

running a special T.& N.O. passenger train from Cobalt for folks from that community to attend.

This smelter was hailed as possessing features that would overcome the problems faced by earlier smelting processes. No ores were thought to be too difficult for this new smelter.

Much to the owner's dismay, the machinery involved proved to be unsuitable for handling Cobalt ore. This had to be replaced with machinery brought from Europe.

In using the cyanide process in the smelting procedure, concern was voiced by many with regard to the possible contamination of North Bay's water supply.

In 1905 the pumping station of drinking water was moved from Timmins Street (1891) to Trout Lake because the water from Nipissing was always silty.

By early March of 1909, Montreal Reduction and Smelting Company's concentrator, working twenty-four hours a day, was treating fifty tons of low and middle grade Cobalt ores per day. Company officials were positive that, with their furnaces in action for treating high grade ore, they could better all competitors. In addition, their plans were to proceed with the smelting of gold-copper ores from the Temagami area.

On the local political front, the Industrial Committee of North Bay council was pushing for more industries for the town. Letters were sent to twenty-five potential businesses that were interested in the area, with accompanying advertisements listing positive reasons for establishing their operations in the town.

In 1981 Lake Nipissing Water Pumping Station inlet was put in circa 1891. "A twelve-inch cast iron conduit pipe, 585 feet long, with flexible joints where necessary, was laid out into the lake."

One result of the committee's effort was an enquiry from the Dominion Refineries Limited. Their interest in a North Bay location was to handle the refining of finer metals. A condition this company requested was the use of the old town waterworks pumping station. By the summer of 1912, Dominion Refineries Limited refinery on Lake Nipissing's shores in the west end of

Unfortunately this put that inlet into the strongest current in the lake which runs parallel to the shoreline of the lake throughout the city and Ferris Township. The result was that the water supplied was almost always cloudy and silty! ¹⁵⁵ I assume they gave the equipment to this company which moved it and built the smelter near the 10th Street outfall.

After a major storm in 2006 the City covered this over but this also exposed the two input pipes and a metal half culvert that was used to transport the fine tailings well out into the lake. Part of this can be seen in an 1958 MMNR air photo and I have pictures. After a storm in August 2016 a lady reported there being "clay"

North Bay was refining Cobalt silver ore, and processing the silver ore by-products further.

and I recovered some - after a hundred years these tailings have come ashore. In attending the Dec 7th PIC I was surprised to see red anomalies on LIDAR images showing pipes and tailings plume.

Success eluded both companies. Volume of smelting was not enough to meet expenses. Both went under within a few years of start-up. Thank GOD for this!