

















## The Tweed



0 per Year in Advance—\$2.00 to U.S.A.

TWEED, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1948

### New Industry to Locate In Tweed

# Mica From Mazinaw Deposit To Be Processed At Tweed Plant Is Announcement By Officials

GROUND FLOOR OF LO.O.F. COMMUNITY HALL IS LEASED

START RIGHT AWAY

Will Employ Girls Here — Not a Wartime Project is Company's Claim

Tweed is to be the home of a new industry, which it is anticipated, will eventually employ up to one hundred people if present plans mature The Marston Minerals Ltd. of Toronto, acquired a lease on the ground floor of the I.O.O.F. Community Hall this morning. Muscovite mica, from a deposit at the north end of Mazinaw Lake, will be processed and split here. This announcement was made to The News today by Gerald Matthews of Kirkland Lake who will be in charge of the Tweed plant, Mr. H. S. Parker of Toronto and Montreal, Treasurer of the Company, and Reeve E. W. Jones who has been in touch with officials of the firm for some time. Mr. Jones has been an advocate of new industries for the village for several years but this is the first time his efforts have met with success.

It was stated that Mr. E. H. Mac-Innes, President of the Company, visited the village recently and he was impressed with Tweed, particularly from the standpoint of shipping facilities as well as its waterworks system. Not Wartime Industry

This is definitely not a wartime industry as mica is used in the manufacture of all electronics, particularly toasters, radios, condensors, the airplane industry, etc. However, it is much more essential during wartime and there will be a ready market for all the mica that the company can produce. It is understood that the finished product will be absorbed by Colonial Mica Ltd. and in turn, it will be sold to the United States' govern-Dominion and Provincial geologists, after a careful probe, have given company officials to understand that the deposit is of considerable quantity, quite sufficient to keep the rocessing plant busy for some time.

A sixty-foot shaft has already been sunk and the product is mined by blasting and picks. Considerable exploration work was necessary but the possibilities of the deposit have finally been established.

Mr. Matthews who has been employed by The Purdy Mica and other mining companies in Canada, is impressed with the quality of mica in the Mazinaw deposit and is convinced that it is superior to any other type or grade yet found in Canada. The crystals vary in size and mica is said to be much heavier than coal.

Six or Eight Employed

It is understood that very little machinery will be needed here as it is mostly hand-work. About a dozen men will be employed at the mine, while six to eight girls will be trained by Mr. Matthews in the Tweed plant, following which additional numbers will be taken on the staff. The mica will be trucked into Tweed. Officials emphasized that this is not a wartime project but will become a permanent industry so long as the deposits yield the type of mica now being mined.

Mr. Matthews and Mr. Parker will be the only officials of the Company to make their home in Tweed for the present. Officials of the I.O.O.F. lodge met with the men last night and gave favorable consideration to the matter of leasing the building.

#### Bright Future Is Predicted For Tweed's New Industry, Marston Minerals; Muscovite Mica In Demand

PROCESSING OPERATIONS TO START AT LOCAL PLANT THIS WEEK

BUILDINGS ERECTED

Quality Said Similar to Purdy, America's Largest Producer

Mr. Gerald Matthews, foreman at Marston Minerals, advises The News that he expects to have a number of girls processing mica at the new plant in the I.O.O.F. Hall here within a few days. Due to priorities granted the company, the electrical fixtures arrived in short order while cutting tables were constructed by carpenters this week. Mr. Harry Parker, Treasurer of the company, visited the mine near Mazinaw Lake this week, where the head-frame was placed in position. At the present time a dozen men are employed in preparing the raw mica for shipment to Tweed.

Since August a gang of men have been engaged in constructing a cookery and bunk-houses at the mine. Mr. E. H. MacInnes, President of the firm, is expected to visit Tweed in the near future to view the progress which has been made. Mr. MacInnes is President of The Houghton Company of Canada.

An exceedingly bright future is predicted for the Marston Minerals. There is only one other property in Canada, the Purdy Mica Mine at North Bay, which is said to be producing high-grade muscovite mica. Mr. Matthews was in charge of the original Purdy plant at Mattawa and was formerly on the staff of The Teck-Hughes Mine at Kirkland Lake. Both The Marston Minerals and the Purdy dispose of their finished product to Colonial Mica Corporation, agent for the United States Government. The Purdy plant at North Bay will have five hundred girls working within a short time. Since the deposits are similar in quality, we believe the following item from last week's issue of The Financial Post will be of interest to our readers:

"With its new processing plant at North Bay in operation, Purdy Mica Mines is expected to become the largest producer of muscovite (white) mica on this continent, it is reported.

Mica for processing comes from the company's mine in the Eau Claire district, near Mattawa, Ontario, about 25 miles east of North Bay. Because of the large size of the mica 'books' a good part of production brings a premium on regular prices. Although mining has been carried out to only shallow depths so far, sufficient mater ial has been placed aside to keep

#### To Employ 500

The new North Bay processing plant has about 200 employees on the payroll, according to official announce ment, and it is expected to reach capacity with 500 at work in a month or so. With more than 800 applications on hand, the company is assured of ample help both at North Bay and at the original factory at Mattawa, which continues to operate at capacity with approximately 100 girls employed.

Officials estimate that at present plant capacity, output of mica will run about 30,000 lbs. valued at \$70,000 monthly. Net profit on this scale of production should be around \$30,000 per month, it is stated. Entire output has been contracted for by Colonial Mica Corp., agent for the United States Government's Metal Reserve Co. It was on the strength of Colonial's request for increased supplies that Purdy established its new North Bay plant."



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### Compliments of the Season to the People of Tweed

This Company was established in Tweed only a few weeks ago and we are extremely pleased with the reception from the people of the village. We have been shown every co-operation and consideration.

At this season of the year we dould not permit this opportunity to pass without expressing our sincere gratitude.

MARSTON MINERALS Ltd.

December 1943.

## HELP WANTED

GIRLS and WOMEN to Split Mica

Pleasant Working Conditions
GOOD PAY TO START

APPLY National Selective Service at the plant, I. O. O.F. COMMUNITY HALL

Marston Minerals Ltd.

TWEED

ONT.





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Feb. 17, 1944

#### **Marston Minerals** Temporarily Halt **Local Operations**

LARGE NEW COMPRESSOR BEING INSTALLED AT LAKE MAZ-INAW MINES

Officials of The Marston Minerals announced today that operations will be temporarily suspended at the local plant for a period of ten days. This move was made necessary by the ad-justment of operations at the mine at Lake Mazinaw. A shaft has been sunk to a depth of sixty feet and in order to get "drifting" satisfactorily under way, this move was made necessary. The Company plans to suspend operations temporarily in order to be assured of continuous business later on. It is desired to maintain the present shaft for the purpose it was intended, and not as a hole in the ground from which to dig mica.

Messrs. Harry Parker, Treasurer, and Gerald Matthews, Foreman at the plant here, visited the mine this week and they came back highly optimistic for the future. "We are assured of a deposit twelve hundred feet in length and the general opinion of geologists is that mica extends to the same depths as the latter length of the vein," Mr. Parker told The News. "We when the general two weeks are the general to grand the part two weeks and the general two weeks the general two weeks." vein," Mr. Parker told The News. "We plan to spend the next two weeks "drifting" from the shaft and at the same time, extending the capacity of the Tweed plant," he said. At present, 32 girls and women are employed but this will be increased to 50 next month when sufficient mica is on hand to permit uninterrupted operations. "We are pleased with the progress made to date and assure our employees that the temporary lay-off employees that the temporary lay-off creates difficulties for us as well as it does for them," Mr. Parker pointed out. The road leading from the mine to Highway 41 near Lake Mazinaw may be hazardous for travel during may be hazardous for travel during the early Spring months and for this reason, the company desires to have

a big surplus of crystals on hand. "We had hoped to make our first shipment to the Metals Reserve in the United States late this month, but we will be obligated to postpone shipment until late next month," the official

With additional mica on hand to-gether with an extension of the local plant facilities, the Marston Minerals expect things to boom during the Spring months.

A new 310 cubic feet compressor will be installed at the mine within the next two weeks to create additional power for the hoist and other mach-

With thirty girls and women al-ady trained, it is expected that all ready trained, it is expected that all of these will be available when the plant resumes operations in two weeks. Immediately following, an ad-ditional twenty will be sought to fill ent

Jazuary 13, 1944.

#### **Marston Minerals** Plan Additions To **Tweed Plant Staff**

MICA BEING MUSCOVITE PRODUCED HERE OF QUALITY

Original plans of the Marston Minerals for a progressive local industry are maturing rapidly. It is understood from Mr. Harry Parker, Treasurer of the Company, that muscovite mica of a high quality is being produced at the mine near Lake Mazinaw and this will necessitate improvements at the local plant with additional help being required. Company officials state that the local staff will be greatly augmented by the addition of girls and women.

Muscovite mica which is in heavy demand by the United States' government for war purposes, will be treated at the Tweed plant and it is hoped to make the first shipment within the next six weeks. Mr. Parker is extremely enthused with the prospects here and with additional girls and women on the staff, the finished mica will be turned out in greater quantities. The I.O.O.F. Community Hall, headquarters of the plant, has under-gone some interior alterations which improved working conditions. If sufficient help can be secured turn out the mica on a larger scale, it is planned to add another shift. Mr. Gerald Matthews, foreman, is pleased with the type of feminine help who have already been taken on the payroll. The women are finding the work pleasant and are being trained to trim, grade and size the mica as fast as circumstances will permit.

This new industry is only in its infancy and while the output is entirely diverted to war purposes, it is hoped that the post-war period will see new available markets opened, particularly in the field of electronics. Tweed was indeed fortunate that company officials were induced to locate their processing plant here. In due course, it will, no doubt, develop into a thriving industry. The plans are to increase the present staff to include about sixty girls and women. This pay-roll will be the means of circulating extra cash within the community, all of which goes to increase the prosperity of the village.

