

Resources of low grade iron-bearing material in the eastern part of Canada are tremendous. For instance, iron formation extends almost continuously in an arc from the most northerly tip of the west coast of Ungava Bay to the Mistassini area of Quebec. A number of companies are actively investigating various sectors of this area, with the southwest end of the "Labrador Trough" and the part lying immediately west of Ungava Bay receiving the most attention. It would seem to be only a question of time before there is large scale production from one or more sectors of the "Labrador Trough". In Ontario, there are also a number of areas of iron formation which are being actively investigated. In a number of instances, exploration has been encouraging.

By reasons of geography and company affiliation, the major part of the iron ore produced in Canada is exported to the United States. A much smaller amount is exported to the United Kingdom and West Germany. A similarly small amount is used internally in the Canadian domestic iron and steel industry. The balance of Canada's domestic iron ore requirements are, in turn, imported from the United States, once again for reasons of geography and company affiliation.

In the years to come there will undoubtedly be slight changes in this pattern of trade but the changes will be more relative than absolute. The continued development of Canada's tremendous resources of iron ore is mainly dependent upon a large and continuing market in the United States.

Reference:

Buck, W. Keith: "A Survey of the Iron Ore Industry in Canada in 1954"; Mineral Resources Information Circular, M.R. 13, 1955, 38 pp.

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