

# Inco Research Chief Tells of Expansion

Facilities in Canada, Britain and U.S. Are Being Greatly Augmented, Says T. H. Wickenden

Development and research postwar plans of The International Nickel Company of Canada Limited, are being put into effect and should aid in substantially increasing the peacetime appreciation for nickel, platinum metals and other products of the Copper Cliff works.

So declared T. H. Wickenden, of New York, head of Inco's Development and Research division today. Mr. Wickenden is presently visiting Copper Cliff and the Nickel District with 23 members of his development and research staff from the United States.

The reason for the tour of Inco's Canadian operations in the Nickel District is to acquaint the new members as well as a number of the older members with the huge operations at Copper Cliff and affiliated mines.

"Research work in solving steel, alloy and metallurgical problems during the war is now proving of assistance in meeting reconversion problems," Mr. Wickenden said today.

"In the past year, the development and research work has been extended in large measure by the return of experienced key men, who had been loaned to the Allied governments," he added, "and the employment of new metallurgical specialists and the establishment of new technical sections in Toronto and in five additional cities of the United States."

Mr. Wickenden pointed out that the company's research facilities in Canada, Great Britain and the United States are being greatly augmented.

"Our division is constantly aware of its responsibility to utilize to the fullest, its expanded development and research facilities and is mindful of its obligation in further extending the peacetime uses of Canadian nickel and other INCO products in the world markets," Mr. Wickenden stated.

Mentioning just a few of the new uses for nickel alloys which are an outgrowth of research in recent years, he went on, these include nickel in jet propelled aircraft, the increasing applications of stainless steel in various industries, and the peacetime acceptance which is being accorded some of the war-born triple alloy steels containing nickel.

Mr. Wickenden pointed out that most of the high temperature alloys used in jet propelled aircraft and gas turbines contain substantial nickel, adding that increasing quantities of the metal will follow the greater applications of these developments not only in aviation but in other industrial fields.

Nickel is being used in the experimental turbines which are fired with powdered coal instead of oil. Metallurgists of the company's Mond Nickel

Company Limited of Great Britain, during the war produced a material known as "Nimonic 80" which withstands high temperatures necessary for efficient operation of the gas turbine, the heavy stresses in the turbine parts, particularly the blades.

The material has been standardized for the turbine blades of all the British gas turbine jet engines.

In Canada, and the United States, a material known as "Inconel X" has been developed to give high strength at red heat for use in various parts of jet engines and gas turbines. It is also particularly effective for springs operating at moderately elevated temperatures.

"Stainless steel output during the war reached new highs," Mr. Wickenden stated.

"Despite the cancellation of orders for military purposes," he continued, "the demand for stainless steel has continued at a high level and manufacturers are optimistic regarding future production. Of all the stainless steel production, the chromium-nickel type (commonly known as the 18 chromium-8 nickel variety) constitutes over 70 per cent."

Mr. Wickenden concluded by saying that one of the activities the development and research division in Canada is planning is a corrosion clinic and demonstration to be held at the University of Toronto on October 25. Representatives of various industries and students of the University of Toronto will participate in the clinic which will be under the direction of F. L. LaQue, director of Inco corrosion engineering section, who is a native of Gananoque, Ontario.

## PARLIAMENT REOPENS; ATOMIC POLICY UP

London, Oct. 9 (CP)—Prime minister Attlee said today Britain hoped to secure an international ban on military use of atomic energy.

Mr. Attlee also told the reopened parliament that he was not in a position to announce the government's decision whether a Royal Commission should be appointed to inquire into the British press.

He assured the house that freedom of the press would not be restricted.