

Why not? Is it because we depend so much on the British Government that we are slow to take necessary measures ourselves? Is it fair to the Empire or to ourselves to allow traffic with friends of the enemy to be carried on under our noses until the overworked British officials find time to stop it?

NICKEL PRODUCTION INCREASING

It is reported from New York that the International Nickel Company produced in the month of August 7,600,000 pounds of nickel. This is a great increase over any previous month.

During the year ending June 30, 1916, Canada exported to the United States 52,742 tons nickel-copper matte containing 64,622,286 pounds nickel, and worth about \$16,000,000. The value given in government records is \$8,596,921.

During the same period Canada exported a large quantity of nickel-copper matte to Wales. Figures are not yet available, but the nickel contents of matte shipped to both countries will total about 76,000,000 lbs., worth about \$19,000,000. In addition, the matte contained copper worth in the matte probably \$5,000,000. In other words, there was shipped during the year ended June 30, 1916, from the smelters in Ontario, matte worth about \$24,000,000. The metals in the matte when refined would be worth about \$40,000,000.

U. S. CONSUMPTION OF NICKEL

In the year ending June 30th, 1916, the United States imported 56,987 tons ore and matte, containing 68,797,238 lbs. nickel. Of this 52,742 tons, containing 64,622,286 lbs. of nickel was from Canada, nearly if not all in the form of matte from the Canadian Copper Company's smelter at Copper Cliff, Ontario.

In the same year the United States exported 25,649,995 lbs. of nickel, nickel oxide and matte, nearly all of it being from the Ontario matte refined in New Jersey.

The U. S. Department of Commerce estimates the value of the 68,797,238 lbs. of nickel in the matte imported at \$9,520,750, and the value of the 25,649,995 lbs. of nickel exported at \$9,876,403.

The figures show that during the past year much less than one-half of the nickel imported was exported as nickel. Most of the nickel was, doubtless, used in the manufacture of nickel steel, of which a considerable part was exported. A further very large part was used in the United States. The figures showing the consumption of nickel steel are not yet available.

In view of the prominence given to consumption of nickel by Germany, it is interesting to note that the difference between U.S. imports and exports of nickel in the one year ending June 30, 1916, was greater than that of Germany for the period of fifteen years immediately preceding the war. As a market for Canadian nickel, the United States has no peer.

U. S. IMPORTS OF NICKEL IN 1915.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, reports imports of nickel in 1913, 1914 and 1915 as follows:—

1913—Nickel ore and matte	4,745 tons
Nickel contents	47,194,101 lbs.
Value	\$6,427,639
1914—Nickel ore and matte	29,564 tons.
Nickel contents	35,006,770 lbs.
Value	\$4,956,448
1915—Nickel ore and matte	45,798 tons.
Nickel contents	56,352,582 lbs.
Value	\$7,615,999

We have no reason to doubt the accuracy of the Bureau's figures in so far as they refer to quantity of nickel. The Bureau's estimate of value is, however, away off. 56,362,582 lbs. of nickel in matte would be worth at least \$14,000,000. Most of the nickel imported was contained in matte from the Canadian Copper Company's smelter at Copper Cliff, Ont.

Exports of nickel, nickel oxide and matte from the U. S. were as follows: 1913, 29,173,088 lbs.; 1914, 27,595,152 lbs.; 1915, 26,418,550 lbs. Thus while output of Canadian nickel has greatly increased, there has thus been little change in the amount of nickel exported from the United States. The records of export of nickel steel manufacturers would tell an interesting story.

LOCATION OF THE NICKEL REFINERY.

It is announced that the International Nickel Co. is to begin the construction of a nickel refinery at Port Colborne, a site which is, as has been pointed out by Major R. W. Leonard, within long range gun fire of the international boundary. The site has many advantages; but it is strange that such a location has been permitted. The United States is rightly regarded by Canadians as a very friendly country; but that is no sufficient reason for establishing such an industry where it could be promptly wrecked at a time when most needed.

The war is being carried on at tremendous cost of life and money. Are we not even to profit by the lessons it has taught?

A CORRECTION.

In commenting on the composition of natural gas we referred to the fact that Bulletin 42, U. S. Bureau of Mines, gives a number of analyses nearly all of which show ethane. By a typographical error "ethane" was printed "methane" on page 386 of our August 15 issue, thus nullifying earlier statements in the same paragraph.

MOLYBDENUM.

The International Molybdenum Company has established at Renfrew, with a capacity of 100 tons per day. The company issues each month a list showing price paid per unit of molybdenite on different grades of ore. These prices will be quoted in The Canadian Mining Journal.