

THE DAILY NEWS

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HEAD OFFICE

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DAILY EDITION

Saturday, Nov. 25, 1916.

NICKEL

Hon. Frank Cochrane says he knows nothing about the shipment of nickel to Germany, while Hon. Arthur Meighen throws the responsibility upon the British government, stating that Canada had no means of refining nickel. Mr. Meighen's statement as to the lack of facilities for refining nickel in Canada is correct, though it is stated that the International Nickel Company is now getting ready to refine this valuable metal within the Dominion.

The facts are that the nickel obtained in eastern Canada is combined with copper and that the ore is shipped to New Jersey for treatment, the metals being separated and refined there. It is also evident that the Canadian gentlemen who are interested in International Nickel lose all interest in the destination of the nickel after it has left Canada. All that they appear to be interested in is the dividend accruing. This is assumed from the remarks attributed to Hon. Frank Cochrane, also on the assumption that this honorable gentleman is connected closely with the International Nickel Company, which statement has been made by the eastern press and never contradicted. If Mr. Cochrane was so closely connected with the profits on nickel, as is alleged, why does he say that he knows nothing about the shipment of this metal to Germany? Is he entirely ignorant of the destination of this metal after it has been refined? Has he been so little interested in the preventing of nickel reaching the enemy that he has never taken the trouble to find out about it?

The fact that copper and nickel go together in the form of ore to the United States

raises the natural question of the destination of the copper. Is Germany getting copper from Canada, as well as nickel? British Columbia produces two thirds of the copper mined in Canada. Every pound of this goes to the United States for refining, for the simple reason that there is no copper refinery of any account within the Dominion. What is being done in regard to the erecting of such a refinery in Canada? If British Columbia is producing such a large proportion of the world's copper supply why, at such a vital point in the history of the Empire, when copper is one of the sinews of war, is not this valuable metal refined here? It is now over two years since war broke out and Canada's copper is still being refined in the United States. How much of that copper is passing freely into the hands of German sympathizers? Are there not German-Americans interested in the refining of this metal, mined in Canada, which the Germans would give almost anything for?

It is true that the government has had its hands full in handling the war situation, and that dissensions within the cabinet have not added to the smoothness of the working of the government machinery, but surely the sending out of the country of such metals as copper and nickel is one of the most serious problems of the war, and it is only after two years of war that the matter is engaging real attention, and the members of the Borden cabinet, instead of clearing up the matter, are simply looking around for somewhere to dump the responsibility. The fact of the matter is that Canada should long ago have been refining her own nickel and cop-



per, and that the Allies would then have received their supplies from Canada and would not have been dependent upon New York. Refineries are needed and needed urgently.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Hon. Arthur Meighen, in speaking of the export of nickel, simply admits that the government never attempted to deal with the situation and that the Allies were dependent for their supply entirely upon the United States, though the metal was mined in Canada.

Hon. A. E. Kemp, the new Minister of Militia in the Borden cabinet, was formerly minister without portfolio. He sits for East Toronto. It is very unlikely that the Liberals will cause a byelection to be fought, though the chances of defeating the new minister are recognized.

Germany accuses the Allies of carrying out a mockery of international law in regard to the expulsion of the Teutonic ministers from Greece. It sounds funny, after what has been done by Germany in the way of sinking neutral ships, hospital ships and passenger vessels, that Berlin should be prating about international law.

The Bishops of England want the people to abandon the Christmas plum pudding and all that goes with it. There is no doubt that there is an urgent need for strict economy, not only in England, but throughout the Empire. It is to be hoped that the reverend gentlemen are setting an example in the matter of plain living.

The Germans claim to have captured many miles of valuable wheat lands in Rumania. This means that they have driven the Rumanians out of the Jiu Valley, which they carried so splendidly recently. It is a big claim and Berlin may have to revise the report shortly.

One of Sam Hughes Honorary Colonels, known as Hon. Col. McNaught, of Toronto, declares that the fighting is being done mostly by the Conservative party. If Hon. Col. McNaught includes in his count the Tories in the trough at home with the Tories in the trenches, we agree with him.

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DATED at Vancouver, B. C., this 1st day of November, A. D. 1916.

J. 21. ARCHIE BARNES MARTIN.

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Box 24—1st Ave. and McBride St.
Box 25—2nd Ave. and 2nd St.
Box 26—2nd Ave. and 4th St.
Box 27—G. T. P.

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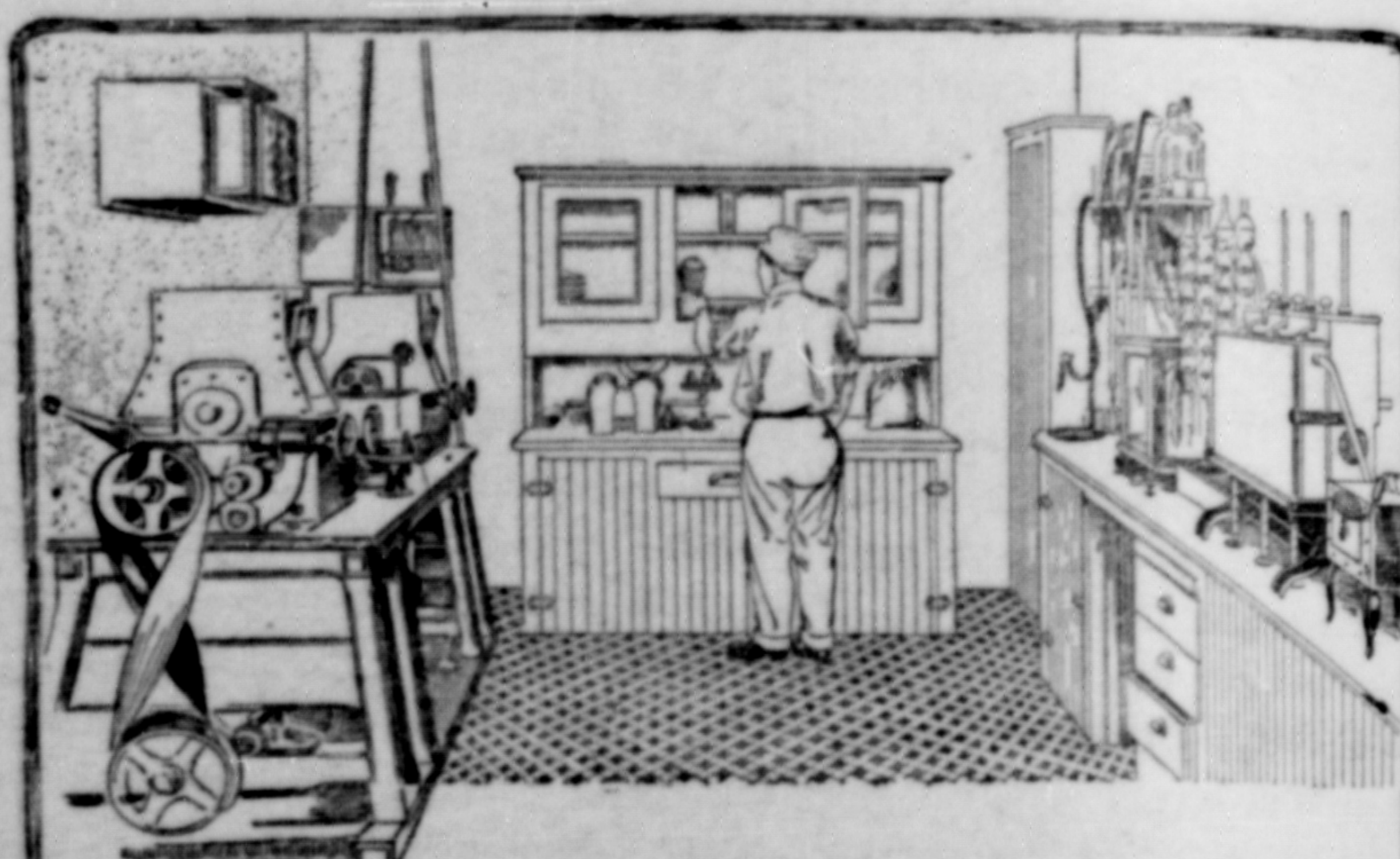
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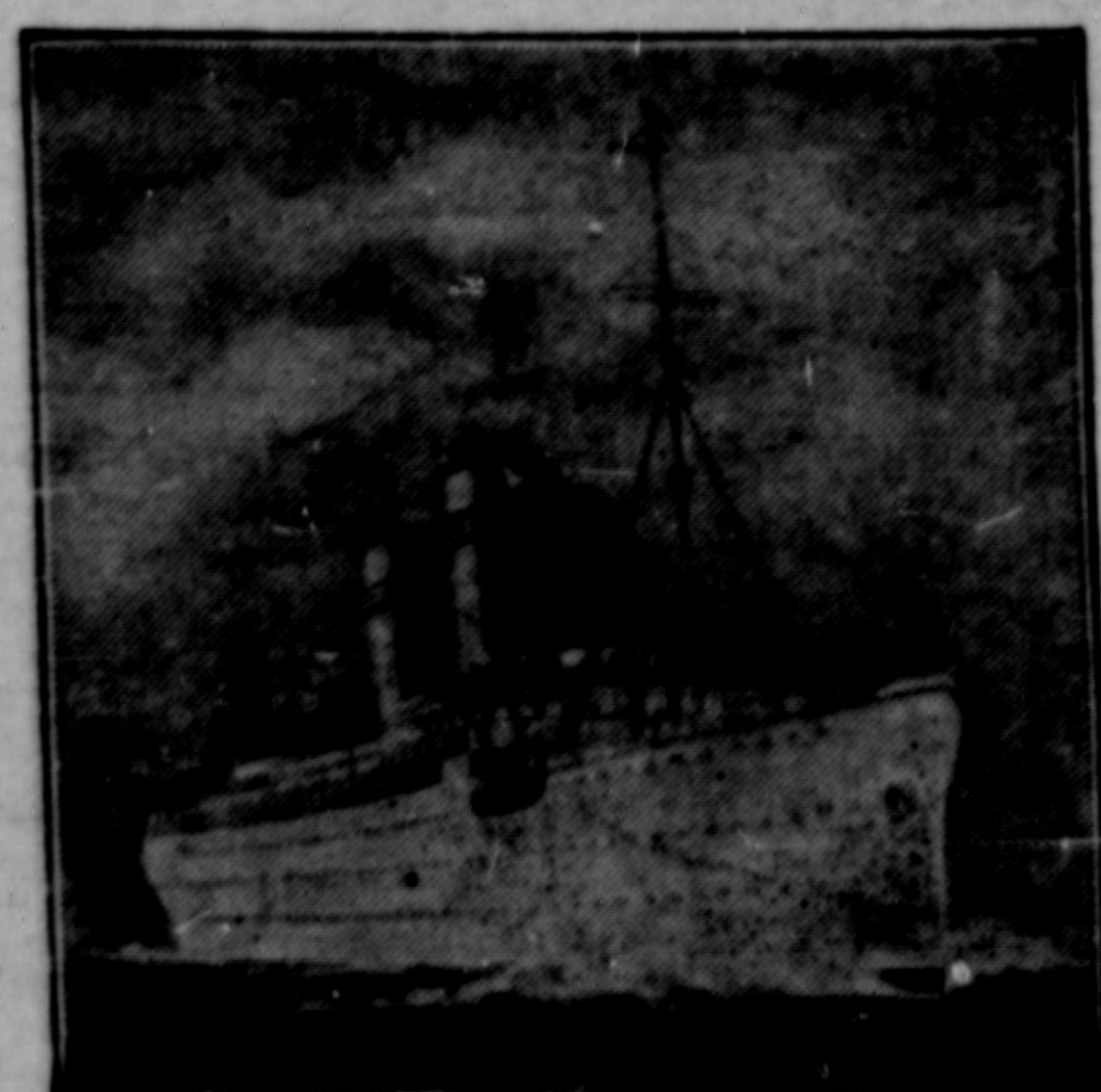
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