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NICKEL FICTION

In our last issue we called attention to the absurdly low valuation placed on nickel matte in the reports of the Department of Trade and Commerce. We suggested that the Department must be publishing figures handed to it, rather than figures which could be relied upon as the result of careful enquiry by the Department. Our assumption seems to have been correct, for we are advised that the figures are in fact not collected by the Department. Perhaps the Customs Department can explain why nickel matte exported from Canada is not given a value that is approximately correct.

The statement that a quantity of nickel matte is worth \$1,779,801 should properly be interpreted to mean that the value has been carefully worked out and is accurate to the last dollar. Otherwise we would expect round numbers to be used. The repeated use of absurd valuations is not creditable to any department.

OUR INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES

In a leaflet published and distributed by the Department of Trade and Commerce we find the following:

"The power of a nation is the producing power of her industries. Canada must find out what this producing power is and then develop it. The capacity of every plant must be gauged. The ability of every man must be known.

"A nation's prosperity is mechanical; it is electrical; it is chemical; it is mining, manufacturing, transportation; it is every phase of Engineering.

"Canada must survey its industrial resources. The channels of commerce must be charted. Each source of supply must be sounded."

The Department of Trade and Commerce is making a praiseworthy effort to help Canada's industries. It is to be hoped that the mining industry will be well represented at the National Business Conference to be held this fall at the instance of the Right. Hon. Sir George Foster. His department can do a great deal of good if it receives proper support. If our resources are to be used to greatest advantage, we must know what they are. The Department of Trade and Commerce wants information which can be used to further the interests of Canada. Can you help? Can you supply useful information? Will you do it?

MOLYBDENITE

Molybdenite has come into great prominence on account of the war, and it seems likely that Canada is to become an important producer of molybdenum and its