

States as the highest authority in the world upon all mining and metallurgical questions. Here is his answer.

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AKRON, OHIO.

DEAR SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 5th. instant, I am unaware that the French Nickel Company has ever sold any nickel matte in the United States, because to the best of my knowledge it has never produced any in New Caledonia except experimentally. The ore is of oxidized character and consequently has to be smelted with some sulphur containing material in order to make a matte. This did not prove successful in New Caledonia and consequently the raw ore has for many years been shipped to Scotland France and Germany for reduction. As to whether the exclusion of Canadian matte in the United States would lead to the importation of New Caledonia ore it is not impossible under certain conditions that it might. The facts are that there is an immense supply of nickel ore in New Caledonia and that for two years last elapsed there has been no production. The exportation from the Island amounting to 35,000 to 40,000 metric tons of 7 per cent ore per annum having been made from existing stocks. At the end of last year there was at least 120,000 tons of this grade of ore in stock in New Caledonia and 20,000 tons of 8 per cent ore were offered at 11 shillings per unit delivered to any American port with minimum tenor of 8 per cent guarantee.

Yours truly,

R. P. ROTHWELL.

The Sudbury mattes are sold in New York on an average carry about 20 or 21 units of nickel and about 25 units of copper or about 45 per cent. of the two metals—some mattes run much higher. The officials of the Copper Company say that some 12,000 tons of these mattes were sold last year by them to the New York Refining Company and averaged \$50.80