

trades, building construction, electronics, service and business occupations. Special courses in marine engineering will be offered and the school will also serve as a centre for the trade and occupational correspondence courses offered by the provinces.

The school will be used to train apprentices and technicians, and to offer adult trade and occupational training for the unemployed, disabled and others.

The two-storey building has an area of 168,000 square feet. Of the total cost of approximately \$2,400,000, the provincial government will pay \$600,000, while the Federal Government will contribute \$1,800,000.

SYDNEY SCHOOL

The second school, the Cape Breton County Vocational High School, will be located in Sydney. It will accommodate 550 students and will offer courses mainly at the high-school level. However, courses for adults or persons who have left the regular school system will also be provided. Some of the courses to be offered will be in the building-construction and auto-mechanics trades, as well as in a number of other trade and service occupations.

The building has an area of approximately 80,000 square feet and it is a two-storey structure. Its total cost is estimated at \$1,200,000, of which Nova Scotia will pay \$300,000 and the Federal Government \$900,000.

Provision for expansion has been made in both of the new buildings. Several other projects, which will see an even greater increase in training facilities in Nova Scotia, are under study.

CANADIAN-WEST INDIES TRADE TALKS

Trade and Commerce Minister Hees announced recently that trade talks had been held in Port-of-Spain between officials of the Governments of The West Indies and Canada from August 8 to August 10.

The talks covered various matters relating to the Canada-B.W.I. Trade Agreement, including the common external tariff of the proposed West Indies customs union combining the ten customs areas of the islands. Under the existing 1926 agreement, different tariff rates and margins of preference are applied to Canadian goods by each territory. These will eventually be replaced by rates uniformly applicable, after a transitional period, to all constituent territories under the Federation's new common external tariff. As a result, the negotiation of a new trade agreement between Canada and the Federation is ultimately envisaged. The meetings accordingly included a preliminary discussion of a number of problems which would have to be resolved preparatory to such negotiations. Other current trade problems were also discussed. Both delegations agreed that the talks were most useful.

Ottawa-based officials of the Departments of Trade and Commerce and Finance and the Canadian Government Trade Commissioners in Trinidad and Jamaica attended the meetings, which were held under the chairmanship of the Permanent Secretary for Trade of the Federation of The West Indies, Mr. P.W.C. Burke. The West Indies was represented by officials of the federal and territorial governments.

Mr. Edmund L. Morris, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Trade and Commerce, accompanied the Canadian delegation and held private talks with Sir Grantley Adams, Prime Minister of the Federation of The West Indies, and other ministers of the federal and territorial governments. He was received by the Governor of Trinidad and also met several prominent members of the business community of The West Indies. In addition to Port-of-Spain, he visited Bridgetown, Barbados, and Kingston, Jamaica.

NICKEL PRODUCTION

The interim report of The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited, and subsidiaries for the six months ended June 30, 1961, shows net earnings in terms of U.S. currency of \$37,653,000 after all charges, depreciation, depletion, taxes, etc., equivalent to \$1.28 a common share. (In the first six months of 1960 net earnings were \$43,902,000, or \$1.50 a common share).

Net earnings of \$18,993,000, or 65¢ a common share, in the three months ended June 30, 1961, compare with \$18,660,000, or 63¢ a common share, in the first quarter. They were substantially the same as the \$18,970,000, or 65¢ a common share, for the second quarter of 1960.

NICKEL DELIVERIES

Deliveries of nickel in all forms during the six months were slightly below the total deliveries in the first six months of 1960 and about ten per cent above the deliveries for the second six months of 1960. The average selling price for copper was below the levels for both the first half and second half of 1960. Sales, cost of sales, and inventories in all those periods include nickel acquired from others at market prices under arrangements that lessen the United States Government's accumulations of surplus nickel.

With the United States steel industry looking forward to increased activity this autumn, the prospect is that nickel demand will increase in the last six months of this year.

NICKEL IN COINAGE

A message by Mr. H.S. Wingate, Chairman of the Board of Directors, that accompanied the report discussed the important part nickel had played in the development of modern coinage systems. "Nickel is in many ways the ideal metal for coinage," Mr. Wingate said. "It holds the unique distinction of being the only metal that has proved satisfactory for coinage in its pure state. It is also the only widely used addition in modern times to the list of classical coinage metals." In addition to nickel's resistance to corrosion and wear, it is readily fabricated and also has excellent mechanical properties. Besides the properties such as color, ease of striking and other requirements of a metal suitable for coins, pure nickel has the added advantage that it is magnetic, and therefore difficult to counterfeit. Furthermore, its intrinsic value is in line with the minor denomination coins for which it is employed.