

exploration companies have undertaken activities in Canada. This has been made possible by a more liberal policy on the part of the Bank of England and the British Government.

It is suggested that ways and means be considered of giving all encouragement to such enterprises. Canadian resources will be soundly developed by such companies, and the dollars so earned will stimulate and sustain Canada's trade with Britain and other countries of the sterling area.

Canada's economic ties with the United States are already very strong. Anything that can be done to fortify our economic bonds with Great Britain will contribute to a sound balance and diversification of interests and strengthen Canada in her role as North American partner in the British Commonwealth.

The British Market: It is of course of the greatest importance that Canada maintain a foothold in the United Kingdom market for its non-ferrous metals, particularly copper, lead and zinc. It is therefore a source of satisfaction to learn that as a result of recent conferences British officials have agreed to an extension of the list of materials which can be imported into Great Britain on open general licence; it is understood that copper will be one of the items on which restrictions will be removed at an early date.

There always remains the possibility that if this resulted in an embarrassing drain in dollars, restrictions might have to be imposed. But it is clear that the British Government is doing all in its power and that we should be prepared to reciprocate by all means at our command, and in particular to press for any measures which may hasten and promote currency convertibility.

Conclusion: The mineral resources of Canada have become a factor of world importance. We wish to see them used not only to build up Canada itself but to contribute to the strength of the free world, wherever they may be required.

As a great trading nation, Canada cannot prosper unless firm foundations of multilateral trade are secured and assured.

As steps toward this end, it is necessary to continue to negotiate for the removal of obstructive trade barriers; to encourage investment in Canada by countries of the sterling area; to maintain stable currency relationships and to raise the price of gold, as one measure towards creating adequate national monetary reserves and currency convertibility.

It is suggested that by moving and influencing other countries to move along these lines, Canada will not only advance its own interests but will contribute substantially and constructively to the promotion of international trade and the economic prosperity of nations of the western world. (See Appendix C).

The CHAIRMAN: Do any honourable senators wish to ask questions of the witness?

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Have any figures been given to the world at all since the end of the last war as to the production of gold in Russia and Russian-held territory?

Mr. WANSBROUGH: Not to my knowledge, senator, have any been given in which anybody puts any reliance. I saw a figure recently that suggested that Russia's gold production was 2 million ounces per year. Ours is something like 4½ billion ounces of gold per year; but I do not believe anybody would really put any credence in any such figures, which are really not more than guesses.

Hon. Mr. KINLEY: How do you account for the American tariff restrictions on base metals that they do not produce themselves? What would be their object?

Mr. WANSBROUGH: Mr. Chairman, this is a point upon which I should like to call in reinforcements.