

Another function of the Division was to train operators for the new plant at Beaverlodge which is starting operations very soon. This training was done in a small pilot plant in the Mines Branch laboratories. As I mentioned before, the requirements for test work have increased tremendously and the space available is inadequate. We are hoping, due to the expansion of the work, that a new building will be available because we feel that, if more space is not available, we will soon get a backlog of samples on hand and that will have a very unfavourable reaction in the mining field. We hope through these expanded facilities to maintain efficient service.

The CHAIRMAN: That concludes Mr. Thunaes' general remarks. We are now open for questions.

*By Mr. Winkler:*

Q. As the methods of concentration—if that is the right word—improved, has it been found profitable to work over the old tailings at all as yet?—A. Yes. For instance, at Port Radium the tailings that formerly were dumped or stored are now being re-treated. They are being dredged from the lake, where they were buried, and re-treated.

*By Mr. Brooks:*

Q. What methods do they use in other places to treat ore? You said that experimental work was being carried out at Eldorado. What do they use in the Belgian Congo for instance?—A. In the Belgian Congo they had ores similar to the Port Radium ores, and they used gravity methods for concentration.

Q. It was a rich ore?—A. Yes.

Q. With this ore there must be a tremendous quantity of materials which are of no use. Do they eliminate as large a quantity of useless material as they can and then bring more or less the concentration of ore to some central place for testing for uranium? They would not bring great quantities of material out from Eldorado, for instance, or from Great Bear lake, or do they make tests there?—A. They make the actual concentrations at Great Bear lake, and the concentrates shipped out from Eldorado have been obtained either by gravity concentration or by leaching. So it is the precipitates or the gravity concentrates which are shipped out.

Q. They do not complete the tests at Great Bear lake?—A. The refining is being done at Port Hope.

Q. What percentage of the original material would be sent out from Great Bear lake to Port Hope?—A. I do not believe I am allowed to give the actual tonnage.

The CHAIRMAN: No, you are not.

The WITNESS: But I can say that the figure is well above 90 per cent.

*By Mr. Brooks:*

Q. You say more than 90 per cent of the material is sent out?—A. The uranium in the Port Radium ore is recovered in two plants, and the concentrates are shipped out. These concentrates would contain about 90 per cent of the uranium that was originally present in the ore.

Q. What I meant was, what quantity would be sent from Great Bear lake to Port Hope after they treated it?

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any more questions?

*By Mr. Brooks:*

Q. Are they training men at the universities to do this work, as well as at this special school you speak of?—A. Yes. At the University of British Columbia, at the University of Alberta, and at Queen's University there are