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CONTENTS

Editorials—	Page.
A Nickel Refinery for Canada	63
Canadian Mining Institute	65
That Copper Ruling	65
Metallurgy of Cobalt Silver Ores. By Ralph W. Bridges	68
Metal Mining in British Columbia	70
Investigation of Bituminous Sands in Northern Alberta. By S. V. Ells	73
Surf Inlet Gold Mine	75
Core Drilling at the Hollinger Mine. by A. M. Brown..	76
Personal and General	80
Special Correspondence	81
Markets.	84

A NICKEL REFINERY FOR CANADA

The nickel question is up again. It was the chief topic of discussion at the meeting of the Toronto branch of the Canadian Mining Institute on Saturday, January 15. A few days later the interest of the general public was revived by newspaper reports to the effect that the refining of nickel in Canada is likely to be undertaken at an early date. We hope that these reports will prove well founded. In view of the circumstances they seem not unlikely to be so.

On January 19 the following item appeared in a Boston financial paper: "Canada's resolution to refine its own production of nickel is endorsed by International Nickel Co., who declare they will undoubtedly, when the time comes, erect refinery there to work on the 80 per cent. of world's nickel supply which Canada produces. International Co. now refines three-fourths of it."

On January 22 the same paper published the following: "International Nickel Co. has decided to erect a nickel refinery in Canada. In this respect it is stated that the company desires to co-operate with the Canadian Government in its desire to have some of the nickel ore mined in the Sudbury district of Canada refined in the Dominion. Pres. Monell recently returned from Canada after conferring with officials of the Dominion. The arrangement is said to be satisfactory to both the Canadian Government and the company."

About the same time Ottawa correspondents of Toronto papers sent out news items on the same subject. The Toronto World, which is largely responsible for the great public interest in the nickel question, had in its issue of January 21 the following item from a staff reporter at Ottawa:

"Negotiations are almost completed for the establishment of a nickel refinery in Canada by the International Nickel Company, which has control of the Sudbury nickel mines. The refinery will be situated in Cape Breton, N.S., and henceforward all the nickel material which has hitherto gone to New Jersey for refining will be refined in Canada. The export of nickel from Canada is to be controlled completely by the Government in order to insure a steady supply for the allies for the manufacture of armaments for field and naval purposes, and to render it certain that no Canadian nickel will find its way to the enemy."

Under the same date The Globe published the following: "The recent visit to Ottawa of Mr. Ambrose Monell, the creator of the International Nickel Company and the industry which it represents, has resulted in the announcement that arrangements have been made whereby the final processes of refining nickel in Canada will be