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REGINALD E. HORE

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THE DEUTSCHLAND'S CARGO

The nature of the cargo carried from the United States by Germany's submarine merchantman has been the subject of much interest. It is fair to assume that the cargo indicates the materials most needed in Germany, and it is no surprise to learn that nickel and rubber are among them. Canadians are especially interested in the nickel shipment and its origin.

According to announcements made by the Dominion Government the arrangements made with the International Nickel Company are such that no Canadian nickel can be obtained in the United States by Germany. We interpret the announcement to mean that none of the nickel of Canadian origin refined since the war began is to be obtained by German agents. It is obvious that the Dominion Government cannot have prevented the accumulation in the United States by enemy agents of a certain quantity of nickel which had passed from the hands of the refiners before the outbreak of war. And it is not unlikely that some small quantity of nickel refined since the war began has been obtained by German agents, for some nickel in the United States is not of Canadian origin. But for the Government's assurance we would assume also that some nickel of Canadian origin refined during the war may have been sold indirectly to the enemy, in spite of the fact that the International Nickel Company is making every effort to live up to its agreement.

A rather surprising statement in the "Toronto World" of July 19 casts doubts on the success of the agreement. Under an Ottawa date line appears the following :—

"If the German submarine Deutschland is taking a cargo of nickel back to Germany, it may be Canadian nickel, and the Government has no knowledge that it is not, is the view expressed by Hon. George P. Graham to-day.

"He has just returned from a visit to New York, and while there he met a man who had purchased tens of thousands of tons of nickel from the International Nickel Co. This was refined from Canadian ore, and when he purchased it, no questions were asked him as to the use that was to be made of the nickel nor as to its destination.

"This showed that no care was being exercised by the International Nickel Co. to prevent nickel from falling into German hands, and the assurance given by the Government that care was being taken was not founded upon fact. There has been no official statement yet as a result of investigation made by the Government. There has been only one statement so far. It came