

TO DEVELOP MINERAL RESOURCES OF THE EMPIRE

Bureau, of which Mr. W. C. Miller of Canada is Member, has been Organized and will have Royal Charter

With reference to the announcement of the Hon. A. K. Maclean, vice-chairman of Reconstruction that the Imperial Conference, after considering the report of a committee of which Sir James Stevenson, Bart., was chairman, had made a recommendation in favour of the constitution of an Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau, this body was set up and charged with the duties of collecting information regarding the mineral resources and metal requirements of the Empire and of advising the various governments and others concerned from time to time what action might appear to be desirable to enable those resources to be developed and made available to meet the requirements of the Empire.

In accordance with this recommendation the governors of the bureau were appointed, one by the Home Government (whose representative is the chairman of the bureau), one by each of the five self-governing Dominions, one each by the Government of India and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, while six representatives of the mineral, mining and metal industries were appointed by the Minister of Reconstruction after consultation with the principal institutes and institutions representing those industries.

Pending the grant of the charter of the bureau the governors have lost no time in laying the foundations of their work and organization. Four committees of governors have been appointed to deal with—

1. Intelligence and publications.
2. Research and development.
3. Legal matters, and
4. General purpose and finance.

Various departments and other bodies interested have been invited to send representatives to discuss with the governors the methods to be adopted to co-ordinate and make available for use within the Empire, by or through the appropriate agencies, exhaustive information upon mineral resources in respect of production, treatment, consumption and requirements.

Offices have been taken at 14 Great Smith street, Westminster, London, S.W.1., London, where all communications should be addressed to the Organizing Secretary, Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau.

At the Imperial War Conference last year it was agreed that it was desirable to take steps to set up an Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau, which should be charged with the duties of collecting information from the appropriate departments of the Government concerned and from other sources regarding the mineral resources and metal requirements of the Empire; and of advising from time to time what action, if any, may appear to be desirable to enable such resources to be developed and made available to meet the metal requirements of the Empire. Accordingly the special committee was appointed to examine this proposal and to report upon the duties and adminis-

trative responsibilities of the proposed bureau. The committee defined the duties of the bureau as follows:—

- (a) To collect, co-ordinate, and disseminate information as to resources, production, treatment, consumption and requirements of every mineral and metal of economic value.
- (b) To ascertain the scope of the existing agencies with a view ultimately to avoid any unnecessary overlapping that may prevail.
- (c) To devise means whereby the existing agencies can if necessary, be assisted and improved in the accomplishments of their prospective tasks.
- (d) To supplement those agencies, if necessary, in order to obtain any information not now collected which may now be required for the purpose of the bureau.
- (e) To advise on the development of the mineral resources of the Empire or of any particular parts thereof in order that such resources may be made available for the purpose of imperial defence or industry.

After consideration of the report of this committee the British Government instructed the Ministry of Reconstruction, in consultation with the Secretaries of State for the Colonies and India to take necessary action to give effect to the recommendations of the Imperial Conference and the finding of the committee. Detailed proposals were accordingly submitted to the Dominion and Indian Governments who nominated their representatives on the governing body of the bureau, and the general scheme of the bureau has now been finally ratified by the Imperial Conference.

The bureau will be incorporated by royal charter, and the governing body which will be under the presidency of the Lord President of the Council will consist of the following gentlemen:

Sir Richard Redmayne, K.C.B., chairman.

Nominated by the Canadian Government, Mr. Willet C. Miller, LL.D.

Nominated by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, Mr. W. S. Robinson.

Nominated by the Government of New Zealand, Mr. Thomas Hutchinson Hamer of the High Commissioner's office.

Nominated by the Union of South Africa, the Rt. Hon. W. P. Schreiner, C.M.G., K.C., P.C.

Nominated by the Government of Newfoundland, the Rt. Hon. Lord Morris, K.C.M.G., K.C., P.C.

Nominated by the Government of India, Mr. R. D. Oldham, F.R.S., F.G.S., F.R.G.S.

Nominated by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. J. W. Evans, D.Sc., LL.D.

Nominated by the Minister of Reconstruction—(in consultation with the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, the Institution of Metals, the Iron and Steel Institute, and the Institution of Mining Engineers): Mr. W. Forster Brown, mineral adviser to H. M. Woods and Forests; Professor H. C. H. Carpenter, M.A., Ph.D., president of the institute of Metals; F. H. Hatch, Esq., Ph.D., member of the Mineral Resources Advisory Committee of the Imperial Institute; Sir Lionel Phillips, Bart., D.L., lately director of the Mineral Resources Development Department, Ministry of Munitions; Edgar Taylor, Esq., ex-president of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy; Wallace Thorneycroft, Esq., president of the Institution of Mining Engineers.

Mr. Arnold D. McNair has been appointed secretary.

All communications regarding the bureau should be addressed to:—The Secretary, Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau, Holborn Viaduct Hotel, London, E.C.

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HOLD NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 11

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4. Consideration of the recommendations of the Royal Commission respecting hours of labour.

5. Consideration of minimum wage laws.

6. Consideration of the recommendations of the Royal Commission that the findings of the commission be put into effect in all work controlled by the Government where the principle of democratic management can be applied.

7. Consideration of resolutions relating to any other features of the report of the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations.

8. Consideration of the labour features of the treaty of peace.

9. Consideration of any other proposals which may be introduced bearing on the relations of employers and employees.

Tender for Wharf.

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for wharf at Anse aux Gascons, Que." will be received at this office until 12 o'clock noon, Thursday, August 14, 1919, for the construction of a wharf at Anse aux Gascons, county of Bonaventure, Que.

Plans and forms of contract can be seen and specification and forms of tender obtained at this Department, at the offices of the District Engineers, at Rimouski, Que.; Post Office Building, Quebec; Shaughnessy Building, Montreal, Que., and at the Post Office, Gascons, Que.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on the forms supplied by the Department and in accordance with the conditions set forth therein.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to 10 per cent of the amount of the tender. War Loan Bonds of the Dominion will also be accepted as security, or war bonds and cheques if required to make up an odd amount.

NOTE.—Blue prints can be obtained at this Department by depositing an accepted bank cheque for the sum of \$20, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, which will be returned if the intending bidder submit a regular bid.

By order,
R. C. DESROCHERS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, July 16, 1919.

Bounties on Petroleum.

The amount paid in bounties on crude petroleum (the only bounties now being paid) in 1918 was \$113,497 for 6,566,133 gallons, and for 1917, \$101,428 for 6,761,886 gallons, the total from 1905 to 1918 being \$2,791,937 on 183,462,142 gallons, as given in the Canada Year Book for 1918.

Canadian railways paid \$4,011,088.38 in taxes in 1918, as shown in the annual report of the Department of Railways and Canals.

TRADE OPENINGS IN NEW SERBIA

British Economic Mission Points Out Favourable Market

Openings for trade in which Canada might well participate are being more and more found, sometimes in unexpected places, in European countries. The Canadian Trade Commission quotes the following interesting facts from the report of the British Economic Mission in Serbia:—

"What Serbia needs Serbia is able to pay for. This may seem strange, but it is a fact that, apart altogether from indemnities for the damage done during the war, the peasant population and shopkeepers have plenty of money—in dinars and Austrian crowns. The explanation is simple. The people in the country during enemy occupation spent little or nothing on luxuries and all the while were receiving high prices for their goods and produce. They have sold, but not bought, and are now in a position to buy largely. Payment in a form acceptable to manufacturers would be a difficulty, and much benefit would follow the establishment of a local British bank. It is the intention of the Government to withdraw at an early date enemy paper money from circulation and to replace it with State paper money of the Kingdom of Serbia, Croatia and Slavonia (Jugo-Slavia). This state money will be in dinars and be under Government guarantee. The rate of conversion will be 30 dinars per 100 crowns. The total value of Austrian crowns now in circulation in the new kingdom is estimated at about eight milliards. Other arrangements are being made in regard to a central exchange office.

The population of old Serbia is about four millions, and of Jugo-Slavia ten millions. It is a backward country, but one with great possibilities. The people as customers incline, first of all, to England, and then to the Allied countries; falling England and the Allies, they must go back to those enemies with whom they used to trade, and by whom their methods are well understood.

If merchants and manufacturers wish to establish a footing in this market they must take steps at once to organize the necessary supplies."

Hudson Bay Railway.

During the year ended March 31, 1918, the grading of the entire line of the Hudson Bay railway from The Pas to Port Nelson was completed. The main line track, with necessary sidings for the operation of light traffic, extends from The Pas to the second crossing of the Nelson river at Kettle rapids, a distance of 334 miles. The total distance from The Pas to Port Nelson is 424 miles, therefore about 90 miles of line remain over which track has not yet been laid, as stated in the annual report of the Department of Railways and Canals.

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FOURTEEN YEARS CANAL TRAFFIC IN CANADA

The following table shows the traffic on the canals of Canada for the last fourteen years. It is taken from the annual report of the Department of Railways and Canals:—

	Tons.		Tons.
1905	9,371,744	1912	47,587,245
1906	10,523,185	1913	52,053,913
1907	20,543,639	1914	37,023,237
1908	17,502,820	1915	15,198,803
1909	33,720,748	1916	23,583,491
1910	42,990,608	1917	22,238,935
1911	38,030,353	1918	18,883,619