

# JACKSON & GOLDIE

RAILROAD & BRIDGE CONTRACTORS

Mar 13<sup>th</sup> /09

Box 85

James Goldie  
Penticton  
B.C.

Dear Jim:-

Your letter of Feb 23rd received here two days ago.

I am at present up on the Grand Trunk north east of Kenora, about 25 miles. You will no doubt know that I left the C. P. R. about Xmas time, work was closing down and I did not see any prosperous signs for the future so decided to take a try at contracting. The young fellow I am in with "Jackson" was also in similar straits. He is a hustler and a good practical man. We received the contract for building nine trestle bridges from J. W. McArthur and conditions now find us tackling our last one with a little outfit and a good laugh.



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sized store of experience and even  
if we go in the "hole" I consider it  
worth money.

We have a gang of 25 men  
and five teams working and also  
have our own cook and outfit  
We are at present living in one  
of the contractors camps. The only  
money we have put into it is  
about \$200 each and if things  
turn out O.K. on this last bridge  
we should make about \$1000.  
But we took it at a very low  
figure. We have nothing in sight  
as yet after we finish here. But  
we intend looking for new  
work either trestle work or concrete  
further East on T.C. R. Things for  
a while were on the hum here  
and I was going to send for  
you but I was getting rather  
short of cash, and so had to take



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the first thing that came handy  
There are a lot of mining schemes  
here but they are very risky and  
I don't know whether you would  
like to tackle them or not. I have  
scanned \$160. into an iron mine  
which I happened to stumble across  
but I am rather doubtful whether  
I will get anything out of it.

But I think your best plan  
is to stay where you are if  
you can make the cash hang  
out, and the first chance I see  
I will let you know. We may  
be able to get a piece of work  
and then I will let you know  
how matters stand. If we  
are not successful I may  
possibly have to fall back  
to Engineering. But my  
experience so far is that if a  
person is successful in getting



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A piece of work there is money  
to be made, as one can't lose very  
much except the time & labour as  
most contractors supply the  
outfit & pay the Pay Roll.

W. One Arthur guarantees all  
our supplies and pays the  
Pay Roll.

I know Beattie and Anderson well  
they used to run a store at Aschiff and  
Anderson had a store and restaurant at  
Vermilion.

How do you manage to make expenses  
out there. Why don't you invest in some of  
the fruit lands?

Will write you later of our  
doings and my intentions

Yours as ever

Pat.