

METAL SALVAGE MOVEMENT IS VITAL POINT

Recover Million Pounds of Nickel Monthly by Careful Segregation of Steel Scrap

Investigation by technical experts of International Nickel Co. reveals a reserve source of the strategical metal, vital to war and defense industries, from which it is possible to recover over one million pounds a month.

Details are revealed by T. H. Wickenden, assistant manager of development and research, International Nickel, attending the conference of U. S. and Canadian metals distributors with executives of the nickel industry.

In fabricating, Mr. Wickenden explains, from 20 to 40 per cent of the alloy steel tonnage delivered by steel mills to manufacturers is lost. This occurs in machining and other processes. Sometimes in complicated processes losses run as high as 70 per cent, or even 80 per cent, in special cases. This steel goes into scrap and the general practice of industry has been to mix the alloy steel scrap with carbon steel scrap and dispose of it as carbon steel.

Mr. Wickenden reveals that periodic examinations have been made of miscellaneous scrap which show the scrap to contain approximately 0.05 per cent. of nickel. Automotive and other low alloy steels contain 1 to 5 per cent. of nickel, and in stainless steels the figure may often rise above 10 per cent. This scrap nickel, most of which has been lost in the past, except in the stainless steel field, is largely reclaimable. By a careful segregation of scrap which he outlines in detail there is a possibility of recovering more than a million pounds monthly of what is now lost nickel at a time when this metal, like all essential materials, is available to industry only under restrictions.

"During the past year approximately 70 million tons of steel were produced in the United States," he reports. "At the average figure of 0.05 per cent, residual nickel, the tonnage would account for 70 million pounds of nickel. This might well have been salvaged had scrap segregation been systemically carried over the years in which, through cumulative effort, this residual nickel was being built up. Steel production is mounting rapidly. During the first 8 months of this year more scrap was used than any other year of the American steel industry's history. Hence the concern of both government and industrial leaders for an intensified salvage campaign."

Mr. Wickenden, in explaining the salvage method, makes clear that much more than segregation of alloy steel scrap from carbon steel scrap is involved. No general specifications for such segregation according to percentage of nickel content have yet been completely outlined, but all scrap containing nickel is valuable and should be segregated.

On the basis of present nickel consumption, he estimates, "up to one million pounds of nickel a month may be saved for producers and users of these nickel steels."

Reserve Nickel Supply 1,000,000 Pounds a Month

TORONTO—Investigation by technical experts of International Nickel reveals a reserve source of the strategical metal vital to war and defense industries from which it is possible to recover over one million pounds a month.

Details were revealed here yesterday by T. H. Wickenden, assistant manager of development and research, International Nickel, attending the conference of U. S. and Canadian metals distributors with executives of the nickel industry.

In fabricating, he explained, from 20% to 40% of the alloy steel tonnage delivered by steel mills to manufacturers is lost. This occurs in machining and other processes. Sometimes losses run as high as 70% or even 80% in special cases.