

NO NICKEL TO ENEMY

Hon. A. Meighen Defends Policy of Government

Hamilton, July 21.—That the British and Canadian Governments have been in close touch with one another on the nickel question was the contention of Hon. Arthur Meighen, Solicitor-General for Canada, at a banquet tendered the Life Underwriters of Canada at the Royal Connaught Hotel last night.

During his speech he read the following cablegram from the Secretary for the Colonies in the Imperial Cabinet: "His Majesty's Government are fully aware of the arrangements made for assuring the destiny of the nickel refined from Canadian ore in the United States, and are satisfied with the precautions that have been taken to prevent such nickel getting to the enemy."

Mr. Meighen also dwelt upon the attitude of the Canadian Government towards the question, and defended Sir Robert Borden and his colleagues. He affirmed that "had the export of ore been tampered with, international complications with the United States would have resulted, and many Canadians would have been thrown out of employment. Also, had the Canadian Government undertaken the refining of the ore, a dangerous delay would have resulted, and the Allies deprived of a rush delivery of munitions."

"The Government I represent," he said in conclusion, "are therefore seized of every detail in connection with the whole matter." He further assured his audience that "not one pound of Canadian nickel has reached Germany since the outbreak of war."