CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED

OPERATING THE FOLLOWING DIVISIONS

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5th September, 1935

Mr. E. B. Yancey, General Manager, Explosives Department, E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Company, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Yancey:-

For your information we are enclosing herewith a copy of the report covering the accident at Waverley, Nova Scotia on July 25th, 1935, complete with photostat and prints.

Should you require further details will you please advise?

Yours very truly,

General Manager, Explosives & Ammunition Group.

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ACCIDENT AT WAVERLEY, NOVA SCOTIA JULY 25, 1935

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About a year ago we concluded that it would be desirable to make as safe as possible all the properties, now or formerly owned by C-I-L, on which explosives factories had existed in order that if the land were sold there would be no possibility of the new owner, or anyone in the future, meeting with an accident through the presence of explosives.

Small shots of dynamits were fired at the sites of old buildings and in drainage ditches where Nitro-glycerine might have been present at our abandoned factories at Nancose Bay, B.C., Bowen Island, B.C., and Vaudreuil, Quebec. The Western work was done by our Operating people in the West and Mr. J. B. Bell (who was more familiar with Vaudreuil plant than anyone else now with the Company) supervised the work there.

Last Fall we sent Mr. H. M. Roscoe all the blue prints which we had of the old Acadia plant showing where buildings had formerly stood and asked him to put in shots at various places where N.G. might be present. Since the weather was bad at that time, the work was postponed

evidence of N.G. had come to the conclusion that there was no accumulation of nitroglycerine, but they decided to put in one more shot near the lake where there was evidence that drainage might have flowed from the Nitroglycerine building which had been in operation some years prior to the formation of Canadian Explosives Limited; that is, 1910. fuse had been lit, Mr. Leighton was told to take the remaining cartridges of dynamite and proceed out to the main road, and the other three retired behind an old stone building which stood about 75 feet from where the charge was placed. The detonation followed, creating two irregular adjoining craters which, overall, measured about 150 long, 25 deep and about 50 wide. The explosion absolutely demolished the stone building behind which the men had taken refuge and no doubt the fall of this building was the immediate cause of their death, but the earth and stones from the explosion covered up the demolished building to a depth of about four feet.

While it is obvious that in the circumstances the men had not retired to a safe distance, their action seems partially justified by the fact that they had already put in four shots without any evidence of N.C. being present, and I am sure that no one in the Company had any idea such a

Both Mr. Roscoe and Mr. Cole leave small estates so that their families are not entirely destitute, but our investigation to date indicates that Mr. Pitcher had no insurance or estate of any other description.

C-I-L is extremely unfortunate in having lost Mr. Roscoe because he was an exceptionally fine character and had established himself most firmly in the industrial life of Nova Scotia, more particularly among C-I-L customers and it will not be easy to fill the position immediately with a man of his capabilities

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