling lights of Yellowknife were a welcome sight.

Miss Eadie was certainly surprised to see Mrs. Haggerty returning again that day but was able to lend her the necessary night apparel. Fortunately accomodation was available for all.

Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny and at 8:30 they once again set off for Discovery and arrived without further incident.

One comic note to the situation was that Alison had taken a book along with her and it was Farley Mowat's "Lost in the Barrens".

These then are the activities of our little organization which has a membership of fifteen to eighteen members. We feel that participation in such a group makes us better and happier members of our community, and trust that the community is better because of it.





Aerial view of Discovery - showing air strip and dock



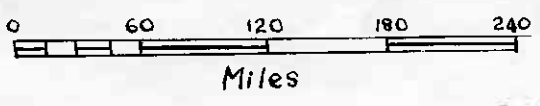
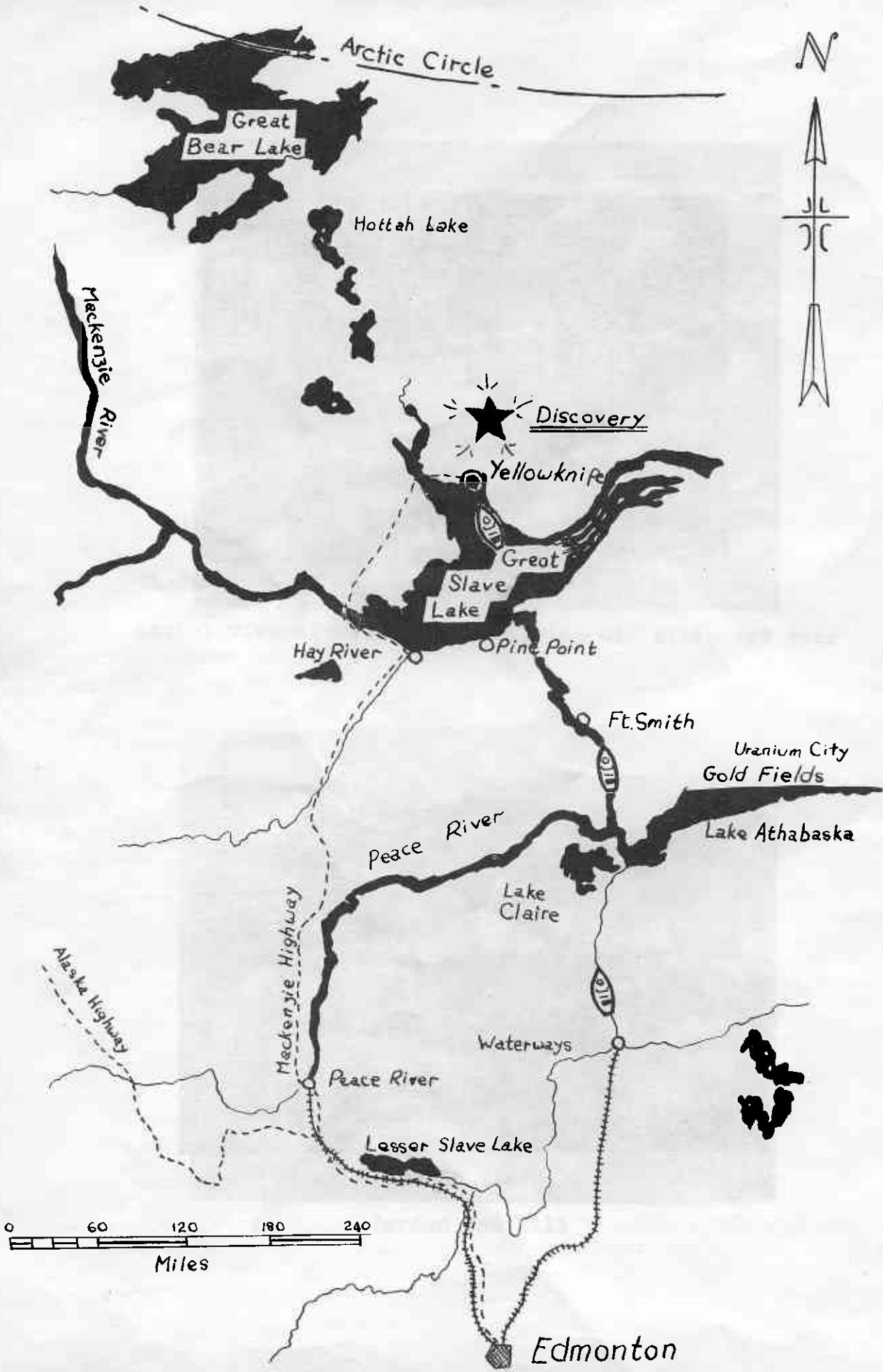
Garden and Mill



Ptarmigan and tracks



Staff House





Discovery, N.W.T.

GEOGRAPHY AND TOPOGRAPHY OF AREA

The Northwest Territories is that part of Canada which extends from the northern limits of North America south to the 60th parallel of north latitude west of Hudson Bay; farther east the boundary is drawn to include the islands in Hudson Bay, Hudson Strait and Ungava Bay, but to exclude the mainland of Labrador-Ungava. To the west, the boundary with the Yukon territory corresponds roughly with the watershed of the Mackenzie-Yukon rivers; and to the east the boundary is the limit of territorial waters except in the northeast where it lies midway between Canada and Greenland, in the narrow seas extending from Smith Sound to Robeson Channel. This comprises an area of 1,304,903 square miles, divided for administrative purposes into three districts, whose boundaries were drawn so that all the islands except those in Hudson Bay, lay in Franklin; the land tributary to Hudson Bay was included in Keewatin; and the area adjacent to the Mackenzie River formed the district of Mackenzie.

Dominating the geography and forming a fundamental division is the "tree line" which extends from the delta of the Mackenzie to Hudson Bay near Churchill, Manitoba. To the north and east are the treeless barren grounds which constitute the Arctic; to the southwest, and covering less than a quarter of the territories is a section of the Canadian boreal forest. Here we find Discovery, located at 63 degrees 10' 00" N - 113 degrees 50' 02" W, approximately 250 miles south of the Arctic Circle, 675 miles north of Edmonton, Alberta, and 52 miles north-east of Yellowknife, which is situated on the north arm of Great Slave Lake.

VEGETATION

Vegetation in this region is far from luxurious due mainly to rocky ground and short growing season. Spruce, jackpine and birch are the principal trees, which due to many knots, a short and twisted grain, and stunted growth, are valueless as lumber, but make excellent firewood.



Push up - caused by frost pressure

Aerial view of Discovery



Blueberries and cranberries grow in profusion while wild raspberries, currants and tundra berries are available in limited quantities.

Agricultural attempts are at the hobby level. Certain types of flowers grow profusely due to vigorous cultivation, fertilizing and the long, sunlit days. Soil for these gardens is 'borrowed' from a nearby lake bottom and built up on the rocks to make attractive flower beds. Hardy vegetables are also grown. Tomatoes, with luck, will ripen on the vine and the odd horticulturalist is able to produce strawberries.

CLIMATE

The climate might be termed very 'rigorous'. Temperatures range from a cold 55 degrees below zero in winter to as high as 85 degree in summer. Summers, June to September are generally pleasant with limited precipitation and continuous daylight from mid May until the end of July. In contrast the winters are long and cold but are made bearable by the fact that there are bright and sunny days. The shortest day of the year, December 21st, has complete daylight from 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Snowfall is normally light and because of this, a very thick ice covers the lakes during this season. Lake ice forms in October or early November and breaks up the first week in June. Wind, in varying intensities, is present throughout the year.

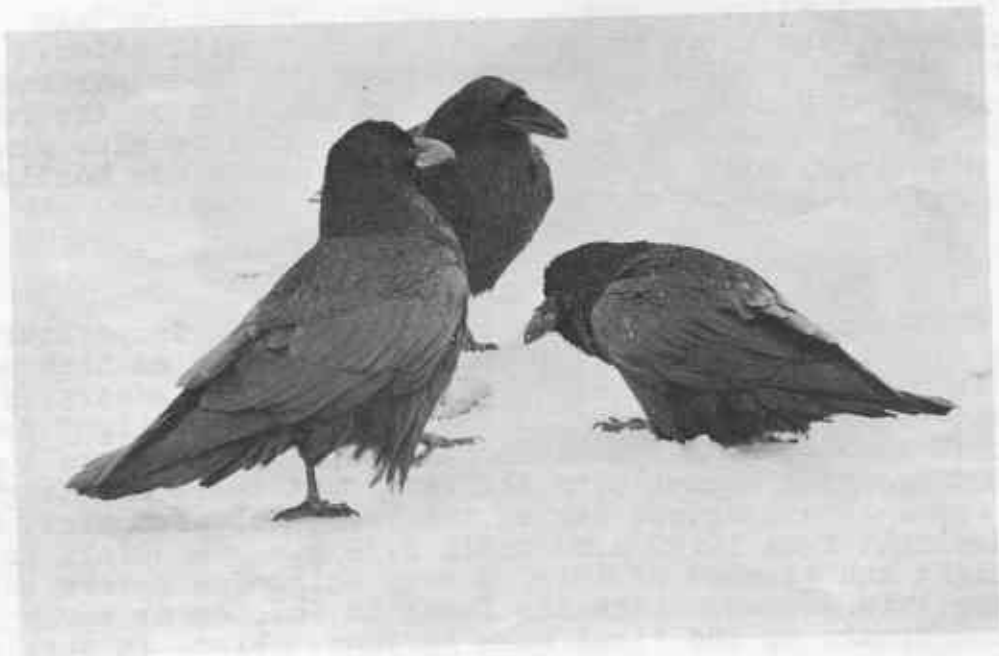
ANIMAL LIFE

Herds of caribou pass close by on their trek south each winter and again in the spring going north. Bears, rabbits, and fox are present, but in meagre numbers. A few ducks arrive in May to nest on nearby lakes. Seagulls arrive on May 6th for their annual nesting season and battle until September with permanent guests, the ravens.

The raven is one of the most interesting birds of the north, looking like the common crow but on a much larger scale. They put on their best displays on windy days, soaring, diving and dipping, hardly moving their wings, and sometimes being almost mistaken for small aircraft. They can be a 'tease' - swooping down and inviting the dogs to chase, which they do. They are adept at imitating dogs' barks, to the great annoyance of the dogs and local residents.

In contrast to the raven is the ptarmigan which comes to live in this vicinity during the winter months. It is pure white and but for its black, beady eyes is difficult to discern against the glistening white snow. They can be seen darting about on the snow from low twig to twig eating buds. In summer the ptarmigans migrate further north where they take on the protective colouration of the tundra.





Ravens



Dog Team

PHYSICAL TERRAIN

Discovery is located in a very ancient belt of rocks called the Precambrian Shield - possibly the oldest in the world. This 'shield' covers nearly half of Canada in a semi-circle around Hudson Bay. There was once (three to eight hundred million years ago) a gigantic range of mountains, possibly as high as the Himalayas are now. In that time erosion has worn them down to a nearly level plane with only small hills and valleys remaining. For a period of perhaps 200,000 years the area was covered by glaciers up to 10,000 feet thick. When these finally retreated, some 50,000 years ago, nearly all the earth was washed away leaving bare rock hills and swampy valleys. No drainage system has yet matured, so every hollow is a lake. There are more lakes in the Precambrian Shield than in the rest of the world combined.

The rocks in this particular area are called sediments, because at one time, they were clay particles which were deposited in an ancient lake or sea some two to four hundred million years ago. This deposition continued until great thicknesses (two to three miles) were reached. Then came a period of intense volcanic activity combined with earthquakes. The clay beds, now turned into limestone by the pressure of the mud on top, were twisted and turned. In the case of Discovery they were turned up on edge until they were 90 degrees to their original horizontal position. Tremendous quantities of heat were evolved by the volcanos and earthquake movements changing the limestone to a hard, grey rock called argillite. At the same time this hard rock was shattered in places and into these shattered areas a molten liquid rock was forced from below. It was a white to gray rock called 'quartz', and is the only rock with which gold is associated. At the same time, or perhaps a million years later, the quartz in turn was subjected to violent forces which fractured it quite readily since it is a brittle rock. Into these fractures came more quartz, which brought with it gold and several other minerals. None were in sufficient quantity to be of commercial value except the gold.

The gold found in these rocks is the one and only reason for the existence of the community of Discovery. When the gold has all been extracted, as will probably occur within the next two years, the town will pass into oblivion.

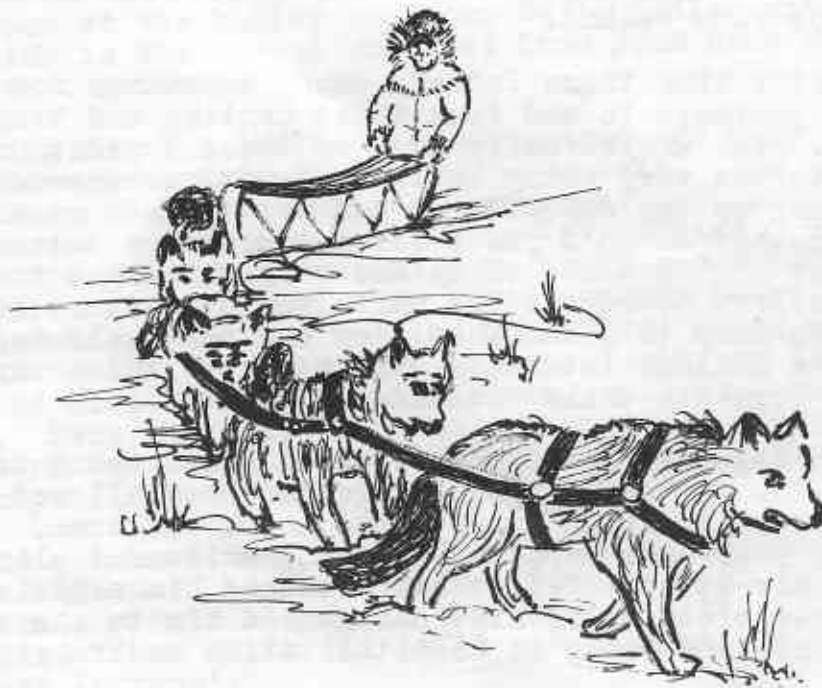




Gardens in Discovery



Moonlight over Giauque Lake in early winter



INDIANS

Although we have no resident Indians in Discovery, the Indians of this area are of the tribes encountered by Samuel Hearne on his journey in search of copper to the Coppermine River in 1774 - the Chipewyan tribe. They have long, straight, black hair, reddish brown skin and scant beards. The Chipewyan are probably the most primitive Indians in Canada and live as independent as possible of the white man's influence, although unconsciously they are absorbing the white man's ways.

Richard Harrington tells about a journey, during a cold day out on the barrens, being amazed to discover that while he felt perfectly warm sitting still on a dog sled, dressed in Chipewyan costume of caribou skin, the Chipewyan running along side were cold because they wore white men's clothing. The only person he found living in a deer skin (caribou) teepee was not an Indian, but a white trapper.

Caribou meat is their chief food and caribou skins their warmest winter clothing. They have forsaken the traditional caribou skin tents in favour of the canvas variety or a small log shack built in the vicinity of the trading post; and like all homes, reflect the character of the inhabitants - some quite tidy, others extremely messy.

The floor of the tent is covered with spruce boughs and at one end are laid the caribou skins on which they sleep. The stove is often a gasoline drum cut in two, and sat upright, with slabs of drying meat hung above it. Here too are hung to thaw the carcasses of the fur bearing animals to be skinned.

Their mode of travel is the dog sled or dog carriage, which is a toboggan with high sides of raw hide or canvas; drawn usually by

three, four, five or six dogs. Sometimes the driver rides on the back platform or runs behind.

In the winter time these Indians camp, sometimes for several days, on their journeys to and from their hunting and trapping, near Discovery. The whole family goes on these expeditions, from the teenagers to the very young babies. Sometimes the school books are brought along so the school-ager can try to keep up with his grades. This method doesn't prove too satisfactory because they are on the move most of the time. They are very quiet and inoffensive, visiting the cookery to buy of the white man's food and scrounging from the garbage dump to glean what they can for their dogs. Our dogs dislike the Indians intensely, maybe due to the smoky odour which seems to permeate their clothing.

The Indian dogs are not allowed to run loose about camp; due to a near tragedy. A team of young dogs had been allowed to run at large and became quite friendly with the local children. One day one of our four year olds happened to fall, while out playing by himself on the air strip. Before help reached him all six dogs had pulled his winter clothes off him, and mauled him to the extent of requiring stitches and weeks of hospitalization and rabies shots.

Discovery is situated in a Game Preserve, where the Indians alone are allowed to hunt and trap. In the fall of the year the caribou start their trek from the far north to the area of the Great Slave Lake and south. In the late winter they start north again. Very few stragglers are seen in the immediate vicinity of Discovery.

Bear, some summers, can become quite a nuisance but so far have been quite harmless. The story of one of the local ladies taking the four and five year olds out on the air strip for a walk is quite amusing. She, being an excellent entertainer, was telling the children stories. At the time they were playing 'Bears and Hunters'. She was the bear and growling from behind an air strip marker; when from the other side she heard growling. She informed the children that she was the bear and that wasn't the way to play - when lo! - what should appear on the other side of the marker but Momma bear and her two cubs. Said entertainer and children stayed very quietly on their side of the marker while Momma took her cubs off. One little fellow kept whispering "don't let it get me - don't let that G ... D... thing get me". It didn't.

Other animals seen rarely about camp are the red fox, wolverines, wolves, moose, beaver and muskrat.

The wolverine is a very cagey animal, difficult to hunt but much prized for it's fur for trimmings on parkas. Frost can be easily beaten from the fur without damage to it.



The wolves have been bold enough to come into camp in broad daylight, but when this happens the R.C.M.P. are called in to quietly get the situation under control by setting out poison bait for them.

The fox become very tame and the four that are presently living among the wood at the boiler room can be 'whistled up' to be fed. Charlie, which is the tamest will eat from your hand and follow at your heels through camp.

Schooling for the Indians is encouraged and many have received their education from attending mission schools. Now we have schools built and financed by the Federal Government throughout the North West Territories. Such a school is in Yellowknife. The Indians and Eskimos are brought here from outlying areas and receive academic and technical training free; also free room and board. The girls are taught sewing, cooking, waiting on tables, along with their academic subjects while the boys have an opportunity to learn carpentry, mechanics and electricity; all in modern, well equipped kitchens and work shops. Here they live in a modern hostel - Indian, Eskimo and White, sharing bedrooms, classrooms and cleaning duties - with no integration problems.

The Indians have intermarried with the Whites and the offspring are known as Breeds. If there is an antagonism of any kind, it is found between the full blood and the 'breed'. The breed most often thinks of himself as white and it is not uncommon to hear him speak of 'those lazy Indians'.

Discovery has usually one or two Indians on its payroll. These men seem to do a good day's work and are quite well thought of by their bosses. They live in the bunkhouses, eat in the cookery, and enjoy all the local entertainment and comforts provided.





J. C. BYRNE
President

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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	C. H. Macdonald, P. Eng. Mine Manager	Carmacks, Y. T.
CONSULTANTS	Norman W. Byrne, P. Eng. Consulting Engineer	Yellowknife, N. W. T.
	A. P. Beavan, Ph D. P. Eng Consulting Geologist	Montreal, Que.
	F. B. Brien, PhD. P. Eng. Consulting Metallurgist	Seattle, Wash.

TEN YEARS OR MORE

Special mention should be made of those with long service records - ten years or more. To date these include:

R. J. Kilgour	General Manager
L. T. Vear	Mine Superintendent
E. Marett	Cookery - Commissary Manager
J. Gorman	Amalgamator
P. Power	Hoistman
K. Nendsa	Construction Leader
V. McCaffery	Boyle Bros. Foreman

Those who also served ten years or longer include:

R. B. Bowes	now of St. Catherines
H. Lund	" " Edmonton
G. Longtin	" " Berwin, Alberta
G. Whitaker	Deceased
R. Lindgren	Deceased
G. Sordal	Yellowknife, N. W. T.



PIONEER SETTLEMENTS

Gold! Gold! Gold discovered at Yellowknife.

This cry echoed throughout the land in 1933 heralding the beginning of an industry which was to become the most important economic development in the North West Territories.

From the time of the earliest records of northern exploration - those of Martin Frobisher's search for a Northwest passage in 1576, little exploration was done in the Mackenzie River area until 1760, when trading recommenced after the conquest of French Canada. By 1788 Peter Pond had mapped the waters of the upper Mackenzie and had established a trading post on Great Slave Lake. The following year, Alexander Mackenzie of the Northwest Company, a rival to the established Hudson's Bay Company, descended to the mouth of the river that bears his name. In 1821 the Hudson's Bay Company absorbed the Northwest Company, thus ending trade rivalry.

For many years, wildlife was the only important natural resource of the North West Territories, but the Canadian Shield was expected to contain rich deposits of metallic minerals; and the sedimentary rocks of the Mackenzie lowland and the Arctic islands, petroleum and natural gas. By the beginning of the second half of the twentieth century, there had been widespread prospecting in the vicinity of the Mackenzie Valley, where river transportation could be used from June to mid October. Oil was discovered at Norman Wells on the lower Mackenzie River in 1914, but was not produced on a commercial scale until 1920. The next mineral resources to be developed were the pitchblende ores at Port Radium at the east end of Great Bear Lake in 1930.

Gold in 1933 at Yellowknife on Great Slave Lake brought many prospectors to the area. By 1938 two mines were in production, but World War II curtailed activity for the next few years.

The fingers of destiny are far reaching and so at this point



Drawing
muck
from
a
shute
in
underground
operation

Surveying
a
stope
underground



we must look back to the 'hungry thirties' and the dust bowl of the prairies. Mr. A.V. Giaouque, with his sons, abandoned his home at Eston, (near Swift Current) Saskatchewan. Driving his team of horses, he made his way, some 600 miles, to Waterways, Alberta, the all important town at which barges were loaded prior to embarking for points north along the river highways. Upon arrival at Goldfields, Saskatchewan, in 1935, Mr. Giaouque obtained immediate and permanent employment for his horses. Some years later, having decided there was money to be made as a prospector, he headed north to the Yellowknife area. While studying government geological maps to ascertain the most likely places to seek the elusive gold, he found that the ground in the vicinity of Yellowknife already had been staked by others, so he was obliged to journey further afield and arrived at this site in the summer of 1944. Giant Mine was already a producer in Yellowknife. The belt on which Discovery is located extends north from the Giant and, since Giaouque Lake is a good sized body of water, it was easy for prospectors to land at this point.

Gold was first found on the Discovery claims in the fall of 1944 by the Giaouque family. Due to the lateness of the season, no work was undertaken at that time other than panning and the assaying of grab samples. Spring, 1945, brought forth a rash of diamond drilling in the district, and Discovery was submitted to an X-Ray program, over the break-up period, designed chiefly to sample a number of quartz veinlets in altered andesite. Some high grade intersections were obtained, but nothing further was done until the fall of 1945, when Mr. N.W. Byrne was engaged to carry out an examination and investigate further the results obtained from the X-Ray program.

A small crew of experienced, hardrock men were placed on the ground under the able guidance of a well known and capable Yellowknife prospector, Bert Wagenitz. During the freeze-up period Wagenitz discovered the now famous North Zone dragfold quartz vein, and he immediately concentrated his work in that vicinity. In a period of six weeks three men put in 27 rock trenches from 6 to 20 feet long, an average of 30 inches deep and 3 feet wide, channel-sampled each, and mapped the vicinity accurately and in detail over an area 300 feet square. Assay results of these and subsequent samples indicated the existence of a high-grade gold quartz vein, having the shape of a horseshoe, varying in width from 1.5 to 18 feet, a length of 400 feet plus, and an initial uncut average grade in excess of 3 ounces of gold per ton.

In December, 1945, X-Ray drilling of the North zone quartz vein, was started and was quickly followed in January by an extensive standard drilling program which saw two machines drill 21,066 feet to depths of 400 feet vertically. This footage thoroughly outlined the North Zone, indicated the existence of the West and the South Zones, plus other areas of interest, and generally cross-sectioned the volcanics for the full length of 2,600 feet on the Discovery property. The drilling extended over the break-up period and coincided with an intensive geological mapping program carried out



(Top left)

Emergency landing at night
in winter. Northern Lights



(Top right)

Giauque Lake



(Above)

Bristol transport
plane unloading
freight

(Left)

Fishing at the
Rapids

by H.A. Quinn, M. Sc., and assistants during May and June, 1946.

The original promoters who formed the first company chose the name "Discovery Yellowknife Mines Ltd." The word "Discovery" was chosen from the famous horse that had a very distinguished career in racing and which sired many top grade racehorses.

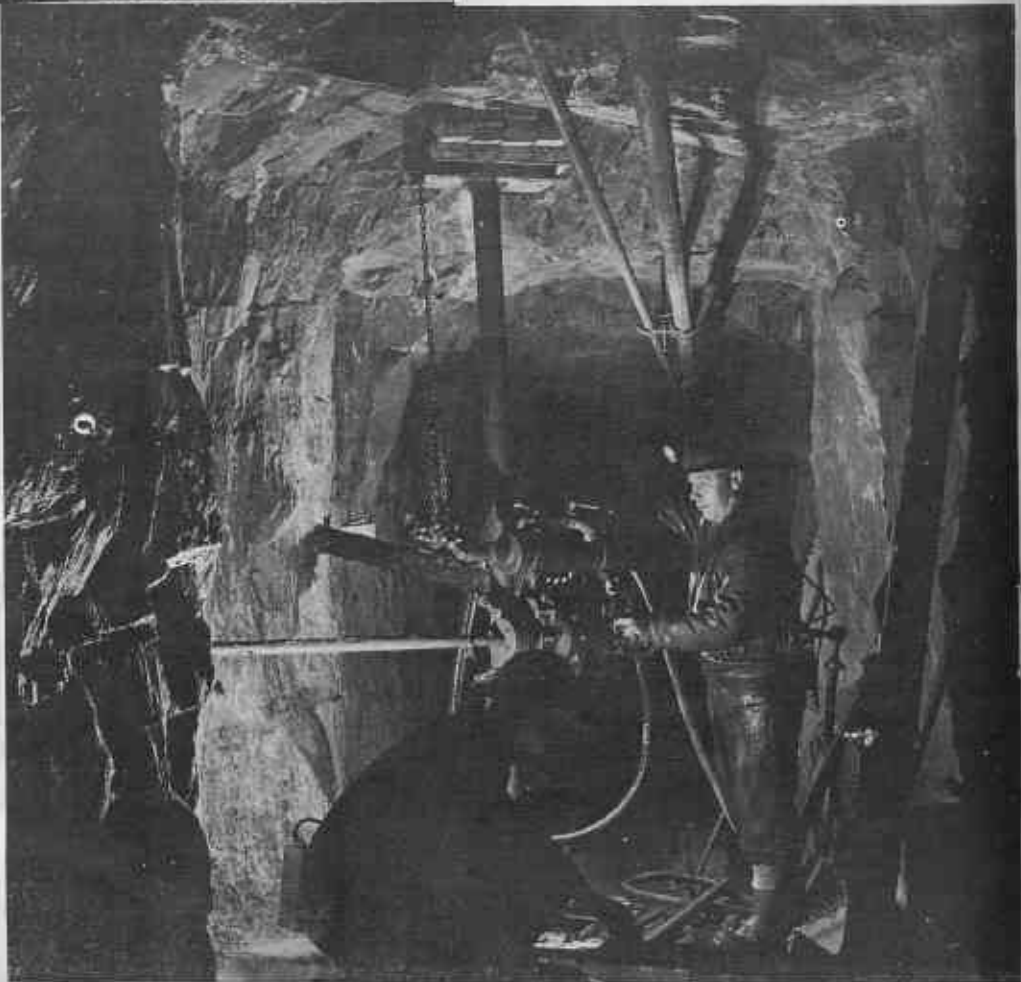
After the finding of the gold vein by Mr. Wagenitz, Mr. Byrne was able to interest his brother, J.C. Byrne, and father J.J. Byrne in the property to the extent that they purchased control and later reorganized to form the present company "Consolidated Discovery Yellowknife Mines Ltd." which became a producing gold mine in 1950, with Mr. T.D. Anderson as manager. It is interesting to note that total expenditures up to time of production were just under one million dollars. The first gold was poured in early February, 1950.

The sole means of transport from Yellowknife was by plane, mainly Norseman and Bellanca. Due to staggering air freight costs, a land route was marked out and building supplies were freighted in by tractor train in the winter of 1947. For arrival at the mine site by this method, all supplies were required to reach Waterways in the spring, thus taking advantage of summer freighting along the water route to Yellowknife. Disaster struck without warning when a sudden storm on Great Slave Lake swamped the barge carrying the mill for the Discovery operation. The tug was cut free and was able to reach safety, but barge and contents still sit somewhere on the lake bottom. This could have delayed the start of production by a whole year but for the fact that Mr. J.C. Byrne is a man of action. By dint of much phoning and wiring throughout the country, he was able to locate and purchase a mill which was at that precise moment sitting idle at Cariboo Hudson Mine, some twenty miles from Barkerville in B.C.'s Cariboo. The gigantic task of dismantling and freighting was in a race with time, but man was the victor in the struggle and the freight arrived at Waterways in time to be put on the last barge of the season. A warehouse was acquired in Yellowknife to store supplies when they were unloaded from the barges, until such time as the ice froze on the lakes to a depth of 24 inches, the least amount which will support a large bulldozer, string of sleighs and a caboose, the latter being a necessity for the drivers as one would sleep and one would drive. These trains plied the twisting miles over frozen muskeg valleys and lakes year after year, until the last one in 1957, when they were replaced by the newly arrived Wardair Bristol freight plane which landed on the lake ice for the first time in May of that year. By that fall, a gravel surfaced airstrip 3,600 feet long and 200 feet wide, and able to accomodate an aircraft up to DC3 capacity if necessary, was put into use. This airstrip eliminated annual freeze-up and break-up periods which previously meant no planes at all for at least a two week stretch each time. From Yellowknife to the mine a charter air service now provides Otter, Beaver, Cessna and Bristol aircraft with respective payloads of 2400 pounds, 1200 pounds, 600 pounds and 6½ tons. During the summer months these aircraft are the only means of moving freight and passengers to and from the mine. Year round the mine maintains a three times weekly scheduled aircraft run to carry mail, passengers and fresh food. Another era began in January, 1960, with the arrival of large twenty ton trailer vans, direct from Edmonton to Yellowknife and then on over the former tractor



(left)

Headframe
and
miners
coming
off
shift



(right)

Diamond
Drilling
Underground

train route to Discovery.

The mine owns and operates a small radio station CJO-85 and output is $7\frac{1}{2}$ watts on a frequency of 4270 kc. Yellowknife connection with this unit is the government owned radio-telegraph station. In early years at the property, the nightly radio Sked was eagerly awaited. At that time all bush camps were serviced by this Sked and no messages were secret, even to the odd bit of scandal! This radio unit is now used only in emergencies. The mine owns and operates a 'carrier' telephone which operates on the 34,000 volt hydro power line and connects directly with the Yellowknife switchboard. A land line from Yellowknife constructed in 1961 gave direct communication with Edmonton and replaced the former high frequency radio phone.

Advantage of favourable terrain for power development has been taken to provide this area with electric power. The first power plant was built in 1935 by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. for their mine near Yellowknife. In 1948, a second power generator was built by a Crown company, 'Northern Canada Power Commission'. These two plants were later connection to form a small grid which supplied power to the town of Yellowknife and nearby mines.

Until 1953 Discovery depended on diesel engines for power for their mine. In that year a power line was erected.

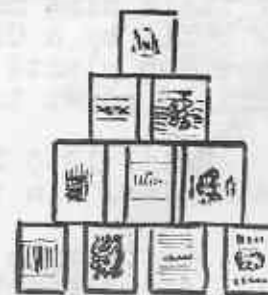
Discovery's first townsite consisted of tents used by diamond drill crews and then a few small houses - commonly known as shacks. In 1948 the entire community of Discovery was made up of an office and warehouse building, later destroyed by fire, three residences, two tents, a bunkhouse now in use as a cookhouse, boiler house and a small mining plant since dispensed with. The first bunkhouse also contained the engineering office and the radio broadcasting equipment. Local transportation in these days was provided by a dog team which moved supplies wherever needed. Also in constant use was a small gasoline powered hoist which saved the back breaking labour of packing everything up the very steep hill from the lake to the townsite. This hoist later fell into disuse with the arrival of more mechanized equipment and subsequent building of a road. With the apparent permanency of the town it soon became necessary to build a larger townsite and the first completely modern, steam heated houses were built in 1953. The town continued to grow to its present size: 25 private residences, 2 staff houses (1 male, 1 female) general office, warehouse, engineering office, mill, machine shops, carpenter shop, power house, boiler house, assay office, three bunkhouses, cook house, dry and first aid room, school, post office, commissary, and a recreation hall which includes a library, coffee shop, curling rink, billiard and ping pong room, poker room, show hall and lounge.

The company has at all times provided a first aid attendant in case of accidents. This was formerly a male employee in possession of an industrial first aid certificate, but for the past five years these duties have been performed by a British R.N. who tells one of her experiences in another chapter. An injured person requiring hospitalization in Yellowknife can obtain same as rapidly as someone in the suburbs could reach a city hospital. All employees and family members are covered by a comprehensive medical plan which includes

specialized treatment in Edmonton if necessary.

All houses are equipped with electric stoves and full plumbing. From the central heating plant, which consumes 800 cords of wood per year, all buildings enjoy the presence of heat, a most necessary commodity for the ensurance of body comfort. This steam heat is transported via pipes contained in a long, sawdust insulated 'box' which goes through all buildings on the property. This pipe box as it is referred to, also carries water and sewer pipes, which are kept from freezing by the presence of the heat pipes. The pipe box is a rather unsightly part of the community, being completely on the surface, but appearance takes second place to convenience and comfort.

Resident families obtain staple supplies by means of one large, annual order called a grubstake, purchased directly from an Edmonton wholesaler. Excitement runs high during grubstake season, as all family members are called upon to assist with the inspection of and putting away of the numerous cases of food. These grubstakes formerly made the long trip by rail to Waterways, barge to Yellowknife and then out by float plane to arrive before the frost season, but with the heated trailer vans coming directly from Edmonton in winter, the food supply now utilizes this means of transport. Fresh vegetables, meat and anything that may have been underestimated in grubstake orders can be obtained twice weekly from the local cookery which also supplies bread daily.



Employees are allowed free transportation to Yellowknife and return via company charter flight once every six months and fare is paid to Edmonton once a year. Christmas shopping day in November is eagerly awaited by all ladies who wish to take advantage of two planes in one day, thus eliminating a costly stop-over in Yellowknife. This annual event has become quite famous as Discovery 'femmes' descend en masse upon Yellowknife's shopping area.

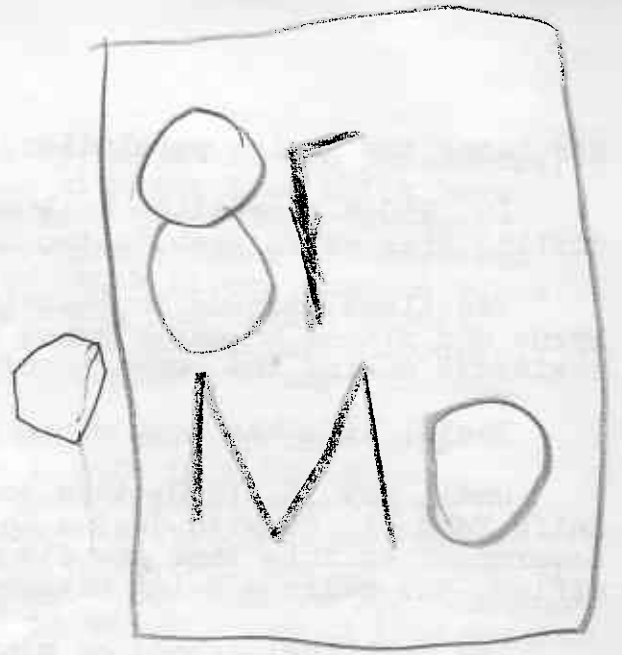
Employees are from all walks of life and numerous countries. Many European immigrants have settled in the community, mainly from Germany, but also from Holland, France, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Italy, Greece and Scandinavia. Great Britain is fairly well represented.

Early social life could only be described as grim. The cook house was the 'social centre', with coffee breaks providing ample time for news discussions and bits of gossiping. Plane arrivals were eventful and newsworthy. In the fall of 1947, shows, mostly Westerns, were shown in the cookery Sunday afternoon and evening.

'Men of the cloth' began to venture into Discovery and notable of the travelling parsons of that day were Father Gathy, a Roman Catholic, and the Reverend Mr. Greenwood, who later became a Bishop of the Anglican Church. Services were held in the 'ram pasture', a large room over the bunkhouse. This room was also the place where the men were able to sit and play poker and if a game happened to be in progress when it was time for church, said game would sometimes carry on right through the service. Father Gathy, a former circus performer in his native land, has been known to join in the game, winding up with most of the loot which he said would be put to good



Pouring Gold Brick



Finished Brick



MOUNTAIN AVENS
FLORAL EMBLEM OF THE N.W.T.



use among the native population.

In 1950 a recreation hall was built and also a one sheet curling rink which grew to two sheets in 1959.

Excellent fishing in beautiful Giauque Lake (named by Mr. N.W. Byrne and placed on early maps) occupies the leisure hours of most residents during the summer months.

Social life has long since passed the initial 'grim' stage.

Until May 16, 1960, this community was serviced by the Yellowknife Post Office with just a local sorting system here. The Federal Government at this time saw fit to provide a regular accounting post office, the address being Discovery, N.W.T.

The technical aspect of mining at Discovery is covered fully in reports of the 'Geological Survey of Canada' published by the Federal Government. The following very brief outline is dedicated to the layman.

If you can imagine looking edgewise at a grey book with a few white pages you will have a rough picture of the mine from the air. The grey pages are the argillite and the white are the quartz veins containing the gold.

To extract the gold, a shaft was sunk near the quartz vein to a depth of 4,060 feet. At intervals 150 feet apart, tunnels were driven to and then along the vein. Next came the blasting off of horizontal slices between the tunnels working upward from each tunnel. This broken ore was then hoisted to surface and put through the mill. In the mill it is crushed and ground to about the fineness of talcum powder. A powerful solvent called cyanide is mixed with the ground ore. The cyanide dissolves the gold, leaving barren sand which is piped outside and was used to make an airport. The gold is next precipitated from the cyanide solution, melted in a furnace, poured into bars (or bricks) and shipped to the mint at Ottawa.

A gold brick is worth approximately \$25,000.00 and is shipped in a special mail bag via registered mail.

It was in 1954 that Tony Gregson devised a plan that enabled him to walk away with two gold bricks worth \$54,000.00. He had noticed that the canvas sacks containing bricks were just tossed into bush planes and left unprotected during the trip to Yellowknife where they would be taken to the post office to be registered. He had an Edmonton seamstress sew up heavy canvas bags; obtained from a foundry, for twenty five dollars, a lead brick the same size and shape of a gold brick, and later he himself made another brick of lead purchased for thirty dollars from a watchman at a non-operating gold property in Yellowknife. By July 1st, when Discovery poured two bricks, Gregson was ready to put his plan into action. He quit working for the company and left on the Saturday plane (with the gold bricks) which had one stop at a bush camp before reaching

Yellowknife. At this stop, and unnoticed by the other two passengers, Tony quickly exchanged the gold brick bags with the lead brick bags in his suitcase. Upon arrival in Yellowknife, Mr. Anthony Gregson picked up his suitcase and departed. A few hours later he chartered a plane for Hay River, travelled by bus to Peace River, changed buses and went to Prince George, then boarded a train for Prince Rupert. After four days there he took passage on a boat bound for Vancouver and when he debarked at this point he was known as Anthony Johnson.

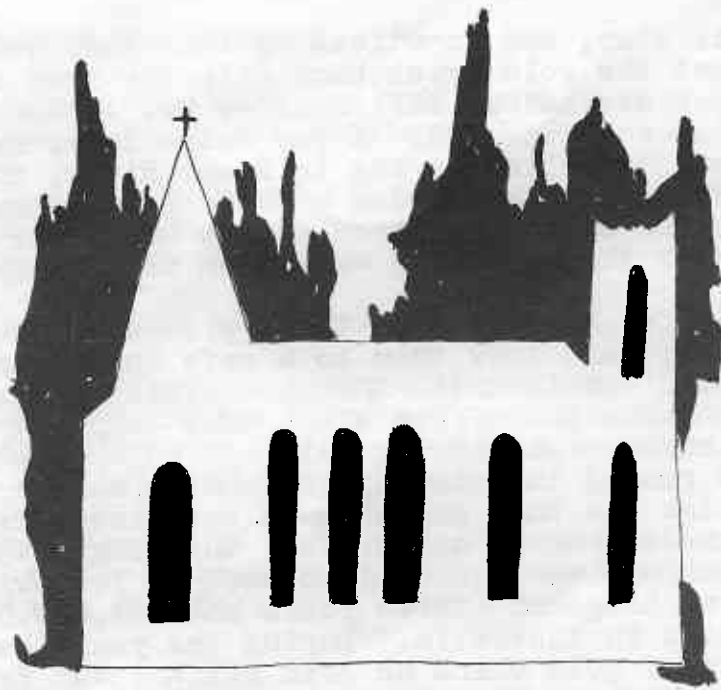
Back in Yellowknife, meanwhile, a truck picked up the 'gold' bricks from the aircraft and took them to a safe in a transport office where they would remain until the post office opened after the holiday weekend. When the office clerk took them out on Monday he noticed that the numbers on the bags did not match the numbers on his documents, so he phoned the mine office. Mine manager R.J. Kilgour instructed him to weigh the bags and when it was discovered they weighed 48.2 and 43.2 lbs. instead of 72 and 52 lbs. the search was on. The two other plane passengers were quickly located in Yellowknife and the search centered on Gregson. Three years and \$54,000.00 later, Gregson was apprehended in Australia. During the years he sawed off, from the bricks, bits of gold which he sold all the way from Cuba to Los Angeles to Key West to Havana. All good things must come to an end and Tony Gregson was brought back for trial in Yellowknife. Pleading guilty, he received a thirty month prison sentence.

A new gold mine entering the production field usually has a celebration to mark the pouring of the first brick and Discovery was no exception as guests arrived from near and far to mark this happy occasion in 1950. By the time of the pouring of the 500th brick in 1957, the outlook was very rosy indeed and guests again arrived to assist with the celebrations. This was again repeated with brick number 1,000 in 1961 and at the present time, after fourteen years of production, Consolidated Discovery Yellowknife Gold Mines has produced 1124 gold bricks valued at \$27,800,000.00.

Gold brick number 1,000 was poured on September 2nd, 1961.

The following information pertinent to this 1,000th brick may be found interesting:

Gold produced to date	-	681,300 ounces
This amounts to about	-	23 tons
Value of production to date	-	24,115,500 dollars
Ore required for this production	-	484,300 tons
The average grade for this ore	-	49.82 dollars
To get this ore we sunk our shaft	-	4,060 feet
Our drifting amounts to	-	5.9 miles
We have diamond drilled	-	34.3 miles
We have used supplies amounting to	-	15,000 tons
We worked	-	470,000 man days



RELIGION

Discovery became aware of the role of religion early in its history, August 1946, before there were any roads, tractors or trucks in the area. On land, transportation of groceries, machinery, and wood was strictly by manpower.

Rather than go inland for gravel, it was easier to bring it across the lake in canoes. Four men with two freight canoes and a kicker were doing just that one windy day. The canoes were lashed bow and stern, side by side. The canoe, heavily laden with bags of gravel took a wave and swamped. The men managed to cut the stern line, but didn't get the bow line on time. The canoe, with the men aboard was dragged under. In the cold water, none of them got more than thirty feet towards the shore a short 100 yards away.

Two of the men were buried in Yellowknife - the first to be buried in the newly laid out cemetery. It was a simple service attended by probably thirty men, all in bush clothes. The scarlet tunic of the R.C.M.P. corporal gave a special touch.

Such was the first role of religion in Discovery!

Soon after this both Roman Catholic and Protestant (Anglican) clergy were invited to visit the camp. From then on both clergy visited Discovery holding mid-week services six or seven times a year. Since these visits are always of two or three days duration, both minister and priest usually visit all homes, regardless of faith.

At first, services were held in the 'ram pasture' of the bunkhouse, then in the cookery, and since the building of the Recreation Hall, all services have been there. A few years ago the

United Church became established in Yellowknife and for the past three years Protestant services here have been alternately Anglican and United. Protestant services are attended by those of all affiliations.

Very early in the life of the camp, when only a few children were here, a Community Sunday School was begun. This has been continued, being held on Sunday mornings in the hall, and later in the school. Sometimes we have had only one teacher, sometimes two.

It is greatly to the credit of one of these devoted teachers that all Guides and Scouts passed their difficult Religion and Life test, and obtained their much coveted badges.



Headframe



SCHOOL

Correspondence courses and the people responsible for such, receive much well-deserved praise from early resident parents here. Correspondence courses were used for a number of years at Discovery - courses from Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta and all were excellent. Mrs. Anderson, wife of the first manager, was in charge at first, supervising the studies of her own three girls. Later, a few more children arrived in camp and Mrs. Anderson and the mill superintendent's wife now shared this responsibility. Alberta finally took over and co-operated with Discovery in locating a high school graduate who presided over correspondence courses in class.

This first class had eight pupils, all girls, representing three families. The class was held in the upper part of No. 2 bunkhouse which was the Recreation Hall at that time.

During all this time, Discovery officials were trying to interest the Government in establishing a school here. Finally after much correspondence and visits from two inspectors and a superintendent, the Government did decide the establishment of a school was justified.

In 1950 the first part of the present Recreation Hall was built, and the school moved into the auditorium. Mrs. Alexander, wife of a hoistman at the mine, and mother of two of the pupils was engaged as teacher, and taught for two years.

In the fall of 1952, a young man was the teacher. On Saturdays he was employed as a surface labourer. It was during his term as teacher that the office staff house fire occurred. When this happened

the hall auditorium was taken over as office and staff-house so the school was moved into the pool room. There it remained until the burned building was replaced by a new one.

Our next teacher was an English girl whose husband was employed here in the engineering department. This couple had travelled widely and were an asset to the community. There were here for two years, and the teacher is perhaps best remembered for her art work and for the beautiful manner in which she decorated the hall for spring and fall dances, and other special occasions.

By now the school population had risen to about ten pupils and was augmented in 1955 by a family who helped ably in filling desks thereafter. A Scottish teacher and her husband were employed. This teacher paid special attention to kindergarten work, her specialty. This suited some residents very well, but those with older children not so well.

In 1956-57 we had a well qualified teacher from Manitoba, experienced in rural-type teaching and in teaching natives (the latter of no special help here). This year students and parents were all most happy.

By now the larger school attendance warranted the erection of a school building which was ready for school in the fall of 1957. This proved to be a great advantage. The children's and teacher's desks and other equipment no longer had to be moved to one side for movies and other entertainment. Work could be left on the board at night if desired. Lighting and cupboard space were vastly improved. However, with the pool-room no longer only a few steps away, an interesting part of the children's education ceased.

Up until 1957 the school had been financed by the company with the help of a grant from the Department of Northern Affairs. Beginning in 1954, the Department explained at length, the advantages that would ensue to the community if the school were taken over by them entirely. This was done in 1957 and has remained so since. The advantages have not ensued, mainly because we do not have the social and recreational problems other 'welfare' teachers have to deal with in the community. Also everyone knows governments move slowly, so no doubt some may come in time.

The first government teacher came in 1957-58, coming to us from Calgary, but before that from England. Music and art received much attention that year as she was quite talented in both. She also organized and led our first Brownie pack.

She was followed by a Yellowknife girl who remained for a year, and then left for a year's sojourn in Europe. Prior to her arrival, a teacherage was built on the school - a very nice furnished four room apartment. This is very handy for the teacher, making it convenient for after school or evening work for a conscientious teacher, and for one not so conscientious to be late for school without the general public being immediately aware.

Our next teacher was an Alberta girl who did excellent work.

She taught for a year as Miss White and then married one of our fine young English boys, remaining to teach for a second year as Mrs. Rayner. Up until then the apartment was occupied by the teacher and a member of the office staff. Cupid was active in 1959 and both occupants of the apartment took the vows of matrimony; the teacher in the summer, and a few months later her companion became Mrs. Falloon giving Discovery its first wedding.



Regretfully we saw the Rayners leave in June, 1960 to go to their farm near Barrie, Ontario.

Our next teacher was from Ontario. Despite a favourable target, Cupid seemed to have shot his bolt in 1959, and this teacher and her successor from Saskatchewan both escaped the snares and delusions and joys of matrimony. Both these girls have returned to university.

In 1963, our first married male teacher arrived from Saskatchewan with his charming wife, eight month old son and Labrador pup. They have taken up residence in the school apartment and are a great asset to our community. School responsibilities are being well handled and children and parents foresee an excellent year.

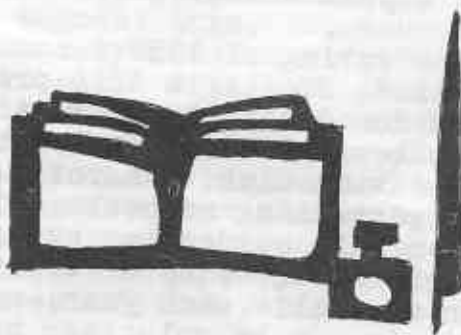
Our school attendance has ranged from eight to fifteen pupils, with only ten this year. Grades I to IX are taught, although a few grades are usually missing. After Grade IX, the pupils go to Sir John Franklin School in Yellowknife, living in residence in the fine Akaitcho Hall.

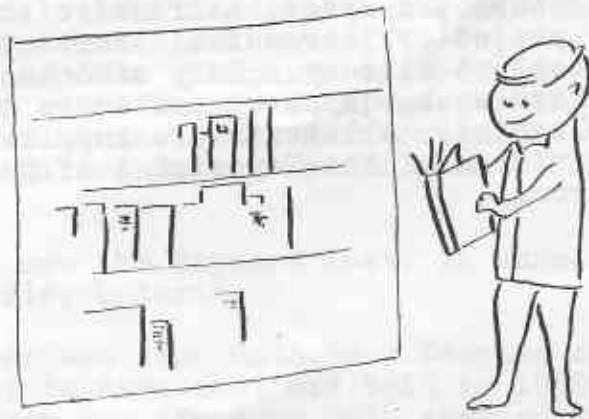
Two outstanding events of the school year are the Hallowe'en party and Christmas concert.

This year will see our eleventh Hallowe'en party. This is held in the Recreation Hall in the afternoon, and is attended by all the ladies of the camp and all children regardless of age. Usually the ladies as well as the children dress in costume and take part in the games. The lunch is usually so bountiful that husbands eat supper alone that night. After supper there is the usual trick or treating, but the last few years this has taken the form of collection for UNICEF, with the children returning at the conclusion to the teacher's residence for a final treat.

The Christmas Concert is one of the year's most enjoyed occasions and draws a capacity audience and then some. These concerts have always been a huge success, a great credit to each teacher, for the task of producing a programme with so few children of such an age range is no mean feat. Community members lend a hand putting up the dressing rooms, and curtains, in obtaining and decorating the tree, and in assisting the children with costume changes. Obtaining a Christmas tree of suitable size is a real accomplishment in this area. Sometimes extra branches have to be added but the result is always satisfactory. Santa makes a visit and every child (and teacher) is well remembered.

Discovery takes great pride in the fine school building which is very modern and well equipped. There is excellent lighting, plenty of cupboard space, attractive shelves for book displays, a piano, projector, large table for table tennis, games and a large and excellent library. Many schools of several rooms would be proud to have such equipment and every teacher has been most amazed and delighted. All texts are supplied to the pupils by the Education Division of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.



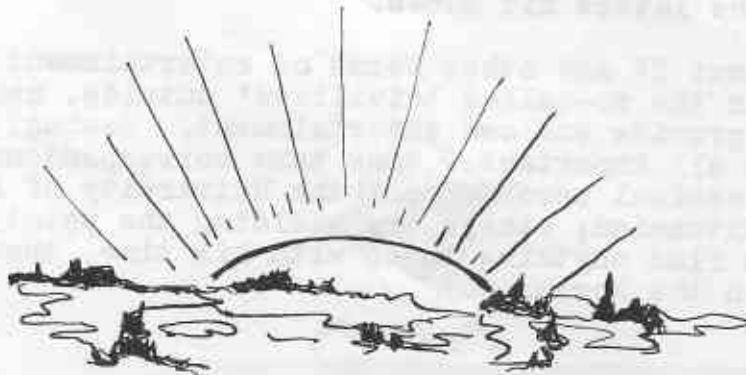


LIBRARY

Although the community library wasn't formed until 1958, Discovery has never been short of reading material. Many of the residents have fairly extensive libraries and surely nowhere have so many subscriptions to book clubs been in effect! Before the formation of the library, boxes of books were borrowed from the Yellowknife Library. The Extension Service of the University of Alberta has also supplied many books.

However, in the spring of 1958 a committee was appointed to get a library organized. To begin this project, over one hundred and fifty books were donated by local residents and this section of donated books has been added to from time to time by departing residents. The Recreation Club then voted the sum of three hundred dollars for the purchasing of books. Two thirds of the initial amount and one half of all succeeding amounts is refunded by the Department of Northern Affairs, upon receiving receipted invoices. This grant has been available each year, so a splendid library has been built up. This is run by volunteer help.

This library, located in the reading room of the Recreation Hall is well patronized, and is a definite asset to our community.



NEWSPAPERS

News has a habit of travelling fast in its own mysterious way in the North, generally known as 'Moccasin Telegraph'. This is not the name of the local paper, but merely the means by which people keep up to date. To augment this, the school children have for many years printed a weekly news sheet. This is usually handed out free and varies in style with each teacher. This year, however, the Junior Red Cross Society has taken on the job of producing the paper and is asking for donations rather than a set price, proceeds of which will help swell their bank account. They have great plans for a larger though less frequent publication - possibly twice a month. As well as local news, there will be essays, poems, sketches, jokes, interesting facts and a newly formed "Ad" section, which could prove most interesting and varied.

Apart from the school paper known as the "Ravens Report", local news and photographs of interest are sent in weekly to Yellowknife where they appear in the "News of the North". As Yellowknife is our 'jumping off' point so to speak, we have many connections with the town and this news service tends to tie the places together.

A great variety of newspapers is received here as there are people of all nationalities. English, Irish, Scottish, German, Italian and Dutch are a few. These are read and passed around and enjoyed by many, regardless of their date. Most papers come through mail subscriptions and are naturally a few days old when received. Magazines can be bought at the Commissary as can pocket novels and comics, but again, most come by mail. There must be copies of nearly every magazine printed, as tastes are many and varied. These do the rounds with the newspapers and are shared by many.

The radio is essential in order to keep up to date with World Affairs. Generally speaking reception is good, especially in the evening. During the day we rely on the local C.B.C. station in Yellowknife which offers a varied and interesting programme and NO commercials! Should reception be poor or local interference too strong, then the record player takes over. There are some very fine collections of records in camp, covering everything from symphonies to the latest hit tunes.

Being without TV and other forms of entertainment enjoyed by people living in the so-called 'civilized' outside, means that it is up to us to provide our own entertainment. Sewing, crafts, and hobbies are all important. Some take correspondence courses; others enjoy classical records from the University of Alberta, Department of Extension; others try wielding the paint brush. If a person cannot find anything to do with his time, then he does not last long in the North.



Hockey - Curling
Rink in background

Scouts and Cubs
Flag Raising July 1





FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

At present we have only two organizations at Discovery, the W.I. and the Junior Red Cross Society. The history of the W.I. will be found in detail elsewhere.

The average number of pupils attending school being around twelve, naturally limits the membership of the Junior Red Cross and rather curtails their activities. Difference in ages ranging from 6 to 15 years also puts a heavy load on the older children. In spite of the drawbacks, they are an active group who are anxious to give a hand and help their fellow members raise money to help those in need. This group has been organized for many years, but is more active some years than others, depending on the leadership. As mentioned elsewhere, their chief project this year is the production of the school paper.

Yellowknife is a town of many organizations and there are people living in Discovery who sometimes manage to attend meetings there. Out of town members belonging to such groups as the Elks, The Royal Purple, the Masons, the Kinsmen, Daughters of the Midnight Sun etc., are always sure of a warm welcome should they happen to be in town.

In years past, when there were more children attending school, Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts have been very popular. The Scouts were particularly active at one time, and we are still able to enjoy the various items of camping equipment built by them. Docks, barbecues, picnic tables and benches make outings all the more pleasant. The only problem they didn't solve was how to get rid of the mosquitoes! However, they even tried that by using special D.D.T. bombs in the stagnant water around camp. Rather a thankless and impossible task as the countryside is riddled with lakes.

Scouts have been very fortunate in having keen and capable leaders. The troop was first formed by Ray Sutcliffe in 1957, and later was taken over by Bill Kruining, who had the honour of being decorated by the Governor General, during his visit to Yellowknife. Bill is an ardent Scout and spent a lot of time with the boys and it was following a Gilwell Course that he received the Wood badge from His Excellency.

The Guides, Brownies, Scouts and Cubs had the opportunity of meeting Prince Philip on his visit to Yellowknife. Also they were taken by planes, chartered for the purpose, by the management of the mine, to take part in the celebrations to welcome their Excellencies, the Vaniers.

In the early days of the camp a Brownie pack was formed and they raised enough money to purchase a record player for the school which has been enjoyed by many pupils since. Then came a period when there were either no girls, or too few, to be worth holding meetings, until 1957 when they were re-activated. Mothers and friends came to the rescue and uniforms were made in the sewing class, of which a word later on. There was only one patrol which naturally limited the type and amount of games that could be played. Hence the emphasis was on work, which in turn was reflected by a very creditable showing of Proficiency badges. This was evident when visiting Yellowknife and comparing their progress with a large group, where the emphasis was more on team projects. Visits to town for the Mother and Daughter banquets were the highlight and enjoyed by all.

These Brownies later became Guides and carried on the good work. They took part in all the usual activities including camping. Funds were raised by Scouts and Guides by collecting rags for the warehouse. Guide cookies were sold as they are all over the country and this is now being carried on by our one "Lone Guide". Again, owing to the lack of children of Guide and Scout age, these groups have become inactive. "Lone Guides" take care of just such a situation when there is just one who wishes to carry on. It is similar to taking a correspondence course and badges can be passed. All that is missing is the companionship and this can be enjoyed each summer when our "loner" joins the Guides in Yellowknife for their annual camp.

Though not organizations, two groups deserve to be mentioned as they were the forerunners of the W.I. In 1955 a Thursday night social evening was started when all the ladies gathered in someone's home and while knitting and sewing, exchanged views, and discussed problems etc. This took place in a different house each week, but eventually, owing to the lack of space in some of the houses, had to be abandoned. As several of the ladies had new sewing machines and were anxious to make the most of them, a sewing evening was started at which instruction and help are given. This has proved very popular and continues to this day under Mrs. Vear's guidance.



Resident women will carry away, along with their happy memories of life in Discovery, a momentum in the form of several sterling silver spoons with a gold nugget on each handle and engraved in the bowl, Discovery, N.W.T. These are presented at a farewell gathering in honour of the departing member.

About the same time a square dancing group was started, which flourished for a while; leather tooling also had its day and for two years there was a wonderful woodworking class for all the boys. A model of Discovery was made, and other items such as shelves, and trays were completed along with some metalwork. All these activities depend on the local talent available and like every other place, there never seem to be enough hours in the day to fit in everything one wants to do.

A Normal Catch



Heated Swimming Pool



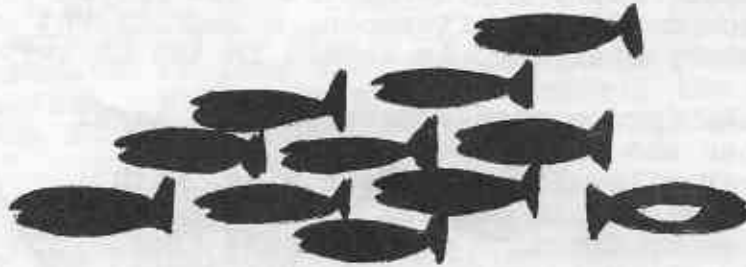


"Summer Relaxation"
 First of July children's race
 First bus to enter camp
 bringing visiting curlers

Below:

Ladies Eight Ender





SPORTS

This wonderful country offers us the same opportunities and summer sports as those offered to the tourists who are coming north in larger numbers each year. With one great difference - we don't have to pay the fancy prices asked by the Fishing Lodges.

We are, in fact, luckier than most people in the north as we can boast a heated outdoor swimming pool. This gives great pleasure to both children and adults alike. The pool has an exotic aqua coloured plastic lining, and is filled with warm water from the compressors. The depth being graduated, swimmers and non-swimmers are catered to and there is a diving board for those who enjoy it. During the hottest season a life-guard is provided so that parents of non-swimmers may relax in the knowledge that their offspring will be well cared for.

Adjoining the pool are swings, seesaws and lots of sand to keep the small folks occupied. There are horseshoes to pitch and a hard tennis court for the energetic. This is thanks to the few keen players who were interested enough to want to construct the court themselves. Being concrete, it dries very quickly after a shower and provides many hours of pleasure from the time the snow can be swept off around May until the snowflakes fly again in October. Until the lake is open for boating the court is always busy, but later the water lures away a number of enthusiastic players. Tournaments are arranged and visits exchanged with the Tennis Club in Yellowknife. Have you ever had the thrill of playing tennis at night on the longest day of the year and been able to take a photograph to prove it?

July the first, Dominion Day, is the BIG holiday here and everyone takes part in the many and varied events. Miners compete in the drilling and mucking contests. There are races for the children and the ladies. Shot put, nail hammering and other events are staged for the men. A tennis tournament, soccer and baseball games, first aid demonstrations and other items all arranged by the Recreation Club. Heat, dust and flies are forgotten while consuming vast quantities of watermelon, ice cream and hot dogs - all courtesy of the Rec Club, including the cash prizes for all competitions. To round off the afternoon, a magnificent cold buffet supper, attended by everyone, is served in the Cookery.

Giauque Lake (pronounced Jakeway) is an ideal setting for those who enjoy boating and fishing. It is about seven miles long, by four wide, with a few scattered island and several sandy beaches. Boats are tied up by the dock which, apart from the airstrip, is the main entrance to Discovery. On arrival, one is confronted by rows of what at first glance look like 'outhouses'. The story goes that one visitor, taking note of the long hill winding up to the camp, remarked that he had no idea there was only outdoor plumbing. He must have been relieved to learn that these were 'kicker shacks' where all the boating equipment is stored.



There are a variety of places for fishing - the Rapids for Greyling and Trout and the reedy places off shore for Jackfish, more correctly named the Great Northern Pike. A number of families establish camps on the islands, setting up tents and equipment which are left there all summer. Weekends are spent here and thanks to the long light evenings, the lack of electricity goes unnoticed. Occasionally bears will visit the camps in search of a tasty morsel and leave their marks by ripping tents, tearing apart cans of food and generally creating havoc. The water is too cold to encourage water skiing enthusiasts, and even the hardy types shiver at thoughts of swimming in the lake.

There is one very original craft in Discovery known as the "Tinpanic". Built to take a large family on the lake, it resembles a raft, supported on rows of empty fuel drums welded together completely fenced in and driven by a low powered 'kicker' or outboard motor. It is supposedly unsinkable and excellent for fishing, sunbathing and diving on a warm day. Another similar craft is made of plywood with styrofoam bonded between the layers and powered in the same manner.

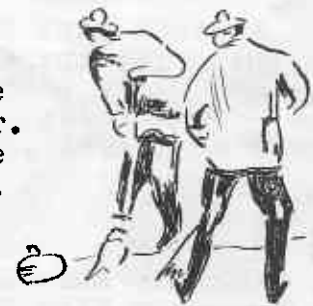
Winter brings a very different range of activities. Contrary to general opinion, there is not much snow and what there is is so dry and powdery that skiing is almost impossible. Late in the spring as it warms up and the snow get sticky, there is a short period when, if one can find a suitable run, skiing may be enjoyed. Likewise the outdoor skating rink can only be enjoyed at the beginning and end of the season. To skate at twenty degrees below zero and colder is hard on the lungs, fingers and toes and noses, apart from being a

little cool. Broomball is a good game in a place where the population is always on the move, as it requires no equipment other than old brooms and a football and is guaranteed to warm you up.

For the outdoor types there is always snow-shoeing and fishing through the ice, but no snowballing or building snowmen as the snow just won't stick together. Tobogganing is popular with the children, especially down the long hill that leads to the lake. A few years ago some Swedish sleighs were brought to Discovery by one of the employees and donated to the children. These proved most popular and the chair mounted on long slim runners looks cumbersome but really travels fast. While one sits in comfort, the other person can stand on the runners behind, and guide the sleigh.

Curling is the main winter sport here with both men and women taking part. The two sheets of ice provide many exciting games highlighted by the Bonspiels. The original rink was built by volunteers and unheated, but it soon became necessary to remedy this defect and provide heat in the rink. Club membership increased rapidly and volunteers added sheet number two in 1959. These adjoin the Recreation Hall and large windows allow spectators to watch the games in comfort.

Thanks to the winter road which runs over frozen lakes and muskeg, it is possible not only to invite teams to Discovery but to partake in Bonspiels in Yellowknife, including the Brier. The camp was proud of the ladies who entered the Bonspiel in Yellowknife and laid an eight ender. Great were the celebrations that night. The curling season ends with a banquet and dance when the much prized trophies are presented to the winners.



Most of the activities mentioned are made possible by the Recreation Club. This is essentially to provide entertainment for the single men living in the bunkhouses, but families are also able to enjoy the privileges. There is a well equipped library, also daily papers and magazines. Crib, darts, pool and pingpong are the favourite pastimes, with whist drives and bingo evenings for added enjoyment. Two different movies are shown each week with a bonus sometimes in the form of special sport reels. Bridge is another popular pastime, particularly in the Staff House and in the homes.

Dances are few and far between owing to the lack of the fairer sex. To overcome this, the famous freeze-up and break-up dances were initiated. For these, planes kept up a shuttle service between Yellowknife and Discovery, bringing out teachers, nurses and others who wished to come. In fact as they advertised at the first dance, "all beautiful blondes and rich widows welcome". The break-up dance being around the end of May means there is very little darkness and guests can be returned to Yellowknife in the early hours along with the sunrise. In contrast, the freeze-up dance occurs during a much darker season and guests are unable to leave until breakfast time.



DISCOVERY FIRSTS

A great part of the history of Discovery is made up of events happening for the first time. Herewith a chapter of 'Discovery Firsts'.

BAPTISM

Candace Marvel Scobie, daughter of Mitchell Wm. James Scobie of Discovery Mine Camp, N.W.T., mechanic, and of Agnes Marvel (nee MacDonald), his wife, born at Yellowknife, N.W.T. on the 29th day of January, 1952, was baptized the 7th January, 1953 in Discovery Recreation Hall.



FIRE

In late October, 1952, a fire broke out one evening in the warehouse. This was a two storey building, containing the office and warehouse on the main floor, and living quarters for the staff on the second floor. The building was completely destroyed, including the radio, which was the only means of communication with Yellowknife. Fortunately, a small plane happened to fly out the following day and enabled word to reach the outer world, so the necessary supplies could be brought in to rebuild.

The following is an oft repeated tale of the fire:

Conversation overheard during Office-Staffhouse fire

The fire is blazing away, with 303 shells from the warehouse going off in all directions, while several diehard men make an effort to save what can be saved. Mr. E.F. Drummond, in his fur hat (which indicated that winter has officially begun) is seen hauling out of the blaze several small items of high value. Amongst these is an engineer's transit, not only a transit, but a very, very old transit. The engineer at that time thought it safely IN the fire and had visions of a new transit. While ducking whining .303 bullets, the following conversation takes place.

Engineer to bystander:

"Great Scott, isn't that EFD lugging out our transit? Why doesn't he save something of great value? I guess now we'll never get a new transit."

The Engineer dashes back into the thunder and smoke to save this and that and accidentally kicks the old, old transit into the inferno again.

A few minutes later, E.F. Drummond, in a display of courage, dashes into the by now blazing fire, a..n..d. returns with the good old engineer's transit. Coughing and sputtering he steps up to the Engineer and says:

"How many of these blooming transits do you fellows have anyway? This is the third one I have carried out of here."

Needless to say the transit at this date still does what is required of it and its 360 degrees have not been affected by the same degrees in Fahrenheit in any way at all.

P.S. During the fire it never got too hot for Mr. Drummond to take his fur cap off.

WINDOW WASHING

Most people wash windows just where they are in their casings. Not so one enterprising employee who, with great care, removed each pane of glass and proceeded to wash these panes in a washing machine. With apologies to Mr. Service, the following tells the tale.

"There are strange things done in the midnight sun

By the men who toil for gold"

So Robert Service tells us in his famous "Cremation of Sam McGee". Had Robert Service lived at Discovery he no doubt would have seen stranger things yet. One of the things he surely would write about would be:

"WINDOW WASHING SAM HOWDEG"

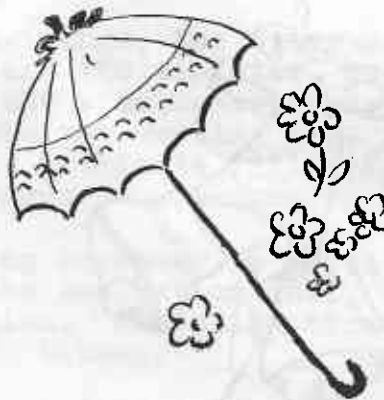
Now Sam Howdeg was from Winnipeg, where the wind blows 'round
Portage and Main
On surface he toils, for some of the spoils, come snow, fair
weather or rain.
One very fine day, the boss comes his way, says Sam, here's
what you do,
The windows wash good, and clean off the soot, so one can
surely see through.

To the task he sprang, as the telefon rang, (on the front
office desk nearby)
He took out each pane, but he searched in vain, (and the
secretary wonders why)
For the H₂O, and it seems as though, the water he cannot
find,
When along comes Vince, and he merrily hints, in a manner
very kind

There's water there, beyond the stair, in the wash house
plenty full.
And off Sam goes, why, no one knows, to cleanse the panes
that're dull.
The washing machine, that is therein, he fills with aqua
to the top.
The panes he ducks, as someone knocks, at the door and
does not stop.

Ho Sam he calls, as something falls, and splinter of glass
rings out,
What're you doing there? It's as though I hear a crashing
jingling sound.
Calls Sam, oh boss, I am at a loss, the panes I tried to
wash,
Soon's I drop one in, the wash machine, I hear this
grinding crash.

I'm OK in here, but I greatly fear, our windows they are
gone,
So, tell me boss, and make no fuss, although the damage
is done.
I dropped them slow, and it seems as though, they would
get nice and clean.
But the washer hit hard, and they fell all apart. Can
you afford a new wash machine?



BRIDAL SHOWER

On September 15th, 1960, the first Bridal Shower to be given at Discovery, was held in honor of Mrs. David Rayner, formerly Miss Dina White, at the home of Mrs. John Gibson. Co-hostesses were Miss Helen Magee and Mrs. Lovlin.

Miss White, teacher at the Discovery School, and Mr. Rayner, of the mine building department, had been married in Edmonton in August.

After the shower of miscellaneous gifts, presented in a decorated clothes basket, had been opened, games were played and many prizes awarded. Highlight of the affair was a fashion show featuring 'high style' ensembles manufactured from household articles such as Christmas tree lights, pie plates, bath mats etc. Models for the show were the hostesses, and the fashion commentator Mrs. Ralph Lovlin.

Lunch was served and the evening closed with the best wishes of the Discovery population being extended to the happy couple.



Otter Aircraft - Boat Marina



Giauque Lake



WEDDING

No pains were spared by the isolated northern town of Discovery, 60 air miles northeast of Yellowknife, to make its first wedding a long-to-be-remembered occasion.

Miss Helen Magee and Mr. Raymond Falloon, who were married in the first wedding ceremony ever to be held in Discovery, were accorded honours which elsewhere might be reserved for a royal visit.

The town's gold mines were shut down for the first time in their history, the school children were given a holiday and the 200-odd residents of the town devoted the day to the festivities.

When Miss Magee and Mr. Falloon announced plans to be married in Edmonton several months ago, the residents protested that Discovery could provide all the glamor of an 'outside' wedding. Then they set out to prove it.

The mining company offered to provide an Otter aircraft for 'going away'; Mr. R.J. Kilgour, general manager, volunteered to give the bride away, and the commissary supervisor, Edward Marett, set to work on the wedding cake.

A shower, post-rehearsal reception and trousseau tea were held for the bride.

Then, when everything was going perfectly, it seemed that all the work was for naught. In the Arctic Circle, everything is dependent upon planes and flying weather. Snow storms arrived a few days before the wedding, and it seemed that there would be no flowers....and for that matter, no wedding. Rev. J.R. Marshall, the minister who was to perform the ceremony, was flying in with

the flowers.

In spite of misgivings, the Otter arrived on schedule. The flowers were aboard and the minister, but the decoration which had been ordered to top the wedding cake was forgotten. Mr. Marett spent the night before the wedding experimenting with icing until he created a crown of intricate filigree, which wedding guests pronounced a masterpiece of workmanship.

After the wedding ceremony, a reception for more than 100 guests was held in the Recreation Hall, decorated with white and silver for the occasion. Reception arrangements were made by Mrs. R. Lovlin and Mrs. J. Gibson.

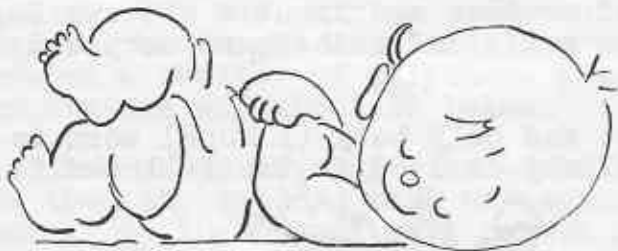
The bridal party included Mrs. G. Barnhouse, sister of the bride; Mr. M.V. Ennis, best man; Mr. Derek Sponton and Mr. Leonard Wotherspoon, ushers; Luann Lovlin, flower girl, and John Gibson Jr., ring bearer. Organist was Mr. C.H. Macdonald, mine manager, and soloist was Mrs. J. Garner. Mr. Macdonald proposed a toast to the bride.

Hardy residents of Discovery braved 20-below temperatures to see Mr. and Mrs. Falloon off as they boarded their chartered plane at the airstrip. From somewhere, a length of red carpet had been found as a final touch to the wedding.

Camera shutters clicked and movie film ground to record the town's first wedding - but no camera could record the sound of the scene, the barking of sleigh dogs, the clamor of the Yellowknife ravens and the shouts of 'Bon Voyage'.

Mr. and Mrs. Falloon will visit relatives in Edmonton and Vancouver before leaving for a month's holidays in San Francisco and Acapulco. Then it will be back home to Discovery, the town where their wedding is recorded as a 'first'.

.....from Edmonton Journal



FIRST BABY BORN IN DISCOVERY

The first aid nurse, Mrs. Win Wood, hopes there won't be a second occurrence of the following episode which is told in her own words:

"We were all tired after celebrating the New Year, 1963, and friends were still coming around till quite late. About 2 AM we decided to go to bed and lock the door. We had not been asleep long, when we heard a knock at the door, then someone walking by our bedroom window (our bedroom being on the ground floor) to our front door which we never use. Thinking it was one of the men, my husband called out "go away".

Next thing we knew, a head was peeking in at the window asking for me. We discovered it was Mr. Halpin from the other side of town telling me his wife was in labour! Oh boy - did I ever get dressed in a hurry and over to see what was what, as I am the company nurse! On arriving at the house I found the mother in the last stage of labour, so I nipped back home as quickly as possible, phoned the manager of mines to ask him to arrange for a plane and a doctor to come out at once, then collected some things I would need and off back to the Halpins.

Got the husband cracking on moving out the youngest child's cot from the bedroom, and putting in a small table for my equipment. I then fixed the mother up for delivery; being trained in England we deliver with the mother on her left side, so I had to ask Mr. Halpin to help by holding up her leg! Thank goodness they didn't know how nervous I was - not having delivered a baby for 25 years. It was also very hot work as I had on my winter woolies and ski pants under my apron. It was about 40 below zero outside.

We delivered a lovely fat little baby girl weighing 7 3/4 lbs., she had the cord around her neck which caused me an anxious moment!

The father was as pleased as punch having seen the baby born and they were both thrilled it was a girl. Their other children were boys. This all happened in an hour, the baby being born at 4 AM, but the doctor didn't arrive till 5 AM. In the meantime my husband got out the truck and drove onto the airport to show lights for the plane landing, and to pick up the doctor. At this point, all the men had tea - the pilot included, in the kitchen. Mrs. Halpin and I had ours upstairs; then I made her and the baby comfortable, bathed etc. and the doctor went back to Yellowknife leaving the mother and baby for me to look after in Discovery, which I was very pleased to do. My husband and I then walked home and called into the office to tell the news. It being 8 AM now, we got our family up and cooked breakfast, then went to bed to catch up on a little sleep.

Incidentally, this was a natural birth with no drugs or anaesthetic and the mother said it was the best yet. She had four other children and told me she always had needles and trouble afterwards, so I felt very proud that we did so well, and mother and baby did wonderfully.

That is the story of the first and only baby (I hope) born in Discovery. She was also the first baby of 1963 in the Yellowknife area."



FIRST WALK TO YELLOWKNIFE

As it takes a certain type of individual to start out on a 70 mile walk, the following episode told by Maisie Graham will probably not be repeated:

It is about 74 miles by road from Discovery to Yellowknife. The annual Dog Derby is held there the latter part of March, when the days are begging to lengthen out. Maisie and Jack, being ardent walkers, decided last March to go, not by plane, truck, or dog sled - but on foot.

They prepared carefully for their 'jaunt'. For the three preceeding Sundays they hiked 25 miles. During the last week they rubbed their feet with cheap spirits (scent) to toughen the feet, thus avoiding blisters.

For clothing Maisie wore long woollen knee-length stockings and ski pants - a viyella shirt, woollen sweater and sheep skin coat - and muk-luks - a fur hat, which comes down over the brow. In very cold weather she tied a scarf over her mouth. Jack was similarly attired.

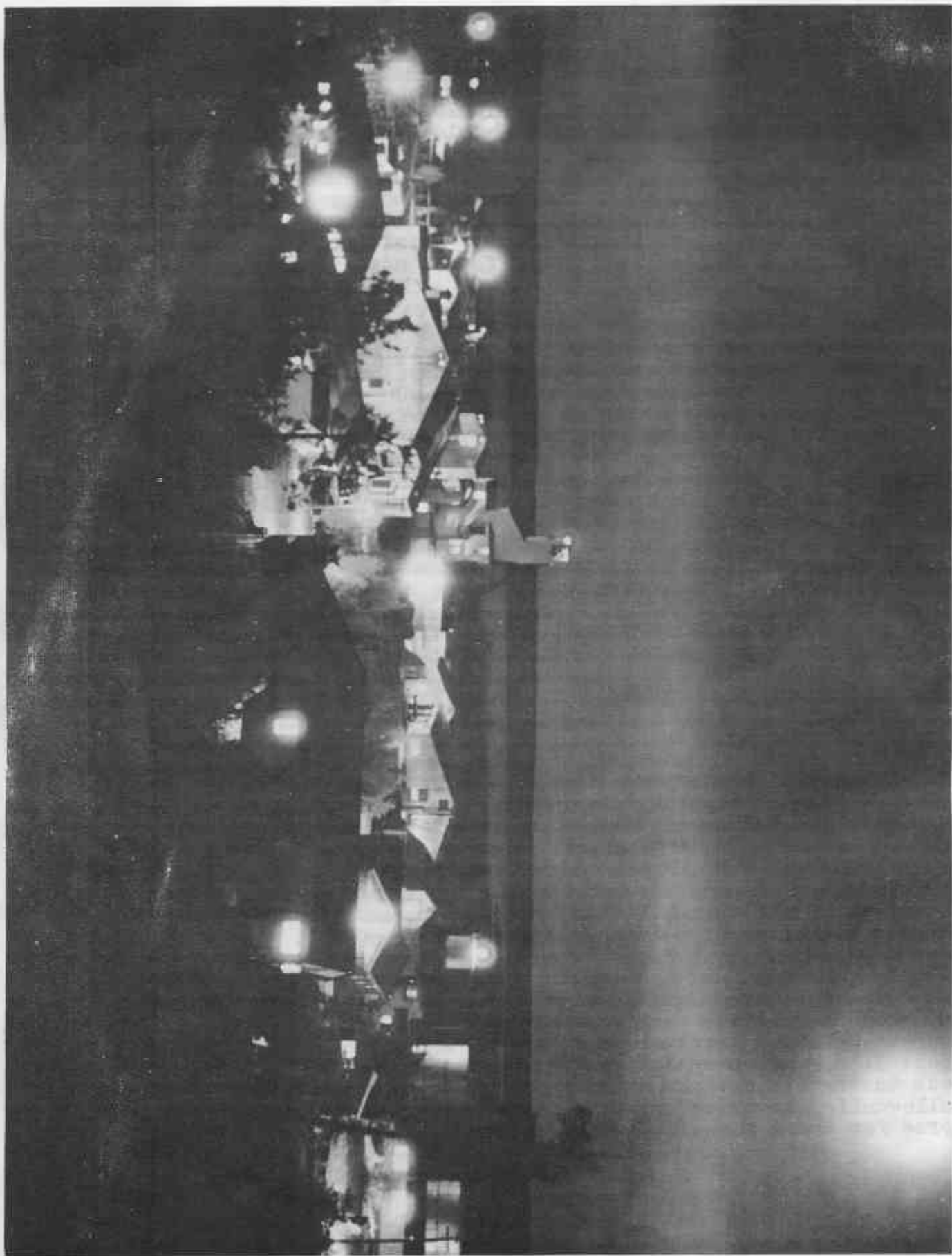
Much gear had to be packed; food, sleeping bags, axe etc., which was hauled on a wooden toboggan.

Each morning, during the journey, a fire was built and they had a hot meal with plenty of tea or coffee, but they had nothing to eat or drink during the day, as they didn't wish to spare the time to build a fire and melt snow - or food.

The first day they made about 18 miles before stopping for a hot meal....then another 10 miles to reach a cabin where they stayed for the night. They crawled into their sleeping bags fully clothed, without lighting a fire, being sure to put their foot gear into the bottom of their bags.

The second day the wind blew, drifting in the road, so that by 6 PM they had only covered about 11 miles. They decided to camp for the night in a little grove of trees - no cabin - but erected a shelter of polythene draped over some cut poles. The temperature was about 30 below.

The third morning started with a breakfast of sizzling steaks and then the tedious task of packing which always took about 2 hours. By 10:30 they were on the road and travelled steadily till about 3:30, when they stopped for another steak meal - and then back to travelling. By midnight they had arrived at the hotel in Yellowknife, after covering 35 miles that day - tired but none the worse for their three day walk.



DISCOVERY, N.W.T. Night View

GOLDEN WEDDING

The Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. George Whitaker was celebrated on January 1st, 1960.

Friends in the community paid their respects to the honoured couple at a reception held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kilgour.

The 'bride and groom' cut an intricately decorated wedding cake.

Highlight of the evening was the presentation to Mrs. Whitaker of a golden corsage, backed by a fifty dollar bill and to her husband, a boutonniere with another fifty dollar bill.

This has been the only Golden Wedding celebration at Discovery and residents were happy to have the opportunity of honouring such respected citizens of the community.

Here endeth the tales of woe and jubilation being respectfully submitted by women who feel that the mark Discovery is leaving in history should not go unrecorded.



Typical Winter Attire

EPILOGUE

Gold! Gold! More gold!

In October, 1963, when the earlier chapters were written, Discovery expected to run out of ore in 1964, and by January, 1965, the mine was expected to be abandoned. However, due to the dogged perseverance and determination of the mine staff, in December, 1963, a new, strong vein of ore was discovered on the 2950 foot level of the mine. In subsequent months this vein was explored above and below the original discovery and enough ore was found to almost guarantee a further life of four or five years. In addition, hopes for further discoveries both laterally and to greater depths, were given a sharp boost. These have since been realized.

This discovery changed the attitude of the settlement sharply. Local residents breathed a sigh of relief at not having to pack up and move out. People began to redecorate and refurnish their homes; gardeners enlarged their gardens; boating enthusiasts bought more boats; larger and fancier than before with bigger and faster motors to drive them; camping devotees set up more elaborate camps on many of the numerous islands in beautiful Giauque Lake. Some even built attractive cabins. Many a long light summer evening, and week end, or even a few weeks' holiday is spent "out on the island".

In March, 1964, four trailers were brought into camp to meet the increased demand for housing that had arisen. Later that year a new residence was built. In January, 1965, another trailer was set up and soon after another residence erected, also a new powder magazine was built.

In April, 1964, Mr. C.H. Macdonald, who had been manager here since 1956, went to the Yukon Territory to open up and manage the La Forma Mine near Carmacks for Discovery. Mrs. Macdonald, long a faithful W.I. member, and the boys, joined him in June of that year.

In April, 1965, an excellent community effort produced a fine marina capable of docking over twenty boats. In that month an intensive overhaul of the pipeline began. There is about a mile of these boxes, and most of this system was entirely rebuilt, resulting in a great improvement in heat transmitted.

A new office-warehouse building is under construction with occupancy expected late in the year. The former building will be converted to residential apartments.

In August, the mine's output was increased to 235 tons per day, achieved by the addition of another ball mill. This meant no important capital outlay for plant or equipment, or any increase in the number of employees.

Now in October, 1965, with these expanding operations, Discovery is a busy community. Although we realize that a mine is a wasting asset and must close someday, we look forward to a continuation of Discovery life for another ten years at least. May the closing date be in the far distant future!

Long may Discovery produce and prosper!

DISCOVERY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
October 1963-1965

As we write this in October, 1965, the Discovery Women's Institute is about to commence its sixth year.

We have continued to support our "adopted" daughter, Po Ching Ho of Hong Kong. Christmas and birthday gifts have been sent and letters exchanged. Last year's Christmas gift was a beautiful doll and a most complete wardrobe of Canadian type clothes made by the W.I. members.

We have had a number of helpful demonstrations and work shops which have included the making of Christmas decorations from tin can lids; Christmas gift wrappings, ornaments and novelties; smocked cushions; articles from nylon net; and a two day millinery work shop under the guidance of Mrs. R. Thomson of Yellowknife.

We sponsored a film on Northern Transportation produced locally by Mr. W. Kruining. Lunch was served to those attending. Members of the Institute assisted at Discovery's first Winter Carnival, in March, 1965.

Money has been raised to support our various activities and projects by holding penny auctions, raffling a well outfitted Barbie Doll, raffling of cakes, an Easter egg and bake sale, home card parties, and by rag and glass collections. These latter are purchased by the Company.

Since our members often travel to far places, we have been able to have a number of interesting travelogues on such places as Mexico, the Caribbean, Hawaii, Germany, England, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

Indoor and outdoor pot-luck suppers have proved enjoyable occasions.

We have a liaison officer to the Recreation Club and through this direct contact with the Rec Club Executive, we feel that our suggestions have been helpful to the Community. This year we expect to assist our school teacher in a number of ways.

Overseas correspondence with Scotland and Tasmania, as well as a number of Canadian W.I.'s has been maintained. Visitors from England have told us of the work of their institutes. These contacts, besides being of great interest, help us to realize what a fine world-wide organization we are part of, and to learn something of the national and international projects.

January and February, 1964 brought great sadness to the whole community with the deaths of two of our charter members, Mrs. R.F. Stedman (Eve) and Mrs. R.G. Wood (Win). Both of them are sadly missed by all. In memory of these two dearly beloved members of our W.I., we, as individuals, made donations to the Cancer Fund. It is our sincere hope and prayer that the research carried on as a result of such donations will some day come up with the cure for this dread disease.

All Discoveryites were saddened also, to learn of the deaths of three former long-time residents, R. Lindgren in Windsor in August, 1963; Mr. G. Whitaker in Edmonton, October, 1963, and Mrs. Whitaker in Vancouver, July, 1965.

One of the most valuable contributions to individuals and to the women as a whole is the companionship and exchange of ideas shared at these gatherings. So as we enter our sixth year we, the W.I., will be one rich in friendship and learning, that will make us better homemakers and community members, carrying out our motto of "For Home and Country".

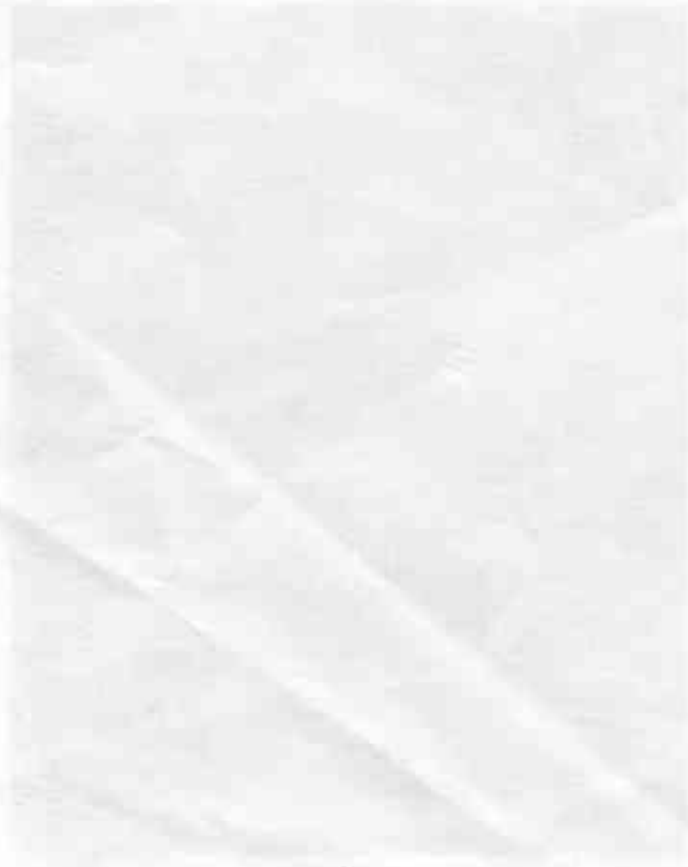
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