

prospectors and other owners of deposits that had been staked several years ago had suspended development-work after having acquired Crown grants for their claims. Owing to this fact the trails to the workings and outcroppings have been neglected; the underbrush, devil's-climb, huckleberry, salmon-berry, and salad bushes have reached such great growth that the old trails were mostly found to be impassable, dumps of ore, as well as outcroppings, were covered up, and the entrances to tunnels were only found with great difficulty; consequently, considerably more time was occupied in making the examinations than otherwise would have been the case. In addition to such difficulties, the absence of the owners from most of the properties examined often presented such an obstacle as to seriously impede the work of examination.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The following mentioned reports have been published relative to the occurrences of iron ore on Vancouver and Texada Islands:—

Report on the Iron Ores of the Coast of British Columbia, by Herbert Carmichael, published in the Minister of Mines' Report for 1902.

Bulletin on the Iron Ores of the Coast of British Columbia, by the Provincial Mineralogist, published in 1903.

Bulletin No. 47 on the Iron-ore Deposits of Vancouver and Texada Islands, British Columbia, by Elmer Lindeman, M.E., published by the Mines Branch, Canadian Department of Mines, in 1910, from examinations made in 1907.

Memoir No. 43, Southern Vancouver Island, by Chas. H. Clapp, published by the Canadian Geological Survey Branch, Department of Mines, in 1912, from examinations made in 1908, 1909, and 1910.

Memoir No. 58, Canada Department of Mines, Geological Survey, Texada Island, B.C., by R. G. McConnell.

In addition to the literature referred to, there have been several reports from examinations made by mining engineers for private clients previous to 1910 which have not been published.

HISTORY.

The history of the interest taken by the public in the iron-ore deposits on Vancouver and Texada Islands dates back to 1874, when Messrs. Goodall, Perkins, and Prescott, of San Francisco, engaged W. H. Lee, a furnaceman from Malama, to examine the deposits of magnetite on the west coast of Texada Island, which that firm purchased the following year. The Puget Sound Iron Company was organized, which later erected a blast-furnace at Irondale, near Port Townsend, in the State of Washington, U.S.A., where the manufacture of charcoal pig-iron was started. The magnetite ore from Texada Island was mixed with bog-ore from Hamilton, Skagit County, Washington.

At that time the San Francisco firm owned, in addition to the mines and blast-furnace, a fleet of steamers that plied between Puget Sound ports and San Francisco, also the manufacturing plant in San Francisco now owned by the Union Iron Works Company. Some years later all of these interests except the iron-ore mines were sold, but the last-named property was, and still is, retained by the original purchasers.

Until about 1907 considerable prospecting and some development-work was done in various portions of Vancouver Island and at a few points on the mainland of British Columbia by various prospectors and companies in searching for other deposits of iron ore, but since then the interest has waned until the present time.

The most serious efforts to develop the iron industry on this portion of the Coast and utilize British Columbia ore were made by the late Homer Swaney, who was unfortunately drowned about 1901 in the wreck of the steamship "Clallam," when he had practically carried his negotiations to the point where he was promised the necessary financial assistance to attempt to place the industry of iron and steel making on a commercial basis.