

# Markets Are No Problem For Nfld. Propylite Mine

By IAN MACDONALD  
Canadian Press Staff Writer  
ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP)—Manager John St. John predicts the propylite mill in the Long Pond-Manuel district, 15 miles from here, will ship 27,000 tons of the processed ore to the United States this year.

"Markets are no problem," he said. "We can sell all we can mine."  
Propylite is a base for ceramic tiles commonly used to cover bathroom walls. The tiles come in a wide range of colors and in recent years have found favor with artists who paint pictures on the small squares, about the size of a cigarette package.

Mill chemist Ewart Burke says the deposit is "the finest in the world." The lowest grade is about 80 per cent propylite and the highest almost 100 per cent. There is only one other propylite mill in Canada—a small operation near Vancouver.

One of the world's most prolific iron ore bodies, Bell Island in Conception Bay, is only a few miles from the mill site.  
**WHITE ORE**  
Propylite is mined about two miles away and trucked to the mill. Unprocessed ore is white or gray white and has a soft soapy feeling.

Tractors move the stockpiled ore to a crusher where it is smashed into a fine powder. The crushed ore is carried to a huge drier and then moves to the ball mill where it is crushed even finer.  
Mr. Burke says the mill employees usually wear gas masks when working with the white dust but the precaution is hardly necessary. Silica in the dust is usually associated with silicosis but no cases have been reported since the mill first opened here about 60 years ago.

The mill was forced to close during the Second World War because ships were not available to carry the ore to markets. Conception Bay was a hunting ground for submarines that picked off freighters loaded with vital Bell Island iron ore.

**TO BOOST OUTPUT**  
The mine, up to 1955, was only turning out about 50 tons a day. Premier Smallwood says the department of economic development "made vigorous efforts to bring in a strong company to open up the mill and quarry on a larger scale."

The government bought the mill in 1956 and sold it to the American Encaustic Tiling Company of Lansdale, Penn., over a five-year period.

Since then, the company has spent about \$200,000 on new equipment and improvements.

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Ore now is being stockpiled at the rate of 100 tons a day but the mill is refining it at the rate of 40-45 tons a day. Production is expected to increase considerably when new equipment is installed.

Newfoundland Minerals Ltd., a subsidiary of the tiling company, operate the mill and employs about 40 men.

**GOVERNMENT HELPS**  
Mr. St. John says production and the working force will increase considerably when the modernization program is completed.

## Not Guilty Plea In Murder Case

SKOWHEGAN, Me. (AP)—Everett E. Savage, Jr., a 34-year-old Augusta business executive, pleaded not guilty Tuesday to a charge that he murdered a pretty 29-year-old Oakland housewife in what police described as a lover's lane tryst.  
More than 100 spectators, including Savage's wife, mother of his three children, heard the warrant accusing him of slaying Mrs. Patricia Wing, whose naked, battered body was found in his automobile June 5.  
Dr. Irving Goodoff, a Waterville pathologist, said Mrs. Wing was suffocated some time during the afternoon of June 3. Mrs. Wing disappeared from her home that day while her truck driver husband slept after a night's run.

## Bus Strike In London Continues

LONDON (Reuters)—London's 50,000 bus workers have decided to continue their 43-day strike.  
After four days of voting at 112 garages, the final count was 60 in favor of continuing the strike, 52 against.  
The strike for higher wages began May 4, taking 8,400 buses off the roads and forcing an average

of 8,000,000 passengers a day to find other transportation.

Union leaders Friday night urged the strikers to accept a management peace proposal. With the decisions of their garages expressed, district delegates Tuesday night agreed the strike would continue.

Union chief Frank Cousins and his 13-man negotiating committee are scheduled to meet again today to consider future policy.  
Meanwhile, more than 7,700 dock workers—a quarter of London's stevedores—were still on strike Tuesday, leaving 63 ships idle and five undermanned.  
Labor Minister Iain MacLeod is setting up a committee to investigate a nine-week-old dispute at a wholesale meat market that touched off the dock strike.

**WAR ACE BURIED**  
COVENTRY, R.I. (AP)—John T. Godfrey, 36, one of the leading aces of the Second World War, was buried Monday, victim of a rare disease. Godfrey, who claimed 36 kills in the war, died Thursday at Freeport, Me. He was stricken two years ago with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a rare nerve disease.

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