

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, May 6th, 1953.

The Standing Committee on Canadian Trade Relations which was empowered to inquire into and report upon the development of trade between countries signatory to the North Atlantic Treaty, and with other countries of the free world, met this day at 10.30.

Hon. Mr. McLEAN in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable senators, this is the seventh meeting of the Canadian Trade Relationship to be held since the introduction of the resolution in the Senate on February 12, and which was referred to this honourable committee on February 26. I am sure everyone here is familiar with the resolution, and there is no need to read it.

We are honoured this morning to have before us two very important public bodies, namely the Canadian Metal Mining Association and the Canadian Importers and Traders Association Incorporated. The Canadian Metal Mining Association will lead off with its presentation. The Association is represented here by Mr. R. T. Birks, President of East Malartic Mines and Director of the Canadian Metal Mining Association; Mr. G. C. Bateman, former Wartime Metals Controller of the Department of Munitions and Supply; Mr. R. G. Driver, Assistant Manager of Sales, Noranda Mines Limited; Mr. V. C. Wansbrough, Managing Director of Canadian Metal Mining Association; and Mr. H. H. Wright, Secretary of the Canadian Metal Mining Association.

I understand that Mr. V. C. Wansbrough, Managing Director of the Association, will present the brief. Any other members of the delegation who wish to speak are quite free to do so.

Mr. V. C. WANSBROUGH: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like your direction as to how you wish me to deal with the brief. If you prefer, I can summarize those parts which we think lend themselves to summary, and dwell at length on the particular points which we would like to emphasize before the committee.

The CHAIRMAN: What is the feeling of the members of the committee?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Let the witness deal with it in what he considers the best way to present his case.

Mr. WANSBROUGH: Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman and honourable members, in the brief you have before you we begin by expressing our warm appreciation for the invitation you have extended to the Canadian Metal Mining Association to make this presentation, fully realizing that the subject matter which you are investigating is of most vital importance to the Canadian welfare as well as to the health and growth of Canadian export industry.

We are particularly grateful for the opportunity of making a presentation before you on behalf of the membership of the association, which includes gold producers and producers of other precious metals, non-ferrous metals, iron and a broad range of industrial minerals.

On page 2 of the brief we set forth the state of the mining industry in Canada in the field of multilateral and external trade. We point out that in the year 1952, the dollar value of the products of Canadian metals and minerals,