

## PETSAMO NICKEL MINES

**SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL:** The Department of External Affairs released Oct. 1 the following text of the Supplementary Protocol to the Protocol of October 8, 1944, regarding the payment of compensation by the Soviet Government to the Canadian Government for the Petsamo Nickel mines. The Supplementary Protocol was signed on September 29, 1947, at 11.30 a.m. by Laurent Beaudry, Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, for the Government of Canada, and by M.V. Degtiar, Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Soviet Embassy, for the Government of U.S.S.R.

On the basis of an exchange of views between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Canada, concerning the alteration of the period of payment of the instalments, which period of payment was provided for by the Moscow Protocol of October 8, 1944, in accordance with which the Soviet Government agreed to pay the Government of Canada in equal instalments during the course of six years the sum of 20 million (twenty million) United States dollars for the purpose and according to the rate of exchange signified in that Protocol, - the undersigned, duly authorized representatives of the Soviet Union and Canada, having met in Ottawa.

(1) Confirm that, in accordance with the above-mentioned Protocol of October 8, 1944, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has already paid to the Government of Canada 8,333,500 United States dollars, and

(2) Agree that the sum of 11,666,500 United States dollars which remains to be paid and which is subject at the present time to payment in seven equal instalments from October 1, 1947, to October 1, 1950, shall be paid instead in ten equal instalments of 1,166,650 dollars each, with payments on October 1, 1947, April 1, 1948, October 1, 1948, April 1, 1949, October 1, 1949, April 1, 1950, October 1, 1950, April 1, 1951, October 1, 1951, and December 31, 1951. Furthermore, for the purpose of this payment, United States dollars will be reckoned at the value of 35 dollars to one ounce of gold.

A certified copy of the present supplementary Protocol will be communicated by the Government of Canada to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Done in Ottawa on the 29th of September, 1947, in duplicate in the English and Russian languages, both the English and Russian texts being authentic.

**BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES:** Registration of births during July in cities, towns and villages having a population of 10,000 or over increased 12 per cent to 15,838 over July 1946 figure of 14,184, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Deaths totalled 4,841 as against 4,955, a decrease of two per cent. Marriages increased one per cent from 7,575 to 7,617.

## AUGUST MERCHANDISE EXPORTS

**SIX PER CENT DECLINE:** Merchandise export trade of Canada in August was valued at \$221,300,000, showing a decline of 6.5 per cent from the July total of \$236,600,000, and a decrease of 8.9 per cent from the August 1946 figure of \$242,700,000 when exports reached a high point for the year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate value for the first eight months of this year was \$1,786,300,000, an increase of 16.4 per cent over last year's; corresponding total of \$1,494,200,000.

Exports to countries of the British Empire during August were valued at \$100,340,000, a decrease of about five per cent from last year's August total of \$105,653,000. Eight-month aggregate at \$756,804,000 however, was 31 per cent ahead of last year's corresponding total of \$577,143,000. August exports to foreign countries were valued at \$120,957,000 compared with \$137,032,000 a year ago, a decline of 12 per cent, while the total for the eight-month period was \$1,029,526,000 compared with \$917,022,000 in the like period of 1946, an increase of 12 per cent.

Exports to the United States in August rose to \$81,408,000 from \$74,961,000 a year ago, bringing the eight-month total to \$645,521,000 as against \$546,161,000. Shipments to the United Kingdom during the month declined to \$66,044,000 from \$71,852,000 in August 1946, the total for the cumulative period being substantially higher at \$488,127,000 as against \$378,339,000 in the similar period of 1946. Exports to the Union of South Africa were also lower in August, amounting to \$3,061,000 against \$9,732,000, but the eight-month total remained at a higher level -- \$48,213,000 compared with \$42,333,000.

Exports to Eire moved up sharply in August, amounting to \$2,875,000 compared with \$361,000 a year ago, while shipments to Newfoundland were moderately reduced to \$4,031,000 against \$4,367,000. Exports to India in the month were valued at \$4,763,000, up sharply from last year's total of \$2,158,000. Shipments to Australia fell off to \$4,723,000 from \$5,056,000, while exports to New Zealand showed marked expansion to \$5,630,000 from \$1,358,000.

Exports to Continental Europe were reduced in August, the value being \$26,263,000 compared with \$40,967,000 a year ago. Shipments to Belgium fell from \$10,812,000 to \$4,045,000, Italy from \$3,735,000 to \$1,059,000, Norway from \$2,520,000 to \$1,323,000, Poland from \$3,491,000 to \$764,000, and Switzerland from \$1,863,000 to \$769,000. Exports to France rose from \$8,408,000 to \$8,962,000, and Netherlands from \$3,602,000 to \$4,126,000.

Exports to Latin American countries during August were valued at \$8,735,000 compared with \$9,033,000 a year ago; the eight-month total standing at \$82,060,000 as against \$57,663,000. The month's exports to Argentina were valued at \$2,598,000 compared with \$1,584,000, Brazil \$1,199,000 compared with \$2,773,000, Cuba \$982,000 compared with \$337,000, and Venezuela

\$850,000 compared with \$820,000.

Trends were mixed among the nine main commodity groups, three showing increases and the remaining six, decreases. Largest gain was shown by the wood, wood products and paper group, with more moderate increases in agricultural and vegetable products and non-metallic minerals; while greatest decreases were recorded for animals and animal products, iron and products and non-ferrous metals.

## WHEAT PRICE INCREASED

**U.K. TO PAY \$2 A BUSHEL:** A wheat price of \$2.00 per bushel for the third year of the Canada-United Kingdom wheat contract has been agreed upon by the governments of Canada and the United Kingdom, the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King announced Oct. 1.

The price, basis in store Fort William, Port Arthur, Vancouver or Churchill for Number One Northern Wheat, applies to 140 million bushels of wheat to be sold to the United Kingdom in the 1948-49 crop year under the terms of the contract which require that the price for the third year be negotiated and settled not later than December 31, 1947.

In the negotiations which took place during the past month both parties recognized the obligation contained in Clause 2(b) of the Agreement, which requires that in settling the price to be paid in the last two years of the Agreement period regard should be had to the difference in the first two years between the world prices and the Agreement price. Having in mind the magnitude of the Agreement and the long term security which it provides, a precise arithmetical calculation of the difference in price was not suggested. The Government is satisfied that the considerations which have prompted the United Kingdom Government to offer and the Canadian Government to accept a price of \$2.00 a bushel for 1948-49, will apply, fully and in the same spirit, in the negotiations for the settlement of the prices to be paid in 1949. The negotiations for this purpose are to take place before the end of 1948.

(The new price represents an increase of 45 cents over the present price, paid by the United Kingdom, of \$1.55 a bushel. During the first two years of the contract, the price paid by the U.K. for Canadian wheat averaged around 79 cents a bushel below the world level. On Oct. 1, wheat closed on the Chicago exchange at around \$2.90 a bushel).

**STEEL PRICES INCREASED:** The Wartime Prices and Trade Board has announced increases of \$2.50 per ton for pig iron, \$5.00 to \$7.00 per ton on steel billets, bars and rods and \$7.00 to \$10.00 per ton on varying types of steel sheet, effective October 1.

This price adjustment results from accumulated costs incurred since April 1, 1946 when an average increase of \$5.00 per ton was made.

**HEAVY BORDER TRAFFIC:** International automobile traffic across the Canada-United States boundary in August surpassed the previous peak established in July with a total of nearly 1,350,000 vehicles passing through custom ports compared with 1,060,000 in August 1946, and 1,235,000 in the preceding month of the current year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Particularly warm weather and very little rain gave an impetus to tourist travel from the United States to Canada during the month. In addition, annual exhibitions and fairs at Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and elsewhere again made their appearance after the wartime suspension and attracted many visitors. Entries for the Labour Day week-end were of record proportions. The immense volume of August traffic included 1,070,000 cars of foreign registration and 277,000 Canadian vehicles returning from the United States. Foreign entries represented 643,812 non-permit or local traffic cars, 409,433 entering on tourist permits -- an all-time peak -- and 17,204 United States commercial vehicles.

**WEEKLY SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:** The following are security price indexes of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for the week ending Sept. 25, 1947, a week and month earlier:

	Sept. 25	Sept. 18	Aug. 20
	(Base, 1935-1939=100)		
<b>INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX</b>			
(100 Common Stocks).....	102.8	104.7	105.0
74 Industrials.....	95.9	97.7	98.3
18 Utilities.....	115.0	117.7	116.2
8 Banks.....	127.4	129.2	129.7
<b>MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX</b>			
(27 Stocks).....	87.7	88.8	89.0
23 Golds.....	79.8	81.0	79.7
4 Base Metals....	101.1	102.0	105.2

**IMMIGRANT GIRLS FREE TO MARRY:** In the Third (Social and Humanitarian) committee of the United Nations yesterday, L. Rene Beaudoin M.P., of the Canadian delegation, denied as 100 per cent false, misleading statements that women from D.P. camps who had migrated to Canada were prevented by contract from marrying. Any immigrant who came to Canada was, under the law of Canada, free to marry or remain single as she wished. Mr. Beaudoin contrasted this freedom with laws recently adopted by the U.S.S.R. under which, not only was no alien resident of the U.S.S.R. permitted to marry a Soviet citizen but as had been found from the unhappy experience of a member of Canada's diplomatic service, a Soviet woman who had married a foreigner before the law was passed was not permitted to emigrate to join her husband. It might be advisable, Mr. Beaudoin said, to examine in the Human Rights Commission this denial of a fundamental human right.