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itself would soon call down popular disfavour. I refer to the sulphur fumes that come from the manipulation of the ores and mattes. At the 1907 session of the Ontario legislature a Bill was passed to encourage the refining of nickel offering a bonus of \$120 per ton on refined nickel. That no claim for bonus has so far been made is a further proof of the inability to refine nickel commercially in Canada. The bonus is offered for five years and not one dollar has been asked for or earned. If there is any disposition on the part of the Dominion government to consider an export duty on nickel it should first ascertain the result of the Ontario legislation on the subject and be guided thereby. As it exists at present the Canadian nickel interests involve the expenditure in Canada of several millions of dollars a year. They employ 1,500 to 2,000 men. They directly and indirectly support a population of 4,000 to 5,000 people. They handle half a million tons of freight a year on Canadian railroads. They depend almost entirely upon Canadian manufacturers for their construction and repairs. All these interests would be jeopardized if not destroyed by an attempt to do in Canada more than the geography and climate of Canada will permit. Under the present system the Canadian industry has grown from a mustard seed beginning until it controls two-thirds of the world's trade. There is no reason why under the present system the industry should not grow until it controls all the world's consumption of this metal. Why not allow the industry to expand along the present methods and obtain the future promise which its past history has shown possible.

Mr. HERRON.—Is it not usual to have a witness sworn?

The CHAIRMAN.—I may say that the committee did not deem it necessary to have this gentleman at this stage sworn. We are merely asking for information which they have Mr. Turner here to give.

Mr. NESBITT.—There is no objection to his being sworn.

The CHAIRMAN.—I assume there would be no objection, but I referred the matter to the minister and he thought it was not necessary at this stage. If later on it is desired by the committee to get more minute information we could take that course or we could take it now.

Mr. GORDON.—For the information of Mr. Herron I might say that in this case I am sure you do not need it. I have known Mr. Turner for years, and I can tell my friend Mr. Herron that Mr. Turner's oath is no better than his ordinary word. His integrity is unquestioned and there is no occasion for him to be sworn.

Mr. HERRON.—I am pleased with the explanation my friend Mr. Gordon gives, I have no object in asking Mr. Turner to be sworn, only it is customary.

The CHAIRMAN.—Quite right, but so far we have not adopted it. We have not so far put under oath any of those who appeared before the committee. Of course whenever the committee so desires I shall have that done, but it seems to me that it would be about the same information we would get, and perhaps for the present we are just as well the way we are.

Mr. WHITE.—I am not a member of this committee, but with your permission I would like to ask a question.

The CHAIRMAN.—Certainly.

Mr. WHITE.—I would like to ask how the future deposits of nickel in Canada compare with the deposits in other countries?

Mr. TURNER.—Naturally the first comparison would be in connection with New Caledonia, that being the largest known nickel field at present outside of the Sudbury district, and as I have already stated the extent of the nickel area in New Caledonia is fully equal to the Sudbury district. So far as acreage is concerned it is probably three times greater than the Sudbury district. In Sudbury the nickel-bearing lands cover 400,000 acres, but every acre of that ground has not got nickel in it.

*By Mr. White:*

Q. I understand that you have got your development work there further ahead?

—A. All the time we are developing. We have put down 10 miles of diamond drill