

4-5 EDWARD VII., A. 1905

tracting aluminium from any rich refractory ore like corundum that contains it. I think it would be money well spent in the public interest.

By the Chairman:

Q. Do you think those two sections you mentioned in Ontario, where those fields are, contain ores with a sufficient percentage of aluminium to pay for working them under the present circumstances?—A. The percentage of aluminium is large, about 53 per cent.

By the Hon. Mr. Sullivan:

Q. Are there any compounds other than the metal that could be produced readily, which could be saleable?—A. Pure corundum is pure alumina, and the rest of it is only oxygen.

Q. You mentioned alumina; are there any compounds in the ore which could be used in the arts?—A. No, there are none in it. It is pure.

Q. I am not talking of the metal; I am speaking of it as something for other purposes?—A. You are talking of the ore?

Q. Yes, that could be used for compounds, or anything such as paints?—A. The ore itself is nearly pure alumina, and the alumina is a little more than one-half aluminium.

Q. Corundum runs AlO_3 , which is equal to oxygen 46.8 and aluminium 53.2?—A. The analyses that we had made in Toronto and in Kingston did not reach 53, but very close to it.

Q. Your statement is perfectly correct, because I had the analyses from Kingston, from Goodwin and Miller, and therefore all you want to do is to be able to get rid of the oxygen, but so far they have not succeeded?—A. The reports of the Bureau of Mines for several years dealt pretty fully with this subject.

By Mr. Foster:

Q. Can you say that any economical process has been discovered for the use of corundum in the manufacture of aluminum?—A. I have said that no economical process has yet been discovered for the production of it.

Q. Was it in 1896 that the minerals were reserved by the Ontario government in the way you have described when you were acting?—A. Yes, in the corundum-bearing belt.

Q. Has any disposition been made of those lands since, that you know of, other than the grants which were made to companies you have referred to?—A. No, not so far as I know. The plan that we adopted, I think, is still in force. I have not seen any abandonment of it, and it certainly was in force when I left the office in 1900. If any person wanted to purchase corundum-bearing land, we said we will sell the property to you subject to the working conditions.

Q. Do you know of any considerable demand that has ever been made for these lands since 1896?—A. There is an American company operating on the first discovery of corundum.

Q. Do you know the name of that company?—A. No, I do not remember it.

Q. Do you know where its head office is?—A. I cannot tell you that.

Q. What is the capital?—A. I do not know anything about that.

Q. Or the number of hands employed, or the result of the operations?—A. No. I think it is only three years ago that it came there, which is after I left the Bureau of Mines.

Q. But you do not know anything personally of the result of the operations from a commercial standpoint?—A. No, I only know this, I was at the property three years ago. They were working the deposit, selecting the ore out of the rock and shipping it to New York or some place in the United States for treatment. I was told that they intended to build works for treating the ore on the ground.